



APRIL 27, 2026

3. WITH YOU MAIN ON THE PATHS OF LIFE

3.8 Life Generates Life – Educational Dimension – ROVERNO



***"This is my commandment:
that you love one another as I have loved you"
Jn 15,12***

(Chapel of Collegio)

Regina Caeli

Entrustment *(alternating sides)*

Guide: We entrust our life to Mary, our Mother and guide so that she can help us to joyfully sing of God's love for us, to live our vocation with commitment, renewed in faith, in love with Jesus, eager to communicate with passion and coherence the beauty of the Gospel to the new generations:

O Mary Help of Christians,
we entrust our journey to you
of total donation to God.
Teach us to sing with joy and gratitude
our Magnificat to the Lord.

Make us attentive to the voice of the Spirit
so that we may know how to live with humility,
charity, simplicity, and trust in our daily life.

Like You, we desire to abandon ourselves to the Father
to continue to live chaste, poor, and obedient
and to be, with our life,
transparency of God's love
and reflection of your maternal goodness
on the example of Mother Mazzarello
for the young people entrusted to us. Amen.

MASS

(Prepare a space before the altar where the vase will be placed by one of the participants.)

Introduction *before Mass*

Voice 1: It is recalled that Maria Mazzarello once said:
"We must imagine ourselves to be like the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well and ask Jesus for that living water so that you are never thirsty again."

The Canaanite woman considered herself lucky if she could touch the hem of Jesus' garment. How much more fortunate, we are who can receive him in our hearts! ... So those evenings when we stayed awake, we spent real hours in Paradise!". (*Maccono Vol 2-part 3 Chapter IX, p. 49, number 12*)



Voice 2: We too, as in Cana, have seen and believed in him, and we are called to give concrete form to the gift of faith as consecrated women, as an educating community within the Salesian Family and within the Church, in order to revive and bear witness to the beauty of our vocation and mission in missionary synodality, to hear the cry of the poor and of the earth, and make bold evangelical choices." (*GC XXIV, 29*)

We come to the Eucharist with our vase in need of transformation, an expression of the thirst for Jesus that we and the young people experience.

(A participant enters with a vase and places it in front of the altar.)

Prayer of the faithful

Celebrant: Our love for young people becomes prayer today. God, our loving Father, we present to you the names of the young people most in need, certain that in your love, you will fill their hearts with hope and joy.

(Each one pronounces the names of the young people in her mission that are most in need.)



PRAYER

(If at the Collegio ask for the key to open the well. Draw out a bucket of water. Next to the well/image of the well place a small bottle for each participant. If using an image of the well place a container of water near the image.)

Let Us Draw from the Well

Guide 1: We are called to draw water from the well of Mornese. The same source of water that quenched the thirst of Mother Mazzarello and the first Sisters. We too need to take this charismatic water to quench the thirst of so many young people.

Song: The Wedding (54)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xVbDTogVqoI>

(As the song plays the bucket is lowered into the well and water is drawn.)

Refrain

Lord of light, oh, come to this wedding
Take the doubt and darkness away
Turn the water of lifeless living
To the wine of gladness we pray

Mother Mary's gently requesting
That you might do whatever you can
Though she may be impatient she loves you
And so she asks what she can't understand (Refrain)

So amidst the laughter and feasting
There sits Jesus full with the fun
He has made them wine because He is longing
For a wedding that's yet to come (Refrain)

Guide 2: The educational experience of Maria Mazzarello and the first Sisters continues to be a source of living water and never ceases to inspire our lives. The first community embodies a model of educators who express a radical love for Jesus.

All: You are the living water that satisfies our thirst.

Guide 1: Like the first community *"we believe that challenges are also opportunities to respond to the lack of meaning in life, the loss of joy, the darkening of hope, especially in young people"* (GC XXIV introduction page 15)

All: You are the living water that satisfies our thirst.

Guide 2: Maria Mazzarello, guided Sisters and girls on a *joyful and demanding journey of holiness*. We ask her to help us be this significant presence among other.

All: You are the living water that satisfies our thirst.

Guide 1: Today, like the first Sisters in Mornese, we are committed to the education of young people, and we express *the joy of having met Jesus*, source of life, who calls us to be a sign of a humanity renewed by Jesus' death and resurrection.

Voice: "His Mother said to the servants: 'Do whatever he tells you'. There were six stone piles there, intended for the purification of the Jews, each containing two or three measures. Jesus told them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. Then he said to them: 'Now draw and take some to the master of the table.' And they brought them." (Jn 2, 5-8)

Guide 2: Our first Sisters drinking from the only source which is Jesus, also became sources of life for the young people. In the difficult moments of the beginning, Maria Domenica draws with all her strength the material and spiritual water for the first community.

Guide 1: Let us walk towards the Roverno where the first community created communion in mission.

Before leaving, let us draw water from the well. Each one is invited to fill her bottle half full to begin the pilgrimage to the Roverno.

(As the song plays the participants fill their small bottle half way with water from the well/container of water.)

Song: Living Waters Flow On (55)

<https://youtu.be/XO5qRKoks8Y>

Living waters flow on
Sweep away my pain
Bring your healing to my heart
Help me love once again

Cares and worries get me down
Fear of failure fills my day
When I'm lost and all alone
Help me Lord to find Your way
People knocking at my door
Strangers seeking love and care
Never let me turn them down
Teach me gently how to share
Children come into my life
With their laughter and their song
When will I become like them
Teach me Lord to sing along



Living waters flow on
Sweep away my pain
Bring your healing to my heart
Help me love once again.

VISIT THE ROVERNO

(in the courtyard of the Collegio)



Pilgrimage to the Roverno

Guide 1: Let us do the first part of the walk recalling the young people we know that are in need of finding someone who loves them.

FIRST STOP: Corinna Arigotti

(in the town square)

Guide 1: Corinna was born in Tonco (*Asti*) on 29 October 1855. She died in Mornese at the age of 19 years. She was motherless since her early childhood; extremely sensitive, a lover of music, of great talent; she had no spirit of piety; was self-centered.

Guide 2: General Chapter XXIV, 33 states: *"Let us rekindle the commitment to care and accompany the new generations. We renew the passion for a more open and inclusive education to assist people to overcome fragmentation and intolerance of difference."*

Guide 3: Educating is the art of hoping, of never giving up in the face of difficulties. It is respecting the journey of every young person.

Do young people like Corinna come to your mind and heart? What is your educational intervention?

(reflect while walking)

SECOND STOP: Maria Belletti

(in front of the public school)

Guide 1: Maria was born in Ovada on 21 July 1858. She died in Mornese at the age of 18 years. Her family was wealthy. She was welcomed in Mornese to shield her from the dangers she encountered in her family. However, she was so vain that it affected the members of the community who became bewildered by her behavior. She allowed her heart to be overcome by different cravings and urges.

Guide 2: General Chapter XXIV, 35 says: *"We renew the choice of Salesian assistance, according to the heart of Jesus the Good Shepherd; to become a fruitful presence and witness among young people, rediscovering the centrality of the educational relationship and its generative force."*

Guide 3: If the educator truly believes that in every young person there is some good, then this hope makes us creative, bold, provocative, at finding the good that is within the youth.

Do young people like Maria Belletti come to your mind and heart? What is your educational intervention?

(reflect while walking)

THIRD STOP: Emma Ferrero

(in front of the small chapel before taking the road down to the river)

Guide 1: Emma was born in Turin on 2 July 1859. She died in Nizza Monferrato at 21 years of age. She was sent by Don Bosco to Mornese. She was of "extraordinary attractiveness", and had a very free lifestyle, until one day, due to financial instability; her father was forced to turn to Don Bosco for help. Emma agreed to go to Mornese to escape the shame, and above all to be able to study. She arrived there in a situation of inner revolt. Sarcastic smiles and rudeness were the response to her educators' multiple attempts to approach her.

Guide 2: "Inspired by the community of *Mornese in 'uscita'* and in communion with the synodal journey of the Church, let us assume, on personal and

community levels, the responsibility of living synodality, open to listening and accompanying...". (GC XXIV, 35 page 37)

Guide 3: Hope is the virtue that can help us “reawaken the aesthetic and contemplative sense that God has placed in us” (QA 56) and help the educator in his or her noble mission to reawaken this same sense in young people.

Do young people come to your mind and heart like Emma Ferrero? What is your educational intervention?

(reflect while walking)

The Roverno Wants to Speak to You

(When the participants arrive to the river allow them to take pictures and look around. Once the initial excitement has passed, begin this time of reflection at the Roverno by the water's edge.)

Guide 1: Let yourself be found by God present yesterday, today and always in nature, in young people, in yourself.

(brief pause)

Guide 1: Here at the Roverno, through the work of washing clothes and linen and spending time together with the girls the first community of Mornese experienced the joy of being together as family. The educational mission was lived in the context of community. We too are called to create and live community in our educational mission.



Voice 1: Pope Francis told us: “you must immerse yourself in the complex scenario of today's world rooted in Christ, without giving in to the temptations of spiritual worldliness in its various forms.”

Voice 2: Christ requires from you your creative fidelity to the charism which "is a living reality, not an embalmed relic", "it is life that creates and moves and expands and is not a museum piece ". (*Discourse of Pope Francis to the FMA General Chapter members 22 October, 2021*)

Guide 2: As the song plays you are invited to add some water in your bottle as a sign of bringing fresh water to young people.

Song: Let Your Living Water Flow! (56)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nimruXVlrRk>

Let Your Living Water flow over my soul
Let Your Holy Spirit come and take control
of every situation that has troubled my mind
All my cares and burdens on to You I roll

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
(Sing to the Father)
Father, Father, Father
(Holy Spirit)
Spirit, Spirit, Spirit

Let Your Living Water flow over my soul
Let Your Holy Spirit come and take control
of every situation that has troubled my mind
All my cares and burdens onto You I roll

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
(Sing to the Father)
Father, Father, Father
(Precious Spirit)
Spirit, Spirit, Spirit

Come now Holy Spirit and take control
Hold me in Your loving arms and make me whole



Wipe away all doubt and fear and take my pride
Draw me to Your love and keep me by Your side
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
Father, Father, Father
Spirit, Spirit, Spirit

Give your life to Jesus, let Him fill your soul
Let Him take you in His arms and make you whole
As you give your life to Him, He'll set you free
You will live and reign with Him eternally

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
(Let us talk to the Father)
Father, Father, Father
(Precious Spirit)
Spirit, Spirit, Spirit

Let Your Living Water flow over my soul
Let Your Holy Spirit come and take control
of every situation that has troubled my mind
All my cares and burdens onto You I roll

(The participants are invited to spend the rest of the time in quiet personal reflection. We depart the river at 11:15am.)



PERSONAL REFLECTION afternoon

(The participants are invited to personally reflect using the following resources:)

- Educative Dimension: ppt/pdf found in Resources
- *With Main on the Pathways of Life*: 6th stage "Life that expands"



GROUP WORK

(Sharing will take place in small groups of 5.)

- How can we be an answer to the thirst of young people today according to the experience of this day?
- Each group is invited to create a psalm entitled: "Psalm of the water that quenches the thirst of young people"

(When finished the participants can continue with personal reflection until evening prayer.)

PRAYER

(Evening prayer is made up of the psalms composed by each group and concludes with a Magnificat.)

