



*At all times his words matched his ways.
He invited them to come and be with him;
they “came and saw where he was staying
and many remained with him”.*

of following a greater personage, followed him from a distance. Then Jesus, aware that they were following him, directly questions them: “What are you looking for?” Eager to know more about him they ask him: “Rabbi, where do you live?” Jesus then gives them an invitation, “Come and see”. They “came and saw where he was staying and they remained with him”.

A hundred and fifty years ago, some young men, living in the industrialised city of Turin in Northern Italy, were attracted to a young priest who was making great efforts to help young people to survive amid all the injustices and exploitation of employers anxious to make great profits. He, Don Bosco,

had arrived in the city having been moulded by a lifetime of the rural poverty and hardships of the times. Living with them, he shared with them not only his few worldly possessions but the love of his own mother. He taught them basic skills to better their chances of employment and to become good Christians and better citizens. At all times his words matched his ways. He invited them to come and be with him; they “came and saw where he was staying and many remained with him”. They saw in him, and in his mission, a person well worth living for.

We, today’s Salesians of Don Bosco, are their successors. We have learnt,

through our family history, how he lived. We have heard his invitation “Come and see”. With our idealism, we “came and saw where he was staying and remained with him”.

In our schools, our youth centres, our missions and parishes, we are Don Bosco’s revolutionaries, working for youth who are at the mercy of exploitation by a materialistic society whose godless gospel is a great hoax: namely, that power, possessions and pleasure give happiness.

So, to today’s youth, we issue the same invitation of Jesus and Don Bosco: “Come and see”, for here are leaders well worth living for.

