

# Communicationes N. 294

24/06/2015

## INDEX:

- Peter's Pence
- New Teresian publication
- European youth meeting and the International Teresian meeting

## Chronicles from the General Archives

### Peter's Pence

**June 24, 2015 (Communicationes).- Fr Óscar I. Aparicio.** As everyone knows, this is an offering that Catholics throughout the whole world give to the Pope for his material needs. This gift originated towards the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> century, when the newly-converted Anglo-Saxons felt so united with the Bishop of Rome that they decided to send an annual help to the Holy Father in a stable manner. Thus was born the "Denarius Sancti Petri" (Peter's Pence) which afterwards extended throughout the Christian globe.

With the passage of time this almsgiving suffered somewhat until it was restored by Pope Pius IX, with the Encyclical *Saepe venerabilis* issued on 5<sup>th</sup> August 1871, due in great deal to the unification of the Kingdom of Italy and the previous expropriation of the Church's goods. What few know is that behind this gift lies the hand and brilliant idea of a Discalced Carmelite brother. We are referring to **Br Charles of all the Saints** (Damaso Cesaroli, 1802-1886). This brother spent a part of his life gathering alms throughout Europe and other countries to restore in the Holy Land the great Sanctuary and Monastery of Mount Carmel and its pilgrim hospice.

He returned to Italy and first of all lived in the monastery of Santa Maria della Vittoria and afterward in Santa Maria della Scala, both in Rome. Seeing the needs of the Pope and having spent half of his life seeking alms for Mount Carmel, he decided to organize two concerts, one in the Campo Pretoriano and the other in the Campidoglio, in order to obtain money for the successor of Peter. Taking part in them was the great pianist Franz Liszt, whom Brother Charles had known in Paris. This is why Br Charles is known as the predecessor, in modern times, of St Peter's pence.

In the archives we keep, as precious material, his voyage notebooks, in which he has jotted down not only the alms received for Mount Carmel but reflections on his voyages through Europe and the Middle East. His reference number is OCD General Archives, Section A,

compartments 257 and 258. There we keep his travel books, precious material to know about life and customs of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, from the point of view of a Discalced Carmelite brother.

## Publication

### New Teresian publication

**Avila-Spain, June 24, 2015 (Communicaciones).**- Just published by the Editorial Monte Carmelo of Burgos is a new work by Fr Daniel de Pablo Maroto, EL TERESIANISMO. TEOLOGÍA, ESPIRITUALIDAD Y MORAL.

It is a synthesis of the life and teaching of our Holy Mother, St Teresa, prepared by keeping in mind, as the principal source, the teachings of the Doctor in her works, while using the previous studies of the author on the Saint, Spiritual Theology and the history of spirituality.

In the first part of the work are laid out the great dogmatic topics of Christianity lived by Teresa: God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary and St Joseph, Sacred Scripture, the Church, grace which dignifies mankind, and Christian feminism. They are preceded by two chapters, one a brief synthesis of her life and works; while the other concerns mysticism. In the second part is developed “the ethical commitment of the Christian”, the “works”: humility as living in truth, charity, the ascetical life, prayer, the “states of life” in the Church. The work concludes with a “Final Reflection” on mysticism today.

## Meetings

### European Youth Meeting and the International Teresian Meeting

**June 24, 2015 (Communicaciones).**- On the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of June there will be a meeting in Avila of the Pastoral Commission for the V Centenary to finalize preparations for the International Teresian Meeting which will be celebrated in Avila from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of August.

The meeting will bring together the whole family of Carmel: friars, nuns, religious from the various congregations affiliated to the Order, Secular Carmel and the different movements and groups of Carmel, a great variety just as there is in Teresian spirituality.

Around 1,000 people from the five continents will gather in Avila for these days to be guided by the Vical General of the Order, Fr Agustí Borrell. They will visit the sites associated with Teresa in Avila and Alba de Tormes, and through a variety of conferences and workshops they will reflect on the essential elements of Teresian spirituality and the ways and means of mission in our times. All this will be topped up by times for prayer and celebration, which will offer to those taking part an experience of the relevance to modern society and the

universality of the Teresian charism, extended through the five continents and finding form in quite varied social situations and ecclesial realities.

The web page for the meeting is [www.avila2015.com](http://www.avila2015.com). Enrolment for the meeting remains open until 20<sup>th</sup> July.

On its part, the General Commission for preparing the European Youth Meeting will gather in Avila on 17<sup>th</sup> June to organize the youth meeting which will take part in Avila from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of August.

This meeting, organized by the Spanish Episcopal Conference together with Carmel, will bring together more than five thousand young people, coming from various European countries. They will also be joined by young people from Carmel in Australia and Argentina. By means of catechesis and various dynamics, they will get an idea of Teresa's teachings set out in her principal works – the Life, Way of Perfection, Interior Castle – in order to discover the relevance of her message to present times. There will also be days for festivity, prayer and ecclesial meetings.

This meeting is one of the principal initiatives of the Spanish Church for the Teresian centenary. On the web site [www.eej2015.com](http://www.eej2015.com), there is included, among other things, a section of Teresian catechesis for young people.