Dear Salesian sisters and brothers,

Today I participated in a special meeting at Don Bosco Tech, Rosemead. Bishop David O’Connell, auxiliary for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and a member of the Board of Trustees of Don Bosco Technical Institute, called this meeting together. Several members of the Board were invited, including Fr. Steve Way, Director of the Salesian Family. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible future ideas to help Don Bosco Tech grow and navigate the ever changing educational models and technological evolvement in which we minister. Bishop David is a huge supporter of what Don Bosco Tech is doing and can do, especially, when we dream of reaching out to the underprivileged young people of our society. Before becoming one of the five Auxiliary Bishops of Los Angeles, Bishop David was a pastor in an inner city parish in South Los Angeles. His heart instantaneously goes out to young people who would profit from educational services that Don Bosco Tech offers now and could offer. These young people would be enabled to take on good jobs and help support themselves, their families and make a difference in society. We pray for the future of Don Bosco Tech and the possible connections that the Bishop in particular can help make in order to sustain our school and reach out to the poor. As I sat in the meeting room with nine of us around the table, I thought of Don Bosco dreaming with his first Salesians of ways to reach poor and disadvantaged youth and go forth to mission lands. Don Bosco’s dream continues and offers us wonderful possibilities, if we believe and hope.

This last weekend, the administrators of our five High schools (Directors, Principals and CYMs) met in Richmond, at Salesian High, for two days of work on the Salesian standards and benchmarks that will be used to evaluate our schools in regards to its Salesian component and Spirituality. Br. Al Vu, coordinator of Schools for the province, called the meeting together and helped organize it. I was able to attend part of the meetings on Sunday and Monday. I must say that the Salesian spirit was infectious as those at the meeting brainstormed, discussed and delved more profoundly into what it means to make a school “Salesian.” This work was begun some years back, but the group is finalizing and updating it. I was glad to be there and see so much energy being generated around the topic of youth, Don Bosco and his educational system. Many thanks to Br. Al Vu and those who helped organize the gathering. And thanks to Mr. Ken Willers, associate Superintendent of the Oakland Diocese, who gave a wonderful presentation the first evening. And, Thanks to Fr. John Itzaina, Director of the Salesian Community, for his and the community’s hospitality. Many of the participants stayed in the Salesian house in Richmond, others at Don Bosco Hall, Berkeley and two at the Provincial House. Thanks to all.

Tonight I will fly back up to San Francisco. On Thursday, Gustavo’s ordaining Bishop, Salesian Bishop Salvador Cleofas Murguia Villanueva, will fly in from Mixes, Mexico. He will ordain Br. Gustavo Ramirez a Priest on Saturday, March 2nd, at our Salesian Parish of Corpus Christi in San Francisco. Bishop Cleo, as some call him, will remain with us until Sunday. We welcome Bishop Salvador Cleofas and once again Congratulate Gustavo Ramirez on his ordination to the Priesthood. On Sunday, March 3, Gustavo will celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving or “First Mass” at Corpus Christi at the 12pm noon Spanish Mass. Let us thank God for this gift to the province. And, may God continue to bless Gustavo with many gifts which will help him become a good and effective minister, a sign of God’s love for the young, especially, those most in need.

I continue to remind the Salesian
Family of Fr. Maria Arokiam Kanaga’s visit to our Province. Fr. Maria Arokiam will be making our extra-ordinary visitation, done every six years. Our communities have been preparing for his visit and putting together their local schedules to help Fr. Arokiam get a good view of the local mission at each site and a better view of the province. A final report will be written and presented on May 11th to the Province.

One of our strengths in our province is the lay collaboration we have and enjoy with the laity in our common mission to the young. Most of our works are very well managed by lay collaborators. We are very happy to have such wonderful educators walking side by side with us (sometimes leading us) in our common mission. Attending the Administrators meeting last week reminded me again of the well prepared and very Salesian educators at our schools. They love Don Bosco and want our schools to exude Salesianity.

During the months of April 2019, Mother Yvonne Reungoat, Mother General for our Salesian Sisters, will visit the Province of Mary Immaculate, the Western Province of the Salesian Sisters. Each year the Salesian Sisters have a province Gratitude day for their provincial and every year one of the FMA provinces hosts a Gratitude Day for the Mother General. This year, for the first time, the World Gratitude Day honoring Mother Yvonne Reungoat will take place in the San Antonio Province. She will visit different Salesian Sisters communities. And, on Thursday and Friday, April 25 & 26, Mother Yvonne will have a special celebration for the Salesian Family. All are invited. On April 26 St. Dominic Savio Parish and Salesian Sisters will host a special Mass at 2:30 pm with Archbishop Jose Gomez presiding. I wish to encourage the whole Salesian Family to attend. In particular, I encourage my Salesian Brothers and Priest to make every effort to participate in this special event. Included in this intouch letter is Sr. Rosann Ruiz, Provincial, invitation to all of us to attend the celebrate this graced moment.

In a week from today, Wednesday, March 6, we begin our Lenten Season with Ash Wednesday. It seems like just yesterday we were dismantling our Christmas trees and Christmas decorations. Well, maybe, a slight exaggeration! But, it is surprising that this holy season is already at our doorsteps. Pope Francis, in his message for Lent, calls us not to let the Lenten season of grace pass in vain, and to live as children of God acknowledging and obeying His law, in particular in regards to our brothers and sisters and to creation. Our Holy Father encourages us all with these words, “Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption, and turn to Jesus’ Pascual. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them.” Lent is a time to live our Baptismal promises with greater intensity. May this Lenten Season be a blessed one for all of us. Let us begin it well by reflecting on areas of our lives which require more attention, especially, in areas of greater generosity, humility and services to those who are most vulnerable and needy. Happy Lent!

With warm regards and gratitude,

Fr. Joe
SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY MARCH 17TH, 2019
St. John Bosco High School | Bellflower, CA

Check in: 11:00 - 11:30 AM

Mass: 5:30 PM
St. Dominic Savio Parish, Bellflower
Arrival
Fr. Maria Arokiam meets with the Provincial Council (San Francisco)
Travel to Los Angeles; Beginning of the Visitation of the community in Bellflower
Bellflower Visitation to the one community, 3 missions.
Sunday, Province Day, Bellflower. Afternoon to 5:30 pm Mass.
Directors-Pastors Meeting, Bellflower.
First Speaker: Fr. Arokiam
Fr. Arokiam’s talk for Salesians, Lay Leaders
Close and conclusion of the visit in Bellflower
Visit of Salesian High School community, Boyle Heights (Los Angeles)
Salesian High School
Religious Education Congress, Anaheim
St. Mary’s Parish, Boyle Heights
St. Mary’s Parish, Boyle Heights/St. Bridget’s Chinese Parish
Salesian High, Boyle Heights, Conclusion of the Visit
Don Bosco Tech and Rosemead community
Don Bosco Tech
Don Bosco Tech
Don Bosco Tech
St. Joseph’s Youth Renewal Center, Rosemead
St. Joseph’s Youth Renewal Center, Rosemead
Don Bosco Tech, Conclusion of the Visitation
Fly to San Francisco
Travel to Watsonville
St. Francis Community, Watsonville
St. Francis Community, Watsonville
St. Francis Community/Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians
St. Francis Community/Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians
Free
Free
Fly out to Laredo, Texas (San Luis Parish)
Laredo, Texas
Laredo, Texas
Laredo, Texas and fly out to San Francisco
Salesian College Preparatory, North and Novitiate Community (Novitiate Curatorium ), Begin Visitation
Salesian College Preparatory, North and Novitiate Community
Salesian College Preparatory, North and Novitiate Community
Conclusion of Visitation
Ss. Peter and Paul’s Parish, San Francisco
Ss. Peter and Paul’s Parish, San Francisco
Ss. Peter and Paul’s Parish, San Francisco, Easter
Retreat at Three Rivers
Provincial House and begin visitation of Corpus Christi Parish, San Francisco
Corpus Christi Parish, San Francisco
Corpus Christi Parish, San Francisco. Begin visitation of Don Bosco Hall, Berkeley
Don Bosco Hall, Berkeley
MAY

1. Don Bosco Hall, Berkeley
2. Don Bosco Hall, Berkeley
3. Conclusion of Visitation
4. Travel to Stockton, St. Luke’s Parish and Vietnamese Center
5. St. Luke’s Parish, Stockton
7. Provincial House Visitation
8. Provincial House Visitation
9. Work Day
10. Work Day
11. Conclusion of the Province Visitation and Final Report (given in Northern California)
The Salesian Schools Curriculum Team met this past Sunday, February 24 and Monday, February 25 at Salesian College Preparatory Richmond to discuss ongoing formation for our schools and educators.

The meeting was led by Br. Al Vu, SDB - Coordinator of Education.
February 14, 2019

To All of our Dear SDB Brothers,

It is with great joy that we invite you to join us in prayer and celebration of World Gratitude Day for Mother Yvonne. This is a significant, yearly event hosted by different countries throughout the world each year. This will be the first time that the US hosts World Gratitude Day in our 147 years of existence as an Institute. Our Mother General, Mother Yvonne Reungoat, will be making a rare visit to our Province for this rich, spiritual and renewing experience. All FMA’s and SDB’s are invited along with our Provincials and representatives of our Salesian Family from Canada, Mexico and Central America. It is our joy to be celebrating this feast in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at St. Dominic Savio Parish.

When        April 26, 2019
Where        St. Dominic Savio Parish Church
             13400 Bellflower Blvd.
             Bellflower, CA 90706
What         Eucharistic Celebration
Time         2:30 P.M.

This is Mother Yvonne’s last year as our Mother General and it was her desire to come to our Province to offer the Institute’s Gratitude for the many blessings received in helping us to serve God’s youth. Mother Yvonne has been in this service of authority for twelve years, and also serves the Church as the President of USMI (Union of Major Superiors of Italy).

We pray you can make our joy complete by celebrating all or any one of our celebrations from April 14th to May 2nd. I am sending attachments with all the information of our plans in bringing Mother Yvonne throughout the Province. Feel warmly welcomed to join us in this privileged experience of God’s Providence awaiting us through this celebration.

Please RSVP with Sr. Lourdes at (956) 251 – 5954. Many Thanks!

Through Jesus and Mary,

Sr. Rosann Ruiz, FMA
Provincial
Schedule of Mother Yvonne Reungoat’s Visit

to the Province of Mary Immaculate (SUO) in Anticipation for World Gratitude Day 2019

Sunday, April 14  
**PALM SUNDAY**
Departure from **Rome**  
Arrival to **San Antonio, Texas**
All FMA to be present at the Provincial House for Mother Yvonne’s welcome

Monday, April 15
**AM** – Mother Yvonne visits the Provincial House community

**5:00 PM**  
All Sisters and members of the Salesian Family of the region gather for Evening Prayer and formal welcome for Mother Yvonne followed by light supper.

Tuesday, April 16
**9:00 AM** – visit to St. James the Apostle School
**PM** – Visit to St. Peter and Joseph's Home (refuge for children in crisis)  
**San Antonio, Texas**

Wednesday, April 17
**6:30 AM** – Mass and breakfast at St. John Bosco

**7:30 AM** – travel to **Laredo, Texas** and visit of Mary Help of Christians School followed by lunch

**PM** – travel to Provincial House **San Antonio, Texas**

Thursday, April 18  
**HOLY THURSDAY**
**AM** – visit St. John Bosco School  
Lunch at Provincial House

**PM** – supper with St. John Bosco Community followed by Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper and Adoration at the Provincial House

Friday, April 19  
**GOOD FRIDAY**
*Living Stations of the Cross* at San Fernando Cathedral
Half day retreat

Saturday, April 20  
**HOLY SATURDAY**
**AM** – travel to **Austin, Texas** visit Austin Community followed by lunch

**PM** – *Easter Vigil Mass* at Provincial House  
Louisiana and Colorado to join Texas communities

Sunday, April 21  
**EASTER SUNDAY**
**11:00 AM** – *Easter Sunday Mass* at the Provincial House with FMA of the region

**4:30 PM** – Conference and Evening Prayer followed by supper and Good Night

Updated February 8, 2019
Monday, April 22  
Arrival of World Gratitude Day Team **Bellflower, California**

AM – Louisiana and Colorado travel back to their communities
Mass and breakfast with The Most Reverend Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller

Late morning travel to **Bellflower, California**

5:00 PM – Sisters of Boyle Heights, Los Angeles and Bellflower greet Mother Yvonne followed by Evening Prayer and Supper at St. Dominic Savio

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Tuesday, April 23  
Arrival candidates, novice and Sisters professed 1-15 years.

AM – Community of Bellflower will visit La Placita and Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral **Los Angeles, California**.

PM – visit St. Dominic Savio complex

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Wednesday, April 24  
Arrival of CIMAC/NAC provinces with Sr. Chantal **Bellflower, California**

AM – visit with FMA professed 1-15 years

PM – visit with the novices, postulants and candidates

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Thursday, April 25  
Arrival of Animators and Council members

AM – CIMAC/NAC Provincials Meeting in Community of St. Dominic Savio **Bellflower, California**

4:15 PM – Depart from Bellflower to St. Mary’s

6:00 PM – Evening Prayer and social at St. Mary’s Parish **Boyle Heights**

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Friday, April 26  
**WORLD GRATITUDE DAY**

AM – Morning Prayer and breakfast in hosting community

10:30 AM – departure from Bellflower to banquet hall

11:00 AM **World Gratitude Day Banquet** Hollywood Sports Park Banquet Center **Bellflower, California**

2:30 PM **World Gratitude Day Mass and Reception** St. Dominic Savio Parish **Bellflower, California**

5:30 PM – Depart from Bellflower to St. Thomas

7:00 PM **World Gratitude Day Program and Social** St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and School **Los Angeles, California**

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Saturday, April 27  
Departure of CIMAC, candidates, novice and Sisters professed 1-15 years

AM – Morning Prayer and breakfast in hosting community

FMA Lunch and Gathering at benefactor’s house

PM – NAC Council Meeting, St. Dominic Savio

*(We remember Servant of God Sr. Antonieta Böhm on the date of her death)*

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Sunday, April 28  
Animators Meeting, St. Dominic Savio

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Monday, April 29  
Departure of Animators, Council members and World Gratitude Day Team

AM – Travel to **Corralitos, California**

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Tuesday, April 30  
AM – Travel to **Bend, Oregon**

PM – Travel to **San Antonio, Texas**

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Wednesday, May 1  
Provincial House

Rest and preparation for travel

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Thursday, May 2  
Farewell and Departure for **Rome**
On Thursday, February 21st, 2019 at 1:25 PM, the St. John Bosco community lost a man who embodied the true spirit of a “Brave.”

The life of Mr. Eugene Fabiero won’t be remembered just through his love for instruments and music. He won’t just be remembered for his love for traveling and venturing around the world, and exploring new places. He won’t just be remembered for his iconic motorcycle that he rode to school from 90 minutes away every morning. And he won’t just be remembered for his incredible impact on the St. John Bosco High School band program in such a short amount of time.

“He had a gift, and he was always living life to the fullest. He was always alive and engaging, and had a way of making the person in front of him feel cared for and important,” said Mr. Edward Torre, a religion teacher at St. John Bosco and close friend of Mr. Fabiero.

Mr. Fabiero’s impact on the people around him was apparent. He had the type of personality that could rub off on everybody, even if you didn’t “know” him.

“He had a great spirit with a great attitude. He lit up a room and had a special love for life. He really cared about his students,” said Mr. Martin Lang, a theatre director at Bosco.

Mr. Fabiero had a certain love and a special kind of relationship with his students that couldn’t be ignored. His goal was to truly let students express themselves and help them achieve their full potential, in any aspect of life, but most importantly in music.

“When you had a bad day, he’d be right there. You would automatically brighten up around him because he would always try to make you laugh. When we had a tough time [learning the instruments], he’d be patient and help us learn,” said Jordan Makkar, a senior band member at Bosco.

Being a senior at Bosco and a part of the band program for four years, Makkar testified to how Fabiero literally turned the program around and put the Bosco band back on the map.

“Two years ago we were doing really bad. He came in mid-September of 2017 and he turned us around just like that. It takes a lot for someone to come in and start from scratch and cultivate...
our program, and he did that,” said Makkar.

Mr. Fabiero came in during the midst of the 2017 Bosco football season, where the band plays an integral part during the games. On such short notice, Fabiero’s impact was seen right away and the band improved greatly.

“Our other music teacher had basically up-and-left. Fabiero came in and was immediately enthusiastic about the program. To hear about a program that was in need of leadership and to be built, he looked at that as an opportunity. He was always positive looking at things,” said principal Dr. Christian De Larkin. Having a positive outlook on life is something that Mr. Eugene Fabiero will always be remembered for. “As a band instructor he was able to make a very good connection [with us] while keeping everything professional,” said senior band member Mauricio Vargas. While teaching music to his students, Mr. Fabiero spent a lot of his time playing music himself, and that of different cultures.

“He participated in a German music ensemble, and lived in Germany for some time. He spoke German as well, which you wouldn’t expect,” said Dr. De Larkin. Fabiero earned his masters in Orchestral Performance in Germany at the Staatliche Hochschule Fuer Musik after receiving formal education at Cal State Fullerton.

Over the course of his music career, he performed in Germany, Japan and the United States. He was clearly a very cultural person that had a love for experiencing life. Through music, he found a love for playing different kinds of instruments and experiencing unique sounds.

“He was in this band where he just had a bunch of really crazy instruments,” said Anthony Nold, the media production director on campus.

Mr. Fabiero played the tuba. He was the tubist for the Suedwest Deutsche Philharmonie in Germany in 2001 and played in Gwen Stefani’s 2005 Solo Tour, as well in many other prestigious installments. He was the conductor for the Pacific Brass Society founded in Long Beach, California. At St. John Bosco, Fabiero laid down a lasting impact on the band program in several different ways. “He was adamant about getting a timpani. He would always say ‘we need to have timpani’s.’ He knew the sounds that he wanted the students to learn,” said Dr. De Larkin.

This love for different kinds of instruments expresses who he truly was as a person. Living life, trying new things, but always keeping a positive outlook, no matter the circumstances. Even if you didn’t know Mr. Fabiero personally, you could tell what kind of person he was. He had the kind of personality that rubbed off on everybody. The joy with which he lived with was apparent and could be seen from the outside looking in. He expressed this love not only at Bosco, but at home as well to his two children, Elsa and newborn Bastian, and to his wife Karin.

“His last message from him and his wife was that he was very thankful that this [Bosco] community welcomed him, and for the prayers and donations and everything,” said Mr. Edgar Salmingo, the vice principal of academic affairs at Bosco.

Mr. Torre and Mr. Salmingo worked closely with Mr. Fabiero through the directory and leadership of the Filipino Club on campus, and saw the joy that he lived with up close.

“When anything bad happened he would yell, ‘Holy Chow!’ and throw whatever happened out the window,” said Mauricio Vargas. “He didn’t really believe on a negative attitude.”

Even though Mr. Fabiero’s life has come to an end, his spirit will undoubtedly live on. Mr. Eugene Fabiero will have an impact on the St. John Bosco community for the remainder of time due to his bright personality and unparalleled love for life.

Through music and the playing of instruments, we can peacefully reflect on his beautiful and fulfilling life. He was the epitome of a Brave.
Bosco Tech’s Engineering Day is always an inspirational time when our alumni and special guests talk to students about career options, steps for success, and educational pathways. Among the organizations and companies represented this year were the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, The Boeing Company, and Reyes Construction. Special thanks to the San Gabriel Mission HS students who joined us and to Kirk Bagdasarian (MS ’11), Lawrence Cheung (MS ’95), Leon Cristobal (MS ’00), James Dang, Juan Diaz (BT ’82), Don Gibbs (DR ’69), Jimmy Hua (CS ’03), Jose Karam (EL ’90), Nick Mansur (EL ’71), Algis Marcjuska (BT ’82), Mark Martinez (CS ’11), Alex Padilla, Jason Sharkey (DE ’06), and Jason Wang (CS ’10).
Describing Pain
How Do You Describe Pain to Your Doctor?

By Sheila Kun RN, BA, BSN, MS, FCCP
Salesian Cooperator

An effective plan for pain begins with a good history. The feeling of pain is a very subjective feeling. Hence your doctor should not ignore your complain of pain. It could be the first sign that heralds a grave condition. But pain, if it is not specific to a surgery or a condition, is not easy to diagnose if it is very general or unrelated to a specific event like a fall. Therefore the following guideline is essential for you to help your doctor when you have concerns of your pain. You need to differentiate between acute pain vs. persistent pain. Persistent pain is described as constant pain that lasts for long periods of time. In Christine Miaskowski, RN, PhD, FAAN’s pain assessment, she includes the following steps in giving a detailed pain history:

1. Onset – When did your pain start?
2. Description – What does the pain feel like?
3. Location – Where does it hurt?
4. Intensity – On a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being “no pain” and 10 being “the worse pain you can imagine,” how much does it hurt right now? How much does it hurt at its worst?
5. Aggravating and relieving factors – What makes the pain better? What makes the pain worse?
6. Previous and current pain treatments and their effectiveness – What types of treatments have you used for your pain? Were/are these treatments effective?
7. Effects of pain on mood, function, and quality of life – Describe the impact of pain on your mood, your ability to function, and your quality of life.

If you arm yourself with the information above, your treating doctor would have an easier job to be precise and specific about the nature of the pain and proceed with the differential diagnosis. For your homework today, I would like you to use a past experience you have with a specific encounter of an event that resulted in having a very bad pain. Think if you follow the seven assessment areas and see if you come across as a good history to your physician.

The Care Ministry welcomes your feedback – email kunlouis@gmail.com
Presbyteral Ordination

With Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God the Salesians of Don Bosco of the Province of Saint Andrew the Apostle joyfully announce and cordially invite you to attend the Presbyteral Ordination of our Brother

Rev. Dn. Gustavo Ramirez, SDB

Through the invocation of the Holy Spirit and the imposition of hands by His Excellency

Bishop Salvador Cleofas Murguia Villanueva, SDB
Mixes, Mexico

On Saturday, March 2, 2019 at 11:00 AM
Corpus Christi Church
62 Santa Rosa Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94112

Please join us for lunch immediately following Holy Mass in the Parish Hall.

The First Mass of Thanksgiving of Fr. Gustavo Ramirez, SDB will be on Sunday, March 3, 2019 at 12:00 PM.
“Rejoice... the Lord is with you”  
Lc 1,28

With Praise and Thanksgiving to God.

The Salesians of Don Bosco of the Provinces of Saint Andrew in San Francisco, California and Saint Peter Claver of Bogota joyfully announce and cordially invite you to attend the Presbyteral Ordination of Deacon

Fabián Alberto Cárdenas Chinchilla, SDB

Through the invocation of the Holy Spirit and the imposition of hands by His Excellency,

Camilo Fernando Castellón Pizano, SDB
Bishop of the Diocese of Barrancabermeja, Colombia.

On Monday the Twenty-Fifth of March, 2019  
“Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord”  
At 10:00 o’clock in the morning,  
El Niño Jesús Church  
Carrera 6 N 27-65 Sur.  
Bogotá D.C. - Colombia.

First Thanksgiving Mass:  
On Monday the Twenty-Fifth of March, 2019  
At 5:00 o’clock in the evening,  
El Niño Jesús Church  
Carrera 6 N 27-65 Sur, Bogotá D.C. - Colombia.
In every young person a point of goodness is accessible and it is the primary duty of the educator to discover that sensitive cord of the heart so as to draw out the best in the young person.

- Don Bosco