



**SEPTEMBER 28, 2024**

## **2. IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF DON BOSCO**

### **2.1 Encounter with Don Bosco at Valdocco**

***“On the third day, there was a wedding feast in Cana of Galilee.” Gv 2, 1***

*(Travel to Turin - all prayer moments in pullman)*

**Guide1:** On this day we thank God for what he gives us every day, especially because he has given us Mary, Mother and Teacher of our vocation. She is actively present in our lives and the Institute's history. Today on the day of her commemoration we ask her to give us her ability to contemplate, to ponder all that happens in life. May she give us her creativity to live like Don Bosco to anyone we meet today in his house through a listening, active presence and love for young people.

### **Angelus**

### **Entrustment**

*(sung - Ave, Ave, Ave Maria)*

**Guide 2:** We entrust ourselves to Mary, so that she may always revive in us the desire and commitment to respond faithfully to our vocation and help us to be the good wine that drives us to give the best of ourselves in our educating communities.

### **Ave, Ave, Ave Maria (2)**

**Guide 1:** Virgin Mother of God and humanity like the beloved disciple we receive you as a gift from Jesus on the cross and we entrust ourselves entirely to you.

**Ave, Ave, Ave Maria (2)**

**Guide 2:** Come and dwell in our home to be our guide and safe haven. Accept the offering of who we are, what we love and have, that the beauty of Christ may shine through us.

**Ave, Ave, Ave Maria (2)**

**Guide 1:** Help us to be docile to the Spirit and live with joy and gratitude the educational vocation in the Church, to cooperate in your motherly mission for the salvation of all your children.

**Ave, Ave, Ave Maria (2)**

**Guide 2:** Give us the ability to direct every child and young person to God whom we meet in our mission. May we walk with them on the path of holiness.

**Ave, Ave, Ave Maria (2)**

**Guide 1:** You who have guided our saints to have an overflowing love for every young person, especially the poorest, make us witnesses of the Gospel that all may have life, and life in abundance on this earth and for all eternity. Amen

**MORNING PRAYER**

*(prayed using audio app)*

## **ROSARY**

*(prayed after lunch in the pullman, if desired the last Hail Mary in each mystery can be sung)*

We feel Mary present in our lives and we entrust ourselves totally to her. This evening we will stand in front of the picture of Mary Help of Christians as Don Bosco envisioned it.

As we pray this rosary let us dispose our hearts to this experience of contemplation and as Daughters of Mary Help of Christians let us tell him that in his house we want to experience a profound vocational renewal and rediscover the desire to continue to bear witness to the joy and beauty of our FMA calling.

## **THE SHOE**

*(30 – 40 minutes before arriving to Turin)*

### **Hymn to Don Bosco**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMGsFtRcnBI>

Father, for many people,  
Father, just listen to our voice,  
Which is the song of love  
Your heart was always full of love,  
Your spirit is always young  
What can you do for us?

### **Chorus:**

Father, our guide and our friend  
Young people of the world;  
We still rely on you!  
Open our hearts to Jesus Christ  
Support our commitment to this community.  
Ohhhh, ohhhh, ohhhh, ohhhh.

Joyful, the life with you is joyful.  
Life with you is music;  
A melody of love.  
The love you have for all your children  
Is still alive among us;  
And this shall never die!

**Guide:** We are walking in Don Bosco's footsteps to retrace his human, Christian, and spiritual growth itinerary. We will visit Turin, Becchi, Colle, Chieri, Valdocco, and the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians. Don Bosco gives each of us a personal message. Let us open our hearts to what the places reveal to us.

### **Jn 2,1-11 Wedding Feast at Cana**

On the third day, a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come." His mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water,"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now. What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory and his disciples believed in him.

**Guide:** The first miracle performed by Jesus Christ during his ministry is the transformation of water into wine at a wedding feast of Cana, through the intervention of Mary.

The joyous and festive atmosphere of the wedding banquet is symbolized by wine. The absence of wine causes uneasiness among the guests. If there is a lack of wine, there is a lack of joy; the touch of wine gives quality and flavor to life and makes one creative, courageous, and resourceful. But, among the guests, there is the Mother of Jesus. She has a heart that sees and foresees. God blesses us. Today, as pilgrims on a journey, we are invited to enjoy God's presence and the company of others.

*(Each sister receives a shoe-symbol)*

**Guide:** As a symbolic gesture, we receive a shoe that reminds us that we are pilgrims on a journey in search of God, who reveals himself in the signs of the times in our everyday life. Let us implore Mary's guidance so that she can enable us to establish a relevant and steadfast relationship with reality so that the revelation of Jesus intertwines with our history. Thus, the prophetic dimension of our lives not only proclaims the spirit of the Gospel but also makes it visible in us today.

### **Song: O Mary Help of Christians**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-Jb4BWDuFU>

**O Mary, Help of Christians,  
be a mother to us,  
in this world so fallen and so cold.**

The values of the life we're living  
are challenged every day.

We are weak, you know, and often go astray.

We are scared to stand by what we profess,  
for fear of what they'll say.

Give us courage, Help of Christians on our way.

**Chorus:** O Mary, Help of Christians ....

The pleasures of the world seem  
better than blessings you bestow;  
with our eyes of flesh, we fail to see the goal.  
So we put our feet into the grime,  
pretending we feel good.  
Cure our blindness so that we may see the shore.

O Mary, Help of Christians,  
Be a Mother To Us,  
In this world so fallen and so cold.

*(Eucharistic celebration - Basilica of Mary Help of Christians)*

