

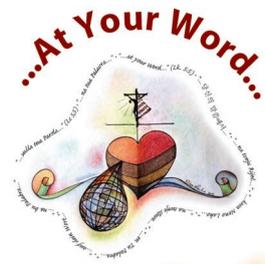
International Newsletter

Adorers of the Blood of Christ

ASC International Communications – General Administration - Via Maria De Mattias, 10 - 00183 Rome

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Lima, Peru
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Year XXIV – Issue 3, March 2022

Editorial

A Memorable Day

Friday, February 4, we celebrated the liturgical feast of St. Maria De Mattias, a memorable day for each Adorer. This year was truly a different day because the whole congregation, from one extreme of the world to the other, was connected online. In fact, the day at the generalate began at dawn in order to be able to follow the celebration of the first vows of Mary Pryia, Swarna and Padma live from Bangalore. Sr. Nadia and Sr. Bridget were there. It was wonderful to see the sisters again, unite with prayer and appreciate the decorations and colors and participate in the celebration!

Then at 7:30 a.m. we were all in church to celebrate solemn lauds of St. Maria De Mattias. Later Sr. Matija had prepared the equipment in the dining room so that at noon the sisters could watch live from Zagreb the first profession of Martina and Bjliana. Participating in this celebration not long after the first and seeing the sisters and listening to the songs and praying together was very exciting.

The staff from Radio Maria arrived at 3:30 p.m. to set up for the live connection of the Eucharistic

celebration in honor of St. Maria De Mattias. There was great emotion in thinking that many sisters would have the opportunity to listen to us on the radio and unite in prayer, that many people in Italy and other parts of Europe would be able to pray to her. Immediately following the sorrowful mysteries of rosary with phrases of St. Maria De Mattias Mass was celebrated by Father Benedetto Labate, CPPS.

It was a full day during which St. Maria De Mattias was present to us, filling us with gifts. The consecration of five young women who continue believing in St. Maria De Mattias' dream on this very day was a gift for all of us, a sign of hope that the Foundress wanted to place in our hands. The online connections allowed us to follow the events celebrated in various parts of the congregation at the same time and, at such an important time, to be near the younger sisters whom we had personally met during their formation in Rome and so to feel more a family.

Sr. Maria Grazia Boccamazzo, ASC

Summary

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General Administration Space

Special Seminar "New Blood for the World"

Region of Zagreb



In collaboration with the members of the CPPS Missionaries' General Curia the ASC General Administration organized a seminar on the theme: *New Blood for the World: Call of the Blood to become Leaders filled with the Spirit in an emerging World.*

The seminar lasted for 12 days divided into 4 modules (each module lasting 3 days.) Forty ASC and 40 CPPS participated. We had 5 Adorers participate from the Zagreb region.

The theme of the seminar was how to recognize ourselves as leaders of the Spirit in an emerging world through NON-VIOLENT COMMUNICATION, both in our relationship with ourselves and with people we encounter each day in our communities or ministries. We heard once again that all of us, either consciously or unconsciously, are in some ways leaders of ourselves and of the people with whom we come into contact each day.

During the seminar, the five of us continued to wonder how and why we were in this seminar, but at the end, we concluded that Providence recognized that this was exactly what we needed for our personal growth. We want to share with you some of our experiences, seeing that it was the first time this kind of seminar had been organized in our two Congregations (ASC and CPPS), where our internationality suddenly became concrete and recognizable. We tried to summarize what we shared in our group at the end of the seminar and what touched each of us in a special way.

Each of us is "HOLY GROUND" with our own story, redeemed by the Blood of Christ. The other person is worthy of my attention because he or she is precious in God's eyes, because God loves him or her and we have to look at each other through God's eyes. But this is impossible for us without a lasting bond with the Holy Spirit who was given to us and calls us to contemplation. God draws me back to myself, wants to know where I am, what I am doing, what is nourishing my life each day, where "MY COMPASS" is taking me.

Through the lessons and group work, we discovered the necessary qualities for a mature personality and leadership, both on a spiritual and psychological level for a quality group spirit. Aware of our vulnerability, which can create an obstacle but also a new opportunity for change, we can more easily recognize another person near us who needs our empathy and love to heal his or her wounds. Either way, we must evaluate our choices on a daily basis and take responsibility for them.

We are grateful for this wonderful growth experience, first of all to God and then to the ASC and CPPS General Administrations for their courage in organizing the seminar that was complex both in the way of working and sharing, and to those who led us with great professionalism. Thanks to our Regional Administration of Zagreb that offered us this opportunity, and thanks also to Sr. Emanuel Škarica whose service of translation allowed us to have this experience.

S. Amata Anđelić, S. Benita Antolović, S. Ljilja Muzić, S. Martina Katović, S. Tomislava Čavar

Region of USA

In August, 2021, I was asked if I wanted to participate in leadership seminar entitled "New blood for the world: The call to become leaders full of spirit in an emerging world." It was for 12 days in four months. Because it was an international gathering for me in the eastern part of the USA, my time to participate was 7:00am to 10:00am. I'm grateful I received the invitation and grateful of the experience. It was a seminar of both ASC and CPPS. The presenters were from Faith and Praxis. The input they shared and the processes they led were excellent. It was thought provoking. I learned more about myself and learned skills that are beneficial for community living and mission. It also gave me and all of us the opportunity to connect with our brothers and sisters in support. The challenge is to continue the learnings. I am grateful. Thank you.

Sr. Joan Hornick, ASC



Mission of Albania

"New Blood for the World" was the big focus of the Leadership course. The call of the Blood to become a "Spirit-filled Leader" in an emerging world calls us to rethink who we are and to walk together. The joint seminar to prepare ASC and CPPS for leadership, for a shared journey, gave us the opportunity to reflect and develop insights to put our community life into service according to the values of our spirituality. Sharing in the various groups on the meaning of the word 'leader,' self-awareness and non-violent communication, acceptance of our personal vulnerability led us to reflect on the skills of building community, times of contemplation and reflection.

In these sessions, we were able to spend some time to reflect and share on how to accompany and support our communities through listening and discernment of the voice of the Spirit and the cry of humanity.

We don't live in an era of change, we live in an era change (Pope Francis). Therefore, the awareness that there is a civilization that is ending and one beginning, another reality to be welcomed, a new civilization where the throw-away culture becomes the culture of encounter and dialogue.

One of the reflections that inspired us is that a true leader is not what we usually tend to think of as someone already having the answers and solutions and who has to "save the world." Today, we are called to approach reality in a different way, in a new perspective that leads us to see reality beyond human understanding. Hence, not hero-leaders, but host-leaders. They are people who are together with the group, creating space and leading the conversation. Leaders are those who are authentic in their humanity, self-aware, and who give and take responsibility for what happens, who let themselves be surprised, and always encourage dialogue for mutual understanding.

God is present in life and in what concerns us. In our vulnerability we have a true experience of God. In order to be able to recognize God, we have to be contemplative leaders who look lovingly at the real world, committed with hearts and minds to move toward a new consciousness, having a new way of seeing and being in order to move from "I" to "we" to see with new eyes and be a holistic leader who accepts challenges.

It was an experience of sisterhood and brotherhood. It was wonderful and filled with sharing, content and times of contemplation because we were from so many different missionary realities and various cultures. Thanks to the organizers and to each participant for the rich contributions and for the gift of your person. Have a wonderful journey and Godspeed in how the Spirit will lead us as a Precious Blood family to respond courageously and prophetically to the cry of the blood.

Sr. Suela Pepa, ASC



Region of Tanzania

The seminar I participated in from October 2021 to January 2022 was the first experience of its kind, mainly because of the unusual mode of ZOOM. This seminar offered me many benefits from the standpoint of spiritual life, leadership training, the opportunity to get to know other members of our ASC congregation and CPPS, and continuing education.

During the seminar, I learned that a leader must believe in God, be open to the Holy Spirit, listen to and respect others, be reconciled, and create new life in community. They use dialogue to solve problems in order to get good conclusion, unite the community, loving one another. They live spiritually the Spirit of blood.

Another important element is the important of communication. Good communication is necessary to build a good relationship between community members. Sharing and collaboration in our mission. In all in *THE NEW BLOOD IN THE WORLD* today calls me to act with justice and care for others.

So, we need to grow together as a congregation. We need group dynamics to working together (as a team effort) for the benefit of our congregation. We need to practice HOST leadership (hospitality, welcoming), but not HEROI leadership (I am the hero), avoiding attacking the ideas of others in the community and judgement before hearing the truth.

Thanks you to all who prepared this seminar for us.

Sr. Margareth Ngoy, ASC

Region of Tanzania

First of all I thank God for His kindness to me to have this chance to join this Seminar. Also I thank my Regional Leaders of Tanzania to appointing me to participate in this Seminar on Leadership Formation through ZOOM.

In this module I learned about Leadership Formation. We know that the Leader is chosen by God through the people in the Community for the mission.

THE GOOD LEADER MUST:

1. Be a prayerful person and listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit.
2. Build union in the community or group.
3. Listen to the members with heart and mind.
4. Value the talents of others.
5. Nurtures dialogue in the community.
6. Have the capacity to think, to see the signs of time and be open to the members
7. Be aware of the cry of the Blood (Poor)

Hero Leadership uses power in her or his leadership. Sometimes it does not give the first chance to God. There is communication in the community, and the talents of others are not value.

In this Seminar, I learned many things which helped me to grow in my life and in Mission. Thank you so much for this knowledge.

Sr. Basilia Amake, ASC



Perpetual Vows

Sr. Anjelina Petro, Sr. Emerensiana Adrian and Sr. Francisca Thomas
January 29, 2021 Miyuji - Dodoma

First of all, we thank God for this great event of perpetually consecrating ourselves to God through our vows. We would like to briefly share with you the preparation journey we made.

We prepared for our perpetual vows with the following program:

- The first seminar we participated in was held in Morogoro regarding community life; our facilitator was Father Grebory Mkhotya, CPPS.
- The second step was at the Village of Hope on the topic of religious life and globalization with the help of Father Filbert Manyama, CPPS.
- Sr. Martina Marco, ASC in the Kibaoni - Miyuji community helped us deepen our ASC charism and the Spirit of the Congregation.
- Sr. Suzana Damian, ASC in the Village of Hope Community, gave a seminar on ethics and growth.
- In the community of Miyuji, Sr. Lucina Johanness, ASC Regional Superior, continued to share with us and emphasize the values of our ASC spirituality present in our Constitution.

At the end we finished with a retreat with the topic Mission and Globalization. The retreat was held in the Manyoni community and was guided

by Father Mapinduzi Arcadius, CPPS.

The high point was the celebration of the Mass with Archbishop Beatus Kinyaiya, OFM, presiding together with 20 concelebrants, both diocesan priests and members of various Congregations, at the CPPS Miyuji Formation House. The celebration began with a brief procession toward the altar, accompanied by songs, gladness and joy. Sisters from various Congregations, laity and children from our schools. About 250 people were there for the occasion.

During his homily, the Archbishop exhorted us to live our vows faithfully each day.

We thank God for having made this event a success. Our sincerest thanks go to the General Administration and to our Regional Administration for having welcomed us as ASC members forever!

Sr. Anjelina Petro, ASC
Sr. Emerensiana Adrian, ASC
Sr. Francisca Thomas, ASC



Prayer for Christian Unity Week

Anagni Cathedral – January 22, 2022

“We have seen his star in the East and have come here to adore him”

Again this year we kept the annual appointment of praying together as Christians of various denominations with the desire for an ever more visible unity.

The evening was the result of a well-established relationship of esteem and friendship among the Catholic diocese of Anagni-Alatri with His Excellency Msgr. Lorenzo Loppa, Father Florentin Mitilelu of the Romanian Orthodox Church, pastor Massimo Aquilante of the Waldesian Church and evangelist Massimo Cacciatori of the New Apostolic Church, together with the members of the respective communities.

The common prayer gave voice to the sufferings of all Christians of the world threatened by violence and oppression, marginalized and poor, those forced to flee and in need of hospitality and safe shelter, aware of the call of all Churches to embrace the pain of the world.

The theme was chosen by the Churches of the Middle East: the visit of the newborn Jesus by the wise people coming from the East, reported in Matthew's Gospel, a fact that reminds us of an important reality: the first coming to recognize Jesus were from afar, a symbol of all peoples of the earth for whom the Son of God was made flesh.

It is precisely from the Middle East that a new ecumenism is coming, that of the blood of martyrs who in giving their lives for their adherence to Christ are a living sign of the unity already achieved.

At the beginning of the prayer, Issam, a young Syrian arriving in Italy through the humanitarian corridor gave his testimony of it by introducing those present in a spirit of fraternity among Churches in which he grew up in Syria and the values of human dignity he received in his education. Then the war interrupted the dreams of the young people forced to leave their country. But many, like him, thanks to their acceptance in the West, are finding the possibility of dreaming again and taking their lives in their own hands again. Now Issam has a job in Italy and is working to welcome refugees.

Special guest for the celebration was Bishop Rami Al Kabal, visitor from the Syro-Catholic communities in western Europe and procurator for the Patriarchate of Antioch for the Syrians at the Holy See. He was a direct witness who opened a window for those present about the true, little-known rich history and faith, which is quite different from that

spread by the media. It is the land from which all of us Christians of the world come, because it was from there that the newness of Christ spread throughout the whole world. In the flourishing community of Antioch, Christians were first given that name and Paul was baptized in Damascus.

Msgr. Rami stated that afterwards the Church was divided into distinct historic communities based on languages and rites: Syro-Antiochian rite, Caldian rite, Byzantine rite, Maronite rite.... But at the same time there is a union among them, collaboration on the level of the people and also of the hierarchy. He said that in those lands ecumenism of life is experienced, unity in everyday things, in mutual respect which, with the differences in the background, is not a small thing. They participate together in various events and also face difficulties together.

He recalled that the Church in the Middle East has been a martyr for generations. Just think of the Syrian-Armenian genocide of just a hundred years ago still being experienced today. Christians of these lands have given up their civil rights to remain Christians.

“We have seen his star in the East and came to honor Him” (Mt. 2:2), the title of the evening, shows us wise people moved by a deep desire to look for God, science and faith in search of truth. St. John Chrysostom points out that the magi did not set out because they had seen the star, but saw the star because they had set out.

Pope Francis himself during his trip to Iraq, in referring to the bombing of the Syrian Catholic cathedral in Iraq where 40 Christians died, encouraged people to journey together to form a community of brothers and sisters who gather together and take care of each other. This is the only path upon which to walk to arrive at unity.

There was a large star-comet affixed to a blue background hanging from the banister upon which each person present added a small star forming a trail behind the large star. This was sign of the response to accept to follow the star together, as stars illuminated by the Light of Christ can in turn enlighten others.

Grazia Passa

Of the diocesan commission of the office for Ecumenism and inter-religious dialogue

The Blood of Christ Impels Us

Let us fill our hearts with courage, not fearing even death, so that the Precious Blood may be celebrated, blessed and loved by everyone at all times.

St. Maria De Mattias

The open session – The Blood of Christ impels us ... - was held at the St. Maria De Mattias Spirituality Center in Bolesławiec, Poland from November 26-28, 2021.

Twenty-five people coming from various parts of Poland attended this meeting organized for Associates and people devoted to the Blood of Christ. The theme of the session was linked to the theology and spirituality of the Blood of Christ. It was led by Sr. Teresa Jaszczyszyn, National Moderator of the Association of the Precious Blood, and by Sr. Gabriela Janikula, teacher at the Higher Theological Institute of Częstochowa.

The Blood of Christ Calls was the theme on Friday, November 26. The participants introduced themselves during this time. Sr. Gabriela arrived from Częstochowa Friday night. The topic dealt with The Blood of Christ speaks to us... In listening to the conference of Sr. Gabriela, we became aware of the power and action of the Blood of Christ in our lives and daily events.

We celebrated the Eucharist at 10:00 in the chapel, together with the 40 members of the male community of "Extraordinary Guardians." After lunch we walked along the streets of Bolesławiec, the only city in the world whose patron is St. Maria De Mattias. We admired the architecture of the buildings on the way to the Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Here, on August 2, 1946, the Adorers returning from the former Yugoslavia to Poland took their first steps. The baroque decorations of this temple enchanted everyone. The Basilica houses the relics of St. Nicolas of Bari. We prayed the Chaplet of Mercy, and at the baptismal font



we gave thanks for our immersion in the Blood of Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism. The entire day was spent in prayer, sharing our experiences of the presence of the Blood of Christ in our daily lives and deepening this mystery through listening to three conferences. That evening we gathered in the cafeteria and spent the time in recreation through spontaneous story telling. On Sunday we reflected on the words *The Blood of Christ invites us...* After the Eucharist we met for an evaluation together. The fruit of this last conversation was the desire to have another session on the theme of Apostles of the Blood of Christ. Filled with the joy of the Mystery of the Blood of Christ and strengthened in faith we returned to our communities, families and parishes.

Sr. Gabriela Janikula ASC

My apostolate in the school

One day, after having talked about goodness, I gave my nine-year-old students a homework assignment to write a short story. One of them wrote what follows:

“Once upon a time there was a rabbit on the mountain. That rabbit was good, dear, merciful, empathetic and kind. The rabbit always responded assertively, even when someone was aggressive. He had never gotten mad in his life. There were bright colors in the heart of the rabbit. When someone forgot his notebook, the rabbit tore a page out of his and gave it to him. If you see someone sad, do like the rabbit.”

After having read this surprising story, I thought about the text of Matthew 11:25. God has hidden these things from the “wise and intelligent and revealed them to the little ones,” and I was deeply touched. After nearly a decade of teaching in the first Catholic elementary school of Zagreb founded by the Carmelites, “the little ones” surprise me every day by how they understand the world.

I experience this apostolate as a great gift and in this gift I strongly feel the support and closeness of our foundress, St. Maria De Mattias, whose intercession I seek each morning with my students during our prayer together. It is a great honor and responsibility for me to follow her example in the daily gift of myself to the students, to their parents and to my colleagues.

Being part of someone’s childhood demands abandon, awareness and knowledge. The greatest blessing is when you know that these children are growing to become mature, honest, open, free and especially authentic individuals. In this journey, the post-graduate specialization education of Dramatic pedagogy is helping me. Through the various methods and theatrical pedagogical techniques and experiential learning, I am trying in my daily teaching to encourage the development of their social, emotional, interpersonal and, above all, spiritual intelligence.

When conditions allow it, we want to continue the project “CHANGE: think, meet, act,

change!” This project is part of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JSRS) that encourages the students to “think critically and form judgments – especially in regards to the internet and social networking- so as to distinguish between facts and opinions, to recognize propaganda and respond to hate discussion with their own positive and well-studied conclusions.

This year I attended the Education, Empowerment, Integration-Inspiration Conference co-organized by JSRS, where we met a emigrant family from Syria who found a new home in Zagreb. We are planning to do an inter-cultural, sister-city relationship between Syria and Croatia. We want them to feel welcomed and accepted.

We have faced many difficulties during these two years at school. First of all, the COVID-19 pandemic that has struck the whole world, then the big earthquake in Zagreb. By now the uncertainty has calmed down a little, but we still live with specific restrictions regarding the educational process. Through various activities such as daily reading of illustrated books and creations of skits in a virtual environment we have tried to articulate and understand the fear within the students. Despite the many hours spent on ZOOM, I admired the quickness with which the children have adapted to something new.

So that my apostolate can be vibrant and effective, it is very important for me to receive strength from my community, from my sisters and our common life. Sharing the daily joys and difficulties and moments of prayer for me was a great support. In addition, I gladly shared anecdotes with my sisters and the wisdom of my students, like the story at the beginning about the good-hearted rabbit. My apostolate in school is not and should never be only that of helping the students acquire knowledge, but rather it is that of supporting the building of their person, who they are. In this I see a challenge and an opportunity to live our ASC charism more completely.



Sr. Sunčica Kunić, ASC

May the love of Jesus fill your heart and make you holy very quickly

(MDM Ltr.740)

After two years in the Novitiate in Rome and having our apostolic experience in Italy, we returned to our Region on November 31, 2021. It was a great joy for us to meet our sisters. In the Regional house we started the fourth phase of the novitiate, the last one before making the first religious profession.

We felt the encouragement and support of our sisters in that important time, through which Sr. Cecilija Milković led us in a special way. Sr. Cecilija helped us to deepen once again our knowledge of the Constitutions in our mother tongue. We also had the opportunity to share our experiences from the international novitiate. All of this enriched us and we could feel the atmosphere of openness and peace in our communities. Remembering the preparations for our first religious profession, our hearts are truly filled with God's love.

Joyful and ready, we welcomed the solemn day of our first religious profession, which took place on February 4, 2022, in the church of the Blessed Augustin Kažotić. The Presided of the Mass was the Bishop of Varaždin, Bože Radoš, and was concelebrated by six priests. In the presence of our relatives and sisters, we said our "yes" to the Lord. It is a rich experience to promise to God chastity, poverty and obedience. We trust in the Lord to help us live our decision well.

Our motto was: "Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, Behold, I come to do your will, O God.'" We truly want the will of God to be done in our lives. We feel in our hearts that we are responding to God's call and we have celebrated that solemn moment by sharing our joy with everyone. We believe that many graces were poured upon us that day.

We thank all of you for your prayers and closeness. We continue to recommend ourselves to your faithful prayers while we promise to pray for you.

*Yours,
Sr. Martina Bukarica e Sr. Biljana Kostić*



I am with you

*The love of our Savior on the cross is infinite.
Whoever approaches its embers
will be inflamed by it in his innermost being.*

*We must already, like Moses at that time his sheep,
we must drive all our livestock into the desert
beyond the feed limit
-whatever that may mean for us-,
to get to the mountain of God.*

*There perhaps also the Lord shows himself for us
in the burning bush.*

*There we may recognize
in the heat of our own suffering
and in the cross of the world
the love of the Son of God
which draws near to us.*

Love has transforming power.

Sr. Wilhelma Kälpers, op

General Administration Calendar

From March 11 to 30: Sr. Nadia and Sr. Matija are in Philippines for the Canonical Visit



Religious Profession

First Profession – February 26

Italy

Romina Giacconi

25th Anniversary of Religious Profession – March 4

Brazil

Sr. Alessandra Soares Pereira

Sr. Beth Simone Andrade

Our best wishes and prayers



Installation of the New Regional Administration

India Region – March 4, 2022

Sr. Mini Vadakumcherry
Regional Superior

Sr. Moly Parayil
Councilor

Sr. Mary Malieckal
Councilor

Sr. Jyothi Vorugonda
Councilor and Secretary

Sr. Lalitha Varakulayil
Treasurer

WISHING TO YOU
A BLESSED JOURNEY



Birthdays: Let's Celebrate Life

50th Birthday

Sr. Mary Gay Aspilla Binongo 03/11/1972 the Philippines

60th Birthday

Sr. Ivanka Lisak 03/23/1962 Zagreb

70th Birthday

Sr. Ankica Klepić 03/08/1952 Zagreb

Sr. Nunzia Formica 03/14/1952 Italy

80th Birthday

Sr. Aniela Mroczek 03/12/1942 Wrocław

Sr. Angela Di Spirito 03/22/1942 Italy

90th Birthday

Sr. Celine Birk 03/10/1932 USA

Sr. Angela Carpenito 03/22/1932 Italy

Sr. Helen Kiefer 03/29/1932 USA



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They have returned
to their Heavenly
Home

02/05/2022 Sr. Clea Marie Reineberg USA