

The Wisdom of the Cross in a pluralistic World

INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CONGRESS



ROME, PONTIFICAL LATERAN UNIVERSITY
FROM SEPTEMBER 21 TO 24, 2021

It is three hundred years since Saint Paul of the Cross founded the Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ on Monte Argentario (GR) (1720-2021). The Superior General Father Joachim Rego wanted the event to be celebrated also with a great moment of study. He entrusted it to the Gloria Crucis Chair led by the Passionists at the Pontifical Lateran University.

The title chosen focuses on the centrality of the Wisdom of the Cross capable of unleashing the immense saving power in support and enrichment of all the cultures that are under heaven. Therefore all languages need to be redeemed and guided by the vision of Christ the Prince of Peace.

The most representative personalities in the academic world were invited. Biblical and theological research, accompanied by contributions of the philosophical, pastoral, psychological, sociological, artistic, cinematic, musical worlds etc..

The personalities who will animate the Congress in various ways are 88.

The Rector of the Pontifical Lateran University Prof. Vincenzo Buonomo welcomes. The Superior General of the Passionists will introduce the 3rd centenary and the theme of the Congress. The President of the Union of Superiors General, the Most Reverend Father Arturo Sosa Abascal, Superior General of the Jesuits, will also speak.

The Passionist apostolic and social dimension is represented by the pioneering work of Dr. Richard Frechette C.P. who works in Haiti, including a photographic exhibition of the difficult humanitarian situations in Haiti. The exhibition is curated by the Francesca Rava Foundation.

Another exhibition is aimed at representing the Passion of Christ in sacred art curated by Dr. Giuseppe Bacci. The two exhibitions will be located at the Scala Santa in Rome and on display to the public from 4 - 30 September 2021.

Music on the Passion of Christ is also highlighted. On the evening of the first day of the Congress, at the Basilica of the Generalate of the Passionists, the renowned musician Mons. Marco Frisina will organize a concert on the music of the Passion.

The Congress will take place at the Pontifical Lateran University from the morning of September 21 and will end in the afternoon of September 24 with the Eucharistic celebration in the Basilica of San Giovanni. It will also be streamed online. The morning sessions will have simultaneous translation in Italian, English and Spanish. The four afternoon sessions will be divided into Italian, English, Spanish and French with 16 presentations per afternoon.

P. Fernando Taccone, passionist.
Congress director

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of the Cross in a
Pluralistic World**



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Tuesday 21

September 2021

The Wisdom of the Cross and the challenges of cultures

8:30 Registration and distribution of the Congress folder

9:00 **The session is chaired** by H. Em. Card. Joao Braz De Aviz, Prefect of the Congregation for Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life

Moderator: Ciro Benedettini CP, President of the Centenary Jubilee Enthronement of the Crucifix and prayer.

Greetings from the Rector Magnificus of the Pontifical Lateran University, Prof. Vincenzo Buonomo

Presentation: Fernando Taccone CP, director of the Congress, Pontifical Lateran University

Opening Address: *The wisdom of the cross as a way of reconciliation in a plural world*, Most Reverend Rego Joachim, Superior General of the Passionists

Interval

10:45 **Lecture:** *The Wisdom of the Cross and the Challenges of Cultures:*

Biblical aspect: Prof. Antonio Pitta, Pro-Rector of the Pontifical Lateran University

11:30 *Theological aspect:* Prof. Tracey Rowland, University of Notre Dame of Australia

12:30 Lunch break

14:30 Secretariat open

14:30 **Opening of the exhibition on the Passion of Christ and photographic**



exhibition of the socio-apostolic activity of Dr. Frechette Richard CP in Haiti, supported by the Francesca Rava Foundation (MI)

15:00 Linguistic session: *The Wisdom of the Cross as a factor of provocation and challenge in today's cultural areopagus*

Italian section

Moderator: Prof. Giuseppe Marco Salvati OP, Pontifical Angelicum University

Lecture: *The wisdom of the Cross: crossroads of pastoral discernment*, Prof. Paolo Asolan, Dean of the Pastoral Institute, Pontifical Lateran University

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

a) *The Cross in the Letter to the Ephesians: unifying force in the fragmented society and in the divided Church*, Prof. Waldemar Linke CP, Cardinal Stefano Wyszyński University in Warsaw

b) *Cross and seeds of the Logos: foundations of Christian culture in Justin*, Prof. Gianni Sgreva CP, Theological Institute of Galilee - Israel (PUL), Director of the magazine *La Sapienza della Croce*

c) *The dimensions of freedom in the mystical experience of Paolo della Croce*, Prof. Tito Di Stefano CP, Emeritus, University of Perugia

d) *Simon Weil: The mysticism of waiting*, Prof. Maurizio Buioni CP, Theological Institute of Galilee - Israel (PUL)

English section

Moderator: Prof. Paul Francis Spencer CP

Lecture: *What the contemporary ecumenical quest on the Church can learn from the Wisdom of the Cross and the Theology of the Cross*?, Dr. Ala-OpasTaneli, Pastor of the Lutheran Church of Finland

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

a) *One Flesh for the Life of the World? How Can a Singular Human Death Redeem all of Humanity?*, Prof. Thomas Joseph White OP, Pontifical Angelicum University

b) *Let us begin with Christ. Let us begin with his Cross. The Centrality of Christ Crucified in the Writings of St John Henry Newman*, Prof. Donna Orsuto, Pontifical Gregorian University

c) *Wisdom of Scientia Crucis in the Writings of Edith Stein*, Prof. Shahid Mobeen, Pontifical Urbaniana University

d) *The daily cross: an apostolic magnet*, Prof. James Mwaura, Pontifical University of the Holy Cross

Spanish section

Moderator: Prof. José Luis Quintero CP

Lecture: *Paschal wisdom in the face of the 'crosses' of contemporary society*, Prof. Carlos Maria Galli, Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

a) *To whiten the clothes in the blood of the Lamb. Keys from the Apocalypse for a Theologia Crucis of the XXI century*, Prof. Tarcisio Gaitán CP, Bolivarian Pontifical University of Medellin Colombia

b) *Cross and faith in contemporary context*, Prof. Philip Goyret, Pontifical University of the Holy Cross

c) *Wisdom of the cross and religious coping before the persistence of suffering*, Prof. Lluís Oviedo OFM, Pontifical Antonianum University

d) *Seeking God in oneself or seeking oneself in God: the specific aspect of Christian spiritual life in the light of the seventh chapter of the second book of the Ascent to Mount Carmel of Saint John of the Cross*, Prof. Emilio José Martínez González OCD, Pontifical Theological Faculty Teresianum



French section

Moderator: Prof. Patrick Valdrini, former Pro-Rector, Pontifical Lateran University; Rector emeritus of the Institut Catholique de Paris

Lecture: *Thinking about the Future of Christianity in a globalized world*
The point of view of Stanislas Breton, Prof. Mvumbi Ngumba Pierre CP, St. Augustine University of Kinshasa

Communications and dialogue

a) *The moral implications of Christ's passion in today's world,* Prof. Aristide Gnada CSsR, Alphonsian Academy

b) *The Cross, Place of Meeting of Cultures,* Prof. Elie Muakasa CP, Pedagogical University Kinshasa National

c) *The Wisdom of the Cross and of spiritual childhood as a cultural challenge in the correspondence between Mgr. Charles Gay (1815-1892) and Mother Thérèse- Emmanuel (1849-1888),* Prof. Arthur Adrien, Pontifical University of the Holy Cross

d) *The pierced heart of Christ, between universal symbolism and historical singularity,* Prof. Denis Biju-Duval, Pontifical Lateran University

17:30 Round table in assembly with the Moderators of the Sections

Moderator: Prof. Vincenzo Battaglia OFM, Pontifical University Antonianum

18:30 End

20:30 **SS. Giovanni e Paolo, Concert on the songs of the Passion,** Choir of the Vicariate of Rome directed by M^o Marco Mons. Frisina.

CONGRESS PROGRAM

The Wisdom of the Cross in a Pluralistic World

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**Wednesday 22
September 2021**

The wisdom of the Cross in the promotion of humanism and interreligious dialogue

8:30 Secretariat open

9:00 **The session is chaired** by H. Em. Card Gualtiero Bassetti, President of CEI.

Morning prayer

Moderator: Prof. Lubomir Zak, Pontifical Lateran University

Lecture: *The Wisdom of the Cross and the promotion of integral humanism,* Card. Miguel Angel Ayuso Guixot MCCJ, President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue

Lecture: *The Wisdom of the Cross: ecological problems and the challenges posed to religions in a secularized world,* Prof. Maria Isabel Pereira Varanda, Catholic University of Portugal

10:45 Break

11:00 Dialogue on the two conferences

12:30 Lunch break

14:30 Secretariat open

15:00 **Linguistic session. The mystery of suffering: obstacle or path to the search for wisdom in religions?**

Italian section

Moderator: Prof. Angela Maria Lupo CP, Pontifical Urbaniana University



Lecture: *Re-reading of suffering in the Abrahamic-Christian tradition*, Prof. Frédéric Manns OFM, Emeritus, Faculty of Biblical Sciences and Archeology of Jerusalem

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

- a)** *First image of God in Chinese culture*, Prof. Zhao Hontgao, Pontifical Urbaniana University
- b)** *The crucifixion of Jesus presented in medieval Arab-Christian literature*, Prof. Diego Sarrio Cucarella, Dean of the Pontifical Institute for Arab and Islamic Studies
- c)** *The meaning of Jesus' death beyond the sacrificial interpretations*, Prof. Nicola Ciola, Pontifical Lateran University
- d)** *For a kenotic theology of peoples starting from the election of Israel*, Prof. Adolfo Lippi CP, Emeritus, Pontifical Antonianum University

English section

Moderator: Prof. Welle Jason OFM, Director of the Pontifical Institute for Arab and Islamic Studies

Lecture: *Redemption and suffering: in dialogue between Islam and Christianity*, Prof. Sihem Djebbi, Professor of Political Science and International Relations in Paris

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

- a)** *A Crucified God? Christian anthropological considerations and the challenge of Islam*, Prof. Joseph Ellul OP, Pontifical University Angelicum
- b)** *Night: The potential of a symbol for universal dialogue*, Prof. Iain Matthew OCD, Pontifical Theological Faculty Teresianum
- c)** *Image of the Cross and inculturation. The Syro-Malabar Tradition*, Prof. McNamara Edward LC, Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum.
- d)** *Human suffering and human*

Liberation from a Hindu Perspective, Prof. Benedict Kanakappally, Vice Rector of the Pontifical Urbaniana University

Spanish section

Moderator: Prof. Xabier Larrañaga Oyarzabal, CMF, Claretianum Institute of Theology of Consecrated Life

Lecture: *The suffering of the victims and the earth: revelation of the suffering of God*, Prof. Maria Clara Lucchetti Bingemer, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

- a)** *Mary and the sapientia crucis in the spiritual life of the priest*, Fr. Florián Rodero LC, Prof. Emeritus, Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum
- b)** *The mystery of suffering in popular mysticism: a plural spirituality*, Prof. Yolanda Valero Cárdenas, Pontifical Urbaniana University
- c)** *To Christophany, memoria passionis in Samaritan praxis. From an intercultural and interreligious perspective*, Prof. Antonio G. Fidalgo CSSR, Alphonsian Academy
- d)** *The Passion of Christ in the Writings of St. Francis of Assisi*, Prof. Juan Miguel Vicente OFMConv, Pontifical Theological Faculty Seraphicum

French section

Moderator: Prof. Emile Kouveglo, Pontifical Lateran University

Lecture: *Looking at the world from the cross: scandal or wisdom in the face of the mystery of suffering*, Prof. Léonard Santedi, Rector of the Catholic University of Congo

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

- a)** *Suffering of the Crucified and suffering of the Christian: the example of the victim spirituality of Bishop*



Gaston de Ségur (1820-1881), Prof. Laurent Touze, Pontifical University of the Holy Cross

b) *Saint Hilaire de Poitiers, man of Wisdom and apostle of the Cross*, Prof. Patrick Descourtieux, Augustinianum Patristic Institute

c) *The cross and the crosses in the ministry of St. John Mary Vianney*, Prof. Vincent Siret, Rector of the French Seminary in Rome

d) *The paradigms of vulnerability. A Balthasarian look*, Prof. André Marie Jerumanis, Theological Faculty of Lugano



**Thursday 23
September 2021**

The Wisdom of the Cross in the new scenarios of Evangelization

8:30 Secretariat open

9:00 **The session is chaired** by H. Em. Card. Antonio Tagle, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples

Morning prayer

Moderator: Prof. Denis Biju-Duval, Pontifical Lateran University

Lecture: *The Joy of the Gospel and the Ethics of the Cross: Biblical Reflections on the Pastoral Theology of Pope Francis*, Prof. Donald Senior CP, President Emeritus, Catholic Theological Union of Chicago

Lecture: *Proclaiming the Word of the Cross in a Changing World*, Prof. Carla Roverselli, University of Tor Vergata in Rome

10:45 Interval

11:00 Dialogue on the two conferences

12:30 Lunch break

14:30 Secretariat open

15:00 **Linguistic session: *The “outgoing” church between new challenges and crucial emergencies: family and young people, human beings and post-modernity, digital culture, existential peripheries, integral ecology***

Italian section

Moderator: Prof. Marcella Farina FMA, Pontifical Faculty of Educational Sciences Auxilium



Lecture: *Posthumanism and the wisdom of the Cross*, Prof. Carlo Maria Baldini CP, Toniolo Institute of Religious Sciences of Pescara

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

- a)** *The post-modern atmosphere and the grace of the cross*, Prof. Tiziano Tosolini, Pontifical Gregorian University
- b)** *The Gospel of the Cross and the techno-human condition*, Dr. Marco Staffolani CP, Pontifical Lateran University
- c)** *The existential peripheries and the Church in some television series. The case of Suburra*, Dr. Tito Paolo Zecca CP
- d)** *The Passionist charism for a better future with the laity*, Dr. Monica Cogliandro, social worker and head of socio-educational services; Lay Provincial Coordinator of the MAPRAES Passionist Family

English section

Moderator: Prof. Martin Coffey CP

Lecture: *Welcoming the 'other' and the foreigner*, Prof. John Kathoka Muthengi CP, UN sectoral executive director

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

- a)** *The Law of the Cross and the Dark Night of Culture*, Prof. Paul O'Hara, Sophia University Institute
- b)** *The Cross and the 'Orientation' of Christian Identity*, Prof. Declan O'Byrne, Sophia University Institute
- c)** *The Future of Religions in the Digital Era. A Critical Study on the Phenomenon of Religious Violence*, Prof. Valentinus Saeng CP, Widya Sasana Philosophical and Theological Institute of Malang Indonesia
- d)** *Speaking of God's Love And Passion, -Between Mystery, Understanding and Imagination*, Prof. Mark Robin Hoogland CP, Utrecht University

Spanish section

Moderator: Prof. Nuria Calduch-Benages, Pontifical Gregorian University

Lecture: *Digital culture: between communication and isolation*, Prof. Martin Carbajo Núñez OFM, Pontifical Antonianum University

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

- a)** *The Passionist Mission created for the centenary review El PASIONARIO*, Prof. José Luis Quintero Sánchez CP, Regina Apostolorum of Madrid, of the Pontifical University of Salamanca
- b)** *Beauty and pain. The aesthetic elaboration of the sacrifice in the proclamation of the gospel*, Prof. Antonio Cabello Escudero SDB, Pontifical Salesian University
- c)** *The abandonment of the contemporary man: between disconnections and mediations*, Prof. Cristina Montoya, Sophia University Institute
- d)** *The first Passionist publication. The Meditations on the Passion of St. Paul of the Cross*, Camerino, 1750, Prof. Antonio Maria Artola CP, Emeritus, Deusto-Bilbao University

French section

Moderator: Fr. Wellington Santos Pires CP

Lecture: *The suffering of the creation and the promotion of an integral ecology (Rom 8,18-22)*, Dr. Fabien Revol, Catholic University of Lyon

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIALOGUE

- a)** *The Cross and dialogue between believers and non-believers*, Mons. Carlo Maria Polvani, Undersecretary of the Pontifical Council for Culture, with delegation to the Cortile dei Gentili
- b)** *Announce Jesus Crucified, apparent or real failure of the Christian mission*,



Prof. Samuel Komlanvi Amaglo SDB,
Pontifical Salesian University

c) *The Crucified, revelation of divine wisdom as salvation (1 Cor 1,18ff)*,
Prof. Gérard Rossé, Sophia University
Institute

d) *The pedagogy of the Cross for the fulfillment and fullness of Christian life*,
Sr Martha Séide FMA, Pontifical
Faculty of Educational Sciences
Auxilium

17:30 Round table with the Moderators of
the Sections. **Moderator:** Prof. Lorella
Congiunti, Pontifical Urbaniana
University

18:30 End

CONGRESS PROGRAM

**The Wisdom
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**Friday 24th
September 2021**

The wisdom of the Cross in the charism of st Paul of the Cross for the present and the future of the world

8 :30 Secretariat open

9:00 **The session is chaired** by the Most
Reverend Arturo Sosa Abascal, Superior
General of the Society of Jesus,
President of the Union of Superiors
General

Morning prayer

Moderator: Mother Maria D'Alessandro,
Superior General Passionist Sisters of
St. Paul of the Cross

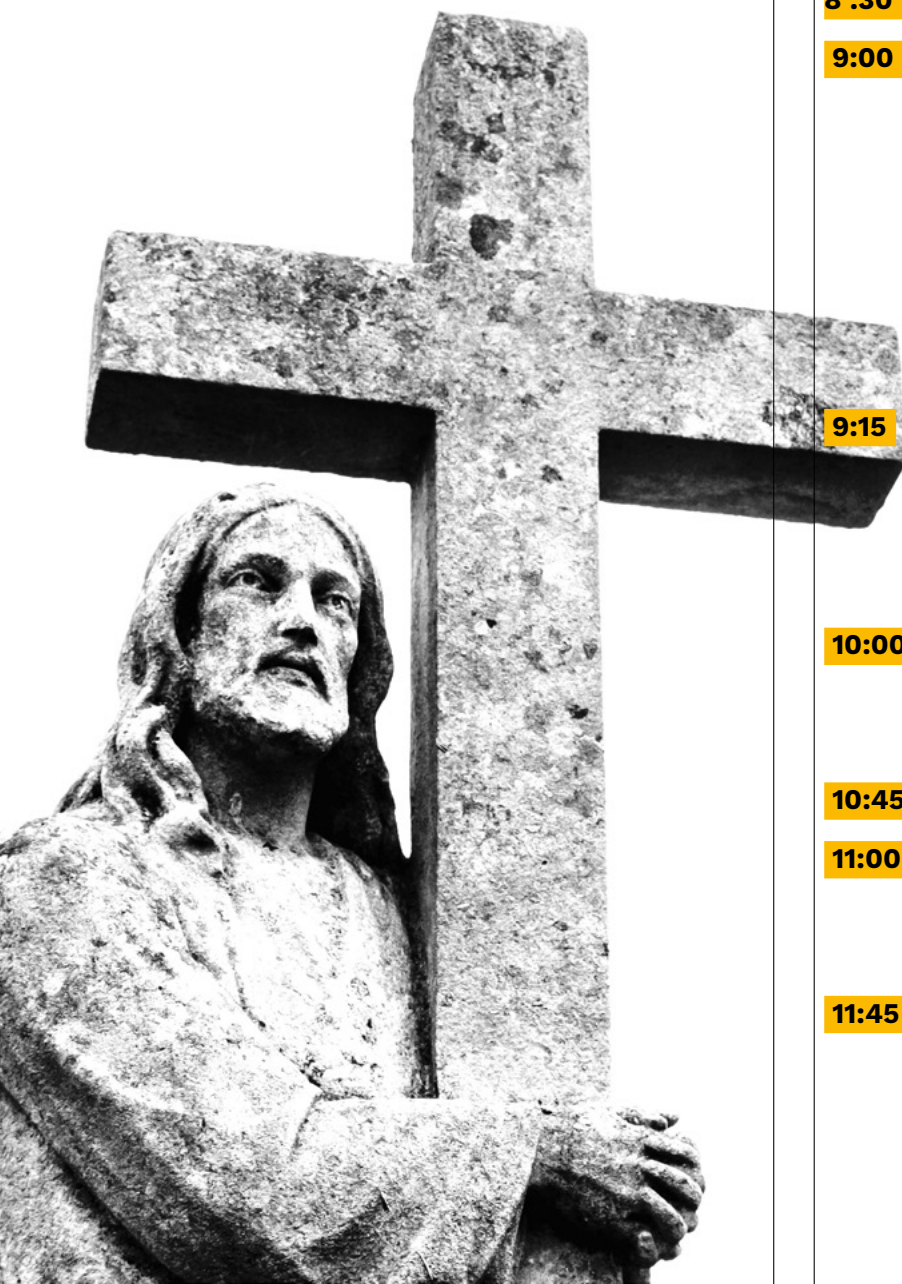
9:15 **Lecture:** *The Wisdom of the Cross in
the charism of St. Paul of the Cross for
the present and future of the world*, H.
Em. Card. Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson,
Prefect for the Dicastery for Integral
Human Development

10:00 **Lecture:** *A Charism among the
Charisms for a Church open to the
Future*, Prof. Robin Ryan CP, Catholic
Theological Union of Chicago

10:45 Interval

11:00 **Lecture:** *S. Pablo de la Cruz: actualidad
de un charisma profético*, Prof. Octavio
Mondragon Alanis CP, Simón Bolívar
University of Mexico City

11:45 **Lecture:** *The memory of the Passion in
the founding charism of St. Paul of the
Cross. Origin and development*, Prof.
Cristiano Massimo Parisi CP, ISSR Mater
Ecclesiae (Angelicum)





12:30 Lunch break

14:30 Secretariat open

**17:30 THE WISDOM OF THE CROSS LIGHT
AND THE WAY OF FULLNESS OF LIFE**

Round table: representatives of the
Passionist Family

Moderator: Ciro Benedettini CP,
President of the Centenary Jubilee

18:00 Eucharist in St. John Lateran,
Presided over by the Most Reverend
Joachim Rego Superior General of
the Passionists. Diocese of Rome
choir, M^o Marco Mons. Frisina

18:30 End of the Congress.



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