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Hong Kong-Macau-Taiwan, Lunar New Year 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Salesian Family of St. John Bosco,

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

To each one of you and to your families, Happy New Year of the Horse!

In Sacred Scripture, the horse, this wonderful creature of God, is praised as the most courageous of animals, fearless in the face of threats, risks, and dangers:

“Who gave the horse his might? Who clothed his neck with strength? [...] His majestic snorting is terrible. He paws in the valley, and exults in his strength; he goes out to meet the weapons. He laughs at fear, and is not dismayed; he does not turn back from the sword. Upon him rattle the quiver, the flashing spear and the javelin. With fierceness and rage he swallows the ground; he cannot stand still at the sound of the trumpet. When the trumpet sounds, he says ‘Aha!’ He smells the battle from afar, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting” (cf. Job 39:19-25).

May these beautiful words of Sacred Scripture be my New Year best wishes to you, dear fellow educators and pastors of the young! With the help of God’s grace, like St. John Bosco (whose feast this year falls on New Year’s Day!), may we throw ourselves, with horse-like daring, into the challenging and wonderful mission of helping young people grow *“to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (Eph 4:13).*

In Jesus Mary Joseph DonBosco, I am,

Yours affectionately,

Fr. Lanfranco M. Fedrigotti
Provincial