

Communicationes 313

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Historical procession with Our Lady of Mount Carmel heading to Stella Maris (Haifa)

The origin of the procession dates to 1914 (during the First World War). During the month of November, the Ottoman authorities appeared in the Stella Maris monastery (Mount Carmel), notifying the religious men that in three hours they had to leave the monastery, because it was going to be taken up by the Ottoman army. The Carmelites took to safety the cult items. Meanwhile, the Haifa inhabitants asked the Superior to allow them to take the statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel from Stella Maris to Saint Joseph parish, in the Haifa Bay because, facing the continuous bombardments of the French and English ships, they hope to have refuge and protection from Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

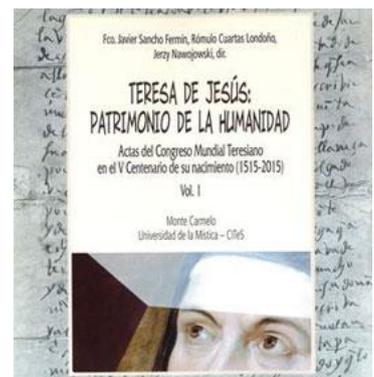
After the war, the Haifa population, spontaneously and as thanksgiving, brought back – this time by means of a procession, accompanied by prayers and thanksgiving songs – the statue in its sanctuary in Stella Maris. Since 1919, fifteen days after the Easter (3rd Easter Sunday) this procession is repeated every year. At the very beginning, it was a local procession (in Haifa), some time after, it became regional (the whole Galilea), and nowadays it is celebrated all around Holy Land, being the second most important procession, after the Jerusalem Procession of the Palms.

The procession is led by the Jerusalem Latin Patriarch, who at the end gives the blessing to all God's people who have joyfully taken part in the event.

Teresian publications

Both the Teresianum and CITEs have recently published Teresian publications of interest.

With reference to the Teresianum, now available to the public is a double number for the year 2015, in which is contained the acts of the International Congress organized by our pontifical faculty from the 4th to 6th November under the title "Teresa and what it is to be human". Taking part were specialists from Italy, France, Spain, Burundi, Malta and Switzerland, who dealt with the person of Saint



Teresa from distinct disciplinary perspectives. The volume, which contains 16 articles, has also an extensive Teresian bibliographical bulletin prepared by Fr. Ciro García, ocd, the librarian of the Teresianum. This bulletin can be downloaded from the Teresianum's web page, as also –in Spanish– from www.delarucaalapluma.wordpress.com.

CITeS, for its part, has also other interesting publications, which can be consulted on its web page (www.mistica.es). In cooperation with Monte Carmelo Publishing House, it has presented the acts of the Teresian International Congress celebrated at our Avila International Centre from 21st to 27th September last year, under the title "Teresa of Jesus. Patrimony of humanity". The papers of this congress, extensive in topic, content and approaches to the person of Teresa of Jesus, have been put into two volumes, which can be ordered at this internet address: pedidos@mistica.es. A thorough presentation of both volumes can be found at this web address.



St Teresa of Avila Cultural Centre at Makebuko (Gitega – Burundi)

During the summer of 2012 in Makebuko (Gitega – Burundi), the students in the primary, secondary schools and colleges of the area petitioned for help in obtaining a common lecture hall from the Fundación Barceló which is situated in Palma de Mallorca (Spain). In the past this foundation had given help for various projects in the area. In this case, the students' petitions was accompanied by a very special "recommendation". The young people invoked the help of saint Teresa, who had *always been a friend of the arts*.

In this way, the "Makebuko Cultural Centre of Saint Teresa of Avila) began, stimulated by Fr. A. M. Zacharie Igirukway OCD, a professor in the Rome Teresianum. The Saint did not disillusion the hopes of the young people and so, before the end of the celebrations for the fifth centenary of her birth, a building was inaugurated which contains a library and lecture hall, thanks to the help from many benefactors.

The complex is owned by the Discalced Carmelites of Burundi and Rwanda and was inaugurated on 31st July 2015, with the Archbishop of Gitega, His Grace Mons. Simon Ntamwana, blessing the facilities.

The students are involved in taking care of the Centre and, as well, take part in all the activities proposed to them, according to their various capabilities. The influx of youth exceeded initial expectations, in such a way that the library space has also had to be used as a lecture hall. The students are not the only ones to benefit from the space in the Centre: joining the students have been some adults, particularly the professors of the area.

With time, it is foreseen that the St Teresa of Avila Centre will have a wide range of cultural and folkloric activities.

New logo



Many of you are already familiar with the new logo that identifies the General Curia in various digital communications media: Web (www.carmelitaniscalzi.com), Facebook (Curia Generalizia Carmelitani Scalzi) and Twitter (@ocdcuria). It was

designed by Father Sebastian Garcia, ocd, of the Province of Iberia. It is the visible spear's head of the General Definitory's restructuring of communications.

During these past few months we have particularly tried to intensify news distributed through social media which is used by many laypersons of the Carmelite family, especially OCDS, as well as some male and female religious. We try to publish news in the most immediate way possible in different languages, especially in Facebook and Twitter; news which would not be so easily disseminated by using only the Web, such as pictures and information about visits of the Father General and his definitors, congresses and academic activities related to our spirituality, videos, formation materials, activities of the OCDS in different parts of the world, et cetera.

For those who frequent social media, it is sufficient to search for our profiles in each one and subscribe to them to receive information in your accounts. Those who do not use social media can also see the same content by visiting our Web page, where links are provided at the bottom of the page.

Once again, we encourage you to get to know and use these resources to reinforce the bonds of our relationship.