



*World Confederation of Past Pupils of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians*  
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## **Nucleus 31°**

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Continuing our reflection on the spirituality of the FMA Past Pupil, let us look at the intuition of the woman who brought a feminine style in the Salesian charism.

### **Style of Mornese**

The spirituality of the FMA Past-pupil, the Statute continues, *is further enriched by the charismatic elements of the lifestyle and action of Mary Domenica Mazzarello who, with 'feminine intuition', shared with Don Bosco the same educational project.* As the Identity Charter of the Salesian Family states, she was able to carry out a feminine reading of the experience of Don Bosco, giving it a concrete and original face in its spiritual life and in its educational and apostolic life, a heritage proper to the Daughters of Mary Help.

In the 2015 World Assembly Mother Yvonne, in presenting the theme "Witnesses of joy in the peripheries of the world", states that at the Valponasca "Mary Domenica, while still a girl, developed a sense of total abandonment to God's projects. She matured a deep relationship with Him to the point of surrendering herself to Him unconditionally. The spirit of Mornese has its roots and its efficacy in the Paschal Mystery of Christ. In the solitude of the second Valponasca, Mary Domenica developed an itinerant intimacy with Him: the more she felt united to Jesus, the more she felt the need to be at the service of the littlest and neediest. For this reason, she involved herself in solidarity with those who were in difficult situations: her relatives suffering from typhus, the poor girls to be educated and, then, the FMA of whom she was the first Superior General and the Co-founder".

In design of the logo of the Association, in the lower part we see roots that represent both the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians symbolizing Don Bosco, and the Valponasca representing Mother Mazzarello. It is Salesian spirituality with the style of Mornese

These are the roots in the heart of every Past Pupil who has chosen moderation as a lifestyle in a world governed by the law of profit and by the frenetic desire to pretend and to make believe what is not known. They know how to contrast simplicity with the logic of abuse and deception; and how to bring healthy joy into a dark, sad, and hopeless world, instilling values amid apocalyptic scenarios. They are the Past pupils who love their work and dedicate themselves with determination and seriousness to the point of transforming it into a reason for asceticism. They know how to take care of those at their side because they feel their responsibility. They seek holiness in the expressions of life by observing the world through the eyes of an innocent and loved child. They find the meaning of life in union with God and in meditation on the Word, and embody through this way of living, the love of the Father lived by Mary Domenica Mazzarello.

How do you compare your life style with the style of Mornese?

What aspects *of the roots in your heart* do you think you need to be more attentive to in your life as an FMA Past Pupil?

Saint Mary Domenica Mazzarello,  
docile to the Holy Spirit  
and following the example of Mary Most Holy,  
you fulfilled God's will faithfully.  
Obtain for me from the Lord the spiritual and temporal graces  
I need to fulfill His plan for me.  
Make my life,  
supported by the strength of the Eucharist  
and by the help of the Blessed Virgin,  
become a testimony of faith and charity,  
for the glory of God  
and for the extension of His Kingdom in the world.  
Amen.

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