



PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR CULTURE

What's been going on at the Pontifical Council for Culture
Circular Newsletter, N. 13 (25 November 2016)

Courtyards of the Gentiles on Poverty, Punishment, Hope and Violence

A busy period for the Courtyard of the Gentiles with a series of events:

- The Courtyard Foundation has a new board with Prof.ssa Consuelo Corradi as President.
- A Courtyard of the Gentiles on “Women and Violence” took place at the Dicastery listening to students and their thoughts on the violence women face around the world.
- “New Forms of Poverty, Causes and Solutions” was the theme in Bratislava, Slovakia where Cardinal Ravasi spoke about the influx of refugees coming to Europe and their need for assistance as impoverished and displaced people. He stated the need for all countries to accept and aid refugees, suggesting state budgets adopt a more charitable form of economics to assist impoverished people and countries.



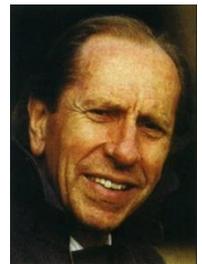
*The New President
of the Foundation*



- *#Punishment & Hope* in two moments, first in the Italian Chamber of Deputies and then in Regina Coeli, a Roman jail. With the Minister for Justice, A. Orlando they spoke of prisons, foreigners, sentencing and reforms with a focus on rehabilitation. Ravasi’s central message: “there is no punishment without hope. And punishment that does not offer hope is counterproductive, because hope is the DNA of change.”
- “Culture of the Community and the Common Good” was a Madrid Courtyard organized by the Ecumenical Social Forum and sponsored by the Dicastery. It covered topics such as social responsibility, common good and the economy, and the breaking of the social contract in western societies.

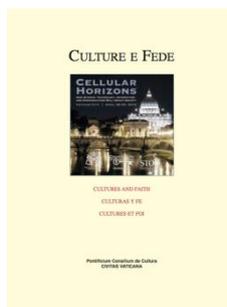
The times they are a-changin’

After Bob Dylan received the Nobel Prize in Literature in October, Cardinal Ravasi tweeted some lines from his “Blowin’ in the Wind”. He also accentuated the spiritual in the popular conversation by tweeting Leonard Cohen’s works, particularly the lyric, “I’ll stand before the Lord of Song with nothing on my tongue but hallelujah” and verses from David Maria Turolto’s book of poetry, “*Canti Ultimi*”, for the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Italian priest-poet.



P. David Maria Turolto

New Edition of the Dicastery’s Journal



Volume XXIV 2016 N. 2 of the Dicastery’s journal has been sent out to subscribers. It contains the acts of *The Third International Conference on the Progress of Regenerative Medicine and its Cultural Impact* held in the Vatican April 28-30, 2016. The remainder of the journal contains an overview of the activities associated with the Dicastery including the Francesco Siciliani Music Competition, the Courtyard of the Gentiles on Economics, and the arrival of some contemporary art commissioned for the Venice Biennale in the Vatican Museums.

The Engagements of the Superiors

Cardinal Ravasi visited Chile in November and gave a lecture on “Faith, Culture and Society” after receiving a PhD *Honoris Causa* from the *Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso*.



He was in Portugal for some dialogue in the field of Faith and Art with the architect Álvaro Siza Vieira whose famous church dedicated to St Mary in Marco de Canavezes (*pictured*) celebrates its 20th anniversary. He also participated in a *Fórum de Futuro*, an international festival dedicated to thought-provoking debates and performances about key issues facing contemporary societies.

In Rome he was at the Quirinale for the 2016 Balzan Prize and visited Reggio Calabria to participate in a congress organized by the Mediterranean University of Studies titled “The Environment and Food Ecology: St. Francis of Paola between now and tomorrow”.

Bishop Adoukonou participated, as a consultant, at the 2016 plenary of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity on the theme “The Unity of Christians: What Model of Full Communion?”

“The Catholic Church in a Digital World” and “Preaching to the Converted” are two themes Bishop Tighe addressed at the Web Summit in Lisbon. Web Summit is Europe's largest technology marketplace with over 53,000 attendees looking to make industry connections and discuss the effects of technology on our society and even our spirituality.



After accompanying Cardinal Ravasi to Chile, Monsignor Melchor Sanchez de Toca visited Buenos Aires, Argentina to speak at a meeting organized by the Boca Social Foundation about Sport at the Service of Humanity.

Visitors: among others were a musical delegations from Italy and Slovakia, the historian and architect Br Gabriel Guarda, and Japanese Museum Director Mr. Yasu Saito.

Other News:

We hosted a meeting of the project “Human Technopole” to discuss up-and-coming scientific research and new technology, specifically looking at how to aid the poor and needy while developing the area of Expo Milan 2016.

Mons. Pasquale Iacobone attended the ceremony for the San Bernardino Prize. The main prize was given to Samsung for socially responsible advertising with their #off4aday campaign.

Save the Dates:

- Prize Meeting of the Pontifical Academies, Palazzo della Cancelleria, 6 December 2016
- Beethoven’s Missa Solemnis, San Paolo Fuori le Mura, 17 December 2016
- Celebrating Bishop Barthélemy Adoukonou’s 50 years of priesthood, 16-20 December 2016
- Music and Church: Cult and Culture 50 years after *Musicam Sacram* Rome, 2-4 March 2017
- Conference on Water, 22-23 March 2017

Further material on all these stories can be found in our review Cultures and Faith published three times a year, on our website www.cultura.va, and on social media.