

HOW BEAUTIFUL IT IS TO STAND BEFORE THE CRUCIFIX SIMPLY TO BE UNDER THE LORD'S GRACE SO FULL OF LOVE.

-POPE FRANCIS-



SPCSA COUNCIL MEETING



NEW CARPET ROAD



INAUGURATION OF SSSC

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The local delegates are requested to send their information to be published in the newsletter before 25th of every month.

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DON BOSCO
S R I L A N K A
Salesian Vice-Province of St. Joseph

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DON BOSCO

**AHUNGALLA
ANNALS**

INAUGURATION OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

The Inaugural Holy Eucharist for the new academic year of Don Bosco Chinthanaloka was presided over by his Lordship Rt. Rev. Dr. Raymond Wickramasinghe. We also had the gracious presence of very Rev. Fr. Roshan Miranda, Fr. Paul Sajeewaka and Fr. Sampath Wilegoda (the parish priest of Galle Cathedral) to grace the occasion.



FR. SEBASTIAN FERNANDO, SDB



DON BOSCO

**AHUNGALLA
ANNALS**

INAUGURATION OF THE NEW CARPET ROAD

The new carpet road was blessed by his Lordship Rt. Rev. Dr. Raymond Wickramasinghe and opened by Very Rev. Fr. Roshan Miranda, the superior of the vice province of Sri Lanka.



FR. SEBASTIAN FERNANDO, SDB

**DON BOSCO****ARABEGAMA
VIBES****DONATION PROGRAM FOR THE POOR**

Don Bosco Arabegama (Novitiate): On 13th of September 2021 the Don Bosco Arabegama community distributed 200 dry-ration packets to the poor families in the neighbourhood who are struggling due to Covid 19.

The initiative was taken by the Rector Fr. Emmanuel and the community members supported the venture. Thanks to the Benefactors and the well-wishers who supported us financially.





DON BOSCO

ARABEGAMA
VIBES

THE NEW HYMN "MAGE JESU"

NEW RELEASE



On 24th of September 2021, Fr. Nevil Jude, released his first composed hymn on the internet. We would like to thank Father Jude for his enthusiastic effort to bring out this melodious output. We congratulate him for coming up with such initiatives to praise God with his talents. Many Catholic channels in Sri Lanka have asked permission to play the hymn on their channels. Father Jude Nevil would like to thank all the Salesian Fathers and Brothers and other collaborators for their support and generosity.

Artist – Rev. Fr. Nevil Fernando sdb, Br. Chamoth Rasanga, (novice)
Lyrics – Fr. Nevil Fernando, sdb
Music – Shammika Geeshanth
Mix & Mastered – Shammika Geeshanth @ Nuga Studio
Poster Design – Br. Suneth Madusanka, sdb

Special Thanks to

Mr. Rasadari Fernando who supported financially for this creative venture
 Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Vattakunnel, sdb and Mr. Gayan Gunawardana and Nuga Studio





DON BOSCO

DANKOTUWA MEMOIRS

SEPTEMBER 8

Mama Mary's Birthday Bash



On September 8, the whole community of DB Dankotuwa celebrated Mama Mary's birthday with a bang!. The whole celebration began with a very beautiful Holy Mass prepared by the Auxilium Group complete with a cutting of the birthday cake donated by a benefactor in honor of Mary our Mother.

The Online classes were put on hold in view of a very well-organized tournament in the afternoon ; a well animated "BINGO" game in the evening; a special Rosary Service at night capped with the burnt offering of the 9 days gifts of different acts of sacrifices and good deeds; and a beautiful movie about a Mother's sacrificing love for her child. Everyone enjoyed the day really dedicated to a Mother they love so much.



"I AM WAITING FOR YOU IN HEAVEN"

SEPTEMBER

11

WELCOME HOME DEAR BROTHERS

September 11 was marked as the day to welcome formally our 2 new brother assistants: Bro. Kinsley Antanithas and Bro. Suraj Kushen. The boys prepared a special welcome program in the evening with songs, dances, mime and speeches to make our 2 new "guardian angels" truly feel at home. They too together with Fr. Rector and Fr. Srirantha (who helped in playing the instruments), sang a beautiful song as a response to the warm welcome they had received. Enjoy your stay in our community, brothers!

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DON BOSCO

DANKOTUWA MEMOIRS



An Exercise Of A Happy Death During The Pandemic

Fr. Paul, the Vice provincial came to facilitate our recollection. It is quite special since for almost 2 months, no other preacher nor confessor could come to animate us in this very important tradition that is so close to the heart of Don Bosco.

The recollection began at 5.30 pm with a very inspiring and meaningful talk on the beauty and importance of following Christ in the vocation to Religious-Salesian Life. The long delayed but well anticipated Confessions took place immediately with Fr. Paul, Fr. Saman and Fr. Stan as the ever patient and merciful confessors. The aspirants really felt renewed and encouraged to live more meaningful lives after these very deep and important encounters between God and His sons. Indeed, a day of renewal and blessing!



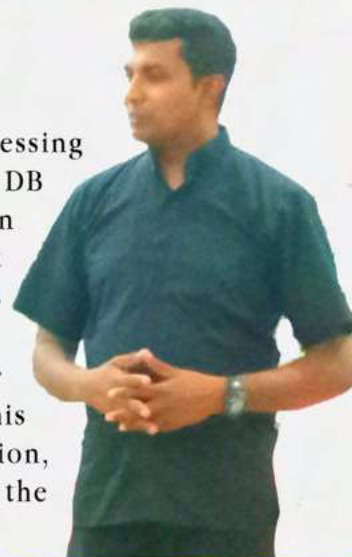
On September 17, during the meal time, Fr. Rector announced that our dear Dean and Principal, Bro. Christopher Rodrigo, has been given a new obedience to be the Economer of the Pre-novitiate. The news came as a shock to all the boys who have been benefitting very much from the presence of Bro. Chris with regard to their formation and their lives as young people.

On September 19, the aspirants prepared a farewell program for Bro. Chris, expressing their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for everything that Bro. Chris has done for DB Dankotuwa and all the aspirants of the present and the recent past. He served as an economer, and later on as Dean and Principal for the past 2 years. And more than what he has done, it was his brotherly love and care that really made the boys feel sadness as he leaves the aspirantate.

At the end, Bro. Chris thanked everyone for the felicitation and assured the aspirants of his prayers for the perseverance in their vocation, and said that he would wait for them in the pre-novitiate one day.



FAREWELL, DEAR BROTHER & FRIEND!



Thank You



FR. NOEL SUMAGUI, SDB



DON BOSCO

DANKOTUWA MEMOIRS



BAND CONTEST

“BEST BOSCO BANDS”

ON THE LOOSE!



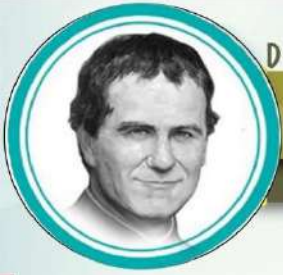
At around 3.30pm on September 20, the whole aspirantate was filled with music and songs courtesy of the 7 bands composed of Aspirants for a Band Competition.

Fr. Srirantha, SDB, with the help of Mr. Gihan--a lay volunteer , prepared, screened and coached all the aspirants on how to come up with a musical band. Then they were guided on how to play music together, and to come up with a performance. Each band was given a chance to present a song with no less than 3 musical instruments of their choice.

After everyone had presented on stage, they have been coached on some important points to improve on. At the end, with the help of the audience, 5 groups were judged fit to proceed for the **2nd round of competition** that will take place in October, and eventually the best will be selected for the finals.

All the aspirants had a very meaningful experience expressed in the evaluation they have made of the event. They gained much skills in music as well as the needed confidence to get up on stage and show their talents while entertaining others. But they especially felt glad that one day they can surely help other young people play wonderful music for the world and for the Lord.





DON BOSCO

DUNGALPITIYA
DEPICTION

SPCSA COUNCIL MEETING

AT TIRUCHY IN INDIA

FROM 01ST - 3RD SEPTEMBER 2021

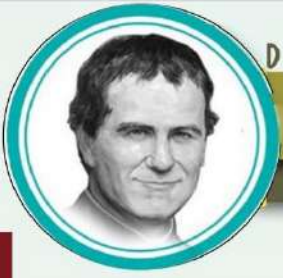
Rev. Fr. Roshan Miranda, the Provincial of LKC attended the last SPCSA meeting through an online platform. The provincial of Shillong and Fr. Roshan Miranda were unable to be present there physically while all the other provincials were found at Tiruchy Provincial House. Rev. Fr. Biju Michel, the Regional Councillor for South Asia was present and chaired the meeting.

The SPCSA secretary Fr. Jose Mathew had well planned and coordinated the entire programme. The meeting discussed many important issues of our region and a good sharing was done regarding the way the GC 28 priorities have taken shape in the various sectors and provinces.



FR. JESUDASAN FERNANDO, SDB





DON BOSCO

JAFFNA

NEWS BITS

WELCOME

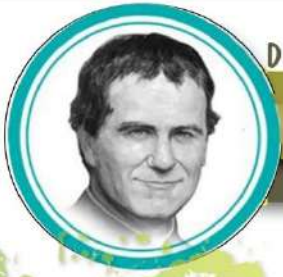
ARRIVAL OF A New Community Member



A new member was added to our community of Jaffna in the person of Fr. Dixon Fernando. He was warmly welcomed on the 23rd September 2021 along with three other diocesan priests who accompanied him; Fr. Priyanta the parish priest of the Cathedral of Badulla, Fr. Roshanta the parish priest of Bibile and Fr. Sameeran the parish priest of Welimada. They joined in the dinner and though we could not provide a room for each, they squeezed in for the night to join in the Eucharistic celebration the following morning, presided by Fr. Dixon, in the memorial Mass of Mary Help of Christians.



BR. GABRIEL GARNIGA, SDB



DON BOSCO

KANDY

COLLECTIONS

Farewell

Dear Fr. Anthony Ranjith

On September 16, The staff members and Salesian Fathers Prepared a farewell program for Fr. Anthony Ranjith, expressing their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for everything that Father has done for Don Bosco Kandy.



CL. JANITH JAYALAL, SDB



The Arrival of Young Theologians

WELCOME HOME DEAR BROTHERS

The first year SDB theologians, Cl.Janith, Cl.Mark, Cl.Maduranga and Cl.Suneth, who are going to study in Ampitiya seminary, were accompanied to the Kandy community by the Provincial Fr. Roshan Miranda, the Vice Provincial Fr. Paul Sajeewaka, and the Economer Fr. Sagayaraj, of the Vice Province on 22 September 2021. The Community members of Don Bosco Kandy welcome them all warmly.





DON BOSCO

**MANKULAM
MAILBOX**

1 NIGHT GAMES

IN HONOR OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER



Special Night Games were organized in honor of our Blessed Virgin Mary on the Feast of Her Nativity

2 BAKERY COURSE

SHORT BAKERY COURSE FOR POST O/L ASPIRANTS



A Short Bakery Course was conducted for the Post O/L Aspirants. Special Thanks to Dilaxsan from Don Bosco Murunkan for facilitating the course and instructing our aspirants to learn baking.



FR. MARISAL DILAN, SDB

3 FOOTBALL COACHING



A One week Football Coaching was conducted for all the aspirants. Special Thanks to Suvinson, the younger brother of Bro. Sujanthan for coaching the aspirants

4 VISIT OF SUPERIORS

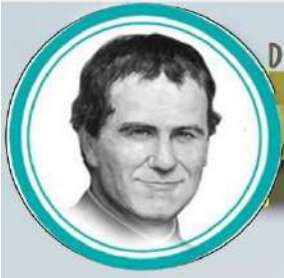


Fr. Provincial and Fr. Vice Provincial visited our community shortly. This was the first official visit of our new superiors to our community.

5 PADDY FOR SOWING



The paddy was blessed before being sown. We began the paddy cultivation after the blessing.



DON BOSCO

MURUNKAN
MUSINGS

**GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD,
FOR HE IS GOOD;
HIS LOVE ENDURES
FOREVER.**

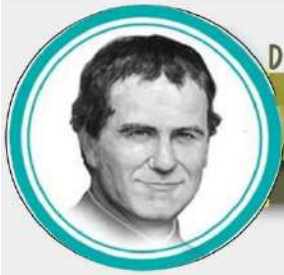
PSALM 107:1

Our Don Bosco Murunkan community has been working hard for the past months. Despite this pandemic, we Salesians over here are carrying out numerous activities. With determination, we strive to assist the needy and poor youth with material and spiritual assistance.



CL. BRUNO NITHIN, SDB



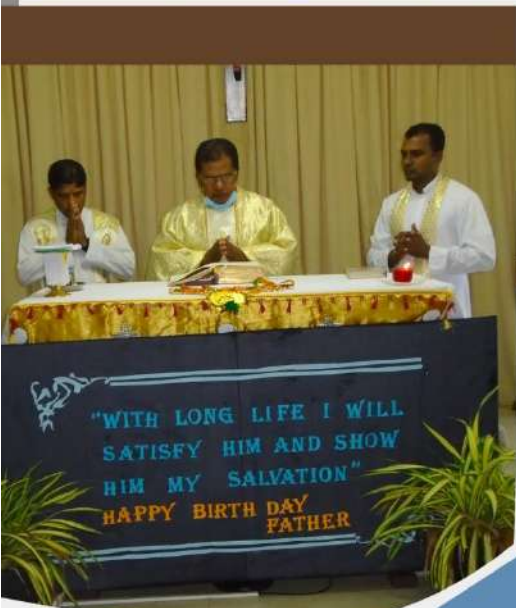


DON BOSCO

MURUNKAN

MUSINGS

On 29th September we harvested paddy from our field



On 02nd September we celebrated the birthday of the Murunkan parish priest fr. Gnanathikam who supports us in a number of ways.

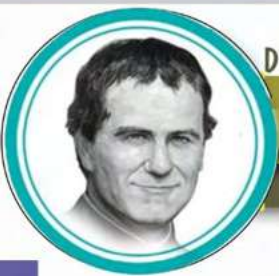
On 25th September - celebrated life

In order to motivate our employees to help make this beautiful and active community a reality, we celebrated Mr. Pirabakaran's birthday on the 25th of September.

On 08th September - Happy Birthday Dear Blessed Mother Mary

Our precious Mother Mary was also honored with a solemn birthday celebration, and we expressed our gratitude to God for the gift of Mother Mary and for all the blessings we receive through her intercession.





DON BOSCO

USWETAKEYAWA INFO

As children of St. John Bosco, we gathered around our Heavenly Mother to honor her on the 8th of September. On this great feast, we all were enriched spiritually with an accompaniment of continuous prayer. As an expression of our love for our Blessed Mother, we conducted a continuous rosary service from morning till evening, group by group with an intention of healing from the current devastation of the pandemic. We also had the cake cutting as a community in order to celebrate the birthday of our Heavenly Mother..

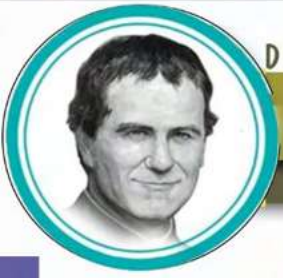


On the 9th of September, we had a tournament in honor of our Mother Mary. At the initiation of the tournament, Fr. Rector addressed the boys and conveyed a message on the importance of celebrating our Heavenly Mother's birthday. The tournament consisted of various sports, and the boys participated enthusiastically in their groups.



CL. NISHUN AKSHAN, SDB





DON BOSCO

USWETAKEYAWA

INFO

ONLINE CLASSES AT BOSCO SEVANA

The catastrophe of this pandemic has caused vast destruction to children's education. Because of this, we decided to hold classes in Bosco Sevana via social media and other means over here. Consequently, they could achieve excellence of knowledge applied to the school curriculum. Their educational requirements were accomplished with the initiative of this community's superior and staff.



'SHRAMADANA'-CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Nature always sustains and cares for the humans, but human activity does not convey the proper gratitude to nature. As a community, we initiated a step to clean the beach along the fence. It was so pathetic to see how certain people's actions have destroyed this beautiful environment. We collected plastics and other materials that could harm nature and removed them from the beach as required. This activity was done with the initiative of the community. It is also a step that was taken to educate our children on caring for nature.



CL. NISHUN AKSHAN, SDB

SEPTEMBER
SPECIAL
Events



INAUGURATION OF SSSC

SALESIAN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL COMMUNICATION, SOUTH ASIA

September 24th, 2021, was the inaugural day of the Salesian School of Social Communication (SSSC) for the South Asian Region. The Official Launching of SSSC was declared open by Rev. Fr. Gildasio Mendes, General Councilor for Social Communication, during the zoom session. There were 81 members of the Salesian Family who participated in this online platform, from all over South Asia. The first session was conducted by Rev. Fr. Gildasio Mendes himself.



The significance of this launch is its uniqueness in the Salesian school of formation in the new digital world where we are connected without borders. This Salesian formation in Social communication will continue as an ongoing programme for the coming one year as an interactive online formation for our members. This will continue each month for the coming one year.

CL. SUNETH MADUSANKA, SDB





Inauguration

of the School of Formation for those involved
Salesian Communication Ministry, South Asia
Friday, 24th September 2021
03:00 PM on Zoom

Guests of honour

Rev. Fr. Gildasio Mendes, SDB
General Councilor for Salesian Social Communication,
Rome

Rev. Fr. Biju Michael, SDB
Regional Councilor,
South Asia

Rev. Fr. K. M. Jose, SDB
Provincial Incharge of BOSCOM,
South Asia

Rev. Fr. Harris Pakkam, SDB
Central Coordinator of SSSC,
South Asia

▶ Friday, 24th
03:00 PM on

Inaugural Session
Biblical Dimension of Communication:
Reading communication from the perspective of Emmaus

Resource Person
Fr. Gildasio Mendes
General Councilor for Social Communication, Rome

SEPTEMBER
SPECIAL
Events

DON BOSCO GLOBAL YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL



A worldwide Salesian film festival, a unique project, first of its kind to involve young people globally to create short films on the theme of hope, is indeed a great initiative that fosters youth leadership, creative engagement, artistic sharing and values. This "Don Bosco Global Youth Film Festival" (DBGYFF), is scheduled to take place on 18 and 19 November 2021, in hundreds of locations in 134 countries around the world, in all time zones.

The festival, in fact, will have as its theme, the motto of the Strenna of the Rector Major for 2021, "Moved by Hope", and includes three categories to which young people from all over the world can submit their works: short films, animated videos and musical videos.

DBGYFF aims to become an annual feature and intends to be a film festival of global significance and a media event reaching out to a maximum audience. All those who wish to participate in DBGYFF can upload their work between 24 July and 30 September, 2021.

It is in fact interesting to see that our Past Pupils have already taken initiative in coming up with a short film for this film festival. We thank all those young people and Salesians who have taken this burden on their shoulders to represent our Vice Province, Sri Lanka. Let us make our young people become the ambassadors of Hope in our motherland.

Submission Theme

"MOVED BY HOPE"

Youth - Beacons of Hope
in the post-pandemic world

<https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/13285-rmg-don-bosco-global-youth-film-festival-it-s-your-festival>

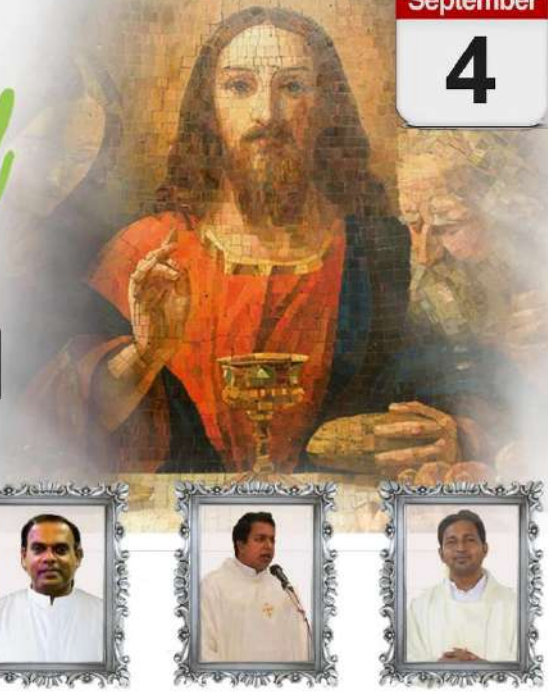
Best Wishes!



With Great joy and Gratitude to our Loving God,
The Salesians of Don Bosco, Vice Province of Sri Lanka Celebrates the

13

Anniversary of Priestly ORDINATION



CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD BLESS YOU!



WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR YOU

FR. NIROSHAN FERNANDO, SDB

My ordination day was an unforgettable peak point of my Call to Priesthood. I would call this experience as a God experience. During my final preparation for ordination I was uncertain whether to continue or not. So, during my final retreat I asked God for a sign. I was in the Philippines then. One day, during that retreat as I was walking in a beautiful garden, I noticed a quotation written in that garden. It said 'Don't be afraid to entrust your unknown future into the hands of the All knowing God'. This experience has become the reference point of my life always.

FR. CHALANA KALANGA, SDB

This anniversary is very heart-touching because I was born on 13th and this is my 13th priestly ordination anniversary. Thirteenth is the favourite number of Mother Mary; and, it goes without any explanation since you already know it. I take comfort in my priesthood, because it is daily transforming me into a good human person. According to Pope Francis, a priest's spirituality is embodied in the reality of everyday life. "His is a prophetic voice in the face of the oppression that tramples on the poor and the weak". This would be the biggest challenge in my life as I walk in this manner of life.

FR. TERANCE VIRANTHA, SDB

After journeying for 13 years in my priestly life this is what I discovered and treasured within me. I too had enough experiences of people having such a magical heart. Let me narrate one such experience. This had happened in one of our camps with young people.

We named the programme Pitadeniya Trail Adventure. Though we named it such, it was indeed a life education with nature, an outbound adventure and leadership training programme for young people. We have selected the Pitadeniya Trail in Sinharaja forest in Aluthgama. As we were reaching our destination with much difficulty, suddenly the bus stopped three kilometers away in the middle of the forest as we couldn't move any further. Due to the heavy rain the last few days Aluthgama had the road was too bad and we had no choice. I remained with the driver to search for a place to park the vehicle while others started moving with their heavy luggages.

As I was busy searching for a place to park the vehicle I got a call. Due to the coverage problem it was not at all clear but I sensed the girl who called me was crying. I got really scared and tried to call her and the others but in vain.



As I had no choice I started walking towards them leaving the driver alone. Unfortunately, I found no one on the way. As I reached the place I saw the girl who called me. Then only I came to know the story. Among the 40 young participants just one boy after leaving the things he just walked back for something. He thought, it seems, at least I would be there.



As he came back he saw these five girls who were waiting, unable to move with the heavy luggages they had. With his support they reached the place safely. In one of the discussions, the girls solemnly proclaimed this young man had not just 2 strong hands but a beautiful heart too. I would say a magical heart which made him walk back.

Without wasting any more words let me conclude with a short dialogue between the Lord and a youngster. In the place of the youngster we can put just anybody, even you and I. Lord give me a theme so that I may do my part.

What you need is a heart not a theme to do your part, replied Lord with a smile.

Allow me to add

“what you need is a Magical Heart and nothing else to do your part”.

FR. SUSITH MILROY, SDB

I'm Fr. Susith Milroy SDB. I've been a Salesian for the past 21 years and a Priest for 13. I have been asked to pen these few lines sharing my prospects and experience as a Salesian-Priest today. I do this in three points:

First, amid the modern stirrings of opinion, there is a tendency to express commonly, that we have many priests in the Church, but less priesthood. The causes of this public mentality are varied, sometimes due to a moment of our own weakness or fragility. The decrease in vocations to the priesthood is to be found everywhere. Individuals, families and society are losing their sense of God, all that is holy, the esteem for the Church, faith and sacraments. The Pandemic aggravated all our troubles. Therefore there is a lot of need for vocation promotion and formation of our candidates to the Salesian way of life. Therefore, the Programmatic Action Plan of the GC 28 is crucial to our vocation.

Second, we are Salesian Priests. We are not secular. We all know that the "adjective" which defines us is primary, not an appendix to our life, but for a specific and original task: Salesian consecrated identity! This qualifies for some Salesians who are priests a specific "Priesthood" defined by Don Bosco. Here, our life is radical and focused. Our vocation and ministry deepen the mystery of Christ lived by Don Bosco.

We all aspire to this. Thus, I would say the past 21 years of my Salesian vocation qualified the 13 years of my priesthood. But, there is a danger that I see: the desire to be "secular!" while being a "Salesian". We must fight this temptation of giving up to perplexed and distracted worldly affairs of position, sometimes ministry itself and careerism fine-tuned by clericalism.

Third, as for all of us, I too don't have a personal list of external achievements or memorials (which some priests crave), but a specific, Salesian, communitarian and evangelical identity to be cherished. Like all of you, I too lived the courage of faith in the spirit of Don Bosco for the young. We must always imitate the experience of the Good Shepherd laying down his life for the sheep (Jn 10,11). Like Christ, we must become the "Power of God" offering ourselves in sacrifice. We must be the sacrificial lamb, Sacerdos et hostia to our young people. Here the beauty and the mystery of the High Priest of Christ is manifested in our humble persons. Our liturgy becomes vibrant and the Gospel echoes the voice of Christ. The discovery of the sole intent on the things of God and the Church empower our prayer life as profoundly Salesian and priestly occupation.

CONTINUE READING..

FR. SUSITH MILROY, SDB

Finally, we must grow in our "Salesian vocation", and therefore, we must be ready to give our best for the ongoing "Salesian formation". The quality of the initial formation is the bedrock of the excellence of ongoing formation. This is the architectural programme of the GC 28 at our doorstep. In all these years I tried for a growth in the Salesian-spiritual life related to the need for integration and integrity. I strive for the unity of Salesian life following Don Bosco in the fulfilment of my vocation. I continue to journey discovering the authentic spiritual programme of my external activities and interior life. Today, I understand that Salesian holiness is not about doing more and doing it better in a human way, but about being a "certain type of person" in the pedagogy of the preventive system; a person whose life has a definite direction, a goal, a unity of purpose about it. This is for me "the courage of faith" in Don Bosco. I wish you all the same! Let us discover the courage and the beauty of faith in Don Bosco! I recall to my brother priests the memorable words said to us during our ordination rite: "Know what you are doing, and imitate the mystery you celebrate: model your life on the mystery of the Lord's cross". I think that Don Bosco did this till the end of his life. He is our model!

FR. RUWANTHA THIRIMANNE, SDB

On September 4th we celebrated the 13th anniversary of our ordination to the priesthood, in which I felt the presence of God's grace, beyond my own capability. In all of these years it is true that I have received more than I have given. So I take this opportunity to thank God, the Salesian congregation, my family and my community in Don Bosco Technical Center Negombo for their love, guidance, and all the more your patience with me. The words of St. Augustine keep on reminding me "To fall in love with God is the greatest of romances, to seek him the greatest adventure, to find him the greatest human achievement."



October

BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

- 02 1998 **S BOTHEJU SANJEEWA YOHAN**
- 05 1984 **P HANDALAGE DON SAMAN**
- 09 1989 **S STANISLAS ANTHONY THİYONISLAS**
- 10 1991 **S MARUSILIYAN MARIANYANGAM**
- 11 1982 **P FERNANDO THARAKA**
- 25 1988 **P FERNANDO SEBASTIAN**
- 28 1984 **P PRASANNA NEIL**
- 30 1982 **P PRIYANTHA MANJULA**
- 31 1985 **P RANPATHI DEVAGE VIRAJ**



Happy
Birtholay
to You



*The Lord bless you and keep you:
the Lord make His face
shine upon you
and be gracious to you..."
Num 6:24-25*