

## Presentation of Mother Thérèse-Marie

September 10 2010

A good number among us have already made acquaintance with Mother Thérèse-Marie Dupagne, a CIB delegate for the Benelux Region, from 2006. She was born in 1959 and entered the monastery of Hurtebise on 1981, after finishing her college studies of chemistry.

I have personally met her as a teacher of logics in the *studium* of the Belgium Benedictine's Monasteries, the ITIM, a position she has cover for over 20 years. In the meantime she has become the Prioress of her Community, in 1997, and has taken part in the board of the Union of the Belgium Benedictines, from 2004; then president of the same organization. All this means that she has get to know very well the Belgium Benedictines' world, but not only. Thanks to the numerous contacts through the CIB and the Annunciation Congregation, to which her monastery is associated.

In merit to one of her passions, that is, the promotion of communion among the Communities and the laity she has engaged in an active research, always looking to open new ways for the monastic life in the contemporary world.

While her intellectual formation has taken her more than anything else to scientific paths, the monastic life, in the other hand, and all the duties that she has found herself covering, had given her a wide open view of the horizons, help by music, art and nature.

By listening to her, we would have occasion to see how much her monastic experience through the liturgy, acceptance, work and formation feeds her reflections in all that has to do with mankind. Whenever it is authentic, our monastic life always get us closer and closer to our brothers and sisters in humanity, and in whatever it is that inhabit or emigrated them as we would see with hope.

I'm very happy that Mother Thérèse-Marie has this opportunity to share a bit of her researches and experiences, to help us to reflect and get deeper to what it is at the root of our hope, and to that that fortifies it, so that we can, in turn, sustain all those near to us.

I can't conclude this brief presentation without saying something that any how you would notice very soon: the good humor of this Sister! She has this particular way of been of never taking herself too seriously, giving anyway a great seriousness to her liturgical and Patristic talk. Let's welcome the artist!