

## **Short English information on Catholic charismatic renewal in Latvia**

*Report of Silvia Limane, Iccrs-head-contact in Latvia, about charismatic renewal among Catholics in Latvia and about the new head-contact that succeeded her in 2014.*

### **Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Latvia**

**Latvia as a small country has no possibility to have big communities, however life goes on and CCR is alive and active even on a small scale. All communities have interdenominational and ecumenical aspect.**

#### **Chemin Neuf**

During recent years community "Chemin Neuf" has succeeded in popularity in Latvia, probably due to the charismatic leader Inese Motte who has experience of a missionary for several years in Congo and Cote d'Ivoire. Last year she professed perpetual vows at Houtcombe. Community has its own retreat house in Liepaja, building that during Soviet time belonged to Russian Navy on the Baltic Sea, it is situated at a harbor that has the name Kara osta / Naval Port. Several families have had formation in Houtcombe, many young people and families have participated at the festivals there. In 2013 fifteen young people from France spend 3 weeks at this retreat house as volunteers working with children during the summer camp. Every year community has several youth weekends, retreats and missions. Cana Family Fraternity is closely related to the community and has common events with it.

#### **Archbishop Stankevics**

Community Effata last year celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary has been the community with charismatic experience thanks to many guest leaders. Fr. Zbignev Stankevich, who is now Archbishop-metropolitan of Riga Diocese has been spiritual leader before this high nominee. According to its tradition community has weekly worship meetings, conferences, retreats. At present spiritual leader is Fr. Maximilian Podvik, official exorcist in

Latvia. The speakers at the retreats are mainly invited charismatics. Every Wednesday 50-70 people come together for worship, sharing and intercession.

#### **Become a Good Husband**

"How to become a Good Husband" is motto for St. Josef's Men group that has its charisma to serve the men and is connected with International organization "Spirituality of Men". St. Josef's Men began its activities 3 years ago and is gaining good authority. At the first retreat lead by Don Terbit participated about 40 people, but this year attendance at the retreat reached 120 men. Founded in one of Riga parishes now is spreading in other parishes and towns.

#### **Living Waters**

Interdenominational community "Living Waters" has adopted its program from "Desert Streams" also "Crosscurrent". Both are involved in inner healing. "Living Waters" have program for 30 weeks. "Crosscurrent" has program for 8 weeks. Both groups meet once a week. Once a month they meet for big worship and intercession meeting. Recent retreat was led by Anne and Allan Merlo from France.

#### **Evangelization on the streets**

Community Emmanuel and St. Damian prayer group have charisma for evangelization on the streets during Christmas, Easter and All Saints Day.

**New head-contact**

Archbishop-metropolita Zbigne  
Stankevich.

I now resign from my duty of head-contact  
due to my age. My regrets. From now on  
head- contact for ICCRS in Latvia will be  
Agris Zhelvis appointed by H.E.

*Silvia Limane,*  
2014

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