

**Sixth Roman Symposium**

# Charity, Justice and Peace: a Challenge for Evangelisation

*Organised by the Emmanuel Community  
Fidesco and the Pierre Goursat University Institute,  
In collaboration with the Pontifical Redemptor Hominis Institute, and  
the International Research Erea on the Social Doctrine of the Church  
'Caritas in Veritate' of the Lateran Pontifical University, Rome*

January 26th – 28th 2012  
Centro Congressi – Villa Aurelia  
Via Leone XIII, 459  
00165 ROMA

## **Presentation of the Symposium**

This is the sixth Roman Symposium, organised in collaboration with the Pontifical Redemptor Hominis Institute and the *Pierre Goursat University Institute*. It follows on from the work done in our previous symposia: *the contribution of new communities and movements to the life and mission of the Church (2004)*, *announcing Christ in a post-modern world (2006)*, *the role of parishes in the New Evangelisation (2008)*, and *the necessary complementarity of priest and laity in the mission (2010)*. *The theme of the 2012 symposium will be Charity, Justice and Peace: a Challenge for Evangelisation. This colloquium will also have FIDESCO as a partner – marking 30 years since the foundation of this NGO.*

Many people understand the necessity of evangelisation as being a duty oriented towards the *salvation of souls*. One risk with this is forgetting that the whole of the human person is the object of salvation. While the salvation of souls is clearly fundamental, announcing the Gospel cannot be limited to this, but rather, it should allow Christ to enter into all the dimensions of a person's life, including the economic, social and political dimensions. It is in this sense that we should understand the words of John Paul II at the beginning of his pontificate: "Open wide the doors to Christ!"<sup>1</sup> Evangelisation goes beyond the personal dimension to include broader dimensions\_ we do not only evangelise so that hearts might be changed but so that the world might be changed, and in order that charity, justice and peace might grow among all people. In a word, for the growth of the kingdom of god that is already in our midst. (cf. Lk 10 : 9). The sign of a real conversion of the heart is that someone commits firmly to serving the civilisation of love.

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<sup>1</sup> First Speech of John Paul II, St Peter's Square, October 22nd 1978.

When we look at the history of the Church, we see that evangelisation has always gone alongside the changes in society taking place through Christian commitment – be they priests, religious or laity – in living faith in the concrete circumstances of daily life. During the Symposium, for example, we will consider the contribution of evangelisation to Roman society during the first two centuries of the Christian era. But we should not forget that faith continued to transform societies throughout the ages, even in recent periods. Little by little, through an ongoing exchange between the commitments of Christians and the discernment of the Church<sup>2</sup>, we have seen the development of a body of teaching now called the Social Teaching of the Church – a teaching which today is an integral part of the Church’s evangelising mission.

Today, there are new missionary challenges in the fields of work, economics, politics, ethics and ecology. These challenges give rise to new questions which impact particularly on the commitment of lay Christians in our societies. :

- How can the Social Teaching of the Church provide opportunities for the New Evangelisation?
- In a globalised society, marked by what John Paul II called ‘Structures of sin’<sup>3</sup> is it still possible for Christians to be a real force for change?
- How should one react to the prophets of doom who foretell disaster in society, the economy, ecology etc.? How can discouragement be overcome?
- How should lay people use their competency in the light of the faith?
- How far can one follow the logics and criteria of this world in accomplishing a mission as a Christian in politics? How can we resolve the dilemma expressed by Charles Péguy when he said of some politicians that they ‘say they have clean hands, but in fact they have no hands at all’?
- How can we help Christians to discern the major ethical challenges of today, and to commit themselves to working there in the name of the Gospel?

During the Symposium we will attempt to listen with attention to Benedict XVI’s latest encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, which touches on all of these subjects and opens paths of reflection for us.

FIDESCO is an NGO for voluntary service and solidarity established by the Emmanuel Community in 1981. It has offices in 11 countries, and sends volunteers to serve in development projects under the auspices of the Catholic Church in 35 countries. Today FIDESCO has more than 200 volunteers on the ground.

## Method

The Sixth Roman Symposium will use interactive method which has served so well previously. This is based on three approaches:

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<sup>2</sup> Pope Leo XIII would not have been able to write *Rerum Novarum* – the first social encyclical – if it had not been for the prior existence and experience of social movements led by Catholics who committed themselves because of their faith and their love of justice.

<sup>3</sup> See, for example, *Centesimus Annus* §38.

- Some keynote speeches from authoritative voices, helping the participants to situate the key issues. Each keynote speech will be followed by a time of debate.
- Short testimonies each day, presenting innovative experiences in the field of cooperation between priests and the laity. This will nourish the participants' with examples likely to shed light on current questions and on future action.
- Each day we will look interactively at two key questions, as follows:
  - o A full written paper will be published in the proceedings of the colloquium. **All participants will receive this text prior to the colloquium, and are asked to read it in advance.**
  - o Over 15 minutes, the speaker presents the major ideas in his paper, giving on significant example or underlining one key argument.
  - o A respondent proposes questions or objections to the paper, and invites the auditorium to intervene, point by point. All of this is intended to promote improvements in the ideas suggested and to involve participants in a constructive debate.

**(See programme below)**

# Programme

Thursday January 26<sup>th</sup> 2012

- 9.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer
- 9.30 a.m.: Opening address  
**Mons. Dario Eduardo Viganò**, President, Pontifical Redemptor Hominis Institute
- 9.30 a.m.: **Social Teaching of the Church in the Mission of the Church**  
Speaker: **H. Em. Cardinal Peter Turkson**, President, Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace
- 10.30 a.m.: Questions to speaker  
10.45 a.m.: coffee break
- 11.00 a.m.: Interactive Session: **From Social Action to the Social Teaching of the Church**  
Speaker: **Prof. Denis Biju-Duval**, Pontifical Redemptor Hominis Institute, Emmanuel Community  
Respondent: **Mr. John Deighan**, Catholic Parliamentary Office, Scotland
- 11.30 a.m.: Debate between speakers – Questions from the public
- 12.15 p.m.: Holy Mass  
1.00 p.m.: Lunch
- 2.30 p.m.: Interactive Session: **Outside the Gospel there is no true solution to the social question**  
Speaker: **Dr. Michael Naughton**, University of St Thomas, St Paul – Minneapolis  
Respondent: **Prof. Pierre-Yves Gomez**, Ecole de Management, Lyon; Scientific Council, Pierre Goursat University Institute
- 3.30 p.m.: Questions from the public  
4.30 p.m.: Coffee Break
- 5.00 p.m.: Interactive Session: **How does the Gospel transform society? The example of the early Christians**  
Speaker: **Prof. Jean-Marie Salamito**, Professor of Ancient Christianity, Sorbonne, Paris (to be confirmed)  
Respondent: **How does the Gospel transform society? The example of South America**  
**Prof. Diego F. Arias Padilla (Universidad San Pablo, Arequipa, Peru)**
- 5.30 p.m.: Debate between speakers – Questions from the public
- 6.30 p.m.: Testimony: **Bishop Luis Azcona Hermoso O.A.R.**, Marajo, Brazil

7.00 p.m.: Eucharistic Adoration  
8.15 p.m.: Dinner

### Friday January 27th 2010

9.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer

9.30 a.m.: Interactive Session: **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for Justice**  
Speaker: **Mons. Livio Melina**, President, Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family  
Respondent: **Dr. Michael Naughton**, University of St Thomas, St Paul – Minneapolis

10.10 a.m.: Debate between speakers – Questions from the public

10.40 a.m.: Coffee Break

11.00 a.m.: **Charity and Evangelisation**

Speaker: **H. Em. Cardinal Robert Sarah**, President, Pontifical Council Cor Unum

11.45 a.m. Questions from the public

12.15 a.m.: Holy Mass

1.00 p.m.: Lunch

2.30 p.m.: Interactive Session: **The Missionary Challenges of Post-Modern Ethics**  
Speaker: **Prof. Francisco d'Agostino** President –Italian Union of Catholic Jurists; Professor of Legal Theory-Tor Vergata University (Rome), President Emeritus-Italian National Bioethics Committee  
Respondent: **Prof. Gianni Manzone**, Pontifical Redemptor Hominis Institute

3.30 p.m.: Debate between speakers – Questions from the public

4.30 p.m.: Coffee Break

5.00p.m.: Interactive Session: **Caritas in Veritate: Economy and Finance**

Speaker: **Prof. Pierre-Yves Gomez**, École de Management, Lyon; Scientific Council, Pierre Goursat University Institute  
Respondent: **Prof. Flavio Felice**, Pontifical Redemptor Hominis Institute

5.30 p.m.: debate between speakers – questions from the public

6.30 p.m.: Testimony: Peace in Burundi, **Mme. Adélaïde Ndayirorere**, Emmanuel Community

7.00 p.m.: Eucharistic Adoration

8.15 p.m.: Dinner

### **Saturday January 28th 2012**

9.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer

9.30 a.m.: Interactive Session: Caritas in Veritate: Politics  
Speaker: **Mr. John Deighan**, Catholic Parliamentary Office, Scotland  
Respondent: **Bishop Luis Azcona Hermoso O.A.R.**, Marajo, Brazil

10.15 a.m.: Questions from the public

10.40 a.m.: Coffee Break

11.00 a.m.: **Blessed are the Peace Makers**

Speaker: **Prof. Andrea Riccardi**, Sant'Egidio Community, Rome

11.45 a.m.: Questions from the public

12.15 a.m.: Holy Mass

1.00 p.m.: Lunch

2.30 p.m.: Testimony: **Dr. José Mario Brasiliense** (Adenauer Foundation/Oficina Municipal, São Paulo)

3.00 p.m.: **Caritas in Veritate: Ecology**

Speaker: **Prof. Dominique Vermersch**, INRA Rennes (France), President Pierre Goursat University Institute

3h30 p.m.: Questions from the public

4.00 p.m.: Coffee Break

4.30 p.m.: **Hope in a Time of Crisis**

Speaker: **Archbishop Rino Fisichella, President**, Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelisation

5.15 p.m.: Questions from the public

5.45 p.m.: Concluding Remarks

6.00 p.m.: End of Symposium