Faculty Retreat
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**FROM ST. FRANCIS DE SALES ...**

- Paris & Padua
- Florimontane Academy
- “Doctor of the Church”
- by way of VHM / OSFS

**... TO BISHOP IRETON**

- claiming the charism  (WHO)
- living the motto  (HOW)
Part 1 – WHO you be?

**exercise #1**

**something to share**

- write your own epithet
- write your neighbor’s
- compare!
“Do not love anything too much, I beg you, not even virtues, which we sometimes lose by our excessive zeal. I don’t know if you understand me, but I think you do: I am speaking of your desires and your fervor. It seems to me that white is not the color proper to roses, for red roses are more beautiful and more fragrant; however, white is the distinctive characteristic of lilies. Let us be what we are and be that well, in order to bring honor to the Master Craftsman whose handiwork we are. People laughed at the painter who, intending to paint a horse, came up with a perfect bull; the work was handsome in itself, but not much credit to the artist who had other plans and succeeded in this one only by chance. Let us be what God wants us to be, provided we are His, and let us not be what we would like to be, contrary to His intention. Even if we were the most perfect creatures under heaven, what good would that do us if we were not as God’s will would have us be?”
Part 2 – HOW you be who you are?

exercise #2

the first day of school?

• before it begins
• during the day
  • who
  • what
• after it’s over
Salesian “devotion”… all day long!

**Preparation of the Day**
- invocation
- foresight
- disposition
- resolution
- recommendation

**Direction of Intention**
- incarnational
  - transformation of doing
- ascetical
  - denial of self
- sacramental
  - uniting with God

**Examination of Conscience**
“We sweeten unripe fruit with sugar, and it is useful in correcting the crudity even of that which is good. So devotion is the real spiritual sweetness which takes away all bitterness from mortifications; and prevents consolations from disagreeing with the soul: it cures the poor of sadness, and the rich of presumption; it keeps the oppressed from feeling desolate, and the prosperous from insolence; it averts sadness from the lonely, and dissipation from social life; it is as warmth in winter and refreshing dew in summer; it knows how to abound and how to suffer want; how to profit alike by honor and contempt; it accepts gladness and sadness with an even mind, and fills men’s hearts with a wondrous sweetness.”

*Introduction to the Devout Life*

part I, chapter 2
More resources ...

www.desales.edu/salesian

www.oblates.org/dss/

www.desalesresource.org/