



Corpus Christi Movement for Priests

CCM Newsletter

Founded by Blessed Teresa of Calcutta in 1981

www.corpuschristimovement.org

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corpxti@gmail.com



News Briefs

• Day of Reflection in Rome

On December 7, Frs. Brian and Peter, MC, led ten priests and two seminarians in an Advent day of recollection at the Propaganda Fidei in Rome. They plan a second day of reflection in Lent.



- Our CC International Retreat will be in the Holy Land in November 2014.

CCM PRIESTS' SEMINAR IN LOS ANGELES

What: training priests to give retreats and spiritual direction using the Ignatian Exercises

Who: Fr. David Keuter, OMV, who gives retreats to the MC Sisters full time

When: February 17-21, 2014

Where: Carmelite Retreat House, Alhambra (Los Angeles)

How: please email Fr. Joseph Iлло, jillo@thomasaquinas.edu, for more information or to register

Corpus Christi Governing Council

International Coordinator:

Fr. Pascual Cervera (Madrid)

Msgr. Leo Maasburg (Vienna)

Msgr. Luis Cuña Ramos (Rome)

Fr. Joseph Iлло (Los Angeles)

Fr. Jaroslav Broz (Prague)

From the International Coordinator, Fr. Pascual Cervera

The MC Sisters in Brazil were asked by the organizers to participate in two things, with a Tent of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on a park and an Exhibit on Mother Teresa's life. I went to help the Sisters with the MC Brothers and the MC Fathers in this event and there were many of our priests from around the world who came with the Youth to participate in this magnificent event.

Keep the Light of Faith Burning

by Fr. Peter Kucak, MC, MC liaison to the Corpus Christi Movement

“Keep the light of faith ever burning—for Jesus is the way that leads to the Father. He alone is the life dwelling in our hearts. He alone is the light that enlightens the darkness.” He is not Jesus learned from books but Jesus who thirsts (cf. Jn 19:28) to give himself to each one of us: “We may spend time in chapel—but have you seen with the eyes of your soul how He looks at you with love?” writes Mother in her Varanasi letter. She adds: “Have you heard the loving words He speaks to you?... Never give up this daily intimate contact with Jesus as a real living person—not just an idea. Jesus wants you each to hear Him speaking in the silence of your heart.”

But how? Mother suggests that we grow in the knowledge of Jesus through faith “by meditating on His Word in the Scriptures, by listening to Him speaking through His Church, and through the intimate union of prayer” (Novena to Mother, First Day). Knowing Jesus more, our love for Him will grow ever greater.

Our intimate love for Him takes on living expression by loving Him present in our brothers and sisters, the poorest of the poor; we will thus put our love for Jesus into a “living action” as Mother liked to say and as she witnessed by her life. The nearest and poorest to me, a priest, is my brother priest who needs to be taken care of, especially when he experiences fatigue in his priestly life, in his priestly heart.

By answering the thirst of Jesus, by cultivating a personal relationship with Him in prayer, our life will be imbued with living faith (“the fruit of prayer is faith”) which, though it may not scatter all our personal darkness, is yet a lamp which guides our steps in the night and is sufficient for the journey (cf. *Lumen Fidei*, 57).

CCM Pilgrimage to the Martyrs of Barbastro (Northern Spain)

In November the Bishop of Teruel and seven CCM priests visited Barbastro, where in 1936 the Bishop and 54 religious, priests and seminarians suffered martyrdom. We read letters they wrote before being executed, venerated their relics, and celebrated the Holy Mass in their Chapel—beautiful fraternity. Fr. Jose Maria Calderon



MISSIONARIES OF THE CARIBBEAN

Fr. Pascual had asked me to preach the Triduum in three MC houses, but I ended up visiting another three more houses in Haiti, three houses in the Dominican Republic, and three more in Puerto Rico. Although I was asked to offer my summer holidays in order to support and confirm the Sisters in their vocation and mission, I ended up being gifted with a most beautiful and profound experience.



Fr. Kevin and Sr. Marthe, MC, in Haiti

This enriching experience, like previous ones, offered me the possibility:

- to study and delve deeper into the spirit and charism of Mother and the whole MC family;
- to encounter in a very concrete way the universal presence and mission of the Church;
- to feel at home, “as one of the family”, in every MC house I entered;
- to experience the bonds of baptism, faith and love which hold us so close, even though we live and serve in countries that are different and far from each other;
- to taste and be led by that missionary spirit which pushed St Paul to travel from one place to another in order to confirm his brothers and sisters in their faith;
- to encounter Jesus in the poor and the sick, especially in the poorest areas where the Sisters choose to live and serve.

Apart from this, I met once again Fr Joseph Illo, member of the CCM, who was also preaching in one of the houses in Port-au-Prince. Our meeting was very brief and (like many biblical encounters!) took place in the desert! Halfway across Haiti, the Sisters from Port-au-Prince brought him out to the desert so we could spend some time together. It was a lovely moment, and very much in the spirit of the Missionaries of Charity: spontaneous, brave and joyful!

Fr Kevin Schembri (Malta)

Three weeks in Sierra Leone

I recently took 14 youth to Sierra León, where we stayed at two Missionaries of Charity houses. I very much enjoy going to these sites, happy to offer my priestly service to the Sisters. Their hunger for God is striking and they speak of how great it is to give themselves. The Sisters are grateful that a priest of the Corpus Christi Movement accompanies them, since we try to live the same charism and desire to satiate the thirst of Christ.

But I always make these trips with youth. The first days can be difficult: to see and to live with poverty, and to struggle through the challenges the Sisters face each day. But, little by little, they receive the strength that is needed. They spend the whole day with the Sisters, sharing the Eucharist with them, sharing in their life of prayer. For my Spanish youth, it is a real encounter with God through prayer, serving the poor, and the joy of the Missionaries. And myself? To accompany these young people, not only physically, but also with the heart and to see the growth of their souls, is a privilege that helps me to feel more like a priest.

Fr. Jose Maria Calderon (Spain)

Pope Francis’s Visit to “Dono di Maria” (MC Homeless Shelter)

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good evening!

May 21, 2013

I address an affectionate greeting to you all; in an entirely special way to you, dear guests of this Home. My presence this evening is meant above all to be a sincere ‘thank you’ to the Missionaries of Charity, founded by Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who have been working here for 25 years, with many volunteers. You, dear Sisters make visible the Church’s love for the poor.



This building, desired and inaugurated by Blessed John Paul II – indeed this is something between saints, John Paul II and Teresa of Calcutta. And holiness is passed on; and this is beautiful. It is a “home.” “Home” recalls warmth, affection, the love that can be felt in a family. “Home” is a crucial place in life, in which every person learns to receive love and to give love. On the border between the Vatican and Italy, it is a strong appeal to us all, to the Church, to the City of Rome to be more and more of a family, a “home” open to hospitality, care and brotherhood. Dear friends, thanks again to each one of you. I pray that this Home will continue to be a place of hospitality, of gift of charity, in the heart of our City of Rome. May the Virgin Mary always watch over you, and my Blessing accompany you.