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## Firework of Sounds

Those attending the Epiphany concert featuring the “Mainzer Musici” who played for the benefit of the Communio in Christo intensive and long-term care facility, showed their enthusiasm on the performance with standing ovations and “Da capo” shouts. In the sold-out council hall of the City of Mechernich, the young talent string orchestra played a true firework of sounds.

The audience could enjoy works of Bach, Dvorak, Grieg, Debussy, Sarasate and Johann Strauss Jr. conducted by Professor Benjamin Bergmann. Also, Norbert Arnold, the managing director of the Social Institute Communio in Christo e. V. showed his delight: “The people in need of care and the Communio in Christo long-term care facility itself depend on public awareness and support.” (ml)

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"Thank you for loving us!"



"Thank you for loving us!" were the words that Sister Lidwina could repeatedly hear on her two-week journey to Uganda when she visited the Motherhouse of the Banyatereza Sisters, the Good Samaritan Sisters and the Ggogonya Sisters and their convents. Also, the sisters said "After all, we all are Communio and belong together in Christ."

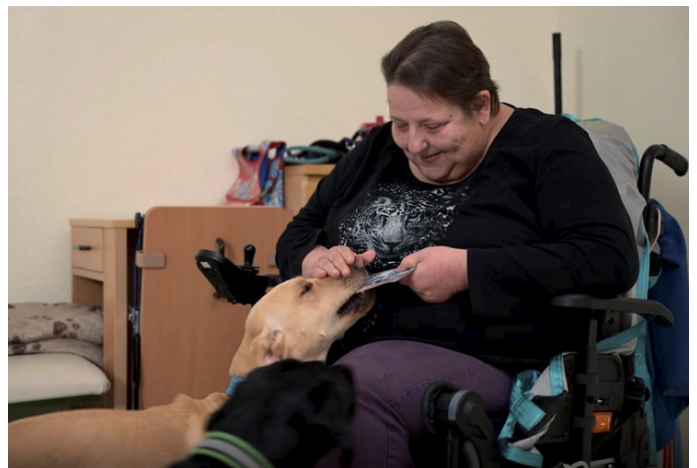
She visited befriended congregations and met with friends and members of the Communio in Christo in Fort Portal, Butiiti, Kasese, Kampala and the vicinity. The main intention of the trip was to find out which way to go in order to recruit new Communio sisters and to rejuvenate the community in the Mechernich Motherhouse. (st)

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## "Action" for the therapy dogs

Working with therapy dogs in the intensive and long-term care facility of the Communio in Christo Social Institute e.V. in Mechernich is ready for the movies in the truest sense of the word. As part of his training to become a media designer at the TV station QVC in Düsseldorf, Malte Heide from Cologne made a film about the life of therapy dogs.

While dogs were the protagonists, also residents and therapists got a chance to speak. "Our residents open up more easily to animals who approach them without any prejudice", explains music and dog therapist Elena Thumb von Neuburg. (st)



## Overview of dates in the first term of the year 2023



The Ordo Communio in Christo has quite a lot to offer to its members and interested people during the first six months of 2023: There will be reflection nights, a retreat day and a Communio meeting. Also on the calendar is the recently introduced offer of staying for a short while in the convent allowing interested people from outside to take part in the prayer life, the worship services, and the life within the Motherhouse.

Another new offer is the “jour fixe” (fixed day), a phone-based consultation offered on each first Tuesday of the month by the Superior General Jaison Thazhathil, his Deputy the Deacon Manfred Lang or the Spiritual Padre Rudolf Ammann. (st)

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### Danube Waltz sway

Music-loving residents of the Communio in Christo senior citizen home “House Effata” attended as a group the Epiphany concert of the “Mainzer Musici” in Mechernich. Before, some of senior citizens had taken part in a satisfaction survey where they expressed their longing for visiting a concert again after this had not been possible for a long time because of the Corona restrictions.

Now, the Epiphany concert featuring a string orchestra for the benefit of the Communio in Christo intensive and long-term care facility was a great chance to fulfill their wish. The senior citizens were particularly enthusiastic when the “Donauwalzer” (Danube Waltz) was played, and their reaction was vigorous swaying. (st)





# A word of Mother Marie Therese



## TYPICAL TRAITS OF A FOUNDER

30.10.1985

„The parable of the Sower becomes topical again when it comes to a founder. Admission into God has its stages. Just as Christ had followers who escaped when they saw Christ being condemned, just as he made the experience that he could not reach everyone, just as he met people without depth of the soul and as he spoke to those who were first impressed, but then left him, there will be people today who are indifferent to a founder. Founders are the extended hand of Christ's Grace. Founders are the characters of the Gospel come alive.

They are Christians within the Church who live Theology and whose spirit is full of energy. It is them who in their helplessness turned to God in a way that made them true heroes.

But just don't think that pride will ever win out with them. They fight for Christ and his message.

They are the heart that resembles Christ. They want but honor for God and happiness for all humans. All their longing is directed to God, proof of which is their testimony for the Church, which for them is the Kingdom of God being built. Each act of testimony is an act of love so that the focus will be on salvation. They have accepted their mission and all that the Spirit wants them to do without any compromise, but with a clear Yes.“

(Mother Marie Therese, Die Passion Jesu im Jahre 2000 – Um der Liebe willen (The passion of Jesus in the year 2000 – for the sake of love), Aschaffenburg 1986, pp. 217, 218)

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