

In the common vocation

Bose, September 2007

This year at the September ecumenical conference, perhaps to some extent because of the theme we had chosen — since the Lord's Transfiguration has always been very dear to the monastic tradition both in the East and in the West — the participation of those who share the same vocation with us was unusually numerous and varied.

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fr. Ivo of Westmalle (Belgium); br. Jean-Albert of Wauvremont (Belgium); br. Denis of Maredsous (Belgium); fr. Gaetano of Orval (Belgium); br. Matthieu of Clerlande (Belgium); sr. Minke, who spent with us a sabbatical of about a month, and sr. Regina of Grandchamp (Switzerland); fr. Seraphim from the Orthodox monastery of St Nicholas (Romania); fr. Domenico and br. Isaac from a priorate of the Pannonhalma monastery (Hungary); fr. Patrick of Glenstal abbey (Ireland); fr. Gabriel of a Cistercian monastery in Ethiopia; fr. Antonios from the monastery of St Pachomius (Egypt); sr. Dolores Bae, Olivetan nun from Korea; fr. Parthenios, a monk of the Orthodox Church of Antioch (Hosn diocese, northern Syria), who is studying in Rome and who on the advice of his bishop spent about a month with us in order to become better acquainted with western monasticism; and finally fr. Iakovos of Simonos Petras on Mount Athos. Recently fr. Fadi, a Syro-Orthodox monk from Iraq, who has stayed with us already in the past, has returned to Bose for a longer stay. Likewise br. Roberto, a friar minor of the Poziuncula convent in Assisi, is spending a period of discernment with us. In addition, some brothers and sisters of our community have visited other monasteries and monastic communities in order to strengthen the bonds of fraternal friendship: br. Lino has visited the hermitage of Monte Rua, the Little Family of the Annunziata in Montesole, and the monastery and hermitage of Camaldoli; br. Nimal has visited the Campello hermitage; br. Vincenzo and br. Gioele were present at the solemn profession of br. Maurizio at the Benedictine monastery of Dumenza; sr. Natalia was at the Orthodox monastery of Solan (France); while br. Guido and sr. Maria expressed the participation of our community to the sisters of the Collepino hermitage on the occasion of the funeral of sr. Maria Teresa.