



PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR CULTURE

What's been going on at the Pontifical Council for Culture
Circular Letter, N. 8 (2 February 2016)

New Adjunct Secretary



Pope Francis has nominated Monsignor Paul Tighe as Adjunct Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Culture (19 December 2015). The 58 year old Irish diocesan priest has a legal training, and was teaching ethics and directing the Church's public affairs office in Dublin when Pope Benedict XVI appointed him Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications in 2007. After playing a key role in the process of the Roman Curia's communications reform, he has now been appointed titular Bishop of Drivastrum and the Episcopal Consecration is due to take place in St Peter's Basilica on the afternoon of 27 February.

Prize of the Pontifical Academies

The Pontifical Academy of Fine Arts and Letters of the Virtuosi at the Pantheon has announced the contest to award the Prize of the Pontifical Academies 2016, a sum of Euro 20,000.00.

The 2016 edition is open to young artists and institutions working in the fields of literature, poetry and music. Their work must contribute to the development of Christian humanism and its artistic expressions. Individual candidates should be aged 25-40 and institutions should have been involved in formative activities for not more than 20 years. Applications close on Saturday 14 May 2016.



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Visitors

The Ambassadors of Singapore, Hungary, Egypt, Belarus and Azerbaijan visited. Others who came to discuss a variety of projects included a parliamentary representation from the Kurdish region of Iraq, Richard Horton, the editor of *The Lancet*, Prof. Remuzzi, from the Pharmacological Research Institute "Mario Negri", and Fr James Martin, from *America* magazine. Also visiting were the director of the Conference of Rectors of Italian Universities and the Rector of the University of Salamanca, Spain.

New Edition of the Dicastery's Journal



Vol. XXIII 2015 N.3 of the Dicastery's journal has been sent to subscribers with its focus on cultural ecology. Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si'" refers to the cultural dimension of the ecological crisis, appealing for a courageous cultural revolution (n. 114) able to draw on the riches of the world's different cultures in the broadest sense.

Together with info on our other activities, including the Holy See's Pavilion at Expo (pictured) this edition of the review carries four scholarly articles on culture and ecology leading with one by Irina Bokova, General Director of UNESCO.

The Engagements of the Superiors

The President, Cardinal Ravasi was in Milan 23 December to thank those who worked on the Holy See's projects at Expo Milan and he opened The Eighth International Forum of the Pontifical Academy of Theology 28-29 January on the theme *The Transcendent Dignity of man in light of the alliance*.

Via his twitter profile (@CardRavasi) he continues to garner interest and express the Dicastery's broad engagement with diverse cultures with daily biblical and cultural citations. The choice to remember a lyric from David Bowie, a cultural icon, had a certain impact.



The Delegate, Mons. Azevedo, spoke on *Art and Architecture for the Christian Community* at Viareggio, Lucca (9 January).



The Secretary, Mons. Adoukonou was in Dakar, Senegal (26-29 January) for a colloquium on the figure of Alioune DIOP (pictured), titled *50 ans après Vatican II : L'Afrique et l'héritage d'Alioune Diop : le dialogue des religions et les défis du temps présent*. Men and women from different cultures, researchers and teachers from Africa, Europe and America gathered to study and remember this man of culture, and his determining cultural contributions to African art, literature and identity and impact on the Church's identity in the African context.

The Adjunct Secretary, Mons. Tighe spoke at an Initiative for Global Dialogue in a Multipolar World, organised by the Nizami Ganjavi International Center at the Italian Senate (27 January).

As we write The Undersecretary, Mons. Sanchez de Toca is in America lecturing on the figure of Galileo Galilei at the University of Loyola, Chicago. He spoke earlier at a seminar for journalists concerning religious information at Rome's Santa Croce university (31 January) and an International Conference on Sport and Traumatology (29-30 January).

Head of Office, Mons. Kovacs was in Schwerte, Germany for the annual meeting of the German Catholic Academies (25-26 January).

New Website

The Courtyard of the Gentiles has launched its new website: www.cortiledeigentili.com



Save the Dates: Two Major Dicasterial Events

“Cellular Horizons”, a Vatican Conference on Regenerative Medicine, particularly on rare (or orphan) diseases affecting children is planned 28-30 April 2016.

“Sport at the Service of Humanity”, a first Global Conference on Sport and Faith in the Vatican planned 5-7 October 2016.

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 various social media profiles.