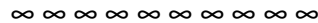


**The State of Salesian Historiography and the Conservation and Development of the
Salesian Historical Patrimony in the Region**

- Introduction
- Motivation of our adherence to ACSSA initiative
- The present state of the historical patrimony of the Province
 - * Historical account story (cenni storici) of the first 10 years
 - * The Province chronicle completed on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the FMA presence in Thailand (1931-2006):
 - Data gathered from 1931 to 2006 and chronologically arranged
 - Provincial chronicle from 2006 to 2013 (not yet edited)
- Short biographies of the first FMA missionaries in Thailand
- History of the first FMA house: "Sacred Heart Home", Banpong, Ratchaburi
- Books-essays-articles-theses following the form suggested by ACSSA (2012-2013)
- Positive and negative points regarding the historiography of the Thai Province "S.Maria Mazzarello"



Even though our presence is quite limited, this is the third time that our Province willingly responded to ACSSA's invitation.

Our small contribution to ACSSA's request, has helped us to prepare ourselves for the celebration of the bicentenary of Don Bosco's birth. It reveals how, along the formation and pastoral path in our Province, we have lived and shared the richness of his life totally dedicated for the physical, spiritual and professional benefit of the youth.

Don Bosco's personality and work for the youth has built history; more than this, he himself had made news on his deeds, experiences and the development of his educative actions, writing about the various works that he had initiated and had entrusted to the Salesians. He was sure that they will continue and improve them with their faith more than he did, affirming: "How many wonders has the Lord done in our midst! **But how many more wonders he might have done if I had more faith!**" St. John Bosco invites us to imitate him in this too.

The history of the Thai Province was not at this level of qualification, although the first six FMAs invited by the Salesian Bishop Mons. Gaetano Pasotti, arrived in Thailand on November 14, 1931 have taken good care of many little Thai girls in all their needs.

The first group of FMAs worked hard and lived among the girls as good teachers and educators renewing their spiritual, catechetical, scholastic and social preparation, but they did not care much about keeping some documentation regarding their daily life and mission. They just wrote a chronicle in a very simple manner.

Even the other FMAs who later arrived in Thailand did not think to write and make others know about their educative and social activities. They communicated only at the Provincial level.

The first three historical memoirs were written by Sister Anna Phayong Lattanan, one of the first Thai FMAs; they have more or less the same contents, perhaps the writer have reviewed them in different occasions.

Very interesting is the title Sister Anna has given to each:

1. *"Note storiche delle FMA in Thailand", 1931-1948, 20 pages*
2. *"Non tralasciare di leggere...note storiche FMA Thai" since 1931, 20 pages*
3. *"Non c'è da leggere altrove...solo qui...Suore Salesiane Thai", since 1931, 30 pages*

Sister Anna's memoirs are based on her personal experiences and facts related by some elder sisters; they are kept among other written articles used as reference and information for the Province chronicle.

The Provincial chronicle was supposed to be completed for the 75th anniversary of foundation in the year 2006 as a gift on the jubilee day "FMA Formative/Pastoral journey 1931-2006" as a complement of the "Historical Hall of Charism" set up at the Retreat House "Ban Than Phraphorn" – Sampran; a gift of gratitude to God for His endless care and benefits granted to the Thai FMA. Anyway for some small problems the chronicle was left incompleting. The next deadline has been fixed for the year 2015, the bicentenary celebration of Don Bosco's birth.

The general guideline, not yet definitive, of the Province's historiography is as follows:

- Introduction
- Presentation made by the Provincial
- Historical / political / social situation of Thailand
- The role and development of the local Church
- Contribution of the Thai Bishops Conference
- Speeches of the Holy Father and Mother General of the FMA
- 2 frasi-messaggio orientative dai documenti ecclesiali: E.A. e NMI
- 1 frase-messaggio orientativa da (CG. XXI) dall'ultimo CG XXIII
- Account of the FMA Congregation's history divided in decades

Another type of documentation can be found in the three commemorative Books published for the 40th, 50th and 75th anniversary of our presence in Thailand.

We hope that at the conclusion of this seminar we will have some more knowledge and new mentality to finish this work.

In the year 2015, Thailand should become a member of the Association of South-East Asiatic Nations "ASEAN", (just in the year of Don Bosco bicentenary birth), but at present the situation is a little bit confused; it presents cultural, religious, political, economical differences at various levels and people are not yet ready to face this important challenge.

This current situation is a challenge for us to present the history of our Province as a gradual inculturation of our charism that can have a positive contribution throughout the un-gradual social/cultural evolving of the lives of the Thai people; it is a challenge too to express our charism through our witnessing and the quality of our educative/pastoral work.

Here are some of the activities elaborated and put into practice in our schools and educational centres for the promotion of young girls and women; activities that are known and shared with others:

1. The annual pastoral proposal (year 27th) 1986-1992
Since 1993 it has been given a new name: Salesian Thai Animators Rendez-vous (STAR)
2. Volunteers Animation Group (year 7th Salesian Sisters Youth Volunteers (SSYV)

3. Solidarity at distance/Solidarietà a Distanza (SaD): year 16th
4. History of the Catholic Salesian Schools FMA in Thailand (preparatory phase)

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*** Form I – BOOKS:**

Some biographies and salesian spirituality books have been translated for the formation and educational mission of the FMA and people interested in our charism.

We considered them under two aspects:

- translation of some SDB ed FMA biographies
- translation of articles written by some authors to show the educational presence of the FMA among the youth

1. M. Mitr-jit SDB - PROFUMO DI ROSA - A true friend of youth, 1959
The biography proposes a good educative model for young people and for adult educators in the present social situation in which true values are misunderstood.
2. Capetti Giselda FMA - MADRE CLELIA GENGHINI Consigliera e segretaria generale delle FMA, 1962
Only the fourth chapter of the whole book was translated, the purpose was to present the role of Madre Clelia as general counsellor and secretary, a good example for every FMA. In this book is added the photo of *Madre Clelia* too.
3. Gilla Vincenzo, Vescovo - UNA MISSIONARIA SALESIANA SR. TERESA GEDDA FMA, 1976
This biography was written to present a model of vocational and educational journey. The book has been a gift of gratitude on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Thailand Province.
4. Dalcerri Lina FMA - MADRE EMILIA MOSCA DI SAN MARTINO, un cammino di croce e di luce, 1978
Madre Emilia is proposed as a great example of an assistant to every FMA and collaborators. Her presence among the girls is a way of accompanying them in their difficult moments, it shows how to follow the transformation during the growing up phases of the girls and boys. In our context this kind of continuous presence was a new expression in the educational mission.
5. Biedermann Angela lay : RICCA PIÙ DEL MARE, MADRE MADDALENA MORANO, Beata 1978
The contents reveal the value of God's Word that has nourished the life of madre Maddalena Morano and has been a splendid light for her educational mission, culture, education as well as education of faith. It was the first booklet on Madre Maddalena Morano translated in Thai language.
6. L'Arco Adolfo SDB - HO SCELTO I POVERI: Sr. Teresa Valse' Pantellini, Venerable, 1980
This biography presents a Daughters of Mary Help of Christians that loved her vocation, has been able to listen to God's call and willingly decided to follow Jesus, even as her relatives and friends did not encourage her to fulfill her ideal. She is a very good example for young girls who do not think about their own vocation for married or consecrated life.
7. Aronica Paul / A.McNulty James - THE ROSE OF THE ANDES: Laura Vicuña, servant of God, 1989
Biography of a pupil of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians: good example for young people and for adult educators in the actual social situation in which true values are misunderstood. The life of Laura is presented as a strong exhortation for young people, they must be able to defend their own dignity, also when family or social situations do not respect and defend it. This biography is the model of a teenager

to Thai girls and boys in times when young and adult persons spread a model of behavior in contrast with Laura's witness of love.

8. Domenico Agasso *MARIA MAZZARELLO Il comandamento della gioia*, saint, **1995**

Maria Mazzarello is an illiterate peasant girl that became a great expert in education by developing some educative resources of solidarity, work and prayer. The intuition of a peasant and the spirituality of a saint had empowered her resources in an very human and christian perspective. In preparation for the General Chapter XX, Mother General Marinella Castagno has invited all FMAs to revisit the life of St. Maria Mazzarello with a deeper understanding. We have answered to this call with the translation of this book.

9. Bacalossi Mondino-Maria Luisa L. *FMA UN CAMMINO DI AMORE E LIBERTÀ ALLA LUCE DELLA PAROLA: Sr. Maria Crugnola*, **1997**

During her life Sr. Maria Crugnola received a special gift: to feel the presence of the Virgin Mary in a mystical way; through Mary's help she could help many people with many signs from above. Love for The Virgin Mary and the desire to bring others to love Her is one aspect of salesian charism. This is found in a visible and tangible way in Sr. Maria Crugnola's life.

Madre Marinella Castagno, as a Mother General, presented this biography considering it as a good occasion to rediscover the spirit of the Institute and to live the contemplative aspect of life as our first sisters in Mornese. The translation in Thai language has been completed one year after the biography was edited.

10. Grassiano Maria Domenica *FMA: UN CARISMA NELLA SCIA DI DON BOSCO, Sr. Eusebia Palomino*, blessed

Mother General Ersilia Canta presenting this biography, says that the life of Sr. Eusebia is a model for us especially of her simplicity. She encouraged all FMAs to go back to the first FMA community and try to put this into practice.

11. Martirani Giuliana lay: *MARIA ROMERO Contempl-attiva al servizio degli ultimi*, blessed, **2005**

From the introduction letter of Mother General Antonia Colombo, we realize that Sr. Maria Romero has been able to adapt her life, from noble origin, to the poor and simple way of FMA life. She has willingly given herself for the benefit of every person: FMA, children, young, rich and poor. This is the first book in which appears the name of the Thai FMA who translated it.

12. Atchayasakul Naphaphorn Lay: *LA ROSA DELLE ANDE, LAURA VICUÑA*, 1 april **2005**

This little book in cartoon style, has been written by a Thai lady known to the sisters in Udon Thani. She has accepted the invitation to give a new expression to the biography of Laura Vicuña for our Thai young people. The drawings have been realized by the designer of the magazine "Khunkha". In collaboration with the FMA of St. Mary's School, Udon Thani, they studied Laura Vicuña's life in order to succeed.

13. FMA: Cenni biografici delle sorelle defunte in Thailand, Anni 1965-2004, **2005**

The biographical profile of the FMAs who passed away wanted to be a grateful memory of their consecrated life; they were witnesses of God's love for the welfare of young people; although most of them were Buddhist they tried to form "good cristians and honest citizens".

These profiles have been binded together for the 75th anniversary of the FMA presence in Thailand, a gift for the future FMA too.

14. Atchayasakul Naphaphorn, Lay *MARIA DOMENICA MAZZARELLO SUL SENTIERO DELL'AMORE*, **2006**

Many initiatives have been proposed to promote the knowledge and love for our cofounder Saint Maria Domenica Mazzarello. Her biography is now presented in a new style as cartoons. The Thai

writer was able to do it after she read some old books of Mother Mazzarello and watched the film, “Tralci di una terra forte”. It was a gift on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of FMA’s presence in Thailand.

15. Chenpasuk Rosalia FMA: Memory Book of the Salesian Sisters Narivooth school Banpong Ratchaburi. On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the FMAs in Thailand, 1931-**2006**

The “Sacred Heart” community in Banpong, first house of the Province, has written this memory book. The introduction was written by Mother Provincial. It is available only for the FMAs in the Province. It will be completed later.

16. TurettaV. FMA - SUOR TERESA VALSE PANTELLINI Fior di viola Venerable, **2008**

This short biography has been translated into Thai as a gift for the 100 anniversary of Sister Teresa Valsè’s death. She is a good model for young people and for adult educators in the actual social situation in which parents and society do not assure the true values of life.

17. FMA - MADRE ENRICHETTA SORBONE Vicaria Generale delle FMA, FMA biography **2008**

The biography has been translated to present a good model to the FMAs and young girls in formation. The book is simple in style; it is typed, with handmade designs.

18. Giudici Maria Pia FMA - MADRE E MAESTRA **2008**

Maria Mazzarello is presented as a model to imitate. In the second edition some designs and photos were added.

19. Maccono Ferdinando SDB – SANTA MARIA MAZZARELLO, Saint, 1^a e 2^a edition the 2 volumes are a witness of fidelity and love for the cofounder and for the Institute. The 2nd edition has a new arrangement in content structure: it is divided into 4 books: 2 for her life, and 2 for her mission. An introduction has been added.

20. Penna M. Vanda FMA: MARIA TRONCATTI FMA “PERDERE LA VITA PER AMORE”, **2012**

This biography has been written in preparation for the beatification of Sr. Maria Troncatti. In Thailand it has been translated in time to be distributed on 24 January 2013, the day we celebrate her beatification. The life of Sr. Maria Troncatti is for our local salesian family members and for other Thai Catholics an invitation to go on in our missionary presence among Buddhists and Islamic people, sharing with them the great love of God, giving the best of our self for their physical and spiritual needs.

21. Collino Maria FMA: LA GRAZIA DI UN SI’ TUTTO DONATO, MARIA TRONCATTI MISSIONARIA NELLA TERRA AMAZZONICA (The translation is not yet completed)

* *These two books have been written by lay people:*

22. Foundation for the blind in Thailand Under the patronage of H.M. the Queen:

SMILES 60th Foundation for the blind in Thailand Under the patronage of H.M. the Queen, Diary **2542/1999**

It is a diary of blind schools in Thailand with many interesting topics written by various people who have given their time, financial support, education, faith... Sister Rose Moore FMA is present in many pages of this book, only those with many photos, but although she has planted the genuine expression of the preventive system among many blind boys and girls she is not mentioned at all.

The introduction of this book is the song, “Smile” (music and words) composed by His Majesty the King of Thailand.

23. Namsiripongpan Wiriya lay: THE ACCEPTANCE OF LIFE The disability is an opportunity, Autobiography of a lay blind lawyer, **2003/2546**

Professor Wiriya in his autobiography gives importance to self acceptance of life with the help of other persons. This autobiography is significant for the FMA because Prof. Wiriya said that he could reach the aim of his life as layman and as Catholic because of the loving care of Sr. Rose Moor FMA and Miss Genevieve Caulfield. Both were an inspiration in his life and have guided him, giving him an integral cultural and religious education.

*** FORM I – BOOKS History of Salesian pedagogy**

Since the beginning, the FMA Missionaries have taken deep care of their spiritual life and educative method for girls. They had preferred to overcome economical difficulties rather than to renounce having good materials from Italy for their Salesian formation. For many years in Thailand, nobody was completely dedicated to write about the Salesian spiritual literature, the FMA themselves have not been competent to write books or articles, however they have been able to translate books and articles written by other FMAs and SDBs, as the following:

1. Colli Carlo SDB: “LO SPIRITO DI MORNESE, L’EREDITA’ SPIRITUALE DI S.MARIA DOMENICA MAZZARELLO”, history of Salesian FMA spirituality, **1981**

The author presents the attitudes that St. Maria Mazzarello has put into practice seriously during all her life. Mother General Sr. Marinella Castagno presented this book inviting us to study and to live its contents.

2. Dalcerci Lina FMA: SPIRITUALITÀ SALESIANA SPIRITUALITÀ DELLE BEATITUDINI, History of Salesian FMA spirituality **1986**

3. Vecchi Juan SDB- Maioli Elisabetta FMA: L’ANIMATORE SALESIANO NEL GRUPPO GIOVANILE, History of Salesian pedagogy, **1987**

This Salesian document on pedagogy has been good for us to deeply study the Salesian style; it helps to deal with young people as good educators. Both FMAs and SDBs have collaborated in the translation of this book.

4. D’Auria Luciana FMA: IO... E NESSUN ALTRO Con Laura in cammino, History of Salesian spirituality, **1989**

This book is a guideline to accompany girls on the vocational path; it helps to realize God’s project in this life. It is the first book of this kind. After the translation it has been shared with other educative institutions.

5. Vecchi Juan: PASTORALE GIOVANILE SALESIANA, history of salesian spirituality and pedagogy, **1994**

The translation of this book has been very much appreciated by Thai FMAs for the content and the relative illustrations of every chapter. It still has all the notes as the original in Italian language. A short presentation of the Provincial has been added.

6. Ghiglione Gianni sdb: EDUCHIAMO IL CUORE - possibility or utopia? History of Salesian pedagogy, **25/3/1995**

This book has been translated in Thai language with the purpose to offer a valid instrument to educators. It is one of the few catholic little books on love education.

7. Dicastero Pastorale giovanile salesiana FMA/SDB: SPIRITUALITA’ GIOVANILE SALESIANA Un dono dello Spirito alla Famiglia Salesiana per la vita e la speranza di tutti, History of Salesian spirituality, **1996**

The book presents the Salesian youth spirituality very useful for us in Thailand because we do not have so many books about it. The translation has been completed by both FMA and SDB dividing the work among them.

8. Posada Maria Ester, Costa Anna, Cavaglia Piera, FMA: LA SAPIENZA DELLA VITA Lettere di Maria Domenica Mazzarello, history of salesian spirituality, **1997**

This book is a precious one because its contents come from the heart of Maria Domenica Mazzarello. The translation was done by many sisters who willingly offered their time and capacity. The book still has all the notes as the original in Italian language. The presentation of Mother General Sr. Marinella Castagno was added.

FORM IV Thesis

1. Parksuwan Teresa FMA: ALCUNI ELEMENTI DELLA TERMINOLOGIA RELIGIOSA DI SANTA MARIA DOMENICA MAZZARELLO RICAVATI DALLA SUA BIOGRAFIA E DALLE SUE LETTERE, History of Salesian spirituality, **1971/72**

It is very interesting the way to approach the life and letters of Saint Maria D. Mazzarello in order to have a special attention on some terms used at that time. The writer said that words as God, Lord, Eucharistic Jesus and Jesus Crucified can explain the truth in a very deep meaning.

2. Namsonboon Teresa FMA: SANTA MARIA MAZZARELLO NELLE TESTIMONIANZE DI MADRE PETRONILLA MAZZARELLO. History of Salesian spirituality, **1973/1974**

The writer points out the possibility to reconstruct the personality of St. Maria Domenica Mazzarello through the witness of her friend. The writer makes known that she uses the historical - positive method and reports in appendix the depositions of Mother Petronilla during the process for the beatification.

3. Parksuwan Teresa FMA: THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM A CASE STUDY OF SCHOOLS IN THE INSTITUTE OF THE DAUGHTER OF MARY HELP OF CRISTIANS History of works and activities, **1995/2538**

This thesis is for the Degree of Master of Education, in Thai language with the introduction and title in English. Studying on the curriculum used in the school of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians the writer wants to underline the educative intention of a Salesian teacher: the integral education of the pupils who are the protagonists in learning and growing, in collaboration with the teacher.

4. Sothon Sriuthai Charuwipak Yupadee Arichitranusorn Yuwadee FMA Greewit Kalampak Paitoon Wichian Lay: A DEVELOPING OF MORAL PRINCIPLES ACTIVITY SET FOR THE TEACHERS OF PRATOM 6 LEVEL. Independent Study on activities (about moral teaching in the school), **2002/2545**

This study has developed lessons on the moral teaching for students in 6th class of elementary school. The moral values chosen are: creativity, kindness, discipline and thai way of life. These values have been presented in a Salesian model well remarked in synthesis.

5. Anuwatprakit Sirirat FMA: TEACHER'S LEADERSHIP STYLE IN CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOLS BY THE DAUGHTERS OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS Research on works and activities (about teaching in the school), **2003/2546**

This thesis is for the Degree of Master of Education. It presents the intention and the method of management of FMA schools through good teaching. The Salesian educative style is based on the strategy to accompany the pupils; the positive relationship between teacher and pupils is very important for good results in education. In this thesis, chapter 2, pages 29-80 point out the "Education Implemented by the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians"; there are many quotations from some SDB and FMA books.

6. Chotiphon Suphawan FMA: THE STUDY OF THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OF THE DAUGHTERS OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS OF THAILAND. Research on works and activities (about teaching in the school), **2004/2547**

This thesis is for the Degree of Master of Education. The writer wants to stress the importance of the development in the administration of FMA schools and gives importance to the origin of the congregation in Italy and in Thailand, to the Salesian preventive system and the theory/practice about Salesian administration.

7. Charuwipak Thippawan FMA: THE STUDENT AFFAIR OPERATION IN THE SCHOOLS UNDER THE DAUGHTERS OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS IN THAILAND. Research on works and activities (about teaching in the school), **2007/2550**

This thesis is for the Degree of Master of Education. The study on this topic considers the qualities of the administration in the FMA schools, relating it with the general meaning of “administration” and confronting it with the Salesian pedagogy.

8. Kim-hem Phanthip FMA: LIVED EXPERIENCES OF TEACHERS AND PARENTS IN ENHACING KINDERGARTEN 'S MORAL IN SAINT MARY SCHOOL – UDORNTHANI. History of works and activities (about teaching in the school), **2009/2552**

This thesis is for the Degree of Master of Education: Virtue guides to the knowledge, is the motto in the school of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. The thesis underlines the importance of education since infancy about the true values in the light of the Gospel; the importance of witness of the adults at home, at school, they are the first to put into practice the moral law.

9. Onakul Kuanruan FMA: THE ORGANIZATIONAL CHARACTERISTIC ADMINISTRATION OF MARIE UPATHAM SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR **2010/2553**

Research on works and activities (about teaching in the school). This thesis is for the Degree of Master of Education. The study about the topic has given a valuable contribution that has animated the direct responsible of the school, Marie Upatham, to improve more and more the style and the method of administration regarding resources in persons, means, orientations... according to the guidelines of the FMA Institute and the real needs of integral education for the pupils.

10. Ruthaikhong thaworn Amarint FMA: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ETHICAL BEHAVIOR AND HAPPINESS IN WORKING OF THE TEACHERS IN THE SCHOOL OF THE DAUGHTER OF MARY HELP OF CRISTIANS IN THAILAND. History of works and activities (about teaching in the school), **2011/2554**

This thesis is for the Degree of Master of Education. Joy, cheerfulness: is one of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians Salesian pupil's characteristics together with study and piety. The writer wants to emphasize that the teacher must be the first to express these characteristics. If the teacher truly nourishes her moral habit, her teaching will be very interesting and powerful. Joy is one of the characteristics of the Preventive System of Saint John Bosco.

Thesis of our teacher

• Boonpitaksakul Prapaporn Lay: The Effects of the Inquiry Method of Economic Value and Learning. Achievement on Adolescents as Producers and Consumers Topic of Mathayom IV Students at Narivooth School in Ratchaburi Province. Research on works and activities: about teaching in the school **2006/2549**

Degree of Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction School of Educational Studies. Mrs. Prapaporn has been a teacher of Social Sciences at Narivooth School for many years. In this research she has underlined the meaning of economic value giving the definition, the theory and the application properly for adolescents producers and consumers.

* Form III - ARTICLES IN JOURNALS

Concerning articles about our history, spirituality and pedagogy we give our contribution to the salesian magazine "Don Bosco" (Salesian Bulletin in Thai language); to the Thai weekly and monthly catholic newspaper "Udomsarn".

At the Provincial level, a magazine "The FMA Informs" is edited now twice a year. This magazine gives news related to each community and local activities, biographies, spiritual items and educational experiences. It is meant for the sisters and their parents, the past pupils, the members of the Salesian Family and all our lay collaborators.

Periodically, each school publishes its own journal to give information and to present experiences, school activities, formation and educational items for adult and young people.

CONCLUSION

The presentation of the historical path of the Province, following the guide given by the organizers of the ACSSA 2013 Seminar, although not yet completed, has enabled us to think over events, situations and teachings shared in our daily life. Actually they did not yet become history but we will do our best to improve and to put into practice what ACSSA suggests.

We sincerely thank all those who in many ways have encouraged us and sustained with patience our weak but good will.

Proposta Pastorale 1986 * * * * Proposta Pastorale 2013

Storia del cammino della Proposta Pastorale annuale negli ambienti educativi delle FMA in Thailand

L'esperienza pastorale delle FMA in Thailandia, già dagli inizi della loro presenza, è stata più esplicitamente "pastorale scolastica" con più evidente espressione dell'educazione culturale particolarmente in rapporto alle linee programmatiche del ministero della pubblica istruzione molto variabili soprattutto in quest'ultimo decennio per insatabilità del governo.

La continua attenzione alle linee di animazione pastorale presentate e sperimentate a livello di Istituto con la denominazione "**Confronto** '...'", a livello europeo già dagli anni 1981, è stata una opportunità per assumere anche noi tale iniziativa annuale adattandola alla nostra cultura thai e al tipo di opera a cui ci dedichiamo.

Prima di presentare lo svolgimento di questa attività pastorale nella nostra ispezione, è opportuno presentarla nel significato dato originalmente e sintetizzato da Sr. Georgina McPakes, a quel tempo consigliera generale per la pastorale giovanile.

Da alcune sue riflessioni su «SGS – MGS»:

Per parlare di Spiritualità Giovanile Salesiana e Movimento Giovanile Salesiano **devo fare riferimento a un evento e a un cammino educativo- pastorale che l'Istituto ha fatto fino ad oggi.**

Il 1981, centenario della morte di Madre Mazzarello, offre la occasione per ripensare e riproporre a tutte le comunità educanti i valori della SGS. "Sì alla vita in stile salesiano" non è solo uno slogan ma la proposta offerta a tutte le Ispettorie del mondo per aiutare i giovani ad assimilare un modo originale di vita cristiana.

Il Convegno Europeo, per 600 giovani d'Europa, che è seguito alla proposta

- ha fatto interrogare sul significato e sulle caratteristiche di una spiritualità giovanile salesiana per i giovani oggi, dentro le loro domande e attese;

- ha spinto a cercare le modalità educative più adeguate per coinvolgere gradualmente, in modo sempre più cosciente, i giovani nella spiritualità salesiana.

E così che dal 1981 le proposte si sono susseguite, a livello di tutto l'istituto, con alcune chiare intenzioni:

- la scelta di un cammino educativo, nella consapevolezza che l'educazione è il luogo privilegiato per vivere un progetto di vita cristiana nello stile salesiano;

- l'attenzione a tutti i giovani, in tutti gli ambienti educativi per adeguare il passo al livello di maturazione di ogni giovane. Tutti sono coinvolti nell'esperienza educativa con proposte differenziate. Dire attenzione a tutti i giovani è affermare anche attenzione a tutte le età;

- il gruppo come esperienza e come luogo privilegiato di educazione e di crescita dei giovani. Di qui l'impegno per creare nei nostri ambienti educativi una proposta differenziata di gruppi; l'esplicitazione delle caratteristiche del nostro stile educativo, della SGS. **La proposta annuale infatti è stata pensata come aiuto a vivere in stile salesiano esperienze e avvenimenti a carattere sociale ed ecclesiale. Ciò per creare una sempre maggiore condivisione intorno ai valori della SGS;**

- *il coinvolgimento di tutta la comunità educante, consapevoli dell'importanza della convergenza degli interventi da parte dei diversi educatori.*

Se le proposte pastorali sono state accolte in modo diverso dalle varie Ispettorie, dato appunto il loro carattere di proposta, *i criteri di fondo che ho ricordato sono penetrati quasi dappertutto. Alcuni segni di vitalità lo confermano. In particolare:*

- **la riscoperta e l'approfondimento in tutto l'Istituto dei valori della SGS;**

- il delinearsi, con sempre maggior chiarezza, a livello di Istituto, di un'esperienza associativa ampia, che comprende una pluralità di gruppi (culturali, sportivi, missionari, caritativi, mariani, di catechisti, di animatori...) che coinvolgono tutti i giovani.

E' un'esperienza associativa che ha come elemento unificante la condivisione della SGS; una condivisione vissuta a livelli diversi, secondo la fisionomia dei gruppi e la maturazione dei giovani;

- la ricerca di forme di comunicazione tra i gruppi , a livello ispettoriale;

- la domanda di formazione da parte degli animatori dei gruppi, consapevoli di avere una spiritualità comune da vivere nello stile salesiano;

- un progressivo e più profondo senso di appartenenza alla comunità ispettoriale, da parte dei giovani provenienti da gruppi diversi;

- una maggior iniziativa e protagonismo giovanile dentro la comunità locale e ispettoriale..... (da <http://www.notedipastoralegiovanile.it>, il 17 agosto 2013)

Rileggendo attualmente questa presentazione di Sr. Georgina delle giornate per la elaborazione della proposta pastorale annuale, rileviamo che nel nostro contesto abbiamo cercato di sensibilizzare e di animare secondo queste linee di fondo.

Tale esperienza pastorale svolta per tutto l'anno in Italia e altre nazioni europee, e' stata esemplare per noi in Thailandia dal 1986. Lo slogan elaborato in quel confronto e' stato da noi ri-elaborato con il coinvolgimento, per la prima volta, dei membri rappresentativi della comunità educante: un buon numero di genitori, di insegnanti, alcune exallieve e in maggior numero giovani provenienti da tutti gli 11 ambienti educativi delle FMA, nord-est, centro e sud della Thailandia. La sede dell'incontro/confronto e' stato l'allora "Centro Giovanile *Maria Ausiliatrice*" a Sampran (i particolari nella cronaca della casa e dell'ispettoria).

Questo 1° incontro di elaborazione della proposta pastorale annuale e' stato davvero una impresa...che ha richiesto la partecipazione attiva da parte di ogni partecipante in una iniziativa di carattere

non scolastico, di esigenza della condivisione in gruppo con membri di ruolo e di età diversi, di contenuto specificamente educativo/pastorale non disciplinare. Oltre a ciò la necessità di elaborare la proposta sulla base di contenuto del mondo occidentale in lingua italiana, per l'applicazione al nostro contesto e alla nostra mentalità culturale.

Nonostante questa iniziale difficoltà c'è stata l'assicurazione di elaborare la proposta pastorale anche negli anni successivi. Per questo abbiamo dato una impostazione sufficientemente comprensiva per svolgerla con criterio di gradualità e di continuità con la seguente precisazione:

Scopo dell'attività: elaborare la proposta pastorale annuale per concretizzarla a livello comunitario, secondo le proprie opere educative, in modo da promuovere nelle giovani i valori della vita con sensibilità evangelica e renderli disponibili a favorire l'amore, la giustizia, la pace, la libertà in se stesse e nell'ambiente in cui vivono.

Gruppo destinatario: le giovani leaders cattoliche e buddiste degli ambienti educativi FMA quali **Scuole, Pensionanti e Case Famiglia, di tutta l'ispettoria,**

Responsabili dell'attività: le FMA coordinatrici dell'ambito pastorale giovanile ispettoriale

Durata dell'incontro: 4 giorni e 3 notti

Modalità di svolgimento:

- Le giovani presentano lo svolgimento della proposta pastorale vissuta nell'anno (valutazione)
- Relatori condividono contenuti educativi su tema scelto motivato da eventi o linee educative, pastorali, sociali a livello ecclesiale, mondiale, nazionale, proprie dell'anno, per assumerne i valori, es. il vero amore, il valore della vita, lo spirito di volontariato, ecc.
- Dopo la riflessione, la condivisione dei pareri e delle proposte a confronto con la situazione e i bisogni attuali
- Raccolta e sintesi dei contenuti svolti, quale materiale per proporre lo slogan corrispondente al bisogno educativo annuale
- Ogni gruppo rappresentante la comunità/ambiente educativo ripropone in linee operative lo slogan scelto, per il cammino educativo delle giovani e dei collaboratori laici

L'elaborazione della proposta pastorale dal 1986 e negli anni successivi ha un proprio slogan:

1986/2529 - *Cambiare il cuore, acquistare la virtù, portare la pace*

1987/2530 - *La vita è una scommessa*

1988/2531 - *La vita è festa e servizio*

1989/2532 - *Con la gente promuovere nuovi valori*

1990/2533 - *Giovani arditi volontari coinvolgono altri giovani nel bene*

1991/2534 - *Giovani nuovi per tempi nuovi*

1992/2535 - *Cuore aperto al mondo, promuovere la comunione*

Nel 1993 l'elaborazione della proposta pastorale ha avuto una variante che successivamente ha portato ad un coinvolgimento maggiore più qualificato ed ha favorito l'interessamento di altri ambienti educativi ecclesiali e di religiosi.

Dal 4-8 maggio 1993 abbiamo avuto la visita di Sr. Georgina McPake, consigliera generale per la Pastorale Giovanile e per l'Associazione Exallieve. Venendo ella in visita alla nostra ispettoria particolarmente per l'incontro con le exallieve, l'equipe ispettoriale ha dato un buon contributo anche per l'impostazione delle giornate di elaborazione della proposta pastorale annuale che si volevano farle presiedere a lei presso la Narivooth School- Banpong (cfr. cronaca "Casa Sacro Cuore" – Banpong)

Si e' avuto percio' subito un previo e frequente dialogo epistolare per metterla a conoscenza del nostro desiderio di darci lei stessa il contenuto e la modalita' di svolgimento. Sr. Georgina accondiscese volentieri all'iniziativa ed anche al tema da noi proposto in sintonia con le tematiche mariane considerate in preparazione al seminario che si sarebbe svolto in quell'anno a Soeul-Korea.

Sr. Georgina ci ha accompagnate nella preparazione anche col darci particolari suggerimenti per la preparazione dell'ambiente che lo desiderava addobbato con canne di bambu', pianta asiatica, di cui avrebbe presentato il significato e l'utilizzazione: **"Listen and try to remember"**.

Per tale circostanza e' stato proposto una frase o sigla che denominasse questo incontro annuale. Il contributo delle coordinatrici ispettoriali ha portato alla decisione ultima del nome:

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Di qui si e' pensato il logo: una stella con qualche raggio striato, al suo centro l'immagine stigmatizzata di Maria Ausiliatrice, in basso il nome dell'incontro in lingua inglese e thai.

Il logo si e' continuato ad usarlo solo per alcuni anni, ma la denominazione e' ancora attuale. Gli slogans Esempi di slogans che hanno illuminato il cammino da questo anno e successivi sono i seguenti:

- 1993/2536 - **In cammino con Maria, promuovere la dignita' della donna thai:**
 - * **capacita' di riflessione** ("Listen and try to remember")
 - * **dinamicita' nel servizio**
- 1994/2537 - *Donna thai in cammino con Maria, costruisce vincoli di famiglia con fedelta' di vita*
- 1995/2538 - *Trasmettere la cultura, costruire un volto nuovo di donna con buona comunicazione, ridare vita*
- 1996/2539 - *Eliminare la miseria, la poverta' della donna, promuovere nuova societa' per la dignita' della persona*
- 1997/2540 - *Conoscere Gesu': Condividere vita nuova, dare e ricevere riconciliazione, costruire un mondo nuovo verso il 2000*
- 1998/2541 - *Aprire il cuore allo Spirito, di nuovo cambiare vita, rinnovare la societata' thai verso l'anno della misericordia*
- 1999/2542 - *Unite accogliamo il Padre, serviamo e perdoniamo con cuore fervido, proclamiamo la misericordia verso l'anno giubilare*
- 2000/2543 - *Celebriamo l'Anno Santo: amiamo la dignita' della persona, promuoviamo la cultura della di pace*
- 2005/2548 - *I giovani della generazione nuova hanno punti fermi di vita, sono coraggiosi nell'andare controcorrente, condividono l'amore vero e servono tutti*
- 2006/2549 -
- 2007/2550 - *La vita e' un dono*
- 2008/2551 - *Amare la vita, donarsi prontamente per gli altri*
- 2009-2010/2552-2553 - *l'amore vero orienta la vita al volontariato*
- 2011/2554 - *l'amore vero ama la vita si apre al volontariato*
- 2012/2555 - *Salde nel bene, conoscenza delle tecnologie, apprezzamento dell'identita' Thai (da messaggio della giornata del fanciullo 2012)*
- 2013/2556 - *Valutando questi incontri di elaborazione della proposta pastorale annuale nella loro qualita' educativa coinvolgente, rileviamo che essi unificano le giovani che frequentano i nostri ambienti nell'esperienza di vita evangelico/salesiana; favorisce l'amore fraterno sebbene nella diversita' di religione e di cultura locale; l'organizzazione e l'animazione e' attuata secondo lo stile del Sistema Preventivo di Don Bosco in modo piu'*

interiorizzato e condiviso per poter concretizzare il nostro impegno di “*educare evangelizzando ed evangelizzare educando*”.

Con l’elaborazione di questa proposta si vuol continuare a rendere le giovani “**buone cristiane oneste e cittadine**”.

Alcuni rilievi di questa esperienza:

Aspetti positive	Aspetti da migliorare
<p>1. L’incontro programmato svolto ogni anno favorisce la continuita’ educativo/pastorale delle destinatarie nel formarle con piu’ qualita’ ad essere leaders delle compagne e la preparazione delle nuove partecipanti per questo impegno</p> <p>2. lo slogan pastorale annuale unifica i cammini educativi locali favorendo la trasmissione dei valori evangelici in esso nucleati</p> <p>3. Le FMA e le collaboratrici laiche hanno possibilita’ di essere presenti secondo lo stile di animazione e accompagnamento proprio del nostro carisma</p> <p>4. Dall’applicazione annuale della proposta pastorale alcune giovani sono piu’ disponibili a proporsi per le attivita’ socio-culturali nel proprio ambiente, questo ha sollecitato la costituzione del gruppo SSYV</p>	<p>1. La trasmissione della proposta pastorale con lo slogan e le linee educative a livello comunitario dipende in parte anche dall’interessamento e dalle capacita’ delle giovani leaders e delle stesse animatrici FMA e Laiche non sempre evidenti</p> <p>2. l’applicazione della proposta pastorale negli ambienti scolastici trova difficolta’ a motivo delle varie attivita’ che il proprio curriculum richiede</p> <p>3. A volte l’impostazione delle attivita’ non e’ incoerenza con lo scopo dato e l’intervento della FMA responsabile e’ fatto con ritardo; la collaboratrice laica che coadiuva non sempre ha chiaro il processo educativo insito alla proposta pastorale</p>

Il cammino di coinvolgimento per proposta pastorale annuale in questo anno 2013 compie 20 anni

Con le partecipanti Giovani, Insegnanti, FMA con altri gli laici collaboratori e le allieve destinatarie della proposta pastorale dal 1986 al 2013, ringraziamo il Signore e la Vergine Madre Ausiliatrice che hanno sollecitato i cuori di ciascuno a considerarne e applicare i contenuti e le esperienze educative offerti per l’educazione integrale della persona.

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