

**From October 01
to December 14,
2023
Madrid, Spain**



“We commit ourselves to pause, as pilgrims, during special moments of our life [...] participating in suitable initiatives, offered by the Congregation.” (QC 49)



Prefecture of Spirituality and Community Life



FORGE

English Edition

Oct 1 – Dec 14, 2023
Los Negrals, Madrid

What is FORGE?

- The **Claretian Renewal Encounter** (FORGE) is an ongoing formation initiative of the General Government that aims to help the Claretian missionary discern God's will at the crossroads of mid-life.
- The FORGE is an opportunity to **refresh one's life**, some 25 years after the first profession, and to illuminate it from the Word of God.

To whom is it directed?

- To all members of the Congregation **who are between 40 and 60 years of age**.
- To all those who have completed **25 years of their first profession** or are beginning a new missionary stage.
- To those who, fulfilling the conditions indicated above, are presented by their respective Major Superiors. The **maximum number of participants is 14**. The applications will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis.

When will it take place?

- Forge 07/23 will take place from **Sunday, Oct 01 (lunch time) until Thursday, Dec 14, 2023 (Dinner time)**.
- Participants coming from outside of Spain who plan to arrive a day earlier and stay longer beyond the FORGE should contact **Fr. Félix Ketoglo** to arrange for their lodging in Madrid.

Where is it done?

- The place of the Forge will be the **Forge Center, San Luis 8, Los Negrals, 28430 Alpedrete, Madrid**.
- Some phases of the encounter are held in other places: **Monastery of Buenafuente del Sistol, Claretian places in Catalonia, Aragon and Madrid**.

Who coordinates it?

- Forge 07/23 will be coordinated by: **Paulson Veliyannoor, Lawrence Venceslaus and Félix K. Ketoglo**.
- The Claretian Renewal Encounter depends organically on the **General Prefecture of Spirituality and Community Life**.

What is done?

- To relive, throughout the 75 days of the program, **the three processes of transformation** (adoration, accompaniment, and going forth) as a response to the challenges of settling down in our own ways, individualism and idolatry.
- To personalize **God's Dream** received through the Congregation.
- To be trained, through the use of various personal and communitarian methods, **to live more deeply the missionary life project contained in the Constitutions**.
- To savour some **peak experiences**: spiritual exercises in silence, pilgrimage to the Claretian holy places, etc.

What else should I know?

- **The cost of the FORGE is 4,200 euros**. It includes: full board, pilgrimages and all operating expenses (travel, materials, teachers, etc.). **Personal expenses are not included**. Payment is made at the beginning of the FORGE in cash or by transfer through the *Fundus* in Rome.
- Participants who require a **Schengen visa to enter Spain must apply for it at the Spanish consulate in their own country with sufficient time**, presenting the corresponding letter of invitation prepared by the secretary of the Province of Santiago (secretario@claretianos.es).
- Once the participant list is approved, further details will be intimated on the visa matters
- It is essential to purchase **medical insurance coverage in Spain** for the duration of the FORGE. Likewise, the officially established COVID-19 prevention protocols must be complied with. As far as possible, it is also advisable to have a medical check-up before the experience to rule out possible contraindications.
- Applications, accompanied by a brief presentation of the candidate, **should be sent to the General Prefect of Spirituality and Community Life at the latest by April 16, 2023**, to allow time for proper preparation.
- For further information, please contact:

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“We dream of a Congregation prepared to respond to new challenges through an integral and continuous process of formation, open to universal mission, according to the spirit and charism of our Father Founder.” (QC 43 & 87)