



Newsletter

ESM New York

Dear friends and benefactors!

Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum, ESM New York is born!

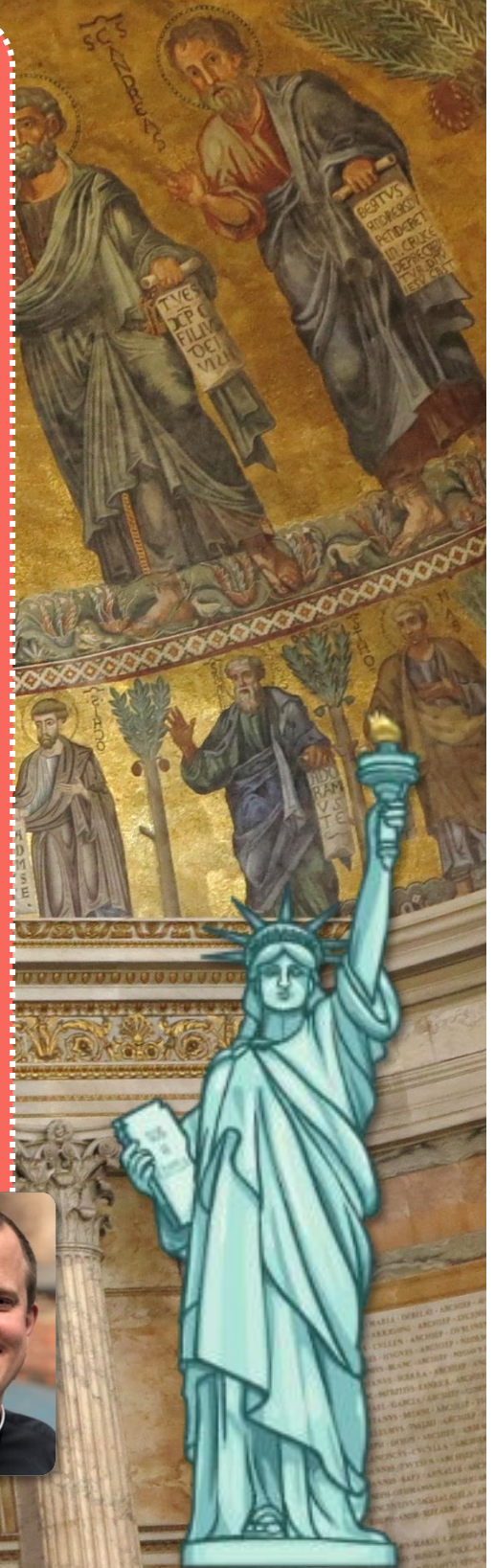
A year ago His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan officially invited the Emmanuel Community to establish a new "Emmanuel School of Mission" in New York City. Making ourselves available for the mission and entrusting ourselves to the discernment of the Archbishop of New York, the South Bronx was elected as a primary location for such a missionary program.

Through the grace of God, it is such a great joy to see and taste the fruit of the many efforts and prayers of a significant number of people throughout the world. Since we received the Cardinal's invitation, we have been witnessing the tangible support of the Master of the Harvest, far beyond the obstacles we have faced.

I am excited to let you discover the faces and names of the 6 students and the 4 team members of the brand new ESM in the New World. In this first newsletter you will learn about the intense pilgrimage we made with the Saints in Europe as the foundational start of ESM New York. Be assured that each one of you were present in our prayers as we journeyed for a month from Rome and Assisi to the Bronx!

Mary, Star of Evangelization, take a motherly care of ESM New York and all its friends and benefactors!

Father Charles Rochas
Executive Director of ESM New York





The students

What are you hoping for this year?



The team



Fr. Paul
Isabel
Fr. Charles
Olivier

Fr. Charles (DIRECTOR) – 39, Emmanuel Community – Archdiocese of Lyons, France
Former director of ESM Rome (2013-2016).

Fr. Paul (CHAPLAIN) – 44, Emmanuel Community – Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland
Former ESM student (2005-2006)

Isabel (MANAGER OF MISSIONS) – 25, Theology graduate, UK
Former ESM student (2014-2015)

Olivier (DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS) – 45, Married, US-France
Former ESM student (1998-1999)





On the 8th of October 2017, the inaugural year of ESM New York began in Rome, at the heart of the Catholic Church and close to Pope Francis. We chose to start this year in the footsteps of the saints, our pilgrimage journey helped us to go deeper in our faith and discover the way of charity through the lives of these important Saints.

We left Rome early Monday, the 9th and we spent the week with **S^{ts} Francis and Claire**. The two Saints decided to leave all their comfort to answer the call of Jesus to "rebuild the Church" that "had fallen into ruins". We discovered how poverty can lead to God. We learned from them the joy of simple things, a good way to prepare ourselves for the mission in the Bronx.

ASSISI



ROME

Back to Rome, we visited the gigantic Basilica of **St Peter's** which reminded us of Jesus' words: "**And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hell will not overcome it.**" Beginning our time in the Vatican which is the center of the visible Church was really important for us. We were so close to people who inspire us in our daily life, as St Peter and St John Paul II have done.



The Basilica of St Peter's (Vatican)



After a delicious pizza on "Piazza Navona" with the ESM Rome, we had our first taste of street **evangelization** on St Peter's Square! For this mission we had the WYD Cross offered by Pope St John Paul II to the Youth of the world. It is true that at first to praise out in the open, and to go towards strangers is not always easy, but very quickly the Lord does wonders, and the fruits of such experiences are endless! Simply powerful!

Invited by the **Centro San Lorenzo** (a center offered by St John Paul II to the Youth during the first World Youth Day), we made the annual **Pilgrimage of the Seven Churches** started by St Philip Néri in the XVI c. This pilgrimage walk (30kms!!) allowed us to discover the most important churches of Rome and what they teach us about our faith.



During these days we were welcomed by our brothers and sisters of ESM Rome in their school at Trinita Dei Monti. We started **classes**. The first one was about **compassion** (how to truly love the people we'll meet in our missions, what to avoid ... in the form of many testimonies). We also had an introduction to **Holy Scriptures** (to acquire the historical background of the Bible, which allows us to read the scriptures with a deepen and global sense of what the authors mean't). We also had training sessions on **sponsorship** (of course, we need tips on this point! ☺).



Wednesday the 18th Oct, we saw our Pope and received his blessing at the General Audience on St Peter's Sq.



The oldest pictorial representation of the Virgin Mary, c. 150AD, preserved in the catacomb.

We visited and celebrated mass in the **Catacombs of Priscilla** which was another powerful moment for us. We realized how precious our Catholic heritage is thanks to the many lives given by the first Christians.

Our next steps before the Bronx ...



Lyon
(Sts Iraenus & Blandine)



Paray-le-Monial
(St Marguerite-Marie)



Paris
(Sts Catherine Labouré & Vincent de Paul)

Ars
(St Jean-Marie Vianney)





The ESM carrier pigeon gets lost on the way to New York ...

PARAY-LE-MONIAL



RETREAT with the Emmanuel Community in Paray-le-Monial.

LYONS Well deserve **REST!**



ARS



Praying in Ars with St Jean-Marie Vianney: **SIMPLICITY** of heart to be open to others.

PARIS



The last step before NYC: learning more about **CHARITY** with Sts Vincent de Paul and Catherine Labouré. Being inspired by the **MARTYRS** of the "**Mission étrangère de Paris**" (MEP).