

SALESIANS

The Society of
St. Francis de Sales

FOUNDER

Saint John Bosco was born in Becchi, Italy, on August 16, 1815. A devout Catholic from his youth, he was ordained a priest in 1841. As a priest, he took special care of young boys in deplorable conditions during the Industrial Revolution. He had a talent for connecting with the young men, allowing them to be more receptive to the Gospel that he brought to them. In 1859, Fr. Bosco established the Society of St. Francis de Sales, named after the 17th-century bishop of Geneva. Their work continues today, focusing on charity and helping boys form their faith and stay out of trouble.

MOTTO

"Da mihi animas caetera tolle"

"Give me souls, take away the rest"

TYPE

Salesians are a Clerical Religious Congregation. Religious *congregation* members make simple vows, while religious *orders* take solemn vows.

HABIT

Salesians as a whole do not wear a special habit or uniform.

COAT OF ARMS



NOTABLE SAINTS

- **St. John Bosco** (1815-1888)
Feast Day: January 31
- **St. Dominic Salvio** (1842-1857)
Feast Day: May 6
- **St. Mary Mazzarello** (1837-1881) Feast Day: May 13
- **St. Joseph Cafasso** (1811-1860)
Feast Day: June 23

SPIRITUALITY

The characteristics of Salesian spirituality include pastoral charity, joy, optimism, work, temperance, pastoral care of young people, the asceticism of goodness, rootedness in Christ, and life in the hands of Mary.

QUOTATION

"Do not put off till tomorrow the good you can do today. You may not have a tomorrow." - Saint John Bosco

