



SALESIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT

Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco

Daughters of Mary Help of Christians

Conferenza Interispettoriale Asia Orientale (CIAO)

SYM CIAO Camp 2024

July 28 – August 2, 2024

Mornese Center of Spirituality

Pansol, Calamba City, Laguna, Philippines

*“Young Dreamers:
Empowering Dreams
for a Just and Sustainable World”*

PRIMER

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I. INTRODUCTION

What is the SYM CIAO Camp 2024?

The SYM CIAO Camp 2024 is an international celebration uniting young people, lay animators, and FMA Sisters from various provinces under the Conferenza Interispettoriale Asia Orientale (Interprovincial Conference of East Asia). Comprising 8 provinces including CIN (Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan), CYM (Cambodia and Myanmar), FIL (Philippines and Papua New Guinea), GIA (Japan), KOR (Korea and Mongolia), TIN (Timor Leste), THA (Thailand), and VTN (Vietnam), the camp aims to gather 250 participants and guide them on a simple journey to embrace the theme "Young Dreamers: Empowering Dreams for a Just and Sustainable World." It serves as a platform for fostering connections, cultural exchange, and collective action towards a more just, sustainable, compassionate, and synodal world for the common good.

II. The SYM CIAO Camp 2024

Theme: "Young Dreamers: Empowering Dreams for a Just and Sustainable World"

The theme "Young Dreamers: Empowering Dreams for a Just & Sustainable World" goes beyond the traditional idea of dreaming and encouraging young people to actively participate in their communities to bring about positive change. It captures the spirit of transcending, enkindling, and synergizing individual dreams to collectively build a reality that aligns with the vision of a fair and sustainable world.

This theme serves as a compass for the Salesian youth participating in the CIAO Camp, highlighting the importance of putting their dreams into tangible action and going beyond one's own goals. It emphasizes the importance of taking concrete steps to bring positive change and make a meaningful impact in the lives of others, especially their fellow youth.

The theme seamlessly aligns with the essence of the Rector Major's Strenna 2024, "The Dream that Makes You Dream: A Heart that Transforms Wolves into Lambs." This theme goes beyond the mere retelling and conceptualization of Don Bosco's Dream at Nine and many other dreams; it underscores the transformative power of nine year-old Giovanni's prophetic vision to inspire tangible actions and a deeper sense of purpose.

The Salesian Youth Movement, as a concrete fruit of the Dream, a gift of gratitude and a living legacy to Don Bosco, encourages young people to dream not only for themselves but also for the betterment of their fellow youth and society. "Young Dreamers" promotes a vision where dreams extend beyond personal level. This theme signifies a commitment to realizing not only the Dream at 9 but also many other prophetic dreams through empowerment, service, works of mercy, and a sense of social responsibility, aiming to create a more just, sustainable, compassionate, and synodal world for the common good.

- Objectives:**
- a.** Empower young minds with the spirit of Don Bosco (Salesian Youth Spirituality), nurturing leadership qualities and instilling a sense of purpose, encouraging them to envision and actively work towards creating a better world that is both just and sustainable.
 - b.** Enhance knowledge and foster collaborative learning among participants by sharing best practices. Provide a platform for young dreamers to exchange insights and experiences that contribute to their understanding of how to empower their dreams.
 - c.** Create an environment that allows participants to live the Salesian Family Spirit, to feel the joy of togetherness, fostering a sense of community and connection. Through shared experiences, enable young dreamers to form new friendships and strengthen their collective commitment and relationships in a uniquely Asian setting.
 - d.** Equip Salesian youth with knowledge and skills to advocate for social justice and equality. Through workshops, discussions, and interactive sessions, empower them to address social issues and promote fairness and inclusivity in their communities.

Date: The SYM CIAO Camp will take place from **July 28 to August 2, 2024.**

Venue: The SYM CIAO Camp will take place at the Mornese Center of Spirituality, nestled in the serene surroundings of Pansol, within the picturesque landscape of Calamba City, situated in the province of Laguna, Philippines. This venue offers a peaceful and conducive environment for the pilgrims to engage in various activities, workshops, and discussions as part of the camp's program, fostering personal growth, reflection, and spiritual development.



Mornese Center of Spirituality, Capt. Mamon Road, Barangay Pansol, Calamba, Philippines, 4027

Participants: 16-25 years of age (Senior High School and College Students)

III. Message from the FMA General Councilor for Youth Ministry

Hi there, CIAO Youth Dreamers! After a long time of dreaming of coming together as CIAO Young people, the moment has arrived: the SYM CIAO Camp 2024. And what a wonderful coincidence, since this year, we are celebrating the two hundred years of Don Bosco's Dream at Nine. In many cultures, and I am sure in the different Asian cultures, there is a special place for dreams. Ancient cultures believed that dreams "offer a window into a deeper understanding of ourselves and our connection to the world and everything in it."

We are children of dreamers. For both Don Bosco and Mother Mazzarello, dreams or visions have allowed them to discover God's way of leading their lives towards its meaning and fullness. Don Bosco had many dreams. His dream when he was nine years old is called the foundational dream, that sort of inaugurated his life's mission. For Mother Mazzarello, her vision at Borgoalto, where she heard the voice "I entrust them to you," was the divine way of communicating her vocation.

Pope Francis tells you, young people, to "keep following your hopes and dreams. But be careful about one temptation that can hold us back. It is anxiety. Anxiety can work against us by making us give up whenever we do not see instant results. Our best dreams are only attained through hope, patience, and commitment, and not in haste. At the same time, we should not be hesitant, afraid to take chances or make mistakes" (Christus Vivit 142).

Our SYM CIAO Camp in the Philippines this coming July and August will be a wonderful occasion for us to dream together and to form a community of hope. We want to dream

dreams that can be transformed into reality. We wouldn't let the bleak scenario to overwhelm us. Christ is alive! He is with us. He calls us together and in our togetherness is power that can create change, one step at a time.

As we prepare for the SYM CIAO Camp, I leave you with these words of Pope Francis as he described the saintly Vietnamese Cardinal Francis Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận: "Choose to live the present moment, filling it to the brim with love. Seize the occasions that present themselves every day. Accomplish ordinary actions in an extraordinary way. As you achieve your dreams, make the most of each day and do your best to let each moment brim with love" (Christus Vivit 148). Wow, these words are very Salesian.

See you soon! In the meantime, pay more attention to your dreams or your desires, not only for yourselves but also for your community and for the world. Write them down. Repeat them to yourselves. Think about ways, no matter how simple they may be, to make them come true.

God bless.

Sr. Runita Galve Borja, FMA
FMA General Councilor for Youth Ministry

IV. Inspiration from St. John Bosco

It was not only his stories, tricks and lovable traits that captured the hearts of so many youngsters. In those early years, and throughout his life to his dying day, there must have shone through his whole countenance the purity of his soul. To meet him, to be near him produced a joy, a peace of mind, a delight and such an ardent desire to become better that it could not be traced to a purely earthly affection. Thousands of boys have experienced this, and it has been confirmed by thousands of others who worked together with him. Once they knew John Bosco, they could no longer detach themselves from him, nor could they ever forget his magnetic personality.

(BM, Chapter 17, page 125)

The Movement started with Don Bosco, whom the Holy Spirit raised up with the gifts of nature and grace, to be in the Church and for the world, the FATHER AND TEACHER OF THE YOUTH.

Having such a charismatic personality, an encounter with him immediately produced in the young person a kind of joy, peace of mind, and an ardent desire to become better.

Wherever Don Bosco went, young people were fascinated by him! It was not only because of his magic tricks, his stories, and his other lovable traits that captured the hearts of so many young people... more importantly, it was because of the purity of his soul completely dedicated to God.

Don Bosco was a master in the ways of taking care of the young, and he taught the Church and the world how to do the same. He dedicated his life for the young, loving them to his last breath. The love of God in Jesus Christ inspired him to fulfill this noble mission for the young.

A great number of those fascinated by Don Bosco were eventually inspired by him to embrace his mission to bring God's love to the youth. From the groups that he originally founded, (Salesian congregation, Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, and the Salesian Cooperators), the Salesian movement grew bigger and more dynamic with the passing of time.

With Don Bosco's inspiration, new sodalities and federations were born. These groups continue to save souls just as Don Bosco did. Today, we can see how the charisma that Don Bosco received changed the world. With more young people committed to continue his mission of serving the youth and leading them to Christ, Don Bosco's legacy lives on. (*SYM Philippines Primer 2019*)

V. THE DELEGATION

For the SYMCIAOCamp2024 to become a fully meaningful experience, those coming to take part must be prepared well, this begins with understanding well what the event stands for.

The best context for this preparation is the delegation and its origin.

What is an SYMCIAOCamp2024 Delegation

A delegation is a group composed of individuals, whether youth or animators, who legitimately belong to the same province or local setting.

The formation and sending of the delegation to the SYMCIAOCamp2024 is recognized, endorsed, and supported by the **SYMCIAOCamp2024 Endorser** (see below). The delegation is under the leadership of a duly designated Delegation Head and Assistant Head.

Below are key topics regarding the delegation: SYMCIAOCamp2024 Endorser, composition of the delegation, Delegation Head and Assistant Head, and movement of the delegation.

SYMCIAOCamp2024 Endorser

The SYMCIAOCamp2024 Endorser is the person of utmost authority in the origin which a delegation represents. She recommends and gives full support to the creation and participation of the delegation.

If a delegation comes from the foreign countries - CIAO, its SYMCIAOCamp2024 Endorser is the Provincial Superior (or the Youth Ministry In-charge of the province).

The SYMCIAOCamp2024 Endorser designates the Delegation Head and Assistant Head.

She endorses not only the delegation itself, but also each person in the delegation.

Composition

The delegation is composed of youths who belong to the particular province in CIAO which the delegation represents. These youths are accompanied by youth ministers who may be religious or lay adults (animators).

Since the delegation is sent to a youth event, its composition should be of young people, i.e. 80% of the total number are youth. It will be well to keep a balanced representation of male and female youths.

The following are other basic criteria for pilgrims:

Youth

- At least 16 and at most 25 years of age
- Belongs to the school / organization represented by the delegation
- If a minor (below 18 years of age): Carries a written authorization from parent/s allowing the child to participate in the SYMCIAOCamp2024 under the supervision of the Delegation Head

Animator

- Actively involved in the youth ministry of the province/ organization represented by the delegation
- Between 20-up years of age

The Delegation Head and Assistant Head

As the name of the role implies, the Delegation Head is responsible for leading the entire delegation. He/She is a youth animator, normally a member of the Youth Council and possessing pastoral, ministerial and leadership capacities.

Specific responsibilities include the following:

- Lead the Delegation in the registration process implemented for the SYMCIAOCamp2024
- Accomplish the Registration Forms accurately and fully, and send it to the SYMCIAOCamp2024 Registration Team;
- Serve as the contact person of the Delegation for all SYMCIAOCamp2024 communications and transactions with the FIL province and SYMCIAOCamp2024 Organizing Team

- Act as conduit of information from the SYMCIAOCamp2024 Organizers to his/her Delegation members, ensuring that all information is relayed and understood;
- Organize the preparation of his/her Delegation, starting with a Delegation Orientation aimed to ensure that each member of the Delegation understands the SYMCIAOCamp2024 Primer, and other ways and means, including those offered by the SYMCIAOCamp2024 Organizers for the preparatory phase; and
- Travel to the SYMCIAOCamp2024 with his/her Delegation, and accompany them in full and active participation in the entire SYMCIAOCamp2024.

The Delegation Assistant Head assists the Delegation Head in all his/her functions and responsibilities. Second to the Head, he/she serves as the contact person of the Delegation. He/She also assumes full responsibility over the Delegation in case of the absence or incapacity of the Head.

Here are basic criteria for a Delegation Head and Assistant Head:

- Come from the same origin as the rest of the Delegation they will lead
 - Between 25-50 years of age
 - Duly designated by the Provincial Superior or Youth Ministry In-charge
 - Capable and committed to represent the Delegation
 - Have a working email address for the exchange of communications with the SYMCIAOCamp2024 Organizers

Movement of the Delegation

The delegation comes together before the SYMCIAOCamp2024 not only for the registration and other practical arrangements (travel to and from Laguna, etc.) but also for the preparatory phase which includes formation modules, community prayer activities and others, which can use either those to be shared by the SYMCIAOCamp2024 Organizers or those prepared by the delegation itself.

Before leaving for Laguna, it will be significant to celebrate a Rite of Commissioning (possibly within a Eucharistic Celebration) within the origin, for the bigger community to pray over and send forth their delegation to the SYMCIAOCamp2024.

After the event, it will be wise to come together as a delegation, led by the Head and Assistant Head, and process the experience, identify paths forward inspired by the SYMCIAOCamp2024, and implement these plans within the context of one's origin.

V. REGISTRATION

A province / local setting forming a delegation to the SYMCIAOCamp2024 is then asked to follow this registration process, which consists of two (2) phases:

1st Phase A delegation registers using the SYMCIAOCamp2024 **Delegation Registration Form (DRF)**. This form requires the following:

- 1 - Name of the Origin**, which the delegation represents.
- 2 - Delegation Head and Assistant Head**, with important information about them.
- 3 - Final number of participants**
- 4 - List of names of the participants**
- 5 - Total amount of solidarity share (registration fee)**
- 6 - Initial Travel details**

During and after this 1st Phase, the delegation is expected to undertake efforts to prepare for the 2nd Phase, e.g. promotion of the delegation in the entire province / community, recruitment of delegates, designing delegation activities, etc.

2nd Phase After receiving and assessing the **DRF**, the organizer shall confirm the registration of the delegation through email. This confirmation ushers the 2nd Phase, where the organizer will send the following for further accomplishment by the delegation:

2 - SYMCIAOCamp2024 Individual Registration Form (IRF), which will require the following information regarding each individual participant:

- a) Personal details**
- b) Contact person in case of emergency**
- c) Health declaration**
- d) Authorization and waiver**

The organizer must receive the personally accomplished IRF of its delegates by **April 14, 2024**. These must be sent via email.

Registration Fee

As part of the registration process, each delegate is asked to submit a Registration Fee as one's personal share in the considerable resources required for a big event like the SYMCIAOCamp2024. For the SYMCIAOCamp2024, the individual registration fee of USD 250 per pilgrim not later than **July 16, 2024**.

The Delegation Head may remit the total Registration Fee for the delegation to:

Account Name:

MOTHER PROVINCIAL OF THE DAUGHTERS OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, INC.

Account Number: 306-2-30600298-2

Bank: METROPOLITAN BANK AND TRUST COMPANY - V. MAPA BRANCH

Swift code: MBTCPHMM

***DOLLAR ACCOUNT**

Account Name:

MOTHER PROVINCIAL OF THE DAUGHTERS OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, INC.

Account Number: 306-3-30650222-1

Bank: METROPOLITAN BANK AND TRUST COMPANY - V. MAPA BRANCH

Swift code: MBTCPHMM

***PESO ACCOUNT**

After the deposit, a copy of the bank-validated deposit slip with the following subject "SYMCIAOCamp2024 Registration Fee from <origin>" must be sent to the organizer via email.

Payment of the total amount for registration completes and finalizes the registration of a delegation.

VI. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Travel Arrangements

As one body, the delegation follows one movement going to the SYMCIAOCamp2024, i.e. same travel itinerary for arrival in the Philippines.

While it may be preferred that the delegation also leaves together after the SYMCIAOCamp2024, different dates of departure may be accepted; however, the hosting by the host-country ceases once the delegation deregisters on the last day of the event.

Preparing for the SYMCIAOCamp2024

Each delegation which is confirmed after the 2nd Phase of the Registration will receive, through the Delegation Head, materials and resources for the preparatory phase, as well as further information and updates about the SYMCIAOCamp2024, e.g. meaning of the logo, theme song, delegation tasks, etc. These will be sent primarily through email.

Keeping the Delegation Intact

At the onset, delegations are requested to submit and keep a realistic number of participants. In fact, the group begins the SYMCIAOCamp2024 pilgrimage not only in July upon arrival in Laguna, but even in their own settings and countries of origin months before the SYMCIAOCamp2024, it will be well to have everyone onboard throughout the pilgrimage, i.e. beginning from the registration, onwards to the preparations which will take place months before the SYMCIAOCamp2024 and in the respective origins, up until the SYMCIAOCamp2024 itself, and echoing even after, through re-entry sessions and planning in youth ministry settings post-SYMCIAOCamp2024.

VII. Contact

The SYMCIAOCamp2024 Organization is happy to accompany and support you on your journey of preparation for this significant gathering!

For registration concerns and other SYMCIAOCamp2024-related matters, please contact:

The SYMCIAOCamp2024 Coordinating Team

Address: FMA Provincial House, 3500 V. Mapa Exit, Sta. Mesa, Manila, 1016

Telephone: 8714 59 37

Mobile: +63 917 656 1102 (Sr. Marivic Sta. Ana, FMA)

Email: symciaocamp2024@gmail.com

Please like, follow, and share the **SYM FMA-FIL** social media page on Facebook managed by the SYM FIL Province: <https://www.facebook.com/symfmafil>

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