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CLOSURE OF 5TH CENTENARY OF ST TERESA'S BIRTH

«Closure of V Centenary of St Teresa's birth in India»

For complete article see: <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/ampliar-noticia/conclusion-del-v-centenario-del-nacimiento-de-santa-teresa-en-la-india#.VizXFbcveUk>

India, 2nd - 3rd October. To conclude the V Centenary of St Teresa's birth, on October 3rd, the Carmelite family in India celebrated in style at a national level in Velankanni, the biggest and most popular shrine of Our Lady of Good Health in Tamilnadu State, in the South of the country. Organized by the Carmelite family in India – priests and brothers, nuns, Ocarm religious, Sisters from the affiliated Carmelite Congregations – around 1,500 people coming from all over India.

The Inter-Provincial council invited Fr General and their Fr Definitor to join in the celebrations in Velankanni for our Holy Mother. Both of them arrived in India one week beforehand and made a fraternal visit to the Karnataka Goa province. On the 2nd October, one day before the closing celebrations of the centenary, there was a meeting of all the Major Superiors of the Carmelite areas of jurisdiction in India.

The principal objective of this meeting, besides encouraging the Provinces in India to re-read our Constitutions, as was decided in the Avila General Chapter, was to deal with the topic of continuing formation courses that began in the preceding sexennium in India. These are important to rediscover the identity of our charism. In the next meeting, the interprovincial Council will discuss the program for the next six years with their Definitor and how to enhance it. The Interprovincial Council of India has extended a fraternal invitation to all the Definitory to visit India as well as to celebrate the next Extraordinary General Definitory there.

«Extract from Fr General's words in Avila on the eve of the closure of the V Centenary

For complete article see: <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/ampliar-noticia/homilia-del-p--general#.VizXkbcveUk>

Avila, homily at first Vespers of 15th October. «We have reached the end of this year, during which we commemorated the fifth centenary of the birth of our Holy Mother Teresa – a rich, intense year filled with events, meetings and emotion. Additionally, for those of us who are members of the Teresian family, today is the conclusion not only of a year of celebrations but of a veritable journey of preparation spanning six years, in which we re-read the writings and the message our Mother left us.

«During this year, so many things have been written about Saint Teresa, numerous, evocative, and interesting, that one would wish to stay silent in order to assimilate everything we have listened to and heard, and put into practice what we have learned: "silence and works", as Saint John of the Cross would say. In fact, I am convinced we should do just that, and as an Order, during the General Chapter last May, we set out a plan for this upcoming sexennium with the objective that the "lectio" of Teresa continue on to become serious «meditatio» and «actio», that are able to induce commitment to the Teresian charism in our way of living, thinking, and witnessing to today's Church and world. (.../...)

For Teresa was simultaneously sublime and practical, engrossed in God and attentive to every practical issue, extraverted and lover of solitude, sweet and severe, entrenched in daily battles and with a heart desirous of

eternal life. If we lost sight of this tension that permeates her entire person, we would reduce Teresa to a flat image, static, banal. If she wrote and carried with herself those words we all know: «Let nothing disturb you, nothing affright you», it is precisely because she needed to repeat them continually to herself, like a castaway, buffeted by the waves, clinging on to the only hope of salvation offered her: abandonment to God. (.../...)

(As Fr Saverio concludes:) «We ought to place her works on this canvas if we do not want to falsify their meaning, if we want to find the exact intonation in which to read them and above all if we want to learn to live like her, if we want to share not only her ideas, but her feelings, her way of being in this world, at once free and imprisoned, committed and completely detached, restless and definitely at peace. Yes, effectively we still have a lot to learn in the school of her wisdom».

Closure of the V Centenary in Helsinki (Finland)

For complete article see: <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/ampliar-noticia/celebrando-el-v-centenario-del-nacimiento-de-santa-teresa-de-jesus-en-finlandia#.VizYxbcveUl>

The events in Finland celebrating the 5th centenary of the birth of Saint Teresa have provided many examples of the ecumenical and universal relevance of our saint in a country known as the most Lutheran in the world. Teresa's solemn birthday festival was organized by the secular Carmelites in the parish hall of Saint Henry's cathedral in Helsinki. One of the highlights was the recital of two poems of Teresian inspiration composed by contemporary non-Catholic Finnish poets.

It is a remarkable fact that in the past fifteen years, nine theology students at the Helsinki university researched topics related to Teresa of Avila, one of whom completed her research with a dissertation on «Saint Teresa in the light of medieval mystical theories».

Thus, it was not very surprising that six of the participants at the main event of the Teresian Jubilee Year in Finland («The ecumenical congress on the mysticism of Teresa of Jesus» on 12th September) were Lutheran pastors. The congress was carried out by the OCDS in cooperation with the Dominican friar of Helsinki. The speakers were Fr Ian Matthews ocd (Oxford/Rome), Fr Marius-Cyprian Dinu (Rumanian Orthodox Church), Dr Pauli Annala (university of Helsinki), Robert Kralj, doctor of philosophy (Ljubljana) and the painter Dr. Juha Saitajoki, whose doctoral thesis (presented in the university of Lapland) dealt with the «Ecstasy of Saint Teresa» by Gian Lorenzo Bernini. A total of 65 persons were present, four of whom were secular Carmelites from Estonia, the nearby country on the southern shore of the Gulf of Finland. (.../...)

Last, but not least, we record the multi-disciplinary exhibition «The ecstasy of Saint Teresa» (from 21st August to 26th October 2015) in the Helsinki Amos Anderson Museum of Art, featuring works by ten Finnish contemporary artists who interpret spiritual ecstasy as part of a creative process. The exhibition, which has received support from the Finnish Cultural Foundation and the Arts Promotion Centre of Finland, was accompanied by a series of lectures, concerts and performances. On the final exhibition Saturday, the Finnish folk singer, songwriter and musician, Islaja, (with her psychedelic and very intimate music) presented her work: «Teresa sings».

Secular Carmel National Congress in the United States

For complete article see: <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/ampliar-noticia/congreso-en-estados-unidos#.Viza6rcveUk>

Some 600 members of the Secular Order met for the National Congress in Milwaukee (WI) from 14 to 17 October. The congress was organized by the Holy Hill and Milwaukee communities of the Secular Order on the topic: «I am Yours and born for You. What do You want of me?»

The 15th, the feast of the Holy Mother, was a day of pilgrimage to the basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Succor, under the guidance of the Washington Discalced Carmelite friars. The basilica is some 50 minutes from Milwaukee city. Presiding at the Eucharist was Fr Jude Peters OCD, who was joined by many Carmelites

concelebrating together with other priests who wanted to join in the event. Contributing to the conferences, on topics relating to the Holy Mother and our Carmelite spirituality, were Mr D. George Weigel and the Discalced Carmelite Friars Fr Kieran Kavanaugh OCD, Fr Alzinir Debastiani OCD, Fr Marc Foley OCD and Fr Marc Berry OCD.

Fr General, in his message sent to the congress, expressed the desire that the essential elements of the Teresian Carmelite charism would serve as an inspiration for a growing productive service for the mission of the Church and the Order

Next year's congress will be in June in San Jose (CA).

EXTRACT FROM FR SAVERIO'S LETTER FOR THE CANONIZATION OF LUIS AND ZELIE, THE PARENTS OF SAINT THERESE OF LISIEUX (For complete article see: [martin#.VizUVrcveUk](#))

Sunday 18th October, in St Peter's square, Pope Francis solemnly inscribed in the canon of the Saints, the married couple, Luis Martin and Zelig Guérin the parents of Saint Therese of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face, thereby recognising them as sources of inspiration and companions along life's journey for so many of the faithful, as well as Christian families, in need of stimulus, light and comfort. (... /...)

The great message the pair and the Martin family bring us is knowing how to discover in family life the extraordinary beauty of ordinary things. Through this canonization let us welcome the call to the whole of the Teresian Carmel to be more of a family, to discover the beauty and importance of our daily responsibilities, to learn humbly from families who live their own vocation and mission with commitment.

God desires that the witness of this couple will enable us to become creatively part of the way that the Church is tracing out, inviting us to rediscover the family as essential for evangelization and a school for humanity.

MISSIONS

Appointment of Fr Georges Tambala as Bishop of Zomba (Malawi)

For complete article see: <http://www.carmelitaniscalzi.com/ampliar-noticia/nombramiento-del-p--george-tambala--ocd--obispo-de-zomba--malawi-#.Vizgz7cveUk>

On October 15th, 2015, Pope Francis appointed as Bishop of Zomba in Malawi our brother George Desmond Tambala, at present Definitor General of the Discalced Carmelites, in charge of Africa.

Fr George D. Tambala was born on 18th November 1968 in the diocese of Zomba. After attending primary school in Ulongwe, he was admitted to the Nankhunda Minor Seminary of the Child Jesus in Zomba. He entered the Discalced Carmelites in 1990. He followed the two-year philosophy course in the Balaka inter-congregational seminary and once he had completed his theological studies in Tangaza College in Nairobi, Kenya, he made his solemn profession on 15th August 1995 in the Malawi Carmel and was ordained priest on 13th April 1996.

After his ordination he was appointed to the following duties: from 1996 to 1998: Parish Vicar in Kapiri, in the Archdiocese of Lilongwe, Malawi; from 1998 to 2000: studies in Spain (Avila and Vitoria) where he obtained a Licence in Theology; from 2000 to 2002: Postulant Master and teacher of spirituality in the Balaka inter-congregational seminary; from 2002 to 2008: Superior and Provincial Delegate of the Discalced Carmelites in Malawi and Vice-Director of the Saint John of the Cross spirituality Centre in Nyungwe-Blantyre; from 2009 to 2015: Definitor General of the Discalced Carmelite friars, in charge of Africa and Madagascar. In the 2015 General Chapter he was re-elected as a Definitor General. He has also been President of the Malawi Association of Major Superiors (A.M.R.I.M.).

We wish him a fruitful ministry under the protection of our Holy Mother, Saint Teresa. The episcopal ordination is planned for 30th January 2016, in Malawi.