



## ACT OF VENERATION TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE HELP OF CHRISTIANS

O Mary, our immaculate Mother, the Help of Christians,  
today we come to you, not alone,  
but with all the members of our province,  
of the Salesian Society and of the Salesian Family,  
that you may smile upon us all,  
bless us and protect us from every danger.

We bring to you, Mother, the children,  
especially those who are alone or abandoned,  
and for this reason are misled and exploited.

We bring to you, Mother, families,  
who carry forward life and society,  
with their daily commitments and hidden sacrifices;  
in a special way the families who face great struggles  
due to so many internal and external problems.

We bring to you, Mother, all workers, both men and women,  
and we entrust to you, especially those who, out of need,  
are forced to perform undignified work,  
and those who have lost work or are unable to find it.

We are in need of your immaculate gaze,  
to recover the ability to look upon persons and things  
with respect and awareness,  
without self-centered interests or hypocrisy.

We are in need of your immaculate heart,  
to love freely, without secondary aims,  
but with simplicity and sincerity,  
renouncing masks and makeup,  
always seeking the good of the other.

We are in need of your immaculate hands,  
to caress with tenderness, to touch the flesh of Jesus  
in our brothers and sisters who are poor, sick or despised,  
to raise up those who have fallen and support those who waver.

We are in need of your immaculate feet,  
to go out to meet those  
who do not know how to take the first step,  
to walk on the paths of those who feel lonely,  
to find those who are lost.

We thank you, O immaculate Mother,  
because in showing yourself to us, free of all stain of sin,  
you remind us that what must come first is the grace of God,  
the love of Jesus Christ who gave his life for us,  
the strength of the Holy Spirit who makes all things new.  
Let us not give in to discouragement,  
but, trusting in your constant help,  
may we cooperate fully with God's grace  
in the renewal of self, of our communities and province,  
and of the entire Salesian Family.

Oh Mary conceived without sin,  
pray for us, who have recourse to you!