

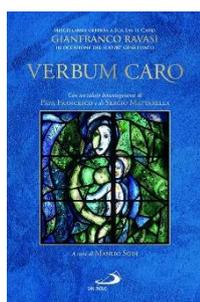


DICASTERY FOR CULTURE AND EDUCATION

What's happening at the Section for Culture
Circular Newsletter, N. 45 (October 25, 2022)

On Sept. 26, 2022, we received news that Pope Francis had nominated as Prefect of the Dicastery
Cardinal José Tolentino de Mendonça
(*Curriculum*)

With the entry into force of *Praedicate Evangelium* on June 5, 2022, the former Pontifical Council for Culture was combined with the former Congregation for Catholic Education in the new Dicastery for Culture and Education, which has two overlapping sections. We welcome Cardinal de Mendonça as he sets out on this journey (pictured welcoming moment Sept. 28).



A **celebratory farewell** for Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi was organized for his 80th birthday, Oct. 18, during which a collection of writings in his honor was presented. The volume contains words of greeting from Pope Francis and the President of the Italian Republic, Sergio Mattarella. Speeches of thanksgiving were given by Cardinal de Mendonça and Bishop Tighe, who celebrated the guest of honor's past contributions to the dialogue between faith and culture, inviting him to remain strong (Psalm 90) and continue. *Ad multos annos!*

Sport For All

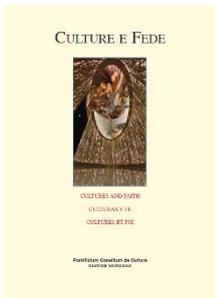


Cardinal de Mendonça's first encounter with the pope at the head of the dicastery occurred at the audience granted to the Summit held Sept. 29-30 under the title "Sport For All - cohesive, accessible, tailored to each person". It involved major sports and intergovernmental institutions and saw keynote speeches from Thomas Bach (IOC), Filippo Grandi (UNHCR), Andrew Parsons (IPC) and Bishop Emmanuel Gobilliard, Delegate for Paris 2024. The meeting was organized jointly with the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life ([more details](#)).

In light of the above event, following a request from Pope Francis, a Joint Declaration on Peace and Sports was launched, Oct. 25. [\[link\]](#)

Our **Center for Digital Culture** brought together a group of 16 philosophers and theologians in Santa Clara University (USA), Sept. 30-Oct. 1, for a 2nd plenary meeting of "Ethics for AI" to discuss the interface between humanity and the developments of new technologies and artificial intelligence.

Our **Courtyard of the Gentiles** is one of the organizers of a cycle of events on the figure of St. Peter. The first “Lectio Petri” is to be given in Italian by Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi in the Vatican Basilica on Oct. 25, at 6.30pm. [[Video](#) of press conference]. The series is on the theme “Followers of Christ, Tears and Martyrdom”. → [inscriptions](#)



Volume No. 2 XXX 2022 of our **journal Cultures and Faith** has been sent to subscribers. It traces the contours of a necessary humanism, to respond to the anthropological challenges faced by the Church and by men and women today. Gathering the fruits of the final plenary assembly of the former Pontifical Council for Culture on “Rethinking Anthropology: Toward a Necessary Humanism”, it looks at the roots of the Christian vision that emerged from the confluence of Classical humanism and Biblical humanism and at today’s anthropological challenges under the approaches of time, identity and transcendence.

Visitors have included the Ministers for Culture of Georgia, Hungary, delegations from Iraq, and from Burgos (Spain), the Ambassador of the Netherlands. Among others, there have also been ad limina visits of bishops from Senegal and Brazil.

- The program of listening and engagement begun by our Youth Consultation Group has developed into a project called “*Sentieri d’ascolto*” (Listening Ways): Videos from the Italian territory on issues concerning the faith lives of the younger generations are available via the Youth Group’s [YouTube Channel](#).

Some of the Activities of the Superiors:

- Cardinal **José de Mendonça** was at Bose for a Day of Encounter (Oct. 9) speaking to the theme “How vast is the small. A spirituality of consideration” [[link](#)], while he presented Andrea Tornielli’s book on the Life of Jesus at the LUMSA (Oct. 12) [[video](#)].
- Before his “retirement” Cardinal **Gianfranco Ravasi** opened the exhibition on Calligraphy “Friendly Taiwan Meets Fratelli Tutti” at the Embassy of China (Taiwan), inaugurated the Catacombs of Commodilla, received the prize for the Holy See’s pavilion at Expo Dubai, of which he was Commissar, held a dialogue with Sandro Veronesi, and presided over the Vatican liturgies for the Cultorum Martyrum, and organized the *Children’s Courtyard*, which this year brought children with disabilities to the Holy Father, and attended the plenary assembly of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue. He continues ad interim to oversee the Pontifical Commission for the Catacombs, leading the annual Catacombs Days (Oct. 15-16).
- Bishop **Paul Tighe** spoke at #FMA150 a conference celebrating 150 years of contributions by the Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians (FMA); he spoke at a meeting of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency in Austria (Sept. 8); and he was appointed as a Member of the Dicastery for Bishops (announced July 13).
- Mons. Melchor Sánchez de Toca participates at the 17th Meeting of European Ministers with responsibility for Sport of the Council of Europe, in Antalya (Turchia), Oct. 25-26.

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