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.: NEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT .:

Italy: Superior General - Lent 2010 (14/02/2010)

.: NEWS .:

Singapore: Week of Catholic Awakening (27/02/2010)



In two of their Universities, the Varsity-Nanyang Technological University e la National University, Singapore hosted the two week long annual program for Catholic awakening in the territory. Each year this event offers us an opportunity to meet more closely with our people, especially with young people and women. The conferences center on questions of importance to daily life of the people, such as abortion, euhanasia, and homosexuality.

In addition, workshops for formation on the Liturgy are provided, and the use of religious objects and liturgical dress are treated in conjunction with these seminars. The presence of the Daughters of St. Paul at this event, besides offering us the chance to share our mission and diffuse Pauline editions, allowed us also to participate in interreligious dialogue through positive encounters with adherents of other religions.

United Kingdom: Jesus in the Films of all Time (26/02/2010)



“We need to put down the censors’ scissors and pick up the cameras” because “the power of the cinema surpasses that of the schools, the pulpits, and the press and always has greater effects”: these are the words of Blessed James Alberione, who initiated his cinematographic activity on March 18, 1938.

From that day onward, the Daughters of St. Paul have traveled unmarked and unexplored roads, joining the world of film to that of the Gospel. Continuing in this commitment, the Paulines of Langley have organized a series of encounters and workshops to present the figure of Jesus in the films of all time. Father Lloyd Baugh sj, of the Pontifical Gregorian University of Rome and a great expert in this field, guided the encounters held in the Dioceses of Northampton and Newcastle and two workshops held at the Universities of Durham e Newcastle. Interest was great: Jesus and the cinema speak always to the hearts of all people.

Portugal : The Disaster at Madeira (25/02/2010)



47 people lost their lives, 120 were wounded, and 250 evacuated. These are the statistics of the tragedy that struck the Portugese island of Madeira. The exceptional wave of bad weather that damaged the island, which is situated north of the Canary islands, swept away cars and trees, caused the collapse of bridges and transformed the streets into violent torrents of water and mud.

The localities remaining without electricity and completely isolated were numerous. This profound wound inflicted by nature which struck the archipelago, attacked furiously the capital of Funchal and its surrounding area.

The community of the Daughters of St. Paul, which is located on the island, and right in the capital, did not receive any great damage. Even though mud penetrated into the book center, the fortunate position of the building, in the shelter of a plateau, left it almost untouched by the devastation. In addition, thanks to the alertness and prudence of some of the sisters and collaborators, it was possible to save the majority of the materials in the Center. The day after the tragedy brought the reality up before our eyes, affirms Sr. Sara Gilvaz and Sr. Sandra Dantas, the destruction and the great damage inflicted on hundreds of families on our island. The nearness, in prayer and in action, of the entire Pauline Family, gives us support and the will to rebuild immediately an island of happiness.

Italy: “A Light for our Path”(19/02/2010)

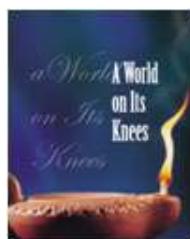


On the occasion of the anniversary of the birth of Prima Maestra Tecla Merlo (February 20, 1894), a book was published entitled: “A Light for our Path”.

This is the publication of the personal notes that Maestra Tecla wrote from December 1926 to the month of June, 1928. The text, under the care of the participants of the Hermeneutical Seminar held at the Generalate last autumn, invites us to mirror our lives in the life of our dearest Prima Maestra, as a response to the continual exhortation of our Founder: “Every Daughter of St. Paul should mirror in her own life the life and virtues of the Mother and Prima Maestra Tecla, imitating her... She was a docile instrument in the hands of God”. These spiritual notes, are a testimony of the persevering progress of

Maestra Tecla in her commitment to gradually remove all trust in herself so that she might “throw herself totally onto the Mercy of God” and her constant effort to keep to the road to sanctity, the sole and essential condition for necessary for efficacy in evangelization carried out with the means of social communication.

United States : E-book: a powerful instrument for responding to the world’s needs (18/02/2010)



After the earthquake in Haiti, many people came to our book centers seeking something that would help them respond to this great tragedy.

Only a week after the earthquake, the sisters decided to prepare a free on-line booklet of prayers, entitled: “The World on its Knees”. The e-book, which is available on Pauline media and the associated sites, was published also on three different facebook pages of Daughters of St. Paul of the United States, and when we connected, 8000 persons immediately opened hits on the sites. The week after saw the insertion of the on-line book on the Catholic sites like Zenit e CNR, in addition to many important USA blogs. This made the publication of

more than 8000 articles, 20,000 pages to read, and about 350 downloads of the book possible.

Macau : The Week of Christian Unity (16/02/2010)



On January 30, 2010, the Diocese of Macao celebrated the Week of Christian Unity. Prayers, led by Bishop Joseph Lai Hung-seng, Bishop of Macao, were celebrated in the Cathedral, with the participation of various religious personages from the various Christian churches, and a great attendance of young people and adults.

During the encounter, the Daughters of St. Paul, present in the diocese with the only Catholic book center, were asked to set up a display of books in Chinese, Portuguese and English. This important moment of prayer was also an occasion to make known to the many participants the Pauline mission in the Church and the world.

Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) : A missionary journey to Burkina Faso (15/02/2010)



On the wings of the new wind of the “Redesigning of our presences”, the Daughters of St. Paul of Abidjan made a missionary journey to Burkina Faso with the twofold aim of making our Paulline productions known and presenting our Charism to the young people of this country. It was an important trip, made to widen the horizons of the mission, and carried out with the full participation of the community which, even though it was difficult (5 sisters, two of whom are students), was taken on with great enthusiasm. The first phase of this apostolic journey was to visit the city of Bobo-

Dioulasso, with a book display at the seminary where there was also the Bishops’ annual meeting. At the same time, in the capital, a sister opened and ran a book center for three weeks in the Ouagadougou section, while the other missionary continued her trip to the diocese of Fada for encounters with groups of young people who were discerning their vocations.

Poland : An Encounter with a friend of Pope Wojtyla (15/02/2010)



In the book center of the Daughters of St. Paul at Lublin, Dr. Wanda Poltawska, psychiatrist and friend of John Paul II, presented and autographed her book *Beskidzkie rekolekcje* (The Diary of a Friendship, Pauline Editions). This book, which contains all the correspondence the author had with Karol Wojtyla, is the diary of her soul.

The letters recall the period of Father Wojtyla's pastoral work with students at Cracow, among whom was Wanda, and extend to the last years of the Polish Pope's Pontificate. Dr. Poltawska spoke to the persons gathered in the center about her treasures of a lifetime: love, honor, sacrifice and commitment to others. She also presented her own biography of the time of the World War II, *I am Afraid of Dreams* in which she recounts her commitment to the Polish Resistance and her later sad experience in the concentration camp of Ravensbruck in Germany .

The Encounter, which generated much interest and called to the memory of many persons, was carried out in the Pauline book center on the occasion of the bestowing of Honorary Citizenship of Lublin to Dr. Wanda Poltawska. An important moment for thanking this extraordinary woman who counts among her prestigious awards also the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" medal.

Italy : We remember Canon Fiorino Triverio with gratitude (14/02/2010)



Canon Fiorino Triverio has returned to the Father's House. Canon Triverio was from the Diocese of Alba. He knew and esteemed Father Alberione.

Canon Triverio welcomed with paternal graciousness the various groups of pilgrims from the Pauline Family to the Diocesan Seminary of Alba.

His testimony and his joy to familiarize us with the places where Father Alberione lived as a seminarian and spiritual director helped us to travel back in time and get a taste of the values that were the foundation of our apostolic spirituality. We remember him with gratitude.

Italy: "I run towards the Goal..." - Preparation for perpetual profession (04/02/2010)



The period of preparation for perpetual vows brought together three groups of Juniors from various nations of the world: Brazil, Korea, and the international group at Rome. Even if during these past years the journeys were different for each one, the goal is the same for all: to consecrate themselves for all their lives to the Lord among the Daughters of St. Paul. Greetings, therefore, and courage! "The Lord gives us immensely more than we could ever give him." (Ven. Tecla Merlo).

Italy : February 5, 2010 - A Day of Prayer for Haiti in memory of Maestra Tecla (03/02/2010)



Suor M. Antonietta Bruscatto, superiora generale fsp, scrive a tutte le Figlie di San Paolo del mondo chiedendo di pregare per Haiti nell'anniversario della morte della Ven. Tecla Merlo. "Più volte, in questi giorni, Benedetto XVI ha invitato a "pregare" per il popolo haitiano, oltre che "aiutare". Per questo, vi invito a dedicare la giornata del 5 febbraio a un'intensa preghiera "IN COMPAGNIA DI MAESTRA TECLA". [...] Penso che il modo migliore di ricordare Maestra Tecla sia quello di pregare con lei per i morti di Haiti, per i sopravvissuti, per tutta la gente di buona volontà che si impegnerà per la ricostruzione e la rinascita del Paese. Questa preghiera potrà essere fatta non solo personalmente e comunitariamente, ma anche coinvolgendo i nostri collaboratori laici e le persone che entreranno, il 5 febbraio, nei nostri centri di apostolato. [...]. Noi sappiamo che la sua intercessione è potente!"

Peru : The Daughters of St. Paul receive an award from the Peruvian Bishops' Conference (01/02/2010)



On the 50th Anniversary of the presence of the Daughters of St. Paul in Peru, the Peruvian Bishops' Conference, with the presentation of the "Medal of St. Turibius of Mogrovejo", have recognized the precious pastoral service carried out in this country by the many sisters who, during the course of these fifty years, have incarnated generously the Pauline Charism. The award "Medal of St. Turibius of Mogrovejo" was instituted by the Peruvian Bishops' Conference in January of 2002, to award those persons or institutions that have distinguished themselves for service to the Church and to the people.

.: PRAYER .:

Tempi liturgici – 2nd Sunday of Lent

Tempi liturgici – 1st Sunday of Lent

.: DATA BANK .:

Comunicazione - Give a new impetus to thought, to the mission, and to life - Sr M. Agnes Quaglini (18/02/2010)

Resources for cultivating learning

An empirical research, conducted in some prestigious book stores not specifically identified, revealed that two books in ten purchased therein are E-books. The details refer to prevalently English language productions, but they are significant in that they help us understand the progress of digital media, and the paths opening up to them, but they also help us to understand the place print medium productions still hold. Today it is easy to find predictors and also fanatics of the digital media who denigrate the print media, which have and still do mark our history. Both instruments are to be valued, and they will be for a long time.

The conquest of the information media, like every human conquest, is welcomed as a gift of God, as new editions of God and of humanity, always seeking whatever could exalt and amplify the possibilities for knowledge and for integral growth. We are still a long way away from considering the book and related products obsolete. And perhaps they never will be.

Our culture is tied to the world of the book: we live from what is of the past. Differing from the information media products which are ethereal, untouchable, and fleeting, the book has its own solidity and it belongs to us in a different way. If we have glanced through the pages with interest, even writing notes in the margins, the paragraphs have more significance for us; placed on our shelf, it seems like an invitation to always go back again and review what they have communicated to us; they continue to be our friends. Often it is difficult to detach ourselves from books that have filled meaningful hours of our lives. And new books invite us to build together new pathways to knowledge and learning.

Interest in Learning

However, I ask myself whether in some areas of society (and also in our communities) the interest in learning has weakened, as also the development of consciousness, experiences, giving new impetus to thought, to the mission and to life. Is there still a sufficient interest for books and periodicals, at least for those which we had chosen as the companions for our daily life? Periodicals are important instruments for updating and learning.

The information highway on which many take their places is a new and important opportunity, an instrument of culture that we need to learn with intelligence and a special capacity for discernment, and to value always more. But it does not free us from our own effort to, in a wise manner, join the riches of the past and the ancient and modern ways of living to the present reality, and project ourselves toward the future with courage, clarity, and hope. We need to be present to this new world, in this era of communication, and with a sense of respect, gratitude and commitment live in our times, valuing all the possibilities it offers to the maximum. Today a new commitment is required of us, a more rapid growth, because time passes quickly, and everything is changing around us with a driving rhythm; we need to learn how to acquire new knowledge, and new experiences in all the areas and dimensions of life.

The Church asks each one of us to live out our specific vocation; we are called not only to rediscover, but to present the sanctity and inventiveness of our Founders with courage and a constantly renewed creativity. In order to become efficacious apostles, we must learn how to hear the new questions and seek to give new answers.

Blessed James Alberione, founder of the Pauline Family, speaking of study and of culture itself, would tell us: "To make the most of your studies keep always in mind the *Pact* as it was set down in the *Secret of Success*"¹. Here he wished to highlight the importance of the faith that supports our commitment. He wanted to rekindle in each of his sons and daughters the faith that God can multiply the fruits of each and every effort

¹ The prayer *The Pact* or *Secret of Success* is a part of the precious patrimony inherited by the Pauline Family from its Founder, Father James Alberione. United in the same spirit, the various Pauline generations follow one another into history. The Founder guides us on the road, always inscrutable, with the trust of Abraham, Mary, and Paul. The grace of the vocation and of the apostolate is deposited in us who are: *weak, ignorant, incapable and wanting in all*, so that the power of God will dwell in us (Cf 2Cor. 12:9).

made to improve our lives and the apostolate. At the same time, he insisted that we use “all the available media to grow in knowledge of the sciences, spirituality, and the apostolate”.

The Meaning of “Studiosità”

Our Founder often repeated that we must “learn from everything” and that study is not limited to the halls and classrooms of the academic world, but continues throughout our lives. To illustrate this, he coined a new term: “studiosità”, meaning the constant effort to become familiar with new ideas, using books and periodicals and every other possible media, chosen with a discerning spirit. He asked us to make an effort to acquire concrete capabilities, through exercise in the various fields of apostolic activity, of the arts, and of technical skills. He never forgot to recommend that we learn to listen, to use our powers of observation, and our personal reflections, and that we share our values and experiences with those of the others, so as to derive benefits from it.

“The Daughters of St. Paul have a very high office”, the Founder recalled. Study, updating, and attention to the evolution of schools of thought are part of their vocation. “The Institute is a teaching one, its mission is to teach, and to teach one needs an education and preparation that is adequate and updated constantly...When we study, the soul is illumined and horizons become always more far-reaching”².

To live Pauline study, so well inculcated by Father Alberione, we propose a little *Project of Life*, that will help us to overcome sporadic efforts. It asks us:

- an authentic and committed *will to enter a journey of growth* and maturity of faith, hope and charity, in configuration to Christ, in following him;

- a courageous *dynamic of liberation* from the various things that may condition or put the brakes on this journey, therefore, a process of continual conversion;

- *Assiduous research*, making use of the various instruments and aids that are offered to us, to improve ourselves and acquire an always more open vision, knowledge that is vaster on all fronts regarding life, spirituality, culture, mission; all this without fragmentations, so that the various dimensions of our Pauline life do not suffer from over-organization, not even a gradual one, because we are not speaking of first one and then another; everything must be integrated to form a unity: that is, the Pauline life;

- An uninterrupted *assimilation of our own and others’ experiences*, so that ours will not be a life lived in vain, but will be an accumulation of those treasures of life which help us to go forward (negative experiences can also contribute);

- An *availability for changes* that take place in the world and in our own Congregation, not without the innovative action of the Spirit, and that aid us in carrying out the profound work of putting into practice the precious spiritual and apostolic inheritance left to us by our Founder (Cf. the aids: *Pauline Studiosità today and New Paths for Pauline Studiosità*. This can be found in “Data Bank” on our website www.paoline.org under “Communication”).

Studiosità is therefore the will to progress, to mature, to deepen, to provide ourselves with the reasons for new things and old, to have an always clearer vision in life, that once again will give our choices light and deep motivations so that we can grow and achieve with an enthusiasm that is always renewed.

Culture and communication

There is no need to demonstrate the strict relationship that exists between culture and communication. When they reach the heights, these two exist in a sort of interdependence. Though they have succeeded one another or have been integrated in various ways throughout the course of human history, culture and communication, therefore, have an inseparable rapport. The various fundamental factors of a specific culture go together: language and technical, social models and experiences. It can be said that culture is a global function of the lives of people and embraces every type of activity through which women and men express themselves.

Culture is a sign, it is a language; it is the memory of the past, the anxiety of the present, the prophecy of the future. Culture is the life of relationships, the search for encounter and communication. Without communication, there is no culture. One could say that the old and new media have in these times become the principal locus where culture is created; in fact, according to some experts, these media are like a celebration of popular culture and are the broadcasters of new forms of thought and life.

Along the course of the centuries, cultures have distinguished themselves not only for what they have expressed, but also for the methods they used to transmit the culture. Today the phenomenon of

² Cfr. CVV, circolare 66, ottobre 1937; FSP47, august, pp. 466ss.

communication has achieved unimaginable quality, a power of involvement and an intensity that can influence, so much more than in the past, integration and education for values; but it can do so also for the non-values that use the media as a means of transmission.

The communicator who lives his own faith and vocation is instinctively driven towards truth, goodness, and beauty. He builds the culture, and transmits through the signs of the world - those imprinted on nature and those constructed by man - his traditions, his assiduous research, and his testimony. He looks for new epiphanies, new impulses of human and Christian thought, drawing from their reflections and from various other fonts. He cultivates his own culture and confronts it with others, because it is important to achieve confrontation, compenetration of various ways of living and thinking, respect for diversity, in an authentic pluralism that not only accepts differences, but guarantees constructive and fruitful dialogue.

All this cannot help but to stimulate us to be "cultured", lovers of culture in our personal life, and ready to respond adequately to the great questions the world asks us, in our specific Pauline vocation. In synthesis: to give impetus to thought, to the mission, and to life.

.: CALENDAR OF THE GOVERNMENT .:



10-15 marzo 2010	Mosca	Visita finalizzata	sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato sr. Anna Caiazza
16-20 marzo	Germania	Visita finalizzata	sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
21-25 marzo	Praga	Visita fraterna	sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
31 marzo – 4 aprile	Spagna	Incontro di delegazione	sr. Anna Caiazza
8 aprile – 8 maggio	Messico	Visita fraterna	sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato
8-16 aprile	Canada/Québec	Visita fraterna	sr. Anna Caiazza sr. Francesca Matsuoka
17 aprile – 8 maggio	Messico	Visita fraterna	sr. Anna Caiazza sr. Francesca Matsuoka
8-28 aprile	Argentina, UR, PA	Visita fraterna	sr. Luz Helena Arroyave sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
29 aprile – 8 maggio	Perù, Bolivia	Visita fraterna	sr. Luz Helena Arroyave sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Best wishes from the PaolineOnline editorial team

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