



Introduction and Presentation Wednesday 18th July

Introduction to the day

Good morning, dear friends!

Welcome to the second day of this great international gathering. We would like to start by saying a big thank you to our friends from the United States who led us in Morning Prayer and also to Father Tolentino for his meditation on today's text from St Luke's Gospel, Chapter 15 verse 13.

We will be following the programme in your documentation but you will see that the keynote address on Dissipation which you would have normally have expected to hear today is scheduled for tomorrow. This is because Cardinal Peter Turkson, is currently on a flight from Brazil and will not arrive here until this afternoon.

So, today we will begin with a session on Father Henri Caffarel, Founder of Teams of Our Lady.

The fact that all of us are here today is solely due to the inspiration of Father Henri Caffarel. Without him there would be no Teams of Our Lady. So it is fitting that we spend some time considering his thinking and hearing testimonies about him, before receiving an update on the progress of the cause for his canonisation. **This will be the only session in the basilica this morning.**

We will break at 11am for a sit-down; a short introduction to this can be found in your liturgy booklet. This will be followed by lunch and then the group activities described in your pack.

Please be back in the Basilica in good time for our Mass at 5.30pm, at which Cardinal Turkson will be the main celebrant.

Dinner in your hotels will be at the usual time of 7.30pm followed by mixed team meetings in your hotels at 9pm.



To close our introduction, we present a slideshow on the Sit Down:

Introduction to the 9.30am Session

We would now like to introduce our dear friends and colleagues, Francoise and Remi Gausse who will conduct the session on Father Caffarel.

Francoise and Remi live in the city of Bordeaux, France. They have been married for 50 years this year and have two children; both married, and have seven grandchildren. During their working lives, they were both teachers. They joined Teams of Our Lady in 1989 and for the past seventeen years, they have always held some responsibility in the Movement. First as Sector couple in Toulouse, then as Province couple for South West France, and then as Super Regional couple for France, Luxembourg, Switzerland. On 2013 they joined the International Leading Team with responsibility for Communication.

Conclusion of the Session

We would like to thank all those who contributed to this wonderful session that brought Father Caffarel to life through personal testimony. Here was a man who sincerely lived his own words – “There is no love without self-sacrifice”. His natural inclination was to be a man of interior prayer and to assist others in this, but he devoted much of his time to the development of our own and other movements. As we have heard, his thinking has stood the test of time and we have no doubt it will continue to do so into the future.

In the course of the session, we were particularly struck by his clear division of his life into a “before” and an “after” in March 1923. Perhaps this could be a topic for the Sit Down? Has there been a ‘before’ and ‘after’ in your own lives and if so, what difference has it made to you?

We break now for the sit down. Enjoy the next activities and please be back here promptly for Mass at 5.30pm.