



Secrétariat Central à la Formation - ocso -

Abbaye Notre-Dame du Val d'Igny, 28 février 2019.

Newsletter 20

To the Superiors, the Regional Secretaries,
the Brothers and Sisters interested by ocso-formation.

REMILA:

Course for the formators of the Region:

From 7 to 14 November, in the monastery Santa Maria del Paraíso, Ecuador, a course took place, with the theme: *Human and Spiritual growth of the persons in formation by the Cistercian Fathers*, led by Dom Pedro Edmundo Gómez, osb. Thirteen communities out of the Region, with a total of nineteen participants, were represented.

The meeting was held in a very good climate of cooperation, participation and brotherhood. There were three sessions of one hour in the morning and in the afternoon two moments of dialogue (group and plenary). Issues arose from texts of our Fathers and an update in videoconferencing, without ever losing sight the formative aspect of the contents and its application to our service as formators.

The course had an introductory section with the theme: *Lazarus speculum novitii: identification between Lazarus and the novice in the sermons of Bernard of Clairvaux - Elements for a monastic theology of the noviciate—*.



Two thematic blocks: block I: *Theological-spiritual coordination of the human and spiritual growth of persons undergoing formation: Conversion-predestination/free will-healing of the monk in formation in the Lenten Sermons of Isaac de la Estrella*; block II: *Healing of the concupiscible faculty of the monk in formation. Psalm 130: Sicut ablactatum super matrem suam... — Orientations and tools for the construction of harmony with desires in some medieval monastic authors—*.

See **Annex 1** for a synthetic presentation of the topics (4 pages, in Spanish).

In order to evaluate the session, the contents suggested us to undertake in the following months a work, coordinated by mail, from *Psalm 132: The community life: harmony with the aggressiveness, the healing of the irascible faculty*, according to the scheme of the block II distributed among all the participants.

(Report by Sister Maria José – SRF – REMILA)

[Notification on the part of Dom André Barbeau of the Abbey Val Notre Dame:](#)

The Val Notre-Dame (Oka) have published two book collections between 1989 and 2014: *Voix Monastiques* (22 titles) and *Pain de Cîteaux* (35 titles).

In the collection of *Voix Monastiques*, remains of many copies of "Dieu seul", biography of saint Raphael by Dom Gonzalo, translated by Dom Yvon-Joseph. It is the only title that Val Notre-Dame can offer in this collection.

In the collection of *Pain de Cîteaux*, 3 titles are out of stock: volumes 2, 3 and 25. All other titles are still available and you will find in **Annex 2** titles and a description of each volume.

The Abbey of Val Notre Dame offers free all volumes that interest you, only post or transport costs are on your charge.

(Dom André coordinates: see in the *Elenchus*; the Abbey site: www.abbayevalnotredame.ca is also most interesting)

[The first parable of Saint Bernard:](#)

Concerning the bibliography of the French edition of *Experientia*, Brother Bernard-Joseph, Abbey of Orval (Belgium), kindly refers us to one of his articles in *Collectanea* 68 (2006) 235-245: *Bernard of Clairvaux, first Parable. The fabulous story of the return of the King's son*. This is the translation of the text of St. Bernard with brief introduction and comment.

You find the text in **Annex 3** (10 pages, in French) or on the website of the *Collectanea*, under the heading *Cistercian Literary Treasure* - the visit of the site is also interesting ...!

[Monastic life in the diocese of Reims in the eleventh and twelfth centuries:](#)

It was under this title that, on Saturday, January 26, 2019, Patrick Demouy, Professor Emeritus of Medieval History at the University of Reims-Champagne-Ardenne, gave a lecture at Val d'Igny. Mr Demouy put his text available: see **Annex 4** (10 pages, in French).

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May 31, 2019.