

CH – CONFERENCE CALL

Rocca di Papa and Castel Gandolfo, 15/09/2018

“LOVE EVERYONE, EXCLUDE NO ONE”

- 1. Opening and greetings**
- 2. Live link up with the Mariapolis Centre at Castel Gandolfo.**
- 3. Ireland – the Families meeting with Pope Francis** - linked up with Susan Gately in Dublin.
- 4. Brazil: “the bread making girls”**

In 1998 the ‘bread-making girls’, a group of young people of the Focolare, suddenly became bakers and sold bread on the road outside the Ginetta Mariapolis in Brazil. Thirty years later, the Golden Grain is a successful activity making good quality produce with love, human kindness and the will to share.
- 5. India – the community in Kerala after the floods.**
- 6. Angola – the “Little Flame” school**

It all started from a canteen offering meals for children, then literacy courses were added which gave work to a number of young teachers in the area. Supported by the New Families Association the “Pequena Chama” (Little Flame) School clearly shows that help given by many people generates development together with human and social solidarity.
- 7. USA – Gary (IN) – Let’s colour our city**

The town of Gary in Indiana is one of the poorest in the USA. 100 teenagers from six States went there to help organize activities with the homeless, to serve at a canteen and work on urban renewal. For many of them it was an unforgettable experience, which opened their eyes not only to the needs but also the beauty of the town, which is, before all else, a community.
- 8. Mexico – Share, rebuild, restart.**

After the terrible earthquake in Mexico in 2017, a group of young people from the little town called “El Diamante” [the Diamond] went to Contla, a town that had been almost completely destroyed, to help rebuild. The initial shock meant there was much work to do, but above all they shared the pain of the townsfolk and built relationships that were ... indestructible.
- 9. East Africa - SPORTS4PEACE**

Over 1,000 children and teenagers took part in the “Sport4Peace” event held in Kenya, South Sudan and Burundi at the end of August. Sport can become a means to build peace and help overcome social barriers.
- 10. Colombia – EoC: diversify to generate development**

A priest's act of fellowship transformed a failing coffee plantation into a real business named Acedeco Padevi. It is community led and inspired by the principles of the Economy of Communion. Choosing to diversify the production process lead to greater sharing, new jobs and the development of the business, while respecting the environment.

11. Chiara Lubich: Love everyone, exclude no one.

Taken from Chiara Lubich's talk "Love of neighbour" at the meeting of Muslim Friends at Castel Gandolfo on 1st November 2002.

12. Greetings from Maria Voce (Emmaus) live from Castel Gandolfo

13. Conclusion

1. OPENING AND GREETINGS

Agustin Steinbach: Hello everyone! Welcome to the Conference Call

Patricia Leiva: We are here, at the Centre of the Focolare Movement at Rocca di Papa.

Agustin: Special greetings to those who are connected for the first time!

Patricia: Ciao Agustin, *hola!*

Agustin: *Hola Patricia! Cómo estás?*

Patricia: *Bien!*

Agustin: *Nosotros tendríamos que presentarnos, verdad?*

Patricia: Yes, we are from Argentina, I come from Buenos Aires and I live in a focolare here in Grottaferrata in Italy.

Agustin: I come from General Lamadrid, a small town near Buenos Aires and at the moment I am living in the focolare in Cuba.

Patricia, what are we going to do now?

Patricia: We shall go around the world and share stories that many of you have sent us. Some of us also went to meet people and to film stories in different places. We will talk about initiatives and projects, there will also be some painful stories ... it's the life of our family that tries to respond with love, loving all those we meet, as we will also hear from Chiara.

Then we wanted to say that you can as usual send us your impressions, suggestions and photos to the addresses you see on the screen. The email, collegamentoch@focolare.org, the WhatsApp: +39 320 419 7109 or our Facebook page: CollegamentoCH.

Agustin: As we said at the start, we have come back to Rocca di Papa after going to Manila for the Genfest.

(Music images and sound from the Genfest in Manila)

It was an extraordinary experience, but it didn't end there. Indeed, this experience continued in Tagaytay for a thousand young people with the post-Genfest

and a meeting for seminarians. We had days of work and workshops on subjects like the economy of communion, the environment, politics that can overcome barriers and racism, and about life choices too.

Patricia: Many local Genfests were held around the world; in Cuba, El Salvador and Venezuela. The one in Tanzania, in Singida, was held last Thursday. The Gen sent us a short video with their greetings.

A Gen: *Hi Everybody. We started our Genfest today with the Bishop and the Regional Commissioner.*

All: *Hi*

A Gen: *We want to go beyond all borders. We go beyond*

All: *All borders. Bye!*

Patricia: Thank you Gen! We are with you. Best wishes for the Genfest!

2. LIVE LINK UP WITH THE MARIAPOLIS CENTRE AT CASTEL GANDOLFO

Patricia: Agostin, why are we here on our own? I've been to other conference calls and there were always people here.

Agustin: Yes, I heard that everyone at Castel Gandolfo, at the Mariapolis Centre. Enrico should be there now. Enrico? Are you there?

Enrico: Yes, here we are. A big hello from all of us here at Castel Gandolfo.
(Applause)

My name is Enrico, I am Italian and was born in Bergamo, but I have been living in the United States for a long time, and I have come now from Washington. But I am not here on my own. There are about 200 of us. We are attending the first of two meetings, (and I'll explain later why there are two) meetings the Movement's delegates around the world. These meetings are held every year but this year there is something new in that it's not only the delegates who have come here from different countries but they are accompanied by representatives of the Movement in their countries. Now I'll introduce them so you can see who is here.

Let's start with those from furthest away, so with Australia, New Zealand and other countries in Oceania. Here they are! (Applause). Now we'll move to Asia, to a large group that has come from many countries in Asia, including India, Thailand, Korea and Japan. (Applause). Lastly, there is America, the Americas from North and South and therefore from Canada, the USA, Mexico, going down to Panama, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru' Chile and Brazil finally reaching Argentina. Here they are! (Applause)

Obviously, coming here to the Castelli Romani we found people here who welcomed us and who are with us for these few days. We are meeting together with

them so we want to greet Emmaus and Jesús especially and all our people who live here (Applause).

Furthermore, today we are especially glad to have Christian Krause with us, who is a German Lutheran Bishop and a former president of the Lutheran World Federation. Thank you for being here with us. (Applause)

Let's say something about this meeting. As I said, two meetings are being held this year because the second will be dedicated to various countries in Europe, in the Middle East and Africa, and they will start in two weeks' time.

Why do we have these meetings? We can tell you some of the things we will be talking about and Angie is here to tell us. Angie, tell us something about yourself first.

Angie: My name is Angie, hi everyone! I am Korean and I come from a city in the south west of Korea where we have just opened a focolare on the outskirts of the city.

Enrico: Great. Can you say what has been happening in the last few days? What is this meeting for? What are we talking about?

Angie: We have come here to share our experiences with the church, with young people and also the challenges, the things that are not doing so well, and looking to the future, together.

Enrico: Great! Thanks.

Here is Mark. Where are you from and what do you do?

Mark: I come from Australia; I am married and work as a film producer in television.

Enrico: Can you tell us your experience of the last few days, how it's going?

Mark: It is an amazing experience of being one family. We are trying to "get into the other person's shoes" and it is a fantastic experience to get to know other people in depth, with their challenges and their situations, everything, building deep relationships. It's fantastic. It is like the United Nations should be and could be. (Laughter).

Enrico: Just like the United Nations! Thanks.

For the time being, Agustin e Patricia, we'll hand back to you and then be in touch later. Thank you.

Patricia: Thanks to all of you at Castel Gandolfo.

3. IRLANDA - INCONTRO DELLE FAMIGLIE CON PAPA FRANCESCO

Patricia: Among all the things that have happened in the world, we can't fail to mention the World meeting of Families with the Pope in Dublin, Ireland. Let's see some footage.

(Music)

Patricia: As you can see the Pope's meeting with the families was a real celebration. Many people in the Movement were very actively involved preparing it in different ways, also by telling experiences. Here we see a family from Mumbai.

We are linked up with Dublin and with Susan Gately. Are you there Susan?

Susan Gately: Yes, I'm here. Hello to everyone from Ireland!

Patricia: Hi Susan! Can you tell us what the experience was like for you all in helping prepare the meeting? What happened behind the scenes?

Susan: Look, it was really an incredible experience! We worked for more than a year and a half for this meeting, together with the Church. We were part of everything that happened, both at the pastoral congress beforehand and then with the Pope. Many people in the movement spoke or told experiences. We were involved in the voluntary services. Our band sang a song. We were in ... One beautiful thing was the interreligious event in the Anglican Cathedral in Dublin, to pray for our planet with religious leaders from seven different faiths. I think it was something that had never happened before. We also offered our Mariapolis Centre to accommodate a group of Romanians, from the Greek Catholic Church who came with their bishop. It was fantastic.

At the same time, I must say the meeting was also difficult, because the media concentrated on the clerical abuse of minors and this reopened a wound that has decimated the Church here for 20 years. But the fact that the Pope spoke about it and asked forgiveness during Mass was something historic and really gave great hope for the future, that we can go ahead.

Patricia: Thanks a lot Susan and thanks to all of you for the work you did.

4. BRAZIL - THE "BREAD MAKING GIRLS"

Agustin: Now we are going to hear about the experience of the Golden Grain bakery, at the Ginetta Mariapolis in Brazil. It all began 30 years ago from a group of girls who became known as "the bread making girls".

(Music and slide: the bread making girls – Vargem Grande Paulista – San Paolo)

Adriana *(in Italian)*: I start working at 4.30-5.00 in the morning, and I come here to "Spiga" (Golden Grain) to open the place, turn on the lights, the oven, the machines ... Then the first employees begin to arrive and we start working.

(Music)

The first thing we do is to make bread, simple bread - here it is called "French bread". I start baking the first batch and then we make all the snacks, both salty and

sweet. Then we prepare a variety of different kinds of bread that may be needed that day. It's a job that really requires a lot of flexibility because it depends on the orders we get.

I am Italian from Bergamo. I've lived in Brazil for 38 years but my background is in hotels, restaurants and food services in general. I have tried to introduce here some Italian recipes using the pasta made here at the Golden Wheat. I've been very successful, really very successful. (Music)

It all began in 1988. Here, near São Paulo, there was a centre of the Focolare Movement where many young people came to spend some time during the year. There was nothing to support them except the cultivation of fruit and vegetables and gardening. Then one of us suggested: "I learned how to make bread at home, my mother taught me". Another said: "I can make biscuits! Why don't we make them at home, put them in bags and go out and sell them? ". "But where can we sell them?" another one asked. There was a road in front of our centre, and some tourists were beginning to pass that way on the way to São Paulo, which is 45 km from there. It was a nice area, a green zone, and so people were starting to build their residences or apartment buildings, which meant a lot of movement in the area. What did we do? With a basket filled with plastic bags, we went down to the street, and holding out our hands, we offered bread for sale.

I think that on the first Sunday, six or seven cars stopped. The mere fact that we had sold something, maybe worth about 100 reals, (50 euros) was everything for us! (Music)

It was wonderful! We did that for three months, but then we said: "OK that's enough, we have enough money" – we needed it for our youth activities. But on the first Sunday when we weren't out there on the road with our little stand, two cars came looking for the girls who had been selling bread! So one of us said: "We have to keep going!"

(Music)

Mariam (in Portuguese): We began this work encouraged by Ginetta who also had a great desire to meet the people who were passing by our centre. So it was a great opportunity not only to sell bread, but also to let these people know about the Mariapolis.

(Music)

Adriana (in Italian): I not only managed the stall along the road, but then I introduced a covered cart, with pizza for sale, and then another cart for ice cream. Then we started baking sweet bread; in short, we had a variety of products. People came looking for us and told us, "We like your smiles!" That's how "The Golden Grain"

business began. Why did it start? To give a job to people in need. When we officially opened the bakery and inaugurated the first part, the bakery was just 5 square meters. As of today, it has been restructured four times, and we even opened another branch.

Monica (in Portuguese): This second branch of the Golden Grain began precisely in order to serve the customers in the area of Jardim Margarida, which is in an area with many economic difficulties (...) It's a poor neighbourhood, without good buildings, good sanitation and other facilities, (...) As our friends came to realize what we are doing, they began to bring us anything extra that they had, donating food or clothing, precisely because they knew that we would give it to the people we are helping.

Adriana (in Italian): Of the 22 employees, 14 are from the village nearby and from other villages around here.

(Music)

Leticia (in Portuguese): My life has completely changed because everything I learned here has helped me. Before I was very shy and now I'm not ashamed to talk to people. It helped me a lot, I really like being here because this is not just a job, it's a family! Working here has really taught me a lot!

Adriana (in Italian): We also had many difficult moments, several armed robberies, and when it happened, I personally experienced the gun pointed at the back of my neck. But I asked one of those young guys who wanted to steal from us: "Why are you doing this?" He said: "We need these things!" So I tried to love them, too; and at a certain point, he put the gun away and when I accompanied him outside, he looked at me and said, "Why are you doing this? Will you report me to the police?" I said: "No, but you have to promise me that you won't come back here" and he said: "I won't!"

(Music)

Diletta (in Portuguese): I feel certain that our customers come here especially for our smiles! In this moment when there are so many problems and so much pain, a person comes into our shop and the first thing he or she wants to see is a smiling face. Then they will buy bread and everything else they need to take home. (...) But above all, it's the smile they look for because beneath it is a life rooted in God, and each one of us really tries to give God to everyone who comes here.

(Music – slide: by Marco Aleotti, filmed by Carlo Sgambato)

Agustin: Wow! Don't tell me that you don't want to go and try out all those good things! Thanks to you all at the Golden Grain!

5. INDIA – LA COMUNITÀ DEL KERALA DOPO L'ALLUVIONE

Agustin: Now let's go to India. A month has gone by since the terrible floods in the State of Kerala. We all saw the news of the destruction that took place. The community of the movement set out immediately to help and support people who had lost everything. Marcelo and Annabel send us this report.

Speaker (female voice in English): *With heavy rainfall lashing the state of Kerala in India, over 400 people have lost their life and 10,000 people have been displaced, currently in relief camps across the state. As the weather affected flights and other means of transport to the state, it was even a challenge to provide relief materials in time.*

Fr Shinto Kuzhinjalil OCD, Founder – For you Trust (in a local language, dubbed in English) *In the floods here, people lost their houses, agriculture is destroyed. Many lost their study materials and also some children were swept away with the flood. People's regular medicines were floating in the water. People didn't have water, food and clothes. They were crying to God and asking for protection.*

Speaker: *As a member of the Focolare in Mumbai said, "Is it possible that we can only pray and not do anything concrete, even if it is a small gesture?"*

Brian D'Silva Mumbai Focolare Community (in English): *And it was at that time that Fr. Shinto, who is in the midst of all this contacted us and said that any help is always welcome and most needed.*

Speaker: *So we opened the Focolare to whatever the local community was willing to share. We were surprised by the overwhelming response which got many generous souls together, to collect necessities such as food grains, clothes, blankets and sanitary items. This was donated to Kerala through Fr Shinto and the For You Jesus Trust which is inspired by the life of Chiara Luce Badano. Even the youth of the Focolare took many initiatives to raise funds for their friends in Kerala. From selling pizzas in Bangalore, cupcakes in Delhi and barbeque in Mumbai, the Gen responded with a sense of urgency and generosity to raise money so that the community in Kerala can be rebuilt. (Music)*

We visited some places and helped with food, clothing and shelter. All these efforts are like a few drops of love in the vast ocean of relief work as the people of Kerala continue rebuilding their lives and believing in the immense love of God.

Agustin: Just a few hours ago we were in touch with Fr Shinto who gave us some more news.

Fr. Shinto Kuzhinjalil OCD (Founder – For You Trust): *Now the rescue is over, people are returning to their houses from the relief camps. And once they reach their houses, they see their destroyed houses and it is not any way to live there.*

And the focolare communities in Kerala, we visit the houses and meet parents, old people, children and everyone in distress. We console them and asking what all possible help they need. Children ask us: “Would you help us to build the house, they ask us. Would you help us to get our books and we try to support them and offer all kind of possible help. Once they cry we see Jesus Forsaken in them and we respond out of love and unity

Agustin: Thank you Fr Shinto and thanks to the community in Kerala!

6. ANGOLA – LA SCUOLA “LITTLE FLAME”

Patricia: Now let’s go to Africa, to Angola, where with support from AFN, Action by New Families, a small school has been founded which is enabling development in the local community. Let’s see the report we received.

[In Portuguese]

Slide: Mossulo Island, Luanda, Angola

Cláudio Domingos, Volunteer of the Focolare Movement: *The school called “The Little Flame” (Pequena Chama) began when a group that often came to have retreats here in Mossulo noticed the high infant mortality rate that we have. People who belong to the Focolare Movement felt that this situation could not continue and so they launched a project among their Angolan community. At the beginning, it focused on providing food for the children. Then they began holding classes to teach them to read and write. Later with the help of the NGO New Families in Action, which sponsors adoptions at a distance, we were able to collect money to build a school.*

Antonio Quiximba, Administrator: *At this moment we have about 160 children in the school, in two shifts. In the morning we have the kindergarten and later in the day, we have an after-school program. (Music)*

Alzira Samuco, Director of Education:

It’s difficult to get teachers from outside the country for our school and so we decided to involve the young people who live here in Mossulo. When they arrive they are in secondary school and we work with them so that they can become teachers.

Basílio dos Santos, Teacher: *Since I started teaching here, I am very happy because I can help my people grow physically, emotionally and psychologically.*

Maria Capitão, Teacher: *We don't have many schools here. This school is a great gift for both the parents and their children.*

Alvaro Caleia, Teacher: *Our goal is to give them a better future, to raise them to be good and well-educated persons, while also allowing them to spend time with other children.*

Antonio Quiximba, Administrator: *What's important for us is not only the financial help we receive, but also the moral support of others and their advice on how we can improve what we are doing.*

Alexandra Gamito, member of the administrative council: *Some people from the Focolare community in Luanda come here to work as volunteers in our school (...) We also try to involve local business people, asking them to sponsor a child.*

Antonio Quiximba, Administrator: *For us, it's our life to be here with these children and they give us great joy and peace.*

Patricia: Thanks to all of you in Angola!

While we are in Africa, we have received greetings from Fontem in Cameroon, where there is still a lot of tension. I'll read it: *"We are well despite the situation we are in. Unfortunately, we can't be linked up because the internet signal is weak, but we want to take this opportunity to thank our big family in the world that is supporting us with prayers and unity. We assure you that we are with you all."*

7. USA – Gary, IN – LET'S COLOUR OUR CITY

Agustin: We'll now go to North America, to the State of Indiana where some of the Teens for Unity sent us this report.

[In English]

(Music)

Speaker (female voice): *Gary, Indiana. The hometown of Michael Jackson was a city founded by the U.S. Steel Corporation. In the 1970s and 1980s, the one-industry urban centre just crumbled. Those who could get out did, and those who couldn't, were left in a shell of a city that soon became one of the poorest in the country, and in the top 10 most violent cities.*

Three boys: *Let's Colour Our City! 2018! We can't wait to get there.*

Anna Paula, focolare Chicago: Gary was also the site of the 5th edition of Let's Colour Our City in the Midwest, and although it was the 5th year that we were hosting this service retreat, this was the very first time that we were doing it in close collaboration with the youth ministry's office of the diocese.

Kevin Driscoll, Director of Youth, Diocese of Gary, Indiana: It was a great opportunity for our Youth ministry programs to join them, so we were a collaborative partner in it. So it was about half teens4unity teens from all over the Midwest and even Georgia, as well as about half our Youth Ministry Programs from 7 different parishes all meeting together. The turnout was great; the work was great but really the human component was really what was transformative.

Speaker (male voice): One hundred and one of us from six states and Northwest Indiana came to give their helping hands to bring warmth and love and colour to some of the city's greyest corners, working with 13 local organizations on 25 sites. There were moments of service, prayer, formation in Catholic Social Teaching.

Karen Freeman-Wilson, Mayor of Gary, Indiana (woman): I'm Karen Freeman Wilson and I am the Mayor of the City of Gary and I know that we are the host this week of young people from all over the Midwest. And I just want to – as a parent – thank you for entrusting your child to come and work, and volunteer and really show love in our community. Thank you parents, we'll take care of them.

Denzel (boy): we have been doing a lot of things; we have been serving food to the homeless. We have been going to nursing homes, giving them company, helping them out and stuff. Right now we are cleaning up around this neighbourhood. I've learned a lot of things, I've learned that I just need to help out whenever I can because I see a lot of the struggling, ...

Morgan S., Teens 4Unity Ohio (girl): It is so great to know that something that little can eventually lead to making a huge difference in the entire world. It will take some work but we can get there eventually. I am so grateful for this experience and I will always remember how I made those people feel and how they made me feel; and how I was able to see God in everyone including my friends and people I didn't even think that I could relate to at all, but turns out I can and they aren't that different from me.

Speaker (male voice): Many of the teens who were coming for the first time said how much these days helped them grow closer to God and to their communities. It helped them understand how something small can have a big impact on someone's life, reinforced their commitment to live for their neighbours in their own communities.

Most Reverend Donald J. Hying, Bishop of Gary, Indiana: So in the midst of all the things we could say are wrong, the fact that well over 100 youth gave four days of their summer, as well as adult leaders, it really brings hope and life to our city. (...) I'm sure for many of them to see the poverty of Gary was an eye-opening experience - I thank especially our wonderful youth who never cease to surprise and amaze us with their goodness and with their mercy.

(Music)

JJ Berry, Teens 4 Unity, Chicago: I really enjoyed this retreat - it was so much fun, (...) I was just so very proud of us. It was the opposite of what I expected, not just any other ordinary retreat. I didn't leave with friends, I left with family. Music

8. MEXICO – SHARE, REBUILD, RE-START

Patricia: It's been a year since one of the strongest earthquakes hit the state of Puebla in Mexico, where the little town "El Diamante" [the Diamond] is located. The young people from different countries who were there started work right away to help people. They have sent us a video telling how the reconstruction work is going, together with the communities hit by the earthquake.

[In Spanish]

Slide text: On September 19, 2017, México experienced one of the strongest earthquakes in its history. The epicentre was in the state of Puebla where the Focolare's little town "El Diamante" (The Diamond) is located. Twenty young people from different nations were living and studying there for a year.

Sandy – Guadalajara (México): We were in class when we felt the tremor; we got very scared because it was so strong. We tried to contact our families to make sure everything was all right with them, but all lines of communication were cut.

When communication finally resumed, we listened to the news and we were shocked to hear of the serious damage in various parts of the country. We wanted to help concretely and so together with the other residents of the little town, we set up a collection point, but already many people in our neighbourhood were doing the same. Then we learned that the city of Contla, around 300 kilometers from the little town, had been almost totally destroyed.

(Music)

Julio – El Salvador: When we reached the city, we realized the gravity of the earthquake. It was extremely painful for the families that lost their homes. It was also

painful for us to load the debris from their houses; we realized that it was the least we could do was to help them. We didn't care about getting tired or fatigued. We just wanted to keep helping them.

Paola – Guadalajara (México): We saw the need to return there, but we had no way to get there. Together we prayed for help, and talking again with the person who had lent us his truck, he offered to take us back there the next day. This increased our faith that we could plan an even bigger project to help those people.

Julio – El Salvador: We really wanted to be here, and rebuilding the houses was our mega-dream. Little by little, even if in a situation of uncertainty, this is happening.

Gloria – Contla (México): This is my home. It was totally destroyed on September 19. When help began to arrive, one of the groups was the Focolare youth; they were always with us. When they were not here physically, they would ask us: how is it going in Contla? Is Contla recovering? They never left us on our own.

Padre Gerardo – Teotlalco, México: My name is Father Gerardo Pérez Alfaro, the parish priest of this community, in one of the areas that sustained the most damage. I remember that one Sunday I saw many people in church and they were all of you from the family of the Focolare. I was very struck to see that they came from Argentina, Germany, Colombia and other countries. For me, as a servant, as the parish priest, it was impressive to see how hard these young people worked and the witness of their life... it makes me want to continue even more in this service of assisting others.

Joaquín – Argentina: We established very strong relationships here in Contla, not only with the inhabitants but also among us. Coming here was a shock; we had to put aside all our own thoughts and ideas. Eventually, our relationship with the inhabitants of Contla grew very strong, too. The last time we went there, people were anxiously waiting for us, with the desire to meet each other again.

Adelina - Contla (México): Thank you for the love you give us; above all, for the heart that you bring us, thank you.

Gloria – Contla (México): We know that perhaps some of you had to postpone your trips, or sell things to help ... or do something to sustain Contla. This is what really motivates us to go ahead, and we know that you will not leave us, that we can go ahead. Thank you!

Patricia: Thanks to all of you, all the young people at the El Diamante Mariapolis.

9. EAST AFRICA - SPORTS4PEACE

Patricia: The next video also features the activities of young people, but we'll go to East Africa: to South Sudan, Kenya and Burundi. "Sports4Peace" is an action that aims to form young people to a peace building mentality through sport. Let's hear from these young people and their teachers who were involved:

[In English]

Emmanuel (boy): *I've learned peace and unity*

Elisabeth (girl): *I've learned how to be honest to everyone*

Linda (girl): *In all games I've learned to live as one family with your friends*

(Music)

Speaker: *Emmanuel, Elizabeth and Linda participated in the "Sports4Peace" project in South Sudan, which took place at the end of August and beginning of September in two primary schools of the Diocese of Rumbek, in the centre of the country. The project, which included also activities in Kenya and Burundi, involved over 1000 children and teenagers between 6 and 14 years of age. It aims at forming young people in a culture of peace through sports, games and socialization in a region - namely Eastern Africa - which has been rated by the Human Development Index as among the poorest of the world.*

Dr. Alois Hechenberger, facilitator – Sport4Peace (in English): *Sport4peace started I think ten years ago, in Austria, during a Mariapolis week and there we actually we had a problem because many children were a little violent, not treating each other really well, there was anger around and there was not – as we say – peace. So we were talking – we leaders and assistants – how we could improve the situation. And our goal was to make a really good experience, a positive experience, experience of fraternity and unity*

Speaker: *Another important element in the project was the formation of 150 educators and animators from all over Eastern Africa. In fact, they are the primary role-models for the youth, as witnesses of a style of sport based on peace.*

Christine Ocokoru, animator South Sudan

I learned to be friends with my enemies in different games, and to be courageous and a leader myself too. I've also learned to have more self-esteem, and to live a spirituality of togetherness and cooperation.

Dr. Alois Hechenberger, facilitator – Sport4Peace (in English): *(...) for us is very important to live the golden rule, the golden rule we know we found it in all cultures, in all religions, in different expressions: treat the others as you would like to be treated.*

Jodie Benilde (Burundi) (in the local language): Through sport we have learned how to love and help others, that we should not tease them but love one another.

Ezekiel, animator South Sudan (in English): I hope we are going to get changes in our country because this place needs peace seriously

Orfania Kundi, Kenya National commission for UNESCO (in English): Sport should be promoted as an instrument for peace, all of us should look at sport positively not just for entertainment but as a very important tool that can promote talent of the young people and (...) in that doing there will be peace where they live and peace in the world.

Agustin: Great young people, aren't they?

10. COLOMBIA – EOC: DIVERSIFY TO GENERATE DEVELOPMENT

Agustin: It all started with Father Emiro and the desire to give work to his people. This is how the ACEDECO PADEVI Company began in Colombia; a community-run business that is inspired by the Economy of Communion and which is an important resource for the area today.

[In Spanish]

(Shots of the area – slide saying: by Adriana María Avellaneda with Lorenzo Giovanetti)

Father Emiro Barrera Rojas, Founder of ACEDECO PADEVI (Spanish): In 1994, I lived in Loppiano and it was a school that changed my life completely. That's where I heard about the Economy of Communion for the first time. When I got back to Colombia, I saw this vast expanse of unused land, and around it so many people who had nothing, not even a place to work. I shared this concern of mine with a group of my neighbours. I wanted to practice what I had learned in Loppiano, because material goods are not ours to possess, rather they belong to God, and if shared, they can multiply.

Music

Caption: Timaná, Huila (Colombia)

Title: EoC Colombia: diversify to promote development

Music

Maria Gloria Penagos Sanchez, legal counsel of ACEDECO PADEVI (Spanish): We used to harvest coffee beans and when there were none, we had no work; we didn't even have land we could use to plant. In his generosity, Fr. Emiro gave us his

land, and so we started raising chickens and planting onions. The most beautiful thing I remember is the Word of Life. Sometimes there were differences among us, but the Word of Life arrived on time and helped us to maintain what is now our business enterprise. For 5 years now we have sown and harvested, and none of the workers ask for the profits because they know we put them back into the business so that it can grow.

Music

Yesid Chilito Penagos, general coordinator of ACEDECO PADEVI (Spanish): We lived in absolute material poverty, our house was made of clay with a cardboard roof ... I remember that when I went to harvest coffee beans, my workmates made fun of me because I would tell them: "I want to study and learn how to work differently from the way I work now." At that time, there were only two people who gave us work in this area because they owned most of the land. They paid us less than they should have and exploited the workers. I had always lived in that situation, even though I didn't live there anymore. Then my mother told me: "Son, you went to school, you know how to use the computer, help me to present this project." I accepted but on one condition: we had to diversify.

Music

Today we produce coffee and raise chickens and pigs to an industrial standard. We also breed fish and cultivate an organic vegetable farm with a great variety of products. We are developing methods that respect the environment and we make the most of the waste generated during production, processing them to be re-used.

Music

Only to the extent that we combine our differences and difficulties, can we generate development and change without need for a large fund of money, nor even great knowledge. Together we can generate productive, effective and socially sustainable development over time. But we also need to trust the major shareholder, our silent partner, as Fr. Emiro calls him, who is there even when we don't see him, but who always takes care of us.

Maria Gloria Penagos Sanchez, legal counsel ACEDECO PADEVI (Spanish): Certainly, we can put our needs together so that in the future we can gather the fruits, like those we have now.

Father Emiro Barrera Rojas, Founder of ACEDECO PADEVI (Spanish): I feel the presence of the Lord who multiplies the bread and the fish. I see the Gospel lived; if we give ourselves to him, he gives us the hundredfold, because we have left land,

people, everything. The Lord will give us much more in this world and eternal life as well.

(Music and captions ACEDECO PADEVI: Communitarian Association of the Economy of Communion Word of Life- Huila – Colombia)

11. CHIARA LUBICH: AMARE TUTTI SENZA DISTINZIONI

Agustin: There is so much to be thankful for and much to pray for. So much good news and a great many challenges in our big family.

Patricia: It's true, and many things help us believe that love always brings light and helps us treat people without discriminating between them. This is what Chiara said in 2002 when she talked to our Muslim friends.

Chiara Lubich: *At the beginning of the Movement, due to the painful circumstances of the war, we directed our love to the poor. And this was a school for us! We were not used to loving in a supernatural way. At the most, our care and concern reached our family and friends. Instead now we dedicated our attention to all the poor people in the city. We invited them to come to our homes and to eat with us. We met them on the street and gave them whatever we had collected. We visited them in the poorest areas and tried to find the medicines they needed to get well.*

At first, we focused our love on the poor because we thought that we could love Jesus through and in them. He had said, "Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." And it was amazing to see God's providence arrive in the form of food, clothes and medicine!

At a certain point, when a few hundred people were already living like us, we felt that the Lord was asking that we too become poor, in order to better serve the poor and everyone else.

That was the day we made what was later called, "the bundle". Each one of us put what they felt they did not need in a pile, in the middle of a room in the first Focolare - a coat, a pair of gloves, a hat; I remember there was even a fur coat. In fact, we were fascinated by the stupendous page about the first Christians, which says that they were all one heart and one soul in Jerusalem, and no one considered their possessions as their own, because they had everything in common, and no one among them was in need (see Acts 4: 32,34). No one was in need among them.

(...) This is how the communion of goods began. Then it grew and expanded until now we have the Economy of Communion project, which we will speak about during the next few days.

Since love always produces light, we think that it may have been because of this love shown to the poor that very soon we discovered something else. We began to understand that our hearts had to be open not only to the poor, but to all people without excluding anyone, like God who sends sunshine and rain on the just and the unjust alike (see Mt 5:45). So we cannot choose between a nice person and an unpleasant one, between a person who is beautiful and one who is ugly, between a person from my country and a foreigner, black, white or yellow, European or American, African or Asian, Christian or Jew, Muslim or Hindu. Love does not discriminate in any way.

Loving others individually and all together; loving our neighbours one by one and having the highest respect for each nation and people. This leads to a radical change in mentality, it starts a revolution! If everyone were to do this one thing, we would experience heaven on earth.

Agustin: It's great to hear Chiara!

12. GREETING FROM MARIA VOCE (EMMAUS) LIVE FROM CASTEL GANDOLFO

Agustin: Let us call Castelgandolfo again. Are you there Enrico?

Enrico: Yes, we're here, here at Castel Gandolfo, with Emmaus. I have a question Emmaus. We have seen many beautiful stories that are very moving and then Chiara's words which are very simple but strong, this love for everyone that comes from the Gospel. My question is this: how do Chiara's words sound to you, in the light of all the things we have shared today and in the last few days?

Emmaus: I was always impressed by Chiara and I am still, because I feel as though she has seen this link up with us, and at the end she is the one explaining what we wanted to say through the conference call. Truly, small parts of the world transformed into heaven already exist, because the stories that we have heard and all that we have shared in these few days... Here are representatives from all these countries, of all of you listening to us, and who have brought your life to us, all the beauty, everything! The little that they were able to tell us of all the good that you do, that you experience in the world; all this gives me so much joy and gives me such great hope. It's true, how many experiences have we heard in this link up? Maybe ten. What are ten before all the needs of the world? But some people saw those ten needs and did something. To do so, they met together and asked what they could do concretely, and then got together to work.

So if they did these ten, and the many, many others that we have heard about in these few days, and all the ones we didn't hear about because we were not able to,

why can't we hope? Why not see with Chiara this world that is transformed into heaven, into the earthly paradise that Jesus brought on earth, and that he wants to achieve through our action, through our concrete work? Why not hope?

I hope, I believe that you, who are listening to me, you hope too. With this hope we can all start to work.

Best wishes to you all!

Enrico: Thank you, Emmaus. (Applause) So with these words, and with Emmaus's hope, which is ours too, and for everyone, let's go ahead. We'll say goodbye now and hand over to you Agustin and Patricia. Thanks a lot. Bye to you all! (Applause).

FINAL GREETINGS FROM THE FOCOLARE CENTRE

Agustin: Thank you Emmaus, Thank you Enrico. Greetings to all those who have followed us.

Patricia: Our Conference Call has come to an end. See you next time, which will be on 17th November at 8 p.m., Italian time. So, let's say goodbye Agustin!

Agustin: We'll say goodbye and look forward to hearing your news. *Y queremos saludar también a los jóvenes de la Mariápolis Lia que en los próximos días van a realizar su tradicional fiesta de los jóvenes, así que decirles que también estamos con ustedes y no puedo no saludar a todo el pueblo cubano, así que... Ciao!*

Patricia: Bye everyone!