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DB200 省會長家書十二（2015 年八月）

與我靈！取其餘！

親愛的青年、使命夥伴及慈幼家庭的兄弟姐妹：

願主的平安常與你們同在！8 月 16 及 22 日 DB200 欣然閉幕！最後 DB200 及 MaryHelp200 的「神恩雙詞」是“Da mihi animas! Cetera tolle!”（與我靈！取其餘！）。一方面，這是鮑思高神父為慈幼會的會徽所揀選的格言（會憲 4）。另一方面，這也是鮑思高神父每天的禱文（會憲 85）。

慈幼會憲第 4 條說：「鮑思高神父被聖方濟沙雷氏的溫良和熱忱所啓發，稱我們為慈幼會士 (cf. MB V, 9; BM V, 8) 及給我們生命計劃的格言：『與我靈！取其餘』。」鮑思高神父的歷史學家 Fr. Eugenio Ceria 寫道：「直至現在（1884 年），慈幼會仍未像其他修會那樣，有自己正式的會徽。作為修會的印章，虔敬的慈幼會祇用聖方濟沙雷氏的圖像，四周圍以拉丁文寫成的慈幼會字樣。到了 1884 年 9 月 12 日，沙拉神父 (Fr. Anthony Sala) 提交了一個慈幼會會徽的草圖給總部議會 [... 他最初選用會徽的格言是耶穌福音的話語] *Sinite parvulos venire ad m'*（容孩近我）。有些人反對用這口號，因其他的修會（例如：喇沙修士會）已引用了。巴培理思神父 (Fr. Julius Barberis) 建議把它改為「工作與節制」[...] 杜蘭神父 (Fr. Celestino Durando) 則較喜歡用 *Maria Auxilium Christianorum, ora pro nobis*（進教之佑，為我等祈！）。最後，鮑思高神父解決了這困境說：「早在慶禮院初期，當我在司鐸培養院探訪監獄時，已採用了一句格言：『與我靈！取其餘！』。總部議員贊同鮑思高神父的意見，並接納了這句富有歷史意義的格言。」(MB 17, 365; BM 17, 337)

Fr. Eugenio Ceria 評論：「沒有東西可更好表達出聖鮑思高的崇高目標，在他的活動及忍耐、他的著作及言論；這目標均構成他創立修會的主要計劃，他時常最大的關注是拯救靈魂的工作（與我靈！為了達到這個目標，他準備犧牲一切，取其餘！）」(MB17, 366; BM17, 338)

「與我靈！取其餘」不只是格言，會憲 85 說它更是一個禱文：「在祈禱時，慈幼會團體...加深關注和天主親密且深切的關係，也記得祂給我們的使命，而同會祖一起向祂呼求說：『與我靈，取其餘』。」在鮑思高神父之前，這是聖方濟沙雷氏不繼殷切的禱文；鮑思高神父在他的晉鐸時，因聖方濟沙雷氏傳教的熱忱及服從，選擇了他作為自己的主保及模範。明年（2016 年）將會是聖方濟沙雷氏出版他的著作“*The Treatise on the Love of God*”（論天主的愛）400 週年紀念。我們可以說鮑思高神父的神修就是聖方濟沙雷氏的神修；所以，我以這封信結束 12 個 DB200 的「神恩雙詞」，若天主願意，我希望每月能夠與大家分享 SF400 的 12 個主題；即聖方濟沙雷氏出版他的著作“*The Treatise on the Love of God*”（論天主的愛）400 週年紀念。聖方濟沙雷氏是鮑思高神父、慈幼會及慈幼家庭的主保。

衷心希望你們有一個喜悅的暑期！主佑！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 12 (August 2015)

Give me souls! Take the rest!

Dear Young People, Dear Mission Partners, Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Salesian Family,

The peace of the Lord be with you always! Happy conclusion of DB200 on 16 and 22 August! The last DB200 and MaryHelp200 “double word” is Don Bosco’s “Da mihi animas! Cetera tolle!” (Give me souls! Take the rest!). On the one hand, this is Don Bosco’s chosen motto for the coat-of-arms of the Salesian Society (Const. 4). On the other hand, this is also Don Bosco’s daily prayer (Const. 85).

Salesian Constitutions No. 4 says: “Inspired by the goodness and zeal of St. Francis de Sales, Don Bosco called us Salesians (cf. MB V, 9; BM V, 8) and gave us a programme of life in the motto: ‘Da mihi animas, cetera tolle’.” Don Bosco’s historian Fr. Eugenio Ceria writes: “Up until this time (1884), the Congregation did not have its own official coat of arms as all other religious families. As a seal, the Pious Salesian Society had used the figure of St. Francis of Sales surrounded by [the Latin name of the Salesian Society]. It was only on September 12, 1884 that Father Anthony Sala submitted a sketch of a Salesian coat of arms to the Superior Chapter [...The motto he had initially chosen for the coat of arms were Jesus’ Gospel words] *Sinite parvulos venire ad m’* [Let the children come to me]. Some objected to this motto because others [e.g. the La Salle Brothers] had already used it. Father Julius Barberis suggested that it be changed to ‘Temperance and Work’ [...] Father Celestino Durando would have preferred *Maria Auxilium Christianorum, ora pro nobis*. It was Don Bosco who solved the dilemma by saying, ‘A motto was already adopted in the early days of the Oratory at the time of the Convitto when I was visiting the prisons: *Da mihi animas, caetera tolle* [Give me souls, take away the rest]. The Chapter acclaimed Don Bosco and agreed to this historic motto.” (MB 17, 365; BM 17, 337)

Fr. Eugenio Ceria comments: “Nothing could have better expressed the supreme goal of the saint in all his actions and sufferings, in his writings and in his talks; a goal that was to constitute the essential program of the Society he founded. His major concern had always been the welfare of souls [Give me souls! To attain this goal, he was ready to sacrifice everything else, Cetera tolle!]” (MB 17, 366; BM 17, 338)

“Da mihi animas, cetera tolle” is not only a motto, but also a prayer. Const. 85 says: “In praying, the salesian community ... deepens its awareness of its intimate and living relationship with God, and of its saving mission, making its own Don Bosco’s prayer: ‘Da mihi animas, cetera tolle’.” Before Don Bosco, this was the continuous ardent prayer of St. Francis de Sales, whom Don Bosco, at his priestly ordination, had chosen as his Patron and Model, because of his missionary zeal and his meekness. Next year (2016) will be the 400th anniversary of St. Francis de Sales’ publication of his masterpiece “The Treatise on the Love of God”. We can say that the spirituality of Don Bosco is the spirituality of St. Francis de Sales. So, after completing with this letter the 12 Double-Words of DB200, God willing, I hope every month to be able to share with you the 12 themes of SF400, that is, of Saint Francis of Sales’ 400th Anniversary of Publication of the *Treatise on the Love of God*. St. Francis of Sales is the Patron of Don Bosco and of the Salesian (!) Society and Family.

From the heart, wish you all a summer of joy! God bless! In Jesus Mary Joseph DonBosco, I am,
Yours affectionately, Fr. Lanfranco M. Fedrigotti, Provincial