

Our encounter with God:

An encounter with the Salesian charism, the appeal to become involved with the Church

In a family atmosphere, the young people were reminded several times of Biblical examples speaking of the encounter between God and man, amongst others the case of Samuel, and the Virgin Mary when she was asked to become the Mother of God. For ourselves it is anchored in the fact that we seek the meaning of who we are and we look for meaning in our lives. The first part of the Rector Major's Letter speaks of "Come", an invitation to come to the Lord who calls us daily. But, as was the case for the people in the Bible, we need someone to help us listen more attentively. Coming from Burundi, Rwanda, and Uganda, each one had made a long journey in order to listen more attentively to the Lord.

One could see that the Forum was a unique occasion for the young people to make new connections, share the same charism, even though they were coming from different countries.

The youngsters were reminded that their encounter with God has to be realised through their daily life. Each person need only open his or her eyes to see the ways God manifests himself.

"Dear young people, the Salesians who are with you in the classroom, on the sports field, in the playground, are real invitations to you to come", the Rector Major indicates through the Strenna.

"You too can stay with the Salesians after meeting them. Staying with the Salesians today means responding to the appeal that the Lord makes to you every day: you can stay by becoming a Salesian of Don Bosco, Priest or Brother, Salesian Sister, Salesian Cooperator or by taking an active part in associations animated by the Salesian spirit, or simply by different life choices in which you can radiate the Salesian spirit received during the time spent with the Salesians"

