

FIPC News & Events

Foederatio Internationalis Pueri Cantores | April 2023 | Issue 001

Message from Jean Henric, President FIPC

Dear members of our Federation

It gives me great pleasure to launch the FIPC Newsletter. This Newsletter will give you news from our Pueri Cantores Family around the world. We want this newsletter to be lively and to inform you about happenings in our Federations located in countries around the world and speaking different languages, yet belonging to one family – our Family of FIPC! **But, we really need your help!** Please send us information and share your news with us so that we can have the same featured in our following releases. We hope to have one release every 3 months. You may send written material in your own language with a translation and some pictures too.

Joe Cordo, in charge of the commission for communication, will receive your messages josephcordo@gmail.com.

Our very first Newsletter also gives you the latest information about the next congress in Rome. Do not hesitate to contact us if you need any clarification.

I wish you a beautiful Easter period.

Jean Henric
President FIPC

Chers membres de notre Fédération

Voici notre dernière newsletter qui vous donne quelques nouvelles de nos Pueri Cantores dans le monde. Nous souhaitons que cette newsletter soit plus vivante et qu'elle relate toute la vitalité de notre mouvement. **Mais nous avons vraiment besoin de vous** : s'il vous plaît, envoyez-nous des informations et faites partager à notre grande famille votre actualité. Joe Cordo, responsable de la commission communication, recevra vos messages. josephcordo@gmail.com

Cette newsletter vous donne aussi les dernières informations concernant le prochain congrès de Rome. N'hésitez pas à nous écrire si tout n'est pas clair.

Je vous souhaite une belle période Pascale.

Jean Henric,
President FIPC



*This is what Easter is:
it is the exodus, the passage of man
from the slavery of sin, of evil to
the freedom of love, of goodness.
Because God is life, only life, and His
Glory we are: the living man,*
– Pope Francis



Foederatio Internationalis
Pueri Cantores

Second Congress of the National Pueri Cantores Federation of Portugal – February 2023

At the invitation of its president, David Paccetti Correa all choirs of the national federation of Portugal met in Santarem, the “Gothic City”, from February 11th -12th. The festival started on Saturday morning with a master class for all the choir conductors by Professor Christopher Bochmann. Matthias Balzer represented the International Pueri Cantores Federation as first Vice-president and sang with the participants at the opening ceremony.

Concerts and church services followed with about 70 singers between 6 and 25 years old from the north and the south of the country. A wonderful Pueri Cantores spirit filled the hearts of the children and young people as they returned home.

<https://www.facebook.com/pueri.cantores.portugal/>



2º CONGRESSO NACIONAL PUERI CANTORES 2023 SANTARÉM

SÁBADO • 11 FEV | 21H30
CONCERTO DE ESPERANÇA
 IG. MARVILA

Coro Juvenil do Carmo - Beja
 Coro Infantojuvenil da Paróquia de Beiriz - Braga
 Pequenos Cantores da Paróquia de S. Pedro de Rates - Braga
 Pueri Cantores São Cristóvão de Ovar - Porto
 Schola Cantorum da Catedral de Santarém
 Schola Cantorum de São Nicolau - Lisboa

ENTRADA LIVRE



Message from Mn. Jaume Gené, Councilor, Pueri Cantores, Catalana

Arriba una nova Pasqua!
Aquest any 2023 serà el diumenge 9 d'abril.

Abans de Pasqua, celebrem el Dijous i Divendres Sant acompanyant Jesús en el seu camí fins a la Creu. Un camí que Jesús el fa estimant i ensenyant-nos a estimar. Així es fa solidari dels qui pateixen el mal d'aquest món i el venç amb la seva entrega. Ens estimà fins a l'extrem perquè amb Ell tots tinguem vida. És la gran festa de Pasqua, l'amor és més fort que la mort.

La Pasqua la celebrem cantant, cantant molt. La Pasqua demana cantar, cantar l'alegria de la resurrecció, l'al·leluia del triomf de Jesús. Per nosaltres, Pueri cantores, petits i grans, cantar és l'expressió que la força de l'amor de Jesús ha tocat als nostres cors i renovem la nostra fe amb Ell. És Pasqua, celebrem-ho cantant i demanant que la pau arribi a tots els racons de la terra!

Crist ha ressuscitat! Reialment ha ressuscitat!

Jaume
Bona setmana Santa i molt bona Pasqua a tothom!

A new Easter is coming!
This year 2023 will be Sunday April 9.

Before Easter, we celebrate Good Thursday and Good Friday accompanying Jesus on his way to the Cross. A path that Jesus takes by loving and teaching us to love. This is how he shows solidarity with those who suffer from the evil of this world and overcomes it with his dedication. He loves us to the end so that with Him we all have life. It's the great Easter holiday, love is stronger than death.

We celebrate Easter by singing, singing a lot. Easter calls for singing, singing the joy of the resurrection, the hallelujah of Jesus' triumph. For us, Pueri singers, young and old, singing is the expression that the strength of Jesus' love has touched our hearts and we renew our faith with Him. It's Easter, let's celebrate it by singing and asking for peace to come to all corners of the earth!

Christ is risen!
He is truly resurrected!

James
Happy Easter and happy Easter to everyone!

Acompanyem Jesús en el camí fins a la Creu

SETMANA SANTA 2023

Letter from Sri Lanka

Dear Brother Mathias,

Thank you for your message of 3.3.23. Congratulations for setting-up the Communication Group of FIPC.

1. Your intentions are commendable:
 - Inclusion of members of different age groups
 - Create awareness of "Music related activities" of member Federations and all things pertaining to the FIPC Parent Federation.
 - Sharing essays, videos etc. of member Federations.
 - Sharing of information related to projects, social development, current news.
 - Forthcoming Rome congress
2. I would like to share our experiences. These are specific to the Sri Lanka Federation:
 - We have a strong relationship with our Cardinal/ Archbishop as well as the Archdiocesan Liturgy Commission.
 - We have strong links with all the Catholic schools of Colombo Archdiocese and parish children's choirs.
 - We are fully involved in the promotion of Sacred Music (Liturgical) in schools and parishes.
 - We are involved in regular training programmes - (curriculum based) which in a single session could involve over a thousand students. In the past 20 years we have trained 15,000 students.
 - We are involved in major Archdiocesan Liturgical ceremonies including choral masses, Requiems etc.
 - Revival of Latin Sacred Music (chants, polyphonic, choruses, hymns) through publication of books, translations and training programmes.
 - Planning of courses (vocal/chorus) and curriculum development in vocal choral artistry.

3. Currently we are preparing for the annual "Holy Week Choral Presentation" under the patronage of the Papal Nuncio on 5th. April 2023 involving over 200 students (Boys & girls).

4. Because of the dire economic crash and the severe consequences on our children and their families (over 70% inflation, it is difficult for us to pay the annual fees (the country is dollar bankrupt but dependent on imports). When the situation improves we will pay our dues.

I am sending this document to the 'Communication Group' who may share this to other FIPC National Federations. We too are await reports from other National Federations to help us in our own development.

Yours fraternally,
Francis D'Almeida
Secretary General,
SLPCF
22.3.2023

FIPC President's visit to Canada

It took place in February, from 18th to 24th 2023. JH could visit the eastern part of the country, especially Quebec region with Quebec City, Trois-Rivières and Montreal. He listened to the choirs of these three cities and heard their concerns too. He could meet the Bishops of Trois-Rivières and Montreal. This whole region of Canada is very de-Christianized. Our movement is affected by this attitude to the Catholic faith and the situation is very difficult indeed.

The picture is totally different in Ontario, especially in Toronto, where the Church is much more alive. St Michaels choir is a very strong structure. The meeting with Cardinal Collins has been very encouraging and very motivating. Cardinal Collins is an active supporter of our FIPC movement.

The Canadian Federation, chaired by our friend Louise Marie Pelletier, is very committed to defending the Faith and our movement in this part of the world. We thank her for the good work she is doing.

Visite mission du président FIPC au Canada

Elle s'est déroulée du 18 au 24 février 2023. JH a pu visiter la partie Est du pays, notamment le Québec avec Québec City, Trois-Rivières et Montréal. Il a écouté et partage les préoccupations des chœurs de ces trois villes et il a pu rencontrer les évêques de Trois-Rivières et Montréal. Toute cette région du Canada est très déchristianisée. Notre mouvement est touché par ce rejet de la religion catholique et la situation est très difficile.

Ce n'est pas le cas en Ontario et plus particulièrement à Toronto où l'Eglise est très vivante. Le St Michaels choir est une structure très solide. L'entretien avec le Cardinal Collins qui apporte un soutien total à cette institution et à notre mouvement, a été le bienvenu.

La fédération du Canada présidée par notre amie Louise Marie Pelletier, est très engagée pour défendre notre mouvement dans cette partie du monde. Nous la remercions pour le beau travail qu'elle réalise.



The choir Maitrise Quebec



JH with the Archbishop of Montreal



JH with Louise Marie Pelletier, Président of Canada Pueri cantores, Patrice Labelle, Vice President and Mons. Corriveau, Ecclesiastic Assistant



JH with Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto



Chorists after the mass in Chicago



JH with the choir of Beauport (Quebec)



JH and P.French with Auxiliary Archbishop of Chicago

News from Congo (PC DRC)

Pope Francis visited Congo in January 2023. Unfortunately we could not participate as the Pope was in Kinshasa the capital and we are 2,300 Km away in Bukavu. But we were certainly very blessed that he was able to visit our country.

Since the start of 2023 the Congo Federation organized two major events. The mass on January 1 and recollections during the Lenten season. The Directors also meet regularly to focus on issues of common interest.

Sosthene Ansima
Messiah Choir, Burhiba Parish



Rome 2023/24 44th International Congress of Pueri Cantores

At the end of the year 2023/24, we shall be hosting the 44th International Choir Festival again in Rome. The theme "Et in terra pax". Starting December 28, 2023 and concluding on January 1, 2024, all Pueri Cantores choirs will gravitate to the Eternal City - Rome to sing together, meet each other and celebrate worship with Pope Francis.

The online registration for choirs has been open since February 15, 2023 and will remain open until April 30, 2023. Registration takes place via an external website directly with our Italian colleagues. <https://www.puericongress.info>

The festival fee per participant is 50,00 EUR (if you book accommodation through Pueri Cantores). If you book your own accommodation, the festival fee per participant is 70,00 EUR.

The Program

The traditional opening ceremony on Thursday and the national services on Friday morning will not be followed this time by a central prayer for peace, but by many prayers for peace. These will take place throughout the afternoon and evening in the Church of St Mary in Trastevere in cooperation with the Community of St Egidio.

After the rehearsal for the final service on Saturday, there will be an audience with Pope Francis for all the choirs. In the afternoon, the choirs will then spread out to three large Basilicas in Rome for Carol Singing, which also invites tourists and the people of the local communities to sing along. The day will be completed by the Gala concert on Saturday evening in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore.

Sunday services will also be celebrated in different churches, but in smaller parishes in the metro area of Rome. The individual choirs will organize the Holy Mass there and then have the opportunity for a small concert on site.

Finally, the highlight of the festival will be the joint celebration of the New Year's Day service with Pope Francis on Monday.

