



SUMMARY

Editorial

One year Journey with Jesus and Mary.

Formative path

Everyday Holiness.

Entrust - Trust - Smile

Letter from Rector Major Don Ángel Fernández Artime.

Formation of ADMA aspirants

7. Lay participation in the Association.

Family events

- ADMA Sicily: *XVI Marian Day*.

- Poland: *National Congress of ADMA*.

- Philippines: *Celebration of the National Council of ADMA and of its Foundation Day*.

- 41st Spirituality Days of Salesian Family: *published the booklet with summary*.

- IX Congress of Mary Help of Christians 2024: *registration*.

EDITORIAL

P.1 ONE YEAR JOURNEY WITH JESUS AND MARY

My dear friends of ADMA,

P.2

Here we are at the end of this formative and pastoral year which, with the feast of Mary Help of Christians on the 24th May, the feast of the Consolata on the 20th June, and the final meetings and activities before the summer break, is coming to an end.

P.5

Shall we then spend a moment to do a little review individually, as a family and as an Association!

P.6

First of all, **we want to give thanks** for the many gifts received this year: the new groups formed around the world, the new Associates, the gift of our priests and guides, the small and big graces received by so many of us, especially the gift of faith. **Like Don Bosco, we must never cease to give thanks to the Lord, touched by the gifts He gives us through the intercession of His Mother.**

P.8

P.8

P.9

Let us then **reflect on our journey this year**; how we have come closer to the hearts of Jesus and Mary; whether our groups have always focused on relationships and that simple style that inspired Don Bosco to found ADMA; whether we have made progress in communion and sharing; if our belonging to ADMA and the formation programme has led us to spend ourselves in the apostolate and in service.

P.9

P.10

How many questions could we ask ourselves, never to judge one another or to make a human evaluation

of our work but **to grow in faith, accompanied by God's mercy.**

It is good then to pause and try to pick up the thread of our journey this year, from September until today. We have tried to go back to the essentials, to the roots of our belonging and more to the roots of our faith, drawing from the deepest sources of Christian, Salesian and Marian spirituality.



We did this first of all individually, putting our inner life at the centre, and then joining hands with members and with all the groups associated with the Primary ADMA, being accompanied by the Word of God, by Don Bosco and by St. Francis de Sales.

We made an itinerary in ten stages, all of immense

value: rediscovering ourselves as children and feeling loved by God to begin, nurturing our relationship with Him in prayer, growing in trust and confidence in the Lord even in difficulties, nourishing ourselves with the immense gift of the Eucharist, learning, like Mary, to do everything out of love, rediscovering joy, exercising our virtues, going to meet the Father and His embrace in the sacrament of reconciliation, looking to Mary in her attitudes and finally remaining united with God in our daily lives.

So, during the summer break from pastoral activities and work, let us try to find a little space for reflection to look back on our journey. **Let us be guided by Mary, asking her to take us back to where our hearts have been vibrating, to make us re-trace our steps to that point where the Lord is waiting for us to take us into His embrace and let us continue our journey by His side.**

Renato Valera,
 ADMA Primaria's President.

Alejandro Guevara,
 ADMA Primaria's Spiritual Animator.

FORMATIVE PATH

EVERYDAY HOLINESS

God is very much concrete. He exists, lives and loves eternally. He reveals Himself in the body and history of Jesus. He works unceasingly in creation and redemption through His Spirit. He is present at all points in history. He envelops and penetrates every heart and has a unique relationship with each of His children. He sees well where we are and what we need; He helps us truly and wisely; He always aims at the first and last end for which He created us: to mould in us the features of His Son, to bring us as far as possible to His stature and fullness. Let us listen to St Paul:

For, in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. So, you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority (Col 2:9-10).

I pray that you may have the power to comprehend,

with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Eph 3:17-19).

The concreteness of God is why **the saints know how to be concrete, and concrete means everyday.** The refrain of all saints is always the same: **we become saints by doing God's will in the present moment, the only time we have.** Radically, with Chiara Lubich: since charity is the supreme value, *'in love what counts is to love'*! Simply, with Don Bosco: *'age quod agis', 'do well what you are doing'*. Also, because, if this is not the case, dangerous gaps open up between saying and doing, between prayer and life, between love of God and love of neighbour, which weaken or compromise the journey of faith.

1. Practice

It is essential to convince *oneself that what matters most is not the knowing, important though it is, but the tasting and practising*. Jesus said it bluntly: *“Not every one who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven”* (Mt 7:21). Or also: *“But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”* (John 3:21). Consistent with the Lord’s teaching, St. Paul and St. James affirm the same. The former says that *“For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness”* (Gal 5:6). And the latter, *“In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead”, because “As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead”* (Jas 2:17, 26).

This is something that man, in his creatureliness, already intuitively knows not by hearsay, but by experience; one truly knows what one loves, not what one impartially observes. More so, since love is exchange, giving and receiving, we truly know not what we passively receive but what we actively interpret.

The same can be said of our freedom: it is healthy when it acts according to God’s will, not when it is indecisive or arbitrary. The Gethsemane utterance, to take away the sufferings but not according to His will but according to the will of His Father, confirms the above statement. Here Jesus, as always, is the model: *“my food is to do the will of him who sent me and to do his work”* (Jn 4:34).

What is already true for every reasonable and free creature, is all the more true on the level of faith, where it is necessary to unceasingly support the mysterious action of God who is always at work for our salvation and fullness. We *“should always pray and not give up”* (Lk 18:1) and always live in union with God. One does not become holy by loving in fits and starts: **holiness is everyday life**. It is as Jesus says of himself: *“My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working”* (Jn 5:17). Hence, the ideal of the life of grace: abiding in Jesus and working in Jesus knowing that Jesus abides in us and works in us. Here, we understand how much damage fear and inertia can do, as they distract us from living dialogue with God and paralyse action, so that God cannot work all that fruitfulness that he would like to realise in us.

2. Growing in virtues

Therefore, **practice cannot be occasional, sporadic**. The Gospel calls for radical conversion, total surrender, trust and faithfulness, constancy and perseverance: *“by your perseverance, you will save your souls”* (Lk 21:19). This is why the Christian life means growth in the cardinal virtues - justice, temperance, prudence and fortitude - and in the theological virtues - faith, hope and charity. The idea of virtue is significant: it is stability and ease in doing good, and it grows with the repetition of virtuous acts. **There is therefore no holiness without everydayness!**

Isolated good ‘leaves time to find’; it does not unify the personality; it does not consolidate it; it does not make it confident and trustworthy, responsible for itself and others; it often fills the soul with disappointment, sorrow, guilt, regret because the ideal of life is to conform to Jesus, to take on his inner features. If then, the practice of goodness is not daily, the soul loses its strength, the will is reduced to aspiration, morality tends to apathy, faith does not become ‘devotion’.

Certainly, growth in virtues is the joint fruit of God’s grace and man’s commitment. And in this sense, there is no mysticism without asceticism, no new life without the death of the old, no fruitfulness without mortification. It is significant that Jesus’ invitation to follow Him explicitly says that one must carry one’s cross ‘every day’. As if to say: there are things in oneself and in others that one cannot just get rid of and so require continuous vigilance and patience.

3. Ask for daily bread

The Lord’s best suggestion for living the Gospel practically and daily is contained in the ‘Our Father’,

“To be concrete means to be everyday.”





which is the rule of Christian prayer. The believer declares that he wants to 'do God's will on earth as it is in heaven', that is, perfectly well, and asks for 'daily bread', **that is, what is needed to live well in the present moment.** There is no need to accumulate, there is a need to 'hurry',

to share the talents, that is, the gifts and tasks that God has entrusted to us. This makes the heart free from disordered memories and expectations, from worries, and disposes it to love in the present. The essentiality of daily bread does not weigh down the heart and keeps the soul unburdened by the judgments of others, and helps to live under God's gaze, trusting in His providence. In the Salesian perspective, this attitude is captured in the programmatic motto *'da mihi animas, cetera tolle'*

On closer reflection, asking God for too much or too little is a lack of faith. The point is to fix oneself in God's will and ask for the means necessary to achieve it, no more, no less. To ask for his share of the property, like the younger son in the parable, or like the elder son with his poor complaint that he had no celebration with his friends, is poor filial awareness, poor confidence in providence. **A son or daughter of God is 'blessed' because they want to obey and at the same time they can ask, knowing that they are not alone and abandoned, but listened to and accompanied.** As soon as we step out of filial confidence in the Father's love, we become thoughtless again: works do not depend on God but everything weighs on us.

To ask for daily bread is to realise the first beatitude, the first way to be happy: to be *"poor in spirit"* (Mt 5:3), to realise the Scripture when it says: *Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord... Blessed are those who trust in the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water... in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit* (Jer 17: 5-8).

One of the best spiritual inspirations for living daily holiness is that of Chiesa Lubich in her booklet on the *'Art of Loving'*. The saint advises to pass from one

person to another *'without leaving any leftovers'*, and says that the contrary would indicate little humility: if something remains in the heart, it means, in fact, that a person is too important to us, or we consider ourselves too important to them, and this is not in accordance with the 'charity of God'!

4. Salesian optimism

It is very useful to **avoid complaining: it unnecessarily dampens thought and action.** Pope Francis recently recommended this, but it is a typical trait of the Salesian charism: *Living in holy cheerfulness and cultivating a healthy optimism.* Fundamentally, the Christian is neither worldly optimistic nor worldly pessimistic, for he believes not only in the victory of good, and knows the power of the Risen One and the success of saints, but is also aware of the terrible pitfalls of the Enemy and the failure of many. The Christian knows that the Christian life is spiritual combat.

Nevertheless, there is a Christian 'style' whereby one can speak of 'optimism' and avoid 'pessimism'. It says so in the Salesian Rule of Life:

«A Salesian does not allow himself to be discouraged by difficulties, because he has complete trust in the Father: "Let nothing disturb you", said Don Bosco. Inspired by the humanism of St. Francis de Sales, he believes in man's natural and supernatural resources, while not ignoring his weakness. He grasps the values of the world and refuses to lament over his own time: he considers everything good, especially if it pleases the young. Since he proclaims the Good News, he is always happy.» (Const. 17)

On right worldly pessimism and right Christian optimism, Pope Francis expressed himself very effectively when addressing the Salesians:

«Many run the risk of a pessimistic attitude in the face of everything around us and not only with respect to the transformations taking place in society but also in relation to their own Congregation, their brothers and sisters and the life of the Church. That attitude that ends up 'boycotting' and preventing any response or alternative process, or else bringing out the opposite position: a blind optimism, capable of dissolving the strength and novelty of the Gospel, preventing us from concretely accepting the complexity that situations require and the prophecy that the Lord invites us to bring forward. Neither pessimism nor optimism are gifts of the Spirit... Neither adapting to

the fashionable culture, nor taking refuge in a heroic but already disembodied past... Neither pessimist nor optimist, the Salesian of the 21st century is a man full of hope because he knows that his centre is in the Lord, capable of making all things new... Neither triumphalists nor alarmists, cheerful and hopeful men and women, not robots but artisans;

'Capable of pointing to ideals other than those of this world, testifying to the beauty of generosity, service, purity, perseverance, forgiveness, fidelity to our personal vocation, prayer, the pursuit of justice and the common good, love for the poor, and social friendship...'. (Christus vivit, 36).

ENTRUST - TRUST - SMILE

LETTER OF THE RECTOR MAJOR FR. ÁNGEL FERNÁNDEZ ARTIME

The Salesian charism in the animation of the family returns to its origins, and the family in living the spirit of Don Bosco gains in dynamism and evangelical joy.



The family today lives a very delicate time and needs extraordinary help for its formation, its development and the responsible exercise of its educational task. In this context, the importance of having a family pastoral ministry and a youth pastoral ministry that are open to each other and walk together is revived.

In the Charter of Charismatic Identity of the Salesian Family, 16, we read:

"Particular attention is given to the family, the primary place of humanization, destined to prepare young people for love and the acceptance of life, the first school of solidarity between persons and peoples. Everyone is committed to guaranteeing it dignity and solidity so that it may become, in an ever more evident way, a small domestic church."

The Association of Mary Help of Christians has also been renewed in this perspective and increasingly sees the presence of families and young couples who, under Mary's guidance, share a life journey, made up of training, sharing and prayer. Mary is Mother and Teacher, educating them to become spouses and parents. The ADMA helps them be faithful to the vocation of spouses, a great help in the education of children. The Association's project looks at families according to a vision that involves the whole family. It is the thread that weaves in an embroidery the path of the parents and that of the children. In fact, by watching the parents pray and share their faith, the children learn to live as a family in the presence

of Jesus and Mary. Parents, watching their children, become more and more convinced that the witness of faith is the most beautiful gift they can offer, the richest legacy they can leave them.

Nowadays, no family can remain alone. It is necessary to walk together to be a **'Family of Families'**, sharing joys and bearing burdens and labouring together, with certain focus:

- put Marriage **at the centre** and Jesus at the centre of Marriage;
- ensuring the primacy of **Grace**;
- experiencing how **prayer** becomes **charity**.

Fundamental is the spiritual accompaniment of individuals and couples, with the presence of priests, consecrated persons and the spouses themselves, who have made a beautiful journey of conjugal, Christian and Salesian family life, who become precious guides in the journey of faith, sharing the experience of God that lies at the heart of their vocation and mission.

Andrea and Maria Adele Damiani

FORMATION OF ADMA ASPIRANTS

7. LAY PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSOCIATION

The seventh chapter of the formation process which the Primary ADMA in Turin-Valdocco proposes to the aspirants, refers to articles 10 and 11 of the Regulations that speak of the *active and co-responsible participation* of each member in the life of the Association.

The Association lives on the commitment and involvement of each member: it is necessary to choose to concretely live the membership of ADMA, felt as one's own choice, with an active participation in all its expressions. The call to join ADMA demands a free and motivated response, matured under the action of the Spirit and with the help of Mary Help of Christians, with the accompaniment of those in charge. Each person is expected to participate with a spirit of communion and collaboration in the meetings and in the various activities and to offer their availability for the commitments and responsibilities to which they are called.

All baptised Catholics, 18 years and above, can request to belong to the Association. Each local group takes particular care in identifying and accompanying those who may be called to become member of ADMA. The preparation process must be followed in a special way so that membership may be something convinced and desired and not just formal or superficial. The required year of preparation should be lived with intensity and fidelity in the knowledge of the spirit and the Rules, cultivating such a path as a personal and committed response to a gift and a call from Mary Help of Christians. The manifestation of adherence to ADMA, during a celebration in honour of Mary Help of Christians, is only the beginning of a

journey. ***Constant commitment is required, which is the expression of a choice of life in the Salesian spirit and mission.***

The local Association takes care of the ongoing formation of its members and organises activities and initiatives locally in accordance with the Rules, nourishing the sense of belonging and stimulating the spiritual and apostolic commitment of each one. Each member, in turn, contributes to the growth of the Association.

In the course of the year, several special moments of belonging are proposed, open to all: monthly meetings for doctrinal formation, prayer and Eucharistic celebration or adoration, if possible, on the 24th of each month, the day of the commemoration of Mary Help of Christians; an annual Marian Day; participation in moments of celebration or meeting of the Salesian Family; spiritual exercises; processions, pilgrimages, retreat days; other meetings according to local programming.

Each meeting has three characteristics:

- 1) **Fraternity** through moments of communion, exchange, sharing;
- 2) **Growth in the faith** through formation itineraries;
- 3) **Eucharistic-Marian prayer** with the celebration of the Eucharist, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and recitation of the Rosary.

Precisely because of the popular character of the Association, every meeting is open to anyone who wishes to participate. This fact also emphasises the value of being 'leaven', especially for those who want to open themselves up to a deeper experience of faith or for those in search of the meaning of life.

The annual practice of spiritual exercises constitutes an intense moment of renewal, listening to and meditation on the Word, purification of the heart and spiritual discernment.

A very important aspect of ADMA is that it is an Association of lay people. The Regulations of ADMA



Formation of ADMA aspirants

contain in the appendix some criteria which St. John Paul II indicated to all lay Associations in order to be partakers in the communion and mission of the Church. In summary, they are as follows:

- **the primacy** of every Christian's **vocation to holiness**;
- **the responsibility to confess** the Catholic faith, accepting and proclaiming the truth about Christ, in obedience to the Church;
- **the witness** of a firm and convinced communion, in filial relationship with the Pope and the Bishop of the particular Church, in mutual esteem among all the forms of apostolate in the Church;
- **conformity and participation** in the Church's apostolic goal, i.e. 'the evangelisation and sanctification of people and the Christian formation of their conscience;
- **the commitment to a presence** in human society that, in the light of the Church's social doctrine, places itself at the service of man's integral dignity.

Adherence to these criteria of ecclesiality bears concrete fruits that accompany the life and works of the various forms of Association: the renewed taste for prayer, contemplation, liturgical and sacramental life, the animation for the flourishing of vocations; the readiness to participate in the programmes and activities of the Church; the catechetical commitment and pedagogical capacity in forming Christians; the impulse for a Christian presence in the different environments of social life and the creation and animation of charitable, cultural and spiritual works; the spirit of detachment and evangelical poverty for a more generous charity towards all; the conversion to Christian life or the return to communion of baptised people who are 'far away'.

This call to the Association's secularity must be kept in mind at every level, particularly at the local level. In fact, on the one hand, there is still a tendency to identify the Church with the hierarchy, forgetting the common responsibility and mission of the People of God. On the other hand, there is also a tendency to conceive of the People of God according to a purely sociological or political idea, forgetting the novelty and the specificity of people who become so only in

communion with Christ.

It is necessary that, while respecting the vocations and roles of consecrated persons and the laity, the co-responsibility of all members of the People of God be gradually promoted. This calls for a change of mentality concerning the laity in particular, recognising them not only as 'co-workers', but truly 'co-responsible' for the Church's identity and action, so as to foster the consolidation of a mature and committed laity. The first responsibility of the Association therefore lies with the members of ADMA themselves.

They will be the protagonists of a qualified and effective animation which will help them to fully express their lay vocation.

Gian Luca e Mariangela Spesso

FAMILY EVENTS

XVI Marian Day – ADMA, Sicily



On the 16th April 2023 at the shrine of Mary Help of Christians in Ali Terme, the 16th Marian Day of ADMA in Sicily took place. More than three hundred ADMA members took part in the event and thanks to the precious hard work of the Sicilian regional council, headed by its president Salvatore Di Maio, it was possible to experience inspiring moments of shared faith. A couple from the primary ADMA of Valdocco also took part in the event, as a sign of union and sharing a common path.

The day began with the Holy Rosary, followed by the greetings of the Provincial President Salvatore Di Maio and the Council; then followed the welcome of the Mayor of Ali Terme, the reflection on the theme *'Educators in the style of Don Bosco under the guidance of Mary'*, held by Fr. Alessandro Malaponte, the testimony of Sr. Mariella Lo Turco on the Blessed Maddalena Morano and finally the celebration of the Eucharist. After a short break for lunch, the afternoon saw the testimony of an iconographer who commented on a beautiful icon, painted by her, on the Divine Mercy, precisely on the theme with the contextual day of the Feast of the Divine Mercy; afterwards, there was a short testimony of two married couples, Associates of ADMA and finally an intense and precious moment of adoration led by Fr. Paolo Cicala, with forgiveness as the central theme.

The most significant highlights of this experience are essentially two: **the necessary presence of the ADMA Associates in the oratories in order to be with the young people; and where there is Mother Mary, there comes Peace and in order to have Peace, it is necessary to have Forgiveness.**

As participants in the event, we thank from the bottom of our hearts all the people who worked hard to organise this Marian day in the best possible way. We thank the nuns who welcomed us as brothers and sisters in their house and finally we thank Mother Mary, who made our participation as a couple in this unforgettable event possible.

Aldo and Tiziana Bunino

Poland – National Congress of ADMA

The National Congress of ADMA began on 6th May 2023. It began with the opening of the miraculous image of Our Lady Help of Christians in Rumia with a 'Hail Mary' prayed with the fervour of all the participants, recalling Don Bosco's first 'Hail Mary' with Bartolomeo Garelli in Turin. The numerous guests present - members of many branches of the Salesian Family – were welcomed by Mrs. Katarzyna Majda, president of ADMA of the Province of Piła.



Those present were: the Provincial Fr. Tadeusz Itrych, Mrs. Anna Rastawicka, coordinator of the process of beatification and witness of the holiness of the Cardinal Primate Stefan Wyszyński, the Salesian Sisters, as well as the pilgrims with their animators from the Provinces of Krakow, Wroclaw, Warsaw; delegates from Kobylnica, Piła, Szczecin, Bydgoszcz, Słupsk, Dębno, Dębno, Czewińska nad Wisłą, Różanystok, Łódź, Szczyrk, Twardogóra, Oświęcim, Kielce, Tanowo and Pychowice as well as some people from Rumia and Guerierieri of Mary.

Family events

The parish priest and custodian of the Shrine, Fr. Rafał Burnicki, presented the history of the Salesian work and of the Rumia Shrine.

For the first time, a Marian service was held at the Shrine: *'Contemplating the image of Mary Help of Christians'*. Besides, the Congress participants had the opportunity to meet and exchange experiences related to the Marian apostolate during the coffee break and lunch.

At the end, the participants listened to the wonderful concert with the title: *'Rosarium Beate Mariae Virginis'* - performed by the artists of the group **Les Femmes**.

It was announced that the World Congress of ADMA would take place in Fatima in 2024. See you then in Portugal.

Fr. Henryk Kaszycki
 animator ADMA PLN

Philippines – Gathering of National Council of AMDA and Foundation day



On 23rd April 2023, the ADMA members in Philippines gathered for the **General Council meeting and the celebration of ADMA Foundation Day**. The meeting was held in the Roozen Hall of St. John Bosco Parish in Makati City, with about 110 members present.

Every year, those in charge of the different groups in Philippines gather to share on the present status of their respective groups. Those who were unable to attend - such as those from Pangasinan, Pampanga and Tarlac, including ADMA FIS Delegate and Spiritual Animator, Fr. Godofredo Atienza SDB – had their reports read.

Likewise, the National Council office reported on the Association's past and future plans.

ADMA members from different districts (Laguna, Manila, Paranaque, Pasay) were well represented. Members of potential chapters, Diocesan Shrine of Mary Help of Christians in Laguna, St. John Bosco Parish in Makati and Mary Help of Christians in Manila, were also present.

The animation was held by Sr. Mary Jude Alcance, FMA Delegate for ADMA. She exhorted everyone to reflect on the ADMA regulations, in particular article 4, concerning the personal commitment of the members.

At the Holy Mass dedicated to deceased and sick members, we prayed in a special way for the eternal peace of the soul of Rheena May Lim (1971-2023) who served as national president from 2017 until her heavenly call on 3rd April 2023. Fr. Cris Magbitang, SDB, ADMA FIN Delegate and Spiritual Animator, presided over the Holy Mass.

41st Spirituality Days of Salesian Family, published the booklet with summary

In order to provide concrete support and a valid tool for the animation of the groups of the Salesian Family on the theme of the Rector Major's Strenna for 2023 – **"AS A LIEVITO IN TODAY'S HUMAN FAMILY - The lay dimension of Don Bosco's family"**, the Secretariat for the Salesian Family has produced a booklet summarising the work carried out at the 41st Spirituality Days of the Salesian Family (GSFS) in January 2023.

Family events

From 12-15 January 2023 in Turin-Valdocco, over 250 members of the Salesian Family belonging to 18 groups listened, reflected and prayed together on the lay dimension of the Salesian charism and on the complementarity of the groups - called together to be *'leaven in the dough of the bread of humanity'* - seeking to discover and deepen God's will for the great Salesian Family.

The programme included assembly meetings, prayers, guided visits to the places where the charism was born, sharing, celebrations and moments of cordiality. The inspiring booklet, of about 40 pages, graphically edited by 'IME Comunicazione', gives an account of what emerged in that assembly, starting from those aspects that were identified as the most important in the enhancement of the lay dimension of the Salesian Family, as well as those that were perceived as the main challenges in that area.



This was followed by the texts of the speakers at the round table on Friday the 13th January, which fostered a rich dialogue and discussion among all the participants. This was followed by summaries of the 'vocational' group work (consecrated, lay and secular institutes) on the questions: *"What contribution can each of the Salesian Family groups make, starting from their own identity, to enrich the secularity of our Family? How can the religious groups of the Salesian Family enrich the lay complementarity of our Salesian vocation? And how can we enrich the consecrated complementarity of our Salesian vocation?"*

The last pages are dedicated to the synthesis of the presentations on the last day of the GSFS, when the representatives of each group of the SF illustrated the invitation/exhortation that remained most impressive after the GSFS event, as well as the aspect of secularity that should be intensified in order to be a leaven and sign of communion and mission.

"May these pages serve to continue to deepen the lay dimension of our Salesian Family" concluded Fr. Joan Lluís Playà Morera SDB, Central Delegate of the Rector Major for the Secretariat for the Salesian Family, and Fr. Alejandro Guevara SDB, World Spiritual Animator of the Association of Mary Help of Christians (ADMA) and coordinator of GSFS 2023.

The booklet - in Italian, English and Spanish - can be downloaded at the following links:

• [Booklet_GSFS_ITA.pdf](#)

• [Booklet_GSFS_ENG.pdf](#)

• [Booklet_GSFS_SPA.pdf](#)



I will
give you the
TEACHER
IX Congress of Mary Help of Christians

Fatima 29 August - 1 September 2024

Registration from 24 September 2023

www.mariaauxiliadora2024.pt

WE ARE ASKING EVERYONE TO SEND US AN ARTICLE, A PHOTO OF A FORMATION MEETING, THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 24TH OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, A VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY BEING CARRIED OUT. The article (.doc format, max. 1200 characters without counting spaces) and a maximum of 2 photos (.jpg digital format and no less than 1000px wide), with a title and/or brief description, must be sent to adma@admadosbosco.org. It is necessary to indicate in the subject line of the e-mail **"Family Events"** and in the text the author's data (name, surname, place of the shot, affiliation Adma, city, country). *By sending, you automatically authorise Adma to process, publish, even partially, and disclose the article and photographs in any form. The images may be published, at the editorial staff's discretion, on the website www.admadosbosco.org, and/or in other Adma websites, accompanied by a caption.*