

There is a way... THE CHALLENGE OF RELATIONSHIPS

International Seminarisians' Congress – Castel Gandolfo, 2-4 January 2009

Program

Friday 2nd January

Becoming a priest today: dreams and challenges

- 9.00 **Introducing the participants** according to geographic areas, with some contributions about the priestly ministry in the present circumstances.
- 10.50 **Prof. G. M. Zanghì** – philosopher, responsible for the Focolare Movement Study Centre: «A time of crisis, or one of growth? A discerning look on today's world»
- 12.00 **Holy Mass**

Celibates, not singles

- 16.00 **Dr. Francesco Chatel** – pedagogue, responsible for the formation of focolarini in Loppiano: «We are created as mutual gifts – the challenge of relationships»
Musical Interlude
Life experiences: a family and a group of seminarians from Italy
Building authentic relationships, through and through”
- 17.50 **Chiara Lubich**: «Blessed are the pure of heart: going against the current»
(Excerpts from a speech delivered at the seminarisians' Congress in 1998)
Life experience: a priest from Austria: “Affection and virginity”
Artistic Interlude
Dr. Andreas Tapken – psychologist, rector of the seminary of Munster (Germany):
«Dilating our hearts – men of God in today's world»
Remembrance of Fr Iaszlo Orban (a Romanian priest who died while saving a young man)
18.40 Group meetings

Saturday 3rd January

What kind of God for today's humanity?

- 9.00 **Prayers**
Prof. Michel Vandeleene – theologian, lecturer at the Pontifical Institute Teresianum
«A new dimension of mysticism: God in inter-personal relationships»
An artistic performance
Chiara Lubich: «The presence of the Risen Lord among those united in his name» (excerpts) followed by a **dialogue with Dr Bruna Tomasi** (one of Chiara's first companions) and the **video clip** «Today's dream»
- 10.50 **Life experiences of priests and seminarians**: «A real, not merely theoretical, communion»
Musical Interlude
Interview with Marco Tecilla (the first focolarino):
«Diversity of people and communion:
some of the ways that the spirituality of communion suggests»
An artistic performance
- 12.00 **Holy Mass** presided by **H.E. Card. Zenon Grocholewski**, Prefect of the Congregation for Catholic education

A network for unity

16.00 **Prof. Vera Araujo** – sociologist, responsible for the SocialOne project:

«The present state of affairs of the Church»

Sharing in small groups

Life experiences of priests: «Communicating God in a secularized society»

17.50 Participant feedback

Some of Chiara's intuitions and some seminarians' life experiences:

«The art of loving – a way of evangelising in everyday life»

Closing Choreography

at 20.30: A witnessing concert (Fr. Carlo Seno from Milan)

Sunday 4th January

10.00 **Holy Mass** (Rome)

12.00 **Angelus with Pope Benedict XVI**