



Message for the Feast of Saint John Bosco 2026

Dear Salesian Cooperators,

on this 31st of January, the day when the entire Salesian Family joyfully celebrates our beloved father and founder, Saint John Bosco, my heart fills with gratitude and hope as I think of each of you, scattered in every corner of the world.

The feast of Don Bosco is always a special occasion to return to the roots of our charism, to rediscover the freshness of that call which fascinated us and continues to guide our steps. And this year, Providence offers us a particular light to illuminate our path: the Strenna of the Rector Major, **"DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU - Believers, free to serve"**.

These words, spoken by Mary at Cana, resonate with extraordinary force in the life of Don Bosco. He, who made of his existence a continuous and generous "yes" to God's will, teaches us what it means to be believers, free to serve. His unwavering faith, born from a profound encounter with the Lord, made him a tireless servant of the young, a creative and bold apostle.

This invitation to "do whatever He tells us" projects us directly toward the great appointment that awaits us: our VI World Congress. It is no coincidence that the chosen theme is **"Being leaven to be fruitful"**. How could we be leaven that ferments the dough of the world if not by starting from a docile listening and a free and generous service, as the Strenna indicates to us? The two themes illuminate each other: we are called to be fruitful, to generate life and hope, and we can do so only if, like the servants at Cana, we listen to the Word and act with confidence.

It is with immense joy that I see the generous response of many of you who have already registered for the Congress. Your participation is a wonderful sign, the testimony that the desire to be "leaven" is alive and strong in our Association. You are the proof that the Spirit continues to breathe and make us fruitful.

**VI Congresso Mondiale
Associazione dei Salesiani Cooperatori**

Via Marghera, 59 - 00185 ROMA (ITALIA)

Segreteria e Archivio, presso Istituto S. Giovanni Bosco

Viale Palmiro Togliatti, 167, 00175 Roma (RM)



On this feast, let us ask Don Bosco to intercede for us, so that we may be ever more men and women of faith, free to serve, capable of transforming the water of our daily labors into the good wine of a love that gives itself.

I wish you a serene and joyful feast of Don Bosco and I await you with great affection in Rome, to live together an unforgettable Salesian Pentecost.

With fraternal affection,

Antonio Boccia
World Coordinator

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