



World Bulletin

Summer 2019

Prepared Exclusively for Special Friends of Salesian Missions
A Written Testimony Of How You Bring God-Saving Grace To A Troubled World

A Small Salesian Hospital Making a Big Difference

San Benito, which lies in the heart of Guatemala, has a population exceeding one million people. Yet there is only one medical facility. This lack of professional health care affects impoverished women and children the most.



Due to a scarcity of safe drinking water and proper hygiene, diseases are widespread. An abundance of ailments threaten the wellbeing – and often the lives – of the region’s most vulnerable citizens.

To make matters worse, the dire conditions contribute to an epidemic of depression and malnutrition. In fact, half of children under the age of five suffer from a lack of food.

Realizing that this crisis needed a rapid and innovative response, Salesian missionary Fr. Giampiero De Nardi took

it upon himself to devise a solution.

Although a young priest, his style is old-school. He runs the oratory, celebrates Mass in the parish and surrounding neighborhoods, and helps those who knock on his door.

But he is also regarded as a pioneer. He began a help desk for women victims of domestic abuse and child victims of sexual abuse – the rates of which are both tragically high in the country.

To address the healthcare crisis, Fr. Giampiero recruited a car-

ing and dedicated group of doctors and nurses and opened a medical dispensary attached to the Salesian parish building.

Thanks to Fr. Giampiero ingenuity and persistence, the poorest of poor in San Benito now have access to free medications that

treat and cure many of the ailments that afflict them.

Common treatments such as anti-viral ointments, anti-parasite packs and folic acid tablets, cost more than what most patients can afford.

Fr. Giampiero next challenge is to secure the funding necessary to purchase more pharmaceuticals that are necessary to keep the dispensary operating.

With the continued support of kind and generous friends like you, Fr. Giampiero will continue to make a huge impact with his small hospital.

This Month’s Child



Name: Samir
Age: 14 Years Old
Home: Refugee Camp in Uganda

Samir (not his real name) is a testament to the accomplishments made possible by refugee children when given the chance to overcome their tragic circumstances.

This 14-year-old boy is the only surviving member of his immediate family. His siblings and parents were killed in their war-torn homeland of South Sudan.

All alone, Samir fled to a refugee camp in Uganda where he found friendship and comfort with three other boys his age.

Together, the four “brothers”

– as they now consider themselves – were fortunate to be placed together at the Don Bosco Children and Life Mission (CALM).

Currently, the boys live full-time at CALM where they receive a safe place to sleep, three nutritious meals a day and the opportunity to continue their education.

Samir is extremely grateful for his new life made possible by the Salesians and many caring supporters. To show his appreciation, he plans to pursue a medical degree and become a doctor so he can help others in need.

This Month’s Call For Prayer

Around the globe in the past year, hundreds of millions of people have been forced to flee their homes and communities due to war, poverty and human rights abuses. Please pray that these innocent victims find safe refuge and are given the strength and ability to rebuild their shattered lives.



Monthly Missions Report...

In Mali...

For 35 years, the Salesians have been using education as an effective way to lift young people out of the violence, poverty and despair that have long plagued Mali. But keeping up with demand for Salesian schools has been a difficult challenge.

But now there's a new ray of hope. Plans are underway to expand the Salesian education center in Sikasso which currently serves over 400 students within 11 rooms. The renovations will feature 8 new classrooms and the hiring of additional teachers – greatly increasing the school's capacity to offer vocational training in the automotive, electrical and metal construction trades.

With an expected completion date of May 2020, the new facility will provide transformative opportunities to more young people seeking brighter futures.



In Colombia...



Their smiles are wide and their prospects bright. At the age of 21, Catalina and Claudia have recently graduated from nursing school and are eager to apply their new skills toward helping those in need.

While the road ahead is promising for these two amazing young women, their paths up to this point have been filled with violence, trauma and suffering.

As children, both girls fled abusive households and sought refuge among the guerrilla forces fighting in the jungles of Colombia.

But thanks to the Salesians, Catalina and Claudia ended up in the care of Ciudad Don Bosco in Medellin – a program that rescues child soldiers and gives them the love, support and resources to rebuild their lives.

In Ethiopia...

A new training facility at the Don Bosco Poly Technic College in Macalle will provide dozens of young people with the skills to launch productive careers as certified automotive technicians.

The TechPro2 program was made possible, in part, through collaboration with CNH Industrial. The industrial giant of commercial vehicles donated one of their IVECO 682 trucks and will train instructors who will hold classes and workshops within the structure.



Upon completion of a one-year course, students will be given the opportunity to participate in internships at IVECO dealerships within Ethiopia that could lead to permanent employment.

The TechPro2 program is one of many examples of how the Salesians form partnerships to enrich the lives and prospects of impoverished youth.

Missionary of the Month: Fr. Piotr Wojnarosky

When reflecting back on his youth in Poland where he attended a parish led by the Salesians, Father Piotr Wojnarosky admits that the thought of becoming a Salesian was not very attractive. "I wanted to become a sportsman and I played soccer as a professional," he reveals.

But when he participated in a vocational workshop in his last year of high school, his mind was changed for good. He pursued studies in Philosophy and was

eventually ordained a priest.

Since his first assignment at a Salesian school in Silesia, Father Piotr's journey has been rich in experience and spiritual reward.

In 2001, he helped build a school in Ghana. Two years later, he was appointed head of a Salesian vocational training center which he led for the next seven years.

Today, Father Piotr is serving in the mission village of Kunkujang, Gambia, where he is assessing the



plight of at-risk young people and working to launch several projects that address their needs.

Needless to say, Father Piotr is making a difference well beyond what he ever expected in his younger years.

Opportunities Abound

Dear Friend,

The opportunities to care for the world's suffering children are endless. And, in many cases, it doesn't take much to make a big impact.

As one of our cherished and loyal supporters, you know firsthand how much we strive to stretch every dollar of your precious donations. Through hard work, resourcefulness and determination, our missionaries around the world

consistently discover ways to solve problems – and enrich people's lives – with minimal resources and funding.

You are a vital part of that process and I am deeply grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Together, we can break the cycle of poverty by offering educational opportunities to impoverished youth. We can treat the sick and injured by giving access to proper



medical care. We can transform young lives by providing a positive alternative to crime and violence.

This issue of the World Bulletin merely scratches the surface of what's possible with you by our side. May God Bless You!

Fr. Mark Hyde, SDB

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