

*"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5, 16)*

item

## International Pallottine Community of Students



The **International Pallottine Community of Students** in Fribourg, Switzerland, is a new project born of the initiative of the Rector General, Fr Jacob Nampudakam and directed by the Swiss Province of *St Nicolas of Flüe*. The project coordinators are the Provincial of the Swiss Province, Fr Adrian Willi and the future Rector of the House, Fr Leszek Woroniecki, from the Polish Province of Poznań, in collaboration with the Rector General.

The foundation of this project will be comprised of a Pallottine international community which aims at:

- creating an opportunity to pursue postgraduate studies in Theology or other areas
- creating an international space for Pallottine formation and fraternal life in an international community, in accordance with our Pallottine spirit, spirituality, law and tradition
- creating an opportunity for students to gain pastoral experience among fellow students (we were offered responsibility for the Francophone chaplaincy of Fribourg University) and in the wider field of the Swiss Church, both French and German speaking.
- promoting international collaboration within the Society of the Catholic Apostolate
- promoting vocations to the Society of the Catholic Apostolate



Formal House of Studies – "Villa Thérèse" – of the Swiss Pallottines (1930-1972)

Moreover this project will also revive, after a 43 year lapse, a Pallottine presence in French-speaking Switzerland – particularly in Fribourg where, from 1930 to 1972, there was a Pallottine community at Villa Thérèse.

The Swiss Province of *St Nicolas of Flüe* has guaranteed the financing of this project. For each confrere who joins the community in Fribourg, a contract will be signed between his Province/Region and the Swiss Province, defining the rights and obligations of both sides. This agreement must then be approved by the SAC General Council. The students will also engage, to some degree, in existing opportunities for pastoral service (e.g. during weekends) in order to acquire practical pastoral experience and to help maintain the house. The rules of this project are defined by specific documents: the description of a project, the charter of the Students House, etc.

The **University of Fribourg** (in German *Universität Freiburg*), founded in 1889, has a long academic and theological tradition and an international reputation.

In rankings published by German magazines and periodicals (*Der Spiegel*, *Die Zeit*, *Focus*, etc.), Fribourg University is ranked as one of Europe's best universities. The faculties of Law, Medicine, Economics, History, English Studies, German Studies, Theology, Biology, all score very highly. In the rankings of the European Commission, based on the overall impact of faculties on scientific research, its Natural Sciences Faculty achieves sixth place in Europe and second in the German-speaking world.

Below are some examples of renowned people who studied at the University of Fribourg:

- **Martin Heidegger** - *philosopher*
- **Mario Molina** - *Mexican chemist, Nobel prize laureate*
- **Karl Rahner** - *theologian*
- **Angelo Scola** - *Cardinal, Patriarch of Venice, archbishop of Milan*
- **Joseph Frings** - *Cardinal, Archbishop of Cologne*
- **Romano Guardini** - *theologian*
- **Karl Lehmann** - *Cardinal, bishop of Mainz,*
- **Charles Journet** - *Swiss cardinal who played a significant role in drafting the Constitution *Gaudium et Spes*.*
- **Pallottines:** **Joseph Böckenhoff, Joseph Zweifel, Martin Juritsch** [*former Rector General*], **Józef Sadzik and Jakub Krzyszczyk** [*founders of Editions du Dialogue and Centre du Dialogue in Paris*]

The University has five faculties: Catholic Theology, Law, Economics and Social Sciences, Humanities and Sciences. It hosts over 10,000 students.

The faculty of **Theology** is incorporated into the state university (which allows one to obtain a state Diploma) and, uniquely in Europe, is composed of two sections, German and French. Students have an opportunity to enrol in both languages and to get a degree with bilingual recognition.

Students of the faculty of Theology reflect a colourful picture: there are candidates for the priesthood coming from diocesan seminaries and religious orders, students who are preparing for lay pastoral service, others who just want to complete their theological knowledge (theology can also be selected as a secondary branch by students of other faculties). Thus Theology can be combined with disciplines of all the other faculties.

The **Dominican Order** has a special responsibility within the faculty and represents about one third of the lecturers. Dominicans from around the world still send their students to do postgraduate studies in Fribourg.



The **Pallottine House** in Fribourg is being created. We begin in September 2015. We hope that this House will accommodate four to five confreres. It is recommended that they have sufficient knowledge of French or German.

This project looms as an interesting and enriching opportunity for our Pallottine world. The high academic level, experience of an international community, experience of pastoral work in another church, contact with priests and religious from all over the world and with students from other countries and cultures, are all highly sought after today and are important for the future of the church and also for our Pallottine future.

**You are most welcome to Fribourg!!!**

If you need more information and want to get familiar with documents concerning the project, please contact:

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Marian chapel at Morschach, Switzerland

## sac asia oceania e-bulletin

### you commented...

**on #180** Very touched by Fr Noel's candour about his reactions to his illness and his turning to prayer in the darkest of times, uniting with Jesus, Mary and Vincent. And good to be reminded of Fr. Frank's insights, which he shared with us in Melbourne almost two years ago.

**MB 10.08.15**

...thank you for your bulletin ministry it unites Pallottines from all over the world

**LK 10.08.15**