



Baptised and sent at Advent

The harvest is great ...



The Word of God

The Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Matthew 24: 22-24



The teaching of our Church

There still remain in the world multitudes of people who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death. *Pope Benedict XV, Maximum Illud 1919*

It is important to ask ourselves certain questions about our identity and our responsibility as believers in a world marked by confusion, disappointment and frustration, and torn by numerous fratricidal wars that unjustly target the innocent. *Pope Francis, World Mission Day 2017*



Salesian thought

There are many people to whom the Gospel has not yet been proclaimed. Many youngsters need a friend, a brother, a father, whom they can find in the Salesians they meet. *Fr Ángel Fernández Artime SDB, Rector Major*



Think, pray, act

Who are the people around us who are in need of experiencing God's message through our friendship? What can we do to reach them?

Do something today to become more of a friend, a brother or sister for a young person you know.

Do you know anyone suffering from confusion, disappointment or frustration? Say a prayer for them, or for those who are trapped in wars tearing apart their communities.





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Christ is at home in every culture ...



The Word of God

Christ is the saviour of all men

Now, the God of perseverance and encouragement give you all the same purpose, following the example of Christ Jesus, 'so that you may together give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus with one heart. Accept one another, then, for the sake of God's glory, as Christ accepted you. I tell you that Christ's work was to serve the circumcised, fulfilling the truthfulness of God by carrying out the promises made to the fathers, and his work was also for the gentiles, so that they should give glory to God for his faithful love; as scripture says: 'For I shall praise you among the nations and sing praise to your name'. *Romans 15: 5-9*



The teaching of our Church

The Catholic Church is not an intruder in any country; nor is she alien to any people. ... Apply remedies adapted to the various regions of the world, and see to the founding of seminaries for both individual regions and groups of dioceses. *Pope Benedict XV, Maximum Illud 1919*

Persevering research on the part of missionaries of every age into the various civilizations facilitates and renders more fruitful the preaching of the Gospel of Christ. *Pope Pius XII, Summi Pontificatus, 1939*



Salesian thought

The mission of Jesus is manifested in the context of incarnation and inculturation. The Incarnation, as the greatest expression of inculturation, is not a secondary fact, but the way chosen by God to make himself known. God's revelation is transmitted through the Incarnation. The Church's mission, guided and sustained by the mission of the Holy Spirit, has been fulfilled and is fulfilled in categories of time and space, by inculturation in the lives of people. *Salesian Youth Movement Frame of Reference p63*



Think, pray, act

How can I improve my knowledge of the different cultures of the people with whom I live and work?

Read an article about the best values of the people of different cultures in the local area, or visit a cultural centre for another faith or community.

Say a prayer to St Martin de Porres for a greater opening of our hearts to peoples of all nations and cultures.



The call is to build his kingdom ...



The Word of God

The Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

Matthew 11:2-6



The teaching of our Church

God was speaking to you, to each one of you, when he said: "Forget your people and your father's house" (Ps 44:11) ... Your duty is not the extension of a human realm, but of Christ's. Your goal is the acquisition of citizens for a heavenly fatherland, and not an earthly one. *Pope Benedict XV, Maximum Illud 1919*

Missionary spirit is not only about geographical territories, but about peoples, cultures and individuals, because the "boundaries" of faith do not only cross places and human traditions, but the heart of each man and each woman. *Pope Francis, World Mission Day 2013*



Salesian thought

If we are happy with the thousands of young people who attend our works and we think we know all about young people, we are wrong. The big challenge is to reach those outside, to really get to them, to understand their culture, their language, their needs and expectations. Otherwise we remain closed in our works, dying of asphyxiation ... For this reason, we must be present also in the Digital Continent. *Fr Pascual Chavez SDB,*



Think, pray, act

What am I doing to learn about the young people in my local community and show an interest in their lives and concerns? Could I do more?

Ask a young person you know to talk about the things that matter deeply to them, or look for information in the media that gives you insight into young people's lives.

Ask Don Bosco in prayer to help all members of our Salesian Family to fan the flame of faith in young people at home and across the world.





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My soul proclaims the Lord!



The Word of God

The maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son

The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means “God-is-with-us.” *Isaiah 7: 14*

The teaching of our Church



May the great Mother of God, queen of the apostles, hear our prayers and call down upon the heralds of the Gospel the gifts of the Holy Spirit. *Pope Benedict XV, Maximum Illud 1919*

Let us draw inspiration from Mary, Mother of Evangelisation. She welcomed the Word in the depths of humble faith. May the Virgin Mother help us to say our own “yes”, conscious of the urgent need to make the Good News of Jesus resound in our time. May she intercede for us that we can acquire the holy audacity to discover new ways to bring the gift of salvation to every man and woman. *Pope Francis, World Mission Day 2017*

Salesian thought



We believe that Mary is present among us and continues her “mission as Mother of the Church and Help of Christians”. We entrust ourselves to her, the humble servant in whom the Lord has done great things, that we may become witnesses to the young of her Son’s boundless love. *Salesian Constitutions, 8*



Think, pray, act

How close is my own relationship with Mary, the Mother of Jesus?

Say a personal prayer, entrusting yourself to her care and guidance in living life as Jesus taught.

Compose a prayer with someone else, and recite it after saying a decade of the rosary together.


