

# Bosco Society

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My dear friends in Christ,

Once again, Christmas is just around the corner and so we take this opportunity to wish all our families, friends and benefactors a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We also wish to thank you for your ongoing generous support of our Bosco Society for the Poor. With your good support we are able to help children in both Canada and the Philippines. An old friend of mine, told me once, that life reminded him of a roll of toilet paper, the closer it gets to the end the faster it goes and at my age I can vouch that it is so true. I can't believe how fast time slips by.



My sister Marie Simonot, celebrating her 90th birthday

This year my Sister Marie celebrated her 90th birthday on Saturday, August 21st. She has always been a source of inspiration for me. Even at her age she continues to organize drama evenings, ethnic dinners, polka festivals, makes muffins every morning for the school children while she teaches them the Hail Mary and Our Father, invites people for meals, works on CWL projects, visits the sick, goes to daily Mass and is an inspiration to everyone. She has a most beautiful voice and always sang in the choir. She was always in great demand as a public speaker and terribly funny. One year she gave a wonderful Keynote address to the national meeting of the CWL in Montreal. We all love her so much. I often wonder how she got stuck with a funny old brother like me!

Finally, things are going well setting up our

Hyperbaric Oxygen Clinic at St. Paul's Hospital, in the city of Dasmariñas, in the Philippines. Through our friend, Doctor Bernardo, the Philippine military heard of our project for children and decided to donate a smaller chamber, which they were no longer using, to us. This chamber is in excellent condition and has hardly been used. It is now installed at the Sister's hospital.

With our funds we prepared a special room for the chamber and had to meet all the technicalities and regulations. Now thanks to Dr. Bernardo the monoplace chamber is ready to go to work. This



The sisters, staff and children at the St. John Bosco Hyperbaric Oxygen Center



chamber will help many poor children with a variety of medical conditions who could never afford this treatment in other hospitals. Thanks a million Dr. Bernardo! You are God's special" Life Saver" ! Our hyperbaric oxygen treatment center will be named the St. John Bosco Hyperbaric Oxygen Centre. Bosco has been our special saint helping our children since 1970. We feel most confident that he will continue to pray for us in the future. This is a wonderful first step as we continue to raise funds for the building to house our larger chamber. Our large HBO chamber that we shipped from Canada will hold 20 children. Unfortunately, it is too large for any room in the hospital. We are currently working on constructing a new building beside the hospital for the larger chamber. This building will also need office space and washrooms. The total

cost of the building is expected to be approximately \$100,000 CDN to meet all the regulations.

Again, we will need your generous donations and prayers to help us finish the job. Imagine, you will be the first people in the world to help large groups of children improve their brain functioning. You will enable them to do better in school, get better jobs on graduation and you will prevent them from falling back into severe poverty. These children will only need one treatment per day. Children with mild brain damage may need 20 to 30 hours of treatment, those with moderate impairment 30 to 40 hours and those with severe damage 40 to 60 or more treatments. We will be able to help up to 120 children a day. Thanks so much for helping us to get the job done!

In our John Bosco Centre, in the Philippines we will also begin setting up the REHABIT program to be used in as many schools and hospitals as possible.

This program was created by Dr. Ralph Reitan, Ph.D. and his many associates. It existed well before the general use of Hyperbaric Oxygen therapy.

Poster found in a Church in France... (translated):  
"When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear "the call of God". However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving."  
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This REHABIT program resembles an ordinary school program. In fact, it uses school books. However, they are very special school books. Most school books only teach the student subject matter that is required for the final exam. But these special books were found to have a double effect. Besides teaching what is required for the final exam, they help to heal and organize the brain of a child suffering from brain damage, or malfunction. With simple, short tests teachers, nurses, or parents can quickly check to find out which children require the REHABIT program.

Besides the REHABIT program we also want to introduce the Tomatis Electronic Ear Program to our Center as soon as possible. Beginning in 1958, this program was created by Dr. Alfred Tomatis, M.D., an ear, nose and throat specialist and singing instructor in Paris, France. This is an excellent program for students struggling in school. I was privileged to study the Tomatis Method



A sign outside a restaurant "Rajput Catering" in Calgary. It touched my heart to see the "good" that there is in the world

with Dr. Tomatis in France and so excited to set up this program in our Center for those children that need it so desperately.

Besides our yearly mailout we also do a number of fund-raising projects throughout the year. For the last five years, Ria, with a number of volunteers, operate The Bosco Bistro at the Country Thunder Jamboree in Craven, Sk. This year the weather was terrible and the booth was shut down for two days because of plough winds and intense rain. The final results in Craven was somewhat poor so Ria organized a booth for the Country Thunder Jamboree in Calgary.



Bosco Bistro at the Calgary Country Thunder Jamboree with Ria and the wonderful volunteers from the world wide organization 'Couples for Christ'



Father Larre and Ria with volunteers Claire Fisher and Simone Neufeld at the Bosco Bistro in Craven Sk.

This year I celebrated my 87th birthday and I wish to thank all of you for your cards and best wishes. In my advanced old age, it would likely be more appropriate to send a sympathy card, but your greetings are still deeply appreciated. I was particularly delighted and deeply touched by those of you who had the great foresight and deep love to mail me Dairy Queen gift cards. Lately, I had my first experience with a hybrid car and what a memorable experience that I will never forget. First of all, the car was so quiet I couldn't tell whether or not it was running. Also, when it was in its electric mode, it was totally silent and nobody taught me to simply turn the little knob on "D" and step on the gas. I drove this rented electric magic car from Saskatoon to St. Walburg. Luckily sometimes it started and I took off right away. More often it seemed dead and simply would not go. On

Ria did not have the same volunteer base as she did in Craven so she approached the "Couples for Christ" in Calgary. This is a wonderful organization who are set up all across our country in many of our parishes to raise funds for the poor in the Philippines. They came out to help Ria and helped her immensely to make the project a success. If any of you are interested in helping Ria at the Jamborees next year, please give her a call at (604) 540-2338 and she can give you all the details.



Stan Neufeld cooking up hamburgers at the Bistro

two occasions I was forced to ask complete strangers to start it for me. They likely thought I was drunk. Finally, I even was forced to borrow another car to get to a funeral on time. It finally became clear to me that hybrid cars should never be rented to seniors even if they beg to have one.

In closing we wish to thank you all for being so good in helping us to give poor children in the Philippines and Canada a chance to improve their brain functioning and help them gain good employment and a better more rewarding, successful life. Thanks a million for your great generosity and prayers. May God bless you for helping children in the greatest need. I will remember all of you in my prayers and in my heart. I could never do this without you!

Lovingly in Christ,



Father Larre

**A Special Prayer for those of You  
who have lost Loved Ones**

When I die, give what's left of me away  
To children and old men that wait to die.  
And if you need to cry,  
Cry for your brother walking the street beside you.  
And when you need me, put your arms around anyone  
And give them what you need to give to me.

I want to leave you something,  
Something better than words or sounds.  
Look for me in the people I've known or loved,  
And if you cannot give me away,  
At least let me live on in your eyes and not your mind.

You can love me best by letting hands touch hands,  
And by letting go of children that need to be free.  
Love doesn't die, people do.  
So, when all that's left of me is love,  
Give me away.

**Special thanks to our wonderful angels who come and help us at our booth each year:**

Kay Kaffer, *Richland WA*, Dennis & Joan Baudais, *Calgary*, Claire Fisher, *Regina*, Marlene Kurtz & Doris & Kelly Sullivan from *Medicine Hat*, Don & Debbie Jones, *Wilkie*, Stan & Simone Neufeld, *Loon Lake*, Dominic Choy, *Regina*, Gabriel Im, *Surrey*, Ria's brother John Kaal; sister Diny Buhay & Don Patterson and all her nieces & nephews who come to pitch in when they can