

July 29, 2010 - Honduras – Don Bosco always present



(ANS – Tegucigalpa) – Coming from Managua, Nicaragua, Don Bosco's **casket** arrived in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on Monday, July 26. It was welcomed at the international airport by a guard of honour from the Salesian schools and accompanied on its journey.

Religious, civil, and military officials and Salesian pupils and past pupils took part in the welcoming ceremony for the saint of youth. Placed on a mobile platform, the casket began its journey accompanied by Bishop Luis Alfonso Santos Villeda, SDB, of Santa Rosa de Copan, by Fr. Luis Corral, provincial of Central America, and by the provincial of the Salesian Sisters, Sr. Sandra Yela.

From the airport the casket went to the parish of Mary Help of Christians among the hills of Comayaguela, a twin city of Tegucigalpa, where Bishop Santos presided at Mass.

The next morning, Don Bosco's casket made its triumphal entry into St. Michael the Archangel School in Tegucigalpa, where it was welcomed by hundreds of pupils from various Salesian schools; here with hymns and songs the young people accompanied the Mass celebrated by the Salesian Archbishop Oscar Julio Vian Morales of Los Altos Quetzaltenango-Totonicapán and concelebrated by Bishop Santos and various Salesian priests.

Early in the afternoon the casket was taken to the cathedral, filled with thousands of the faithful, are ready to stay in prayer close to Don Bosco. After being among them for three hours the casket was taken to the church of San Miguel School, where Mass was celebrated for the local Salesian Family. During the Mass, at which Archbishop Vian presided, three Salesian Cooperators made their promise.

At the end of the Mass the young people expressed their joy and affection for Don Bosco, and then there was a prayer vigil with hymns until midnight.

On July 28 the relics of Don Bosco went to Mary Help of Christians School and then to the basilica of Our Lady of Supaya, patroness of the country, where Mass was said. The pilgrimage now passes to El Salvador.