



PRESS RELEASE N. 2
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RUN4UNITY

A rainbow of peace and unity around the world

*With interviews, choreographies, stories, projects and music
from many cultures: Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas*

The 6 aspects of the project: Let's colour the city

In piazza Navona - Rome

SATURDAY MAY 10 2008

Satellite transmission between 18.00 and 19.15 (CEST)

With participants in the

worldwide relay

in 350 cities of the 5 continents

With the collaboration of Telepace, Ewtn, Canção Nova, Télélumière

"Let's colour the city", a programme that looks to the future, to bring our cities back to life. Young people from 9 to 16 are taking the leading role. It was launched three years ago by Chiara Lubich, and entrusted to Teens for Unity. It is operating in 5 continents. In piazza Navona, the Teens for Unity will restate their aims to other young people and adults. The piazza will be packed with over 2000 young people.

The 6 aspects of the project will be described in the language of mathematical symbols: + love; - suffering; ÷ sharing; % the hundredfold promised in the Gospel; x everyone, no one excluded; = One, a world united in fraternity, and backed up through practical experiences.

The relay will symbolically link all the continents together with the handing on of the baton from one time zone to another. A relay event that will reach the most turbulent areas of the world and will demonstrate the commitment of our youngest people to peace and unity.

From 18.00 to 19.15 (CEST) - Thanks to the direct satellite transmission, young people from all over the world - the forecast is 100,000 - will be together for a world-wide gathering.

This second Run4Unity is very special: "*I will be there at Piazza Navona if I can*", Chiara Lubich had assured the Teens for Unity just before she left this earth, having followed the preparations step by step. The Teens for Unity want to dedicate Run4Unity to her, to say a world-wide "thank you" and to show their commitment to carry on the race to realise her dream, the fulfilment of the Testament of Jesus: "*That all may be one.*"

Chiara's own experience provided the inspiration for the project "Let's colour the city". In Trento Chiara and her first companions began, by living the Gospel, to regenerate the broken fabric of the city, and later extended their activities all over the world. This is the



experience that these young people want to repeat today, in cities all over the planet, colouring with love the “grey corners” of the places where they live. They go where there is loneliness and marginalisation, suffering and conflict, with thousands of projects that bring peace and love.

In a recorded video Chiara Lubich, will hand on to the young people the secret for bringing their cities back to life: *the art of loving*. This will be introduced by interviews with some of those who have followed Chiara right since the beginning of the movement: Marco Tecilla, Silvana Veronesi, Eli Folonari.

The programme also includes linkups with Bolivar and with Jerusalem, and news from around the world of the many events happening in 350 linked-up cities, collated by a group of young people in real time, using the site www.run4unity.net

The transmission will begin with a question that expresses the deep need felt by many young people: “*Who wouldn't like to see their city coloured by love?*”

Where to begin? The solution they propose is a short sentence from the Gospel: “do to others as you would have them do to you”. It is a “Golden Rule” which is found in the sacred texts of almost all religions and is written in the heart of each person. In the morning, this challenge will be issued by the young people as a programme for the day, to thousands of their peers, school friends, and young people of other associations and movements, taking part in the events of Run4Unity in 350 cities. During the whole programme experiences on the “Golden Rule” will be shared, including those received via the internet

The worldwide event will conclude with the young people's reply to Chiara's invitation to bring their cities back to life again, by loving everyone. A choreography, starting from the stage, will involve the young people in the piazza and trace “patterns of light”, a symbol of the Love that comes from the Gospel and which can bring light to the different kinds of darkness experienced within each person and in society.

As well as the relay run in the 350 cities, there will be many other events created by the young people (see www.run4unity.net)

On May 10 there will be two other linkups with Piazza Navona in Rome, via internet (at 13.30 and 20.45 CEST)

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