



Farewell to Superior General Haus

On Saturday, 22 January, we bid farewell to Karl-Heinz Haus (88), the first Superior General of the Communio in Christo, in a memorial service in the Mechernich parish church 'St. Johannes Baptist'. He was buried right next to Mother Marie Therese in Mechernich cemetery after the funeral service.

Numerous companions paid their last respects to the Superior General, to name in particular the Mechernich mayor Dr. Hans-Peter Schick and the star tenor Johannes Kalpers who had explicitly come to vocally perform in the Eucharist celebration that was held by the Deputy Superior General Fr. Jaison Thazhathil joined by eleven other clergy men.



On behalf of the Chapter Jürgen Fahnenstich said: "One does not want to lose a person like him!" The mayor Schick mourned the loss of "a unique human being and a great priest". The Canon Hans-Joachim Hellwig read out a letter of condolence sent by Bishop Dr. Helmut Dieser. In a gripping sermon the Deacon Manfred Lang recalled the significant stages in the life of Fr. Karl-Heinz Haus. (ml)

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Peace Light of Bethlehem

A few days before Christmas Eve the Blankenheim scouts visited the community of the Ordo Communio in Christo. They brought the Peace light of Bethlehem, that is lighted every year by a different "peace light child" in the birth chapel of Christ and then first brought to Vienna by plane.

The tradition goes back to an initiative of the ORF (Austrian Broadcasting Corporation).

On the 3rd Advent Sunday a group of scouts bring it to Germany then. In Mechernich Sr. Lidwina and the residents of the nursing care facilities of the Social Institute joyfully received the light.

Furthermore, children of the Mechernich elementary school handed over to the residents self-made candles including LED lights. They all had a good time together while listening to pleasant music and stories. (ml)



Deacon Lang appointed as Deputy Chairman

In a members' meeting of the Social Institute Communio in Christo e. V. on 25 January 2022, the Mechernich Deacon Manfred Lang (62) was elected to succeed the deceased Superior General Karl-Heinz Haus as the Deputy of Norbert Arnold, the chairman and managing director.

Because of his progressing disease, the Superior General Haus had asked at the beginning of January 2022 to be released from his duties on the executive board of the Social institute and he had suggested Manfred Lang to become his successor. Due to the Covid pandemic a hybrid format was chosen for the meeting. While some of the members gathered in the Mechernich Mother House others joined online, and some voted by mail.

Manfred Lang was elected unanimously with two abstentions. He was grateful for the trust put in him and he accepted the election. (sw)





Spa-like ambience at the hairdresser's

Visiting a hairdresser's can be like a spa-program where you can lean back, enjoy a head massage with good smelling shampoo, get a cup of coffee and read a magazine while sitting under a dryer hood. This has now been made possible in the Communio in Christo senior citizens' home House Effata in Blankenheim where a small in-house hairdressing salon was established that can be used every Thursday by an external mobile hairdresser. (st)

Birdhouse with green roof finished

It is done! Following intensive planning started in Spring 2021 the nature group of the Communio in Christo long-term nursing care facility in Mechernich has now completed an extraordinary bird house project in the middle of the wards 4a and 4b. Among others the special restaurant for feathered guests has got an environmentally friendly green roof like it is becoming more and more popular in the house architecture for human beings.

For many weeks the group was busy sawing, screwing, gluing, and painting. The group members particularly enjoyed working with paint and paintbrush. All had fun being active. As a last step they put plants on top of the roof. The site for the installation of the birdhouse right between two wards makes it possible for many residents and visitors to watch birds. Sonja Plönnies, the directress of the home told us that Berthold Stefani, the gardener used a strong natural wood log as basis for the birdhouse. (ml)



A word of Mother Marie Therese



CHARITY

Serve the one who suffers, who doubts, who lives in fear.

Love the one who seems disagreeable, whose friendship you do not care for.

Seek contact with the one who knows anything better than you. Do not be jealous.

Do not think of yourself as better than someone else.

Bend down to the misery of our time, so that the Will of God may be fulfilled....

...We live in community. In the community we practise the perfect love. That means:

I endure the other person, I am always cheerful, I accept his faults, I particularly love the disagreeable person, I am helpful, I look after the other person, I have respect for everybody,

I try to love everybody equally dearly.

(Mother Marie Therese, „The imitation of Christ as the Rule“, Bernadinum Pelplin 2008, pp. 56 - 57)

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