

## **FORMATION PROGRAM FOR FRANSALIAN ASSOCIATES**

**USA Vice-Province of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales  
MSFS Provincial House, 3887 Rosebud Road, Loganville-Atlanta, Georgia 30052 USA  
(Schema for the Formation Program)**

### **Module 1: Entering into Fransalian Associate Apostolate**

- A. Fransalian Associate program Modules
- B. Sharing some news of the Congregation / Province / Delegation
- C. Sharing of life and faith experiences

### **Module 2: The Understanding of Lay Associates**

- A. History of 'Lay Associates' (see document Holy Cross pages 2-5)
- B. Church and Lay Apostolate

### **Module 3: St. Francis de Sales View of Lay Apostolate**

- A. Instruction of St. Francis de Sales to Laity (Based on his writing)
- B. Its development in our Congregation

### **Module 4: Life of St. Francis de Sales**

The Patron Saint, Francis de Sales

- A. His Life and works, to be detailed
- B. Salesian legacy

### **Module 5: The Origin of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales – Fransalians**

- A. Historical background of France at the beginning of our Congregation
  - French Revolution and its effect on society
  - Separation of the Church and the State in France
- B. Life of Fr. Mermier
- C. Birth and growth of our Congregation, the Memorandum

### **Module 6: Charism and Apostolates of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales – Fransalians**

- A. Explanation of charism in general and the Charism of our Congregation
- B. The threefold apostolate

### **Module 7: Vision and Mission of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales – Fransalians**

- A. Vision and Mission
- B. Fr. Mermier's apostolic zeal
- C. Information on various ministries of our Congregation
- D. Participating in our ministries according to each one's possibility and availability
- E. Involvement in parish activities and works of mercy

### **Module 8: Catholic Spirituality**

- A. Introduction to Religion & Spirituality
- B. Catholic Spirituality in Catholic Tradition
- C. The spirituality of St. Ignatius and St. Vincent de Paul

### **Module 9: Salesian Spirituality**

- A. Salesian method of meditation
- B. Review of Prayer Time

### **Module 10: PsychoSpirituality**

- A. The psychological outlook of Salesian Spirituality
- B. Positive psychology & Salesian Optimism
- C. A Clinical Pastoral Training Program in Family Counseling for Lay Associates of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales (Doctoral Thesis of Dr. Abraham Vettuvellil, MSFS)

### **Module 11: Salesian Method of Meditation**

- A. Preparation
- B. Considerations
- C. Affections and Resolutions
- D. Conclusion
- E. Nosegay

### **Module 12: Essential understanding of the Salesian View of Prayer: (A Day of Recollection)**

- A. What is Prayer? Some chapters of the Introduction of the Devout Life
- B. Prayer in the Life of MSFS
  - Meditation on the Word of God
  - Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation (IDL chapters)

**Module 13: Salesian Understanding of Divine Love in Prayer**

- A. Introducing Book, Treatise on Love of God
- B. Meditation and contemplation on book VII & XII (Treatise on the Love of God)

**Module 14: Salesian Understanding Special Devotions**

- A. Devotion to Our Lady – Rosary of the Seven Dolours
- B. Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- C. Importance of devotion on daily Life

**Module 15: Learning Salesian Virtues**

7 Pillars of Salesian Spirituality, (Salesian Little Virtues)

- A. Simplicity
- B. Humility
- C. Charity
- D. Optimism
- E. Gentleness
- F. Humanness
- G. Resignation to the Will of God

**Module 16: Salesian Understanding of Holiness**

- A. Call to witness Universal Holiness (Taught by St. Francis de Sales)
- B. Salesian Spirit of Vatican II

**Module 17: Salesian Reflection on Liturgical Year**

- A. Advent
- B. Christmas
- C. Lent
- D. Easter
- E. Ordinary Time

**Module 18: God's Saving Plan (Scripture and Tradition)**

- A. Creation and the Fall (Book of Genesis)
- B. God's dream of Salvation:
- C. God's plan of Salvation fulfilled in Jesus Christ: Gospels, Acts, Pauline letters
- D. God's Personal love for me

**Module 19: Blessed Mother: A Model of Christian Life**

- A. Our Lady of Compassion (Sorrow) Our patroness
- B. Mary's role in God's plan of Salvation
- C. Rosary of the Seven Dolours

**Module 20: Dogmatic Presuppositions in Saint Francis de Sales**

- A. Creation and Incarnation. Christo centrism
- B. Freewill and Grace 54
- C. Divine Providence 63
- D. Charity

**Module 21: St. Jane Frances de Chantal & Visitation Order – V.H.M.**

- A. Jane Francis de Chantal Spiritual daughter of St. Francis de Sales
- B. Order of Visitation Sisters

**Module 22: Spiritual Theology of St. Francis de Sales**

- A. Christian Humanism
- B. Salesian Spiritual theology
- C. Salesian Anthropology

**Module 23: St. Francis de Sales: Patron of Different Religious Orders**

- A. Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales – MSFS
- B. Institute of Salesians of Don Bosco – SDB
- C. Oblates of St. Francis de Sales – OSFS
- D. Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales – OSFS
- E. Salesian Sisters of Mary Immaculate – SMMI
- F. Visitation Sisters – V.H.M.
- G. Daughters of St. Francis de Sales – DSFS
- H. Daughters of St. Francis de Sales - Lay Association
- I. Other Members of NASN – North American Salesian Network

**Module 24: What to Expect as a Fransalian Associate?**

**(A Day of Recollection with St. Francis de Sales)**

- A. Living the Spirit and Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales
- B. Disseminating the writings of St. Francis de Sales
- C. Partnering with the Mission and Ministry of the Fransalians

## References

### Writings of St. Francis de Sales (Book Format)

1. Introduction to devote Life
2. Treatise on Love of God
3. The Catholic Controversy
4. Francis de Sales, Jane de Chantal letters of Spiritual Direction
5. The Sermons of Francis de Sales (On Our Lady, On Prayer, For Lent, For Advent & Christmas)
6. Sermons, Letters, and Spiritual Conferences

### Writings on St. Francis de Sales

1. Joseph Boenzi. *Saint Francis de Sales: Life & Spirit*
2. Jean Pierre Camus. *The Spirit of St. Francis de Sales*
3. Lewis S. Fiorelli, OSFS. *Seven Fundamental Themes of Salesian Spirituality*
4. Antony Mookenthotam Msfs. *St. Francis de Sales Formative biography*
5. Lajeunie, E. J. St. Francis de Sales: *The Man, The Thinker, His influence (Vol - 1)*
6. Lajeunie, E. J. St. Francis de Sales: *The Man, The Thinker, His influence (Vol - 2)*
7. Michael De La Bedoyere. *Saint Maker (Life SFS)*.
8. Arnaldo Pedrini, SDB. *St. Francis de Sales, Don Bosco's Patron*
9. John Edward Beahn. *A Man of Good Zeal (Biographical Novel on SFS)*
10. Louise Stacpoole-Kenny. *St. St. Francis de Sales, The Biography of Gentle Saint*
11. John Burns. *Lift Your Heart. Retreat with SFS*
12. Jordan Aumann. *Christian Spirituality in the Catholic Tradition.*
13. Joseph Chorpenning, OSFS. His books
14. Tom Dailey, OSFS. His books
15. Sandy Pocetto, OSFS. His books
16. MSFS Authors on Salesian Spirituality

### eBooks

1. Collection of St. Francis de Sales (15 eBooks. Available in Kindle)
2. Collection of St. Jane de Chantel (eBooks. Available in Kindle)

### Websites

[www.fransaliansusa.org](http://www.fransaliansusa.org)  
[www.msfstoday.org](http://www.msfstoday.org)  
[www.wellspringcommunity.net](http://www.wellspringcommunity.net)  
[www.fransaliantimesusa.org](http://www.fransaliantimesusa.org)  
[www.honeycombtoday.com](http://www.honeycombtoday.com)  
[www.salesianliterature.wixsite.com](http://www.salesianliterature.wixsite.com)

### Doctoral Thesis

1. Some sources will be taken from the doctoral thesis on St. Francis de Sales.

**Note:** Additional books will be added for further reference published by SFS Publication, Bangalore.

Prepared by & Published on August 12, 2020 on the Feast Day of St. Jane de Chantal:

**Fr. K. Rajasekar MSFS**

**Fr. Tomy Joseph Puliyanampattayil MSFS**