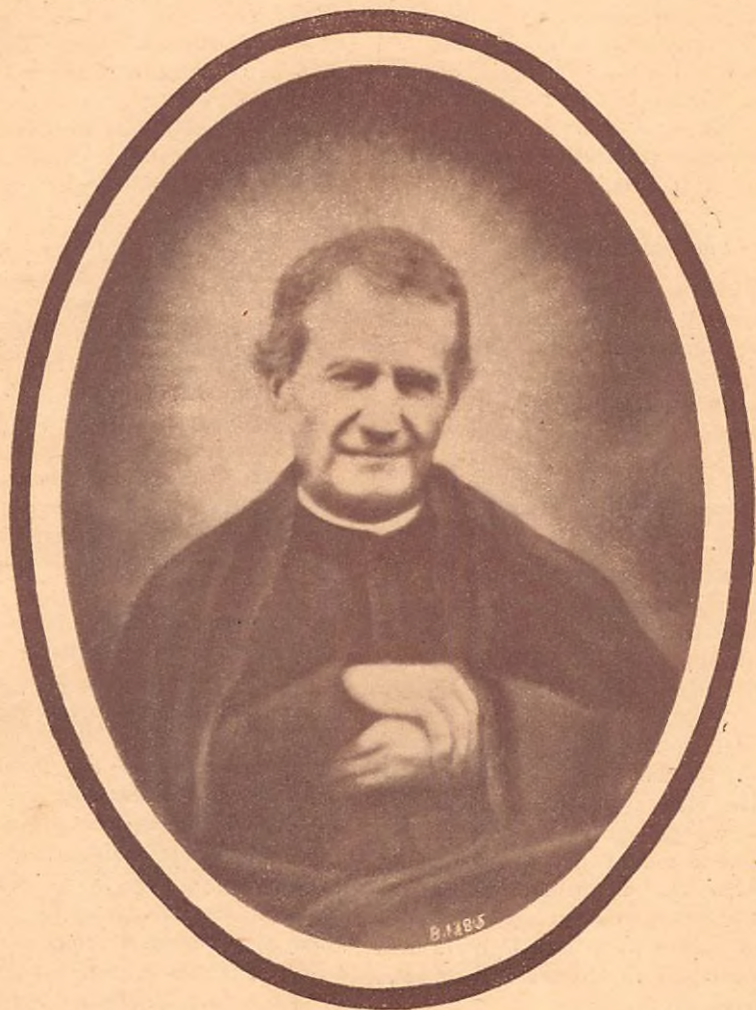


# THE SALESIAN & BULLETIN &

ILLUSTRATED REVIEW.



«DA MIHI ANIMAS, CAETERA TOLLE»

JULY-AUGUST 1929

# The Association of the Sacred Heart

During the building of the magnificent temple to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, at Rome, it was established that, as soon as the church was completed, the Rosary, of the Blessed Virgin together with other prayers should be said daily, and that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass should be offered every Friday, for all those who contributed towards the raising of this monument to the Sacred Heart. The construction was undertaken by Don Bosco at the express wish of Pius IX. It can safely be said that this Basilica was his last great work, and, not only was it a monument to the burning love, that filled the Venerable Servant of God's heart for Jesus Christ, but, it was, also, a monument to his unflinching obedience to the slightest wishes of the successors of St. Peter.

## The Association.

The above brief account is the origin of what is now known as the Association of the Sacred Heart. Upon completion of the building, the desire of Don Bosco was to augment the spiritual favours to be granted to the faithful and also to extend these privileges to an ever increasing band of worshippers. Therefore, there was established this Association, whereby the members participate in the fruits of *six masses daily and in perpetuity*.

1. The condition of membership is the payment of *one shilling* towards the expenses of the Basilica, which are by no means meagre, and other Salesian works. The payment of *one shilling* entitles the member to the above privileges.

2. Two of these daily Masses are celebrated at the Altar of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, two at that of Mary Help of Christians, and two at St. Joseph's. We may remark that Don Bosco's venerable name is associated with the two last mentioned Altars, for on them he offered the Holy Sacrifice during his last stay in Rome.

The members thus participate in more than 2000 Masses per-year, in addition to the masses they themselves attend.

## Advantages.

3. Besides the six daily Masses, members both living and dead, participate in the fruits attached to:

a) The recital of the Rosary and the imparting of Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament which takes place every day in this church;

b) The devotions performed by the boys of the Oratory in their own private Chapel, including also the Mass at which they daily assist;

c) All the services, Novenas, Feasts and Solemnities that are celebrated in the aforesaid church;

d) The prayers and good works performed by the Salesians themselves and by their protégés in their Homes, Colleges, Hospices, Oratories, Missions, etc., in Italy, in Belgium, in Spain, in England, in Austria, in Switzerland, in America, in Asia, in Africa—in a word, wherever they are established or may be called by Divine Providence.

4. Participation in the above-mentioned spiritual advantages commences from the moment of the enrolment.

5. The contributor, therefore, of *one shilling* is entitled to put his intentions in all the six Masses and all the other pious works, for his own advantage or for that of his friends, living or dead, and to change the intention *in every circumstance* according to his particular desires.

6. Enrolments may also be made in favour of the departed, of children, or of any other persons, even without their knowledge or consent.

7. Persons desiring to participate more abundantly in these spiritual advantages may do so by repeating the alms of one shilling, thereby multiplying the enrolments as often as they please.

8. The Salesians are in duty bound to fulfill all the obligations of the Charitable Association as above described.

9. The names of subscribers will be entered on the Registers of the Association and preserved in the Temple of the Sacred Heart, in Rome, for perpetual remembrance.

10. The centres for enrolment are in Rome, in Turin and England. Address: The Very Rev. Rector, Ospizio del Sacro Cuore di Gesù, Via Marsala, 42, Rome;

or, The Very Rev. Superior General, Salesian Oratory, Turin, Italy;

or The Rev. J. Simonetti S. C. Salesian House, Cowley, Oxford.



# SALESIAN BULLETIN

ORGAN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SALESIAN  
CO-OPERATORS

**SUMMARY:** Monument in living stones to Don Bosco on his Beatification. — The Journey's end and life's beginning. — Recognition of the Body of the Blessed John Bosco. — Blessed John Bosco's Works. — Novena recommended by the Blessed John Bosco. — Beatification of the Venerable John Bosco. — In the courtyard of St. Damasus Pius XI receives the Salesian Family. — The President of the Co-operators to Blessed John Bosco. — The homecoming of Blessed John Bosco. — The Anglo-Irish Pilgrimage.

MONUMENT IN



LIVING STONE

TO

ON HIS

JOHN BOSCO

BEATIFICATION

§

John Bosco, at the cost of incredible sacrifices, in his own life-time gave more than 2,500 priests to the Church.

To mark his BEATIFICATION the Salesians will offer 100 BOYS the opportunity of being trained to the Priesthood in their new Missionary College, shortly to be opened at Pott Shrigley, nr. Macclesfield, Cheshire.

For the love of your Faith and as an act of devotion to this great apostle of priestly vocations, will you assist the Salesian Fathers in this undertaking? Will you help at least one boy to become a priest?

Mary Help of Christians granted extraordinary favours to all those who helped John Bosco in this great work.

Send whatever you can to the Salesian Provincial, The Very Rev. E. M. Tozzi, S. C. — The Salesian College — Surrey Lane, Battersea, S. W. 11.





The body of Don Bosco as it was on February 1st. 1888.



# THE JOURNEY'S END AND LIFE'S BEGINNING.

The various stages in the beatification of John Bosco can begin only on January 31st, 1888—the day of his death. The great protagonist of social reform as applied to children and rock-bottom principles was come to the age allowed by the Bible to man, three score years and ten. John Bosco was nearly 73.

The physical fatigues, the moral troubles that Don Bosco had suffered left him at the end exhausted and almost inert. The day on which God should call him forth from the exile of earth was rapidly approaching. The Angels in anticipatory joy were awaiting his entrance into the celestial home, where life begins to end no more.

December 20th., 1887, saw Don Bosco confined to his bed. He received Holy Communion and then desired to get up and work a little. This he was able to do and it was a great consolation for him. Hopes were entertained of his complete recovery but they were vain. There was a little improvement but it was but the last rally before the end. This improvement continued until January 30th. 1888. Then, disease made rapid inroads upon his exhausted body.

In the last days, his thoughts were ever with the boys and people among whom his life had been spent. "Tell them all", said he, "that I give them the *au revoir* in heaven". His heart took in all the world. He wished to see *all* his children *there* and all those who should be sent by God under the care of his sons. The doctors, to relieve him and to help him to preserve life as long as possible wished to forbid the visits of the boys. Don Bosco opposed their wishes and with his old gentleness and firmness said, "*Let us do good to all and displease none*".

One day, when the number of visitors exceeded the ordinary number, Don Bosco turned to Don Rua, his vicar and successor,

and said, "Can't you buy me a pair of bellows? These I have (indicating his chest) are of no further use to me".

Thus did his relations with this world come to an end.

January 29th., the feast of St. Francis of Sales was the day in which he received the Viaticum and all the day he lay in a kind of stupor. Only, from time to time, did he murmur a few words, scarcely audible even to those watching his death-bed.

— "Love your enemies... Do good to them that hate and persecute you... Seek ye first the kingdom of God... Lord, into Thy hands, I commend my spirit... O Mother... O Mother... Open the gates of heaven to me..."

Thus did the night of the 29th. of January come and go. On the following day, since the doctors declared that there was no longer any hope of a recovery, the boys were allowed to look upon their friend and benefactor for the last time. They gathered in small groups... passed through the little chapel near the sick priest's room... entered and knelt heartbroken by his bed... kissed the hand that had wrought so much good to them and theirs... and left him... left him who had been more to them than father or mother... left him to see him no more till the day when reunions are eternal... their eyes were filled with tears, their hearts were bursting with the pity and sorrow of **it** all... O God that such men were immortal...! But there spoke their human egoism. He had earned his rest and none begrudged him his happy end. Only their hearts would not listen to reason's behests...

Towards evening a telegram arrives announcing the safe arrival of the Salesian Missionaries in Ecuador. Don Rua whispers the news in Don Bosco's ear. His face lights up and his eyes are raised in mute thanksgiving to heaven... soon he will himself thank God for this last of many graces.



Night falls. The house is in continual communication with the Salesian world. All are in prayerful union in preparation for the passing of this elect one of God. From Rome there arrives the Apostolic Benediction.

On January 31st, at a quarter to one in the morning he enters into his agony. Fr. Rua puts on cotta and stole and resumes the prayers for the dying, which he had begun and suspended two hours earlier. The remaining superiors are called and the room is quickly filled by about thirty persons, priests, clerics and lay-brothers. Fr. Rua leans over Don Bosco and whispers in his ear: "Don Bosco, we, your children, are here present. We beg your pardon for all the worries and disappointments you have had to suffer on our account. In sign of your paternal love and forgiveness, give us, for the last time, the blessing of Our Lady, Help of Christians. I will guide your hand and pronounce the necessary words".

The scene is very touching and many are in tears. All bow their heads and Fr. Rua raises the paralysed right hand of Don Bosco and pronounces the blessing of the

Madonna on all the Salesians present and absent.

At half past four the *Angelus* sounds from the clock-tower of the Basilica. Mons. Cagliero pronounces the prayer, "Depart, O Christian soul...". Shortly afterwards, the beloved father of the orphans leaves this exile for the home country where, in the presence of the Help of Christians, he is to begin the life of eternal bliss. Don Bosco is dead.

Far away at Grado on the Adriatic, not far from Venice a Nun was praying. At the precise time of the death of John Bosco she saw his soul enter heaven, received by the celestial choirs amid scenes of great rejoicing.

The glory of Don Bosco thus began.

Now, after forty-one years the official voice of the Church is heard conferring the privileged nun's vision. "*Hail Mary, full of grace...*".

Earth now resounds with the praises of him who was but a poor shepherd boy but whom God raised up to be a rock of salvation to the elect of His Sacred Heart. "*There was a man sent by God whose name was John...*".



The room where Don Bosco died.



# Recognition of the Body of the Blessed John Bosco

*After forty-two years.*

On May 17th at five o'clock in the afternoon, Mgr Salotti, Promoter General of the Faith, presided as Papal delegate at the ceremony of the recognition of the remains of the Blessed John Bosco. This ceremony took place at the Salesian College of *Valsalice* which for the last forty-two years has had the privilege of having the body of Don Bosco as its most precious treasure.

This grave and touching rite reunited at *Valsalice* the members of the Superior Chapter of the Salesian Congregation, all the prelates up till then arrived for the forthcoming feasts, vicars and prefects apostolic of the Salesian Congregation and some specially invited guests. Among these latter was the International President of the Co-operators, Count Rebaudengo, and the General President of the Salesian Old Boys' Association, Commander Masera.

In the front rank there stood H. E. Joseph Cardinal Gamba, Archbishop of Turin and Count Thaon de Revel, the *Podestà* of Turin.

A little in the background to the right were three doctors and two notaries. The former were to witness scientifically as to the condition of the corpse and the latter were to draw up in legal form the report of all the proceedings.

Previous to the meeting the marble slab that covered the mouth of the tomb had been removed and only a curtain hid the recess in the wall from the eager gaze of the onlookers. The marble slab, however, so dear and well known to those present, rested on the trestles before the tomb.

Six o'clock strikes from a nearby tower. The doctors and notaries step forward and take the oath demanded by Canon Law: Cardinal Gamba, Don Rinaldi, all the Superior Chapter of the Salesians and the *Podestà* step forward to take official possession of the body of the Blessed John Bosco.

A deep silence rests on all—a silence that

is like that of the grave, heavy and a little tragic. Twelve years have gone by since the first recognition of the body. Twelve years of work and setbacks since the opening of the Apostolic Process of beatification. Twelve years of waiting—a long wait—since the father, friend and founder was put to rest in this place. The very thought of looking again upon the triple coffin that holds him brings a stress of emotion upon the hearts of the bystanders.

A veil falls and there is the coffin. Gently and carefully under the guidance of the Salesian architect Mr. Valotti the workmen draw the sombre mass from its resting place. It is placed on its trestles and stands in full light of day once again after twelve long years.

Then, one by one, in the name of the Church, of the Salesian Family, of the city of Turin, Cardinal Gamba, Don Rinaldi and Count de Revel kneel beside the coffin and with forehead resting on the oak casing pour out their hearts in silent supplication.

Twelve Salesians, teachers of the Salesian College, stand by awaiting orders. In cotta they are vested for a sacred function is this of more than ordinary solemnity. At a hint from the master of ceremonies they lift the coffin on to their shoulders and the procession leads off.

Upon the great terrace of the college, where the staircase leading to the tomb opens out, a multitude of every class await the coming of the body. How they came there it were difficult to surmise but there they are, and form an edifying and touching bodyguard to the remains of this humble son of Piedmont. Difficult is the progress of the bearers. All want to assist in carrying the coffin and at times it is hard to have to put them off. However, this privilege is accorded only to two, Cardinal Gamba and Count de Revel. It is a moving sight





Don Rinaldi at the Tomb.  
The salute of the Salesian Family to Don Bosco.

to see this aged man, Prince of the Church, and this young patrician of Turin, assisting in the carrying of the coffin of one of the poorest of Christ's poor.

On the first floor of the house the great study-hall has been prepared with nice taste and fitting simplicity for the reception of the remains. No-one enters this room except he have the authority of the Promoter of the Faith. Severity in this is essential, for the Canonical rite must be finished before any outsiders are admitted.

\* \* \*

The coffin is placed on the table.

Facing it stand Cardinal Gamba, Don Rinaldi and the other members of the Superior Chapter. Mgr Salotti begins to speak, explaining the meaning of the ceremony upon which they are about to enter and threatening with excommunication, reserved to the Sovereign Pontiff, anyone who shall venture to abstract any part or particle of the coffin or its contents, introduce into the same any object whatsoever. He then

thanks the authorities for their presence at the ceremony. "Formerly", he concludes, "we saw poor Don Bosco, an object of suspicion and even persecuted by the first authority in the city, to whom the sight of this priest surrounded by hundreds of children, who the day before were arrant scamps, was most galling. He had nothing good to say of this priest or of his family of ragamuffins. To him they boded ill. Now, we have the pleasure of witnessing the first authorities of the city, both civil and spiritual, coming here to pay their meed of praise to the great benefactor of the humble ones of this earth".

The solemn moment has arrived. The undertaker's men begin their task. The first zinc-lined lid is removed. Then the second coffin is uncovered and the screw-drivers are busy on the third case. All those assisting at the ceremony press near the workers.

Finally, the last screw is removed. A solemn stillness holds the air—a silence pregnant with emotion grips all those present. In a corner Theresa Callegari, who had been cured by the Blessed John Bosco and whose



Cardinal Gamba, Archbishop of Turin  
salutes Don Bosco in the name of Church.



cure constituted one of the miracles for the beatification, is weeping with hardly suppressed tears.

The thought uppermost in all minds is: what shall we find?

Ashes? skeleton? Body in perfect preservation?

Finally, the lid is raised. The light of day falls on the mortal remains of the Blessed John Bosco. Praise be to God! This is not dust that we behold but a complete skeleton.

curling somewhat about the temples and above the high forehead.

The priestly vestments too have suffered irreparable damage. They are discoloured, rotten with the damp of the tomb and corroded by the chemicals that had been included in the coffin. A mere touch, it appears, will reduce them to dust.

While the notaries are drawing up a verbal process of the ceremony and while waiting for the doctors to proceed to the anatomical



Count Thaon de Revel, on behalf of Turin, reverences the coffin of Don Bosco.

In the year 1917, at the time of the first recognition of the remains the features of Don Bosco appeared quite recognizable on the mumifying corpse. By this time death's merciless work has proceeded further. All the flesh is now consumed with the exception (as we shall hear later from the doctors) of the brain, of the tongue and of one lung. Our eyes behold a human skeleton, indistinguishable from thousands of others. Certain anatomical details, however, will aid in the work of identification. For example, the hair is almost intact, almost as on the day of his death slightly rigid on the scalp and

reconstruction of the remains and the cleaning of the the body, all those present file around the table on which the coffin rests.

The emotion of each one is evident and profound. Each one thinks that never in the rest of his mortal days will he forget these few minutes in the presence of the remains of the Blessed John Bosco. Each one thinks that another historical hour in his life, in the life of the city, of the world, of the Catholic Church has struck. The apostle of modern times has come into his own.

In one corner the photographers are busy,



in another, reporters take notes for their various newspapers.

A prayerful silence holds all the room. It is the simple but splendid prologue of the triumph wished, nay commanded by the Church.

This feeling deepens and is confirmed a few moments later. The doors are thrown open to the public and in uninterrupted waves they surge into the room. They file past the body and have the priests on duty touch the remains with various sacred objects that will remain in the bosom of the family as sacred talismans against the

darker hours and the dreary times of trial and suffering.

From this hour on, even to the eve of the great procession of triumph, the crowds flocked to see these sacred remains. The most severe orders, the most uncompromising commands had to yield to the spontaneous fervour of the immense crowds. They come and will come from all the quarters of the earth and their happiest memory will be that of a small figure of a man clothed in costly vestments—but who trod the earth they tread, fought the battles they fight, and attained the crown they hope to win.

## BLESSED JOHN BOSCO'S WORKS.

### Salesians.

#### I) *Personel.*

a) Cardinal — Archbishops and Bishops, 15. — Vicars Apostolic, 3. — Total, 19.

b) Salesians (Priests, Clerics and Lay-brothers.) — 8.016.

#### II) *Provinces and Houses.*

	Europe	Asia-Afr.-Austr.	America	TOTAL
a) Provinces	21	18	17	46
b) Houses	313	68	235	616

#### III) *Spheres of activity*

1. Hospices and Orphanages	128
2. Colleges	170
3. Boarding Houses for students	51
4. Novitiates	35
5. Studentates of Philosophy and Theology	42
6. Houses for Aspirants	54
7. » » Missionary Aspirants	7
8. Seminaries	5
9. Daily and festive oratories	386
10. Hospitals and Leper Colonies	8
11. Public Churches	165
22. Parishes	177
13. Elementary Schools	319
14. Secondary »	153
15. Professional »	118
16. Agricultural »	46
17. After-School Clubs	40
18. Religious Assistance for emigrants	328
19. Missions confided to the Salesians	16
10. Missions helped by Salesians	30

### Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians.

#### I) *Personel.*

Sisters 5424 - Novices 881 - Total 6.305.

#### II) *Provinces and Houses.*

	Europe	Asia	Afr.-Amer.	TOTAL
a) Provinces	14	2	13	29
b) Houses	399	19	177	595

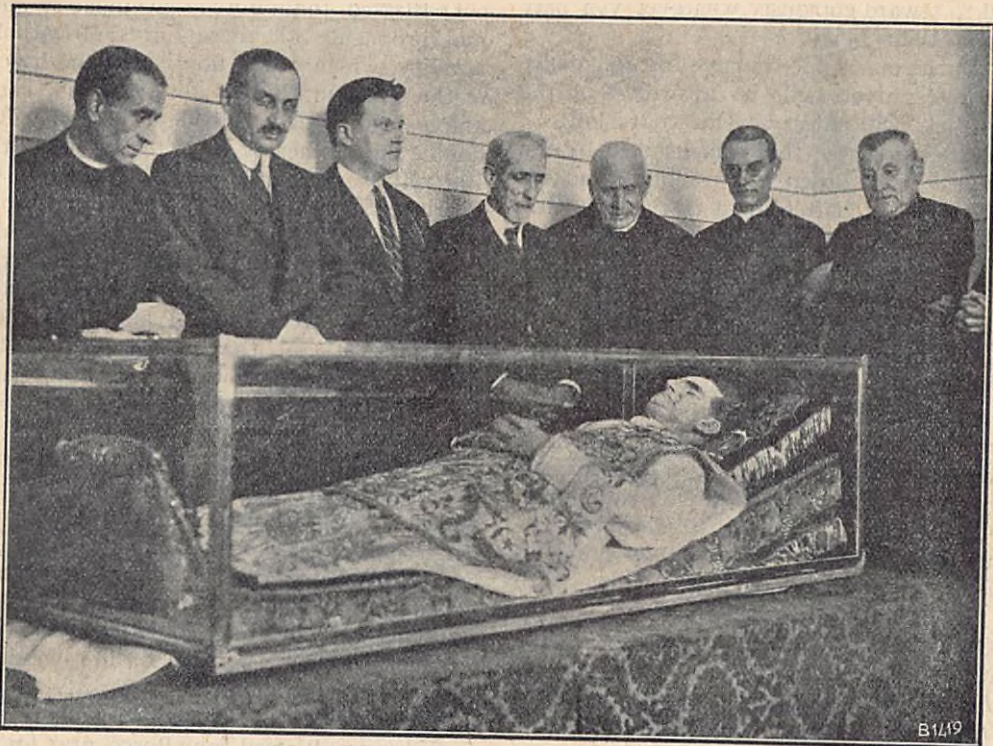
#### III) *Spheres of activity*

1. Daily and Festive Oratories	413
2. Kindergartens	262
3. Central and Parish Schools	96
4. Orphanages etc.	82
5. Boarding Schools	126
6. Private Schools	220
7. Domestic Economy Schools	196
8. Professional Schools	86
9. Continuation Schools	98
10. Schools of Religion	91
11. Boarding Schools for Working-Girls	37
12. Catechetical Instruction Classes	219
13. Boarding Houses for young ladies	6
14. Domestic Economy Schools for Salesian Nuns	63
15. Hospitals and First Aid Stations	33
16. Leper Colonies	4
17. Houses for Aspirants	29
18. » » Missionary Aspirants	2
19. Novitiates	22
20. The Sisters also work in 12 Salesian Missions and in 8 Missions under the care of other Congregations.	





The remains of John Bosco after forty-two years.



The body arranged in the Urn, surrounded by the competent Ecclesiastical, Medical and Legal Authorities.



## NOVENA RECOMMENDED BY THE BLESSED JOHN BOSCO

Whenever anyone approached Don Bosco to ask him to obtain God's favours and graces, the good priest answered thus:

"I am happy to assure you that most readily will I, with my brethren and boys, pray for your intentions. We will begin a novena for the grace you ask—a novena of prayers and communions. You, on your part, will join in our prayers —

1) By reciting daily (a) the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be to the Father, three times, together with the ejaculation, *Blessed and praised every moment be the Most Holy and Divine Sacrament:*

(b) the Hail Holy Queen, three times, with the ejaculation, *Mary Help of Christians, pray for us.*

2) By approaching Holy Communion during the Novena.

3) By performing some act of charity towards the needy.

"I recommend to your charity the numerous poor boys under our care and I beg God to reward copiously whatever you may do on their behalf...

"In the meantime we have full confidence that our prayers will be answered in the way that will most benefit your soul..."

Hence the three things mentioned by the Blessed John Bosco are essential and we recommend their fulfilment in the following form.

### To Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

O most sweet Jesus, who placest Thy pleasure in dwelling among the children of men and in being the life of their souls, grant me, through the merits of the Blessed John Bosco, who was so zealous in promoting love of thee and frequent communion amidst youth and the christian people, the grace... (*here specify the particular grace required*) which I humbly beg of thee with all the ardour of my soul.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father (3 times).

*Ejaculation:* Blessed and praised every moment be the most Holy and Divine Sacrament (3 times).

### To Mary, Help of Christians.

O most Holy Virgin, Help of Christians who didst work, and dost continue to work through the Blessed John Bosco, so many wonders on behalf of the christian people, grant me through his intercession and from thy maternal bounty, the grace which, with all the fervour of my soul, I humbly implore of thee.

Hail Holy Queen (3 times).

*Ejaculation:* Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us (3 times).

### To Blessed John Bosco.

And do you, O Blessed John Bosco, offer my prayers to Jesus and Mary. Make them more efficacious by your intercession, and together with the grace, for which I ask, obtain for me an ever increasing love towards Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and Mary, Help of Christians. Amen.

*Ejaculation:* Blessed John Bosco, pray for us.

### Prayer to the Blessed John Bosco.

O Blessed John Bosco who didst so love and propagate all those forms of catholic activity, which today flourish in the bosom of the Catholic Church, obtain for the same ample and widespread development. Redouble in all hearts love to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and to Mary, Help of Christians. Increase the love of the catholic peoples towards the Pope; inflame their zeal for the propagation of the faith, for the catholic education of youth, and for the promotion of ecclesiastical and missionary vocations. Grant that in all nations the fight against blasphemy, immorality and evil speaking may grow ever more strong and earnest. Grant that there may rise up everywhere new workers for all those spheres of catholic activity recommended by the august Vicar of Christ. Grant that the campaign for the return of christian modesty may find many volunteers and many supporters. Inflame all catholic hearts with a spark of thy zeal that, living in the practice of effective charity, they may be able at life's end to gather the fruit of many good works. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father (once) Blessed John Bosco, pray for us.



# BEATIFICATION OF THE VENERABLE JOHN BOSCO

ROME — JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup> 1929.

The day is young yet and the air is a little fresh but with a certain promise of heat to follow. Our pilgrimage had arrived tired but cheerful on the previous day and this being our first visit to the Eternal City we were all agog with excitement. To the tourist of cities, Rome is merely a stopping place that will detain him a little longer than any other city. To the catholic, Rome is home—the hub of the catholic world—the centre of the mystic body of Christ, the acknowledged mother of the nations. And here we were in Rome, ready to be present at one of the most simple, yet most magnificent, functions that the liturgy of the Church possesses, namely, the beatification of one of her children.

Despite the earliness of the hour, the trams are all crowded to overflowing and it seems that all Rome is making for St. Peter's. We are discharged at the entrance to the great square before this mighty Basilica and stand for a moment in silent admiration. The Church does not look so huge. Its proportions are so well laid out that their immensity does not strike the observer. The square is wonderful but still not of such a vastness as one might expect from certain books and narratives. The sweep of the colonades gives one a graceful impression, while the two fountains impart a freshness to the scene that is exceedingly welcome in



the heat of the morning and which will be more so, later, when the sultry sun shall have the people beneath his merciless rays. As we make our way towards the Basilica we begin to realise that the square is indeed large. Although the distance seems so small, it requires a good ten minutes to traverse the expanse of the square. We finally find ourselves at the entrance and before entering look up to the picture covered with a grey cloth, that hangs over the main door. It is the picture of the Blessed John Bosco

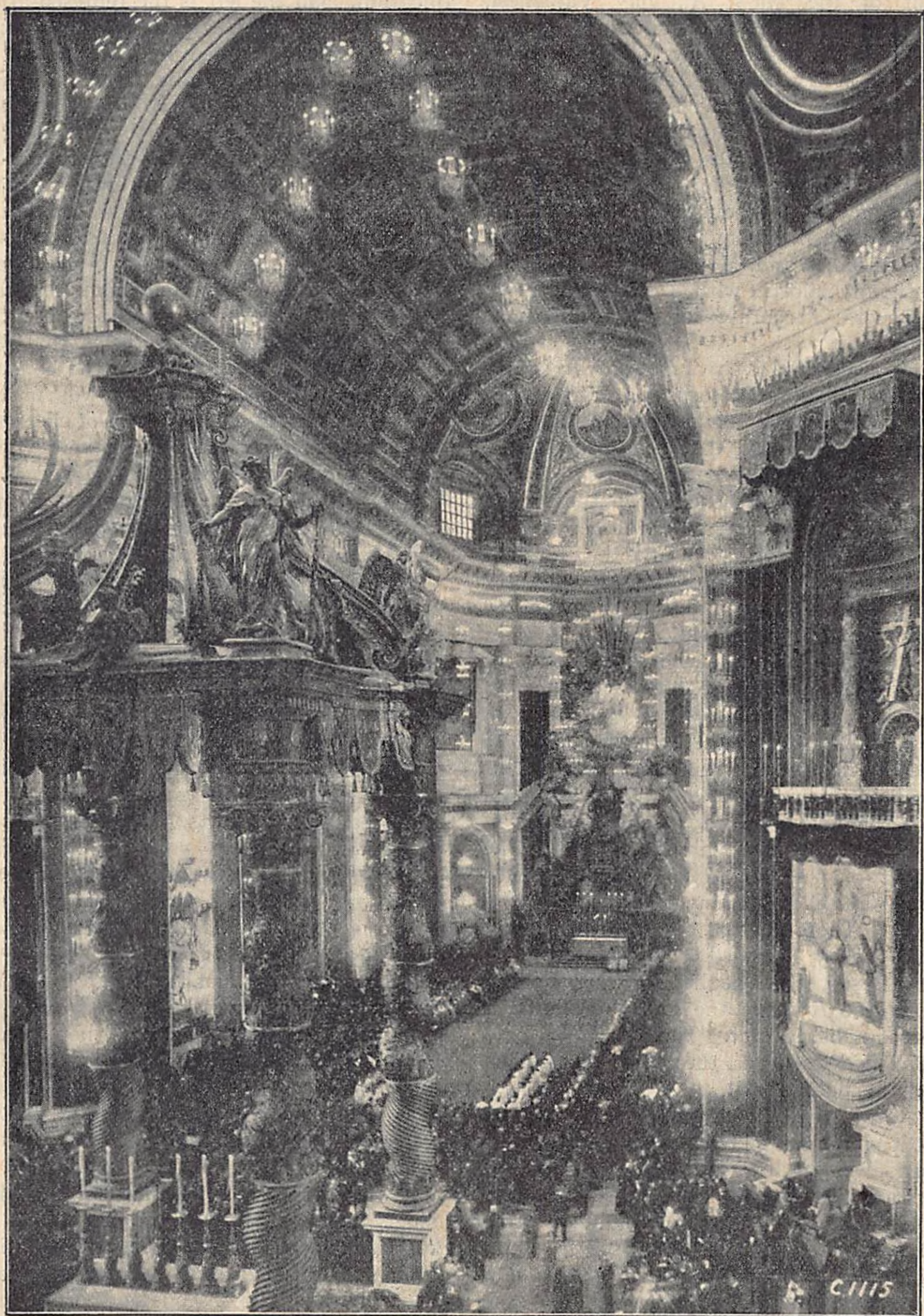
that will be unveiled after the reading of the decree enrolling him among the "Beati" of the Catholic Church.

As we enter the church the first impression we have is relief at escaping from the glare of the sun. It is fairly cool inside and we gaze with interest at the largest church in the world. To tell the truth its proportions are amazing, but its size does not strike one as being so excessively great. Still it does take time to get around. All the altars are occupied with priests saying Mass. The round of Masses began at four this morning and will go on till midday. At many altars the faithful are communicating, thus affording one of the most moving sights that one could wish to see. Blessed John Bosco, apostle as he was of fervent and frequent communion, must have rejoiced in heaven









The altar of the Cathedra on the morning of June 2nd — During the beatification of John Bosco, humble peasant boy of Piedmont.



brant of the Mass, Anthony Valbonesi, Archbishop of Menfi, who is accompanied by two canons. Immediately following comes Cardinal Merry del Val, archpriest of the Basilica, with his suite. At short distances we notice Cardinal Laurenti, Prefect of the Congregation of Rites, Cardinals Bisleti, Fruhwirth, Ehrle, Verde, Gamba and Hlond, the last mentioned being of the Sons of the newly Beatified. Following there come numerous bishops and Monsignors and finally Monsignor Salotti, with Don Tommasetti, the General Procurator of the Salesians at Rome.

The representatives of the royal family and the diplomatic corps are already in their places in the assigned tribunes. The procession preceded by the processional cross, and accompanied by royal carabinieri in full dress uniform files down the second nave of the Basilica and proceeds to the altar of the Cathedra. All take their allotted places and then Monsignor Mariani, secretary of the Congregation of Rites, accompanied by the General Procurator of the Salesians, Fr. Tommasetti, approaches the Prefect of the Congregation of Rites, Cardinal Laurenti, and then the Archpriest of the Basilica, Cardinal Merry del Val and asks leave to have the decree of beatification read. This permission being granted, Mons. Mariani gives the decree to one of the Canons of St. Peter's and the reading begins. The reading of the decree lasts some twenty minutes and the ceremony of the beatification is over. There remains but to say the Mass of the newly beatified. The admission of John Bosco, the shepherd-boy of Becchi, among the *Beati* of the Catholic Church is an accomplished fact. The cult to be paid to him is defined and the reader steps down from the pulpit.

Towards the end of the reading, the veil that covers the picture of John Bosco is raised revealing him in the glory of heaven. He stands there tranquil and serene amid the clouds, smiling as was his wont on earth and not a little delighted to see so many of his friends there present. Beneath him is an angel holding a lily, symbol of the purity that so characterised his existence in this world of sin and loose morals. At the same time the veils of the other pictures are removed and we see scenes depicting the two miracles adduced in the Cause of Bea-

tification. On the left is the representation of the cure of Theresa Callegari, while the other pillar is occupied by the picture of the cure of Sister Provina Negro. A sigh of satisfaction breaks from the multitude and immediately is followed by thunders of applause. The sanctity of the church is forgotten in the spontaneous enthusiasm of the congregation. Rounds and rounds of deafening cheers go up. All press forward to catch a glimpse of the newly beatified. Outside, something like pandemonium reigns. The bells of St. Peter's announce and the other churches take up, the news that yet another man has been raised to the honours of the altars. The waiting crowds in the square break forth into thunders of cheering. The joy on every countenance is very vivid. Numerous are the handkerchiefs waved aloft—none too few are the tears of joy and gratitude. Cries of, "long live Don Bosco", rend the air again and again.

After some time the people in the Basilica repress their transports of joy and a little less confusion reigns. Bit by bit order is restored and then there bursts forth from the choir the triumphant strains of "*Te Deum laudamus*". This mighty hymn of thanksgiving is taken up by the immense throng and thus does the occasion arise to give vent to some of the gratitude that well nigh breaks their hearts. "*Aeterna fac cum sanctis tuis in gloria numerari... Salvum fac populum tuum, Domine, et benedic hereditati tuae. ...Dignare, Domine die isto, sine peccato nos custodire ...in te Domine speravi non confundar in aeternum*".

As the last strains of the organ die away the pontificating prelate sings, "*Pray for us O Blessed John Bosco*", and is met with a whole-hearted response from the people, "*That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ*". Then follows the prayer to invoke the intercession of the newly beatified.

At this point Fr. Tommasetti and his helpers distribute to the cardinals copies of the life of Blessed John Bosco together with pictures of the "*Beatus*". Then the Mass of the Blessed John Bosco is said for the first time. The singing is excellent and towards midday the ceremony is complete.

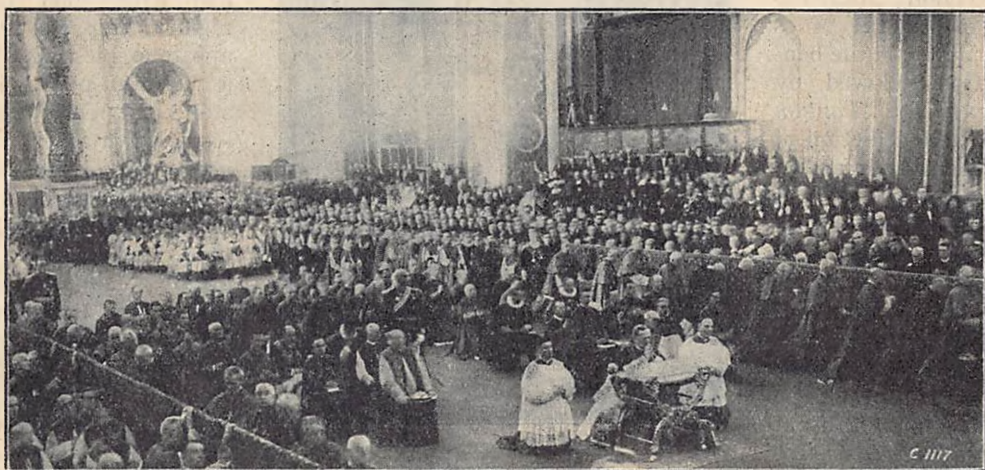
The crowd begins to move out. All the exits are thrown open but to cope with such a crowd one would have to have no doors,



but merely throw down the walls. However, time deals with the difficulty and at the end of a long half-hour we find ourselves at the top of the flight of stairs leading from the Basilica. Our gaze dominates the square and it is a sight that will not be easily forgotten. The immense expanse is packed with people. Trams, crowded to overflowing, carry off some of the people:—cafés, restaurants, are all filled: taxis are at a premium and yet the crowd does not seem to diminish. Towards half-past one, the square is a little less crowded but still the press of people is not small.

is coming to venerate the relic of the newly beatified. However, outside on the square, another throng, even more numerous than that inside the church awaits the coming of the "Father of Christendom". Cordons of soldiers attempt to keep order, but ever and anon the immense crowd breaks through the ranks and gains the Basilica.

About 6 o'clock, the Cardinals begin to gather under the porches of the Basilica. Soon, His Holiness descends by the royal stairs to the place where the State Chair awaits him. Before ascending, he is presented by Cardinal Merry del Val with the aspersion



The Pope venerates the relics of Blessed John Bosco.

As we come down the square we turn our eyes back on the Basilica to see the picture of Blessed John Bosco. It is a happy painting and represents the "Beatus" as carried in triumph on the shoulders of his boys. He looks at ease as the boys chair him round the playground. He is among his boys and there, for the time being, we will leave him.

### *The Pope descends to the Basilica.*

About four o'clock, the entrance to the Basilica is opened to the expectant crowds. They press in and on, and ever in, and occupy every point of vantage in that immense building. Towards five o'clock the church presents an imposing spectacle. Not a corner is vacant. Over 80,000 people are there, awaiting the arrival of the Pope, who

and, after blessing himself, blesses the Cardinals and other persons present. The Pope then ascends the chair and is borne in state by his carriers, clad in their picturesque costume. He is preceded by the clergy, who, in turn, are preceded by a platoon of Swiss Guards, in their Michaelangelesque uniform. At each side of the chair, march the noble guard in semi-dress uniform and immediately behind the Pontiff are the bearers of the great white fans.

Scarcely does the figure of the Pope appear under the porches of the Basilica but loud acclamations break from the assembled throng. The cheering spreads round the square and into the Basilica and, midst the applause of his children, the Vicar of Christ makes his slow way towards the altar, blessing the kneeling populace as he goes. From the height of the cupola the silver trumpets



send-forth the "*Tu es Petrus*", but the notes are lost amid the renewed plaudits of the people in the Basilica.

Finally, the Pope arrives at the Altar of the Cathedra and descends from the chair. He genuflects to the Blessed Sacrament and taking the thurible offers incense to the Most High. The choir from the Julian Chapel sings the motet for the benediction followed by an exquisite "*Tantum Ergo*". Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is given by Monsignor D'Aquino Correa, Salesian Archbishop of Cuyabà, Brazil.

Benediction over, the Postulators of the Cause present themselves before the Pope to offer him the usual gifts. These consist of a life of the Blessed John Bosco, wonderfully bound in white silk, a picture of the Blessed John Bosco on silk, a reliquary richly engraved, and a bouquet of artificial flowers, beautifully arranged and of marvellous workmanship.

The reliquary merits a few words of description. It stands about one foot four in height. It is of silver and the decorations are of gold-plated metal. The base is square and beautifully wrought: on the sides are the Basilica of Mary, Help of Christians at Turin; a priest surrounded by boys and a Daughter of Mary, Help of Christians surrounded by girls; the church of St John, the Evangelist of Turin: and the Church of the Sacred Heart of Rome. On the back is written "*ex ossibus B. Joannis Bosco*". The base supports a pyramid. On the front face it bears the coats of arms of the reigning Pontiff Pius XI, and that of the Salesian Congregation. In the centre of the latter face is a design of the house where



The gorgeous reliquary offered by the Salesians to the Pope.

John Bosco was born and on the sides are figures of seraphim and angels with thuribles.

The Pope, having received the gifts and handed them to his attendants, ascended the chair of State and the procession is formed once more. Progress is slow and the applause deafening. His Holiness smiles on all and with great benignity imparts the apostolic blessing. At a certain point he stops the chair and looks down at the representatives of the Mother House of the Salesians. He gives these boys a special blessing and passes on. Finally, he arrives at his own appartments and there he stands at one of his windows admiring the evidences of the lively faith of his children. *Mirabilis Deus in sanctis suis...*

Truly the day has been wearisome and hard, but God has more than recompensed it by the whole-hearted enthusiasm of the people for this son of theirs who has attained to the heights of success by the use of the means, that are within the reach of every one of the children of the people. "Don Bosco", I have heard a lady say, "was a tiny little man, most unassuming, very genial, very kind but by no means the austere person that one expected him to be from the fame of his sanctity. He was most affable and quickly put one at one's ease"—*Mirabilis Deus in sanctis suis...*

### The illuminations.

From five o'clock the square has been packed with people. The crowds from the church add their enormous quota and the whole space is filled. Experts say that at seven o'clock there were something like



175,000 people expectantly awaiting the illumination of the Basilica. At 8 o'clock the sun takes his last look at the crowds and slowly sinks behind Mount Mario. The sky is however still clear and too light for any effective illumination of the Basilica which stands delineated against the turquoise background of the sky. About 8.30, there becomes visible, as it were a hand, sketching the outlines of the great Basilica against the growing darkness. Bit by bit, the sketch is completed. The three hundred and sixty five "human spiders" run up and down their swinging ladders and ropes, lighting the flares with a rapidity that is almost incredible. The Basilica stands some four hundred and fifty feet from the ground and is in magnificent proportions. The tremendous work implied in lighting the numerous flares is easily imagined. Yet, in a very short space of time, the Basilica is one blaze of light—a soft mellow light that brings its greatness into evidence. It seems a fairy palace, a thing of air lighted by fairy lamps.

The "human spiders" are unseen. We know they are there from their effects. Indeed their web is of wondrous splendour and beautiful symmetry. The people give vent

to cheer upon cheer as the work advances, and when the whole Basilica and colonnade is finished the enthusiasm passes all bounds.

The strangers to Rome are astonished. Some had refused to believe that the work was done by flares and had tried to insinuate that it was achieved by some ingenious arrangement of gas tubes—but the evidence of the eye is too much even for them. They believe because they see—indeed their incredulity is not remarkable. The work does seem above the power of man—and yet!...

The Pope, with his court, assisted at the spectacle from the second *loggia* of Raphael. All the windows in the vicinity were illuminated. Rome honours the humble peasant boy of Piedmont.

And here we must leave John Bosco. His glory in heaven surpasses our understanding. We have tried to honour him for a brief space here below... we have set the lights dancing on St Peter's. The light of his heavenly glory is far beyond our poor light of earth but he, who, on earth, read the secrets of hearts will understand that our hearts are full and that by these external manifestations we would gladly witness our internal love and gratitude and he will repay. He will reward and give us the best of his love in the dispensation, through the hands of the Madonna, of all the graces of which we stand in need.



2 Giugno 1929 - Illuminazione della Basilica di S. Pietro

B.1414

It seems a fairy palace, a thing of air lighted by fairy lamps.

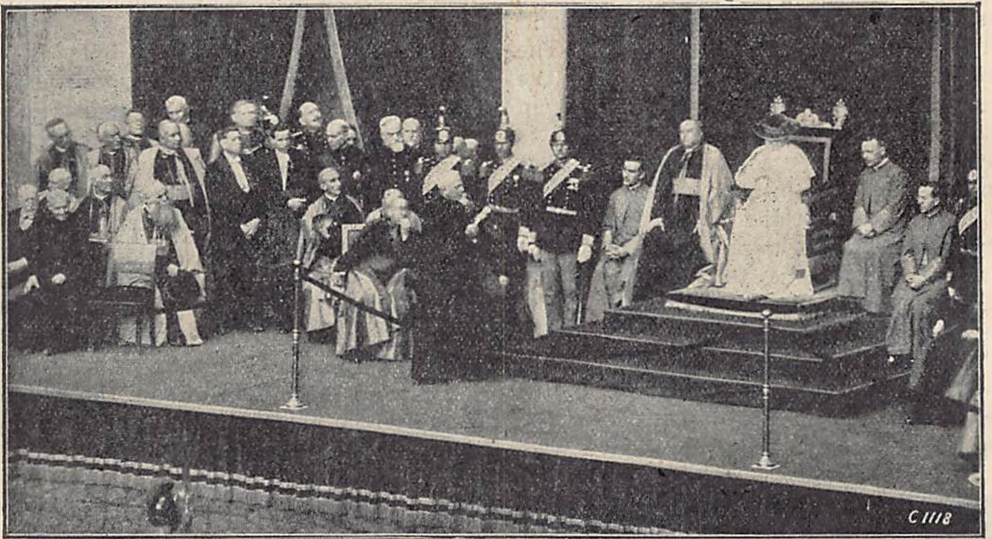


## In the courtyard of St. Damasus Pius XI receives the Salesian Family

The Papal audience was fixed for half-past five. The sun was just on the decline and was beginning to descend behind the distant mountains. The Papal apartments and the surrounding buildings were bathed in a mellow light very restful after the burning heat of the Roman afternoon.

not even that reserved for the Beatifications, would suffice to hold such a multitude. Nothing short of the *atrium* of St. Peter's would suffice. Hence, the audience was appointed for the large courtyard of St. Damasus.

In good order, the various groups began



Don Rinaldi pronounces the official discourse in the presence of the Pope.

From half-past four the square in front of St. Peter's presented an animated spectacle. Under the Bernine colonnades the crowds had gathered and were slowly making their way to their appointed place. Hundreds upon hundreds of boys, girls, men, women, nuns and priests, all grouped under banners, placards or standards bearing the name of the place from which the group came. The whole Salesian Family was there. Salesians, Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, Cooperators, Old Boys, ex-pupils of the Nuns, present pupils of both the Salesian Congregations. Competent judges estimate that nothing short of 11,000 people could be allotted to that immense throng. No room in the Vatican Palace,

to pass in. The Nuns and women passed up the royal staircase behind the Bronze door on the right of the square while the Salesians and the men passed round the *Fondamenta* to their place in the courtyard.

In the twinkling of an eye the courtyard was filled up to its very arcades—a crowd it was that did one good to look upon—a crowd vibrant with emotion, impatient of delay, longing to look upon and welcome the Father of Christendom.

At the bottom of the courtyard, at the foot of the staircase that leads to the Pope's private apartments a large platform had been erected. On this was placed a throne with beautiful red hangings and a red velvet canopy. On the right were already seated



the ecclesiastical authorities of Piedmont, while on the left the various prelates of the Salesian Congregation were ranged.

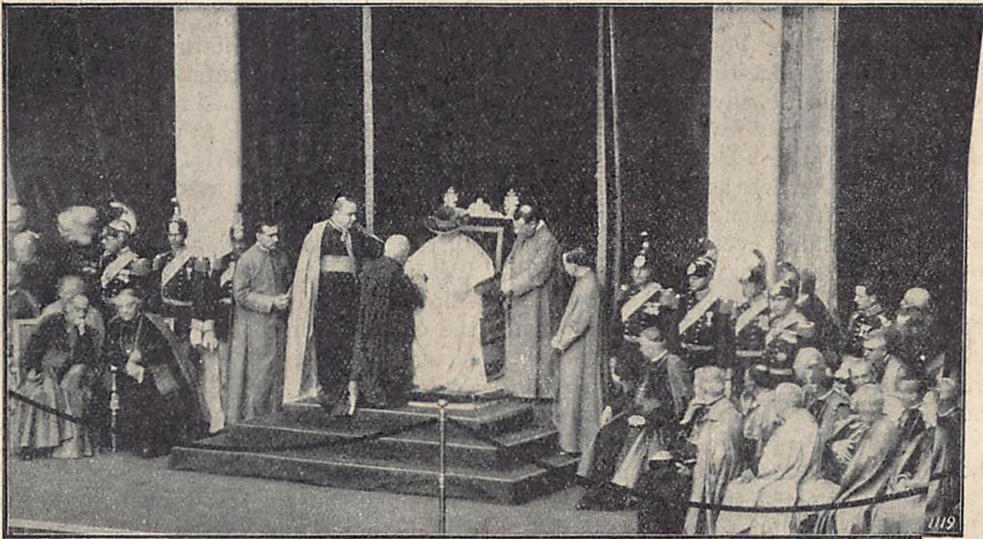
Before these latter were places for the Superior Chapter of the Salesian Congregation, for Fr. Francesia, sole survivor of the very early days of the Congregation, who at 92 years of age still remembers and retells the various incidents of those heroic times; places there were, too, for Count Rebaudengo, General President of the Salesian Cooperators and for the venerated Superior General of the Salesians, Fr. Rinaldi.

The general view of the assembly is very beautiful at this hour.

court. The hour is the silent one before the sunset—that hour which Dante describes as: *V'ora che intenerisce il cuor*—the hour that softens the heart. An hour enchanted, an hour that is most meet for the present function.

As the various personages appear on the platform, they receive an ovation from the waiting crowd. Already the well-known and better-beloved figures of Cardinal Hlond, Fr. Francesia and Fr. Rinaldi have come forth and have evoked rounds of applause from the expectant multitude.

Finally, six o'clock booms out from the tower of St. Peter's. Electric bells bega



As intimate friends they talk over the various events that have filled those crowded days

On the left, the crimson sun is settling behind the Janiculum Hill. Its last rays tinge with ruddy colour the windows of the second floor of the Papal apartments. The windows themselves are partly open on the Loggia of Raphael. From below, the connoisseurs can still distinguish the outlines of the immortal frescoes of the great painter.

The sky is limpid and of an amazing blue. Surely no human assembly ever had such a canopy for their meeting! Perhaps, something similar may have been the *velum* in the old Greek and Roman theatres but no hand-made work of man ever touched the sublimity of the beauty of the young evening sky of that day in Rome. Flights of swallows dart here and there across the

to ring. The Pope is ready to descend. Already, His Secretary of State, E. Cardinal Gasparri, Protector of the Salesian Congregation, has appeared. His reception from the crowd is long and enthusiastic. Behind the platform the curtains are led back. Six guards file on and take the positions beside the throne: then Mgr Cia-Dominioni appears and, finally, the wicker cassock of Pius XI is glimpsed in the evening.

To describe the reception accorded to the Pope would require a more facile and versatile pen than ours. We can only say that the cheers and applause reached delirium. The crowd went mad. Handkerchiefs, banners, hats, caps, everything handy was waved in salutation to the successor of



St. Peter. The Flags were drooped in salute and eleven thousand hearts expressed, as well as possible their unswerving devotion to the See of Peter.

From the front of the platform, His Holiness looks down affectionately on this great multitude. The ardour of the youthful members of the Church touches Him deeply. He thanks them with gesture and with his eyes. Words would be useless and probably hardly possible in the stress of his emotion. Never did the Pope seem so active. One would not give him sixty years of age.

Gradually, the applause dies down, only to break out afresh as Fr. Rinaldi rises and kneels before the throne. He salutes the Pope and then delivers his discourse, in which he assures the Pope, the friend of the Salesians and one-time guest of Don Bosco, of the immense, nay inexpressible, joy of the Salesian Family in thus having their founder raised to the honours of the altars: and in this elevation does he, with his children find an additional reason, if any such were needed, of remaining ever more steadfastly faithful to the teachings and doctrine of the founder. He repeats to the Pope the deep and sincere gratitude of the whole Salesian Family towards his person, for the great part which he, Pius XI, has taken in the glorification of John Bosco and ends by assuring the Pope that, ever faithful to the example and teachings of their Father and Founder, the Salesian Family, everywhere and in all circumstances, will be characterized by their unswerving fidelity to the Vicar of Christ.

During these last words Fr. Rinaldi knelt at the feet of His Holiness: then, as father to son they remained in a little intimate heart to heart talk. The crowd could not naturally follow the tenor of the conversation but the sight of the cordial familiarity existing between the Pope and the Superior General the Salesians provoked them to rounds of applause.

It was indeed a moving scene. They were the closest intimate friends. The Pope asked questions and Fr. Rinaldi supplied the answers. An interview that, after the first enthusiastic cheers, kept the crowd in breathless attention.

Fr. Rinaldi kisses the Pope's ring and retires. Then His Holiness begins to talk. We endeavour to reproduce his discourse

but our readers must be content with our poor attempt, for the cheers that burst spontaneously from the crowd drowned the Pope's utterance.

*My dear children,*

We have, in these last few days, lived through some beautiful and glorious hours. This, however crowns them all. This courtyard of St. Damasus has often been the scene of similar assemblies, but rarely has it been given Us to look upon such a spectacle, such a dense crowd of devoted children of the Pope, such a spontaneous and fervent demonstration of devotion to the See of Peter.

You know well of the immense part we take in your joy, for, We, too, have not only admired your Father but have even approached him intimately, and, this veteran of the apostolate deigned to honour the young priest that We were at that time with a friendship truly fatherly.

Before giving you a special memento of this reunion allow Us to welcome, first of all, the *Ancients* of the Salesian Family whom We see here grouped about Our throne. Allow Us to give them a special salute as the collaborators of the first hours, as the ploughers of the first furrows in the Salesian field of activity: then, let Our welcome be extended to the vicars-apostolic and prefects-apostolic, worthy representatives of Our dear missions in the far corners of the earth. Honour to you, the first soldiers in the army of Don Bosco and to you, valiant pioneers of the Gospel of Christ. From all parts of the world have you come to bring the homage of your praise to the Blessed John Bosco, to whom you owe all. You did well to impose upon yourselves the fatigues of such journeys that thus you might pay in part, a little of the debt of gratitude which you owe him.

However, numerous as you all are, here gathered in this courtyard, you are but a feeble representation of the immense Salesian Family. Whatever you be, Salesians, Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians, Co-operators, pupils, ex-pupils—no matter what—delegated to these feasts on behalf of your comrades, you are only a minimum part of a formidable army. Just now We asked Fr. Rinaldi the number of the pupils under his care. "I cannot tell Your Holiness", he answered, "for I do not know". Modesty? Yes,

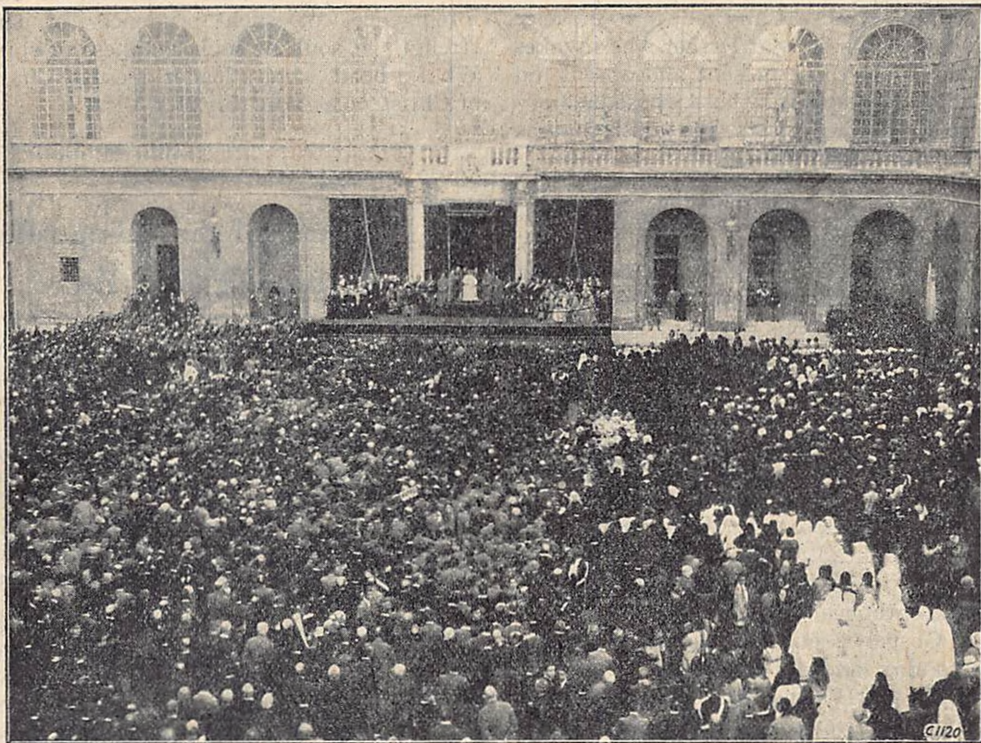


doubtless: but also, We are persuaded, impotence. They are so numerous that it would be almost impossible to give even an approximate figure.

That is a very consoling fact. Nevertheless, when We think of the ultimate value of an individual soul; when We think what the future can hold for those assured of a good catholic education, We cannot restrain the exuberance of Our joy, and a cry of

glory of Don Bosco in heaven is already assured but to this glory, to be, as it were, its complement, there must be an earthly glory. That glory is in your hands.

*Gloria patris filius sapiens.*—The Holy Scripture doth thus assure us that the brightest jewel in a father's crown is the worthiness (only true wisdom) of his children. My dear young people, listening so attentively to me, it is your works that will bring



The immense throng in the Courtyard of St. Damascus.

gratitude to the Most High, Who brought to life and continues to sustain this apostolic spirit.

In this vision, in this spectacle of youth brought up in such a school, We have the assurance of a future ever more splendid and we are pleased to contemplate the proximate consolidation of the kingdom of Christ, the King, on this earth.

It has been for Us, We give you Our word, dear children, a joy that has been of the sweetest, to have been able to raise to the honours of the altars your father and benefactor. However, one thought alone preoccupies Our thoughts at this moment. The

honour and glory to the Blessed John Bosco here below. If you know how to be wise children; if you know how to study and understand the spirit of your father ever more and more, so that your every thought, your every action shall be imbued with that spirit: then, the fame of your father will shine forth upon the world with glory beyond compare.

What a worker he was! We remember that, going the round of his workshops at Turin in his company, We could not repress, even then, Our admiration and We can still hear his words echoing in Our ears: "Don Bosco, I would have you know, when it is



a question of the good of souls, wishes ever to be in the vanguard of progress”.

I leave you this as a souvenir of this unforgettable hour. Young men, young women, children dear to Our heart, be ever, remain steadfast in the vanguard of progress. It is good to persevere but it is not enough. Be among the elect, among the very first, be the leaders in the fight, be ever to the front.

In leaving Us, leave Us this hope that you will take to heart and reduce to practice these few words of your Father who invokes on you all, on those present and absent, on those you represent, on those whose memory you hold in your hearts, the most copious of apostolic benedictions”.

\* \* \*

Towards the end of His speech the Pope's voice become more vibrant; His eye flashed with the ardour of His emotion: His gesture became more emphatic and regal. It seemed that some secret fire inflamed these last words which He gave to us with the great soul of a great Pope: “Always more and always better”, said He in a speech a few months back. Now to the children of Blessed John Bosco he commands, “Be ever at the head. Among the leaders of the world it is essential that there be the sturdiest catholics”.

The Gospel is eternal—the same yesterday, to day and forever. Did not Jesus Christ say to His disciples that they were to be as the leaven seasoning the whole lump? Did He not send them to be an example to the world, to lead the world to God? And today His Vicar tells us, “Take the lead in all things that thus you may lead souls to the Eternal King of the endless centuries”.

When the Papal blessing had descended, copious and slow upon the kneeling multitude, the ovation of the Pope's first appearance had a repetition. Delirious, uninterrupted, enthusiastic, the cheers rent the air. The Pope received them all with his usual benignity and fatherly smile and delayed on the platform to gaze upon this crowd of God's children. The sympathy of their love and the ardour of their devotion went to His fatherly heart, and it was with difficulty that He returned to His private apartments.

Then the great crowd dispersed and left the courtyard. They left by the way they had entered but once in the square they mixed and mingled, filling the air with their comments and praise of the benevolence of the Pope. In the conversations that were carried on amongst these children of the Church there kept returning as it were a chorus of praise, “Praise be to God, Who has given His Church, in these difficult times, a Pope of such learning, of such intelligence, of such prudence, of such strength of soul, of such calmness of spirit. What a head, what a leader does the Church of Christ possess in this Her Vicar!

### The President of the Co-operators to the Blessed John Bosco.

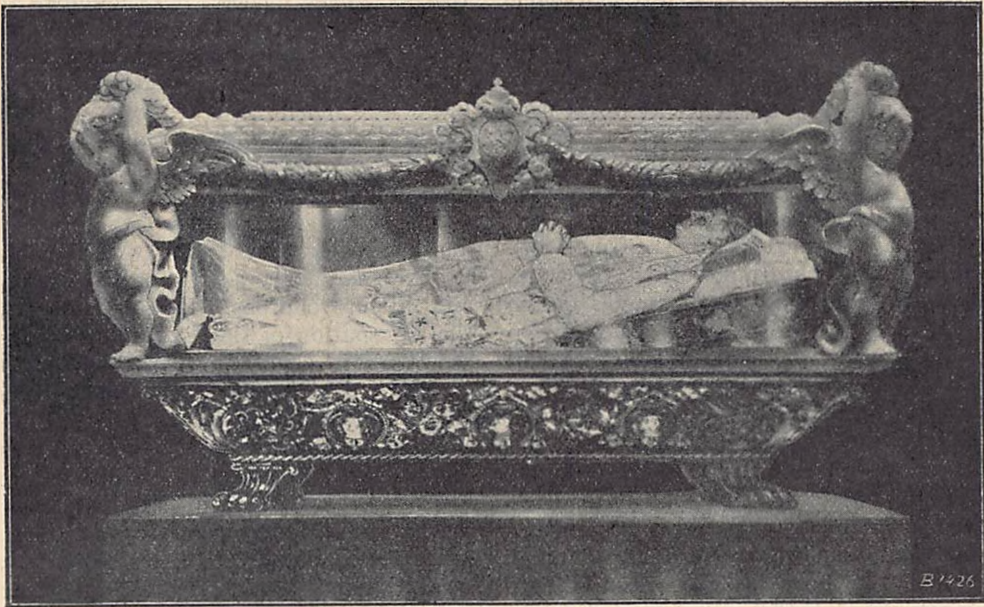
The conclusion of the celebrations at Turin in honour of Blessed John Bosco was a fitting and significant one. It consisted of the blessing of the foundation-stone of the new School of Arts and Trades, Conte Rebaudengo.

This school is offered by the Count Rebaudengo, General President of the Salesian Co-operators, in memory of his deceased wife. The object of the school is to provide masters of Arts and Trades for the Salesian Missions. We have spoken of the necessity of these Salesian lay-brothers, who, although dressed in secular clothes, yet are real religious, bound by vows and real apostles of the Catholic Church. The need is urgent and the munificent gift of Count Rebaudengo will be appreciated not only in Turin, but wherever the Salesian name is known.

The ceremony was performed by Cardinal Gamba—in the presence of the Salesian Cardinal Hlond, Primate of Poland, the Mayor of Turin and the major superiors of the Salesian Congregation. The official discourse was pronounced by Fr. Cimiatti S. C., a missionary from Japan, who laid stress on the importance of the work and of the other branches of Salesian activity that will be founded with the school, namely, a parish and festive oratory, the last mentioned being the work most dear to the heart of Don Bosco.

The musical items were supplied by the band from the Salesian Oratory, Valdocco, while the choir of the Salesian International Theological College provided vocal items in an excellent manner that was deeply appreciated by all present.





## THE HOMECOMING OF BLESSED JOHN BOSCO

For forty-two years the Blessed John Bosco slept at Valsalice, a sleep that was never idle, for he worked for the good of the people as when on earth. It was the sleep of the saints—full of good works and benefits for others. To this spot then, in the early afternoon of June 9th, the populace of Turin went, to escort the remains in triumphal procession to the Basilica of Mary, Help of Christians, which sixty-one years to the day had been consecrated. Sixty-one years! Don Bosco returns and this time to the Basilica that he built in testimony of his gratitude to the Mother of God. Thus does Mary reward the love of men.

Were we to attempt to describe in detail the particulars of this triumphal march the pages of the *Bulletin* would not suffice. Perforce, then, must we restrict ourselves to indicating the main outlines of this unparalleled manifestation of gratitude and love.

At two o'clock precisely under the gui-

dance of the General Economer of the Salesians, Very Rev. Fidele Giraudi, the procession began to get under way. A few minutes previously, all the Salesian archbishops and bishops, who had come for the ceremony, grouped round Fr. Rinaldi and the Salesian Cardinal, Primate of Poland, had knelt for a brief prayer at the foot of the urn containing the mortal remains of their founder and father. A short prayer but oh! so fervent. A prayer of heartfelt thanks to God Who had thus deigned to answer their dearest aspirations. A prayer of supplication to the new *Beatus* that he would ever guide and protect the works founded by his own apostolic zeal and love for the children of the poor.

In the playground of the college the triumphal car awaits. It is decorated with red hangings of sombre plush and decked with beautiful flowers of every hue. The honour of accompanying and guiding the car is reserved to the Salesian Old Boys' Association.



The urn is borne from the private chapel on the shoulders of the Salesian Missionary Bishops, the Superior chapter and the professors of the College of Valsalice, who with deepest regret say good-bye to what has, for forty-two years, constituted their dearest treasure. From this chapel that for the last fifteen days has been the scene of edifying and touching piety, the urn is borne to the waiting car. Upon the car is the framework for the Urn, which framework is of wood, beautifully sculptured by the pupils of the Salesian School of Arts and Trades of San Benigno, under the plans of the Salesian Architect, Mr. Valotti.

Finally the urn is in position and the procession may be set in motion.

The procession is opened by the Salesian archbishops and bishops followed by Cardinal Hlond, Primate of Poland. Immediately behind the car walks Cardinal Gamba, Archbishop of Turin, with Fr. Rinaldi and the whole Superior Chapter of the Salesians. The General President of the Co-operators and the International President of the Salesian Old Boys' Association follow. Then come two imposing files of the knights of Malta and the knights of the Holy Sepulchre followed by the surviving members of the family of Don Bosco, namely, his grand-nephews, the grand-children of his brother Joseph.

By the narrow road that leads from the College the procession descends the picturesque hill and reaches the bank of the river. There, drawn up in serried ranks at various distances, stand the thousands of the faithful, who have obtained for themselves the honour of being the escort of the Blessed John Bosco. Across the festal city they will march, proud to do honour to him whom the King delights to honour.

The representatives are innumerable. They are split into fifteen different groups and we must limit ourselves to the indication of only the main ones.

In the vanguard are the pupils of the festive Oratories conducted by the Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians. These girls are of the city of Turin, of the outlying districts, of distant towns and villages. It seems that the ranks of white-robed maidens will never cease.

Following the female Festive Oratories are the pupils of the Salesian Festive Orato-

ries of Turin. These boys number some five thousand drawn up under the leadership of their bands. Behind this group the representatives of England and Ireland walked—a small number but one which showed that the work of Don Bosco is appreciated in the home countries.

Then follow the pupils of the Italian Salesian Schools and Colleges in their hundreds and hundreds, most of them with their band to make the air ring with march triumphal and hymn sonorous. Behind these came the Association of Catholic Youth of Italy, the Workers' Clubs, the parochial sodalities of either sex and the catholic university students and studentesses.

Now there advance the representatives of the Salesian Co-operators of Blessed John Bosco. From almost all the countries of the world have they come to do honour to him, who, in founding their Union, showed them how to save their souls by working, and making of work, not an end, but a means of sanctification. *Mirabilis Deus in sanctis suis.*

Behind the Co-operators march the representatives of the Salesian Schools throughout the world. A fine body of youngsters they are and the crowd receives them with loud cheers and prolonged applause.

Then, come the religious congregations. Almost every possible congregation has its representation and the varied habits lend a solemn air to the triumphal procession. There are, also, many Salesian Nuns and with their aspirants and novices they reach the number of 1,500.

These various groups are drawn up along the route and at the given signal enter the procession in perfect order and swing in the wake of the leaders.

As the triumphal car bearing the Urn appears on the bridge that spans the river, the whole multitude bursts into enthusiastic applause. Then the human ribbon forms up and runs its length along the long road that leads to *Valdocco*. Along the route the streets are lined with people four, five, and in some parts, six deep. Every balcony is black with heads, every point of vantage is occupied. At the corners of the streets, at the cross-roads improvised platforms of chairs, wagons, motor cars are crowded with people eager to witness the passage of the saint of the people.





The exit from Valsalice  
Salesian clerics and dignitaries accompany the remains of Blessed John Bosco.



Along the road the procession wends its way in beautiful order and continuous flow, singing and praying. The waiting crowds pray and, on the arrival of the Urn, applaud and cast down flowers for its passing. A unique spectacle and one not likely to fade from the memory of those who witnessed it.

Thus do 70,000 walk in solemn procession. Twelve abreast for four hours they pursue their way to the Basilica of Mary, Help of

strength the Catholic Church has in her children! What hopes for tomorrow! And this multitude of devotees of the Church has issued as it were, from the creative spirit of a single man! What force then does a priesthood, imbued with the pure spirit of the Gospel, hold for the social salvation of mankind! What cannot the Church hope to achieve with men like Blessed John Bosco in her ranks. The wide



Cardinal Ilond and the Knights of Malta and Holy Sepulchre.

Christians, singing the special hymn composed for the occasion and guided in their singing by the music of the numerous bands.

It is a hymn simple but touching! A melody at once elementary and catching! Thus does it happen that the waiting crowds catch up the air from the earlier groups and are ready to swell the chorus with the later walkers. The enthusiasm of the crowd passed all limits. Don Bosco had come back to them and theirs.

\* \* \*

Thoughts crowded on one at the passage of these groups of serried youth. What

world is too small for the immensity of her activity!

And this in fact is the great lesson of this wonderful day—the epilogue of this triumph. Formerly, some eighty years ago, Don Bosco walked these very streets, traversed these same squares, mingled with the multitudes. He walked this city, a humble priest and even despised by some, held as a fool by some of his brethren and thought fit for the lunatic asylum by others. The prison-cell was also not unfit for him in the estimation of the government officials of his day who pestered him with domiciliary visits, sudden and unjust.

Yet did this man, so lowly and so despised,



see result from his efforts a race of sons, glorious in the purity of their manhood, proud of their connection with him, whom, today, they proclaim *Blessed*, not only in the formal sense of the word, but in that sense of the word that arises from hearts full of gratitude and love towards their friend and benefactor. So true is it that, when the solid virtue of the Gospel, freed

proximity of the arrival of the Blessed John Bosco's remains.

On the step of the metropolitan church there are ranked the forty prelates, bishops and Archbishops and the four Cardinals of Pisa, Bologna, Naples, and Tarragona, who wish to have the privilege of adding their meed of honour to the Blessed John Bosco. They add their presence to that of the



The Ecclesiastical authorities in attendance outside the Cathedral, Turin.

from any admixture of human considerations, appears in this world, it must needs conquer the hearts of men and bring them under the sway of its divine complaisance.

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At the central square of the city, the civil authorities under the leadership of the *Podestà* of Turin and Castelnuovo, native province of John Bosco, joined the procession. In this group the consular service had a very representative delegation.

Half-past five, and from the clock-tower of the cathedral the bell announces the

Salesians prelates and form a group unforgettable in splendour and solemnity.

The wondrous beauty of their copes and mitres is set off by the red robes of the Cardinals and the purple of the Monsignors. The sun bathes all in a soft and gentle light that shows up to fine effect the ornamentation of the vestments. It is a liturgical design that is rarely seen even in the most solemn events.

The procession has now reached its full strength. The men's Congregations have added their imposing numbers and behind them walk the professors of the Catholic University of Milan, in cap and gown. Then



come the prelates and the Cardinals in *cappra magna*. Each of the princes of the Church is accompanied by three Knights of Malta and three Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, whose white and purple mantles make a fine setting for the brilliant red of the Cardinals' robes.

On a balcony of the Royal Palace, overlooking the procession, are grouped the princes of the House of Savoy, contemplating in silent reverence the touching spectacle. The Prince of Piedmont, heir apparent to the throne of Italy, stands in the foreground, recollected in bearing and upright in carriage.

Leaving the Cathedral, the procession leaves behind the more select quarters of the city and enters into Valdocco, the democratic quarter *par excellence*. This is the district that, in days gone by, witnessed the first efforts of Don Bosco. The difference of the district strikes the eye immediately. No longer are we in the presence of elegantly constructed houses: no longer are the balconies crowded with elegant men and women richly dressed: no longer do costly flowers drop to the ground. But to make up for all this, what a crowd! The houses are poor, the people are poor but their fervour is far more noticeable, their gratitude more lively, their love more real. White hangings picked out with paper flowers adorn the balconies, which are thronged with eager and fervent onlookers.

Along the length of the road the crowds are drawn up six and seven deep. These are the poor people, the lower classes in the scale of life, so dear to the heart of the Blessed John Bosco, for whom he deemed himself honoured to sacrifice his life in the salvation of their children. The details of the life of the Servant of God are none too clear in their memory, but clear cut is their conviction of the debt of gratitude they owe him. The essential point of his life is well-known to them—that is, that this humble priest once lived in their midst, sacrificed himself for their children, shared their frequent miseries and rare joys, walked their streets and their back-lanes, doing good to all and evil to none, prodigal of himself, if only he could bring some ray of comfort into their too miserable lives.

Now, in testimony of their gratitude they come forth from their attics and their cellars to offer him the homage, not of flowers but

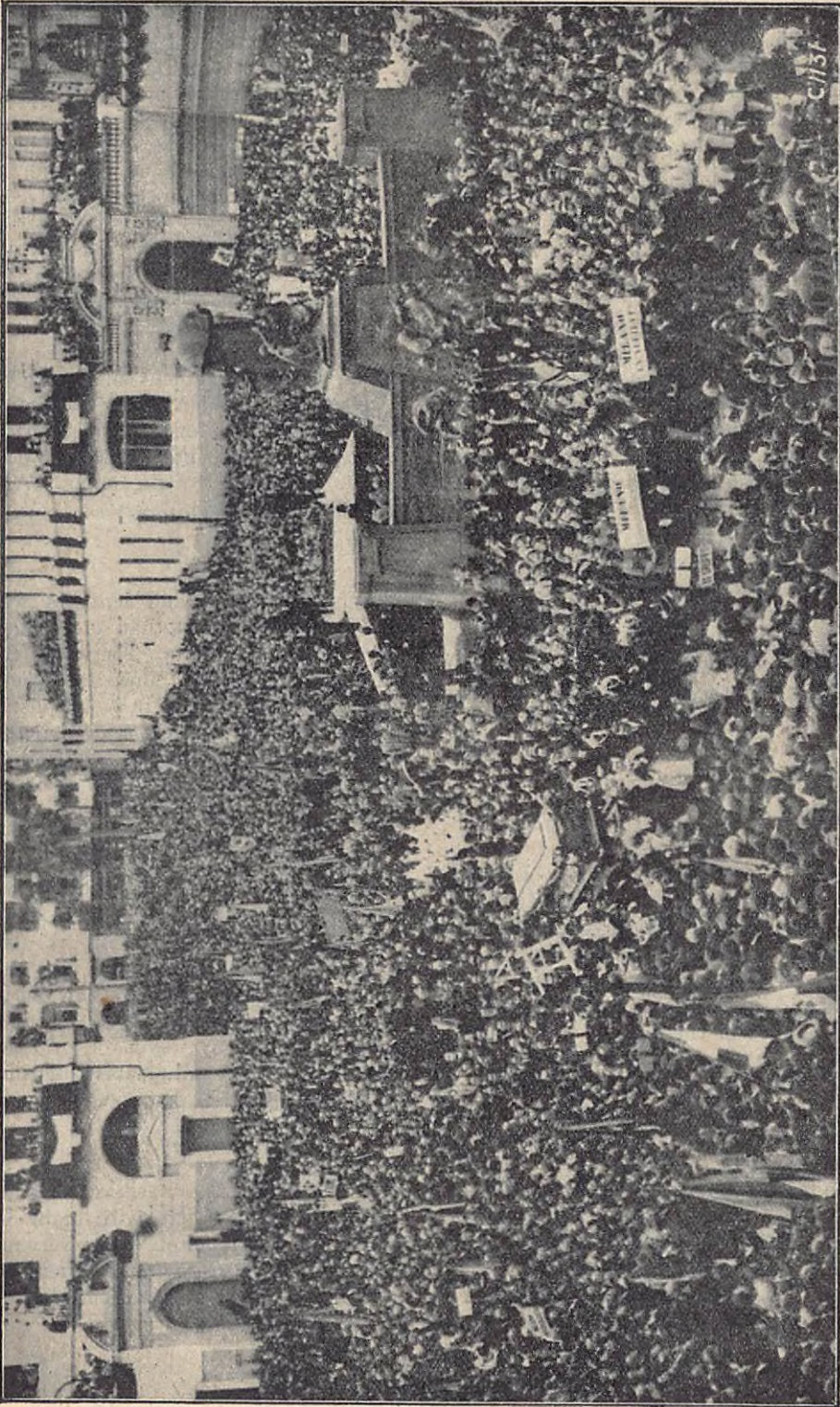
of their hearts, whole and entire, in witness of their gratitude and love. His triumphal car passes by—a real triumph is its passage through this district—and they acclaim him with thunderous applause and unbroken cheers.

A wondrous spectacle is this road at this hour! The sun has set behind the distant Alps and the calm air of the evening is fresh and clear. The side walks are crowded. Space for movement is very very limited. Every balcony is overcrowded. Every tree has its human fruit. A whole and great multitude regards with wonder-struck eyes the moving spectacle. As the car appears bearing the sacred urn the whole crowd rises on its toes and shouts itself hoarse. Truly they believe in the love of this man for them—they are poor and the poor are won only by love.

Seven o'clock rings out from the nearby Basilica. The procession has been in motion almost five hours. Gradually, as the various groups arrive at the entrance to the street leading to the Basilica, the organisers arrange them in order in the adjoining streets. This is essential to avoid the deadlock that would surely have ensued had the crowd been left to enter the space before the Basilica. As it is the procession keeps on the move and the earlier arrivals form a guard of honour along the main road by which the Blessed John Bosco is to pass. Even so, with the limited groups that are allowed to enter the square before the Basilica the press of people is extraordinary. The temporary tribunes are packed tight with people and round the great central monument a forest of flags and banners hang listless in the evening air.

Finally the first mitres begin to descend the gentle slope of the Via Maria Ausiliatrice. As they arrive, the prelates take their stand in a semi-circle round the monument of Don Bosco and await the arrival of the Urn. The bishops are followed by the red-robed Cardinals followed by two diminutive train-bearers. At long last the triumphal car makes its appearance at the top of the street and the crowd sends up a tremendous cheer. Don Bosco has returned home. This church will receive him and his presence will be no more interrupted. Formerly he lived here persecuted, a poor beggar for the wants of his children, often in misery and often





A section of the immense throng in the Square of Mary. Help of Christians.



despised. Now, he returns in triumph, honoured by all, no longer in need of supplicating alms, for the crowd are spontaneous in giving him their mites and their alms. They give him the most they can and he smiles to behold the readiness of their charity. Truly it is among the poor that one must look for true generosity and christian charity. No longer despised, he has the acclamations of an entire nation, aye, of many nations.

At this moment the enthusiasm reaches its height. All hands are clapped, everyone shouts something—what, they know not, only they must rid themselves of the joy that will nigh chokes them—not a few eyes are wet with tears of love and recognition of the debt they owe to this humble priest. No-one, no matter how indifferent, could escape the soul-moving eloquence of this moment. The storm of cheers and applause seem endless. One wonders if lungs are made of iron or flesh! The crowd never desist even for a moment. A triumph of the Gospel and the victory of the love of God over the hearts of men—the cheering continues and ceases only with the entrance of the Urn into the Basilica. Don Bosco is home!

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Inside the Basilica, grouped round the altar to receive the Blessed John Bosco are the Prince of Piedmont, the Duke of Genoa, Countess Calvi, daughter of the King, the Duchess of Pistoia, the Princess Adelaide of Genoa, the Dukes of Pistoia, Udine and Bergamo, as well as Count Calvi, the nieces, nephews and son-in-law of the king of Italy.

The presence of these noble princes bears eloquent testimony of the gratitude of the House of Savoy, for all the benefits bestowed on this their ancient capital by Don Bosco, whom their ancestors helped most willingly in days gone by.

As soon as the Blessed Sacrament is exposed the strains of the *Iste Confessor*, are heard. The music is of Don Pagella S. C., and was specially composed for this occasion. The choir composed of the choir boys of the Oratory and the choir of the

Salesian International Theological College under the *bâton* of Don Grosso, gives a precise and eloquent rendering of the sacred music, which admirably translates into melodious harmony the triumphant joy of that solemn hour.

After the *Tantum Ergo*, sung with penetrating emotion, benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is given in the Basilica to the specially invited guests by Cardinal Gamba, to the crowds before the Basilica by the Cardinal Archbishop of Tarragona, and to the multitude on the main road by the Salesian, Cardinal Hlond.

Thus did the day end with the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and the adoration of Jesus the Hidden God, to whom Don Bosco bore such fervent love: in Whose service he spent his life and Whose devotion he was never tired of preaching. A fitting end to a wonderful day.

\* \* \*

Night has come and lent its welcome shade to the crowds that press ever and ever towards Valdocco. The whole Basilica is lit by electric lamps. There are some 15,000 lamps in all, arranged in wondrous design in three colours. Surely a sight that alone is worth coming to see, but the crowds gaze up on it and then make their difficult way towards the Basilica door. Literally inch by inch, they progress till they reach the entrance and then... Our pen is too feeble to convey any idea of the crowd. One had merely to let oneself be carried slowly along and past the Urn. One entered and was deposited outside willy-nilly. No question was there of stopping. One said one's brief prayer as one passed by. A prayer of suppliant need, a prayer of gratitude, a prayer of trouble!—all reached the throne of the Blessed John Bosco.

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On the top of the Basilica the statue of Our Lady, resplendent with light looked down upon the triumph of her servant and smiled to see that men do remember and, remembering, give of their best in the fullness of their hearts.

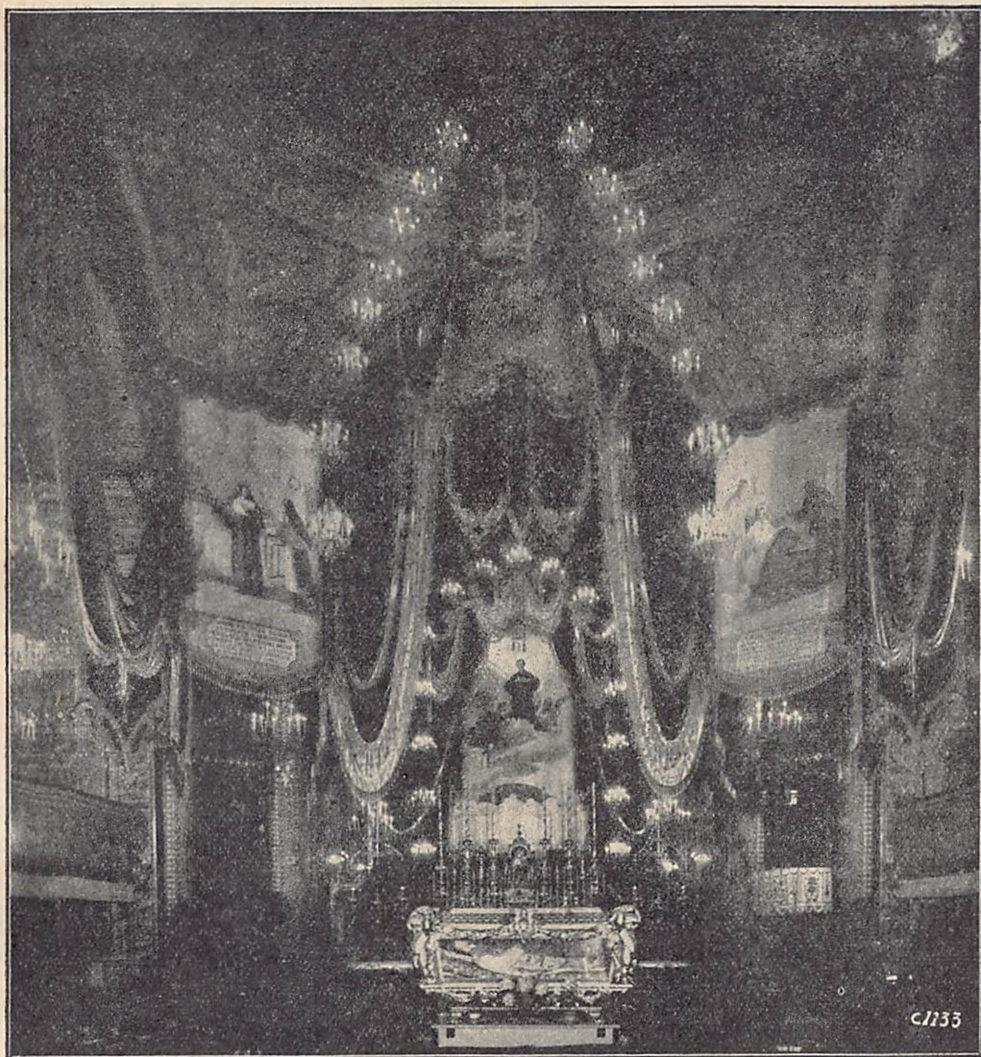
*Blessed John Bosco, pray for us.*



## John Bosco and the children.

About one month before the beatification of John Bosco, an order was promulgated throughout the schools of Turin and the surrounding districts to the effect that a lecture was to be given on the forthcoming beatification.

Valdocco. At Valsalice a few prayers were said for the welfare of all those near and dear to the little clients of John Bosco. At Valdocco a visit to the rooms occupied by John Bosco in the last years of his life, a walk round the Oratory and finally a visit to the Help of Christians' Basilica.



At home, at last! Blessed John Bosco reposes beneath the altar of his Madonna.

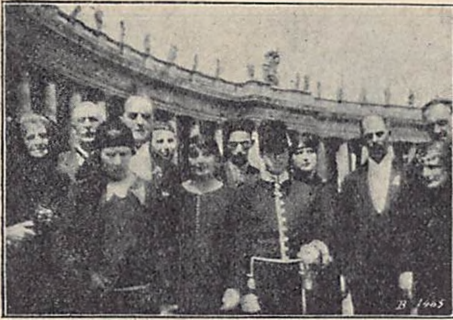
The form of the lecture was to be a brief outline of the life and works of John Bosco. The task was to be performed by the teacher of religion in the elementary schools and by either the professor of Philosophy or the professor of Literature in the Secondary Schools.

Hence it was, that numerous pilgrimages of little ones wended their way to Valsalice and

How pleased the heavenly choirs must have been at this sight! How great must have been Don Bosco's joy in heaven at receiving the homage of so many innocent hearts. How readily he will have answered their "God bless mammy, God bless daddy". Babies lots of them were, hardly able to lisp the Hail Mary. Yet they gazed on the marble relieve of Don



Bosco with open eyes, as if expecting him to come and speak to them. And he did! One of his sons came and said a few words in baby language to baby hearts and they smiled to think that the language of Don Bosco was so like their own.



Some of the Anglo-Irish pilgrims  
outside St. Peter's, Rome.

## The Anglo-Irish Pilgrimage.

It gave us great pleasure to receive the Anglo-Irish pilgrimage which came to Italy for the celebrations in honour of Blessed John Bosco. The pilgrims arrived on the feast of Corpus Christi. On the following day they went to Becchi, the birth place of the Blessed John Bosco and were greatly pleased with everything they saw. They pursued their journey to Rome on Saturday 1st of June, arriving at the Eternal City in the evening. Sunday saw them present at the formal beatification at St. Peter's and in the afternoon, those, who were fortunate enough, were able to witness the descent of the Holy Father to venerate the relics of the newly beatified. On the Tuesday they were presented to His Holiness the Pope in a semi-private audience, which Mgr Duchemin was so kind as to arrange. This was really the main joy of the pilgrimage and we tender Mgr Duchemin our heartfelt thanks for his kind offices. The pilgrims spent five days in Rome, returning to Turin on Saturday 8th. They were then present at the magnificent procession and the inaugural celebrations of Don Bosco and on Monday 10th departed once more for Ireland.

We hope their visit pleased them and gave them some little help in appreciating the figure of Blessed John Bosco. There were some inconveniences and *contretemps* but the extraordinary occasion and the immense concourse of people made them inevitable. The pilgrims took all in the spirit of the pilgrimage and will reap, we are sure, abundant blessings from their visit.

## Lest we forget

Salesian Co-operators who, after having been to confession and communion, visit *any* church or public chapel, as also those who living in community, visit their private chapel, and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father, can gain—:

### A Plenary Indulgence.

*Every month—*

- 1) On any *one* day in the month at their choice.
- 2) On the day on which they make the Exercises for a Happy Death.
- 3) On the day on which they assist at a Salesian Co-operators' meeting.

### On each of the following days:

August 6th	Transfiguration of Our Lord
August 15th.	Assumption of B. V. M.
August 16th	St. Rock.
September 8th	Nativity of B. V. M.
September 12th	Holy Name of Mary.
September 14th	Exaltation of the Cross.
September 15th	Our Lady of Sorrows.
September 29th	St Michael.
October 7th	Our Lady of the Rosary.

### It is also worth remembrance

That, *on the sole condition of being in the state of grace* the Co-operators, *who, in the midst of their daily work*, unite their hearts to God by a short ejaculation, can gain each day—:

- 1) For any *one* of these ejaculations a *plenary indulgence*. The choice of the particular ejaculation is left to each one's discretion.
- 2) For *each of the others* 400 days indulgence each time.

NB. Those Co-operators who, on account of sickness, cannot go to visit a church, can gain the above indulgences by reciting *at home*, Five Our Fathers, Five Hail Marys, and Five Glory be to the Fathers, according to the intentions of the Holy Father.



# TO OUR READERS

**POSTAGE.** 1) Will readers, who are kind enough to send offerings for Masses or for the *Salesian Bulletin*, please take care *that the letters containing the money are registered*. In the event of any letters going astray, as they are apt to do, we will then be in a position to trace the letters in question. — 2) The registered postage is 5d from Great Britain and 20 cents from America. — 3) The postage for a letter from Great Britain or the Colonies is 2½d. and from America five cents. 4) The postage for a letter from the Irish Free State is 3d, the registered postage 5½.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

It will greatly assist in the expedition of the *Salesian Bulletin* Co-operators would notify us *immediately* on any change of address. In forwarding this notice *it is necessary to cite the old address* so that it may be cancelled and the new one inserted. This notice should be forwarded to.

*The Administrator, English Salesian Bulletin, — Via Cottolengo 32, — Turin 109 (Italy).*

## NEW CO-OPERATORS.

Do you read *the Bulletin*? When you have read it, pass it on to a friend. Help us to form new friends of the Salesian work and thus spread the kingdom of Christ. Help the *Bulletin* to pay its way. How? By sending

your offerings regularly. An offering of one shilling and sixpence *per year* will pay the expenses of the *Bulletin* as long as it is two-monthly. Send your offerings to the nearest Salesian centre and ascertain particulars of the Pious Union of Salesian Co-operators.

## OBITUARY NOTICES.

Co-operators are, hereby, advised of the importance of sending in the name of any dead co-operators. This should be done, *immediately*. Sometimes we are reproved for publishing the deaths of people, who passed away

years and years ago. However, since we have no means of knowing the date of these deaths we cannot be held responsible. The suffrages that each co-operator receives are numerous and relatives of the dead person should see that these suffrages are applied as soon as possible.

Don't delay in this all-important matter. As far as possible, too, insert the *date* of the death and also whether we are to continue sending the *Bulletin* to the same address.

Let not the meeting with our dear ones after death be a little anxious on our part, from the memory of our having neglected this important duty. They cry to us now, "*Have pity on me, at least you, my friends, for the hand of the Lord hath touched me*". Be prompt and let us be able to keep our obituary list as nearly up-to-date as is possible.

**PUBLICITY.** Any communications for publication must reach this office *before* the 10th of the month preceding the issue in which insertion is desired. Graces, favours, obituary notices etc. that arrive after that date will be reserved for the issue following the then current one.



*Dear Sir (or Madam),*

It is with great pleasure that we beg to inform you that the Superior Chapter of the Salesian Congregation has conferred upon our firm the task of preparing all those articles, that of necessity must be presented to the public, on the occasion of the beatification of a member of the great Catholic Church. Hence, in placing before you the various religious objects such as medals, statues, holy pictures and portraits of the Blessed John Bosco, we hasten at the same time to assure you that we have spared no pains in making these same worthy at once of the Salesian Congregation and of the traditions of our firm.

The medals, etc., have been struck from models approved expressly by the Superior Chapter of the Salesians and, consequently, have the official authority necessary. We thus beg to warn you that no other firm has any right to present the medals, etc., of the Blessed John Bosco, as this right has been conferred exclusively on the *International Printing Society*.

Hoping to have the pleasure of your early order, we beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

THE MANAGEMENT.

*It is my pleasure to add a word of complete approval and of merited praise of all that the Management of the International Printing Society has done, in carrying out the wishes of the Salesian Superior Chapter, in connection with the preparation of the various objects connected with the cult of the Blessed John Bosco. The various articles have been prepared with great artistic sense inspired by that spirit of faith, that renders them capable of satisfying every desire and exigence in relation to the devotion to and glorification of John Bosco.*

F. GIRAUDI, S. C.  
Economer General of the Salesians.