

# Communicationes N. 304

16/09/2015

## INDEX:

- The Discalced Carmelites in Brasil produced a forum to celebrate the V Centenary of the birth of Saint Teresa of Jesus
- Portugal issues two Teresian postage stamps
- Looting in various Carmels on the Ivory Coast

## Congress

### The Discalced Carmelites of Brasil produced a forum to celebrate the V Centenary of the Birth of Saint Teresa of Jesus

**Brasil, September 16, 2015 (Communicationes).**- The Secular Carmelites of the Saint Joseph Province of Brasil organized a great forum to commemorate the V Centenary of the birth of Saint Teresa of Jesus. At the event, celebrated from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of September, around 600 people took part, including the three branches of the Carmelite Family (friars, nuns and seculars), as well as various affiliated Institutes and Congregations and new communities who live and drink in Teresian spirituality.

Fr Patrick Sciadini OCD, the Delegate General of Egypt, presided at the opening Mass and also gave the first conference of the event: *Saint Teresa, Foundress and Missionary*.

On the second day various speakers gave conferences: Fr Ulrich Dobhan, OCD, Provincial of Germany, spoke on the topic *Saint Teresa, historical and biographical aspects*; Fr Romano Gambalunga, the OCD Postulator General, talked about *Teresa's Carmel, Message to prepare holy evangelists*; while Fr Francisco Javier Sancho Fermin, the Director of CITEs, presented the topic *Saint Teresa and the concept of a human person*.

On Sunday, the Eucharist was celebrated in the basilica of the National Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Apparition. The auxiliary Bishop of Vitoria-Spain, Archbishop Rubens Sevilla, presided at the Mass which was broadcast live from TV Aparecida.

The preachers on this day included Fr Jean Marie Laurier, French—from the Notre Dame de Vie Institute, who spoke on the topic *Saint Teresa and mysticism*; then Moisés Rocha Farias ocds, Professor of Philosophy, treated *Saint Teresa and the mission of the laity in the Aparecida Document*; while Fr Patricio Sciadini, OCD, dealt with *Saint Teresa and consecrated life*.

In the evening, there was a great and lively spectacle to launch the CD musical "For you was I born", which was organized by Br Marcus Vinicius of the Cross, OCD. Many great names in the national Catholic music took part.

On Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, Lucia Pedrosa, Doctor of Theology, gave the last conference of the event: *Prayer as a spousal relationship in Saint Teresa*.

## Stamps

### Portugal issues two Teresian postage stamps

**Portugal, September 16, 2015 Communicationes**.- During the centenary of the birth of St Teresa of Jesus, the postal service of Portugal issued two postage stamps. This initiative was also supported by the Direction General of Cultural Patrimony of the National Museum of Ancient Art, as well as the Portugal province of the Discalced Carmelite Order.

The €0.45 stamp had a run of 155,000 copies. The stamp contains part of a painting called the [Imposition of the Rule by Saint Teresa of Avila](#), photographed by Júlio Marques. It is a work by Pedro Alexandrino de Carvalho (1729-1810), Portugal, 18<sup>th</sup> century (2<sup>nd</sup> half), oil on canvas. It is to be found in the [San Roque museum](#), situated in the old house of the Jesuits in Lisbon.

Teresa of Jesus appears as the foundress of a new order, to which she hands over the Constitutions. This lively composition, of Italian influence, which revels in the contrasts of chiaroscuro, is considered one of the best works of the author.

A souvenir sheet, with stamps of €2.50 value and a circulation of 40,000 copies, is decorated with a painting by Josefa de Óbidos or de Ayala, photographed by José Pessoa. The work is one of a series dedicated to Saint Teresa, in the Monastery of Our Lady of Piety of Cascais (1672). Added to the detail of the face of the Saint is the reproduction of a letter written by the Saint in Avila on 4<sup>th</sup> October 1578 to the Jesuit Fr Pablo Hernández in Madrid.

## Missions

### Looting in various Carmels on the Ivory Coast

**Ivory Coast, September 16, 2015 (Communicationes)**.- The parish of St Luigi Gonzaga on the Ivory Coast, run by the Discalced Carmelite Friars of the Iberian Province, was looted on the night of 27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> August,.

Armed men burst into the parish, breaking down all the doors in the parish, totally destroying the sacristy and even opening the tabernacle (a profanation for which the parish spent three days fasting and in prayer in amends). Many are the things carried away and also damaged.

One week before, in the monastery of the Discalced Carmelite nuns in Logbakro (the political capital of the country), there occurred another assault. On this occasion, three nuns were wounded, one of them fairly gravely. The religious are now recovering from their physical wounds.

These aggressions are but a small sample of the wave of insecurity which hangs over the Ivory Coast since 2002.