

First Apostolic Promise

Salesian Cooperators



China Province

2017

1. Recommendation of Aspirants

Coordinator: Dear Father[†], on behalf of the China Province, may I request your kind witness to the First Apostolic Promise of the Aspirants who are well prepared for the entrance into the Association. Today we have [**number**] sisters and brothers, whom we know that they have been through the journey of initial formation with acceptable understanding and apostolic service, after knowing the Association and its founder St. John Bosco. Therefore, the Provincial Council approved their personal request for the entrance into the Association.

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers ready for the Apostolic Promise, please come up.

(MC read out the name of each aspirant who then come up and stand in front of the altar)

[†] change accordingly for Cardinal/Bishop/etc.

2. Enquiry of entrance qualification

Celebrant: What do you aspire?

Aspirants: I aspire to become a Salesian Cooperator.

Celebrant: What do you know about the Salesian Cooperators?

Aspirants: We understand that the Association of Salesian Cooperators was officially set up as a “Pious Union” by St. John Bosco himself, the third branch of the Salesian Family. From the very beginning, they are together with and share the same charism as the Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB) and Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA), who are dedicated in the Church to an extensive apostolate among the young and the poor.[‡]

Celebrant: What do you know about the Project of Apostolic Life for the Salesian Cooperators?

Aspirants: Yes, we know that Salesian Cooperators are the true Catholics who aspire to live out the faith in Baptism

[‡] Decree (Prot. N. T.9 -1/2006) issued by the Holy See (Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life) dated 29 April 2013.

and the apostolic responsibility from Confirmation as inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Celebrant: Can you distinguish a Salesian Cooperator from a Catholic?

Aspirants: Yes, Salesian Cooperators uphold the spirit of Don Bosco and are willing to live a Salesian style Catholic life though in their own secular reality.

Celebrant: How would you live a Salesian style Catholic life?

Aspirants: Yes we do.

- Serve the Young and the poor in a friendly and organized way;
- Work for the benefits of the church and the society;
- Practice Salesian Spirit in daily life with secular view and character.

3. The Promise[§]

Celebrant: Now please do your Apostolic Promise.

[§] The Project of Apostolic Life (PAL) – Statutes, Chapter IV, Art. 32-2

Aspirants: “O Father, I adore You because You are good and love everyone. I thank You for having created and redeemed me, and for having called me to become part of Your Church, and for having me come to know in Her the apostolic Family of Don Bosco, which lives for You at the service of the young and of ordinary people. Drawn by Your merciful Love, I wish to love You in return by doing good.

【For New Members】

For this reason,

I PROMISE _____

【For Renewal】

I renew the Promise _____

to live out the Project of Apostolic Life of the Association of Salesian Cooperators with commitment as a Priest.

That is:

- to be a faithful disciple of Christ in the Catholic Church;
- to work in Your Kingdom, especially for the advancement and salvation of the Young;
- to deepen and give witness to the Salesian spirit;
- to collaborate, in Family communion, in the apostolic initiatives of the local Church.

Give me, O Father, the strength of Your Spirit, so that I might know how to be a faithful witness to these commitments.

May Mary, Help of Christians, Mother of the Church, assist me and guide me in this life choice. Amen.”

4. Blessing

Celebrant: With the intercession of Mary Help of Christians, St. Joseph, St. Francis de Sales, St. John Bosco, St. Mary Mazzarello, St. Louis Versiglia and St.

Callixtus Caravario, may you all fill with the Grace of the Farther! And what is more, you have the support and prayer from all brothers and sisters in the Association so that you will be a true Salesian Cooperator, together with the Salesian Family. I pray for you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Aspirants: Amen

5. Renewal of the Promise

Coordinator: Thank you Father[†] for your kind witness to the First Apostolic Promise of the Aspirants. Now all Salesian Cooperators please stand. Let us renew our Promise. (see previous page, from “O Father, I adore... Amen”)

Song: Don Bosco (p. 18)

