



*Confederazione Mondiale Exallieve ed Exallievi delle Figlie di Maria Ausiliatrice*  
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**Nucleus 32 °**

## **The search for values**

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The spirit that deepens its roots in the Preventive System and in the Mornese style manifests itself with its characteristics. The Statute states: the spirituality of those who join the Association is expressed:

- ✓ in the search for values that promote the growth of the person and contribute to the development of human and civil culture.

Don Filippo Rinaldi, in the early twentieth century, around 1900, was the confessor of many young women of the FMA Oratory. There was a small group of young ex-oratorians who, after receiving formation and education in the Oratory, wanted to commit themselves, helping each other in the experience and dissemination of the principles and values received in the Oratory. This desire was reflected in the first regulation of the Association: "Keep alive the memory of the years spent in the Oratory, encouraging oneself to persevere in good principles". And it is still alive in so many women and men who are part of the Association because they were formed in the Houses of the FMA, regardless of their religious, cultural, social and ethnic affiliation. They want to share, deepen and bear witness to human and religious values according to the Don Bosco Preventive System.

In this way each Past Pupil with his/her concrete life wherever he/she is, in the different spheres of action: in Church, in the family, in the workplace and study, in the political and social world, in the school, free time and social communication, contributes responsibly to the affirmation of the values on which the dignity of the person is based.

And as Pope Francis says in *Christus Vivit*, "Certainly, as members of the Church, we should not stand apart from others. All should regard us as friends and neighbors, like the apostles, who "enjoyed the good will of all the people" (Acts 2:47; cf. 4:21:33; 5:13). Yet at the same time we must dare to be different, to point 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."(CV 36). All values we learned in the Salesian house and which made us feel close to each other, sisters and brothers, of one family.

- ✓ Try to identify the values that distinguish you as a Past Pupil-FMA.
- ✓ ☐ What dream do you have as a Past Pupil- FMA?

O Heavenly Father, from my beginnings,  
your goodness has entrusted me to Mary Help of Christians  
With her maternal help, enable me to face life

with the mentality of Jesus and to tend to His way of loving  
in the Holy Spirit.

With Maria may I fulfill your will  
even in difficulties  
and always believe, with trust and hope,  
in your Providence.

With your help,  
Grant that all Past Pupils live the Salesian values  
and their baptismal commitment. Amen.

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