

DECEMBER 2013

Welcome to the 4th Newsletter of the International Leading Team

International Leading Team's Meeting: The International Leading Team met in Paris from November 1-5, 2013 with its usual members as well as two new couples: Françoise & Rémi Gausse, responsible for communication and young couples and Amaya & Jose Antonio Marcén-Echandi, who will become Responsible Couple for the Eurafrika Zone from next June onwards.

In order to reinforce the spirituality and friendship between the couples, the meeting began with a day of prayer and meditation organised by Father Jacinto, during which all the couples prayed and shared.

Over the following days, numerous topics were raised:

- Appraisal of the International Leading Teams' activities, in particular feedback on the College in Bordeaux
- Tó & Zé's participation in the Congress organised by the Pontifical Council for the Family, Rome
- The Pope's meeting with families in Rome, October 26 & 27, where Team members from the world over attended, especially from South America. The Roman Team members were particularly generous in the hospitality they extended to all
- Assessment of the Eurafrika, Central Europe, Eurasia and America Zones
- Aims and actions for the Teams Movement for 2012-2018
- Composition & tasks of the International Leading Team
- Agenda & directions for 2013-2014



- Programme & organisation of the next International Leading Teams' Meeting in Namur, Belgium
- Organisation of the 2014 College in Medway, USA
- Goals and timeline for the setting up of the Satellite Teams (see the article below)
- Solidarity projects that are supported by the International Leading Team
- Importance & meaning of the subscription to the Movement
- Outline of the 2014/15 study topic, "***Daring to be open to the signs of the times***" currently under preparation by a team coordinated by Françoise & Rémi Gausse
- Update on the Marriage Workshop project
- Finding replacements for one of the couples on the International Leading Team and for the responsible couples of the Super-Regions/Regions, who finished their term of service in 2014
- Meeting of the Regional Couples in Rome, in 2015
- Means of communication: Newsletter, News from the International Leading Team, International website, Address book...

The International Leading Team also had a meeting with the **Association of the Friends of Father Caffarel**, where Father Marcovits and Marie-Christine Genillon told them that the process of beatification of Father Caffarel would be soon sent to Rome with a new postulator. The need to revitalise news about the Cause and about the Association of the Friends of Father Caffarel was discussed as well as the necessary strategy to be used to achieve this. The Association's next meeting will be on February 28, 2014.

The Work of the Satellite Teams

Three Satellite Teams and two Reflection Groups on the Theology of Sexuality began their work this autumn under the supervision of Edgardo & Clarita Bernal from the International Leading Team and with the spiritual support of Father Silvio Cajiao. The Satellite Teams centre on 1/ Pedagogy, 2/ Reflection and Research and 3/ Christian training, while the Reflection Groups on the Theology of Sexuality met for America in Bogota, Columbia October 11-13 and for Europe in Fatima, Portugal, November 8-10.

Satellite Teams are service teams directly linked to the International Leading Team and are made up of couples and Spiritual Counsellors from different parts of the world. Their aim is to deepen knowledge of certain topics that are important to and for the Movement. The topics are defined by the International Leading Team in response to the needs expressed by the Responsible Couples of the Super-Regions or Regions at the International College upon a reading of the signs of the times and according to life orientations that conform to the Church's encyclicals.

Following on from the College in Brasilia in 2012 and throughout last year, the International Leading Team decided on the project (aims, topics and constitution) that the Satellite Teams must treat until 2018. This project was presented and approved of at the International College held in Bordeaux last summer.

The work that these Satellite Teams and Reflection Groups has begun requires help. This help is decided upon by the Responsible Couples of the Super-Regions and Regions, who themselves are consulted by the Coordinating Couples, so that these teams can put together work that has been enriched by the participation of all and that is very important for the Movement and for the Church.



Meeting of the America Satellite Team in Bogotá. 1st row, kneeling left to right: Mariola y Elizeu Calsing, Luiz Carlos Nogueira; 2nd row: Maria Teresa Liévano (Translator), Clarita Fandiño, Ginette Bergeron, Olga Lucía Arango, Stella Mahecha, Pasqui Hoford, Ellen Holt, Marcia Nogueira, 3rd Row: Edgardo Bernal, Martin Bergeron, Antonio Arango, Germán Mahecha, Jeff Hoford, T.J Holt, Father Flavio Cavalca, Father Silvio Cajiao.



Fátima. Meeting of the Europe Satellite Team in Fátima. 1st row, left to right: Graciete Rebelo, Dominique Arondel, Florence & Jean-Philippe Joubert, Agostinha Carvalho, Mary Jones, Isabel Baptista (Translator), Masu Dominguez, Maryves & Cristoforo Codrino. 2nd row: José Rebelo, Jean Arondel, Hubert & Brigitte Wattelet, Clarita Fandiño, Manuel Carvalho, Elizabeth Hatey, Olga Gonzalez, Robert Jones. 3rd row: Anne-Michèle Lovens, Edgardo Bernal, Patrick Lovens, François Hatey, Secundino Gonzalez, Xosé Manuel Dominguez, Father Silvio Cajiao.

Upcoming Events

2 important events for the International Leading Team in 2014

Meeting of the International Leading Team in Namur, Belgium, March 19-23, 2014

As usual the International Leading Team will hold a meeting outside of the International Secretariat in Paris in order to be closer to the Super Regions and Regions, which are directly tied to the International Leading Team. This year, Belgium has been chosen and there will be a meeting with Belgian Team members so that they can get to know the International Leading Team better and so that the latter can come to know this country better!

Meeting of the International Leading Team and College for all Super-Regions and Regions in Medway, USA, July 16-27, 2014

The 3rd meeting of the International Leading Team, organised by the US Super Region, will be held before the College in Medway (near Boston) on the theme, **“A single thing is necessary.”** Zone meetings will follow as well as a meeting with members of the US Super-Region Team.

Pilgrimage of families in Rome, October 26-27, 2013



October 24. The Congress was open to leaders of the movements. Tó & Zé were present and make contact with the President of the Pontifical Council for the Family, Monsignor Paglia.



October 26 & 27 -

Responding to the Pope's call, Team members from all over the world (Columbia, Chile, Peru, Honduras, Brazil, Portugal, the UK, France, Italy, India etc.) were present in St Peter's Square to sow the joy of their Faith. It was a very important occasion to bear witness to the fact that the family is a source of Joy and a privileged place for the relaying of Faith. More than 150 000 people showed an enormous enthusiasm for the Pope Francis' words. The Pope in his Popemobile went around the Square and all the way to Castel San Angelo while a huge crowd acclaimed him with great emotion. Many Roman Team members very generously opened their houses and extended their hospitality to Team couples and their families from all over the world. Some even went to the airport to collect them and bring them back after the meeting. Our Movement is truly fantastic! It allows us to meet people from all over the world and to welcome them just like in a large family!



Experience the liturgical time of Advent according to the rhythm and feeling of the Church



The liturgical time of Advent invites each of us to interiorise the feelings of the righteous people from the Old Testament who awaited the coming of the Saviour, promised to our first parents, Adam & Eve, just after the Fall. The holy patriarchs and prophets lived in the hope of the promised Saviour. John the Baptist showed that he was present amongst the people. The Holy Virgin conceived of him in her heart before receiving him in her immaculate breast and gave him to the world on the night of Christmas.

Pope Francis has just invited us to experience the joy of the Gospel (*Evangelii gaudium*). Our Teams and our couples must embody this joy. We are invited to imitate the Holy Virgin, to reproduce the mystery in ourselves, so that the Son of God can become incarnate in our Teams, in our Couples, in our

Movement, in our Church. May our Teams and Couple truly be an efficient sign of this joy of the Gospel. We will be like the Virgin Mary, an eminent figure of the Church, if we allow the Son of God to truly become incarnate in our Teams and couples and if we allow him to inundate us with his grace and peace.

Father José Jacinto Ferreira de Farias, scj