



Salesian Missions AUSTRALIA

The Australian Salesian Mission Overseas Aid Fund (ASMOAF)
Salesians of Don Bosco

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Helping youth build a better future

Dear Friends

In the tradition of St John Bosco, a central theme of Salesian work throughout the world is the education of youth, especially those from economically deprived backgrounds.

Don Bosco (1815 – 1888) was a very practical man who was well ahead of his times. He understood the value of education and training.

He was aware of the importance of acquiring knowledge and the mastering of skills to secure employment to begin a career; he emphasised the cultivation of values such as hard work, honesty, integrity, trust and co-operation.

The young were encouraged to develop their God-given talents not only for their own benefit but also for their family and the wider society.

The value of self-discipline, the courage to do what is right, especially in the consideration of the needs of others was stressed. His was a truly holistic appreciation of education.

Throughout the world there are approximately 450 million children living in poverty. Many children are deprived of their childhood because they must take care of siblings, carry water for the family, work to bring money home, live on the streets or suffer from war and violence. It has been estimated that about 40,000 children die every day from lack of food and clean water, disease, malnutrition and inadequate sanitation.

Don Bosco's Salesians are in 132 countries which include many of the world's "trouble spots." They are endeavouring to help people live better lives. Their focus is on youth, assisting them through education to enjoy productive lives and to acquire the skills to secure an occupation.

While the Salesians cannot solve all the problems in the developing and often troubled world, they are making a contribution.

We are very grateful ASMOAF donors who support Don Bosco's work in the less developed countries. They are helping to sustain schools and ensure education will be available to youth from poverty stricken backgrounds. Their donations are truly making a difference.

I thank you again for your support.

Yours sincerely in St John Bosco,

Br Michael Lynch, SDB
Director

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