

vita più

N° 1
JANUARY / APRIL
2017

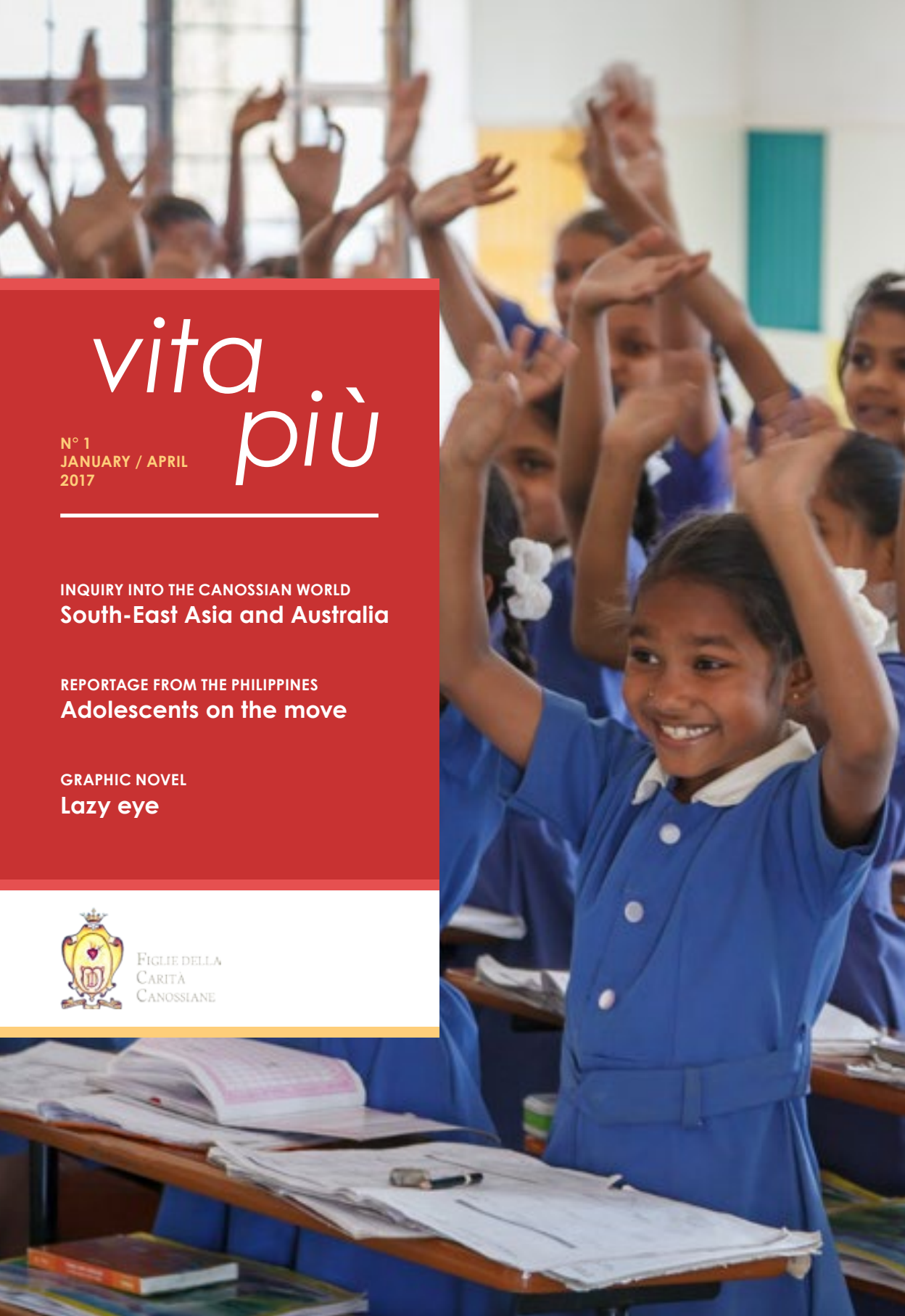
INQUIRY INTO THE CANOSSIAN WORLD
South-East Asia and Australia

REPORTAGE FROM THE PHILIPPINES
Adolescents on the move

GRAPHIC NOVEL
Lazy eye



FIGLIE DELLA
CARITÀ
CANOSSIANE



vita più

VITA PIÙ

N. 1 - JANUARY / APRIL 2017

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*Vita Più has been renewed; news about Canossian life is keeping up with the times, **taking interest in new means of communication and broadening its horizon beyond the communities** of the Canossian Sisters, focusing attention on emergencies in the world reported by mass media.*

The role of women in South-East Asia, migrant phenomenon in the Mediterranean, inter-religious dialogue, formation and education of children and youth, the poor who risk dying in total abandonment, those who have everything and those who have nothing. Again, destruction caused by natural disasters and the effort to rebuild areas and communities. These are some of the stories told in this issue of Vita Più, the 4-monthly magazine of the Canossian General Curia which, from January 2017 begins a new journey, taking advantage of new forms of communication, from films to tweets without neglecting the reading of a good book.

*Vita Più proposes to recount, **using simple language and in direct form**, the daily effort of the Sisters who operate in the missions **through their hidden work among the poorest**, the simple life of those who dwell in the peripheries of the world.*

*The magazine of the Canossian Institute has been renewed in concept and graphics, with the desire to broaden its reference point, to open **dialogue with those who wish to know more of the Prophecy that animates the Canossians**, in continual spiritual deepening, able to humbly but courageously share the difficulty of living and finding hope.*

Paola Pierotti

Canossian Life: 90 years of communication

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017!

Dear Friends,
with the beginning of the New Year we shall resume our communication through 'Vita Più', our periodical, that had been suspended for one year, as we felt the need to reflect on the new look we wanted to give to this magazine, part of the tradition of our Institute. Let us briefly go through the stages of its history. In 1927 it was started under the name 'Vita Canossiana'. During all this time, nearly one century, it was meant to foster communication among ourselves, with all the people and friends throughout the world, with those who know us, follow us and are one with us, feeling interest for our family and our apostolic works in the 33 nations where we work especially among the most poor.

In these years our periodical has changed names: 'Vita', 'Vita Missioni Canossiane', 'Chime', the quarterly review in English, that lasted 5 years. It has also changed aspect, but it kept its purpose, that of informing and strengthening communication among us all. This made us feel the unity of

our family, urging many to solidarity and commitment so that all may have a more dignified life. It has been a means for an authentic culture of encounter. Since 1987 its name is 'Vita Più' and we intend to keep this name as a sign of continuity, while working at the restyling demanded by the change of times.

I hope that 'Vita Più' may help us to broaden our horizons, our interests, and our knowledge of other realities, opening us up to a greater sharing of our experiences and to keep that union so dear to our Foundress, in the concrete reality of our time.

We never cease to 'be surprised' by the strength of the Charism handed down to us by Magdalene, that keeps being so fruitful.

I am happy to wish all of you a year rich in Hope. May each one of us become a giver of it through one's availability and witness:

A Hope that is a gift and a sign of His Presence in all of us, a Hope that each one of us is called to live personally, a Hope that we are all called to foster. Happy New Year to everybody!

M. Annamaria Babbini
Congregational Leader



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Letter of the Foundress



CANOSSA, EP III/1
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TO DOMENICA
FACCIOLI
(VERONA 19.02.1822)

“ Dearest daughter,
[...] two words [...] speaking to you while holding my heart
and with that real desire that I have, to see you holy.

My dear daughter how much I long to see you more
abandoned in God, more detached from the human comforts
and more filled with confidence, but real and total in the
Lord. Remember that the one who hopes more will receive
more. You now see that you were worried with fear that
Elena would have to travel, and God has restored her to
health. Now you fear that if lady Antonietta comes for a few
days, she will be disgusted with the Institute, and you will
see that God will enlighten the parish priest and what he
will decide will end up to turn out the best.

You feel the weight of the works, and in this I sympathize
with you and, if I could fly to Milan in these days to assist
you, I would do so gladly. But remember that you are not
worth two coins of material to make the image of your
Spouse, yet you say that you are the spouse of the Crucified.
Therefore, if this must be good, I too hope that you will truly
be. It is worthwhile that you think about having to keep him
company in his sufferings and burdens if you want to obtain
the crown that he is keeping ready for you.

Hence, have courage my dear daughter, abandon yourself in
the Lord and don't doubt that he will certainly assist you.
Control yourself as much as you can and try to take care of
yourself. Don't be scrupulous to take something hot in bed
in the morning. Above all be of good cheer, trust in God and
don't wish to carry the past, present and future cross being
ourselves so very small that it is enough to carry the cross of
everyday.

Although unworthy, I will not forget to pray for you, do the
same for me... I leave you in the most holy heart of Mary.

”

*Your most affectionate Mother,
Magdalene, Daughter of Charity*

Footsteps firm in faith

comment by **Santina Marini**

Reading between the lines of a dense
and regular correspondence with
Sisters responsible for houses recently
founded (in 1808 Verona, 1812
Venice, 1816 Milan), Magdalene allows us to
see her great preoccupation: helping the newly-
established communities to remain firm in faith,
a basic requirement for the quality of fraternal
relationships and of evangelical witness. **This
means faith lived according to the logic
of the Incarnation, amidst the inevitable
contradictions of the times**, putting one's
trust in the Lord who always comes towards
us, accompanies us, helps us to see in apparent
failures of life, the possibility of doing good
following his example; a particular way of seeing

a way to pull herself up and inspire others with
confidence in difficulties. She faces a challenge by
often relying on human support.
Magdalene does not withdraw herself from her
spiritual vocation. She listens with gentleness
and firmness. **It helps her to bring out the
best of self, that reserve of energy that is a
gift but requires real exercise of the interior
life**, in daily life as well as the most demanding
moments of life. The best of self. This means that
“plus” of confidence and abandonment in God
who interiorly regenerates and makes us able to
do great things, even in weakness, in trials and
in the exercise of feared responsibility. Starting
from greater familiarity with the Lord, heart of
the spiritual life, a more meaningful affective
freedom regarding others is possible, on which
our insecurities and frustrations tend to rest.
Magdalene seems to tell her dear Mincola: I am
with you, my dear. I will always be, just as I have
always been, with you. But you must try to be
better, wiser, able to stand on your own feet, while

IT'S WORTHWHILE ENTRUSTING OURSELVES, INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

ourselves, others, our ministries, in the Church
and in the world; **this is an exercise that gives
wings to our freedom and makes us strong
in weakness**. A “greater measure” of detachment
from human help and a “greater measure” of trust
and abandonment in God, characteristics of faith
that Magdalene wants to see shine out in Mincola
(Domenica Faccioli) and in all her Daughters of
Charity.

Letter 1256; we are in Milan. Elena Bernardi,
just 30, is the Superior of the house and finds it
hard to face her responsibility, especially that of
formation. Her excessive sensitivity forces her to
stop for a moment, to distance herself from the
community and regain composure. Domenica
Faccioli, her faithful support, is a valid reference
point for the community and the young Sisters
in formation. Apparently sure of herself, she is
really very anxious and a little stubborn. She
concentrates on things and wants them done
to perfection! She uses all her energies to keep
things under control, but she can't. She worries,
she complains, she is discouraged. She is sincere
when she says she can't make it. She can't find

you lean solely on the Lord. Try to be “freer”,
that is “more holy”. This is the secret of interior
serenity and security in doing things.
This is the attitude that, free from anxiety,
is able to perceive the chance of doing all the
good possible at the present moment, without
“burdening ourselves with past, present and
future crosses.”

Magdalene wants us to be adults, free and
courageous, thanks to our faith. **Women of great
relationships because we are able to meet
the challenge** (able to measure ourselves) in
our personal relationship with the Lord. Women
of great interior life, able to cultivate a space
of solitude within necessary to bring forth that
dream, that promise, the great things God alone
can do with us, in our personal lives, for the good
of the poor. Magdalene knows by experience what
it means to “fully trust” the Lord. So many years
of uncertainties, sufferings, projects started and
never realised, despite everything. On the pages of
history, she wrote, with great awareness and joy:
God alone. He guides our lives. It is worthwhile
trusting in Him for the future ...ours.

PAGES OF LIFE



PAPUA NEW GUINEA, AUTUMN 2016
welcoming celebration for the new Cardinal, Sir John Ribat

Inquiry

The Canossian World

BY PAOLA PIEROTTI

The Canossian sisters exchange stories, inform and communicate with one another. In being faithful to the commitments taken at the end of the XVI General Chapter in 2014, with a program to be realized by 2020, the Institute of Magdalene of Canossa aims to actively involve all the Sisters throughout the world in the process of discernment **by translating its commitment in education, evangelization and witness of life**. Hence, the Gospel becomes incarnated and writes history. From the various corners of the world, the Canossian sisters share their daily lives, recognize the emergencies, the priorities, the outcomes, while building something every day for the people (they serve). In 2016, the Canossian Institute promoted two international seminars, one in Rome for the neo-Latin speaking communities (30 March-8 April) and one in Jakarta for the English-speakers (19-28 September). Present at the first seminar were the Provincial Councils of Argentina-Paraguay, Brazil, Western and Central Africa and Italy, as well as the Delegations of Angola-Sao Tomè and Europe. They were called to confront the theme **“Vita Profetica: Comunicazione e gestione oggi”**.

Present at the second seminar held in Indonesia were members of all the Provinces of South East Asia and North America and the Delegations of Australia and Andhra Pradesh. Their topic was **“Prophetic Life. New Challenge: communication and management today”**.

At this last event, ten mission stories were collected. They focused on how the Canossian communities respond to the urgent needs of the people, particularly the recurring natural calamities in the Philippines and the promotion and defense of women especially in those realities that don't accept feminine autonomy.

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India, from health care to visiting the prisoners

A ray of hope for a better future



In the vast region of North India one can observe unsustainable social, civil and economic conditions of life. There is no work and women often live in a state of exploitation. There is an urgent need for reform and education for the whole population.

The Canossian sisters dedicate themselves to education, health care, the support of women and to better the conditions of life in the prisons.

They provide (basic) education for poor children and, after being tested, these are inserted in the State's education system. The Sisters celebrate with them the festivity of Christmas, the (annual) Children's Day and stimulate their learning through sport and games. They organize free health care centres that attend to the wellbeing and health needs of the population.

They further assist in the care of the sick and accompany those affected by drugs and tuberculosis in centres of government analysis, as well as distributing clothing and blankets for the winter. In the health care centres, assistance is also given to women unable to conceive. **The Canossian sisters visit the villages to provide health care information to women and children** in the areas of hygiene, communicable diseases and on the importance of visiting a doctor during pregnancy and for breastfeeding.

The pastoral visits in the prisons (three times a week) are important for alleviating the difficult living conditions. The sisters **pray together with the prisoners**, celebrate different festivities and conduct various activities such as dressmaking, learning to draw and painting, using the typewriter and the computer, woodwork, and for everything also providing the necessary material.

In the villages, government officials are invited (to visit) giving them the opportunity of starting projects for the benefit of the community. The work of the Canossian sisters reaches those who find themselves at the margins of education and health care, provides work and assistance to the people to live a dignified life in society.

NORTH INDIA

22 COMMUNITIES

by Lissy Mathew

Schools, work programs and hospitals

We are a network; together we can make a difference

India consists of a collection of languages, religions and social, political and economic cultures that are very different from one another. Daily life and religious experiences share a fundamental role in shaping Indian attitudes and life in general.

In the last decades, India has shown an extraordinary growth and development in progressing as never before in its history. The fact remains that many socio-political and economic problems still render the situation very problematic for the population.

to be able to uproot poverty it is necessary that individuals become aware of their reality and autonomous in making decisions.

They must know their rights and have access to resources to sustain their growth. We must know how to collaborate with other organizations that care for the very poor, creating synergies and mobilizing resources for a social change. The exchange of information on the challenges, experiences and goals is of fundamental importance. For this reason **we have**



The Canossian Mothers arrived in India 130 years ago and immediately began to open schools, hospitals and centres of development, with the aim to educate and defend the whole population, in particular, the most defenseless such as the women and children. The Province was restructured in three different realities: North India, Central India and South India. In Central India we find 26 communities and 17 of these are directly engaged with those most in need. The local experience has taught us that

extended the network of contacts without differences of caste, faith and religion. Thanks to their help we have had the possibility to organize various activities such as self-help groups, professional courses, work programs, schools for poor children, programs for domestic workers, widows and young people, relief aid, hospitals and much more. We are grateful for the generosity of many friends and benefactors who support our mission dedicated to the very poor and the marginalized. May God be glorified in all the good that is done in spreading God's mission of love.

CENTRAL INDIA

26 COMMUNITIES

by Esperança Vaz

Building in spite of the natural calamities

Encountering the divine in the poor

In the multicultural States of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, the Canossian sisters have been offering their message and their works for over 25 years, thus crowning a courageous dream. And today, here we are in the Delegation of St Josephine Bakhita in South East India. The pioneers who ventured in this unknown land saw much suffering humanity, victims of life and became aware that the missionary call of St Magdalene could not be deferred but had to be immediately accepted.

The response was concretized through the building of schools, hospitals, dispensaries, mobile clinics; through



support programs for women, centers of instruction for poor children, financial assistance to families, nutritional and medical assistance for the victims of AIDS through

individual accompaniment of young people towards the faith, and help for the orphans, the elderly and the needy. All of this in the midst of a thousand difficulties such as language, customs, diet and the lack of support and recovery structures. Little by little these difficulties disappeared with the intervention of divine Providence that continued to be present through the sisters.

Our Delegation numbers 45 Canossian sisters led by Sr Josephine Nathan, delegate superior. In this mission, most of Magdalene's dream is today a reality:

Jesus is known and loved in these two States, always threatened by natural calamities. Great missionaries, like the deceased Mother Imelda and Mother Maria Stucchi, knew how to enact in these vast areas the enterprising and passionate spirit of the Daughters of Magdalene, who continues to spur them on towards those most in need and the poorest in the remotest villages.

The day begins with its singular freshness / **Numerous are the hidden blessings that have to be revealed** / Bringing the message of the unconditional love of God / We, daughters of Magdalene / Are truly happy and zealous to give and give / And for this reason our delegation story / Will always finish with the phrase... "To be continued".

SOUTH-EAST INDIA

8 COMMUNITIES

by **Vincy Thankachan** and **Suni Victor**

Task force for the emancipation of women

The good of the poor is the only aim of the Institute



One can recognize an elevated economic development in India that, however, is accompanied by a two-pronged growth evermore widening the gap between the living conditions of the rich from that of the poor, becoming always poorer. All of this does not help to solve the situation of women, everywhere discriminated and objects of violence, conditions that become dramatic at the lowest level. The historical and cultural factors and the many problems and restrictions of the country, render the woman visibly backward.

However, the Indian women have made some forward steps in almost 70 years of the country's independence, but they still have to struggle against much discrimination in a nation dominated by males and their resistance against the betterment of women. Thanks to these steps, women today participate in the areas of education, sport, politics, communication, art and culture. They are involved in the various sectors of civil service, science and technology by also occupying prestigious roles such as those of President, Prime Minister,

Leader of the Opposition, Ministers and Governors. But with the ingrained patriarchal mentality of Indian society, **women are still victims, they are humiliated, tortured and exploited**, crimes that, unfortunately in the last years, have been on the increase.

No place is safe for the women.

They are abused at home, on the street, on public transport and in the workplace. The worst consequence of all this is a lack of self-esteem, a sense of being degraded and the rise of physical and emotional trauma. Many cases remain hidden (at least 80%) because they remain unreported due to shame. This is why it is necessary to better the condition of women and to help them become aware of their rights within the family and society and, in so doing, bring about equality between the sexes and freedom in one's life. Social communication and publicity have an important role to awaken, inform, mobilize and motivate.

In the Province of South India, the community of Poonthura, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Trivandrum, has reached this objective by working with the widows, single and abandoned women and single mothers to improve their condition of life and of work, and by influencing the government with demonstrations, protests, petitions.

The sisters committed to the emancipation of women in society are stimulated by the words of St Magdalene "the good of the poor is the only aim of the Institute".

SOUTH INDIA

22 COMMUNITIES

by **Deepa George**

Canossa House in Japan: a friendly ear

An alternative to the working style of life without pause



The Canossian Mothers arrived in Japan in May 1951. They began their activities by opening infant and secondary schools in various parts of the country. They participated in the life of their parish communities by collaborating with the parish priests in the areas of evangelization, catechesis and assistance to the sick. From the arrival of the first missionaries, the social and political milieu of Japan has changed dramatically. The country, devastated and torn apart by the war, was able to rise again in affirming itself globally as an economic and cultural power.

The economic development of Japan, however, was not accompanied by an adequate growth in religious life. The Church experienced a marked decrease not only among the consecrated but also among the laity, **in spite of the entry of foreigners that has renewed the vigor of many parish communities.**

The economic wellbeing has brought the society towards a style of life based on continuous work with disastrous consequences for the personal, social and religious life.

Suicide continues to be a way out that is very common. New uncomfortable situations are also linked, as in the rest of the world, to immigration and the lack of language skills in Japanese that causes grave difficulties in the integration of migrant children in the school system.

“Canossa House” in Tokyo is a point of welcome for young people and adults. It is a gathering place for prayer meetings, for formation courses and for listening to anyone who needs “a friendly ear”. Since last year, in particular, we try to participate in the Diocesan youth ministry by contributing to the various activities offered. The young people meet on the first Saturday of every month to share on the Sunday Gospel and to celebrate the Eucharist, as well as an obligatory fraternal meal. For the new year, we are planning four big events in Vocational Youth Ministry, among them an experience of voluntary service in the areas affected by the great earthquake of 2011.

We hope that from these activities with the young people there will emerge new vocations that will allow us to address with greater impact the many situations of poverty and marginalization.

Philippines: formation, protecting the environment and love for the family

A joyous and prophetic presence

This year the Canossian Mission celebrates 62 years of missionary activity in the Philippines. We want to live **with passion, patience and perseverance** the witness of life of Saint Magdalene to make Jesus known and loved among the most poor and to look to the future of the Province with hope and trust.



The Filipino people, characterized by the heavy burden of immigration, have a very low average age. The people are particularly diverse, ethnically and culturally, and live with a large disparity in the distribution of wealth, a difficult political situation and the nightmare of great natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and hurricanes.

Presently, the Philippines are in a precarious and delicate situation, both political and economic. As Canossian sisters we are aware of the need to facilitate and accelerate change and progress among the weaker levels of the population. **We participate creatively and constructively to the development of the people** through our schools, activities, parish presence, health services, social and spiritual centres and other various activities. All of this can sensitize and motivate young women in the various stages of preparation to our life of consecration, by preparing them to face with courage the requests for help and support that, ever more insistently, come from a people in difficulty. We participate with the political authorities and with the ONG within our schools, in health care, in religious activities, in the process of reunification of the family and cottage industries that can generate work and livelihood. We also ensure that the directives given by the government do not compromise in particular the life and human dignity of the women. To our formation program on Christian values have been added themes linked to the protection of the environment and to love for the family. We like to remember a concrete example of our activity. Following the destruction caused by the hurricanes, two housing projects have been completed that have enabled a good number of families to have a comfortable and secure home.

Hong Kong: participation is built around the elderly

Love is creative and we are instruments of God's love



The Province of Regina Martyrum of Hong Kong has been the first mission land of the Institute, but now is in crisis due to the decrease of vocations and the ageing of its members. In spite of this, our mission to make Jesus known and loved remains alive. To serve the poor is our commitment and we want to witness to this courageously and generously in responding to the needs of the poorest, in solidarity with them.

Within our community we have established a commission to identify and coordinate projects that will benefit the needy. The first of these concerns the ever increasing number of elderly who are in difficulty (parish communities have been a great help in identifying them).

The Caritas assistants took us under their wings during their home visitations to offer them some concrete help.

The formation of the sisters is an essential element for this service. We foresee some updating sessions to know new forms of poverty among the elderly, and for more detailed information on the resources and the initiatives made available by the social services.

The supports offered to the people must be concrete, in the hope that with time they can evolve **into a strong and lasting relationship of friendship**. Being is as important as doing. Love is always creative and we pray to be instruments of God's love towards these needy people.

All of this can become a way to evaluate our resources and offer a beautiful gift of love to our Saint Magdalene. We could involve the students of our Canossian schools, the staff of our hospital, the Lay Canossians, the alumni and students.

This project is in fact still in the phase of being planted; the shoot has still to sprout. Entrusted to the care of the Virgin Mary, may this small seed produce abundant fruits.



HONG KONG

11 COMMUNITIES

by Lucia Cheung

Malaysia, a pastoral convention for an ecclesial conversion

Dialogue spreads to other religions

The fourth Pastoral Convention of the Malaysian Peninsular (PMPC) takes place every ten years and is a meeting of religious and laity. The object of the convention, during which meals, prayer and work are shared, is to gather the people of God in a spirit of prayer, of discussion and of discernment for the good of the local Church.

The fourth PMPC took place in October and among the delegates were also present the Canossian sisters representing the three dioceses of Malaysia. It was a great spiritual experience. During the course of their interventions, the three bishops shared on the themes of spirituality, the realities of Malaysia and on being a Church of communion.



Malaysia is facing various realities that are all important and demanding, such as **the spreading of Islam, the growth of inequality between the rich and poor due to globalization, the increase of corruption, and the lack of religious liberty**. All of this risks the erosion of evangelical values

and it has become extremely clear the need for an integral evangelization for the minority Christians. These emergencies spur us on with renewed strength and solicitude towards the necessity of an ecclesial conversion. To reach this goal it is not only necessary to be united in Christ, in the Word and in community but also **to promote the missionary dimension and the vision of the various communities** by relying on the basic Christian communities. Ever more urgent becomes the need to reach out to the faithful of other religions in order to widen the dialogue through celebrations and ecclesial events, by being more inclusive and to build bridges everywhere to spread the Reign of God. Most of the delegates also voiced the importance of evangelization through the means of communication, particularly useful for consolidating the dialogue with the young people of today.

In conclusion, what was underlined by citing Teilhard de Chardin and his book "The Divine Milieu", was the need for growth in purity of faith, of prayer, of trust and action. It has been a privilege for all the delegates *Sentire cum Ecclesia*, that is, to think and feel with the Church.

MALAYSIA

7 COMMUNITIES

by Margarete Sta Maria

Moral education and spiritual formation in Singapore and Myanmar

The alternative to “win at every cost”

Singapore is a state-city in South East Asia. It is economically rich, stable and secure. It is composed of various ethnic groups and various religions. The governing party has been able to provide excellent services such as accommodation, education, social and health services. “Myanmar” is a rising star”, a country rich in natural resources although in needs to adapt itself with appropriate infrastructures to the fast growth of other nations and so provide the population the possibility to grow and to develop. For prosperous Singapore, there is the urgent need of a profound mystical

presence to soften the mentality of “winning at any cost” **so as to avoid superficial replies to life’s problems.** All of this will be very useful also for the new communities in Myanmar, a country in which education is by now considered of primary importance.

In our mission, we try to be continually attentive to the invitation of the Spirit, whether in Singapore or in Myanmar, to be able to promote the good of the people we serve. For this reason, in our communities, we are systematically working to promote in people a religious conscience through an authentic dialogue that sees involved our lay collaborators.

This attitude of openness and research will help us to better our assistance to the needy and to initiate new projects in Singapore and in Myanmar.

In line with our mission, we try to increase and integrate our services in infant, primary and after school education. We propose to provide for young people, in an efficient centre of assistance for tiny tots and students. With this **we hope to establish a model of inclusive education.**

Also our small community of sisters in Myanmar is responding to the urgent need of a holistic formation that focuses on the moral and spiritual education of children and young people through the formation of educators in the villages, in school camps and through the weekly parish catechesis, retreats and sessions of spirituality.



SINGAPORE AND MYANMAR

7 COMMUNITIES

by Janet Wang, Marilyn Lim and Christina Yeo

The refugees’ crisis in Australia

An open door for those in need



One of the most outstanding challenges that Australia is facing is its response to what by now is a constant influx of refugees that are seeking asylum on our shores. **In the two years of 2015 and 2016, the Australian government has given refuge to more than 25 thousand refugees** and has announced that it will receive another 12 thousand who have fled Syria, (over and above those who have fled Iraq, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Somalia and El Salvador). These people have undertaken dangerous journeys, often fatal. For the women and young girls there is a high risk of being sexually abused.

Thousands of people live in conditions of extreme deprivation, waiting to know their refugee status. Their situation is serious and painful, uncertain and precarious, even anxious, in fear of being sent back and endure heavy reprisals. The Canossian sisters try to alleviate the pain by providing support

to the refugees waiting to know their future.

Many try to suicide to avoid being sent back. **Often, to those who have left everything, there is little to offer except comfort** at being visited by someone prepared to listen and to encourage them. Once they receive asylum and a house, the families still need help to live in a new country and to integrate in the local community. The Canossian sisters try to help them link with the social services available, collect funds for the shopping, distribute clothing and objects for the house donated by various communities. The sisters also accompany them to court, help them to insert in the local Church and prepare them for the sacraments. They also visit the sick or simply share in their joys and sorrows. Other sisters are involved in the teaching of the English language, essential for integrating in the Australian society, and through their sharing in some areas of the refugees’ lives. It is a simple style but very precious for helping them not to lose hope in spite of the difficulties and the sufferings they experience. They meet **someone who loves them and comforts them and does not consider them simply a number** to arrive at or surpass. While the reply of Australia to the refugees’ crisis still seems uncertain, the Canossian sisters try with determination and generosity to open the door to the needy.

AUSTRALIA

7 COMMUNITIES

by the Sisters of the Australian Delegation

Adolescents travelling in the world

Exchange between the schools of Monza and Brescia and the Philippines

by **Alessandra Cantaluppi** and **Stefano Dell'Orto**

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Everything began from an intuition, or maybe from a dream: to create a web of interchange among the Canossian Schools in the world. Then the idea, perhaps because it was planted in good soil, has grown little by little, and finally the first fruits have arrived.

Let us begin from the beginning. And the beginning was the word "NIC" (Network Internazionale Canossiano, International Canossian Network) -one word - to indicate the team (coordinated by the Canossian Foundation) that has promoted and developed the idea. **Soon some teachers of the Canossian schools in Trent and Verona went to Hong Kong.** It was the summer of 2015. Then was the turn of two other teacher-‘explorers’. They left **from the schools of Brescia and Monza for the Philippines** in January 2016.

The object of these journeys was to verify the feasibility for realizing visits and training periods for the students of Italian Canossian high schools, in overseas Canossian schools in the Philippines but also in other south-east Asian countries such as Singapore and Hong Kong.

It was easier than expected. Hence, on 18 August 2016, six students from the Institute “Maddalena di Canossa” of Monza and eleven students from the Canossa Campus in Brescia were received by the Canossa Academy in Lipa City (a city of almost 300,000 people, 80km south of Manila, the capital of the Philippines). They stayed there till 17 October, living within Canossa Academy and sharing in everything of the life of almost 2,000 students, including the school uniform.

Canossa Academy hosts all kinds of schools and the Italian students who, in June 2016 had completed the 3rd year in Human Sciences, frequented the courses at the Academy corresponding to those in Italy, particularly the sessions for English, human sciences and religion. During the two months they stayed in a separate building within the campus but this did not prevent them to participate in the numerous activities, whether cultural or recreational, promoted by the school, living side by side with their peers, in the



classroom, during meals, in the sport fields and in moments of community prayer, supported by the teachers and the sisters of Canossa Academy community. **“We felt important for the first time”**, declare in unison the girls from Monza, “even if in a secure building and cared for by the sisters, living by ourselves and having to work out the running of the house with organizing our time – a pleasant and stimulating adventure, not without its struggles.

Viewed from the perspective of teaching, as well as cultural, human and spiritual, these were two very intense and rich months. Besides the studies and other activities proposed by the school, the Italian students carried out teaching activities in the infant section of Canossa Academy, and voluntary work among some particularly needy families who live adjacent to the school. Therefore, not simply a school experience but something much deeper. Among the gifts that we bring home, the most precious is certainly **the rediscovery of many values that in our society**

have lost their importance, among these the Faith. We have touched with our hands a faith lived in practice, for example, the recitation of the rosary at the beginning of lessons, but above all a faith that sustains and gives meaning to life”.

On their return flight to Italy, the students were accompanied by the principal of Canossa Academy, Professor Medel Magbuhos, who was warmly welcomed at the Canossa Campus of Brescia on 20 October, and on 21 October at the Institute “Maddalena di Canossa”, Monza. The visit to the Institute at Monza was particularly moving and significant. Principal Magbuhos also received tributes from the local Alderman, Rosario Montalbano who, with his presence, sealed the twinning between Lipa City and the city of Queen Teodolinda.

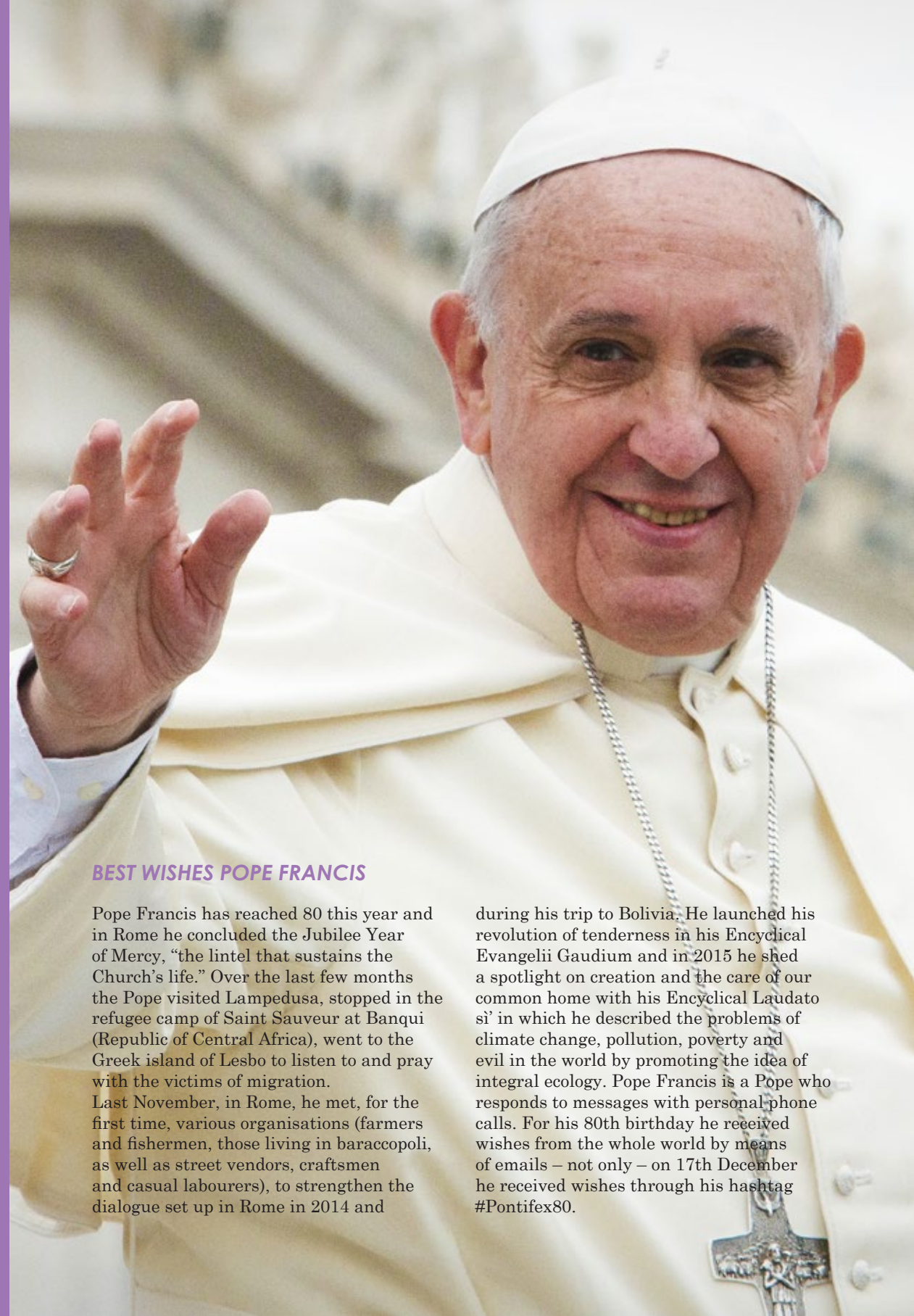


NEWS

BEST WISHES POPE FRANCIS

Pope Francis has reached 80 this year and in Rome he concluded the Jubilee Year of Mercy, “the lintel that sustains the Church’s life.” Over the last few months the Pope visited Lampedusa, stopped in the refugee camp of Saint Sauveur at Banqui (Republic of Central Africa), went to the Greek island of Lesbo to listen to and pray with the victims of migration. Last November, in Rome, he met, for the first time, various organisations (farmers and fishermen, those living in baraccopoli, as well as street vendors, craftsmen and casual labourers), to strengthen the dialogue set up in Rome in 2014 and

during his trip to Bolivia. He launched his revolution of tenderness in his Encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium* and in 2015 he shed a spotlight on creation and the care of our common home with his Encyclical *Laudato si’* in which he described the problems of climate change, pollution, poverty and evil in the world by promoting the idea of integral ecology. Pope Francis is a Pope who responds to messages with personal phone calls. For his 80th birthday he received wishes from the whole world by means of emails – not only – on 17th December he received wishes through his hashtag #Pontifex80.



Sir John Ribat: the first Cardinal in the land of Mystery

by Evelyn Loyola



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The news that Sir John Ribat, Archbishop of Port Moresby and President of the Federation of Catholic Bishops of Oceania, was elected as a Cardinal spread like wildfire on 9th October last. Cardinal Ribat, 59, was ordained in 1985 as part of the Congregation of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. In 2000 he was made Auxiliary Bishop of Bereina, becoming its Bishop in 2002. In 2008 he became Archbishop of Port Moresby. He is the first Catholic Bishop of Papua New Guinea and his nomination is the first within the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Cardinal Ribat says that **“even if Papua New Guinea is geographically distant from the See of Peter, my nomination makes me feel very close to Pope Francis”**. He is sure that his nomination as the

first Cardinal of Papua New Guinea underlines the Pope's desire that Catholics all over the world receive the same attention. Once the Consistory in Rome was concluded, he returned to Papua New Guinea on 24th November, welcomed at the airport of Jackson by rejoicing crowds.

Papua New Guinea, a nation of whales and mysteries, is blessed with natural beauty and resources, explored and yet to be explored, and is rich in cultural and religious traditions that well represent its population of about 7.8 million, speaking no less than 820 languages. The people wish to live a contented life but, over the centuries, tribal wars, ethnic hostilities, abuse of women, the elderly, widows and children, have caused destruction, fear and great suffering.

The first missionaries arrived in Papua New Guinea in the 19th century.

At present, there are 4 Archdioceses

EVEN IF PAPUA NEW GUINEA IS GEOGRAPHICALLY DISTANT FROM THE SEE OF PETER, MY NOMINATION MAKES ME FEEL VERY CLOSE TO POPE FRANCIS.

and 15 Dioceses in the Catholic Church, which represent 27% of the population, while 70% are Protestants. The people are proud of their faith in Jesus Christ and the Constitution defines the country as a “Christian Nation”. The aim of the Catholic Church is to purify and transform culture thus helping it to receive the Gospel. On 27th November, Cardinal



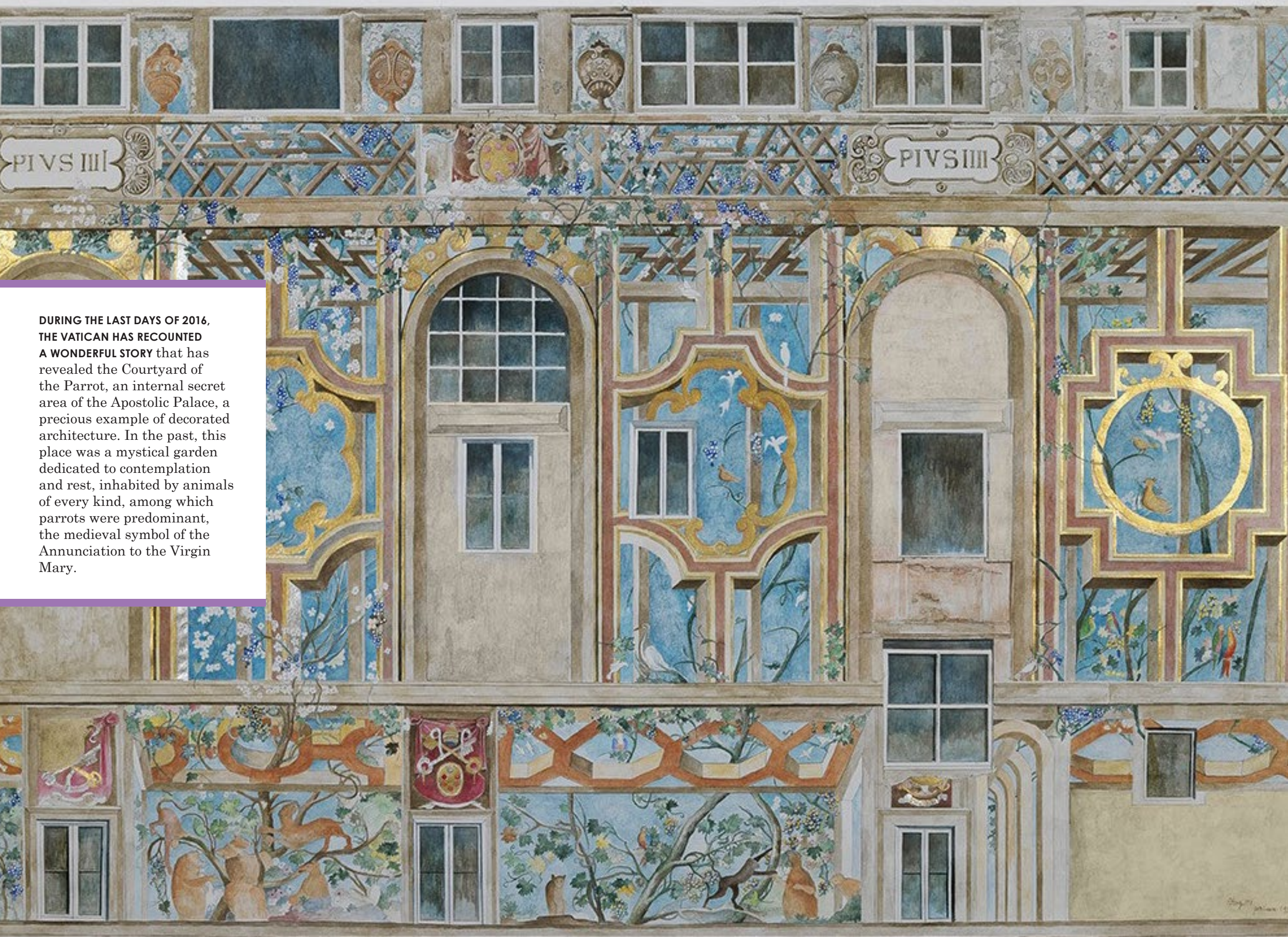
John Ribat met his people at Jack Park to celebrate 50th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Port Moresby. About a thousand Catholics were present and a few members of other Churches, as well as representatives of the Government, the Diplomatic Corps and the Diocese of Town's Ville in Australia. In his message, Cardinal Ribat said that **“it is faith that has united us all as Christians in Papua New Guinea”**. The Prime Minister, Peter O'Neil, congratulated the new Cardinal saying, “we are very proud of him. His nomination is well-earned” and he greatly appreciated **“the extraordinary leadership of the Cardinal in uniting not only the Catholic Church, but also the various Organisations of other Churches in the country”**. The General Governor, Sir Michael Ogio, thanked the new Cardinal for his good relationships with the Government. The Canossian Sisters were invited to Papua New Guinea in 1982 to work

for evangelization through these ministries: coordination of the pastoral care of the sick in the Diocese, services and health education for the poor in the city, in the peripheries and remote villages, coordination of education in the Archdiocese. At present, 2 Sisters teach in the Sacred Heart Teachers' College, an institution that educates and trains teachers coming from and destined for remote villages in Papua New Guinea.

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DURING THE LAST DAYS OF 2016, THE VATICAN HAS RECOUNTED A WONDERFUL STORY that has revealed the Courtyard of the Parrot, an internal secret area of the Apostolic Palace, a precious example of decorated architecture. In the past, this place was a mystical garden dedicated to contemplation and rest, inhabited by animals of every kind, among which parrots were predominant, the medieval symbol of the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary.



The heart of Italy trembles, an area at high seismic risk

Comment by a scientist of the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV)

by **Stefania Danesi**

seismologist of the INGV

At 3.36 a.m. on 24th August 2016 an earthquake of magnitude 6.0 struck the centre of Italy, not far from Accumuli and Amatrice. From then on 30,000 tremors have been registered between the Valle del Tronto and the Sibillini Mountains, some of which were very strong. The earthquake on 30th October at 7.40 a.m., of magnitude 6.5, was the strongest felt in Italy, except for that of Irpinia in 1980. **It caused 299 victims**, injured hundreds, caused thousands of people to leave their homes and greatly damaged public and private buildings, factories, roads and much historical heritage. As often happens, we saw people offering immediate help in such dangerous circumstances. **The organisation of this emergency is in the hands of a woman, Titti Postiglione**, fragile in appearance and yet concrete, direct, human, grateful, able to perceive details, stressed but solid; an example of deep humanity and awareness for all of us who have been able to work together with her. It is not the first quake for the Sibillini Mountains, the Apennines, the whole of Italy. To stop counting the dead we cannot ignore creating a mentality of prevention that eliminates cheap building material, misleading information, the lack of understanding risk. We no longer have an alibi. Italy is at high seismic risk: not one of the 7,998 cities and towns is exempt from the risk of earthquakes

and volcanoes. As citizens, parents, people of common sense we can choose whether to wait passively for the next disaster and count our dead, or try to implement measures and strategies for prevention.

It often happens that a human disaster can provide the spur that renews our personal and collective conscience.

This is now the right moment.

An earthquake always arouses great fear, reminding us of our vulnerability.

**THERE IS A CRACK
IN EVERYTHING, THAT'S HOW
THE LIGHT GETS IN.**

But this sense of vulnerability, if recognised, can be precious and fruitful. It can re-awaken our conscience and personal responsibility, it can generate a wave of awareness. A few weeks ago Leonard Cohen died, a great Canadian poet, author of the famous song Halleluja. In one of his most famous works Cohen said, "There is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in." It is from here, from our shattered certainties, experiences, failures, that light can enter. Not solely tragedies, disasters, darkness.

Not just instruction, but formation for life

ENAC at 26th edition of Job Orientation

by **Giancarlo Urbani**

Coordinator ENAC Job Orientation



Orientation for formation and transformation: this formula attracted more than 72,000 students, youngsters and parents to visit Job Orientation, 26th national exhibition on career guidance, school, formation and work, held in Verona from 24th-26th November 2016. ENAC (Canossian National Organisation, www.enac.org) and our Professional Formation Schools were present with a stand comprising 4 sections: Agrifood, Graphics, Fashion and Wellness.

The enthusiasm and creativity of 90 students, 35 teachers and Canossian sympathizers was demonstrated through fashion parades and a forum on "Research and Formative Programmes". During the 3 days, the sparkling enthusiasm of the youngsters attracted thousands of visitors and evoked much appreciation for their "presence", well noticed, as well as the message they wanted to communicate.

The fact of being there was the result of long-term preparation, not leaving anything to chance, so as to increase the feeling of being involved.

Inspired by the words of St. Magdalene "...not only instruction but formation for life", students and teachers from the Canossian Schools for Professional Formation had been working since September 2015 on an itinerary of creative ideas in view of their presence at Job Orientation developing the theme of "transformation". Just as combining ingredients and skills can transform materials and products, so the various specializations of Canossian professional formation interweave together and develop, becoming a **"training ground for life"**. The intention was to promote a certain identity and a common style characterized by the ability to experiment, innovate and operate. This was achieved. This experience was much more than an occasion for advertising and promoting Canossian Professional Formation in Italy. A very meaningful experience of collaboration and sharing ideas was made helping us to know each other better, both professionally and personally. Job Orientation is now over, but formation for life still carries on.

A new mentality on immigration

Data from a Statistical Dossier on Immigration 2016

Two arguments have characterised the presentation of a dossier on immigration elaborated by the IDOS Centre for studies and research and presented in Rome on 27th October 2016. The first underlines the urgent need for cultural change considering immigration no longer as a “phenomenon of emergency” but rather as a “structural phenomenon” that requires policies aimed at inclusion of immigrants in the work, cultural and social spheres. The second regards the economic contribution that immigrants make to Italy, both in terms of creation and development of commercial activities and support of our welfare system.

The pension contributions have reached a figure of 10.9 billion Euros in 2015 while the balance between costs for immigration (14.7 billion) and revenue (16.9 billion) is positive; this data goes against an interpretation of the phenomenon of migration as being an unsustainable cost for the State. It is necessary to change mentality, according to Mgr. Lorenzo Leuzzi, Auxiliary Bishop of Rome, from a “Theology of nomadism”, migration seen as a danger, to a “Theology of growth”, immigration seen as a chance for growth, participation, dialogue and collaboration among different ethnic groups.

32 Poverty and social exclusion in Italy

Synthesis of a report by Openpolis

The economic crisis that began in 2008 has involved Italy too, tripling the rate of poverty among the age group 18-65 in ten years.

Industrial policy which does not keep pace with changes due to globalization and a costly but differentiated welfare system, have magnified the effects of the crisis, affecting especially young people and women. A recent study elaborated by Openpolis says that 78.5% of expenditure is attributed to pensions while the amount for social support for families, children and the right of a home is still at 6.5%. Poverty among women has more than doubled between 2005 and 2015

(+108.57%) due to work opportunities that, in reality, do not favour the re-insertion of women after maternity (in Italy working women with one child has reached 56.7% while in Denmark it is 81.5%).

Here are the figures that summarise the impact of the 2008 crisis according to Openpolis:

- 4.6 million people live in absolute poverty in Italy
- +140.61% increase in poverty between 2005 and 2015
- 28.7% of the population risk poverty or social exclusion in Italy in 2015.

contribution by **Mauro Mugnai**

Books



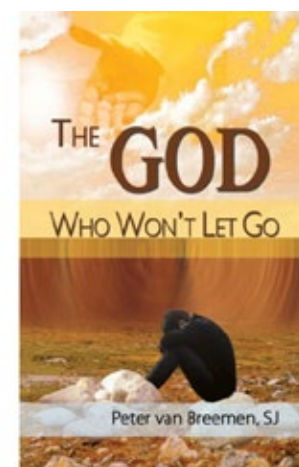
AUTHOR **ANTONIO SPADARO**

TITLE **QUANDO LA FEDE SI FA SOCIAL**

PUBLISHER **EMI 2015**

“It is quite the opposite [...] saying that internet should be evangelized just like any other human activity [...] making the social network change from being a place of “connection” into a place of “communion”. These remarks of Antonio Spadaro point out the pressing need of the Church to adapt more its method of communication to the new challenges proposed by the social media. As with any other ambit of human living, the web represents an opportunity where communication, evangelization and religious debate cannot and must not be wanting. “The distinction between real and virtual, which some people frankly and insistently propose, does not exist.”

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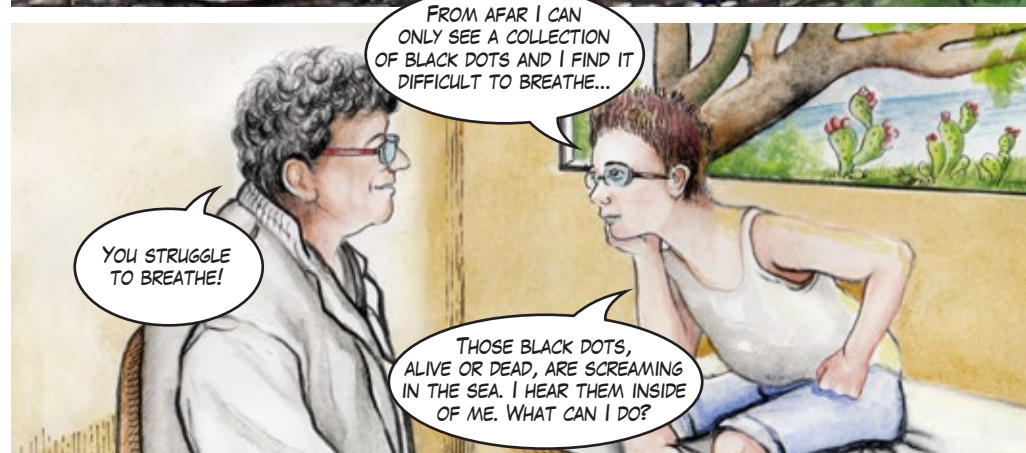
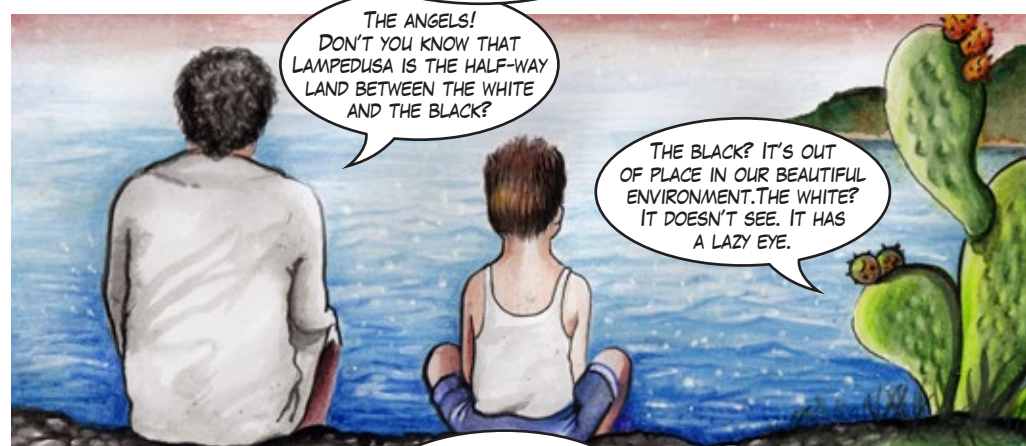
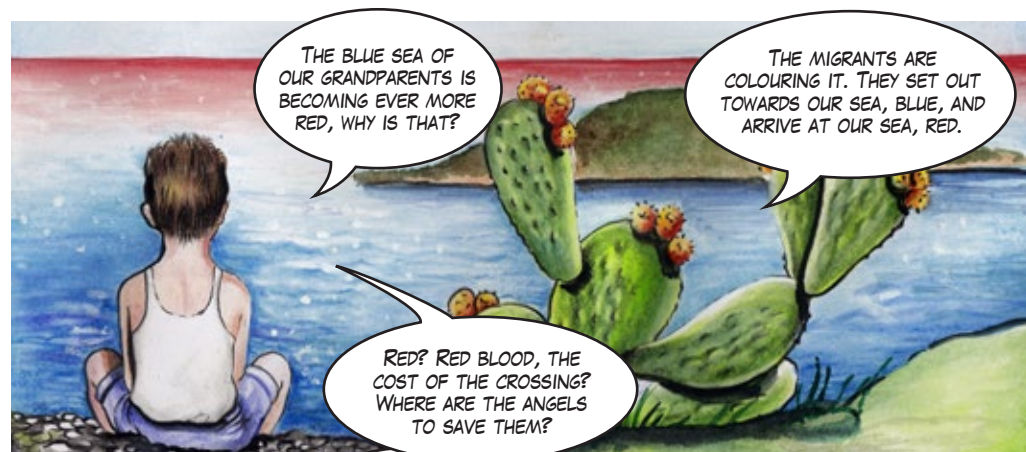
AUTHOR **PETER VAN BREEMEN**

TITLE **THE GOD WHO WON'T LET GO**

PUBLISHER **AVE MARIA PRESS 2001**

Peter van Breemen is a Dutch Jesuit. Born in 1927, he is a priest with a degree in Physics. He is the author of many books and among his recent publications one is entitled The God who won't let go. It portrays a journey into the depths of love, forgiveness and God's mercy that guides the reader in becoming aware that He helps us in every choice in life. At a time when nothing seems to be permanent, only God's love is never-changing. “God will never leave us on our own, however miserable we are. God loves us in every moment of our lives and wants us to have life and joy in abundance.”

Lazy eye

TEXT BY **MONICA RICCERI**ILLUSTRATIONS BY **CLAUDIA LEONTINI**A STORY INSPIRED BY
THE FILM "FUOCOAMMARE"
BY GIANFRANCO ROSI

It's winter in Lampedusa, a pale sun imprisoned among the grey dense clouds, wishing to set itself free, to shatter its rays on the heart of that green land and its inhabitants, to pour its warmth on that blue and infinite sea, at least until it reaches the shore. Prickly pears reach up to the sky,

beautiful and symbolic; on their surface one can see small signs made with sticking tape: they look like scars from a battle and, really, someone has declared war on them, a tender war, instinctive, that of children who want to grow up, just like Samuel.



JANUARY 2017

ITALY
BALLABIO (LECCO)

PASTORAL YOUTH
WORKSHOP "WE DESCENT"

8TH FEBRUARY 2017

ITALY
SCHIO (VICENZA)

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF BAKHITA'S DEATH
BEST WISHES

A CELEBRATION OF UNIVERSAL DIMENSIONS
WITH SPECIAL ACTIVITIES THAT TRANSIT
THE WITNESS OF RECONCILIATION AND
EVANGELICAL FORGIVENESS IN ST. BAKHITA

3RD – 9TH JANUARY 2017

AUSTRALIA
BRISBANE

ANNUAL SEMINAR OF DELEGATION
SISTERS IN AUSTRALIA

THIS YEAR'S THEME WILL BE "THE GRACE OF
BECOMING HOLY IN EVERY SITUATION –
EMBRACE WISDOM AND LIVE THE CHALLENGE
OF THE CANOSSIAN RULES"

11TH FEBRUARY 2017

ITALY
VERONA

2ND MINISTRY RE-READING THE CONVENTION
OF FLORENCE: FROM RELIGION TO FAITH FOR
HUMAN FULLNESS

E V E N T S

25TH FEBRUARY 2017

ARGENTINA

DAY OF CHARISMATIC ANIMATION
FOR TEACHERS OF OUR SCHOOLS
BEFORE BEGINNING THE SCHOOL YEAR

APRIL 2017

UNITED STATES
SAN FRANCISCO (CALIFORNIA)
ALBUQUERQUE (NEW MEXICO)

REGIONAL MEETING OF COMMUNITIES
OF CHIHUAHUA AND ALBUQUERQUE
SACRAMENTO, SAN FRANCISCO
AND VANCOUVER

5TH APRIL – 5TH MAY 2017

PHILIPPINES

A MONTH OF FORMATION FOR JUNIOR SISTERS

CANONICAL VISITS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 2017
SINGAPORE/MYANMAR

MARCH 2017
MALAYSIA

APRIL 2017
CENTRAL WESTERN AFRICA

MAY 2017
ITALY

"Amazement and gratitude for the
wonders God works in different
cultures."

The General Council and the
Provincial Councils will re-read and
examine their fidelity to the Gospel,
to the Charism and to mission
respecting and valuing all cultures.

Personality

A tweet each day with Enzo Bianchi



Enzo Bianchi is Prior of the Community of Bose. In 1983 he founded the publisher Qiqajon which prints books on Biblical, Patristic, Liturgical and Monastic spirituality. In 2014, Pope Francis named him as a Consultor of the Pontifical Council for the promotion of Christian Unity. As a great expert of communication and an attentive listener and speaker, Bianchi makes himself present in the media on this subject and others, speaking of "silence as an essential element of life and communication." The titles of some of his publications are: Il Pane di ieri, Fede e fiducia, Ogni cosa alla sua stagione, Dono e perdono, Spezzare il pane. Enzo Bianchi also communicates via Twitter.

*If someone ages well, he is able to dance in
his heart with the art he has learned during
life.*

enzo bianchi @enzobianchi7 · 15 giu
Se uno invecchia bene
nel suo cuore sa danzare,
con l'arte accumulata
in tutta la sua vita.



*The Gospel is like embers, often covered
with the ashes of churches; a breath of air is
enough and the flames burn and illumine.*

enzo bianchi @enzobianchi7 · 8 nov
Il Vangelo è come brace a volte coperto dalle
ceneri delle chiese: ma basta un soffio e il fuoco
divampa e illumina



*When you have a goal in life you are able to
cross a desert because the hope of reaching it
gives you strength.*

enzo bianchi @enzobianchi7 · 18 set
Quando si ha una meta
si può anche attraversare il deserto
perché la speranza di giungervi
da la forza necessaria



*Negative solitude is that imposed or lived as
being in exile, but if it is chosen so as to live
with oneself, then it is blessed.*

enzo bianchi @enzobianchi7 · 12 nov
Solitudine cattiva è quella imposta o vissuta
come estraneità ma se è scelta per abitare
con se stessi allora è beata



Canossian Foundation

From small entrepreneurs to formation,
our support continues for 310 communities

Since 2004, the Canossian Foundation has been able to carry out projects for human and professional promotion in 310 Canossian communities all over the world. Now is the time to invent a new future to meet needs and hopes for the continuation of these projects. "We must learn how to copy ideas so as to be more creative in work and life." The words of A. Kleon remind us of our responsibility. It is a journey into cultures, ethnic groups and diversities, looking beyond the seeds sown; **it means continuing to give of ourselves at this time of crisis, not solely economic, by trying to guarantee well-earned serenity and wellbeing.** Those most vulnerable, like the refugees in El Obeid (Sudan), those in the favelas of Imperatriz (Brazil) and Tondo (Philippines), are still in need of specialized care and attention. Let us start again "united in a network", with the force of that mustard seed, which is the smallest of seeds, but once grown, becomes a great tree. This is our aim, the horizon to which the Canossian Foundation tends with courage, not just to be praised but to be valued for what it does. We want to progress "united in a network", not simply making proposals of cooperation.

Our initiatives, activities and services are carried out in relation to change. Only together, walking hand in hand, can we strengthen our observatory on social phenomena and frontline zones. We cannot betray the intuition of our Foundress. Her story is rich in searching, intuitions and audacity centred around **a few strategic and shared choices so as to reach out to the weakest and most defenceless**, without the presumption of being able to do everything. The completeness of what we offer in the areas of formation, social and health assistance, promotion of women and small entrepreneurs, support in emergencies, finds a continual source of updating and innovation through direct contact with those helped and our collaborators, so that the various needs and challenges may be identified on a national and international level.



by **Liliana Ugoletti**



They take care of all kinds of poverty

report by **Matteo Tagliabue**

Loving the poor is easy. Yes, certainly, as long as they stay where they are and allow us to observe them without disturbing us, without asking us anything and without upsetting too much our already complicated mechanism of feeling guilt in the western world, by showing off their situation outside the normal media dedicated to them. But honestly, once you have respected these simple rules, loving them is easy. I am now making my third experience in a Canossian mission. Having left aside Africa (for the moment), last summer I went to India with one of my friends and a group of students and ex-students from the Canossian school in Monza. Once again, what amazed me was not the love that the Canossian Sisters showed the poor (no... they do not limit themselves to observing the poor from their tiny windows on the world, taking a few souvenir photos and then washing their hands with disinfectant after having shaken them) but the love they showed to us:

WE COME HERE FROM OUR COMFORTABLE WORLD, SURE OF OURSELVES, A LITTLE SNOB AND VERY MUCH MATERIALIST,

attached to our vision of the world and (sorry to say) our wallet. We, who so willingly return from that world full of

anecdotes and knick-knacks bought as tourists for our family and friends. If you go to a mission you expect to see great love for the poor, but you cannot but be astonished to see love shown to us, the rich. The truth is that the Canossian Sisters are not interested if you are poor, dirty or sick, just as they are not interested if you are rich, fashionably dressed and a little spoilt. Sr. Jessie, and all the Canossian Sisters we met, welcomed us as if we were relatives and showered us with attention, even when we did not merit it, even when we did not repay them, even when, I am tempted to say, perhaps it would have been right to dedicate to the poor all that time and energy they dedicated to us during the two weeks we spent there. Or perhaps they did just that. Perhaps we, too, are poor. Not in a material sense, certainly, and yet we showed a poverty less obvious but more in need of cure. And the Canossian Sisters recognized this and they took care of it. Perhaps this is why they are able to love so easily and deeply anyone who appears before them.

BECAUSE WE ARE ALL LACKING ONE THING, OR ANOTHER, OR YET ANOTHER.

And they take care of every kind of poverty.

Message for the World Day of Peace 2017

“ As is traditional, I am signing this Message on 8th December, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary is the Queen of Peace. At the birth of her Son, the angels gave glory to God and wished peace on earth to men and women of good will (cf. Luke 2:14). Let us pray for her guidance.
All of us want peace. Many people build it every day through small gestures and acts; many of them are suffering, yet patiently persevere in their efforts to be peacemakers.
In 2017, may we dedicate ourselves prayerfully and actively to banishing violence from our hearts, words and deeds, and to becoming nonviolent people and building nonviolent communities that care for our common home.
*Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer.
Everyone can be builders of peace.*

”

8th December 2016
Pope Francis

**CASA GENERALIZIA DELLE FIGLIE
DELLA CARITÀ CANOSSIANE**

*via della Stazione di Ottavia, 70
00135 Roma - Italia*