



UAC NEWSLETTER

N° 2 - MARCH 2002

UAC General Secretariat
Piazza S.V. Pallotti, 204 – 00186 Roma
Tel./Fax: 06 68194623
E-mail: ccguac@libero.it

Dear Friends,

We are already far on the journey towards the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, His rising to new life. For those of us who form part of the Union of the Catholic Apostolate Easter is a call to new life, new energy in our commitment to live and spread the spirit and charism of our Founder. Our vocation and our mission, St. Vincent reminds us, is "to propagate the true Catholic faith" without any distinction for "rank, state, condition, age..." (OCCC IV, 185-186).

By means of this newsletter we want to encourage all of us to take note of the signs of vitality present in the UAC, to offer everyone the possibility of being informed about the activities of the Union throughout the world and to promote the spirit of collaboration. Therefore, we invite you to forward us communications or news items that might be of common interest.



The beginning of 2002 found us with many tasks at hand. Of prime importance is the preparation for the first Congress of the UAC to be held in September 2003 in Poland.

At the last meeting of the General Coordination Council which was held on December 27th at the Generalate of the Missionary Sisters of the Catholic Apostolate, there was a long discussion concerning the choice of a *theme* for the Congress. All of the suggestions sent to the General Secretariat by the various National Coordination Councils were given careful consideration. Many of the suggestions were based on the needs of the countries responding and during the meeting there was an extensive exchange of opinions and considerations on the part of the members of the General Coordination Council. In the end, in a climate of serenity, enthusiasm and respect for the varied opinions, the final choice of a theme emerged:

Now is the time for a new "creativity" in charity (*Novo Millenium Ineunte, #50*)

To those countries that responded to our request of October 16, 2001 — *Argentina, Australia, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Cameroon, Germany, Italy, Poland, Switzerland and the United States* — go our thanks and appreciation. Their letters, in fact, constituted a rich resource because they witnessed to the actual situation of the Union and, through their orientation in the process of choosing a theme, they expressed the particular needs of each country.

The General Coordination Council is committed to keeping in mind the various proposals that were presented in the choice of themes to be addressed during the Congress. Also they have decided to establish a "mixed commission" consisting of two members of the General Coordination Council,

Sr. Bernadetta Turecka SMAC and Fr. Kazimierz Czulak e Suor, the members of the General Secretariat and two members of the Organizing Committee in Poland.

Other News Items

- The General Secretariat has met on several occasions to prepare the agenda for the June meeting of the General Coordination Council and is presently meeting to discuss various aspects of the UAC Congress in 2003.
- With great joy and an awareness of the Lord guiding our history, we are pleased to announce the formal recognition of National Coordination Councils for Italy, the United States, Cameroon and Brazil and the approval of their Regulations. To these and to the National Coordination Council of France go our congratulations, our prayers and words of encouragement as they pursue the journey they have begun.
- The countries which presently have their own National Coordination Councils are: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, France, Germany, India, Italy, Poland, Rwanda, South Africa, Switzerland, and the United States.
- An item of great importance to the Union which was addressed at the December 27th meeting was the state of *Local Coordination Councils*. Fr. Hubert Socha who had been charged with the task of elaborating criteria for the organization of these Councils in accord with Article 44 and following of the General Statutes presented a clarification of the identity and important function of the centers for the Union. As soon as the document concerning these criteria is ready, it will be sent to the National Councils.
- On January 18th, the *Guidelines for Formation* were sent to the National Coordination Councils. These have been the object of extensive study on the part of the Commission which, from the common reflections and shared views of diverse expressions of the Union, was able to elaborate *the scope, the pedagogy and the means* of Pallottine formation.

The Guidelines are ad experimentum. It is expected that each National Coordination Council will welcome these guidelines and put them into effect in the context of their life and activities to see how they reflect the maturing experience of each country.

Over the years we will be able to assess the implementation of these Guidelines at the local level.

- Regarding the process of obtaining official recognition by the Holy See of the **UAC** as a **Public and Universal Association of Christ's Faithful**, on February 27th, Fr. Seamus Freeman, as President of the General Coordination Council, submitted to the Pontifical Council for the Laity the 53 page document entitled *Historical Juridical Justification* with the subtitle: *Why the request for the approval of the Union of the Catholic Apostolate on the part of the universal Church was addressed to the Pontifical Council for the Laity*. The document had been requested by the same Pontifical Council.

For Your Information:

- Sr. Grace Gabrielle O'Brien and Sr. Josélia Giuliani, General Councilors of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Catholic Apostolate, have become members of the General Secretariat.
- The new e-mail address of the Generalate of the Pallottine Sisters in Grottaferrata, Rome is generalatocsac@libero.it
- Fr. Frank Donio, SAC President of the NCC in the USA, has informed us that Sr. Patrice Wales, a Missionary Sister of the Catholic Apostolate has been elected Secretary of the National Council. Sr. Patrice is Director at St. Vincent Pallotti High School in Laurel, Maryland, a school of the Pallottine Missionary Sisters.

On the part of all the members of the General Secretariat we extend our congratulations to Sr. Patrice for this new and important commitment in service to the Union of the Catholic Apostolate.

Let us pray together with St. Vincent

In all my actions and in those of others, I intend that there be no other principle or aim but God alone, even in those actions which are seemingly indifferent, therefore even those lights, for example, that inspire people to meet their needs, I intend that they burn for the greater glory of God...(OOCC X, 27).