

THE

# Daughters of St. Francis de Sales

Is a Religious and Missionary institute, inspired and sustained by the Salesian Spirit.

Founded in Lugo, Ravenna, Italy on August 23, 1872



**FOUNDER**  
1820 - 1880

## VENERABLE FR. CARLO CAVINA

- He was born on August 29, 1820 in Castel Bolognese, Italy.
- He was ordained priest on June 10, 1843.
- He offered his life for Christ with sense of deep faith, unconditional love, and uncompromising spirit of sacrifice.
- Inspired by the apostolic zeal of St. Francis de Sales for the glory of God and good of the people, especially the youth, he founded the congregation of the Daughters of St. Francis de Sales on August 23, 1872.
- He died on September 15, 1880.
- He was declared SERVANT OF GOD in 1994.
- On April 6, 2019, based on the recognition of his heroic virtues, Fr. Carlo Cavina was declared "VENERABLE".

## MOTHER TERESA FANTONI

- She was born on September 8, 1822.  
in San Felice sul Panaro, Italy.
- She spent every bit of her life for the glory of God by lovingly serving the young people, sick, aged, poor, and needy.
- She knew and gave witness to the tenderness of the Divine Love and felt deeply its powerful attraction in her soul.
- She died on September 16, 1908.



**CO-FOUNDRESS**  
1822 - 1908

As the years went by, the members of the DSFS grew in number, and began to spread in various countries...



ITALY (1872)



INDIA (1970)



SOUTH AFRICA (1975)



BRAZIL (1980)



PHILIPPINES (1986)



ENGLAND 2003



TANZANIA (2004)



KENYA (2005)



INDONESIA (2011)



GERMANY (2018)



UGANDA (2018)



# DAUGHTERS OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES SPIRITUALITY



• St. Francis de Sales  
— 1567-1622 —



• St. Jane Frances de Chantal  
— 1572-1641 —

DIVINE LOVE



The DSFS Congregation is inspired by the spirit of these two great saints.

*Fr. Carlo Cavina was inspired by the spirituality of St. Francis de Sales, which is a spirituality based on Divine Love.*



St. Francis de Sales was called “Doctor of the Church of the Divine Love” because through his writings, teachings, and life example he contributed to the spiritual upliftment of many people, manifesting to them how he was able to live in the footsteps of Jesus’ love for His Father and for humanity.

*Fr. Carlo Cavina imbibed the insights and teachings about Salesian Spirituality of the Divine Love and the teachings on the popular Devotion to the Sacred Heart.*

Our Founder writes:

“This congregation is an association of **WOMEN WHO, INFLAMED BY GOD’S LOVE,** bind themselves together by the ties of a religious family.”

(RL Intro. art. 1)

# DSEFS CHARISM

DAUGHTERS OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



**Called to be  
women inflamed  
by God's love.**

**DSEFS** MOTTO

*Where the cross touches, it bears fruit.*

## Apostles of Prayer

Apostles of Prayer as Contemplatives in action,  
joyful witnesses of prayer and service.



**DSFS House of Prayer**



# Educators of Faith

Educators of Faith accompanying the people of God especially the youth in their journey of life and faith through education, friendship and discernment.



# Joyful Servants of the Poor, the Sick, and the Aged

Religious Missionaries as Joyful  
Servants of the poor and needy,  
sick and aged.



# STAGES OF FORMATION

DAUGHTERS OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



## ASPIRANCY

- "Come and See".
- It is the period of verification, orientation, and discernment.
- Exploring one's call to religious life, deepening faith, and learning the congregation's charism and mission.

## POSTULANCY

- Continuing discernment through an experiential knowledge of oneself and the reality of her call, to be able to confirm her vocational choice in a living experience with a DSFS community.



## NOVITIATE

- Spiritual integration of oneself and the congregation, where the novice learns what it means to live as a DSFS, a "Woman inflamed by God's Love" and "Ardent with Apostolic Zeal" on the path towards the conformity to the Heart of Christ.



## JUNIORATE

- Immersion of oneself to the community and the mission of the congregation, in preparation for her total consecration to God in the following of Christ and in the service of the mission.
- It is a period of enhancing religious and apostolic, doctrinal, and professional formation.



## ON-GOING FORMATION

- After the perpetual profession follows the active formation in the years of maturity marked by prophetic evangelical witness to the life and mission of Christ according to the DSFS charism and Salesian Spirituality.

YOU CAN CONTACT US:



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DSFS DON CAVINA



DSFS VOCATION MIISTRY

