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Editor: Alexander Pocetto, OSFS

E-mail: [atp0@email.allencol.edu](mailto:atp0@email.allencol.edu)

Fax: (610) 282-2059

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**De Sales University**

Recently, the Pennsylvania Department of Education approved Allentown College's application for university status. With the approval of its Board of Trustees, the College will officially begin using the name De Sales University on July 1, 2001. This is quite an achievement for an institution that has been in existence for only 35 years. Allentown College has had graduate programs for a number of years and is planning to expand them. University status will enable the institution to plan and implement most graduate programs without State approval, continue to attract strong faculty and give it a competitive edge in

recruiting good students. The ICSS salutes and congratulates Allentown College - its Board, administration, faculty, staff and students.

The name De Sales University will give greater emphasis to the Salesian humanism which forms the basis of the institution's mission and philosophy. In fact, plans are currently being laid to place major resources in promoting Salesian humanism through the Salesian Center for Faith and Culture, modeled after the Florimontane Academy established in the early 17th century by Francis de Sales and his very close friend, Antoine Favre, in Annecy. The center will have an "interdisciplinary mission to promote the interaction of faith and culture, in a mutually beneficial engagement, through academic initiatives that focus on the authentic integration of social concerns and gospel values, an integration which has been embodied in the lives of St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal and continues to be expressed in the tradition of Christian Humanism." Fr. Thomas Dailey, Chair of the College's Department of Philosophy and Theology, has been given a sabbatical during the current academic year to research the nature, purpose and function of the Salesian Center. We wish Allentown College well in this very important initiative that will make a substantial contribution to the mission of De Sales University.

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### **St. Joseph, Fatherhood and De Sales**

Poussin's *Holy Family on the Steps* was given great prominence in the recent exhibit of this 17th-century Baroque painter at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Also given prominence in an article in the prestigious *Cleveland Studies in the History of Art* was Fr. Joseph Chorpenning's, OSFS, interpretation of the enigmatic figure of St. Joseph appearing in the shadows of this painting. The author states that "Joseph Chorpenning solved the enigma of the figure of St. Joseph. . . [who] is finally understood in a new light: as 'the surrogate of God the Father, the heavenly artisan.' . . . St. Francis de Sales' sermon of 1622, *Vrays entretiens spirituels*, first published in 1629, set forth the idea of St. Joseph as 'the shadow of the Holy Spirit'..." (Diane De Grazia, "Poussin's *Holy Family on the Steps*," vol. 4, 1999, pp. 26-33). The author is quoting from two works published by Fr. Chorpenning - "The Enigma of St. Joseph in Poussin's 'Holy Family on the Steps,'" *Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes* 60 (1997):276-81; and "'The Guidance and Education of His Divine Infancy': The Holy Family's Mission in St. Francis de Sales," *The Holy Family in Art and Devotion*, St. Joseph's University Press, Philadelphia (1998)38-52.

Dr. De Grazia, the Clara T. Rankin Curator of the Museum, mentions in one of her numerous notes the influence of St. Francis de Sales on Poussin.

That Poussin knew the *Spiritual Conferences of St. Francis de Sales* and incorporated elements from the conference *On the Virtues of St. Joseph* in his painting *Marriage in the Sacraments* series for Chantelou (the marriage of Mary and Joseph) was pointed out by Barry Wind, "Poussin and St. Francis de Sales: The *Sacrament of Marriage* for Chantelou," *Gazette des Beaux Arts* 126 (October 1995) 95-98.

In another article presented in Spain and also at a symposium on the Mystery of the Visitation partially funded by the ICSS, Fr. Chorpenning highlights the role of St. Joseph in this mystery as well as that of Mary and the Holy Family and shows the implications for the renewal of family life not only in de Sales' day, but also for our own. (Cf. "Connecting Mysteries: The Visitation and the Holy Family in the Salesian Tradition From St. Francis de Sales to the *Année Sainte* [1867-1871], *La Sagrada Familia en el siglo XIX: Actas del Cuarto Congreso Internacional sobre la Sagrada Familia en ocasión del Centenario de la Revista "La Sagrada Familia,"* Barcelona/Begues, 8-13 de septiembre de 1998 (Barcelona: Hijos de la Sagrada Familia/Nazarenium, 1999, 811-33).

Continuing his prolific scholarly pursuits, Fr. Chorpenning has recently published *Sermon Texts On Saint Joseph by Francis de Sales* ( Toronto: Preregrina Publishing Co., 2000) with a subvention from the ICSS His introductory essay and commentary are jam-packed with very informative notes and bring to light the influence and importance of St. Francis de Sales in the development of the devotion to St. Joseph.

All of Fr. Chorpenning's scholarly work has profound implications for revitalizing family life in the new millennium, especially by acknowledging and strengthening the role of the father. The ICSS commends him for all of these contributions which unquestionably enrich our knowledge and appreciation of our Salesian heritage.

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## **De Sales Secular Institute**

"Jesus said, 'Cast out your net.' And so we are." These words accompanying a picture of St. Francis de Sales on a small poster cleverly announce the new, attractive web site of the Secular Institute of St. Francis de Sales founded in Austria by the late Fr. Franz Reisinger, OSFS, in the early forties. The site was initiated by Fr. Paul Henry, National Assistant for the Institute in the U.S. The address of the site is: [www. desales.net](http://www.desales.net). It contains information about the history and purpose of the Institute as well as archived issues of its English newsletter *Salesian Light*, A Study Guide for the *Introduction to a Devout Life*, related links, etc. The January-February issue of *Salesian Light* contains a brief but very informative article on the "History of the 'Directory,'" by Fr. John Conmy, who

was the first National Assistant for the U.S. and at age 89 is still actively involved in the Institute's work.

The Institute has both professed and associate members. The professed status is currently open to single men and women and diocesan priests, who, after a period of formation, profess the three Evangelical vows . Associate members make a Solemn Act of Consecration after a two year formation period. Members strive for personal sanctification in keeping with Salesian spirituality and by "infusing the temporal world with Christian values." They are located in Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Brazil, Ecuador and the United States. The International Headquarters is located in Vienna, Austria.

In the U.S., there are about 125 members both professed and associates and about 60 more who attend the meetings. The members are spread over eight states with the larger groups centered in Baltimore, Philadelphia and Wilmington. Recruitment is increasing with one new person in formation each week. This means that there are more in formation than professed or associate members. This is certainly a good sign of its vitality and attractiveness.

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### **Brazil, South-America Region**

The ICSS congratulates the Region for the 20th anniversary issue of *Viver Jesus*. This commemorative issue stresses the Jubilee Year 2000 as well as saluting the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, with articles on Father Brisson and the Good Mother. The lead article emphasizes the Salesian principle of beginning anew each day - a fitting commentary for this anniversary issue.

Fr. Larry van der Raadt, OSFS, continues his laborious and loving work of translating into Brazilian Portuguese and now into Spanish writings dealing with Salesian spirituality. He has recently translated Fr. Roger Balducelli's conference on the status of the Cause for Beatification of the Good Mother into these two languages. His latest project is the translation from the German into Spanish of the Constitutions of the De Sales Secular Institute. Although his native language is Dutch, he does this translation work from German and French as well as English - a true polyglot if there ever was one!

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### **France**

Fr. Roger Balducelli, OSFS, informs us that he "just finished correcting the documentation to be presented to the commission of theologians , and later to

the Cardinals, the so-called *Plenaria*, to obtain from the Pope the decree of canonization of Mother Aviat. The Sisters hope and pray for the canonization next year." All of us join the Oblate Sisters in their prayers. This is certainly wonderful news and a source of great joy not only for the sisters, but also for the entire Salesian family.

The various libraries in Annecy have recently published a collective catalog of all the works of St. Francis de Sales found in this city under the title of *Les Oeuvres de Saint François de Sales dans les bibliothèques d'Annecy: un catalog collectif*. For example, there are 121 different editions of the *Introduction to a Devout Life* and 61 of the *Treatise on the Love of God*, primarily in French, and over half of them published in the 17th century. Sr. Mary Patricia, VHM, archivist of the Annecy Visitation monastery who collaborated in this project, notes that "all these works are described, the format unified, and the place identified," to produce a very worthwhile research tool. Copies can be purchased from the *Bibliothèque Municipale d'Annecy*.

Sr. Mary Patricia, VHM, wrote a paper entitled, "*Deux Amis: François de Sales et Antoine Favre*," (Two Friends: Francis de Sales and Antoine Favre) published in *Mélanges de Poétique et d'Histoire Littéraire du XVIIe siècle*, Paris, Champion, 1998. *The Académie chablaisienne* acquired three unpublished letters of St. Francis de Sales to his friend Antoine Favre a few years ago, and the President of the *Académie* asked Sister to do a study of them. This study appeared in an article "*Trois Lettres Inédites de Saint François de Sales à Antoine Favre, Premier Président du Souverain Sénat de Savoie*," which analyzes these letters and finds them to be authentic. Sister has also written an article on the "*Visitation Sainte-Marie*" for the *Dictionnaire du Catholicisme*, Paris: Ed. Letouzey et Ané. 1999. In recent years, Sr. Mary Pat has brought to light a number of interesting aspects of the lives of St. Jane and St. Francis that were heretofore unknown or little understood.

The *RES* newsletter n° 5 edited by Dr. Hélène Bordes contains brief articles, notices on recent publications, a couple of book reviews and other news items relating to Salesian studies. Among the articles, we find "*Amitié Salésienne*" by Fr. Roger Balducelli, OSFS, which gives an interesting exegesis of chapters 17 and 19 of the *Introduction to a Devout Life* and Book 2, chapter 22 of the *Treatise* and a nuanced interpretation of de Sales' position on the prohibition of particular friendships in religious life Sr. Hélène Françoise, OSFS, writes on "*Le Sel de la Sagesse, humour et accidents de la vie dans l'oeuvre de saint François de Sales*" (The Salt of Wisdom, Humor and the Vagaries of Life in the Works of St. Francis de Sales). Another article by Sabine de Bastard on "*Saint Joseph*" brings to light a number of quotations on this saint found in De Sales' writings. Marc Boutantin authored the article on "*L'Ermitage de Saint Germain de Talloires*," which speaks of De Sales' involvement with this monastery. There

is also a list of 29 religious congregations of women in France alone whose roots are in the Salesian tradition. The list is excerpted from the directory published by C.V.N. (*Centre National des Vocations*).

*RES*, following the wishes of the late Fr. André Brix, OSFS, has branched out into Belgium with its office located in Liège. Members of this group have been meeting since 1992 about 5 or 6 times a year to have in-depth discussions on chapters from *the Introduction to a Devout Life*. What this group finds to be most striking is the relevance of de Sales' thought for our world.

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### **The Austrian South German Province**

The Web site of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales of the Austrian-South German Province contains quite extensive and interesting information. At [www.thinktank.at/osfs](http://www.thinktank.at/osfs) one can learn about additional Salesian links to the German-speaking world. A visit to this WebSite certainly will be rewarding.

On the occasion of the feast of St. Francis de Sales, the Austrian Nuncio, Dr. Donato Squicciarini, gave a well-developed sermon on St. Francis de Sales at St. Ann's Church in Vienna. The full text of the sermon is available at the Provincial Residence of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, Ettingshausengasse 1, A-1190 Wien, Telephone: (+43)1/320 66 97, Fax (+43)1/320 66 97 22, e-mail: [salesoblaten-austria@magnet.at](mailto:salesoblaten-austria@magnet.at)

On January 15, 2000, at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Vienna, a "Francis de Sales Afternoon" was presented. The objective was to make the parish community aware of the life and works of its patron in a special way. The afternoon was presented by the provincial of the Austrian -Southern German Province, Father Konrad Haußner. In the first part of his presentation, he acquainted the participants with insights from the *Introduction to the Devout Life*. In the second part he focused on the basic Salesian conviction, viz., the Christian faith does not curtail life but rather perfects it.

In Germany, Siegfried Fietz is one of the best-known musicians in popular Christian music. On his latest CD, "Salt of the Earth" (from ABAKUS music publishing Co. Inc.), is a song that has as its basis an episode from the life of St. Francis de Sales. This song is called, "Don't Slam the Door" ("Nicht die Tür Zuschlagen"). It tells the story in which de Sales was sought out by a hot-tempered nobleman. This nobleman asked the Bishop what he could do about his hot-tempered outbursts. De Sales advised him, "As a start, close the door very quietly one time." In this popular religious song, Francis de Sales is unfortunately not named. It only mentions a "wise man." How this story developed into a popular religious song is explained by the fact that the lyrics of

the song are from a Pallotine priest, Jörg Müller. The Pallotines as well as the Salesians of Don Bosco, honor Francis de Sales as a spiritual patron.

St. Louis parish in Munich is conducting a pilgrimage from July 6-10, 2000 entitled, "On the Path of Francis de Sales in Savoy." Geneva, Thorens, les Allinges, Thonon and Annecy will be visited. The leader of the trip, Chaplain Stefan Hauptmann, is a great friend of de Sales and wants to discover, along with his participants, de Sales' cheerful love of God. For further information, contact Fr. Stefan Hauptmann at: (+ 49) 089/288334.

Fr. Herbert Winklehner, OSFS, is giving a three-day seminar called, "Life Management: So I Can Reach my Goal" ("Lebensmanagement. Damit ich mein Ziel erreiche") in the Benedictine monastery of Göttweig in Lower Austria. The basis for this life management is the *Introduction to the Devout Life* by Francis de Sales which clearly describes the way one can live and work as a Christian. Further information can be obtained from the Catholic Education Office of the Diocese of St. Pölten Phone: (+43)02742/398-352, Fax: (+43)02742/398-383, E-mail: [charisma.stpoelten@kirche.at](mailto:charisma.stpoelten@kirche.at)).

Using the method of the "Bibliodrama", Fr. Johannes Haas, OSFS, stages scenes from the life of Francis de Sales. In the course of retreats with his confreres of the Austrian South-German Province, he has made a first attempt at this in presenting the early years of the saint's life. Those who have experience with "Bibliodrama" or "Hagiodrama" and want to use it for Salesian pastoral activity should contact Fr. Johannes Haas OSFS at: KIM-Zentrale, Weningstraße 35, D-85053 Ingolstadt. Telefon (+49) 0841/96652-14; Fax (+49) 0841/96652-33. e-mail: [HAAS-KIM@t-online.de](mailto:HAAS-KIM@t-online.de)

In the series, "Living Jesus in the World", Fr. Alois Bachinger OSFS has already brought out his fifth pamphlet. The series is intended to "help those who want to live a Christian life in the world". The pamphlets can be obtained without cost from Fr. Alois Bachinger OSFS, Salesianum, Rosental 1, D-85072 Eichstätt, Tel (+49)08421/40 68, Fax:

(+49)08421/80805, email:

[alois.bachinger@altmuehlnet.de](mailto:alois.bachinger@altmuehlnet.de) This successful series will be continued.

The annual Salesian Association pilgrimage will take place on May 21, 2000 at the Pilgrimage Church on the Pöstlingberg in Linz on the Danube in Austria. Fr. Konrad Haußner, OSFS, Provincial of the Austrian South-German Province, will preach. The Oblate Sisters from Linz will be in charge of the music for the Mass. Prayer for religious vocations will be stressed.

Paul-Werner Scheele, the Bishop of Würzburg, has written a book entitled, "Abba-Living and Praying Amen" (*Abba - Amen beten und leben*) which has been published by the Echter Publishing House (Echter Verlag). One chapter of it is dedicated to St. Francis de Sales. Bishop Scheele describes well and in depth the life of the saint from the perspective of his devotion to the will of God and His providence. Joachim Wanke, the Bishop of Erfurt, indicated in an interview that St. Francis de Sales is his favorite figure in church history.

On the feast of St. Francis de Sales, the Franz-Sales Verlag (The Francis de Sales Publishing House) in Eichstätt began its own web site. Its book selection can be viewed worldwide on the Internet. Also, all the articles of the Salesian magazine *Licht* can be downloaded. In addition, there is an article about Francis de Sales as the patron of journalists and writers. The address of the site is <http://www.Franz-Sales-Verlag.de>. A visit to this WebSite is especially recommended to those who have interest in Salesian literature and Salesian writings.

In this Holy Year 2000, the magazine, *Licht*, focuses on the Salesian theme, "Living in the Presence of God." The individual themes of the six issues that will appear in the year 2000 are: Loving God, Knowing God, Honoring God, Serving God, Praying to God, and Trusting in God.

The Franz-Sales Verlag has produced a demo version of a CD-ROM with the German edition of the works of St. Francis de Sales. This represents an important step toward a final version of the CD-ROM. If all goes according to plan, the 12 volumes of the German edition of the works of de Sales will be available on CD-ROM by the end of the year 2001. This CD-ROM will considerably simplify scholarly work with the German edition as well as searching for citations from de Sales.

An additional project of the Franz-Sales Verlag is the translation of the book by Michel Tournade ,OSFS, *Un monde à aimer*. In this book the present Provincial of the French Province of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales has succeeded wonderfully in producing a version of the *Introduction* for young people today. The German translation should be available by the Fall of 2000 .

On the feast of St. Francis de Sales 2000, Fr. Herbert Winklehner, OSFS, and Raymund Fobes, editors of the Franz Sales Verlag, sent to numerous newspapers, magazines, radio and TVstations an article on Francis de Sales as Patron of Journalists and Writers. The purpose of this news release was to remind the journalists again of their patron. As a result, numerous reports appeared about our Journalist Patron in various media. Especially worthy of mention was an interview on Bavarian Radio and a one-hour program on the private religious radio station Horeb.



The Cardinal from Milan, Carlo Maria Martini, who is more and more often mentioned as a successor to the present Pope, and whose numerous books speak to a large segment of the public, has now also written a Salesian book: *Sul Sentieri della Visitazione. La ricerca della volontà di Dio nelle relazioni di ogni giorno* (On the Path of the Visitation. The Search for the Will of God in the Relationships of Everyday Life), Editrice Ancora, Milan, 1996. The book contains the retreat talks given by the Cardinal of Milan to young priests of the Diocese of Annecy, in which he seeks to help them serve their people as Shepherds. The basis of his talks are many letters of St. Francis de Sales. The goal of the talks was to make people aware that each encounter in daily life is an encounter with God. The biblical model for this is Mary's visit to Elizabeth. Franz-SalesVerlag has acquired the rights for the German edition which should appear in the Fall of 2000.

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### **The German Province**

In December 1999, the Province published a beautiful and very informative brochure about its Province. The title of the brochure is, "Our Mission -- Our way -- Our life". The life and works of the German Province are portrayed in a colorful and pleasing manner in 64 pages. Those interested in further information should contact: Deutsche Provinz der Oblaten des hl. Franz von Sales, Kloster Saarn, Klosterstraße 55, D-45481 Mülheim, Tel (+49)0208/485342, Fax (+49) 0208/460107

Fr. Konrad Esser, OSFS, has founded a "Salesian Missionary Prayer Circle." Among the goals of this Prayer Circle is the following, "the members shall strive through consciously living their faith, through an active apostolate in everyday life and through regular prayer to make a contribution to the internal renewal of the church, their country and society." Fr. Esser based his idea on the fact that de Sales, before he began his missionary work in the Chablais, founded a society which supported his missionary activity through prayer and sacrifice. During the developing industrialization in the middle of the 19th-century, Fr. Louis Brisson, the founder of the Oblate Sisters and Oblate Fathers of St. Francis de Sales, looked for ways to win over the people of his day to faith in God and to the activities of the Church. That is why he founded the "Association of St. Francis de Sales." For further information about the Salesian Missionary Prayer Circle contact: P. Konrad Esser, Haus Overbach, D-52428 Jülich Barmen, Phone: (+49) 02461-930-01, Fax: (+49) 02461-930 499. E-mail: P.Konrad.Esser@t-online.de.

After a good experience in 1999 Fr. Konrad Esser, OSFS, is offering again this year "Accompanied Retreats" in the Spirit of St. Francis de Sales. They will take place in the Monastery of the Visitation in Zangberg, Bavaria, from August 4-

13, 2000 and are entitled, "a Springboard into One's Own Future." Further information will be gladly provided by Fr. Esser .as noted above..

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### **India Region**

Before going to his new assignment in Monaco, Fr. John Sankarathil, OSFS, feverishly worked on the editing and publishing of three more books on Salesian thought! One of them has already been published under the title of *God's Surprises in Daily Life: Reflections for the Third Millennium*, with a foreword by Fr. Pocetto, OSFS, who assisted him in the editing of these books. The other two books should be out very shortly. Fr. John is to be commended for his enthusiasm in promoting Salesian spirituality in native country. The books will be available from the De Sales Resource Center.

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### **South African Region**

The struggle between Calvinists and Catholics not only existed in the Chablais region during De Sales' time, but also in our missions in South Africa which has been dominated by the white Calvinist Church. Fr. Alois Eckerstorfer, OSFS, reports that the Calvinists ministers had to preach twice a year against Catholics as being the "Roman Danger" or the "Damned Romans" up until the 1980's. In a conversation one day with a Calvinist minister, Fr. Eckerstorfer said to the minister, "Do you know what I am going to do against your church?" Waiting to see his reaction, he said smilingly, "This I do against you and your church. I promise you never to misuse my pulpit to speak against you and your church." The effect of this promise was astonishing. Fr. Eckerstorfer comments, "400 hundred years later an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales is the only minister who is invited at special functions of that specific church community and also at provincial conferences of their pastors and is also invited to play the trumpet in their churches at special events. Isn't that something worthwhile to be commented or reported [on] in order to see the change of attitude among fellow Christians and how we as Oblates were also instrumental in this respect!" It certainly is newsworthy and reminds us of the words of de Sales to the Canons of the Cathedral to bring down the walls of Geneva, the Calvinist stronghold, not by force but by love.

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### **Wilmington-Philadelphia Province**

Recently Pope John Paul stated, "Indeed, in their multiple expression, cultural goods constitute an instrument which can in no way be disregarded in the mission of evangelization and of human development proper to the Church. Christian art especially, a particularly significant cultural good, continues to offer a singular service by communicating with extraordinary efficacy, through the beauty of sensible forms, the history of the covenant between God and man and the richness of the revealed message." Bro. Michael McGrath, OSFS, has clearly understood and committed himself to the mission of Christian art in the work of evangelization. His latest efforts in this regard include the image of Francis de Sales on the cover of a book by Rev. Ronald Haney, *Prayers for Priests and Those Who Pray for Them*, Crossroad Press (The book contains a chapter on De Sales.) and the art work for Bernard McGinn's book, *Doctors of the Church*, which contains a good treatment of de Sales.

Fr. Robert McGilvray, OSFS, taught a course last fall via computers and the Internet on the *Introduction to a Devout Life* (IDL) as part of Allentown College's Agile Access Program. The students were first required to read Ravier's *Sage and Saint* then the IDL. Fr. McGilvray utilized the videos he developed for this course for which the ICSS gave him some financial assistance. He also did a video commentary on the five parts of the IDL. We congratulate this pioneering effort and hope it will be the beginning of further on-line courses in Salesian spirituality to reach widely dispersed audiences.

A long-standing project known as the "Wisdom Figures," an oral history of the Oblates, is now in the hands of Fr. McGilvray. With a grant from the Salesian Spirituality Commission, he will videotape and preserve interviews with the "wisdom figures" of the Province and develop a 30-minute tape of excerpts from the collected interviews as a feature presentation for the 125th anniversary celebrations of the founding of the Oblates.

Fr. Joseph Morrissey, OSFS, has appointed Fr. James Greenfield, OSFS, to a newly created Provincial Staff position of Coordinator of Salesian Programs. This new full-time position replaces and expands the work of the former Salesian Advisor, Fr. Thomas Dailey, OSFS. The ICSS congratulates Fr. Greenfield on his new appointment and extends its gratitude to Fr. Dailey for the excellent leadership he has given to the Province as the Salesian Advisor.

The first regional continuing education workshop for Oblates of the Province, led by Frs. Tom Dailey and Don Heet, OSFS, was held in Durham, NC on the topic of the Preacher and Preaching in the Salesian Tradition. This workshop will be repeated during one of the summer retreat programs.

The DeSales Center for Spirituality, under the leadership of Fr. Michael Murray, OSFS, continues to give numerous retreats, parish missions, Salesian Leadership weekends and various presentations that extend beyond Oblate apostolates. It is

offering two new resources. One is entitled *Salesian Perspectives*, which examine "some dimension of Salesian spirituality in practical, down-to-earth ways." The other is called "Sundays Salesian," short Salesian reflections on the Sunday readings. You may view the latter on the Center's web site at: [www.oblates.org/center..](http://www.oblates.org/center..)

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## **Salesians of Don Bosco**

Salesian Scholar and teacher, Fr. Frank Klauder, SDB, died last January. Fr. Klauder was a graduate of Northeast Catholic high School and had a sister who was a Visitation nun. Fr. Klauder translated a number of books on the spirituality of St. Francis de Sales and had a special devotion to this saint. He is particularly remembered for his work, *Everyday with Saint Francis de Sales* (1984).

The interest of the Salesians of Don Bosco in the spirituality of Francis de Sales has been intensifying of late. Fr. Mario Reyez Zambrano from Colombia has just completed a thesis at the Gregorian on the image of the Visitation in St. Francis de Sales. The Spanish title is: *El Icono de la "Visitación en San Francisco de Sales*.

The scholarly work of 20 years of the Salesian Historical Institute under the direction of Fr. Francesco Motto, SDB, has made it possible for him and his colleagues to put the works of Don Bosco on a CD-ROM. It contains the 10 volumes of Don Bosco's writings (in Italian) on an interactive CD-ROM, including his autobiography *Oratory Memories*. To obtain a copy of the CD-ROM, published by the Salesian Athaeneum Library of Rome send a message to: [las@upsurbe.ti](mailto:las@upsurbe.ti).

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## **Additional Recent Publications**

Donald Heet, *A Hypermedia Presentation of Francis de Sales' "Introduction to a Devout Life": Communication of a Classic Spirituality*, Catholic University of America, 1998. An abstract and preview may be viewed at: <http://wwwlib.umi.com/dissertations/fullcit?p9906573> - Anthony LoPresti, *Spirituality Meets Ethics, Francis de Sales and Love for God (Saint Francis de Sales)*, Boston College, 1999. The abstract and preview may also be viewed on-line at: <http://wwwlib.umi.com/dissertations/fullcit?p9930880>. - *L'expérience de Dieu avec François de Sales*. Introduction and textes choisies par Benoît Lemaire, Québec, Editions Fides, 1998. - Fr. Claude Morel's, MSFS, book *Chemin de courage et de paix* has been translated into German, and his work

*Prier 15 jours avec François de Sales* has been translated into Czech. - Elizabeth Stopp, *Hidden in God: Essays and Talks on St. Jane Frances de Chantal*, ed. by Terence O'Reilly with an intro. by Aidan Nichols, O.P., Philadelphia: St. Joseph's University Press, 2000. - Sr. Antoine Lawlor, IHM, "A Converging of Spirituality: Two Doctors with One Heart and One Mind," *Spiritual Life*, Winter (1999): 211-220, treats of the convergence of the spirituality of St. Theresa of the Little Flower and De Sales.

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### **Current Research Projects**

Monique Parent is completing her study on the language of the *Introduction to a Devout Life*. This is a major work that has never been done by a specialist. - Sr. Chantal Rooz, OSB, has written a thesis on de Sales and Maternity. - Diane Tuffier is beginning a thesis on the letters of De Sales under the guidance of Isabelle Pantin, a member of the French literature faculty of the University of Nanterre and Dr. Hélène Bordes.

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### **In Progress**

In early 2000, St. Joseph's University Press will publish *I Leave You My Heart: A Visitandine Chronicle of the French Revolution. Mother Marie-Jéronyme Vérot's Letter of 15 May 1794*, trans. and ed. by Peronne-Marie Thibert, V.H.M., foreword by Jo Ann McNamara [author of *Sisters in Arms: Catholic Nuns through Two Millennia*, Harvard University Press, 1996.] - Fr. Eunan Mc Donnell, SDB, is currently working on a book which he hopes to publish this year. The tentative title is *St. Francis de Sales: A Gospel Spirituality*. - The Word Among Us Press is planning to publish a book of biographies of 16 saints, which originally appeared in *The Word Among Us* magazine. The editor, Patricia Mitchell, informs us that they would like to include St. Francis de Sales, which ran in the July 1999 issue.

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### **New Salesian Web Sites**

St. Francis de Sales Society of the Rockford diocese. Its mission is to use modern media for evangelization inspired by the work De Sales did as an effective communicator of Catholic teaching through love.  
<http://www.rockforddiocese.org/media/sfdss.htm> - Fr. Thierry Mollard, OSFS, of the French Province has set up a web site entitled *Théotime*. It can be accessed at: <http://theotime.bizland.com/>. He invites comments and suggestions.

- There is a new page on the web site of Allentown College's Department of Philosophy & Theology that links to translations, publications, and presentations concerned with Salesian Spirituality. The soon to be established Salesian Center for Faith & Culture is planning to expand this site to accommodate a proposed "on-line" program in Salesian Studies. This new web page is located at:

<http://www4.allencol.edu/~philtheo/SalStudies.html>.

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## **Conferences**

Under the continuing sponsorship of the De Sales Resource Center, the 18th Annual Conference on the Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal will be held at the Georgetown Visitation, Washington, D.C. from August 3-6, 2000. The theme this year is "Salesian Spirituality: Heart Speaks to Heart." A special feature of this year's conference is "A Celebration of the Sacred Heart in Song" - a feast of traditional and original music and texts, selected, sung and led by Wendy Wright, composed and played by Kevin Vogt, Director of Music at St. Cecilia's Cathedral in Omaha, Nebraska. Further information and on-line registration are available at:  
<http://www.desalesresource.org/conference.htm>.

*Les Échanges Salésiens* will take place in Annecy-le-Vieux, France from July 10 through July 14th. The theme "La Commune Union" continues in the line of Salesian prayer with a close reading of Books 7 and 8 of the *Treatise on the Love of God*. For further information contact: Marc BOUTANTIN, 27 rue de la Gare, 67118 Geispolsheim, France

## **DSB**

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**This newsletter can be accessed at:**

**<http://www4.allencol.edu/~salesian/salesian.html>. Suggestions for improving this newsletter and information for future issues may be sent to A. Pocetto via email:[atp0@emai.allencol.edu](mailto:atp0@emai.allencol.edu), Fax:(610)282-2059 or by snail mail at Allentown College, 2755 Station Ave., Center Valley, PA 18034-9568, USA. The ICSS is very grateful to Allentown College for the technical assistance and other resources the College very generously makes available to continue its work.**