

# IN SOLIDARITY WITH PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

SIT QUARTERLY BULLETIN No. 3 / 2019

SIT MEETING

DAYS IN THE SUESA MONASTERY

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...?



### DAYS IN THE SUESA MONASTERY. . .

#### IN SOLIDARITY WITH PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS



Last December, on the feast of Saint John de Matha, we enjoyed, as we have been doing in recent years, an open-house for friends of the monastery. The main purpose was to get to know each other better and for visitors to learn more about the community of the Trinitarian Sisters of the Suesa monastery.

We began in the morning listening to a version of "Redemption in the Trinitarian charism". One of the sisters prepared an interesting presentation on the history of the Trinitarian charism, telling us

how redemptions were carried out in the early years of the Order, how the captives lived, what role the nuns had at that time, etc. It was all very interesting and it allowed us to learn a little more about

this surprisingly current charism.

During the two brief of prayer sessions with the community we felt God's nearness, His presence in us and, we could almost feel Him dancing the entire time among those of us participating in the gathering. And then there was the gratitude to St. John de Matha for that concern which became a project, and today is a reality that allows us to enjoy our time in this House of the Holy Trinity.

It was emotionally intense to learn about the reality that Christians suffer in countries where they are a minority, an object of intolerance to the point of persecution or extermination. Especially so when you are hearing it from someone who has been there, someone who personally lived through not just the anguish but also the firmness of faith of these people. We were fortunate to have the testimony of Fr. Antonio Aurelio Fernández, Trinitarian religious and president of SIT. His message was shocking: They only ask us to pray for them and to be consistent with our faith. That is all they ask of us! Some acknowledged that it would have been more bearable if they asked us for money. It's a little embarrassing, isn't it?

#### A MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

TRINITARIAN SISTERS (ROME)

On April 6, a musical performance organized by the Trinitarian Sisters of Rome took place at the Aurelio Theater in Rome with the collaboration of the parents and students of our school, Nuestra Señora del Reposo, to benefit persecuted Christians.



## DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

#### IN INDONESIA

On Flores, coexistence between Muslims and Christians is an everyday reality.

Despite attempts to provoke interreligious conflict, the population has always been immune to this kind of violence. Our Trinitarian brothers who are natives of this beautiful place, refer to the Holy Week processions as an example; While Christians go on their processions with their floats through the streets, Muslims will form a human barricade along the way to protect the participants in the procession.



#### IN SRY LANKA

After the attacks suffered by the Christian churches on Easter Sunday, there were words and gestures of solidarity from the different religious groups towards the victims of the attacks. Muslim leaders offered the mosque in Colombo, the country's capital, for Christians to use for their services. According to ecclesial sources in the country, after the attacks in Sri Lanka, there is "a lot of solidarity, that everyone mobilizes to help, even the government."

#### SIT MEETING IN CRACOVIA

The SIT meeting in Krakow took place from April 29 to May 1. These were days of intense work and Trinitarian family life. For the first time all branches of the Trinitarian family were represented.

The Trinitarian community's hospitality was exquisite, replete with many kind gestures. Everything was prepared with much attention to detail to make us feel at home.

Thank you brothers for your service and dedication!

The intense work carried out by the Trinitarian family

from different parts of the world and from different realities was made manifest in every meeting. The desire to collaborate was palpable and seeing all of the activities and initiatives being carried out left us feeling surprised and with hearts full of gratitude.

We all felt that we were doing very little but upon seeing the combined efforts of everyone, by sharing resources and challenges, the desire to continue collaborating grew, to do whatever we can, however little, so that Christians per-

for their faith in Jesus may feel the strength of our prayer. In addition to getting to know the secuted beautiful city of Krakow, we also visited Calvary sanctuary, and the Auschwitz - Birkenau extermination and concentration camp where we remembered especially our Venerable Sr. Angela Maria Autsch.

> We also had several conferences, Robert Woźniak a theologian told us about the relationship of the Trinity, Then a historian explained how they lived through the period of religious persecution in Krakow during communism. Finally, our Trinitarian sisters from Valencia brought us closer to the the person of the Venerable Sister Angela Maria Autsch.

We took part in two important events: a prayer vigil for persecuted Christians and a theatrical presentation about St. John de Matha.

#### PRAYER VIGIL

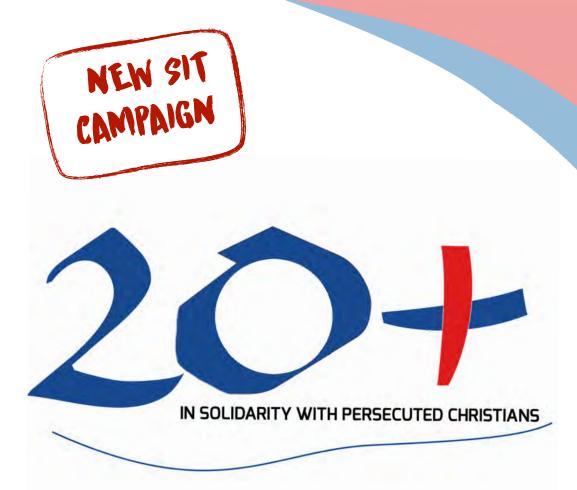
prayer accompanied by songs and

short meditations.

#### THEATRE

Performed by a group of young actors, and written by one of the young people close to the Trinitarian community of Krakow, we enjoyed an updated and dynamic version of St. John de Matha's life.





This year SIT is twenty years old. This time adds to the eight centuries in which the Trinitarian Family has been present with people persecuted for their faith in Christ.

During the eighth centenary, the Order wanted to promote its redeeming charism through this organization.

SIT facilitates the collaboration and networking of many people who are in solidarity and who pray and give a voice to those in the 21st century who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus.

With this new campaign we want to emphasize that SIT's work is a continuation of the Trinitarian charism.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE A GIFT YOU CAN OFFER TO THOSE BEING PERSECUTED FOR BELIEVING IN JESUS CHRIST.

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Trinitarian Solidarity International (S.I.T.) was created out of a desire of the Trinitarian Order to shape the response to benefit the persecuted Christians of the Trinitarian Family and of everyone who is sensitized to this drama against religious freedom.