

LIFE OF THE MOVEMENTS

FRANCE

Training session of the Mouvement chrétien des retraités (MCR) in Lisieux

A participant's testimony

It was in Lisieux, from March 18 to 21, 2024, that the traditional MCR national training session was held. It was a moment of happiness and comfort seeing how the elders were alive, creative and dynamic!

67 participants were present at this training for future MCR managers

Above all, work...

The pace of work was very brisk despite a rather high average age – often at work between 9 a.m. and almost 10 p.m.

The plenary assemblies and the 7 workshops in which everyone was invited to participate with their group allowed for great creativity, illustrated above all by the emergence of Shared Projects, because it was action training!

Nevertheless, cultural moments were offered: guided tours by Danièle of the basilica dedicated to Saint Thérèse, of Thérèse's childhood home in Les Buissonnets, a conference by the Carmelite Fr.-Marie Léthel, responsible for the causes of the saints in Rome, "Thérèse: Doctor of synthesis!".

Recreation that turns into praise...

There was also a festive evening around the "Part'Âges" card game created by the MCR, the ACE and the JIC (children and youth movements) to encourage exchanges...

Groups of around 8 players were formed and Jean-Marc (author of the article) drew a famous "Challenges" card from among the 6 families in this game:

"How about we write a prayer together..."

The whole group worked to answer them and shared their prayer during the closing mass of the session on Thursday morning.

I give you this prayer here because the group praises God for this moment and he gives such a true testimony of the experience of this session:

I praise you, Lord, for this good time spent together

I praise you, Lord, for the encounters made today

I praise you, Lord, for little Saint Thérèse

I praise you, Lord, for open hearts without fear

I praise you, Lord, for these moments of sharing which allowed us to know each other better;

Thank you, Lord, for these meetings.

I praise you, Lord, for these lives given and shared

I praise you, Lord, for the youth of retirees

I praise you, Lord, for the joy you bring to our hearts.

Following this training, which takes place twice a year and where tutorial modules are offered concerning all aspects of the movement, we find the participants sometime later in positions of responsibility in the movement in their respective dioceses and regions.

