

# Communicationes n. 106

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### The document "Born for you ..."

The centre of the Order has prepared a document for reflection to be used as a tool for discussion in the coming Definitory General, to be held in Madagascar in September. It takes its title from St Teresa's poem "I am Yours and born for you, what do you want of me". The Definitory has in mind the fifth centenary of the birth of the Holy Mother Teresa of Jesus, which we will celebrate in 2015. For this reason we are seeking to intensify our Teresian identity. The document "Born for you" will be discussed at the coming Definitory. With any eventual corrections it will pass on to the General Chapter in 2009. The definitive text will become the message from the Chapter and the guideline for the next sexennium.

The document contains five chapters. Already in the introduction it is proposed that we renew the identity of our charism, deepening it by study and assimilation of St Teresa's teaching. The first chapter speaks about how opportune and challenging it is to apply the teachings of the Holy Mother to present-day life. For this we must recall the geographical and cultural situation in which our Carmelite presence is unfolding and try to listen from there to the questions Teresa's spirit poses to us. The second chapter is an introduction to a renewed reading of Teresa. The third chapter has as its objective to place the writings of Teresa in their cultural and experiential context. The fourth examines the key points of each of Teresa's works. Finally, the fifth chapter presents the directives giving concrete proposals for reading, covering five years: The Book of her Life in 2010 to the Interior Castle in 2014. Reserved for the centenary year 2015 are the Letters and the jubilee celebrations.

"Born for you" is a document of profound Teresian content, with various concrete suggestions. The whole of this program will be coordinated in the next Definitory General. Among the initiatives in the document we can note that the Centre of the Order in conjunction with CITEs in Avila should encourage a study plan for deeper investigation and specialization in the Teresian spirit. The aim of the next sexennium of the Order will be a reactivated presence of our Holy Mother, Teresa of Jesus.

### Vatican Newspaper in Malayalam

On 3<sup>rd</sup> July, the feast of the apostle St Thomas, patron of the Syrian Rite Church in India, began the publication of the weekly edition of the "Osservatore Romano" in Malayalam, an ancient Indian language which is spoken by 30 million people of whom six million are Catholics. It is the language of the State of Kerala. The novelty for us is that it will be edited by our "Carmel International Publishing House", which is owned by the Malabar Province. For this reason, Pope Benedict XVI wrote a congratulatory letter to our publishing house, emphasizing that "this happening which is of significance for the life of the Church in India . . . will be an indispensable help in forwarding the work of evangelization".

For the first time in the history of the "Osservatore Romano" it will be published in an alphabet that is not Latin. Previously, the Carmelite publishing house of Malabar has published in English the official Vatican publication for Asia and Oceania. The Malayalam edition will be taken from the "Osservatore Romano" in English, but it will also include news from India and Asia.

## The enduring memory of Bl. Mary of the Incarnation

The memory of Madame Acarie, «la belle Acarie», our Blessed Mary of the Incarnation, is truly fresh in her community of Pontoise, the twelfth Teresian foundation in France (1605), founded by Bl Anne of Saint Bartholomew. For a start, there is the chapel, the first church in France consecrated to Saint Joseph, which is frequented every day for the community Mass. The community, the devotion to Bl. Mary of the Incarnation and its spread are sustained by three associations which revolve around the monastery.

First of all there is the Association of «Vert-Buisson», composed of people who are competent in various areas: real estate, law, finance and other sectors. The Association is the proprietor of the buildings of this Carmel and assures the legal and very costly running of this "historical monument", since the building is the original one. The Association "Carmel: four centuries in Pontoise" saw the light of day in 2004, on the occasion of the discussion and artistic exposition organized to mark the four centuries of the implantation of Carmel in France and in Pontoise. This association, in addition to the publication of the *Acts of the Discussion*, had a part to play in the publication of the second volume of « *L'Histoire du carmel de Pontoise* », a work which is also a mine of information on the history of Carmel in France. Finally, there is the Association of «Friends of Madame Acarie, Bl. Mary of the Incarnation» which came into existence in April 1999. Its purpose is to make better known this great figure of a woman of the world, who had an influence on the religious scene, was a mystic, famed for her charitable works, founder of Carmel in France at the request of Saint Teresa, and a holy Carmelite lay sister.

The activities of this association are many. Among them we can mention: a web-site ([www.madame-acarie.org](http://www.madame-acarie.org)), where you can find the two annual conferences about Madame Acarie, in French and English and soon in two other languages. There is provision for leaving prayer intentions. These are numerous and come from just about all over the world.

The computerization of the testimonies of the witnesses of her life and virtue, gathered for the process of beatification, has been of great benefit to historians, a veritable mine of information on Madame Acarie and her era. The same has been done with an analytical table concerning the beatification process and the book by André Duval, a great friend of the blessed and her first biographer.

Besides the Association, Madame Acarie has plenty of friends from every walk of life: among the clergy and French and foreign universities, as well as members of the Carmelite family. Many communities of the Secular Order have taken her as the title and patron of their group and there are those who confide their concerns and needs to her, or those who find in the example of her life and her intercession, a help for their life. Then there are the expectant mothers who pray to her for a safe delivery of their child, and those who cannot have children who pray to her for a child, because she has obtained many outstanding favors in this regard.

In 2007 she was the exemplar proposed to one thousand two hundred high school students of the diocese on the occasion of "FRAT", the great gathering at Jamville of young people from the Ile de France (Paris and its surrounding Departments).

The monastery's chapel is frequented also during the day. You can see there a large reliquary, a beautiful marble statue which represents her as a Carmelite kneeling in prayer, the tombstone from where she was originally buried and some other souvenirs. For visitors there are leaflets on the life of the Blessed, litanies in her honor and a book for writing prayer intentions. Here we can see touching confidences and examples of the great confidence people have in her intercession.

### Books sent to the General House

1) Giuseppe Caviglia, *Il Cardinale Anastasio Alberto Ballestrero*. Edit. Velar. Gorle 2008, 63 pp.

2) Rafael María Melús, *La Violeta de Venezuela. Beata Candelaria de San José, Carmelita. Pinceladas de su vida y doctrina*. AMACAR, Onda-Caracas, 231 pp.

3) Bruno Moriconi, *Per un amore più grande. La prima biografia di padre Luigi dell'Immacolata*. Edizioni OCD. Morena 2007, 174 pp.

4) Luigi Giussani, *L'attrattiva Gesù*. Rizzoli, Milano 2001, 177 pp.

- 5) Szczepan Praskiewicz, *Duchowosc Maryjna*. Kraków 2008, 132 pp.
- 6) Marie-Eugène de l'Enfant-Jésus, *La joie de la miséricorde*. Nouvelle Cité, Paris 2008, 123 pp.
- 7) Marie-Antoine de Lavour, *Le Lis Immaculée. A Lourdes ce que j'ai vu et entendu*. Edit. du Carmel, Toulouse 2008, 115 pp.
- 8) Jean-Gabriel Rueg, *Bérith, l'Alliance*. Edit. du Carmel, Toulouse 2008, 88 pp.
- 9) Luc-Marie du Cœur Immaculé, *La prière, une divine aventure*. Edit. du Carmel, Toulouse 2008, 184 pp.
- 10) Benito Goya, *Psicologia e vita consacrata*. Edizioni San Paolo, Milan 2008, 311 pp.
- 11) AA. VV., *El diálogo. III Seminario del Desierto de las Palmas. 2007*, 236 pp.
- 12) Martín de la Madre de Dios, *Estaciones del Ermitaño de Christo, dedicadas a los Padres Hermitaños Carmelitas Descalços del Santo Desierto del Monte Cardón. La oración del Carmelita*. [2007], 15 pp.
- 13) GOT. *Grupos de oración teresiana. Ideario*. S.d., s.l., 29 pp.
- 14) Umberto Pietro Gamba - Angelico Carattino, *Cardinale Gerolamo Maria Gotti, Carmelitano Scalzo 1834-1916*. Ubiale Clanezzo 2008, 168 pp.
- 15) Św. Teresa od Jezusa, Doktor Kościola, *Ksiega mojego Życia (Autobiografia)*. Flos Carmeli, Poznań 2007, 656 pp.
- 16) Onorio di Ruzza, *La Missione del Congo dei Padri Carmelitani Scalzi della Provincia Romana*. Rome 2008, 158 pp.
- 17) Paolo Risso, *Sulla porta della tenda. Ven. Suor Maria Giuseppina di Gesù Crocifisso*. Elledici, Leumann 2008, 63 pp.
- 17) Antonio Fragano, *La chiesa di S. Teresa a Chiaia*. Naples 1995, 59 pp.
- 18) Eugene McCaffrey, *Let Yourself Be Loved. Elizabeth of the Trinity*. Oxford 2008, 81 pp.
- 19) Jesús Castellano Cervera, ocd, *Orar con el Año Litúrgico. Ciclo B*. Edicep, Valencia 2008, 196 pp.
- 20) AA. VV., *Le Carmel pas à pas*. Collection «Les pistes du Carmel», CEHS Nantes 2006, 58 pp.
- 21) Vincent Raj, ocd, *Rejected spouse*. Carmel Jyothis Publishing House, Ambalapuzha 2008, 39 pp.

### **Summer break**

As in past years, in this period the friars of the General House take their holidays in turn. This means we work with reduced personnel. For this reason, from 1<sup>st</sup> August to 15<sup>th</sup> September the fortnightly issue of COMMUNICATIONES is suspended. Should there be news of great importance, it will be sent as an exception.

However in this time the editorial board of COMMUNICATIONES offers another service: responding to questions seeking information on the Order. The director, Fr, Dámaso Zuazua, will reply on either of his Email addresses [ocdmis@pcn.net](mailto:ocdmis@pcn.net) or [missioni@carmelitaniscalzi.com](mailto:missioni@carmelitaniscalzi.com).

May the celebration of the solemn patronal feast of our most loved mother, Our Lady of Mt Carmel, carry with it abundant blessings for your life, your needs and for the hopes of the Carmelite family.