

Share the Grace: three words which represents a fundamental point of ADMA's identity, three words that sounds new, but actually define the origin and the true vocation our association has had since the beginning.

Don Bosco, who saw the big picture, had already realized this concept 151 years ago, when, having seen the crowd filling the new born Basilica he said: "each stone of this church is a grace from Mary Help of Christians." He regulated the devotion to Mary Help of Christians by founding ADMA the following year, and since that, graces never stopped coming, sprinkling the whole ADMA's story; and now we, ADMA youth of Turin, take part in this very story too.

Our group was founded because of a very practical need: the families that were having a meeting once a month to pray together needed someone to look after their children, therefore the elders among them started babysitting the youngsters and that's how they created a group of children's entertainers led by married couples. This birth led to a unique trait of ADMA primaria: the generational exchange, which means that in our group each different state of life walks together with the others: priests and nuns, married couples, children, youth, adults and elderly. In our ADMA youth's experience we live the exchange in this way: we help the families by taking care for the youngsters, and in return we have priests, nuns, and married couples following us in our growth.

Since the Congress that took place in Turin in 2015, entitled "from Mary's house to our homes" even we, as ADMA youth, have experienced what receiving graces from Mary and being able to recognize them feels like: Graces indeed never waited to come, and we, with our limits, have felt them each day of our life; our group has experienced them too. We look after babies and children, from 8-9 months to 13 years, on a Sunday a month, since 2014 we hold a round of meetings for kids from 11 to 13, on a Saturday a month in Valdocco, and since 2017 we hold a series of meetings for teenagers from 14 to 16, on the same Saturday too. This year we started another round of meetings thought for people from 17 years upwards, including university students and young workers, which take place in Valdocco, on one Friday a month. We also organize the children's entertainment during the summer camps which occur in the mountain every year in August, and are one of the moments in which we feel more clearly the graces from Mary: we started about ten years ago with a group of fifteen people, and this year there were eighty of us. Furthermore, we join our adult people every 24th of the month to pray the Rosary in Valdocco with the families.

Even if children's entertainment was the reason why we founded our group, over time we understood that what truly identify our self is not being a group of children's entertainers, and even an unusual one because of the lack of an oratory, but it is the centrality of the prayer. ADMA youth is a group of friends which pray together, prayer actually is what puts us together and makes us keep going united despite all the obstacles due to the nature of our reality, which, unlike an oratory, isn't concentrated in just one district.

"Share the grace" shouldn't be meant in just its literal meaning: ADMA youth is not just characterized by the service activity as a group, as a matter of fact if we helped poor, sick or elder people it wouldn't change our identity. What truly makes us stand out is the style which we want to try and live every day with, a style that looks at don Bosco's dream of the two columns: entrusting to Mary and to Eucharist. We want to try and live entrusted to Mary and to Jesus, with the joy deriving from their strength and with the attitude of children that recognise the graces they received, and are thankful for them. What truly identifies ADMA youth is living by basing our day on prayer, looking at Mary as a teacher from whom we can learn, and as a mother to whom we can go

in our difficult times, and living by praying together as children that can feel to be loved and can recognise the little and big graces they receive every day. Once you recognise these graces, "share the Grace" comes spontaneously: we want to bring them to the others in a very simple way, that is with the joy, or better don Bosco's cheerfulness, and with charity in the everyday life and through the service we do as a group.

To put this style into practice, from this year we have focused all our formative paths on prayer, gathering at least once a month to pray with every category of age: on Friday and Saturday nights we have little schools of prayer in which we put a moment of catechesis and prayer together with a moment of conviviality and games to spend time together as friends. Since we are part of the Salesian Family, we take part in the various activities suggested by MGS (SYM Piemonte and Valle d'Aosta) in order to get to know other realities and people as young as us who try to live faith firmly.

In conclusion, we are aware of the many groups existing in the world belonging to ADMA youth and we want to know and keep in touch with each and every one of them in order to create a worldwide network between young people, to share our activities and graces coming from Mary from all over the world. Sharing the Grace of having a mother in Heaven is what marks us out in the Salesian Family as youth for the youth, and in a society that wants us to be everywhere rather than in Jesus' arms, we know the only way to reach Heaven is going together, and hand in hand with Mary.

Thank you.