



GLOBAL NETWORK OF RAINBOW CATHOLICS

GNRC Organisation & Development

Editing and consolidating all the material and ideas from the Rome gathering for a formulation of the objectives, organisation structure, and general strategy for the GNRC work. Further tasks of this working group will be to identify member groups and individual members (the tasks of a membership committee) and to develop a draft constitution before the next assembly.

Public Relations

Working on communication with the wider GNRC community, a website, media, public relations, development of a GNRC presence on the web, website, media, public relations, development of a GNRC community around the world.

Planning for 2nd GNRC world assembly

Focus on fundraising and the next GNRC gathering (date and place to be agreed for March 2017). We are looking for a local host group that would be willing to organize the next assembly of GNRC. If your organisation has the capacity to do so then get in contact with Chris Vella (drachmalgbt@gmail.com). The preparation will be done in close cooperation with the Steering Group.

Book launch of European Forum LGBT Christians 'And God Saw It All Was Very Good'



Authors Hazel Barnes and Sandy Taylor with Wielie Elhorst, Co President of European Forum and Sr. Jeannine Gramick



The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. ISAIAH 11:2-4

Greetings for 2016 from GNRC!

Dear friends in our newly created Global Network of Rainbow Catholics. Wishing you the best for you and your dear ones in these days of hope for peace and joy. The GNRC Steering Committee would like to send you an update about our current and future work agenda after the October Rome gathering.

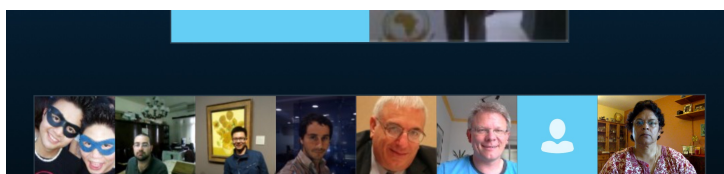
The Steering Committee elected

- Benjamin Oh (Asia)
- Tim Smyth (Australia)
- Georgina Adhiambo (Afrika)
- Fernando Gonzalez (South America and Caribbean)
- Francis DeBernardo (North America)
- Michael Brinkschroeder (Europe)
- Ruby Almeida (Female)
- Joseanne Peregin (Female)
- Chris Vella (Bisexual)
- Eros Xiao Xiao (Youth)

at the Rome gathering is now established and has already held meetings with the next one scheduled for February. We have got to know each other better and recognized our complementary skills and experience. Skype meetings (see below), emails, Facebook and even Whatsapp has been really helpful in this task, as we grow in mutual understanding, valuing both our diversity and the differences that enrich us. This has been a fruitful process although not free from under-eye circles, getting up early on Sunday mornings (in North and South America), or getting to bed very late on Monday morning (in Asia and Australia).

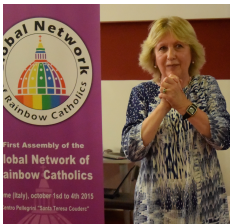
At our December meeting, we divided our initial work into three sub-committees that will over the next months develop the main guidelines agreed in Rome:

GNRC Organisational Development, Public Relations and Planning for 2nd GNRC world assembly - see left column for details. (cont. overleaf)



Our first Skype meeting

Some of our guest speakers at the First Assembly



Mary McAleese from Ireland



Bishop Raul Viera from Mexico



Sj Pedro Labrin from Chile



Sr. Jeanine Gramick from USA



Rungrote Tansurakit from Thailand

For those who had to leave the Rome gathering early we want to inform you about the foundation of the "Global Network of Rainbow Catholics of Africa" (GNRCA). This is a great news for our community and proves that the Holy Spirit works even faster than our original expectations in our intention to connect with LGBTI Catholics worldwide. As a first step, they issued a Press Release timed with the visit of Pope Francis in November. GNRC supported this release, spreading it across our media channels.

[GNRCA Press Release](#)

In this first GNRC Newsletter we would like to share with you the Summary of the 2015 most relevant LGBTIH Catholic Events elaborated by our Steering Committee member Francis de Bernardo (part of New Ways Ministry - USA, GNRC member).

[2015 LGBTI events](#)

We look forward to keeping you updated on our work as your Steering Committee in 2016. We think that the best way to create a lively communication among Rainbow Catholics would be a listserv and so have set up a Google group. If you are interested then we would like to ask you to register for Google Groups before 1 March 2016. This will ensure communication between the Steering Group and the participants from Rome as well as the exchange of information and discussion amongst all of us. Please email your interest to join Google group at the email address at the bottom of the page.

May the presence of our Lord be with us all, and inspire us to witness His arrival filled with hope during the New Year. And may He accompany us in the celebrations around our post Christmas tables!

N.B. We are awaiting the results from the working group in Rome on "Prophecy & Justice". If any one of you knows anything about the results of this working group, please, share your information with Michael Brinkschroeder (michael.brinkschroeder@web.de).

Socialising amidst newly formed friendships



Website: rainbowcatholics.wordpress.com

Email: RainbowCatholicsAssembly@gmail.com

Twitter: @GNRCatholics

Face Book: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1616333885308527/>