

WORTH READING

Letter to the Fraternity of CL

By Fr. Julián Carrón – After a private audience with Pope Francis



"On Friday, October 11th, I had the grace of being received in a private audience by Pope Francis. I experienced in person what we have been

seeing for months, every time that he appears in public—the extreme familiarity of his entering into a relationship with the individual, even in the midst of enormous crowds.

Thus I was able to tell him about the journey that we have made in the years since Fr. Giussani's passing. I emphasized that all of our effort was and is in function of the personalization of faith, as the only condition for being able to live, in daily reality, that newness of life that fascinated us.

At these words, the Pope went immediately to that which constitutes his fundamental concern—that every man, no matter the situation in which he finds himself, can be reached by the Christian announcement, by the mercy and the tenderness of Christ. For this reason, he insisted on the need for witness, that is, the necessity to go to meet the others—in the face of the temptation to close ourselves in defensive positions, incapable of responding to the urgency of the transmission of faith—observing that it will not be the mere "restoration" of past forms that will render Christianity present for the man of today.

For the complete letter please [click here](#).

Solidly Focused on the Essential; That is, on Jesus Christ

By Pope Francis – Address of Pope Francis to Participants in the Plenary of the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization

"I extend my greetings to you all and thank you for your work at the service of the New Evangelization and of the Year of Faith. You have my heartfelt gratitude! What I would like to tell you today may be summarized in three points: the primacy of witness; the urgency of going out to meet others; the need for a pastoral plan centered on the essential."

[Click here](#) for the full article.

IN THE PUBLIC ARENA



Can Poetry Matter?

November 15, 2013 – Los Angeles, CA

A poetry reading & discussion featuring award-poet Dana Gioia

Join us as we welcome renowned poet Dana Gioia to the stage of The Last Bookstore for a reading of his poetry and a discussion of beauty

and how it matters in the life of modern man. For more information [click here](#).

SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY



We will continue our work on the 2013 [Beginning Day](#) until the end of November.

As Fr. Julian Carron said at his School of Community, "We will continue to work on the Beginning Day, because now we can understand it better, without making the mistake, which is always a risk, of considering the first part sentimental, pietistic, or a form of inwardness, and the second, something that only addresses the organization, or the structure, or the association.

You can find the complete list of Fr. Julian Carron's [School of Community's](#), including his last one on the Beginning Day online.

TRACES



Traces 2013 issue number 9 contains the Beginning Day text, Fr. Carron's letter about his meeting with Pope Francis, and news and commentary—

including an American press review—of the Pope's meeting with the famous atheist journalist Scalfari and another interview for Jesuit magazines. These, punctuated by Cardinal Ouellet's introduction to the new Giussani biography, lend perspective to other stories, on everything from politics and neuroscience to CL community life, from places as diverse as Africa, Syria, Russia, Canada, and, closer to home, Florida.

To subscribe to Traces [click here](#).

CL NATIONAL OFFICE

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Faith: The Key to Unlocking Scripture

November 21, 2013 – Washington DC

A book presentation exploring the great questions surrounding Biblical interpretation since the Enlightenment with Fr. Ignacio Carabajosa, Professor at San Dámaso University, Madrid, and author of *Faith, the Fount of Exegesis*.



Can there be objective biblical research without faith? By studying the history of the interpretation of the Old Testament in the last two centuries, Fr. Carabajosa uncovers the philosophical premises of the dominant interpretations and their deceptive claims to objectivity. Biblical research tainted by an inadequate use of reason actually makes a true understanding of Holy Scripture difficult. On the contrary, by broadening reason, faith allows for a more adequate approach to the biblical text, which itself is the fruit of faith.

For more information please [click here](#).

NEW YORK ENCOUNTER



NY Encounter Proposal

Aware of the many gifts we have received through the years with the NY Encounter, this year we wish to propose to everyone in the United States to actively participate, within your capacity, at the NY Encounter by either visiting, volunteering at the Encounter, finding ways to invite other people who might not know about it, or by raising funds to sustain it.

What is the NY Encounter?

The NYE is an annual three-day structured program that's filled with activities such as presentations, artistic performances, conferences, lectures, exhibits, and booths that strive to witness Pope Benedict XVI's claim that "the intelligence of Faith has to become the intelligence of reality," because faith in Christ allows a person to fearlessly "test everything and retain what is good." (1 Thess 5)

Lodging at the NY Encounter

The CL National Office with the help of the local secretaries will help coordinate the lodging needs of those people wanting to participate. To this effect, we have reserved two four-star hotels for significantly reduced prices. The first hotel, the Affinia Manhattan Hotel (371 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10001; two minute walk from the Manhattan Center) can be booked for single or double accommodations. The second hotel, the St. Giles Court Hotel (130 East 39th Street, NY, NY 10016; 20 minute walk or 15 minutes by bus, breakfast included) can be booked for triple or quad accommodations. If you reserve your rooms in advance, you will be also given a free ticket for the Saturday night show. For additional information about lodging packages, or to reserve a spot please contact your regional secretary or Jonathan Fromm, jfromm@clhac.com.

BOOK OF THE MONTH

The Power and the Glory

by Graham Greene



"When I read the final page of Graham Greene's, *The Power and the Glory*, I knew with greater certainty the purpose of my life. Not a small thing. It

was worth my time! Ranking as one of Greene's best works, *The Power and the Glory* explores a priest who clings to the Faith while at the same time tries to make sense of his brokenness, sin, and his relationships with others and with God."

[Click here](#) for more of Marcie Stokman's reflection on *The Power and the Glory* and the possibility to buy the book.

IL SUSSIDIARIO

Il Sussidiario in English

The Internet news portal sponsored by the Foundation for Subsidiarity has an English section called "English Spoken Here". The site is offered from that judgment that arises from the lived experience of the friends of Fr. Giussani, and includes: a weekly analysis by Msgr. Albacete; articles on economics, politics, society and the arts, updates on charitable endeavors (e.g. AVSI) and other news from across the globe.

[Click here](#) to see the website

[Click here](#) to see the Facebook page

A bi-weekly digest of these articles is also available: please send an email to smollerus@gmail.com to be added to our mailing list.

We are always looking for contributors, particularly from your own knowledge and expertise. If you have ideas or articles to propose please write to Sharon Mollerus, smollerus@gmail.com

Volunteering

The happiest people at the New York Encounter are the volunteers. This is a way to not only help out at the New York Encounter, but a great way to see the New York Encounter.

It is now possible to enroll as a volunteer for the 2014 New York Encounter (January 17-19, 2014). Please sign up by filling out the form at [this link](#).

Please notice that attendance to the following moments is required for all volunteers:

- Orientation Meeting on Saturday January 18 at 8:00 am
- One 5-6 hour shift on Saturday January 18
- One 5-6 hour shift on Sunday January 19

There is also great need of volunteers for the evening of Friday, January 17, as well as for the setup and tear-down operations, so please plan your trip to arrive early in the afternoon of Saturday. See on the online enrollment form for details.

Additional Information

For additional information concerning all aspects of the New York Encounter including fundraising and donation ideas, please see the [announcements](#) from the Beginning Day and contact Olivetta Danese, odanese@newyorkencounter.org.

MEDCONFERENCE

Life is a Promise of Happiness

By Giacomo Maniscalco

On its five-year anniversary, Traces revisits the workings of the annual MedConference to explore its origins and goals, and the people behind it—revealing why “we should all go to the MedConference.” Or, at the very least, “we should want our doctors to attend...”

Who are these incredible people who give up a weekend of

their time, with no compensation, to present their stories and converse with other health care professionals working toward a more human approach to care giving? And why do they do it? In trying to find an answer to this question, you can read the extended bios of the speakers for the 2013 MedConference on the website. There, for example, you learn that Dr. Lodovico Balducci edited five textbooks on geriatric oncology and two books on geriatric hematology, and was 2013 winner of the prestigious the ACCC award for Outstanding Achievement in Clinical Research.

You can also see that, as another example, Dr. Lorenzo Berra, a critical care physician at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology at Harvard Medical School, is an expert on applying the concept of comfort care in intensive neonatal therapy.

If it's not a life characterized by professional medical achievement per se that impresses you, read about how Alpha Cattaneo and her wonderful family, through the running of Casa Monte Cassino, are devoting their lives to care for children from all over the world who come to Boston for the treatment of cancer, blindness, burns, and various other health issues.

But actually being among these people brings home the impact of a human embrace not possible when you read a website. And this, in fact, is the generation point of this event and the mode of working espoused by all present: eye-to-eye human contact; being truly in touch with others—colleagues and patients alike. The above-noted professionals and many others spent the weekend of October 18th in Florham Park, NJ, at the 5th annual MedConference, to discuss the overarching topic of patient care, taking their cue from the title of the conference: “Following the Patient: The Key to Medical Care.”

See the full article in issue number nine of [Traces](#)' New World Section.

