



Chorbishop Msgr. Lambert van den Hoven dead



The Syro-Malankara Catholic Church, the Communio in Christo and the GdG (Community of parishes) Sankt Apostel Matthias, Blankenheim/Dahlem mourn the death of Msgr. Lambert van den Hoven. The former pastor of Oud Valkenburg, baptism place of Mother Marie Therese, died at the age of 87. Since 2011 the Netherland priest ministered as a Subsidiary in Lommersdorf (Community of Blankenheim). He was a Chorbishop of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church and also a member of the International Council of the Communio in Christo. The Superior General Karl-Heinz Haus was deeply moved to hear about the death of Msgr. Lambert who was a longtime companion and “a pilgrim in the footsteps of Mother Marie Therese”.

Support by the Communio in Papua-New Guinea

The Communio in Christo supports people in Papua New Guinea physically and financially in order to limit the spread of the Corona virus. As to the Communio priest Michal Szulc there were many restrictions because of the pandemic. "The people here suffer and die," reports Szulc. Since July the Communio group in the parish is involved in giving out hygiene products and disinfectants. This relief activity is being sponsored from Germany. Szulc states: "Nobody knows what else is ahead of us. We trust that God will care."



Farewell to a Communio priest

The Ordo Communio in Christo said good-bye to Father Dr. Robert Mutegeki from Uganda, who is a Communio priest since five years and has been staying in Mechernich for one year and two months. Father Robert will leave for an assignment in the parish of Leichlingen in the Archdiocese of Cologne." The Superior General Karl-Heinz Haus made a promise to them: "Mother Marie Therese can be of great help to you."

Mother General to celebrate her 50th anniversary of consecrated life

Sister Annie Thomasia, Mother General of the Samaritan Sisters congregation, celebrated her 50th anniversary of consecrated life this year. Sister Annie Thomasia was born on 20 April 1951 as Thomasia Varkey in Idukki (Kerala/India). She has 5 siblings. On 8 August 1968 she joined the Congregation of the Samaritan Sisters. On 5 January 1971 she took the temporary vows and on 4 January 1977 her perpetual vows. Between 1988 and 2000 she was the secretary general of the order. From 2000 till 2006 she was a member of the General Council. She then became general assistant (2006 till 2012) and from 2012 till 2018 she was the Provincial Superior before she became the Mother Superior General in 2018.



Sample leaflet for download

As already announced in our last newsletter, the Mechernich deacon Manfred Lang, a member of the Ordo Communio in Christo is going to publish in spring this year the Christian meditation book „Worte der Hoffnung“ (Words of Hope) reflecting on texts of Mother Marie Therese. Meanwhile a sample leaflet has been published. You can download it for free by clicking the download button beneath.

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Digital Spiritual Letter (DSL) to be published more often

The DSL (short for Digital Spiritual Letter) „Our life – Our works“ will be published more often from now on. In the future it will be published every two months instead of just once in three months. The next issue is scheduled for 15 February. It will again comprise a reflection of Mother Marie Therese and a prayer as well as a current theological commentary. To receive the DSL you may send an email to Tilj Puthenveettil at info@communio.nrw





Mission in the Amazon region

Since 2019 Father Eugenio Bento, a member of the Consolata Missionaries congregation and attached to the Communio in Christo, is working in the Amazon region in Brazil. "As a missionary living here one is called to be close to the people, to protect them, to love them and to be able to give one's life for the indigenous people here," he wrote in a letter to the Communio Mother House. Father Eugenio Bento lives among the indigenous people of the Yanomani, who are not Christians, but with whom he is in an interreligious dialogue.

Further Dutch translation

The Netherland Franciscan Father Prof. Dr. Nico Dister who lives and works in Indonesia and who has close ties with the Communio in Christo has now translated for the third time already a book of Mother Marie Therese. The book titled "Der Weg nach Golgota" (The way to Golgotha) is Mother Marie Therese' first book. Earlier Father Dister already translated the Communio in Christo Rule of the order and the book „Ich bitte dich, o heilige Kirche“ (I implore you, o holy Church) into his mother tongue. "Together with the members and friends of the Communio in Christo we are grateful for this valuable service," said the Superior General Karl-Heinz Haus.



Ryszard Majer writes about the Communio



Within the framework of a state funded social project the Association for Social Work „Auxilio Venire“ in Częstochowa/Poland has published a magazine for senior citizens. The Senate and Communio member Ryszard Majer who lives in Częstochowa and who is in charge of the project has published an article on Mother Marie Therese, the Communio in Christo and its social institutes. In a Christmas message he wrote: “I hope that the vaccination against the Corona virus will prove to be effective so that we can visit the Communio in Christo in 2021 and meet with you again in person – this is what I greatly desire.”

A cross for the Communio

Franz Kruse, an artist from Floisdorf, a village of the City of Mechernich, handed over to the Communio in Christo a drawing of a mystic surrealist cross. Father Rudolf Ammann from the Schönstatt movement who lives and works at the Communio in Christo, received the piece of art. The picture adorns the cover of the meditation guide "Words of Hope". The Superior General Karl-Heinz Haus described the picture as “ingenious”.



A word of Mother Marie Therese



DISCUSSING THE MEANING OF THE CROSS OF CHRIST

(26 January 1993)

„We Christians are on pilgrimage to blessedness alternating between persecution and beatification. We no longer feel sure and secure because love is not the only commandment anymore. Now more than ever, when everything seems so hopelessly confused and bogged down, when every move seems to end in a blind alley, we are confronted with the meaning of the many sufferings. It would be so easy to discover the Cross of Christ and to fathom its history in order to accept the sufferings of this world and to think of the future. The kingdom of God has been promised to us. God has become everything to us. Christ has redeemed the world. He has justified us before God.“

(Mother Marie Therese, "I implore you, o holy Church – In the name of the Spirit", Patris Verlag GmbH/Bernardinum, 2015, p 151)

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