

From August 30th to September 11th, 2015, the Teams of Our Lady experienced very intense and essential moments for the life of the Movement in Rome.

The International Leading Team met in Rome from August 30th to September 3rd in order to finalise the last details for the Rome Gathering. Prayer, work and conviviality marked the run-up to the Gathering!



The International College was held afterwards, from September 3rd to 5th using the phrase *"Take nothing with you"* as the guiding theme. Those Responsible for the Super-Regions and the Regions attached to the International Leading Team discussed important questions that the Movement will have to face in the years to come.



On September 6th, the International Leading Team was able to appreciate the magnificent presentation that the Italy Super-Region made concerning its activities and perspectives for the future. What a wonderful moment full of energy, life and dynamism!



Many thanks to the Super-Region Italy

for their warm welcome and the wonderful organisation of these meetings!

Then, the Gathering of the Regional Responsible Couples took place from September 6th to 11th. Isaiah's phrase, *"Here I am, Lord, send me,"* was the message that united the Regional Responsible Couples from all around the world together in prayer, listening to each other and sharing...





The highlight of this gathering was the private audience with Pope Francis on September 10th in the Clementine Hall of the Vatican.

Our Responsible Couple To & Zé's presentation can read on our site <http://www.equipes-notre-dame.com/en> as can the Pope's speech, where he encourages us in our choices: the missionary role of couples, respecting the Endeavours, supporting the ministry of priests, being close to wounded families and welcoming couples whose marriages have failed...



All these meetings were opportunities to pray, listen, speak and exchange points of view during the numerous testimonials, conferences, round tables and forums...

Hereafter the essential points:

Life of the Movement

International College: Important topics concerning the life of the Movement were treated.

* The lack of Priests/Spiritual Counsellors; Elderly Teams; the Movement's current situation and future perspectives for expansion; distribution & communication; isolated Teams and their situation; promotion of the unity of the Movement...

* The College dealt with the regulatory administrative formalities linked to the Teams' General Assembly: voting for the accounts of the previous year and budget for the year to come. The majority approved.

Poland became a Super-Region

Solidarity allocations were raised from 32000€ to 40000€ for next year.

Contributions to the Association of the Friends of Father Caffarel vary widely according to Super-Region and Region. Efforts are expected in certain cases. Reminder: the cause for canonisation is born by this association.

International Gathering of Regional Responsible Couples, the following subjects were treated:

The sacrament of marriage; Islam; listening to the youth – communication; Satellite teams; the world and the Teams; the Thinking and cause for canonisation of Father Caffarel; the Church and its peripheries; the international nature of the Movement; challenges to couples and the family in the new evangelisation...

To & Zé presented the orientations for the years to come:

2015-2016: ***Rediscovering and Rendering ""God's mercy***

2016-2017: ***Responding to the Pastoral Challenges concerning marriage and the family***

Update on Completed Work

The Satellite Teams finished the document on the Sitting-Down and the final version was distributed to all Super-Region and Regional Responsible Couples for re-reading and distribution.

The Guide explaining the role of the Team's Responsible Couple is finished and was sent as a PDF to all Super-Region and Regional Responsible Couples in 5 languages. Sample paper versions were also distributed at the Gathering and each Super-Region and Region can now have it printed and widely distributed.

The international site is up and running; it is regularly updated.)
A call was made to correspondents to send information and) *Do look them up & use them!*
news was renewed.)
A Facebook page has also been opened.)

Future Perspectives

At the end of October, the Satellite Teams will publish the document on Private Prayer that will then be sent to all Super-Regions and Regions for Reading, analysis and correction if necessary.

The Satellite Team's work on Christian training will be uploaded on to a virtual platform. The translations in to the 5 languages need to be undertaken, but certain Super-Regions and Regions will take care of this.

The 'Sexuality' Team continues its work.

The Marriage Workshop ought to have presented its work to the International Leading Team for December 2017 at the latest. The new International Leading Team will take up its functions in 2018 and will then decide as to whether to continue or not with this workshop's activities.

The Teams of Our Lady are always present the "Together for Europe" Movement's events. The next meeting is in the Netherlands, 12-14 November 2015 where the Teams will be represented. The following meeting will be in Munich in 2016.

Diary

* International Leading Team meeting in Paris, 4-9 December 2015.

On December 8th, the International Leading Team will go to Troussures to pray, then to Chantilly and Massabielle.

* Next International Leading Team meeting in Barcelona, 8-13 March, 2016.

* Next International College in England, at Swanwick (Hayes Conference Centre) 23-28 July 2016 (after the International Leading Team meeting 19-23 July) Meeting with the English Team members on July 30th.

Countdown

*The Regional Responsible Couples chose **FATIMA** (PORTUGAL) by an overwhelming majority as the place for the next gathering of Team members from all over the world...*

See you there in 2018!

