

The Obituary of Father Bosco Pereira, SDB

*A Tribute To A Courageous Priest
With an Engaging Smile*

July 1949 – July 2013



Cherishing the goodness of a true Salesian priest - We carry his smile as we miss Father Bosco

Friday, July 19 2013, woke us to the sad demise of our loving Father Bosco Pereira, a guide and pillar of strength. The funeral mass was held on Saturday, the 20th July 2013 at 4pm at the Shrine of Don Bosco Matunga followed by the burial at the Sewri Cemetery. According to the 1st letter of St Peter (Chapter 3: vs. 4-14) "... instead, your beauty should consist of your true inner self, the ageless beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of the greatest value in God's sight." Father Bosco was a quiet and gentle spirit. May he rest in the heavenly abode of everlasting tranquility. We express our heartfelt condolences and extend our support to Father Bosco's family, especially his grieving mother.

Reminiscing 64 years of a selfless timeline: 30 July 1949 – 19 July 2013:

Birth	July 30th 1949	Mazgaon
Student	June 1960 - 1964	Don Bosco Matunga
Aspirant	June 1964 - 1968	Don Bosco Lonavla
Novitiate	May 24 1969	Yercaud
First Profession	May 24 1970	Yercaud
Student of Philosophy	1970 - 1972	Yercaud
Practical Training	1972 - 1973	Dominic Savio, Andheri
Medical Treatment	1973-1974	Provincial House Matunga
Practical Training	1974 - 1976	Don Bosco, Panjim
Practical Training	1976 - 1977	Don Bosco Lonavla
Perpetual Profession	May 24 1977	Don Bosco Lonavla
Student of Theology	1977 - 1981	KJC, Bangalore
Ordained Priest	December 12 1981	Matunga
Student B. ED	1982- 1983	Don Bosco Matunga
In - Charge	1983 - 1987	Bosco Boys Home Borivili
In - Charge	1987 - 1990	Shelter Don Bosco, Wadala
Medical Treatment	1990 - 1991	Australia
	1991 - 1992	Bosco Boys Home, Borivili
In - Charge	1992 - 1997	Bosco Boys Home, Borivili
Rector	1997 - 2003	Bosco Boys' Home, Borivili
Refresher Course	2003 - 2005	Don Bosco, Borivli
Campus Minister	2006 - 2009	Don Bosco, Kurla
Counselor	2009 - 2013	Dominic Savio, Andheri
Death	July 19 2013	Andheri

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Living a lifetime for others and treating life as a gift:

Father Bosco always engaged with people in a truly animated manner. He was loved by all because of his sheer simplicity. He pioneered the establishment of Shelter Don Bosco, Wadala. In the words of Fr. Joe Braganza, a colleague and a fellow Salesian priest, "Father Bosco lived his life spreading God's light in his own style." He knew waiting on people and interacting with them meant a lot to them, especially the students. It was most reassuring to see Father Bosco stand at the entrance lobby of the 'Don Bosco Centre for Learning' campus, at Kurla. Father Bosco was committed and inspired to give off his best in all the roles he played. Father Bosco took time to prepare his homilies in a way that added meaning to the community that attended Mass. He used simple words and humor to engage the students whilst maintaining the sanctity of the Divine Liturgy.

Father Bosco's creative insights and animated view points were welcomed with open hearts. One of his favorite quotes was, "It is better to give a rose to the living than a bouquet to the dead." His fellow staff members perceived him as a person who was clear in thought and empathetic towards all; the primary qualities that drew people toward him like a magnet. Fr. Bosco was focused on delivering holistic growth to the students. He drew an analogy between engineering and horse riding, where at the end of four years, students are merely able to mount the horse. He envisioned and encouraged students to be the difference rather than just be able to calculate the difference.

Father Bosco placed the highest value on awareness and continuously communicated that self forgiveness was the sure path to experiencing peace. He was a profile in courage. A person so loving, caring and sublime in virtue, who had to battle his way through ill health. He worked tirelessly towards developing the self esteem of the underprivileged youth, thereby, contributing to the Salesian vision. We thank his family and are truly grateful to his parents for the gift Father Bosco was to us all. Father Bosco stays alive in our smiles, the carefree spirit that enriched our lives at Don Bosco.