



PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR CULTURE

What's happening at the Pontifical Council for Culture
Circular Newsletter, N. 30 (July 9, 2020)

CHARITY AUCTION

On May 20, in his first private meeting after lockdown, Pope Francis received representatives of **We Run Together**. These athletes had been due to host an event where the fastest would race with the slowest, and the strongest compete alongside the weakest in aid of the poorest.

During the meeting Cardinal Ravasi presented the Charity Auction, where these athletes and administrators are now channelling their energies, with many famous sports stars donating materials for auction.



68,000 Euros have already been gathered for hospitals in the northern Italian cities of Bergamo and Brescia.

The charity auction has been organized in conjunction with our partners Vatican Athletics, Courtyard of the Gentiles, the *Fiamme Gialle* and Fidal-Lazio.

Every ten days a batch of prizes is uploaded to the auction.

The series of auctions closes 8 August.

To participate: <https://www.charitystars.com/collection/we-run-together-it>



[\(Words of the Holy Father\)](#)

On the Agenda



Due to covid-19, visits to the dicastery and encounters continue to be discouraged, while research, study and correspondence, plus virtual and online meetings, remain our daily work, in particular regarding initiatives surrounding the 16th centenary of the death of St. Jerome and the 7th of Dante Alighieri.

Pictured left is a recently restored detail from the Catacombs of Commodilla, which Cardinal Ravasi was able to inaugurate privately. Some catacombs have reopened, respecting the appropriate norms.

Looking ahead, sports meetings, courtyard events and digital impact reflections are under consideration, as is participation at EXPO 2021, the renewal of the network of Catholic Cultural Centers, and a series of meetings in the field of the arts, such as those which saw Ennio Morricone offer Pope Benedict the score pictured right.

Programs are also being defined for 4-5 February 2021: a Music Conference on *Texts and Contexts*. And from 30 September - 1 October 2021: *Charisms and Creativity. Innovative projects, catalogues and management for the cultural heritage of religious orders*.



Consultation Groups



Photo: Alessandro Garofalo/Reuters

The Scientific Consultation Group, which has its home within the Courtyard of the Gentiles, has produced a document: [*Pandemia e resilienza: Persona, comunità e modelli di sviluppo dopo la Covid-19.*](#)

Treading the fine line between vice-signalling and virtue-signalling, the *Youth Group* is rolling out its response to the ideology of egoism by creating a multimedia blog [*Voci del futuro.*](#)

The Women's Consultation Group has published a series of reflections and exchanges on their experiences during the pandemic. Taking as a starting point a line from Mariangela Gualtieri's poem *9 marzo 2020*, "[*È portentoso quello che succede*](#)" the reflections enrich each other (and us too) with numerous points of encounter from diverse perspectives and experiences.

Journal: Cultures and Faith

Digitization

Vol. XXVIII No. 2 (2020) of our journal has been sent out to subscribers. The monographic section addresses the theme of digitization, a process that seems to be leading society to face considerable consequences in multiple areas of human activity. The possibility of translating the most diverse and complex information into binary numbers has pushed post-modern societies toward a strong and, presumably, lasting change. In this issue of our journal, various experts reflect on this phenomenon, including a look at the technical aspects of developments in artificial intelligence, such as blockchain, and new techniques of genetic recombination, such as CRISPR.



For further info about these stories see our review Cultures and Faith, our website www.cultura.va, and social media.