



SALESIANI DON BOSCO

Capitolo Generale 28

The Moderator

Rome, 31 July 2018
Prot. 18/0350

To
**Rev Fr Provincial,
Moderator of the Provincial Chapter,
Provincial Delegate for Youth Ministry,**

SUBJECT: *Listening to young people in view of the Provincial Chapter and of the General Chapter.*

Dear Father Provincial, the Moderator of the Provincial Chapter and the Provincial Delegate for Youth Ministry,
I hope you are keeping well.

In these days during the summer plenary session with the Rector Major and the General Council we have been considering the important need in view of the GC28 and of the Provincial Chapters to listen to young people.

The letter of the Rector Major convoking the GC28 and the outline of reflection and work on the theme published in the 427 Acts of the General Council indicate the “centrality” of all the young people «to whom we want to give an answer in the light of a charismatic vision that wants them at the centre of our Salesian vocation».

Therefore in harmony with the process of the Church Synod on the young, the Rector Major and the General Council are asking each local community to find an opportunity for really listening to the young people in our educative pastoral communities, through some simple questions involving them in the Chapter process underway.

It is a matter of putting to the young people in as creative a way as possible as each Province and Salesian community will devise the same question proposed as the title of the GC28: «What kind of Salesians for the youth of today?».

If it is true, as the Rector Major writes that, “Don Bosco for us is not just a memory of the past, but a charismatic living presence, active and stretching out to the future” and that in looking at him “we reach a better understanding of ourselves and we find the true sense of what it means to belong to the Congregation” it is likewise true that our relationship with young people defines our identity and is the characteristic feature of our mission.

Questions

Therefore in the name of the Rector Major and of the General Council I am asking each Salesian community to involve the young people by putting to them the following questions:

- 1) What would be your dream of the kind of Salesian you would want for young people of today and tomorrow?
- 2) What do you see as missing in the Salesians of today to be like that?
- 3) What are your main needs for which you ask the help of the Salesians?
- 4) How can you play your part in working with the Salesians to help young people in your own situation?

To help with the work of each community and of the Province, these questions will be put on a specially prepared form and accompany this letter.

Working method

- 1) Each local Salesian community will be made familiar with the contents of this letter and with the forms to be used in collecting the information.
- 2) Each local community will question as many young people as possible between 16 and 30 years of age in each educative pastoral community.
- 3) Each local community will draw up a summary of the replies, and completing the appropriate form send it to the Moderator of the Provincial Chapter.
- 4) The Moderator of the Provincial Chapter together with the Delegate for Youth Ministry will draw up a province summary from the replies of the local Salesian communities.
- 5) The Moderator will send to those taking part in the Provincial Chapter the forms from each local Salesian community and the Province summary so that the voices of young people may be taken into account during the Provincial Chapter.
- 6) The Moderator of the Provincial Chapter will send the Province summary of the voice of young people completing the document, **in digital form only by 31 May 2019** to Fr Saimy Ezhanikatt, the Secretary of the Moderator of the GC28: segretariocg28@sdb.org.

I take this opportunity to send you best wishes and thanks for your valuable collaboration.

In Don Bosco,



Stefano Vanoli
Fr. Stefano Vanoli