ROME — Police set up roadblocks in northern Italy after a thief posing as a pilgrim stole tiny fragments of the brain of John Bosco, one of the country’s most revered saints.

The thief entered the church, named after the 19th-century saint in Castelnuovo, near Turin, last Friday and left with a glass case containing the relic of the saint, who is also known as Don Bosco.

Devotees often visit the church to pray before the relic kept behind the altar. On Sunday, pilgrims gathered at the Don Bosco Basilica to pray for its return.

“I invite whoever took it to give it back immediately, without any conditions so we can close this painful page and continue to honor the memory of Don Bosco worthily in his birthplace,” said Archbishop Cesare Nosiglia of Turin.

Nosiglia said in a statement the news was something “you never wanted to hear.”

“It makes you think of the profound moral misery of someone who would steal a ‘sign’ that’s been left and conserved for the devotion and the faith of all,” he said.

Police worry the thief may seek a ransom for the return of the saint’s brain and there has also been speculation in the Italian media that it may be used for a satanic rite in which Christian symbols are defiled.

Body parts belonging to saints are often displayed and revered in Catholic churches in Europe. They have also been targeted by thieves. In 2014, a vial of blood from Pope John Paul II was stolen.
The Rev. Moreno Filipetto, a spokesman for the Salesian order in northern Italy, told Vatican Radio: “You can take away a relic of Don Bosco, but you can’t take away Don Bosco from the church or the world.”

Police are continuing their investigation, and the public can no longer access the area inside the church where the relic was previously displayed.

www.usatoday.com

## Province Calendar

### June, 2017

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>4-10</td>
<td>SU-SA</td>
<td>Arrowhead Days, Arrive 3:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>TH</td>
<td>Bl. Stephan Sandor</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>Board Meeting, Bosco Tech, Rosemead, @ 10:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-23</td>
<td>SU-FR</td>
<td>Retreat at Three Rivers</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-24</td>
<td>MO-SA</td>
<td>SYLC 2017, Camp St. Francis</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>St. Joseph Cafasso</td>
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### July, 2017

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>TU</td>
<td>Independence Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Bl. Maria Romero Meneses, FMA</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-11</td>
<td>SU-TU</td>
<td>Provincial Council Meeting</td>
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<td>17-21</td>
<td>MO-FR</td>
<td>Provincial Residence, SF</td>
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<td>30-4</td>
<td>SU-FR</td>
<td>SUE-SUO Directors’ Workshop, Berkeley</td>
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<td>Retreat, San Juan Bautista</td>
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I had the joy and blessing to be called a member of the graduating class of 2017. In just one year attending St Mary’s College of California, I have so many memories. For me, St. Mary’s became more than just a place to go and get knowledge, but became my second home. With the assistance of my adviser, Professor Frances Sweeney, we set up a goal to get classes done and fulfill the degree requirements in order for me to graduate. Although I walked with the rest of my classmates, I still have one science class to take during the summer. I consider St Mary’s a home, because like at your own home you learn from your family, and this is how I felt at this wonderful place. I learned so much from the professors and my classmates and very much appreciated the simple things like hearing “hello” and “good morning” from the staff everyday when I arrived on campus at 6:30 am. I am also thankful to the Christian Brothers for allowing me to join them for morning prayers and mass while I was missing those moments in my own community. They were also very kind and invited me for breakfast after. You can see why I would feel at home.

My second semester became more challenging because of the math classes required. However, even though I never considered myself smart in math before, taking these math classes at 8 am made me not to hate math, instead the professor helped me to see that it is nothing to be scared of. And soon I came to realized that
math is a science that helps us to understand the world we live in much better.

May 27th was the Commencement Ceremony and as I walked towards the stage to receive my BA diploma, I couldn’t help but think of my mother who’s sick and couldn’t be present and also thinking of all my Salesian confreres, giving thanks to God for the opportunity they are giving me to graduate from a University in the United States, their love, care and words of encouragement were the push I needed to believe in myself and get my studies done.

I named this article, “We Are Family,” because I shared the joy of graduating from college this year along with so many of our students from our Salesian schools, such as Don Bosco Tech (Rosemead), St. Francis High School (Watsonville), St. John Bosco High School (Bellflower) and of course Salesian College Preparatory (Richmond), where I live. It was a blessing for me because while I am just living for a year here and being a college student, I had a great moments of Salesian interaction with the students, especially the seniors who graduated on Saturday, June 2nd. I was so happy to see how smart this class of 2017 was. While I attended the senior farewells on Friday June 1st, I was able to witness Fr. Mel Trinidad and Mrs. Flannery giving out the honor awards to each of the students. This makes me so happy because it means the kids came to a Salesian school to be the best and learned the best for their future. Don Bosco was so right, “education is a matter of the heart!” This means that the education we provide here at Salesian Richmond is great because we see the
fruits in the students. I truly believe this applies to all of our Salesian schools throughout the country. Congratulations to all of them!

Talking about Salesians schools in our country, I do not want to finish this article without mentioning and saying congratulations to one of our Salesian schools in the east. Some say, “wherever your heart is, so is your home.” I’ve always believed that, and when I came back to California, I knew something was missing in me. I realized that in 2014, while I was sent to D.C. for a pastoral school visit, I fell in love with a Salesian school called Don Bosco Cristo Rey, the first person I meet and who gave me a tour of the school was Gaby. She made me feel at home right away. After spending a week among the amazing staff, students and SDB’s, I knew that I was becoming attached to that beautiful place. It was not until I left that I found out something was truly missing in me, "it was my heart." I was planning to attend their graduation but because of my own graduation, that was not possible. I am so happy that Br. Benito was there cheering on the graduating class of 2017. These graduates were freshmen at that time I visited the school and now look at them, moving forward to the next chapter in their lives. Even if I could not make it for their special day, they all know they are in my prayers.

Congratulations to all the graduates from our Salesian schools, now its time to continue bringing the Salesian Spirit every were you go. We must not forget that even though we leave a Salesian place we are a big Family and we are still connected through the spirit of Don Bosco.
Congratulations to the Class of 2017!

RICHMOND, CA - June 3rd, 2017

The Salesian College Preparatory Class of 2017 graduated in style from the Cathedral of Christ the Light on Saturday, June 3rd at 11:00 a.m. This fifty-third graduating class distinguished themselves by their academic accomplishments as over 67% of the class received either First or Second Honors. They were accepted into all 9 of the UC campuses, into 17 of the 23 California State Universities, and colleges or universities in 26 of the 50 states. In fact, the Class of 2017 will make their mark in 26 states around the country. The Class of 2017 also reflected a wide variety of talents including singing, acting, music, athletics and community service.
JUNE
SALESIAN MISSIONARY INTENTIONS
IN THE LIGHT OF THE HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR 2017

For Salesians Who Work in Conflict Areas

That they may be Builders of Peace through the weapon of “education” and the proclamation of the “Prince of Peace”.

Salesians are present in many areas of the world where there are military, social, political, ethnic, and religious conflicts, often manipulated by commercial and business interests; interests that have no compassion on the innocent, or the weakest. The mission of the Salesian Family in these areas is to be free, prophet and builder of peace with the tenacity of education for coexistence and human dignity, supported by the One who “is our peace”. 
BOSCO TECH TO HOST
BACCALAUREATE
AND
COMMENCEMENT
EXERCISES ON JUNE 9

Class Awarded More Than $4.6 Million in Merit Scholarships Thus Far

ROSEMEAD, CA – May 22, 2017 – Don Bosco Technical Institute (Bosco Tech) will host its baccalaureate and commencement exercises for the graduating class of 2017 on Friday, June 9, at 5 p.m. on the school campus. “Bosco Tech’s faculty and staff are extremely proud of the class of 2017,” said Principal Xavier Jimenez. “These students are technological innovators, communicators and leaders, and we have great confidence in their future achievements. These 85 graduating seniors have already garnered more than $4.6 million in merit scholarships for their college studies, with awards expected to reach $6 million.”

The Baccalaureate Mass will be held on the campus mall, with the traditional conferral of diplomas and graduation ceremonies immediately following. The keynote speaker will be alumnus Ricardo Mireles (class of ’83) who is founder and executive director of Highland Park’s Academia Avance. Graduating seniors John Paul Gomez-Reed and Lorenzo Zamora will serve as co-valedictorians. In keeping with Tech tradition, a junior, Grayson Wade, will give the salutatorian message. The festivities will feature Bosco Tech’s traditional alumni reception line, where past graduates personally welcome each member of the class of 2017 into their ranks.

Bosco Tech is an all-male Catholic high school that combines a rigorous college-preparatory program with a technology-focused education. The innovative curriculum allows students to exceed university admission requirements while completing extensive integrated coursework in one of several applied science and engineering fields. Visit www.boscotech.edu or call (626) 940-2000 for more information.
Ricardo Mireles (EL ’83)

By Karen E. Krynen

Ricardo Mireles (EL ’83) is founder and Executive Director of Academia Avance, a charter college-preparatory public school in Highland Park serving students in grades 6 through 12. Mr. Mireles initiated the development team for Academia Avance in 2004, with authorization granted in May of 2005 by the Los Angeles Unified School District. The school now operates under a charter issued by the California State Board of Education. He formed the charter school after four years at the Los Angeles Unified School District where he was part of the team that in 2000 launched the planning and construction of 160 new schools. It was at LAUSD that he came to realize that even more than just needing new school facilities, the Los Angeles public school system needed a new way of schooling students.

Mr. Mireles brings to Avance’s school leadership a broad range of experience in public policy and technology. He was a lecturer at the UCLA School of Public Policy and Social Research, and also taught in the Tech’s Electronics Technology department for the 1987-1988 academic year. After graduating from Bosco Tech’s Electronics Technology himself, in 1983, he earned a bachelor’s degree in Anthropology from Columbia College. He completed a fellowship in public affairs with the Coro Foundation in New York City, then continued with graduate work in urban planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

He is a founding board member for the Leadership for Urban Renewal Network (LURN), a board member for OneLA, the Los Angeles Chapter of the Industrial Areas Foundation, and past Chair for the board of the United Latino Fund, now the United LatinX Fund of Los Angeles. Mr. Mireles was recently interviewed by National Public Radio for his school’s proactive and practical approach to helping students whose families are dealing with immigration issues. Academia Avance is a founding member of the CASAS Coalition (California School Are Sanctuaries).

Mr. Mireles lives with his wife and son in Highland Park. He has a strong family attachment to the Tech; his brothers are Techmen, Hector (DR ’85--college program) and Luis Ramon (MT ’85--high school), and his son, Sol, is currently a junior in the Tech’s Computer Science & Electrical Engineering program.
28TH ANNUAL

GOLF Classic

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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The Golf Classic Fund provides financial assistance to deserving students who may otherwise be unable to experience the spiritually centered, academic and technological education that only Bosco Tech provides. All net proceeds raised from this event benefit Financial Aid and Student Success. We are able to support our students in mind, spirit and body only through the generosity of alumni, family, and friends of Bosco Tech.

For more information call 626.940.2034

Register online:
www.boscotech.edu/events

or

mail completed registration form with preferred payment method to:

Bosco Tech Golf Classic
1151 San Gabriel Boulevard Rosemead, CA 91770-4251

Don Bosco Technical Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

TECHMEN of the past helping TECHMEN of the future
By Juan Carlos Montenegro

Have you ever thought about the history involved in the ministry that you serve? Did you ever ask about what had happened in the past? How things were ran? Well, if you have had those questions, this article is just for you.

Seven years ago when Brother Larry King was assigned to work on the Province Archive, he said “the archive is a room with papers all over the place.” Nowadays this is not the case. The archive is a well-organized room where you can find useful information on all the events and places that the Salesians have been and served.

To be able to accomplish this well-organized archive, Br. Larry contacted the Society of America Archivist to find the best way to preserve the history of our province. Br. Larry explained that the techniques were developed in France in the year 1700 because people understood the importance of saving the documents. Br. Larry has organized all our archives according to the different offices, and anybody can find and see what had happened, i.e. Camp Savio 1973, a 3-week long camp ran by Fr. Dennis and Br. John Itzaina.

This type of information can help us evaluate how our ministries have grown through the years. In the case of Camp Savio, there is a tradition of over 50 years in the province and we have documents to prove it in the Archives.

Br. Larry invites us to come to the Provincial House and visit the work

It is an 1870 photo of St. Francis, Watsonville - known as the “Pajaro Valley Catholic Orphanage” at the time. It was situated on the side of HWY 152 (called then “College Road”) where we have the Mary Help of Christians church.

Fr Harry Rasmussen, SDB

Flyer for Camp Savio 2003

It will be fun!
that he has been doing in the last seven years. If you want to know more about this wonderful peace of art, please contact Bro. Larry.

Brother Lary King, SDB
1100 Franklin St.
San Francisco, CA 94109
E-mail: sdblarry@yahoo.com
415.441.7144 ext. 212

First church in Watsonville, CA 1919. This church was burned.

Br. Larry at the province archives room.
I am approaching the subject of weight gingerly. Why? I don’t want people to think that I am critical of you just because you might be on the “heavy” side. I want to have a deeper understanding of weight and how that affects your health. For the coming weeks, we will unravel how our weight could change our health and more importantly what can we do about it. I dare not offend you by making broad statements about weight or obesity. Hence I was extremely happy to come across this website “Weight Matters” in their introductory statement about why weight matters. It begins with an opening statement which reflects my belief and my motivation to begin our conversation on weight.

The issue of weight matters to people in many different ways. It evokes many different emotions and can often be difficult to talk about with your healthcare provider, spouse, friend, loved one or others.

The most important reason why weight matters is because of your health.

There are many health implications that accompany excess weight, such as diabetes, hypertension, sleep apnea and others. Sometimes weight can even affect emotional health as well. It is not uncommon for someone dealing with weight issues to be affected by depression or a lack of self-confidence.

Gaining excess weight and realizing the health implications is not always the easiest thing to recognize. In fact, most Americans do not realize that they are affected by excess weight or obesity, or even at risk for weight-related conditions. This is why it is so important for you to realize that YOUR WEIGHT DOES MATTER!

Let me begin by going into the physiological component of a fat cell this week. From Wikipedia in its definition of Adipocyte: Adipocytes, also known as lipocytes and fat cells, are the cells that primarily compose adipose tissue, specialized in storing energy as fat.

Your homework assignment from the Care Ministry this week: get your weight and height ready. Next week we will need these measurements to know your BMI (Body Mass Index).

The Care Ministry welcomes your comments/suggestions: kunlouis@gmail.com

One Thing at a Time

There is new graffiti near the cross walk of our hospital. Only this time it is not on the wall. The graffiti is intentional; it carries a very important message. At the four corners of the cross walks to the hospital, in bold letters, it says: “Heads Up, Phones Down”. The rationale behind this message is obvious. We have seen many near misses of staff crossing the street and nearly hit by a car. While texting and walking, the staff was totally unaware of the perils of the street. It seemed like he was in another world of his own. Our hospital administrators decided to post this written warning at each corner of the crosswalk, reminding staff that this is a serious matter. You could die from doing two things at one time.

As a reminder to seniors, as we get older, our reflexes are not as sharp. We react to situations at a slower pace than when we were younger. Hence, while taking a walk as part of your exercise, pay attention to the terrain. Sandy and gravel surface, or streets with puddles of water are hazardous areas. With your eyes on the road, don’t do anything else, focus on your walking. Be aware of your surroundings – I found myself bumping into more corners, objects and unforeseen obstacles than ever as age is creeping up on me. Just last week in a conference, I found myself walking into the hotel men’s room twice. This is very embarrassing. I don’t remember making this blunder when I was younger. Somehow, not paying attention to the details, all restrooms looked the same as my mind was on the conference topic and whether I was on time.

Eating is another activity in life that merits your focused attention. Again, seniors beware. My uncle who had Parkinson disease died from choking and watching TV at the same time. Mind you, he did have a medical condition that might make him at a higher risk for choking with muscle weakness, not paying attention to what he was eating caused his life. For ordinary senior folks, the
type of food also determines the degree of risk. Yes, hard solid food might be hard to bit into, but liquid is most difficult to control and therefore it might cause aspiration. I remember many years ago I was talking and eating a cherry at the same time. The cherry managed to wedge at the back of the throat. With many violent coughs and forceful thrashing of the throat, I managed to spit out the cherry. Subsequently for the rest of the evening, I was literally speechless: I lost my voice that night just from one little deviation of the cherry at the back of my throat.

Lessons learned – do things one at a time. Multitasking might sound appealing to save time and prove your efficiency. But at the end, it might cause serious medical consequences. The only group and activity that I had personally witnessed that I deemed safe to do is associated with the Salesians. Many Salesian priests/brothers would walk after dinner around the campus or the block with their rosary on hand. Since dinner time is usually early, the walk takes place while there is still light. Thus far, I have not heard of any mishap with this type of multitasking. I bet the answer is simple. It has to do with them being in a familiar environment in a well-lit area (your home, your community) and the mental status of saying prayers that might not require critically thinking. Time after time, this activity of walking and saying prayers do not seem to contradict each other. No one has fallen. So from an evidence based practice, it is still a safe endeavor until proven otherwise.

Your homework assignment from the Care Ministry this week: identify what are some of the activities that you cannot multitask.

The Care Ministry welcomes your comments/suggestions: kunlouis@gmail.com

A WORD OF ADVICE FROM SAINT JOHN BOSCO

"Fly from bad companions as from the bite of a poisonous snake. If you keep good companions, I can assure you that you will one day rejoice with the Blessed Mother in Heaven; whereas if you keep with those who are bad, you will become bad yourself, and you will be in danger of losing your soul."

Saint John Bosco