



*Confederazione Mondiale Mornese Exallieve ed Exallievi delle Figlie di Maria Ausiliatrice*  
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**Anniversary:  
150 years of foundation Institute of the FMA**

A warm greeting to all of you, Presidents, and Delegates, who responded in large numbers to the invitation to participate in today's meeting.

We could not conclude our "being together" without turning our gaze to the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, of which we Past Pupils are the lay branch and will celebrate its 150th anniversary on August 5, 2022.

It is nice to remember that on August 5, 150 years ago, the first eleven young ladies consecrated themselves to God with three-year vows and four promises to Him as novices. In the presence of Don Bosco and to whom he will say: "You will be called Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. I want you to be the living monument of our gratitude to Mary Help of Christians because we owe everything we are and have done well to Her. "

This important date sees us all involved: religious and laity.

The journey has been long and has seen the manifestation of a charism that is increasingly strengthened and concretized in the "Salesian - Mornessino" style.

Past Pupils carry within themselves a fabric created by proximity to the Institute and specifically with the FMA.

We want to thank them for those who accompanied, supported, and encouraged us in a phase of our lives and to those who continue to be that "significant presence" with which we can ... confront, reflect, trust, dream, desire!

Mother Mazzarello and the other first sisters loved their time, what happened, trying to live it to the fullest in dialogue and confrontation with others, daring in facing the new, open to the challenges of time.

So, we, too, today, must have the courage to love our time:

with its possibilities and risks,  
with its joys and sorrows,  
with its riches and its limitations,  
with its successes and its mistakes,  
to build a better world with others.

Mother Mazzarello taught all this very well to her first FMA, and she also teaches it to each of us today: "Courage! Let us go forward with a big and generous heart" (L 47.12).

All of us Past Pupils are called to feel the Salesian-Mornessino charism of the Institute in our hearts, to walk together.

Let us entrust ourselves to M. Help of Christians, Don Bosco, and Saint Mary D. Mazzarello and ask them to accompany us with the FMA to be a happy, cheerful "family", contagious with faith, hope, and love.

To Mother Clare and all the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, we assure our prayers that the Institute may generate new life, involving as many as possible young people, Past Pupils, families, and institutions that pursue the same goal.

Thank you!

Olivia Furlan  
Vice Presidente

9 april 2022