

PRESENTATION

This special edition of *Traditio Scalabriniana* represents a minor step in the sense that this publication in the future will be available in at least the four most important languages for our service to migrants: Italian, English, Portuguese and Spanish. At this time, as we are in the transition phase, we have prepared the present edition, in which we republish three contributions already published in the previous releases that are translated respectively into two other languages other than the original language.

Firstly, we present both in Portuguese and English a biblical study of Anna Fumagalli, secular missionary, who tries to weave the threads of the narration of Jacob's dream with those of the image found on the episcopal coat of arms of J.B. Scalabrini: "A ladder rested on the earth, while its top reached the sky; and behold, the angels of God ascended and descended upon it." (Gen 28:10-22).

Then, we invite you to read in Spanish and Italian the testimony of Fr. Gelmino Costa *cs* on "*The welcome of the Haitians in Manaus - an account based on faith*". It is a living encounter between the needy migrant and the Scalabrinian missionary: symbol and model of pastoral care of the Scalabrinian family and of the Church in the world of migration

Finally, we return in Italian and English the article by Sister Leocadia Mezzomo *mcs* on "*Blessed Mother Assunta. Some traits of her spirituality*". Spirituality that, plunging its roots in the heart of the Father, unfolds tirelessly in the service of the poor and migrants, with particular attention to orphaned children.

Starting the next issue, no. 28, we will try to advance a little further in the way we propose; in other words, we will publish each article at least in one other language in addition to the original language. With this, and to the measure of the strength at our availability, our perspective is to arrive at the ideal of publishing the four languages mentioned above. Thank you in advance for any translation or other suggestions on this subject!

Paraphrasing the words of the prophet Isaiah (Is.54:2), it is evident that the goal of the small changes is, that of *widening the space of our Scalabrinian tent* more and more. By making the reflections available in different languages, access to them is facilitated with an aim of ultimately upholding sensitivity and concern for all people in exodus, who are in search for a homeland without frontiers and at the same time, for the kingdom of God as a definitive homeland

Needless to say that the articles re-edited here, in different perspectives, respond to a reality that is ever more intensified. Proof of this is the increasing number of migrants, refugees, expatriates... throughout the world. Beyond the statistics, however, we know closely names and surnames, looks and concrete faces, stories and open wounds. In several countries, recent elections have shown a strong tendency to politicize (not to say exploit) the migration phenomenon. In this case the challenge is to overcome the idea of *problem and threat* for a vision of faith, according to which the migrant can be a prophet and protagonist in *God's plan*. (J.B. Scalabrini).