From the Director’s Desk...

**FIRST WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

*Let us love, not with words but with deeds*

“*If we want to help change history and promote real development, we need to hear the cry of the poor and commit ourselves to ending their marginalization.*”

Pope Francis has declared the Sunday before Christ the King Sunday the World Day of the Poor. This year, it occurs on November 19.

**Here are the salient points of the Pope’s letter:**

- The Christian community enters the world through faith in Jesus and service of the poor.
- Sharing our possessions is essential to our faith.
- Christians have done much for the poor. But we can, and need to, do more. All of us can do a lot more.
- The Pope quotes St. Francis of Assisi, and how living with the poor changed him.
- Occasional acts of charity to appease our conscience are not enough.
- Step out of our certainties and comforts, and to acknowledge the value of poverty in itself.
- The interior attitude of poverty lies in following Jesus in his poverty.

- **Today’s challenges:** Many types of poverty and accumulation of wealth by a few.
- The poor belong to the church by right.
- Pope Francis adds “Sharing with the poor enables us to understand the deepest truth of the Gospel. The poor are not a problem: they are a resource from which to draw as we strive to accept and practice in our lives the essence of the Gospel.”

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**We need to question ourselves...**

**How will I personally observe the World Day of the Poor?**

**What will we do as a family / religious community / parish / seminary / youth group?**
**Career Inspiration for 254 Students...**

**DHISHA:** Dhisha conducted Career Guidance seminars in 3 different schools during the month, reaching out to a total of 254 high school students.

All three schools were government-run and the students willing listeners and able learners. The seminar took up contemporary examples that the children could easily relate to. Reliance Jio is a current household name in mobile network. The founder of Reliance, Late Mr. Dhirubhai Ambani who come from a humble background and strived hard to achieve the targets he set for himself was a fitting model for the children. They were awe-struck to know that ‘Jio’ that is a household name now across the country was the result of a single, simple man's vision. The team laid out the three rules followed by Mr. Ambani to achieve his goals - Hardwork, Focus and Dedication. Other sessions covered topics like time management, learning skills, communication skills, and staying focused.

At the end of the seminar, students came up to thank the team for introducing them to such inspiring personalities. While some students said they would also strive to be successful, some came with more concrete plans on how to achieve success. One child, Vaishnavi, came up with a pledge to be more focused in studies and cut down on TV time.

Shivani, a student of Class IX said she dreams of becoming a pilot but so far was struggling with how she should go about realising that dream. She shared with the group that she felt more clear in her mind after the seminar – she had the determination but needed to put in hardwork and focus on the goal in every moment.

Divya, Class X thanked the Dhisha team and shared that her favourite session was the one on Time Management and she wanted to be an IAS Officer and in future she has a plan to educate all the poor students and support them.

Two seminars were held in Rahmatnagar and one in Sanatnagar.

**More soldiers for the Gender Equity Movement**

**DHISHA-GEMS:** On 10th Oct, at Govt. Primary High School, Ashok Colony, Sanathnagar, 11th Oct’17, at Round Table Govt. High School, Sanathnagar, 28th Oct, at Govt. High School, Rahmathnagar, Bosco Seva Kendra conducted GEMS (Gender Equity Movement Soldiers) Seminar. 267 High School students attended the programme. The teachers at these schools have also been trained by BSK on Gender Education.

The GEMS team conducted several games and activities after each input session to retain the attention of the participants as also to ensure the right perception. Sessions were aimed at educating the vulnerable young to break gender stereotypes. The objectives of the various sessions were:

- To help deconstruct the perception of women as inferior beings than men
- To abolish the idea of women being commodities or sex objects
- To promote equitable gender norms
- To imbibe non-discriminatory regard for all human beings
- To educate young girls and women on their right to live with dignity.
Save Girl Child..... Seminar for School Students

**BoscoNet:** BoscoNet conducted a programme on Individual Social Responsibility on 3 November 2017 at Don Bosco School, Hyderabad. This is part of Fund raising on the theme of Girl Child. CSR coordinator for Hyderabad Province Mr. Lawrence animated the session for the students highlighting the importance of sharing our goodness with the poor and less privileged. All the activities and services that the Salesians render to the poor and needy children and Youth were highlighted to the students.

Life Management Seminar for Don Bosco Tech trainees at Don Bosco Human Resource Development Centre, Gagillapur by Mr. Hyder Basha on 27.10.2017

Manos Unidas Delegates visit to INH Province on 2nd & 3rd October 2017 (DBNJ-Bhoiguda, Ramanthapur, Don Bosco Prem Seva Sadan, Hayathnagar)
MACS: “My name is Jayamma Chebrolu. I live in Chandolu Village, P.V.Palem Mandal / Block in Guntur District. I have a son and three daughters. My husband died recently. My son works as a mason for daily wages. I faced severe problems after death of my husband. My son is the only bread earner of the family. A few months after death of my husband I started working as agricultural coolie. I joined Chaithanya MACS group and deposited small amounts in the bank regularly. I received term loan amounts of Rs.5,000/-, 10,000/- and 15,000/-. I used the some amount for household expenses and some of the amount I kept in my savings account to purchase a buffalo. I repaid the loan amount through my daily wage earnings. At present I am eligible for a term loan of Rs.20,000/- . With this and the accumulated amount in my savings account, I want to purchase a buffalo and start selling the milk to Cooperative Society regularly. Thus I could generate regular income for my family. I will repay the loan amount by selling milk. I thank Chaithanya MACS for providing the term loans at low interest rates and showing me a way towards Self-reliance. At present our economic status has improved. I am happy with the MACS. I want to get more loans from MACS to use the same for my children's marriage. Now I feel I have eliminated poverty from my home.”

Increased Family Income adds Joy

Empowerment of Slum dwellers
Vizag City

Empowerment of Shikari
Community, Pasupala, Kurnool

Shelter Home For Urban Homeless, Warangal

Gandhi Jayanthi Celebrations
Diwali Celebrations
Visit of State Team
Cleaning Day
Cultural Activities
Regular Field Visits

BOSCO SEVA KENDRA
(Development Office of the Salesian Province of St. Joseph, Hyderabad)
Don Bosco Nagar Post, Himayatsagar Road, Bandlaguda Jagir, Hyderabad - 500 086, Telangana, INDIA.
Office: 83339 81701 | Director: 94400 53219 | Email: bskhyd1993@gmail.com | Website: www.boscosevakendra.org