



UNESCO joins the 150th anniversary of the birth of Thérèse of Lisieux

The bells of the Basilica of Lisieux announced good news: Thérèse of Lisieux has been inserted into the 2022/2023 calendar of anniversaries to which UNESCO will join on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Saint Thérèse (1873-2023).

May Saint Thérèse of Lisieux open paths to Christ through the values that

UNESCO wants to highlight: culture, science and education. The General Definitory will evaluate “the possibility of proposing to the Order the reading of the saint’s manuscripts over the next six years and of enhancing these anniversaries at the ecclesial level”, according to the Determinations of the last General Chapter.

Centenary of the Carmel of Pâquier (Switzerland)

After a first attempt in 1867 near Geneva, in August 1914, Mme. Delaître, a French widow, supported by a group of benefactors from the Paris region, bought the Little Castle of Lully (Switzerland) with the aim of establishing a prayer community for Christian unity. In 1921, the Carmelite nuns of Narbonne (France) moved to the Lully Little Castle. On September 29, 1921, a Mass was celebrated in the chapel of the Little Castle, near Fribourg, thus inaugurating the establishment

of the Carmelite Order in Switzerland. In 1933, after an apostolic visit, the Sisters of Narbonne were sent back to their original monastery. The Order, in agreement with the bishop, appealed to Mother Mary Agnes of the Immaculate Conception, prioress of the Carmelites of Fontainebleau. She immediately realized that another place had to be found for the foundation. She found a meadow for sale higher up above the village of Pâquier. The monastery was built there, and on October 15, 1936,

Bishop Besson blessed the place. On September 26, 2021, the opening of the centenary celebrations began with a solemn Eucharist, at which presided Msgr. Charles Morerod, Bishop of Lausanne, Geneva and Fribourg. Various events are planned until October 15, 2022: a pilgrimage for young people, a

prayer vigil, a meeting with our families, a radio mass and a pilgrimage from Lully to Le Pâquier for the inhabitants of the region, etc. Two books will be published during 2022: a book of photographs for Christmas and a second book that traces the history of the foundation.

The Prague nuns begin to build a new Carmel of Saint Joseph

Due to the noise and lack of space in our former monastery, we decided to leave the centre of the capital city of the Czech Republic and move our monastery to the suburbs, in the small village of Drasty, in East Prague, where we bought a former company in very poor condition. In the first phase of the reconstruction, we repaired two of the existing buildings: one, (to which we moved in February last year), will become the future guest house and the other, much smaller, has become a condominium (in which some tenants, friends of our community, now live).

Now we are making a start on building the monastery, dedicated to St. Joseph, with a chapel dedicated to St. Teresa. Due to the large increase in the prices of all building materials after the

coronavirus crisis, we will be able to build only a rough structure and fully furnish just a part to which we should be able to move.

Due to the lack of resources, it will not be possible to complete the chapel, the reception area and the workrooms and therefore we will not, unfortunately, be able to close the cloister. We are happy that we have begun the construction of the monastery and the church this very year and we entrust all the work to the protection of St. Joseph. We would like to thank all the communities and benefactors who help us with the construction and we keep them in our prayers.

www.karmeldrasty.eu

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6AAmyI-Z2A4>

ONLINE RETREAT with the Discalced Carmelites.

Beginning: 24th November 2021

Prepare yourselves for the feast of Christmas with the Discalced Carmelites.

Since 2011, the Discalced Carmelites have been offering online retreats to help prepare for the two great liturgical solemnities of the year: Christmas and Easter. Today, more than 81,000 people follow these retreats in 11 languages: French, English, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, German, Polish, Romanian, Dutch, Czech and Indonesian.

After an introduction to the retreat, sent on Wednesday, November 24, you will receive an email every Friday. You will be able to download the content for the coming week in Word or PDF format (computer or mobile version).

The two people who inspire this retreat are St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus (1873-1897) and Maria Montessori (1870-1952).

Both are doctors. The first guides the Church to spiritual childhood and the second guides children to the Church. Women, prophetesses, they were nourished from the same source: the Gospels. Through their voices, God lifts the mysterious veil of his Face resembling a child.

Every week you will receive:

- a meditation based on the Gospel and texts from Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and Maria Montessori;
- a short video to welcome the Gospel better;
- Practical advice on putting it into practice;
- an Advent calendar for daily prayer.

If you have not already done so, we invite you to register for free (choosing your language): www.webretiro.karmel.at .

Have a good retreat!

Diamond Jubilee of Father Pedro de San José (Rafael Zubieta)

On October 21, Father Pedro de San José (Rafael Zubieta) celebrated his 75th anniversary of religious profession. It was on October 21, 1946, in the monastery of Larrea (Spain), that the young Pedro

consecrated himself to the Lord, with the desire to follow Jesus by making religious vows in the Discalced Carmel. He trained in Vitoria, Bilbao and Rome, and was ordained a priest in 1954. His long religious life can be summarized

very simply: from 1956 to 1991 in Rome and from 1992 in Peru. In Rome, he worked first as a professor and then for almost 25 years as Secretary General, in the period of the post-conciliar revision of the Constitutions of our Order, in which he actively participated. In Peru, he worked mainly in the Pando and Cercado Training House, both of them in Lima. Here he feels at home and, as

he himself says, it was precisely here that he learned to be a priest ☩ during many years of administrative work, he had almost never exercised a pastoral ministry.

Let us join in the thanksgiving for the gift of religious life to Fr. Pedro, who with his simplicity, cordiality and tireless work, encourages us all to follow Jesus.

News from our brothers Rev. George Desmond Tambala and Rev. Peter Chung Soon-taek

MALAWI:

On 15 October, Pope Francis has transferred Rev. George Desmond Tambala, OCD, to the country's Lilongwe Archdiocese where he will serve as Archbishop. The Malawian Archdiocese has been vacant since December 14th 2020 following the passing on of Archbishop Tarcisius Gervazio Ziyaye.

The Archbishop-elect has been at the helm of Zomba Diocese since his Episcopal Ordination on January 30th 2016. Rev. George Desmond Tambala made his perpetual profession on 15 August 1995, was ordained a Priest on 13 April 1996. In 1998, he went to Spain for studies at the CITEs, and in 2000 he obtained a licentiate in theology at the Faculty of Northern Spain. He served in various ministries, including Parochial Vicar of Kapiri of Lilongwe

Archdiocese, Postulants Master and a teacher of Spirituality, and Superior of the house of Spirituality in Malawi's Blantyre Archdiocese. He was general Definitor for Africa and Madagascar before he was appointed Bishop on 15 October 2015.

KOREA:

On 28 October, Pope Francis has appointed Rev. Peter Chung Soon-taek the new archbishop of Seoul and the apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Pyongyang.

Archbishop Peter Chung Soon-taek, O.C.D., was born on August 5, 1961, in Daegu. He first studied chemical engineering at the University of Seoul (1983-1986). He later studied philosophy and theology at the Catholic University of Seoul (1986-1992). He made his perpetual profession on January 25th

1992 and was ordained priest on July 16th 1992.

During 1993-1997, he was master of novices and then for almost two years he was master of students. Between 1999-2004 he studied Sacred

Scriptures at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and became provincial Definitor of the Discalced Carmelites of Korea in 2005, for three years. In 2009, he became the general Definitor in Rome for the Far East and Oceania.

Father General's sermon for the commemoration of Blessed Francis Palau (07/11/2021)

Dearest Sisters, I am happy to be here with you and with my confreres: this is my home, our home. We are walking along the path of communion in Carmel, in the ardent footsteps of Francis Palau and many others who have spent their lives in the service of Teresian Missionary Carmel and of the Church, and who have gone before us. But now they watch over us and encourage us. We are here to say THANK YOU, to say our Magnificat with Mary, Our Lady of Virtues, and with the Church: thank you for what is given to us today, in the midst of this difficult time, accepting the inheritance received (we have received so much) and facing the adventure that lies ahead of us. Everything about Francesco Palau is very familiar to me and a source of joy: Livron, Aitona, El Montsant, Perpignan, Ibiza, el Vedrà, Tarragona... I prayed and slept in some of his caves, to receive from them the strength that animated him and to thank him for the fire he carried within himself. I ask him to inflame us

in this decisive and unprecedented time. We live in difficult times: pandemics, volcanoes that awaken and carry everything away, climate change, ecological threats, uncertainty, mass exodus and boats in search of promised lands where they do not always arrive, silenced wars, etc..

Francis Palau's life unfolded in a land full of dangers and changes of direction, without a secure GPS, recalculating his path with every tiny spark of hope for a new beginning. And every time blocked roads, and every time new paths discovered outside the ways, discovered outside where he was forbidden to pass. «From the year 1843 to 1855 I traversed a pathless mountain in the dark night amidst the storms. I had to suffer and to endure the severest attacks and trials everywhere, and [...] (hoping) that for one moment or another a light would come out from that darkness, and will show you the way» (letter of 1 June 1855). Each time, he shows with his life that one runs more and better when one is

in the intimacy of the Body of Christ: the Beloved Thing, Francis Palau's life is a precious combination of difficulties and possibilities, of opposition and enthusiasm, of failure and trust. It is an eventful and deep life, bare and rooted, contested and lucid, imprisoned and free. Francis Palau is a true master of recycling, of resilience.

He is also a brave explorer of the inner paths. He nourishes the fruitfulness of his Mission in the CAVE of contemplation. There, pastoral dynamism knows no limits, no fear, because it does not seek itself, it is not afraid of getting lost. He seeks only what he loves, what he calls «my Beloved». He does not realize himself, but allows himself to be realized and transformed into an instrument. Francesco Palau is a tireless missionary. He seemed to have been silenced and isolated, yet rises from his ashes more lucid, more humble, more rebellious, more obedient, more ecclesial. He was in love with the Church, a personification of the Love of Jesus: she is his Mystical Body. His ecclesial experience is extraordinary. The Church is the Thing Loved. The very one who had wounded and suspected him was the object of his love. What admirable fidelity!

There are many things in us and in our time upon which Francesco Palau sheds light. He is very much a person for these times. In him there is for us a great wisdom of life. It does not stop us from becoming lost and running risks, but it lights up our night.

The 19th century is a land of opportunity for the better, even if it seems to be the worst: war (the French invasions); exlaustration (the 'Confiscation');

uprooting (exile in France); plague, contagion and death. These events mark the century in which Francisco Palau lived and made him the man and the saint he is: the fire of Elijah; love for the Church of Teresa of Jesus; transformation in exile; imprisonment in intimate caves; missionary creativity. He has a mysterious fecundity in the midst of failure and conflict.

In his CAVE, Francis found a decisive and crucial mission: not doing in order to be done; not worrying about your own destiny, but forgetting yourselves so that God may carry out his plan and his project; take on the challenge of the SOUL'S STRUGGLE WITH GOD and surrender to his plan. Here we hear the word of God, his voice, like Elijah, who obeyed the Angel, and let himself be led through the Desert, going back along the path, to Horeb. There, to listen again to the WHISPER of God's silence.

Today the Word of God is beautiful and just, let us listen to it with the heart of Francesco Palau:

- ANNOINTED, sent to announce liberation and a year of grace to the poor;
- GUIDED in this mission, in dark valleys, you walk with me, my Shepherd;
- BUILT UP, UNITED in Christ, our Head, for the building up of the whole Body;
- SENT to the whole world: proclaim... Cast out the demons... Speak in a language that everyone understands, the language of genuine and free love, heal. I ask Francesco Palau to enlighten us, to give us a little of his contemplative and missionary ardour, of his creativity and of his ability to get going. May he challenge us, cast out our demons

and make us courageous and humble children of the Church.

I ask you, Francesco Palau, to help us rediscover our mission:

- There is a mission in the cave of contemplation, a struggle of the soul with God, either for life or for death. We must let God send us on a mission, let him win us back again. This seems to me to be a most beautiful plan, the best strategy: to fall in love with Jesus.

- There is a mission towards our less close neighbours, who are an unexplored land, and a mission also towards the more closer, of listening and understanding, of accompaniment.

There is a mission in failure, in emptiness and in the night, a new story of which God is the protagonist, a new book about *My Relations* with Jesus, the Church, the Loved Thing.

- There is a mission in decreasing, weakness and fragility of our humble army that has to face Goliath, and this is better than being many and strong.

- There is a mission in the heart of the elderly sister who moves with difficulty; in the one who is depressed; in the one who has to take care of her parents and devote all or part of her time to them; in the superior and in the one who is not, who feels tired or overwhelmed. Today there is a new mission to discover. And it is beautiful that we are brothers and

sisters to discover it together and to help us serve united.

«I was at prayer in my cave, and I heard the loving voice of the Father who said: “Come, my Daughter, come.” And of the Son: “Come, my Spouse, come.” And the Daughter of the Eternal Father, who was at my side, went up to the clouds which were covering the mountain, and said to me: “Come with me,” and I went up to the peak of this mountain» (*MY RELATIONS WITH THE CHURCH*, evening of May 11, 1865).

March 20, 1872: Next year will be the 150th anniversary of his death, and we are beginning to celebrate it. At the end of his days, Francis Palau confirmed his life, his silences and his words, his catechesis and his work of foundation with the gift of his life. Infected, wounded, defeated by his neighbors in order to save them, without himself ever being safe. This is the seal of authenticity: giving life. But to give it, we must take care of it, take care of ourselves and allow ourselves to cure, in the cave of silence and in fraternity. Thank you all for taking care of so many people, for taking care of yourselves and for allowing yourselves be healed.

Miguel Márquez Calle, ocd
Feast of Blessed Francis Palau y Quer
7th November 2021