

Communicationes 325

10.2017

Course for formators in India

Between the 25th of September and the 7th of October, an intensive course was held for formators of the Teresian Carmelite circumscriptions in India; attending were thirty-five Indian formators. The objective of the course was to reinforce in those in charge of formation, in the various circumscriptions, knowledge of our charism handed down to us by Teresa and John of the Cross.



The days were inaugurated by Fr Johannes Gorantla, the third Definitor General, who is in charge of Southern Asia. He was also present at the closing of the meeting together with Fr Charles Serrao, the President of the Discalced Carmelite Conference of Major Superiors of India.

It took place in Alwaye, Kerala, in a monastery of the Manjummel Province. Taking part as professors were Frs Augustine Mulloor, Aloysius Deeney, Abraham Thekemury, Prasad, Charles and other specialists in various topics. At present there are around 720 Carmelite candidates in India, in all stages of formation. The Indian Carmel consists of seven Provinces, three Regional Vicariates and two Provincial Delegations.



The spiritual Magisterium of Pope Francis. A spirituality of joy and commitment: It is time to walk

With the Eucharist celebrated on the 3rd of October by the Bishop of New Hamburg, Mons. Zeno Hastenteufel, was inaugurated the Spirituality Congress with the title: "The Spiritual Magisterium of Pope Francis, a spirituality of joy and commitment: It is time to walk". Assisting were Fr Agustí the Vicar General, representing Fr Saverio who was making a pastoral visit to the Congo, Fr Javier Mena, Definitor General and some 150 people from the whole of Latin America: friars, nuns, secular Carmelites, associated families and lay Carmelites.

In the Congress were heard such authoritative voices as Fr Scannone sj., professor of the Pope and a brother of the Bergoglio community for a time, Milton Moulton, Antonio Barrios, Eugenio Sainz de Baranda and Jorge Zurek on the part of the Order, as well as the Capuchin Gilmar Zampieri, the Salesian Marcos Sandrini and so many others. Closing the congress was a contribution from Fr Agustí Borrell, a conference titled: "It is time to walk: A program of renewal for the Teresian Carmel". Taking the principal themes of

Pope Francis' magisterium and of the Discalced Carmelite Chapter document, he invited those attending, as well as the whole of Carmel, to be apostles from their interior life.

This congress is the 14th of a series, continuing on a long journey of reflection begun by Carmel in Latin America from 1971, when the first congress was held in Colombia. From then on, they have been celebrated approximately every three years.

Latin American Carmel walks united with a Church that feels itself a disciple and missionary of Christ, while grateful for the gift of Pope Francis to the universal Church. For this reason, it was proposed in this congress to go to the sources of the spirituality and thought of Pope Francis, appropriating the freshness of his message and seeking the lines of convergence with our teachers, Saint Teresa of Jesus and Saint John of the Cross.

The General Curia present on a new social network: Instagram

In his desire to communicate the life and activities of the Order in general, and of the Curia in particular, the Secretary for communication opened a new account on Instagram, a social network created for the diffusion of photos and tiny videos. The objective of the secretary is to reach, in this manner, more of the public, outside and within the Order, and to give them knowledge of our life and activities in concrete and by images through this social network – much frequented by young people.

The contents published on Instagram can be shared on Twitter (where we are present as @ocdcuria) and on Facebook (where are present as CuriaGeneralizia CS).

From here, we are able to encourage all those who are present on this social network to follow us. You can also send us photos of events, monasteries, convents, etc., from your circumscriptions in whatever part of the world to this address: ocdinform@gmail.com, accompanied by a small descriptive text, and we will publish them with much pleasure. Our "Nick name" in Instagram is: ocdinform.



Return of Avignon-Aquitane Carmelites to Lyon

Our brethren of the Avignon-Aquitane Province have been in Lyon since 11th September 2017. In the past, the Order had a foundation there from 1619 to 1792. Then in 1859, on the advice of the Curé of Ars, Fr. Agustín Maria of the Most Blessed Sacrament (Hermann Cohen) restored the OCD presence in Lyon until their expulsion in 1901. Later still, from 1946, a group of young friars resided there until that House of Formation was closed in 1962.

A community of O. Carm. Friars also lived in the city of Lyon from 1291 until 1792. A pillar of monumental proportions from that convent is still preserved and thousands of pedestrians pass it every day. (See photo).

In response to a request from Cardinal Philippe Barbarin, the Avignon Province has decided to return there now. For the moment their apostolate is focused in the Basilica of St. Bonaventure in the city centre. There are three members of the community and the superior has been nominated as a chaplain and takes part in all meetings of the Rectory

team. The three friars live in three apartments temporarily but hope to acquire accommodation more suitable for conventual life soon. In the meantime they offer us their present home and assure us of their prayers, while requesting ours for them. We can see these three 'founding' fathers with Fr. Provincial as they stand beside the pillar from the old Lyon O. Carm. Convent.



Visit to our Communities in Haifa-Mount Carmel

His Eminence Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation for Oriental Churches, paid a recent visit to the Holy Land from the 16th to 21st October. The occasion was in celebration of 800 years of Franciscan presence there. On 18th

October he visited our Stella Maris monastery and our Carmelite nuns in Haifa.

The Stella Maris community recited the Salve Regina with the Cardinal at the statue of our Blessed Lady of Mount Carmel, entrusting to her maternal care the Church in the Middle East and the work of the Franciscan missionaries serving the Holy Land.