



Karaoke Party and Italian Day

The Mechernich long-term and intensive care facility of the Sozialwerk Communio in Christo e.V. (Social Institute) had recently organized a Karaoke Party and an Italian Day for the residents.

The Karaoke Party was hosted by the care assistants. "Everyone sang out loud, had fun and was in a good mood. Beforehand, we had prepared a playlist with songs from the 80s and 90s and the residents could pick songs they wanted to hear from that list. It pleased all very well!" Franziska Geist, the head of the care assistants happily reported.

Ward No. 3 organized the Italian Day. Franziska Geist said: "A variation of pizzas and a tomato-mozzarella salad were offered, so that there was something for every taste. Everyone enjoyed spending time together while listening to Italian music, and all were in a good mood."

The "Social Therapeutic Service" (STD) also occasionally organizes such festivities. (hg)



Musical magic of times gone by



The "Salon Ensemble BEDA" offered a special kind of musical greeting to the residents of the Blankenheim senior care facility Haus Effata. The musicians inspired with evergreens of the 1920s and 1930s.

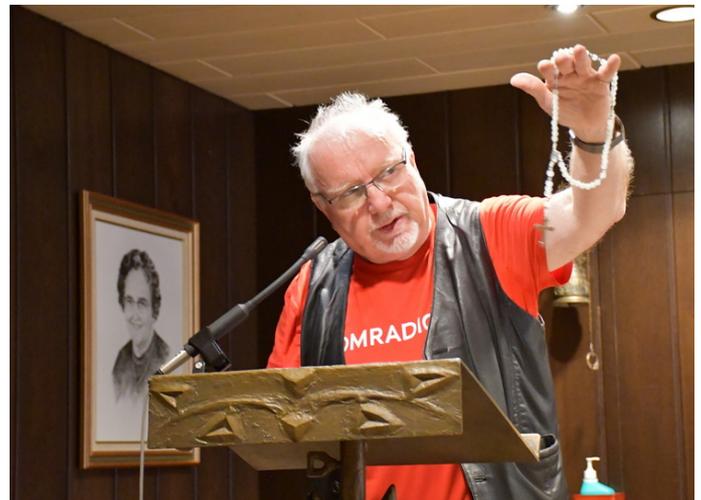
Well-known salon music such as "Mein kleiner grüner Kaktus" (My little green cactus), "Ausgerechnet Bananen" (Bananas of all things) or "Oh Donna Clara" (Oh Donna Clara) awakened sentimental memories of earlier times.

For each song some historical story was told, so that the audience could go on a musical trip through world and time. "The performance was overall very entertaining. Thank you very much for this wonderful musical treat!", said Anita Leyendecker from Haus Effata. (al)

Comfort can be found even at a starry sky...

It is not without a reason that Wilibert Pauels ("Der bergische Jong" – The guy from the Bergische region) is one of the most popular humorous speakers in the Cologne carnival. The Deacon and "Clown of the good Lord" has a great talent for telling stories and get to the heart of a matter. He did so on the latest reflection night being offered monthly by the Ordo Communio in Christo in Mechernich.

He touched the audience with his "Stories of solace and hope" who really felt consolation and understood that life is terrible and fantastic at the same time. However, Pauels stated that there was "the redeeming message, allowing us to put ourselves in the sheltering hands of God which is the core essence of our faith". (ml)



Honoring the death of Bert P. Herfen

The editor, author, cameraman and film producer Berthold Peter Herfen died. The friend of the Communio in Christo in Mechernich who made several films on the foundress Mother Marie Therese and her work passed away already mid of June at age 72.



The journalist and cameraman who used to live and work in Wesseling made several films about and for the Communio, one of which is “Who am I to be called by You?” that focuses on the life and work of Mother Marie Therese. He pictures the life of an extraordinary woman who as a mystic and a charismatic and as a founder of an order was chosen to make God’s love visible to the world.

Another film titled “Die ganze Kirche ist Gemeinschaft in Christus“ (The whole Church is Communion in Christ) is about the Second Vatican Council and the foundation of the Ordo Communio in Christo on 8 December 1984 in Mechernich, which confirms the Council. (ml)

A word of Mother Marie Therese



CHEERFULNESS

The Communio in Christo, especially, openly show their joy. The members permanently keep in mind the certainty of an eternal Communio. They know that their way comprises the Cross, whose character determines this path. In all blows of fate, charity becomes concrete, they say yes to joy, they say yes to their redemption. ...

Our century is dominated by indolence, emptiness, and discouragement. Christ faces us saying: "Stand up!" God touches our word of consent so that nothing, but joy may have a chance. God sends us his angel to raise us above our weakness. In our dedication we receive happiness as a gift. And we have been given a wide heart in order to be able to face a love in which we can meet Him every day. ...

Communio means joy in Christ. It is the confirmation for the change, taking place in this century and for the realization of the love, we give evidence of. May the Holy Spirit help us interpret His presence.

Mother Marie Therese, *The Imitation of Christ*, "Bernardinum", Pelplin, Poland, 2001, pp: 215; 217; 218

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