



UNIONE DELL'APOSTOLATO CATTOLICO
4° Congresso Generale

PLAN

25-31 July 2024
Rome

Edited
Organizational commission

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Information about the place



The venue of the Congress will be the San Lorenzo da Brindisi International College, managed by the Capuchin Friars Minor. It is a modern complex suitable for large events, with a spacious conference room, several smaller rooms and chapels, as well as an outdoor area. The entire building, near Ciampino airport, is air conditioned.



Circonvallazione Occidentale, 6850, 00163 San Lorenzo Da Brindisi (RM)



<https://www.collegiosanlorenzo.com/>

Information about the place



Number of seats

The maximum number of people that can be accommodated is approximately 200. Many of the rooms will be double. Probably a maximum of 50 participants will be able to have single rooms. The ideal would be to have at least 150 people.



Costs

Euro 55 per day for room and board for each. It will be the same for single and double rooms.



Definitely

Breakfast (from 7.30 to 9.00), lunch at 1.00 and dinner at 8.00. Coffee break yet to be determined. We can ask an agency to provide snacks, etc. but the cheapest thing would be to buy some food products and provide them to the participants. Special diets can be planned upon request. In one evening, an outdoor dinner will be organized in the courtyard. If a particular cultural group wishes to cook their own food, kitchens are available. If a day trip is planned, we will be provided with food to take with us.



Information about the place



Trasport

There is a bus service every 15 minutes leaving from a point opposite the retreatcentre. It goes to Cornelia and then from there you can take a bus or the metro to reach the city center. It would be appropriate to pick up most people at the airport. Some may come alone by taxi (taxi fare from Fiumicino is around 30 euros.), but most participants may need help. One possibility is to hire one or two known taxis to organize we based on arrival and departure times. The Franciscans have one or two minibuses that can be hired to transport people.



Chapels

A large chapel and 3 or 4 small chapels, to use them.



Other useful things

We will have to provide enough water because it will be hot. There is the possibility of washing clothes if someone wants to do it. Internet is available for free. Live streaming of the plenary meetings.... for those who cannot be physically present.



Inspiration

The inspiration for this program came from the 24th chapter of the Gospel according to Luke, in which we read about the disciples going to Emmaus. The disciples, during a dialogue on the journey, share their disappointment and meet Jesus, whom they recognize in the breaking of the bread. This experience of God allows them to see reality from a different and hopeful perspective. We want the IV Congress of the Union of the Catholic Apostolate to be precisely this type of experience: the experience of a journey during which we will renew our joy in meeting God and others, and we will recognize the hope that comes from the Resurrection.

Congress theme:

With Christ, our hope, we set out again together with joy and courage renewed.

*You are witnesses of these.
(Lk 24,48)*

The conditions



• Hope

It is our deep desire that Congress participants can experience what the disciples experienced on the road to Emmaus. A profound change of heart that rediscovers the hope that comes from the encounter with Jesus.



• Community

We want participants to experience the journey of being in community, together. It is important that this pilgrimage is not only spiritual, but that, through a symbolic walk-through Rome, one experiences the effort of being and walking together.



• Dynamics

Through a varied programme, we want to ensure an appropriate structure, which ensures that the contents are presented in an interesting way and that participants can maintain the necessary attention and energy.



• Relationship building

By working in smaller linguistic groups, we would like the Congress to become an opportunity to forge new relationships that will result in mutual prayer, cooperation and - we hope - common projects in the future.



• Synodality

To deepen the spirit of synodality that Pope Francis proposes, we want to give ourselves the opportunity to see the elements that distinguish us and those that unite us, to listen to what we say and to accept that diversity is a great gift for the Church.

Day 1 (Thursday 25 July)



Sr. Helena Marques Pimenta, CSAC
Mrs. Anna Ciavotta

- 17:30 Registration
- 18:00 Holy Mass (unofficial)**
Don Eliton Pagnussatto SAC
- 20:00 Dinner**
- 21:00 Informal meeting

Day 2 (Friday 26 July)



Mrs. Rosita Cipolla
Mr. Michał Grzeca

7:30-8:30

Breakfast

9:30

Opening mass

Abp. Tadeusz Wojda, SAC

Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Gdańsk

11:00

Prayer to ask for the Gift of the Holy Spirit

Continent of Europe

11:10

Opening ceremony and speech by the President of the Union of Catholic Apostolate

Fr. Jacob Nampudakam SAC

11:40

Coffee break

12:10

Conference

The co-responsibility of all the baptized

13:00

Lunch

15:30

Group presentation

17:00

Coffee break

17:30-19:00

Group presentation

20:00

Dinner

21:00

Adoration

Continent of Europe

The path



Day 3

During the day, participants will have the opportunity to open their hearts to what is difficult, to disappointment like that felt by the disciples on the journey to Emmaus. They should be in the truth, accepting what is painful on a personal level and the difficulties that affect the family of the Union.



Day 4

The experience of God and the experience of community, when we emerge from our isolation, allows participants to recognize what is important and to rejoice in it.



Day 5

Participants will be led to experience the depth of the encounter with Christ who, by opening their hearts, is able to make their expectations real, helping them overcome difficulties and restoring their hope.



Day 6

Participants who have the courage to face their difficulties and hand them over to Christ regain hope and can return to everyday life, to the community and witness the joy of what filled their hearts.

Theme: With Christ, our hope, let us set out again together with renewed joy and courage.

You are witnesses of this. (Lk 24,48)

Day 3 (Saturday 27 July)

We must enter the kingdom of God through many tribulations.

During the day, participants are given the opportunity to open their hearts to what is difficult, to what represents their disappointment. They should be honest, addressing what they consider painful.



That same day two disciples were going to Emmaus, a village about eleven kilometers away from Jerusalem. Along the way they talked to each other about what had happened in Jerusalem in those days. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus approached and began walking with them. However, they did not recognize him, because their eyes were blinded. Jesus asked them: What are you discussing among yourselves as you walk? They then stopped, sad. (Lk24, 13-17)

What's happening now? At a personal, family, Union, Church, Nation, and world level. Where do you feel your hopes have not been realized as you desired in these contexts? Your hopes that Christ would change something, would make a difference. Where might there be a gap between what you hope Christ can do and His way and time of doing things? Testimony of some women - not believed - have you had the experience of not seeing your testimony taken seriously? Have you been closed and deaf to the voice of God speaking through testimony?



Program of the day



Fr. Rory Hanly, SAC
Fr. Eliton Pagnussatto, SAC

7:30-8:30

Colazione

9:00

Openness and prayer

Come to me, all you who are weary (Mt 11,28)

South America continent

9:30

Introduction to the journey to Emmaus

How it was born and what it means for the life of the Union, the path taken during the General Coordination Council, - anticipation of the desired path for the whole Union.

Sr Josephina d'Souza SAC

10:00

Lectio Divina on the text of the Gospel of Emmaus

Open our hearts and minds to the mystery of Christ in the joys and sorrows of our lives. Fr. Carmelo Raspa

10:45

Coffee break

11:15

Work in groups

What is happening today in our families, in our communities and in the Church that is destroying our hopes?

12:15

Report to the plenum

13:00

Lunch

15:30

Conference

How suffering interacts with the experience of each person in the various dimensions of life: personal, community, in the Pallottine Family, in the Church, in the whole world. Dr. Marzia Pileri

16:45

Coffee break

- 17:15 **Prayer for healing and reconciliation**
Fr. Zenon Hanas, SAC - Ecclesiastical Assistant of the Union of the Catholic Apostolate
- 18:15 **Break**
- 19:00 **Holy Mass**
Fr. Zenon Hanas, SAC - Ecclesiastical Assistant of the Union of the Catholic Apostolate
- 20:00 **Dinner**

Day 4 (Sunday 28 July)

Let's start again together

When we come out of our isolation, we recognize what is important: the experience of God, the experience of community... we can rejoice and bear witness to it.



At that moment the eyes of the two disciples opened and they recognized Jesus, but he disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, 'Didn't we feel like a fire in our hearts when he spoke to us along the way and explained the Bible to us?' (Lk 24, 31-32).



The disciples recognized the Lord in breaking the bread. This experience lit their hearts, wanting more and more. Man is an agglomeration of desires that do not allow him to stop.

Program of the day



Sr. Alda Paes, SAC
Mr. Michał Grzeca

7:30-8:30

Breakfast

9:00

Common prayer and introduction to the day

At the beginning of the day, participants will be given cards on which to write their personal wishes for evening worship throughout the day.

Continent of Asia

9:30

Departure for St. Peter's Basilica

10:30

Visit to St. Peter's Basilica

12:00

Angelus with Pope Francis

13:00

Lunch

14:00

Walk together

Visit to the places linked to the life of San Vincenzo Pallotti. Visit to the rooms and the museum at the General House. Guide to the museum:

Fr. Jan Kupka SAC

17:00

Mass at the SS. Salvatore on Onda

Fr. Derry Murphy, SAC

20:00

Dinner

21:00

Adoration with the Word of God (Lk 24, 31-32)

During worship, we refer to the difficulties of the journey we have experienced together as disciples of the Lord in small groups. At the end of adoration, we will exchange cards with our wishes and we will pray for their realization in our lives.

Day 5 (Monday 28 July)

Christ, our hope, is beside us.

During the day, participants will experience the depth of the encounter with Christ who, by opening their hearts, is able to make their expectations real, help them experience difficulties and restore their hope.



Then Jesus said: 'You really understand little; how slow you are to believe what the prophets have written! Didn't the Messiah have to suffer these things before entering his glory?' Then Jesus explained to the two disciples the passages of the Bible that concerned him. He began from the books of Moses up to the writings of all the prophets. Meanwhile they arrived at the village where they were headed, and Jesus pretended to continue the journey. But those two disciples held him back saying: 'Stay with us because the sun is now setting'. So Jesus entered the village to stay with them. (Lk24, 25-30)



Christ's Response - Oh foolish men, so slow to believe all that the prophets have said. Wasn't it necessary for Christ to suffer before entering his glory? He explained all the passages about himself in the Scriptures, starting with Moses. Wasn't it perhaps necessary, for us too, in the different contexts of our life and our world that Christ suffered before entering his glory?

Program of the day



Sr. Helena Marques Pimenta CSAC
Fr. Eliton Pagnussatto SAC

7:30-8:30

Breakfast

9:00

Opening and Prayer
Fr. Eliton Pagnussatto, SAC

9:45

Conference

Rediscover hope in the tomorrow/future through the commitment of believers in a continually changing society and Church

Dr. Luca Liverani

10.45

Coffee break

11:00

Interview with the Speaker

11:30

Holy Mass

Fr. Nicola Gallucci SAC - Provincial of the Queen of Apostles Province of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate.

Animation of the Holy Mass by the young people present

13:00

Lunch

15:30

The strength of the future

«Young people call us to awaken and increase hope, because they carry within them the new tendencies of humanity and open us to the future, so that we do not remain anchored to the nostalgia of structures and habits that are no longer bearers of life in today's world ». (EG § 10)

Young people from the 5 continents talk about their experience, whether of joy or pain, which pushed them to let themselves be found by Jesus, to meet Him and move forward with new enthusiasm, courage and hope.

Sr. Helena Marques Pimenta, CSAC

16:45 **Coffee break**

17:15 Work in groups

Prospects for the future: how to work keeping Pallottine elements in mind in training for young people - walking together, involving young people in the CCN. Present proposals for action to resume the journey together with young people with more dynamism.

18:00 **Coffee break**

18:30 Presentations of group work

20:00 **Dinner**

21:00 Vigil

Continent of Africa + young people

Meeting with Jesus and Mari

Outside, around the cross, prepare an environment suitable for prayer. During the vigil you can present the candles representing the various continents and the card with the testimony of the young people, while praying for all the boys and girls in the world.

Biblical text: *Jn 19,25-27 - Jesus never leaves us alone, he gives us Maryas Mother, he invites us to make room for her in our home.*

At the foot of the cross, feeling like Church, family, brothers, and sisters, never alone in the mission.

When we come out of our isolation, we recognize what is important: the experience of God, the experience of community... we can rejoice and bear witness to it.

Day 6 (Tuesday 30 July)

With renewed joy and courage

Participants who have the courage to face their difficulties and hand them over to Christ regain hope and can return to their daily lives. As with the disciples of Emmaus, they recognize the importance of returning to the community, to those with whom they live their daily lives, to share the joy that Jesus has always walked with them and filled their gaps and inabilities.



Then they got up and immediately returned to Jerusalem. There, they found the eleven disciples gathered with their companions. These said: 'The Lord has truly risen and appeared to Simon.' In turn the two disciples told what had happened to them along the way and said that they had recognized him while he was breaking the bread (Lk 24,33-35).



Like the disciples, we all need to recognize that Jesus is among our relationships and this is the vital announcement of every community to which we return so that he lives among us, bringing Him to everyone, testifying to the beauty of the encounter with Christ to the whole world.

Program of the day



Mrs. Anna Ciavotta
Mrs. Rosita Cipolla

7:30-8:30

Breakfast

9:00

Opening and prayer

Continent Oceania + North America and Central America

Brief summary of the last day, explanation of the day's program. Prayer and songs of praise to thank the Lord for the strong moments experienced during the Congress

9:30

Introduction to group work

Summary of the experiences resulting from the 5 days of work and presentation of the reflections for the work of the groups.

Dr. Gabriella Acerbi

10:00

Coffee break

11:00

Introduction to group work

Summary of the experiences resulting from the 5 days of work and presentation of the reflections for the work of the groups.

Dr. Gabriella Acerbi

10:30

Work in groups

12:00

Presentation of the groups' results

13:00

Lunch

15:00

Presentation and approval of the summary document.

Dr. Gabriella Acerbi

16:30

Coffee break

- 17:00 Presentation and approval of the final message.
Sr. Ivete Pelegrin Garlet, CSAC - General Superior Pallottine Sisters
- 18:30 Final mass with exchange of gifts**
Fr. Jacob Nampudakam SAC- President
- 20:00 Dinner**
- 21:00 Brief moment of thanks and brotherhood with the participants

Day 7 (Wednesday 31 July)



Sr. Helena Marques Pimenta,CSAC
Mr. Michał Grzeca

7:30-8:30

Breakfast

9:00

Holy Mass

Fr. Rory Hanly SAC

10:00

Departure