

Statutes of the St. Francis de Sales Association

*Voted on and Approved by the General Assembly of
The St. Francis de Sales Association
May 30-June 2, 2003*

*Approved by the Pontifical Council for the Laity
Rome April 4, 2007*

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Approved by the Pontifical Council for the Laity
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STATUTES OF THE SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

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Voted on and approved by the General Assembly of May 30-June 3, 2003

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STATUTES OF THE SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

FIRST PART

COMMON TO THE STATUTES OF THE SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES ASSOCIATION AND TO THE CONSTITUTIONS OF THE SALESIAN MISSIONARIES OF MARY IMMACULATE

CHAPTER I NATURE, PURPOSE AND SPIRIT OF THE SOCIETY

1. The Society of the Daughters of St. Francis de Sales is a spiritual family founded in 1872 in Paris by Father Henri Chaumont and Mme Caroline Carre de Malberg for the service and glory of God according to the spirit of St. Francis de Sales.

Approved by the Apostolic See in 1911, it comprises today two autonomous branches, the St. Francis de Sales Association and the Salesian Missionaries of Mary Immaculate. Members of both branches make the same “Salesian Consecration” which unites them by means of a common spirituality and in two different states of life.

Each of the two branches is governed by the relevant canonical norms and by its own laws.

The St. Francis de Sales Association, which is a private, universal Association of the faithful, is under the jurisdiction of the Pontifical Council for the Laity which approves its statutes.

The Salesian Missionaries of Mary Immaculate, a religious Institute which stemmed from the original foundation, is under the jurisdiction of the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and the Societies of Apostolic Life which approves its constitutions.

The part common to these Statutes and Constitutions is jointly approved by both Dicasteries.

2. According to the insight of its Founder, the Society is a spiritual family dedicated at its foundation to the Spirit of Jesus. It helps its members: “*as far as possible, to imitate in the midst of the world, the virtue and dedication of the holy women of the Gospel as well as of the first auxiliaries of the Apostles.*” (H. Chaumont, quoted in the 1911 Constitutions.)

3. The Society helps its members:

- to answer, with the grace of God, the universal call to holiness through fidelity to the Gospel in the midst of the world and in every state of life.

- to participate in the universal mission of the Church by the witness of their lives and by apostolic action adapted to the life circumstances of each of its members. The members of the Society find in Salesian spirituality the way to strive together for the fullness of their baptismal consecration through their search for a greater love of God and neighbor.

In order to live their specific vocation generously and simply “in Jesus Christ” they are consecrated to his Spirit whose action permits them:

-to love God and his “good pleasure” with a filial, trustful love which is the source of freedom and good balance, of peace and joy, seeing in the duty of their state of life “the clearest expression of God’s will.” (Canon Chaumont)

-to love their neighbor with a strong and kindly love in an attitude of faith and respect, of availability and gentleness.

-to love the Church with a love which is expressed by service for the whole people of God, and by respect and obedience to the successors of the Apostles.

4. The text of the Salesian consecration common to both branches:

In the presence of the Holy Trinity, I . . . give thanks to God for having become, through Baptism, His child and a member of the Church, without any merit on my part.

Desiring to live fully my Baptismal consecration, I am answering God’s call today.

I commit myself to strive for holiness as it is found in the Gospel, in the spirit of St. Francis de Sales, and to serve the Church by the witness of my whole life and by my participation in its apostolate.

I freely give and consecrate myself to God in the Society of the Daughters of St. Francis de Sales, with my whole heart, with my whole soul, with my whole mind, and with my whole strength.

Holy Spirit, Spirit of Truth, make me understand the grandeur and the duties of my vocation so that the radiance of Your grace may attract other souls to Your love.

Holy Trinity, accept the offering I have just made of my whole self to the praise of Your glory.

Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, I entrust my life and my apostolate to your maternal care.

AMEN

CHAPTER II

ORGANIZATION OF THE SOCIETY

5. Reference to St. Francis de Sales, to the Founders, to the Salesian consecration made by all members according to their state of life (Cf. I, 3 above), and to the method of Probations are the source of the very powerful fraternal bonds between all the members, lay and religious. The common Archives also help to maintain and increase these bonds.

6. The Council members of each branch will strive to ensure this unity and to maintain the spirit of our Founders. They will nurture the development of Salesian spirituality and foster groups of people wishing to have some link with the Society.

7. If needed, they will be helped by the Archivists of both branches to whom the conservation of the Society’s documents is entrusted since its foundation.

8. In order to maintain the fraternal bonds and the unity of spirit desired by the Founders, the members of the General Councils of both branches will meet in plenary session at least once a year. The Archivists and other experts may be invited to attend.
9. The annual plenary session will be chaired alternately by the superior authority of each branch. The General Secretaries of both branches will prepare the agenda.
10. This meeting will include:
- evaluation of the previous year as well as the reading of various reports (previous meeting, specific work of a committee, etc.)
 - drawing up the common spiritual plan for the Salesian Year. Each branch will be free to adapt this plan to its specific needs.
 - determining a schedule of meetings during the year if deemed necessary.
 - creating new fraternal bonds (communication, exchanges, creation and formation of groups, committees, etc.) and, if need be the cancellation of those which have become obsolete.
 - mutual information about current activities as well as future plans.
 - examination of all new proposals which would help to maintain the purpose and spirit of the Society according to the insight and charisma of our Founders.
 - examination of suggestions concerning both branches.

CHAPTER III

THE SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

11. The mission of the Spiritual Advisor General to the whole of the Society is part of the foundational charisma (Cf. 1911 Constitutions, Ch. 7, #50). His duty is to help maintain the unity of the Society's religious spirit and to work for the sanctification of its members.

With the leadership and Councils of both branches, he is guarantor and servant of unity through fidelity to the charisma.

Hence, the Spiritual Advisor General is the same for the Saint Francis de Sales Association and for the Institute of the Salesian Missionaries of Mary Immaculate.

He is jointly chosen by the General Councils of both branches.

Every year, according to the Society's tradition, he writes the Pentecost Novena.

In collaboration with the leaders of the two branches:

- he participates in drawing up the formation programs, both basic and continuing and, in particular, the probations so that they conform to the teachings of the Church and the inspiration of the Founders.

-he encourages and accompanies the members of the Society in their journey towards holiness and in their apostolic duty.

He is regularly kept informed of the life of both branches of the Society.

While not an ex officio member, he participates as far as is possible in the plenary sessions, but does not vote.

The Spiritual Advisor General is a priest of St. Francis de Sales. His mandate is for three years and may be renewed two times.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

12. Any modification to this common part which concerns the whole of the Society of the Daughters of Saint Francis de Sales needs to be agreed upon by both branches and to be submitted for approbation to the Pontifical Council for the Laity as well as to the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and the Societies of Apostolic Life.

SECOND PART OF THE STATUTES

PERTAINING TO THE ST. FRANCIS DE SALES ASSOCIATION (LAY BRANCH OF THE SOCIETY)

CHAPTER I ADMISSION

1. The Association receives Catholic women whether single, married or widowed, separated or divorced and not remarried, who are living according to the teachings of the Church.
2. The nature and purpose of the Association requires charity, discernment, and prudence in seeking and receiving vocations.
3. Admission to the formation and definitive admission to the Association is the responsibility of the Regional Directress, who makes the decision in the name of the General Council. The Interior Rule establishes the procedures to follow for the years of formation.
4. At the end of the formation, if the person is admitted, she makes the Act of Salesian Consecration during Mass or a celebration presided over by a Priest, in the presence of the General Directress or someone delegated by her.

5. The formula of the Salesian Consecration is approved by the Church:

In the presence of the Most Holy Trinity, I give thanks to God for having become, through Baptism, His child and a member of the Church, without any merit on my part.

Desiring to live fully my Baptismal consecration, I am answering God's call today.

I commit myself to strive for holiness as it is found in the Gospel, in the spirit of St. Francis de Sales, and to serve the Church by the witness of my whole life and by my participation in its apostolate.

I freely give and consecrate myself to God in the Society of the Daughters of St. Francis de Sales, with my whole heart, with my whole soul, with my whole mind, and with my whole strength.

Holy Spirit, Spirit of Truth, make me understand the grandeur and the duties of my vocation so that the radiance of Your grace may attract other souls to Your love.

Holy Trinity, accept the offering I have just made of my whole self to the praise of Your glory.

Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, I entrust my life and my apostolate to your maternal care.

AMEN.

6. Any member of the Association is free to withdraw after having made known her reasons. She will do this, however, only after having prayed and reflected. Those who are locally responsible must inform the General Council.

Moreover, the General Directress with the consent of the General Council (by secret ballot) may, if she judges it necessary for the good of the Association, exclude one of its members. She will do so only after a loyal exchange of views with the person in question.

CHAPTER II

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

7. The spiritual formation of the members of the Association is based on a life of prayer, the practice of the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity, and the evangelical virtues.

St. Francis de Sales wanted to instruct those who must live in the midst of the world how to strive for evangelical perfection. Members of the Association therefore seek in his writings, particularly in the *Introduction to the Devout Life*, the way they want to live the Gospel.

8. Based on solid knowledge of doctrine, the formation consists principally in the study and meditation on the Word of God and in the method of Probations.
The probation method, passed down by the Founder, consists in deepening, by reading and reflection, a special aspect of the imitation of Christ, according to the spirit of St. Francis de Sales, assimilating it by meditation and prayer and putting it in to practice in one's daily life.
9. The time of initial formation is normally two years. During this time, the Probanists- those admitted to the formation- are initiated in to the spirit and methods of the Association by a person prepared for this mission, a Probatrice. At the end of the formation, the Probanist commits herself by the *Salesian Consecration* to live the spirit of the Association. She is then admitted as an Associate.
10. Called to strive *together* to holiness, the Probanists and Associates complete their formation through meetings, discussions and the friendships that the spiritual family offers them.

According to the recommendations of St. Francis de Sales in the *Introduction to the Devout Life*, they will be aided by a priest or spiritual director to the degree that circumstances permit or necessitate.

11. The Associates have a Rule of Life that supports their efforts, orients them, unites them and helps them to constantly improve their way of living the Salesian Consecration, following the spirit of the Founders. The Interior Rule defines the ways this Rule of Life is to be practiced.
12. Before beginning their mission, Probatrices will complete a special preparation under the direction of the General Probatrice.

SPIRITUAL ANIMATION AND STRUCTURES

CHAPTER III

GENERAL ORGANIZATION

13. The Lay Branch of the Society is a ***private, universal association of the faithful*** according to the norms of Canon Law of 1983, cc 298-311 and 321-329. It is placed under the responsibility of the General Directress and the other members of the General Council.
14. The Association is divided into Regions whose numbers may be modified, according to necessity:
 - by the General Assembly if it concerns creating a new Region whose members had been dependent on the General Council
 - by the General Council, if it concerns dividing an existing Region or of consolidation of several Regions.Each Region is confided to a Regional Directress.
15. The Regions are grouped in territories for the purpose of election members of the General Council, except the General Directress. (cf. art. 69 & 70, Second Part of these Statutes)
16. Each Region is normally divided into Groups. Each Group is confided to a Directress who is assisted by a team. When there are only a few members, they are attached to an existing Group.

CHAPTER IV

THE GENERAL COUNCIL

17. The General Council is composed of:
 - The General Directress
 - From six to fourteen General Councilors, including:
 - Two Assistants
 - The General Probatrice
 - The General Secretary
18. It is presided over by the General Directress or, in her absence, by one of the Assistants.
19. All members of the General Council have the right to vote.
20. All questions of temporal administration, of spiritual formation along the line traced by the Founders, of animation, and, in a general way, everything concerning the life of the Association is under the jurisdiction of the General Council.
21. All members of the General Council have the right to express what they believe to be beneficial for the good of the Association and its members.

All Associates may communicate directly with any council member.
22. The General Council meets regularly according to a periodicity it sets. The General Directress or a majority of the members of the Council may convoke an extraordinary Council session.

23. To be valid, decisions normally require an absolute majority of those present. The General Directress has the right by her vote to break a tie.
24. Members of the General Council, with the exception of the General Directress, are elected by the Territorial Assemblies for a term of three years, according to the methods specified in the By-Laws. This term is renewable one time, without elections, between two General Assemblies. By right these members can be reelected.
25. Except for the General Directress, Associates who have belonged to the Association at least 5 years and have completed their Probatrice formation are eligible to be members of the General Council.
26. In the interval between two General Assemblies, an alternate as specified in the Interior Rule will replace a vacancy on the General Council, with the exception of the General Directress.

Before the expiration of its mandate, the General Council will prepare the next General Assembly. It establishes the list of persons to be proposed to the Assembly in preparation for the election of the future General Directress.

27. In case of necessity, when the number of Councilors elected does not total the number expected, the General Council may, during its first meeting following the General Assembly, fill the vacant seats.
28. If a grave problem develops with one assuming responsibility (General Directress, General Councilor, Regional Directress or Group Directress) the General Council may, after consulting others in charge who are involved and the General Spiritual Councilor, and after a loyal exchange of views with the person concerned, decide to suspend or terminate definitively her mandate.

CHAPTER V

THE GENERAL DIRECTRESS

29. The General Directress is elected for six years. She is eligible by right for a second term.
30. She is elected by the General Assembly following the directives of Article 78, Second Part of these Statutes.
31. To be eligible for the exercise of the charge of General Directress, an Associate must be at least forty years old, have been a member of the Association for at least ten years, have completed her Probatrice formation and possess the qualities indispensable to the office.
32. The General Directress who, before God, bears the principal responsibility for the Association, has as her essential duty to maintain it in the spirit of the Founders, the traditions they have left, and to further the evolution of the Association along the lines desired by the Church. She will exercise her authority in a spirit of service.
33. The General Directress, with the other member of the General Council, fosters work in common with the other Societies founded by Fr. Chaumont. She also encourages the development of new groups that adopt Salesian spirituality.

She will see that the members of the Association are well formed to take part in the apostolate suitable for the laity.

CHAPTER VI

THE ASSISTANTS

34. Two assistants help the General Directress in the exercise of her duties. In the event of the absence of the General Directress or her inability to preside, the Assistant designated by the General Directress at the first meeting of the new Council, takes her place (See Article 80 of these Statutes) and carries out her obligations, with the consent of the other members of the General Council.

It is this same Assistant who, in case of resignation or death of the General Directress, exercises her functions in accord with the other members of the General Council, after informing the Pontifical Council for the Laity. Her first duty, conforming to Article 82 of the Second Part of these Statutes, is to organize with as little delay as possible, the election of the new General Directress.

35. Associates who are at least thirty-five years old are eligible to be Assistants.
36. The role of the Assistants is to ensure, together with the General Directress, the unity of the Association in the midst of the diversity of the Regions.

CHAPTER VII

THE GENERAL PROBATRICE

37. The General Council during its first meeting after each renewal elects her by secret ballot. (See Article 80 of these Statutes)
38. Her function is to work to maintain the true spirit of the Association in the formation provided to all its members.
39. Auxiliaries whom she appoints in the name of the General Council aid her in the formation of Probatrices.

CHAPTER VIII

THE GENERAL SECRETARY

40. The General Council elects the General Secretary by secret ballot during its first meeting after each renewal. (See Article 80, these Statutes) She takes the minutes of the Council sessions and keeps the books in which the minutes are entered.

CHAPTER IX

THE COUNCILORS

41. The Councilors share in the direction of the Association by bringing to the General Council their competence, their advice and their experience.

CHAPTER X

THE GENERAL SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

42. His mission is of the spiritual and theological order. Each year he writes the Pentecost Novena.

In collaboration with the leaders of the Association:

- He participates in the design of formation programs, both basic and continuous;
- He makes sure that the content of the formation is in conformity with the teaching of the Magisterium and is faithful to the inspiration of the Founders;
- He encourages and accompanies the members of the Association in their journey towards holiness and in their apostolic duty.

While not an ex-officio member, he participates as far as possible in the meetings of the General Council but does not vote.

He is regularly informed of the life of the Association.

43. The General Council of the Association chooses, in accord with the General Council of the Institute of the Salesian Missionaries of Mary Immaculate, according to the directives in the Interior Rule, a General Spiritual Advisor, who is a Priest of St. Francis de Sales. He is proposed for appointment to the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

His appointment is for 3 years, renewable two times. He may, if he deems it fitting, with the accord of the General Council, delegate his powers for a specified amount of time, to another Priest of St. Francis de Sales.

44. Between the end of the term of a General Spiritual Advisor and assumption of the charge by his replacement, the outgoing General Spiritual Advisor continues his responsibility.

45. In the case of resignation, incapacity, death or the recall of a General Spiritual Advisor, the General Councils of the two branches may agree, if they deem it useful, to chose a priest, if possible a Priest of St. Francis de Sales, while awaiting the procedure of appointment of a new General spiritual Advisor conforming to Article 11 of the First Part and Article 43 of the Second Part of these Statutes.

CHAPTER XI

THE ARCHIVIST

46. The Archivist is named by the General Directress from among the members of the Association, with the consent of the General Council.

47. She makes sure the minutes of the General Council meetings are deposited in the Archives. She has custody of the Archives of the Lay Branch of the Association.

48. Documents may not be removed from the Archives except for a brief time and with the consent of the General Directress or the Archivist. The norms of the Association of the Archivists of the Church of France apply.

CHAPTER XII

REGIONAL DIRECTRESSES

49. The General Council, according to the directives in the Interior Rule, names regional Directresses. (See Chapter IX of I.R.)
50. Members who have belonged to the Association for five years (exception to this requirement may be granted by the General Council) and who have completed Probatrice Formation are eligible for appointment as Regional Directresses.
51. Each Regional is responsible for a certain number of existing or developing Groups.
52. The Regional proposes Group Directresses to the General Council for appointment. She transmits to the Group Directresses decisions of the General Council concerning their group and communicates everything that relates to the life of the Association.
53. In a spirit of unity with the General Council, the Regional Directresses animate their Regions with the help of a team. They take care that the Groups are regularly visited. They keep the General Council informed of the life of their Region, especially concerning new initiatives or needs that are felt. Admission to formation and definitive admission to the Association is part of their responsibility, (See Art 3 of these Statutes) following the directives of the Interior Rule.

CHAPTER XIII

GROUP DIRECTRESSES

54. Group Directresses are appointed by the General Council on recommendation of the Regional Directress, who first consults the members of the Group. Group Directresses should have completed the Continuing Formation to Deepen Our Salesian Life (exception to this requirement may be granted by the General Council.)
55. The Directress administers and animates her Group with help of a team. She is connected to the General Council through the intermediary of the Regional Directress.

CHAPTER XIV

GROUP CHAPLAINS

56. In each Group, a Chaplain, if possible a Priest of St. Francis de Sales, has the role of collaborating with those responsible to assure the spiritual vitality of the group and its fidelity to the teachings of the Church.
57. The Chaplain is proposed to the local Ordinary by the Regional Directress with the consent of the Group Directress, and General Council is informed. The duration of his term is the

period between two General Assemblies. This mandate may be renewed one time. If necessary it may be extended.

If a serious problem arises with the Chaplain during his mandate, the Regional Directress will inform the General Council to determine together what attitude to adopt. The reasons for which the mandate might be suspended or terminated are those contained in the Code of Canon Law under the title of revocation or renunciation of ecclesiastical charges.

58. Each Group is under the jurisdiction of the local Ordinary.

CHAPTER XV

PROBATRICES

59. They receive their mission from the General Probatrice after having followed a formation according to the conditions given in the Interior Rule.

60. The mission of the Probatrices includes:

- Helping those confided to them discover their *Salesian vocation*.
- Initiating them into the *spirit of the Association*.
- Forming them by the *Probation method*.
- Seeking with them how to practice the Rule of Life while remaining faithful to their duties of state.
- Facilitating their integration into the spiritual family.

They must be careful not to intrude in the realm of conscience.

The mission of Probatrice is not considered an office.

61. After their definitive admission, Associates maintain contact with a Probatrice who walks with them in spiritual friendship as defined by St. Francis de Sales.

CHAPTER XVI

GENERAL TREASURER

62. The General Council appoints the General Treasurer at its first meeting following the General Assembly. She is responsible for financial administration of the Association. At the request of the General Council, she participates in its meetings as a consultant. Duration of her mandate is the period between two General Assemblies. It may be renewed. If necessary, it can be interrupted by the General Council.

63. The General Treasurer presents every year to the General Council a report of the financial situation, a yearly financial report and a provisional budget for the year to come.

64. An assistant may be named by the General Council to aid the General Treasurer.

CHAPTER XVII

SALESIAN TEAMS

65. The Salesian teams comprise some Associates who have chosen to live their Salesian Consecration together. They are engaged in activities, which may be directly apostolic, diverse services to the Association, or professional life. These teams rely on the General Council.

CHAPTER XVIII

PARTICIPATION IN THE OPERATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

66. Each Associate, in a spirit of fraternal sharing and mutual support, participates in the costs of the function of the Association by an annual, financial contribution, the *Salesian Pence*. The amount is left to the discretion of each one, proportionate to her resources.

67. Associates who are available and want to participate in the operation of the Salesian Center may do so either permanently or temporarily, by individual arrangement.

CHAPTER XIX

AGE LIMIT FOR OFFICE HOLDERS

68. Upon reaching 75 years of age, any office holder is requested to present her resignation to either the General Directress or the General Council. After examining all circumstances of the person and her responsibilities, the Directress General or the General Council will decide whether to accept it or defer it.

CHAPTER XX

COMPOSITION – ELECTIONS

69. Each Territorial Assembly is composed of:
- Ex-officio members, i.e. the outgoing General Councilors and the Regional Directresses of the territory;
 - Elected members, i.e. the delegates of the territory

Procedures for election are defined in the Interior Rule.

70. Before each General Assembly is held, that is every 6 years, (See art. 73 of 2nd Part of Statutes) according the specifics of the Interior Rule; the members of each Territorial Assembly elect the members of the General Council, with the exception of the General Directress.

Procedures for election are defined in the Interior Rule.

CHAPTER XXI

CONVOCAION – ELECTIONS – DELIBERATIONS

71. The General Assembly is composed of ex-officio members:
- Outgoing members of the General Council
 - The Regional Directresses

- The General Treasurer

And of elected members:

- Delegates of all of the Territorial Assemblies

72. The Directress General calls the General Assembly, or in her absence, the Assistant replacing her.
73. The General Assembly meets regularly every 6 years.
74. A circular letter announces the upcoming General Assembly and invites all the members of the Association to pray for the light of the Holy Spirit on its work.
75. The General Assembly, presided over by the General Directress, after having chosen its secretaries, hears the report of the General Directress, of the General Probatrice, the General Treasurer and is made aware of the reports of the Regional Directresses.
76. The General Assembly examines proposed changes to the Statutes and to the Interior Rule as well as questions of general interest for the Association according to the methods given by the Interior Rule.
77. For the election of the General Directress, the General Assembly votes by secret ballot from the list of names proposed by the General Council.

Election of the General Directress takes place at a session presided over by the General Spiritual Advisor or his delegate. (See Article 43, 2nd Part of these Statutes.)
78. To be valid, the election of the General Directress requires two-thirds of the votes cast on the first ballot, and an absolute majority on the second ballot. If a third ballot is necessary a relative majority is sufficient. Details of voting are specified in the Interior Rule.
79. The General Spiritual Councilor or his delegate (See Article 43, 2nd Part of these Statutes) is asked, at the close of the Assembly to summarize the deliberations.
80. After each renewal of the General Council, it will assign its various charges at its first meeting.
After having asked the advice of the Council by secret consultation, the General Directress will name her two Assistants.
She then designates which of the two Assistants will take her place and her duties if she is absent or unable to preside.
81. An extraordinary General Assembly may be called on request of the General Council following a vote of at least two-thirds, when some particularly grave problem threatens the Association. The Interior Rule gives the details for calling the members of an Extraordinary General Assembly.
82. In case of death, incapacity, or resignation of the General Directress, the members of the preceding General Assembly must, within a year, by correspondence and secret ballot, proceed to the election of a new General Directress who will act until the following General Assembly. (See Articles 34 & 78 of the 2nd Part of these Statutes.)

83. All modifications to this Second Part of the Statutes must be submitted to a vote of the General Assembly and be presented for approval to the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

84. The General Council establishes the Interior Rule for approval by the General Assembly.

The Interior Rule is designed to specify diverse points not included in the Statutes, notably those that pertain to the internal administration of the Association.



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM
PRO LAICIS

604/07/S-61/B-23

DÉCRET

Vue l'instance d'approbation des modifications aux Statuts de l'*Association Saint François de Sales* (Première Partie commune avec les Constitutions des *Salésiennes Missionnaires de Marie Immaculée* et Deuxième Partie propre à l'*Association Saint François de Sales* -branche laïque-), présentée par Madame Annie Trabichet, Directrice Générale de l'*Association Saint François de Sales*, reconnue par le Conseil Pontifical pour les Laïcs avec décret en date du 22 mai 1994 (Prot. N. 799/94/S-61/B-23);

Vu le décret du Conseil Pontifical pour les Laïcs du 19 mars 1998 (Prot. N. 597/98/S-61/B-23), de modification des Statuts de l'*Association Saint François de Sales*;

Acceptant les amendements apportés aux Statuts en vigueur, le Conseil Pontifical pour les Laïcs décrète:

L'approbation de la nouvelle rédaction des Statuts de l'*Association Saint François de Sales* (Première Partie commune avec les Constitutions des *Salésiennes Missionnaires de Marie Immaculée* et Deuxième Partie propre à l'*Association Saint François de Sales* -branche laïque-), dûment authentifiée par le Dicastère et déposée dans ses archives.

Cité du Vatican, le 4 avril 2007

+ In. Clemens

Josef Clemens
Secrétaire



+ St. Ryłko
Stanisław Ryłko
Président



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM
PRO LAICIS

799/94/S-61/B-23

D É C R E T

L'association de Saint François de Sales constitue la branche laïque de la Société de Saint François de Sales, fondée en 1872 à Paris par l'Abbé Henri Chaumont et Madame Carré de Malberg pour le service et la gloire de Dieu selon l'esprit de Saint François de Sales.

En 1911 la Société a reçu l'approbation du Saint-Siège. En 1968 l'institut des Salésiennes Missionnaires de Marie Immaculée fut reconnu comme Congrégation religieuse à l'intérieur de la Société de Saint François de Sales.

Après un processus de discernement dans la prière et la réflexion sur les expériences vécues, tenant compte des exigences posées par le développement futur et de l'institut des Missionnaires de Marie Immaculée et de la branche laïque, le 31 mai 1991, le chapitre général votait à l'unanimité le passage de celle-ci à la compétence du Conseil Pontifical pour les Laïcs, en tant qu'association privée de fidèles autonome.

Ayant reçu à cet égard l'accord de la Congrégation pour les Instituts de vie consacrée et les Sociétés de vie apostolique, la branche laïque a présenté au Conseil Pontifical pour les Laïcs ses statuts en tant qu'association privée de fidèles et en a demandé l'approbation.

Le 25 mars 1994, le Conseil Pontifical pour les Laïcs a approuvé conjointement avec la Congrégation pour les Instituts de vie consacrée et les Sociétés de vie apostolique la «Partie commune aux constitutions et statuts des deux branches de la Société des Filles de Saint François de Sales».

Ayant examiné soigneusement la rédaction définitive des statuts qui lui a été soumise le 8 avril 1994, le Conseil Pontifical pour les Laïcs

accorde l'approbation demandée,

confirmant, en même temps, l'association Saint François de Sales en tant qu'association privée de fidèles à caractère international, selon les normes des cann. 298 - 311 et 321 - 329.

Puisse cette nouvelle étape de l'histoire de la Société de Saint François de Sales contribuer à la sanctification de tous ses membres selon l'esprit de Saint François de Sales et à l'accomplissement de la mission de l'Eglise pour le monde.

Donné au Vatican le 22 mai 1994, Solennité de la Pentecôte.

Paul J. Cordes
P. J. Cordes
Vice-Président

E. Card. Pironio
Eduardo F. Card. Pironio
Président