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DB200 會長家書三（十一月）

聖言及聖體

親愛的青年、使命同工及慈幼家庭的兄弟姐妹：

願主的平安常與你們同在！為這 11 月我們的 DB200「神恩雙詞」是「**聖言及聖體**」，當然是指「天主聖言」及「耶穌確實的存在於彌撒中及在各聖堂的聖體龕內」。「天主聖言」及「耶穌在聖體中」播下永生的種子，構成天主每天滋養我們生命的兩個幅度。鮑思高神父常說：「人的生命得不到改善，除非我們給他們天主聖言作食糧」。（MB IX 1000）

上個月我們反省祈禱，我們「向上主說話」。這個月，我們反省天主「向我們說話」。天主常常用兩種不同的方式向我們說話，就是自然的及超自然的。

天主透過我們的智慧及良知自然地向我們說話。在一般情況下，我們的智慧可在隱藏著天主的話的大自然中聆聽天主：「高天陳述天主的光榮，穹蒼宣揚他手的化工」（詠 19 [18]:1）。天主也透過我們的良知自然地向我們說話。我們的良知是天主在我們心中的聲音，它鼓勵我們行善避惡；若我們選擇作善事，良知會讚賞我們；相反，若我們選擇作惡，良知會責備我們。鮑思高神父一身一世幫助青年在大自然及自己的良知中聆聽天主的話。

天主也透過超自然的方式向我們說話。祂透過祂所揀選的「代言人」，即以色列的先知（亞巴郎、梅瑟、達味、厄里亞、依撒意亞、耶肋米亞等）；天主特別透過祂的降生成人的獨生子這樣做，就是天主聖言耶穌基督。當我們在彌撒的前部份，閱讀聖經傳達給我們超自然的天主聖言時，為能聽懂這些聖言，我們需要接受超自然的禮物，就是信德。藉著信德，天主聖言成為「我步履前的靈燈，我路途上的光明」。（詠 119 [118]:105）。信德是天主給予我們聽懂、明白及回應天主聖言的能力。讓我們祈求這信德的禮物。

也是透過信德，我們能欣悅天主給我們的最偉大的超自然的禮物，就是耶穌的聖體聖血的聖事。在這裡，耶穌把自己給我們，使成為我們得永生的神聖食糧。在彌撒中、在聖體龕內，真人真天主的耶穌確實地臨在。讓我們珍惜這奇妙的臨在！讓我們珍惜每次有機會參與彌撒聖祭、每次有機會探訪在聖體龕內的耶穌！鮑思高神父說：「時常領聖體及參與彌撒，就像圓柱一樣支撐著教育事業。」（MB III 354）

我們於十一月為我們特別記得的亡者所祈求的永生就是這被聖言及聖體所滋養的永生。

祝你們有一個快樂的十一月，在耶穌、瑪利亞、若瑟和鮑思高神父內，

摯愛你們的省會長 斐林豐神父



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DB200 Provincial Letter 3 (November)

Word and Eucharist

Dear Youth, Dear Mission Partners, Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Salesian Family,

The peace of the Lord be with you always! For the month of November, our DB200 “charismatic binomial” is “Word and Eucharist”, meaning, of course, “Word of God” and “Jesus really present in the Mass and in the Tabernacle of our churches.” “God’s Word” and “Jesus in the Eucharist” constitute the twofold table at which God nourishes our daily life, sowing in it seeds of eternal life. Don Bosco used to say: “The reform of people’s lives cannot be achieved unless we offer them the bread of God’s divine word” (MB IX 1000)

Last month we reflected on Prayer, our “speaking to God”. This month we are asked to reflect on “God speaking to us”. God speaks to us in two different ways, a natural way and a supernatural way.

God speaks to us in a natural way through our mind and our conscience. Our mind, if used well, hears God’s word enshrined in Nature: “The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork” (Ps 19[18]:1). God speaks to us in a natural way also through our conscience. Conscience is God’s word in our heart. It encourages us to do good and avoid evil. If we choose to do good, conscience praises us. If, unfortunately, choose to do evil, conscience reproaches us. Don Bosco, all his life, helped the young to hear God’s word in nature and in conscience.

God speaks to us also in a supernatural way. He does so through his chosen spokesmen, the prophets of Israel (Abraham, Moses, David, Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah *et al.*). God does so especially through his Only-begotten Son, the Incarnate Word Our Lord Jesus Christ. Holy Scripture, especially when read out during the first part of the Mass, conveys to us the supernatural Word of God. To hear this Word, we need to receive the supernatural gift of faith. In faith, God’s Word becomes “a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” (Ps 119[118]:105). Faith is the God-given capacity to hear, understand, and respond to God’s Word. Let us ask for the gift of faith!

It is also only through faith that we are able to appreciate the immense gift God has given us in the Blessed Sacrament of Jesus’ Body and Blood. In it, Jesus gives himself to us as spiritual food for eternal life. In the Holy Mass, in the Tabernacle, Jesus is really present in his full humanity and divinity. Let us treasure this wonderful presence! Let us treasure every opportunity to take part in Holy Mass, every opportunity to visit Jesus present in the Tabernacle! Don Bosco says: “Frequent Communion and daily Mass are the columns that support an educational institution.” (MB III 354)

The eternal life nurtured by Word and Eucharist is the same eternal life we ask for our deceased dear ones, whom we remember in a special way during the month of November.

Wishing you a Happy November, in Jesus Mary Joseph DonBosco, I am, Yours affectionately,

Fr. Lanfranco M. Fedrigotti SDB