

Press release

***MFH Manuscripta Franciscana Hierosolymitana. Selected Exhibition***

The Library of the Custody of the Holy Land in Jerusalem houses one of the most valuable library of the Franciscan Order. The presence since the Thirteenth century of the sons of s. Francis, in spite of wars and difficulties, has enabled the creation of an important library which in recent years has been highlighted, thanks to the implementation of the digital catalog now available [online](#). In the past few months, the inventory of the collection of more than a half thousand manuscripts dating from the Eleventh century to the modern era has been completed, an is now available on the [web](#).

To present to the public this important initiative, on 23rd of October 2014 in the mentioned Library in Jerusalem, we promote a day dedicated to the collection of manuscripts. Throughout the day, “*MFH Manuscripta Franciscana Hierosolymitana. Selected Exhibition*” will be open, with 36 precious manuscripts in the Arabic, Armenian, Hebrew, Ethiopian, Greek, Latin, Syriac alphabets, some of which are richly illuminated. In the late afternoon, in addition to the presentation of the inventory, prof. Michele Campopiano from University of York will present the lecture *Writing the Holy Land: Manuscripts and Texts from the Franciscan Convent in Jerusalem (1333-1530 ca)*.

The initiative is an important step in the project “Books bridges of peace” of the European Research Centre Book Publishing Library (CRELEB) of the Catholic University of Milan, supported in particular by ATS pro Terra Sancta.

Program

***MFH Manuscripta Franciscana Hierosolymitana. Selected Exhibition***

**23rd October 2014, Custody of the Holy Land St. Saviour’s Monastery – Jerusalem**

**9.00 am**

**General Library of the Custody of the Holy Land, St. Saviour’s Monastery – Jerusalem**

Inauguration of the Manuscript Exhibition *MFH Manuscripta Franciscana Hierosolymitana* with the Custos of the Holy Land, Very Rev. Pierbattista Pizzaballa

Blessing of the new stained-glass window in the Library dedicated to Blessed Gabriele Allegra ofm

**9.00 am-5.00 pm**

**General Library of the Custody of the Holy Land, St. Saviour’s Monastery – Jerusalem**

Manuscript Exhibition *MFH Manuscripta Franciscana Hierosolymitana*

**5.00 pm-6.30 pm**

**St. Francis’ Hall at the Custodial Curia, St. Saviour’s Monastery – Jerusalem**

Presentation of the online inventory “MFH Manuscripta Franciscana Hierosolymitana”

<http://www.bibliothecatterraesanctae.org/descrizione-inventario-manoscritti.html>

Greetings by fr. Lionel Goh ofm (Director of the General Library of the Custody of the Holy Land)

Speech by Marcello Mozzato (ATS pro Terra Sancta)

Moderator Alessandro Tedesco (CRELEB – European Research Center Book Publishing Library)

Conference: *Writing the Holy Land: Manuscripts and Texts from the Franciscan Convent in Jerusalem (1333-1530 ca)* by Professor Michele Campopiano (University of York)

Free entrance.

For informations and guided tours: tel. +972 2 62 66 756 (Jerusalem) +39 0272342606 (Italy) – fax +972 2 62 66 774 +39 0272342740 – email [bibliocts@custodia.org](mailto:bibliocts@custodia.org) [creleb@unicatt.it](mailto:creleb@unicatt.it)

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