

SUMMARY OF THE LINK UP of 28th February 2015

This edition of the Link Up seeks to:

- strengthen solidarity with people in the world who are in extremely difficult situations because of violence, terrorism, wars and migrations; and support the efforts being made by many people to help others;
- to renew our commitment to “collective holiness” following Chiara Lubich’s example, seeing it as a gift to offer to the people of our day.

Phone calls with Libya and Ukraine

Jordan and Iraq

Two testimonies which speak of the terrible sufferings of these peoples, the great care given to refugees and hope for a peaceful future for the Middle East and for the whole world.

Mosul - Lyon

Like thousands of other families, Ayad’s family had to flee their home in Mosul and leave Iraq. This sense of exile from their home was made less painful by the warm welcome in France from people who share the same ideal of unity.

Mexico

Lupita and Victor explain what happened to their son who disappeared when he was only 26. They looked for him everywhere and some months later found that he had been killed. It is a tragic situation shared by many in Mexico but made more powerful by love which forgives.

Nigeria

People in Nigeria are suffering so much because of armed groups that terrorize ordinary people with insane violence. We hear the witness of the Focolare community in Abuja, who are living out the “culture of forgiveness” and sharing what they have with those who have least.

Hungary

In recent weeks tens of thousands of refugees have crossed the border into Hungary and gone to a city called Szeged. The Focolare community did what they could to help those who had lost everything.

France

We are all aware of the recent dramatic events in France. But few know all that has been happening in Cannes over the last four years: a deep friendship between people of different religions for which the city was awarded the “Chiara Lubich Prize for Cities Promoting Fraternity”.

Great Britain

“Do you care?” - 90 young people (Christians, Muslims and some without formal faith) came to the Centre for Unity in Welwyn Garden City. The weekend focused on building bridges between people of different cultures and faiths. It really does work.

Giuseppe Zanghì and the new generations

Some extracts from an interview not seen before.

Dialogue on “collective holiness”

with Maria Voce (Emmaus), Jesús Morán and Peter Dettwiler

Chiara Lubich’s experience of the tension towards holiness - 31.12.1980