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Superior General

The General Chapter has re-elected as Superior General our brother Saverio Cannistrà

Ávila, May 7, 2015 (Communicationes).- The General Chapter has re-elected as Superior General our brother Saverio Cannistrà, who was elected General in April 2009 in Fatima and now has been reelected again to guide our Order and accompany us on our way for another six years.

We recall that Fr Saverio (Antonio Gennaro) Cannistrà of the Sacred Heart was born in the Calabrian city of Catanzaro on 3rd October 1958. He studied philology at the Scuola Normale and later worked for Einaudi.

He entered the novitiate of the Italian Province of Tuscany in the Order of Discalced Carmelites in 1985 and made his simple profession on September 17, 1986. He made his solemn profession in 1990 and was ordained a priest on October 24, 1992.

Doctor in Dogmatic Theology from the Gregorian University in Rome, Saverio Cannistrà is a member of the Italian Theological Conference (northern area) and has participated in numerous conferences of the Order.

Knowing several languages, he has taught at the Faculty of Theology of the Teresianum of Rome and in the Faculty of Theology of Central Italy in Florence.

We ask your prayers for our brother Fr Saverio and ask St. Teresa of Jesus from heaven to continue guiding our family along the paths that lead to God and that beside her, all of us show with our life that «God alone sufficeth».

Diocesan process

Closing of the diocesan phase of the process for beatification of the Polish Carmelite Teresa of Jesus

Poland, May 7, 2015 (Communicationes).- The closing of the diocesan phase of the process for beatification of Teresa of Jesus (Marianna Marchocka) took place in the chapel of the Archbishop of Krakow. She was a Discalced Carmelite nun of the first generation of Saint Teresa of Jesus' daughters in Poland.

The Archbishop of Krakow, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, highlighted the fact that this Servant of God journeys to the altars within the year of the 5th Centenary of the Birth of Saint Teresa of Jesus.

The Servant of God was born on June 25, 1603, in Stróże, Zakliczyn, Danube, Poland, to a noble family. On April 26, 1620, she took the Carmelite habit in Krakow, professing her vows a year later. In 1641 she founded the monastery in Lviv (in what is currently Ukraine), where she remained until the expulsion provoked by the 1648 Cossack-Tatar invasion. She fled with her community to Warsaw and founded a monastery, where she died on April 19, 1652.

Her mystical experience is rooted in Sacred Scripture and the Liturgy.

Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow, officially opened the beatification process on December 21, 2007.

Teresian journey

From Saint Teresa's grave to her cradle

Ávila, May 7, 2015 (Communicationes).- **Father Antonio González.**- Last year the "Cradle to the Grave" route was created, uniting Ávila to Alba de Tormes and passing through Gotarrendura, Fontiveros, Duruelo, and Mancera. In August it was inaugurated with a march. Since then, several hundred people have traveled that route independently or as part of one of several groups.

During April, the organizers of the route have arranged a new pilgrimage from Alba to Ávila. On Wednesday, April 22, at Saint Teresa's tomb, a group of 50 pilgrims began walking along the route and reached Peñaranda de Bracamonte. The following day they passed through Mancera de Abajo and Duruelo, and brought to memory the foundation of the friars' Discalced Carmel.

On Friday they covered the distance between Narros del Castillo and Fontiveros, where they brought to memory Saint John of the Cross. They were accompanied by several authorities from Castile and León.

Saturday's journey ended in Gotarrendura. They were joined in that walk by other pilgrims on foot and several on horseback. Finally, on Sunday the 26th, over 120 people on foot and about a dozen on horseback completed this pilgrimage in front of the house where Saint Teresa was born. For all of them, these days of journeying – despite fatigue and Sunday's rain – have been filled with the joy of fraternal sharing and encounter with Saint Teresa.

The "Cradle to the Grave" route is open for pilgrims on foot, bicycle, or horseback. Necessary information to travel it and enjoy its scenery and Teresian-Sanjuanist sites may be found on www.caminosteresianos.com.

Africa

The Secular Carmel of Kinshasa works to make Saint Teresa's message known

Kinshasa-Congo, May 7, 2015 (Communicationes).- On the occasion of the 5th Centenary of the Birth of Saint Teresa of Jesus, the members of the Secular Discalced Carmel of Kinshasa have begun to participate in Catholic radio station Elikia's programming. They have also visited several parishes in the archdiocese of Kinshasa to make Saint Teresa known.

In St. Luke parish, the president of the Secular Carmelites of Kinshasa, Marguerite WUMBA, offered a conference titled, "Teresa of Ávila, a woman with a biblical face." She began her talk by clearing up the very frequent confusion among Christians who do not distinguish among Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Thérèse of Lisieux, Teresa of Calcutta, and Teresa of Ávila.

She then showed how Saint Teresa of Jesus matches the profile of many biblical women we extol. "Teresa is the Mother of those who are spiritual because the Word of God found fertile soil in her. It is enough to imitate the example of Mother in order to shine with the light of the Word of God and put into practice good works capable of transforming our Church and our society."

When the talk concluded, Christians from the parish of St. Luke were able to buy books, statuettes, holy cards with Saint Teresa's prayers, cloths, and Centenary shirts.

These are small initiatives that bring the message of Saint Teresa of Jesus closer to the African people.

Colombia

Events of the Colombia's Carmelite Institute

Colombia, May 7, 2015 (Communicationes).- he Carmelite Spirituality Institute of Colombia has published its academic program for the second semester of this year.

All the activities are focused on energizing the spiritual life of participants through the study of spirituality, the lives and works of the saints of Carmel, and the practice of prayer.

Academic and experiential activities have been organized, ranging from evenings of prayer to conferences, short courses, and a certification in partnership with the Pontifical Xavierian University.

The Carmelite Spirituality Institute of Colombia was launched last October, coinciding with the beginning of the 5th Centenary of Saint Teresa of Jesus.