



Dear reader,

When you read this newsletter we are already in the new year. Taking into account the Corona-regulations you hopefully had a healthy Christmas together with your loved ones and could find some peace and rest.

We were very pleased to have many Christmas greetings from all over the world in the past weeks. We received messages from Germany, the Netherlands, from India, Skarszewy and other parts in Poland, from the USA, from Manila, from Brazil as well as from some African countries. This makes us always aware of the fact that we have friends spread over the whole globe who pass on the thoughts and ideas of Mother Marie Therese.

2020, a strange year challenging us with the Corona pandemic, has now come to a close. We hope that despite numerous restrictions you passed twelve healthy and content months. And we wish you, your family and friends the same for 2021.

Best wishes

Yours,

Communio in Christo

7th Digital Spiritual Letter published



Anyone still looking for something interesting to read for the free days to come we would like to warmly recommend to you our 7th edition of the "Digital Spiritual Letter "Our life - Our works" which we forwarded to our subscribers on 16th December. The theme was "The birth of the Redeemer". Deacon Manfred Lang commented on the reflection of Mother Marie Therese. If you wish to receive our Digital Spiritual Letter, you may please write an email to Tilj Puthenveettil at info@communio.nrw.

Advent celebrations in the residential areas

Due to the Corona pandemic precaution measures, a big common advent celebration for all residential areas was not possible this year. So each ward in the intensive and long-term care facility Communio in Christo had their own small celebration. While zipping a cup of hot wine and enjoying waffles, the residents started to feel the spirit of Christmas.



Baking time in the hospice

There is no Christmas without self-baked cake and cookies. The guests in the hospice agreed. Together with the nursing-care staff they prepared the dough, cut out cookies and also baked cake. Naturally, everyone liked the home-baked treats.

A star guides the way

There is something special about stars at Christmas time. A star guided the Three Wise Men to the cradle in Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. A star now also guides the people wishing to visit the Communio in Christo. Directly above the entrance of the long-term care facility in Mechernich a star was installed to complete the wonderful Christmas decoration. It was made and donated by Percy Izzo, the husband of Verena Izzo, the leading hospice nursing care employee.



Words of Hope

In Spring 2021 Manfred Lang, the Mechernich Deacon and a member of the Ordo Communio in Christo is going to publish a Christian meditation book on texts of the Communio foundress Mother Marie Therese through the renowned publishing house 'Echter Verlag'. During the Christmas period 3000 copies of a 14 pages reading sample presenting a meditation on the cross and the resurrection will be made available to the churches in the region. Upon request these reading samples can also be sent by mail.

Elementary school student offers 132 angels

Nino from Vussem came as a true Christmas angel to hand over to the Social Institute Communio in Christo 120 (!) hand-made Christmas angels as a gift for the residents in the long-term nursing care facility and further 12 for the guests in the hospice "Stella Maris". Also he had written a letter to the residents and guests. Already one year earlier Nino had delighted the residents in the senior citizens' home "House Effata" in Blankenheim by offering Christmas angels to them. On behalf of the residents and guests as well as the nursing-care team, Sonja Plönnes says thank you for receiving this special heartfelt gift.





Comprehensive school students offer gifts to the Communio

Students of the "Social First Responders" workshop at the Mechernich comprehensive school having as their motto "Thinking of you!" visited the Communio in Christo and filled the place with warmth of the heart. Each resident of the intensive and long-term nursing care facility was given a "little advent present". It is so nice for all the residents to know, that there are people out there who do not forget them," says Sonja Plönnies, the head of the facility.

A word of Mother Marie Therese



GOD, THE STRANGER *(28 December 1992)*

„Touched by the fire of supernatural life and raised into the atmosphere of wisdom, I feel encouraged to speak about the Saviour whom I meet in my experience of suffering. It was here that my question as to the Why found the saving answer: Come and follow me.

The way of our liberation began with the incarnation of Jesus. It was not his humble birth that mattered but his love that spoke to me:

“I love you and that is why I left Heaven to be near you. Your miserable and wounded life is the expression of my affection, which will turn into strength for you.”

Until this day I have been allowed to experience this reality. God made himself known to me so that I might talk about his love. I am no better than all the others. It was my weakness that made me look for him and to believe only in his love. God has given himself away so that the truth about his love may not merely be accepted but also lived in practice. His love knows not punishment, coercion or hatred. His love is the bond between God and man, it is the individual responsibility for our salvation.“

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