

The *ANTIOCHIA* Community:

"20 And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.

21 And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.

23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch."

(Acts 11:20-26, King James Version Bible)

What we want?

- inspired by this Biblical text, we want to offer our abilities and work in places, where the living Christian faith slowly becomes a history.
- we want to fulfill the commandment of Jesus to announce the Gospel to the whole world and, through our life, to testimony that it is possible to live according to it - even today.
- we want to be close to the people's lives - close to their sorrows and joys, to understand them well and to serve them.
- we want to establish a dialogue with our neighbourhood, based upon our own experience with Jesus.
- we want to form a true Christian community, starting from deep and sincere relationships.

Selection of the parish

The *Antiochia* participants become the "workers on the Lord's vineyard" and are ready to offer all their potential and gifts received for the service of the Gospel, so as the Kingdom of God on the earth may grow.

The parish, where *Antiochia* should take place, must be ready to continue the work begun by it and, after the end of the *Antiochia* presence and activity, further develop the fruits of divine action.

The arrival of *Antiochia* people to the parish is prepared by the local priest, or by means of short visits throughout the whole year, during which the aims of *Antiochia* are explained to the parishioners.

The local priest should support the project fully and totally-otherwise our activities would be meaningless.

Practical informations :

During the summer holidays, within the fourteen-day courses, young people (older than 16) arrive to the selected parishes and participate on their life and activities. Courses are always led by seminarians, at times also by the experienced laypeople. The activities always depend on the actual need of the parish, but the announcing of the Gospel and own life's testimony have always a priority.

We try to address all age groups, but especially children and young people. In the parish, we offer alternative holiday programs for children (games for the development of creativity and skills, theatre performances with a Christian message with children's own participation, excursions, woodcraft etc.).

Other age groups are addressed through the work, which helps both the municipality and the parish, and through the individual interest for the people (visiting and helping the abandoned, elderly and disable).

The whole *Antiochia* project is based upon the mutual communication and a prayer, both common and personal, which is an absolute fundament of our activity.

What *Antiochia* brings to its participants:

- a possibility to openly testimony their faith through their life and thereby to overcome their shyness.
- learn to lead a mutual dialogue with both other participants of *Antiochia* and those who do not belong to the community of Catholic Church, or search for the sense of life.
- deepening of the personal relationship with God, thanks to a regular prayer, adoration of the Eucharist, catecheses and liturgy.
- establish and develop a friendship to the people, who share the desire to work together and to testimony the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their own country.

The activities of *Antiochia* during the schoolyear:

In autumn and spring, we regularly prepare two meetings for the participants of *Antiochia*. There we share our experiences from holidays and discuss how *Antiochia* shall look like in the future.

We try to maintain the personal contants with the people from the municipality, where *Antiochia* has previously taken place: by visiting, correspondence...

During the whole year we pray, both individually and in a community, for the common work to which we have been invited by our Lord, to become "light of the world and salt of the earth" not only for our closest friends, but for all those we will encounter.