

Don Paolo Albera SDB - 2nd successor of Don Bosco

76

24th October 1921

Rector Major

Don Albera, born Paolo Albera (1845–1921), was a prominent Italian Catholic priest and the second successor to Don Bosco as Rector Major of the Salesians. Known historically as the "Little Don Bosco," he expanded the order globally and is celebrated for his deep spirituality, publications, and youth ministry. Key Milestones

Early Life:

Born in None, Piedmont, on June 6, 1845, he met Don Bosco at age 13 and joined the Valdocco youth center in 1858.

Leadership:

He was the first Salesian provincial in France (1882) and returned to Turin as spiritual director of the congregation in 1892.

Rector Major (1910–1921):

He led the Salesians through World War I, maintaining the congregation's stability and focusing heavily on the spiritual formation of the members until his death in 1921.

Legacy:

His remains are kept in the crypt of the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians in Turin. [

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