

December 2017

The International Leading Team (ERI) met at Rue de la Glacière in Paris for the last time this year..., the next meetings will be held in Fatima in order to prepare for the great Gathering of Team members from all over the world next July!!!

Amaya Marcén Échandi was unable to attend as her mother was in hospital and needed her daughter's attentive presence. Our prayers were with them and Jose-Antonio did his best to represent her!



The ERI has always liked to get together in the chapel in Rue de la Glacière. It is a calm place with simple lines, that is so conducive to prayer, either alone, as a couple, or as a team...



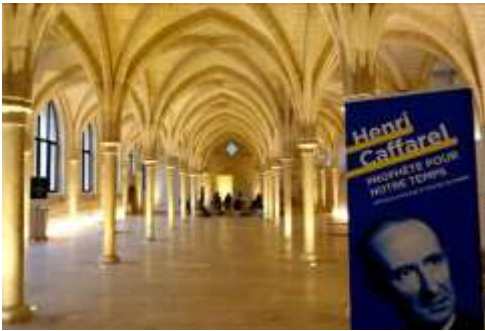
We were delighted to celebrate the 55th wedding anniversary of our Responsible Couple, To & Zé!

Father Jacinto Farias blessed this anniversary; it was very moving for everyone present...



Life of the Movement

The great event that marked the month of December was the International Colloquium on Father Caffarel held at the College des Bernardins in Paris, on December 8th & 9th, 2017



The Colloquium was held in the College des Bernardins, a place full of culture and history

This International Colloquium was called for by Father Paleri, Roman Postulator of the Cause for Canonisation of Father Caffarel.

4 half-day sessions enabled attendees to listen to talks and round-table discussions, given by numerous international speakers, as well as to see clips put together and filmed by Team members throughout the world ... The discussions were broadcast live and can be seen on www.equipes-notre-dame.com



A full amphitheatre, an attentive audience of over 250 people from all over the world. All the correspondents were present!



To & Zé bore witness to the international influence of the Teams of Our Lady and to the universality of Father Caffarel's thinking



Monsignor André Vingt-Trois, Cardinal-Archbishop of Paris closed the Colloquium

In the evening of December 8th, the 70th anniversary of our Charter was celebrated at a mass presided over by Monsignor Eric de Moulins-Beaufort, Auxiliary Bishop of Paris, in the Church Saint-Augustin in Paris.



Sunday, December 10th, the correspondents and Responsible Couples made a pilgrimage to Father Caffarel's tomb at Troussures, to the north of Paris. A festive meal followed at Massabielle (a House for Couples, that belongs to the French SR). A mass concluded this day of remembrance ...



Update on Work in Progress or Finished Work

Satellite Teams: *Work presented by Clarita & Edgardo Bernal*

☞ The SRs/RRs will be asked to reflect and think of the most important subjects to be dealt with by the Satellite Teams in the years to come, so that they might be discussed during mixed Team meetings at the Fatima College.

Two platforms (**Christian Formation & Database**) are operational (with the exception of a few translations for the former).

The **Orientations for 2018/2024** will be defined by the new Responsible Couple collegially with the current ERI.

The topic for Longstanding Teams is being finalised by Graça & Roberto. The ERI will validate it during its April meeting so that it can be distributed at Fatima in July. Similarly, Françoise & Rémi are preparing **The Pilot Couple's Guide** that will be developed and circulated in the same timeframe.

The revision of **The Guide to Teams of Our Lady** is almost finished and will be ready for Fatima.

The document "**Vocation & Mission at the Beginning of the Third Millennium,**" prepared by To & Zé, is being finalised. It will be worked upon collegially at the next ERI meeting and will be circulated at Fatima.

Assessment of the Intercessors: Mahassen & Georges revealed that the Movement now possesses correspondents in all Super-Regions and this is an encouraging finding.

Perspectives

Preparation of the 2018 Fatima Gathering, the International College and the International Session

The **programme** (conferences, testimonies, liturgical celebrations, opening and closing ceremonies, group activities...) has now been definitively fixed.

All the **speakers' texts** must now be sent to the International Secretariat **immediately**, so that the translations and publishing of the booklets can be done in time.

Solidarity has worked well and has enabled countries without sufficient financial resources to help their Team members attend. The global amount of aid is 250 000€.

There will be **simultaneous translation** for 6 languages: Polish has been added to the Movement's 5 official languages.

The Gospel of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) will be the Gathering's "common theme." Every day will have a title relating to a verse from this Gospel: *Freedom—Dissipation—Repentance—Mercy—Celebration*.

Registration began on September 15th. Some countries, who did not reach 80% of their quota by December 15th, had their quota decreased by 20% to allocate the places to smaller countries who were looking for places. End of registration is January 15th.

The **International College** will be slightly shortened because of the Gathering that follows. Its "common theme" will be from John's Gospel "**Remain in my love.**" (Jn 15:7-10)

The SRs/RRs will receive a letter asking them to select participants for the **International Formation Session** that will take place after the Gathering in Fatima.

Succession of the current ERI: the choice of successors for the different responsibilities is underway ... Information will be made available during the first quarter of 2018... The official handover of services will take place at the closing of the Fatima Gathering.

Diary – Upcoming Deadlines

All upcoming meetings will be held in Fatima (Portugal):

ERI Meetings: April 4th- 10th and July 7th-11th.

July 2018: International College: July 11th-14th / **Zone Meetings:** July 15th / **International Gathering:** July 16th-21st / **International Formation Session:** July 21st-24th