

# EUROPE NEW (S) LETTER



## Salvation comes from God to all humanity.

In the beginning being with oneself becoming quiet listening awaiting the mystery hearing what the angel says being deeply touched conceiving storing up in one's heart

and then going out sharing the joy spreading the message bearing fruit becoming human being human.

#### Canaan

Yahweh appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre He looked up, and saw three men standing near him I shall come back to you next year, and then your wife Sarah will have a son.

#### **Nazareth**

The angel Gabriel was sent to a town called Nazareth do not be afraid you have won God's favour you are to conceive in your womb and bear a son.

#### **Jerusalem**

On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn, the women went to the tomb the angel said to them: do not be afraid He has risen, as He said He would.

#### **Christmas 2013**

Feast of God's longing for humankind -How could HE not give EVERYTHING to us in this Child?

Text: Inge Höpfl • Translation: Gertrud Zeller, Austria and Leah Michaud, Canada Sculpture: Leopold Pfisterer, Paudorf bei Krems, in the chapel of Lilienhof, St. Pölten, Austria



The Euro team with some members of the Croatian CLC from Rijeka

# Euro Team Meeting Rijeka November 2013

Our meeting in November saw the members of the Euro Team flying to Trieste where we were met by our drivers from the Croatian community who were to transport us to the town of Rijeka on the Adriatic coast. The journey took us from Italy through Slovenia into Croatia, but unfortunately as it was dark we did not have much opportunity to appreciate the scenery we were passing through. On arrival in Rijeka we were welcomed by several members of the community from the area and spent an enjoyable couple of hours with them sharing food and getting to know each other. From here we were taken to our accommodation which was at the Jesuit house in Opatija overlooking the Adriatic sea. On the Saturday we spent most of the day planning the European Assembly which

will take place in Regensburg, Germany next June. We are very grateful to those communities who responded to our requests for information about their priorities and who also sent nominations for the election of the new Euro team which will take place at the Assembly. By the end of the Saturday we had established a theme, and worked on the preparatory material for the national communities, and also drafted an outline of the program for our days in Regensburg.

Following the evening meal we once again joined the Rijeka community first to visit Marian shrine, at Trsat and then to gather for an evening of sharing, and answering questions put to us by members of the community. We as a team are very grateful to both the CLC Community and the Jesuits in Rijeka for their hospitality over this weekend

On the Sunday morning the team continued with its' work of planning, this time focusing on the Ecclesiastical Assistant's meeting which immediately precedes the Assembly. By the time we finished our meeting at lunch time we had completed quite a lot of the preparation work but there is still much to be done so we ask for your prayers as we continue to plan for this important meeting.

Following Mass and lunch, Inge had to depart for the airport, whilst the remaining members of the team had a little time and enjoy the local promenade before being driven back to Trieste to meet up with the local CLC community there. On our arrival we took time

to pray with the community before sharing with them and hearing further information on "Adriatica", a meeting planned by CLC members in the region to be held in Trieste just prior to our European Assembly. This initiative is really exciting and has come about from the desire to bring together CLC members from neighbouring countries to pray together and share something of their experience of being CLC. It was wonderful to see members of CLC Trieste and Rijeka coming

together for this evening and looking forward to possibly planning further exchanges. Once again the team members were very grateful for the hospitality offered by the Trieste Community and also by the Jesuit in Trieste for accommodating us.

Our weekend proved to be very full and quite hectic but also very rewarding, it was a time of many good conversations and encouragement to witness the enthusiasm and willingness of two local communities as they strive to grow in their CLC way of life.

"I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

#### **Diary**

A diary to inform you of events taking place and also to ask for your support in prayer for these events.

Euroteam meeting.

Munich; February 14-16, 2014

99th Deutscher Katholikentag

**CLC Germany** 

Regensburg, May 29 - June 1

**Adriatica Regional Meeting** 

Trieste, May 29 - June 1

Information: <u>luisabonetti@hotmail.com</u>

**Meeting for EAs** 

Regensburg, June 4 - 6, 2014

directly followed by

**European Assembly** 

Regensburg, June 6 - 9, 2014

More information in the CLC Europe website: www.clc-europe.org







### 99th Deutscher Katholikentag (German Catholic Day)

Building Bridges with Christ Regensburg , May 29 to June 1, 2014



This summer camp was special, because we had a celebration of 450 CLC anniversary and also a big event - CLC Lithuania was officially accepted as a member of CLC world. During the 3 days of camp we had deep sharing of faith with the friends in God not only from the different regions of Lithuania, but also from Malta, France, Latvia. The program of the camp was very intensive: mass every day and adoration during all the camp time, lectures and sharing in small groups, presentation of all regions of CLC Lithuania, talent show, party time, message from Lebanon, special prayer with the Bible called "Way of the Light". We were pleased by the participation of Nuncio Luigi Bonazzi and number of Jesuits during the camp events. Lectures of Kennet J. Higges SJ helped us to reflect on the ways of spiritual guiding and contemplation. Edward Warrington from CLC Malta invited us to reflect on our identity as members of CLC and realise how these days during the camp helped us to grow in ignatian spirituality.

Kristina Rankelyte, president of CLC Lithuania, Liuda Varneliene and Algis Gudaitis SJ shared their experience from Lebanon and all of us where touched by that. This message gave us impulse to keep looking for our mission in daily life and as a community and to realise the will of Jesus in this way.



The "Zentralkomitee der deutschen Katholiken" (ZdK) along with the Christian Life Community (CLC) from Germany invite our eastern neighbouring states cordially to the 99th German Catholic Day 2014 in Regensburg. The Catholics Day is a large gathering aiming at encountering each other. It will hold a variety of different activities like a religious centre. The CLC will have a desk at the "Kirchenmeile" for gathering information and entering into dialogue with the community.

The Ignatian community celebrates Eucharistic mass together with provincial Dr. Stefan Kiechle SJ saturday the 31th May at 6 p.m. followed by a gathering. There will by possibilities to get in contact with various CLC members. So, see you Regensburg, let's build bridges with Christ ...

For further information please visit www.katholikentag.de

# The International CLC summer camp in Transylvania.

The international CLC summer camp took place on the second week of August in Transylvania.

We wanted to organize it connected to the 450 year jubilee of the organization. We felt, it was our mission to spread the word about Saint Ignatius's spirituality in our country too, and also to meet people who genuinely represent this spirituality and live their lives by it. We also wished for our local groups to become stronger in our ignatian spirituality and become aware of our duty to build the organization of CLC in our homeland.

During the year preceding the camp we have met periodically in order to develop an image that links strongly the local tradition with the spiritual exercises that are the core of the CLC nature. Our landmarks were the history of the ignatian spirituality, Saint Ignatius's Trinitarian experience, and the Virgin Mary as the mediator of incarnation. We also meditated on how all of this becomes life for us, how does it shape and form us to became leaders not only managers in our communities. Being a vacation week, all this content was mediated by games and processed through regular examens.

The 103 participants of the camp came from Germany, Poland, Hungary, Voivodina (Serbia), France, Belgium and the UK.

A vacation is not a vacation without a trip, so we had a short roundtrip during which we visited the coal burners who still produce coal by traditional means in the mountains; we prayed at the most famous Transylvanian pilgrimage site and shrine of the Virgin Mary in Csíksomlyó, and we participated at a performance of the 100-member Children Philharmonic. During the week we also had the chance to walk between the hills surrounding the campsite, the children participated in biking trips, had bathes in the nearby stream, we all learned some traditional Hungarian folk-dances, and celebrated every evening the holy mass feeling every day a little bit closer and more thankful for each other.

We also had beautiful and deep conversations about what belonging to the big family of CLC means to us, regardless of age and nationality. It was a relief to realize that, although we came from different linguistic backgrounds, we all had a common "language" to communicate on.

We would like to thank every participant for making our work worthy by their presence. And of course, we would like to thank everyone who supported us through their prayer, their work or their financial aid. We would also like to ask you to support us through your prayers in our work of familiarizing Transylvania with the ignatian spirituality and of making this spirituality alive in our hearts and daily lives.

Wishing you blessed Christmas and a very happy New Year,

the organizing team.

