

Work assignment for the Confederal, Federal and Union Councils as well for all the Past-Pupils of the World.

1. Read attentively the text from phase two: Word of Mother Yvonne Reungoat to the delegates and Past-pupils of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians.
2. As a lay branch of the Salesian Family, what operational line do you propose to work together with the groups of the Salesian Family already in your territory?
3. The Past-pupils are the “Longo Manus” of the FMA in the world. Could you name three concrete signs of this statement in our current reality?
4. Among the challenges that Mother Yvonne presents what solutions would you propose for the first and the fourth challenge?

On April 27 the canonization of John Paul II will be held To him we entrust our deepest intentions.



Prayer to implore favor through the intercession of Blessed John Paul II

O Blessed Trinity, we thank You for having graced the Church with Blessed John Paul II and for allowing the tenderness of Your Fatherly care, the glory of the Cross of Christ, and the splendor of the Spirit of love, to shine through him. Trusting fully in Your infinite mercy and in the maternal intercession of Mary, he has given us a living image of Jesus the Good Shepherd, and has shown us that holiness is the necessary measure of ordinary Christian life and is the way of achieving eternal communion with You. Grant us, by his intercession, and according to Your will, the graces we implore, hoping that he will soon be numbered among Your saints. Amen.



**SECOND
NUCLEUS**

**Words of Mother Yvonne Reungoat
to the Delegates and
Past-Pupils of the FMA**



*World Confederation of FMA Past Pupils
March - April*

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS THE WORLD CONDERATION ASSEMBLY 2015

SECOND NUCLEUS: March-April

Words of Mother Yvonne Reungoat to the Delegates and Past-Pupils of the FMA

In this second phase of our training itinerary to the next World Elective Assembly 2015, we share the message that Mother Yvonne Reungoat, Superior General of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, directed to mark the centenary of the Association of the past Pupils of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians on July 29, 2009 in Cinecittà, Rome.

Also this phase consists of two parts: the first part we present the document that belongs to the Magisterial of the Association; the second part is the work assignment for the Confederal, Federal and Union Councils as well for all the Past-Pupils of the World.

We will present on the webpage of the association under the section "Life of the Association" this second phase in five languages (www.exallievfma.org) and it will also be published in Facebook: Confederazione Mondiale Exallieve FMA.

Please send your answers to questions 2, 3, 4 or only the one you feel comfortable to response and share and send it to maritafma@yahoo.com.

Words of Mother Yvonne Reungoat



We are in Cinecittà, town of Rome, in the atmosphere of Don Bosco in the Eternal City, just steps from the Basilica erected in honor of our father and founder, whose project began the first nucleus of the Salesian Family.

His spirit gives way to the Salesian educational environments and family groups gather around him echoing the words of the Rector Major to admire this wonderful family tree which today has become forest.

The spirit of Don Bosco permeated the

It is the great challenge today. We need to learn not only the language adapted to communicate with young people, but a new way of living together, to understand the instances of the reality that surrounds us.

The historical moment we are living, which offers great opportunities, but it is characterized by a widespread malaise in both youth and adults, asks of us about the prophetic role of the Salesian Family.

Weak values, the economic crisis in Western countries, with global implications, the challenge of communications in a highly mediated society, the environment with new challenges require a continuous conversion to what is essential to the human person according to God's plan.

Finding time for formation together as Salesian Family is an opportunity, which strengthens our ties on the common basis of Salesian spirituality that can find us with a little more preparation to bring us closer to young people and respond to their vital needs of love and hope.

I hope that they can create, increasingly, spaces in which the FMA and the past pupils reencounter to form a community, to search their complementary vocations, to have educational responses appropriate to the current reality of each context and also to grow together in faith, to manifest in visible and credible way the face of Jesus to the world, to be guided by the Word of God, sustaining each other, and let that Word be incarnate in our life.

We are called to be leaven of quality that can ferment the dough. It is love that changes the world. Mary Mazzarello opened her heart to the love of God who filled it completely.

This same love, from the small village of Mornese, spread across the continents, and each of us can have the same transforming power to be more ready to be send by the Lord to communicate, irresistibly, the good news of the Gospel

past-pupils.

From the many areas today calls are made for the family to rebuild fragmented and disoriented society. She is threatened by too many challenges. How does the Salesian family, as a whole, can offer the testimony of being family, offering compelling and credible signs: how to live this reality, from the point of view of nature and/or spiritual?

I think the charismatic rediscovery of our identity as Salesian Family can help in this regard.

Attention to the family demands attention to life, to the policies that hold it from its inception to its demise; it demands that we speak up so that the Project of God is carried out.

Claim also for the past pupils to attend the family you constitute. P. Rinaldi stressed from the outset solidarity among members, mutual support and reciprocal care, especially in times of greatest need.

5. The commitment to Evangelize

Referring to the Encyclical *Deus Caritas Est* (n. 18), in the presentation of the Strena of 2010, the Rector makes a statement that is a commitment for the whole Salesian Family to take on the challenge of helping young people to "look at the other not only with their own eyes and feelings but through the viewpoint of Jesus Christ "

Young people tell us, but sometimes not with an explicit question: We want to see Jesus. Fr Pascual Chavez Strena focused on this core: respond to the vocation of young people, so they can take the gospel to others with passionate love, as did Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello, Fr Rua, the first successor of Don Bosco and most faithful disciple (which in 2010 will celebrate the centenary of his death), Fr Rinaldi, who lacked only the voice of Don Bosco, and many more.

Maybe together we can re - assume this youth mission, which begins, indeed, the regeneration of society. Evangelization is the work of educating with love. When this love conveyed by gestures, words and life, communicates in concentric circles and produces in the person the joy of being loved and loving at the same time.

6. Ongoing formation

life and mission of his third successor, Felipe P. Rinaldi, the direct founder of the Association of Past Pupils, as Paola Mancini illustrated in great detail in the book *Kaleidoscope remembering the centennial history*.

Father Rinaldi, external animator of the female oratory in Turin was a sensitive man to the signs of the times; he was intent on discovering the genius of the woman. He wanted her out of his cultural isolation to share with the world their enormous resources.

It was his idea to create an Association of Pupils to take to the whole world the Christian spirit in the Salesian style, learned in educational institutions of the FMA, which made them truly unmistakable. The year was 1908.

One hundred years after the birth of the Association and as a conclusion of the centenary year, I can say with certainty that the balance is quite positive. The Association has grown, and is now present in a number of nations and cultures and is increasing. But it has grown, especially in the awareness of being a secular branch of the Salesian Family, with which it shares the spirit and mission.

Undoubtedly, in the last ten years it has achieved an awareness of the charismatic identity of the Association, which is not only bound to the FMA by affective ties and recognition, but is associated with its mission to the world. Increasingly with the past-pupils our "longa manus", the closest people we can share and, in many cases, those to which we can trust the mission and works because of the insufficiency of vocations we are forced to surrender. But it is not simply a substitution process of assimilation but a spirit which from the beginning was the profile of the Past pupil as people engaged in educational, charitable, and social work in continuity with the chrism of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians.

It has grown reciprocal relationship with our Institute. The Past Pupils are active partners in terms of sisters and brothers, the widespread presence of us in places where policies are decided concerning human life and dignity, and educational policies that deal with bioethics and sustaining of our planet.

Frequently, we consider them as our teachers, not only from the point of view of skills but also the spirituality and the missionary impulse; we admire their committed presence in the Church and in society, especially standing beside the poorest, with its simple, loving, concrete style consistent with the Salesian spirit. In many places they are characterized by the Salesian joy that spreads in a contagious way.

These grounds opens the heart to gratitude for a Movement that brings to the world the spirit of Don Bosco through Mornesian style lived by Mary Mazzarello and the first FMA.

The Holy Spirit is present and gives fertility to the small seed that was planted 100 years ago by the faith and pastoral projection of Blessed Philip Rinaldi, who lacked only the voice of Don Bosco.

Gratitude is also extended to all the Past Pupils of the world that, often suffer and make sacrifices in silence, and are at the front line.

Special thanks to all who contributed to the success of this anniversary year it will go down in history and is already shaping the future of the Association.

The theme of the Centennial “Hands in the world, roots in the heart” has been the focus and prepares to open the second anniversary today. To be fruitful, the second century of the Association shall continue it combining hands and heart, the fruits and roots, action and contemplation, Martha and Mary.

Hands in the world, roots in the heart, as Mother Antonia used to relieve is a subject that is at once synthesis of Christian life itself.

We are facing enormous challenges. The future of the Association also depends on its ability to decisive answers. I list a few:

1. Identity

Today there are many who are afraid to pronounce this word, sometimes referring to a certain respect for the cultures and identities of others and then it prefers to past it a long and to ignore. But then true commitment for the benefit of another is not achieved, it can not understand and interact with others in a transforming way. We just go.

By contrast, the Past -Pupils carry great values witnessed with life and reaching decisions every day. These decisions require to come to light manifesting with humble realism and determination who and what else we think, what we live.

The Gospel of Jesus and the way it was taken by Don Bosco and Mary Mazzarello for us are significant landmarks. Only when it belongs to someone and something you can be able to choose life, out of the weakness stems from practical relativism in which we can fall.

The Magisterium of the Church and the Salesian teaching guide are safe because they offer paradigms of assessment and orientation in the fragmented world in which we live.

Relationships today contracts and are confronted with the reality of each multicultural context. The same internationalization of the Association includes a level of relations under the banner of multiculturalism: a path that requires some fundamental steps. Among others:

1. Discover multiculturalism's own life context (community, parish, country, city, region, country).
2. Recognize critically your own culture.
3. Breaking our prejudices in relation to others (individuals, groups, ethnicities, religions) and try to step into the shoes of others, leaving oneself for the other.
4. Valuing multiculturalism and overcoming prejudices, living and working in a team (work) on a path of mutual understanding, peaceful confrontation, respectful dialogue, humanizing communication between different cultures. It is important to desire it, to cultivate deep attitudes and relationships and live relationships letting them transform us.
5. Educate and educate yourself in the world view and global citizenship. Be creative to ensure that the network, which unites the members of the same family in the world, is actually fruitful.

As Salesian Family we are in the best position to take this path, sharing the Salesian spirituality founded on trust in the love that opens the heart and has to change.

3. Emigration

It is a phenomenon that is growing every day before our eyes in every context of the world that is changing our reality and puts questions to our attitudes. Groups of the Salesian Family should favor the education of boys and girls, young men and women, becoming interested in a particular way to their families and accompanying them on the path of dialectic integration into new environments.

Incidentally, I would encourage them / you to identify specific projects, remaining attentive to the nearest and distant situations.

4. Attention to the family, which is the natural place where trust and love grow

In the family the bases of preventive love are set. It is an area in which the past pupils can commit. You have already done so in these past years especially from the Strena of the Rector Major of 2006. It is necessary to be careful especially with the family that you represent. Many of you are married and have children. It is essential what values you transmit, the signs that go beyond mere words, the life that express what they are. Build your own family with the values in which you believe; is the first commitment of all