

From 1940 to 2015...

In August 1940, at the beginning of the Second World War, Brother Roger arrived in the village of Taizé. He had just turned 25, and was laying the foundations of a community which he hoped would be a parable of communion, a ferment of reconciliation in the human family:

"I think that, ever since I was young, the intuition that a life of community could be a sign that God is love, and love alone, has never left me. Little by little the conviction arose in me that it was essential to create a community with men who had decided to give their entire lives, and who would try to understand one another and to be reconciled, a community where heartfelt kindness and simplicity would be at the center of everything." Brother Roger

Today, the Taizé Community is made up of about 100 brothers, Catholics and from different Protestant backgrounds, from close to thirty countries.

Brother Roger died on 16 August 2005, at the age of 90; he was killed by a deranged person during evening prayer.

Throughout the year 2015, the community is celebrating the 75th anniversary of its foundation and it invites everyone to remember its founder, 100 years after his birth and ten years after his death.

To prepare for 2015, Brother Alois, Brother Roger's successor as prior of the community, proposed a three-year time of searching to renew, in the light of the Gospel, our commitment to human solidarity.

Gathering for a New Solidarity From Sunday 9 to Sunday 16 August 2015

The climax of the 2015 celebrations, this week will also be the culmination of three years dedicated to searching for a "new solidarity".

Young adults between 18 and 35 years are invited to come to Taizé especially that week.

Arrival: Sunday 9 August between 2pm and 6pm. Some people plan to make a pilgrimage on foot from Cluny or Cormatin. Departure: Sunday 16 August after 7pm.

Bible reflections and workshops with speakers from different Churches and different continents. Friday: prayer around the Cross. Saturday evening: outdoor celebration of the light of the Resurrection.

During the week from 9 to 16 August, particular attention will be given to people in situations of precariousness in different parts of the world. A solidarity fund will permit people of all social conditions to spend the week together in Taizé.



Prayer of Thanksgiving in Memory of Brother Roger Sunday 16 August 2015, 4pm

A prayer open to all, in the presence of Church leaders, representatives of other religions and young adults from every continent.

Pilgrimage of Trust on Earth



Towards a New Solidarity

The Year 2015 in Taizé

75th Anniversary of the Community

100th Anniversary
of Brother Roger's Birth
(12 May 1915 - 16 August 2005)

info2015@taize.fr
www.taize.fr/2015

International Meetings in Taizé during the Year 2015

As every year, week-long international meetings will take place on the hill of Taizé in 2015, from one Sunday to the next.

Each day, three times of prayer with the community. Bible reflection followed by small-group sharing or a time of silence. Workshops to deepen the relationship between faith and different aspects of life in society.

Dates :

- ▶ young people between 18 and 29: if possible from 9 to 16 August, or else any week from 6 January to 20 December;
- ▶ young people between 15 and 17: any week from 6 January to 20 December, except 9 to 16 August;
- ▶ adults 30 or over: between mid-March and mid-October, except 9 to 16 August; adults under 35 are also invited to the intercontinental meeting from 9 to 16 August;
- ▶ families (with children under 15): July and August (except 9 to 16 August), around Easter and Pentecost.

Throughout the year 2015 there will be special exhibitions, workshops and events.



Around 12 May

To celebrate the anniversary of the birth of its founder (12 May 1915), the community is giving a special invitation to the inhabitants of the region around Taizé to come on Sunday 10 May 2015. Welcome at 3pm, then a presentation of Brother Roger's life in selected workshops. At 5:30pm, a prayer of thanksgiving.

Around 12 May, young people are invited, wherever they live, to lead a prayer and to imagine an act of solidarity, to recall the memory of Brother Roger and to put into practice his call to follow Christ.

Reflection on the Relevance of a Religious Vocation

From Sunday 5 to Sunday 12 July

An international gathering for young people living a monastic or religious life, both those in formation as well as those already committed for some years.

With the help of those in charge of Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant congregations, communities and monasteries, on the basis of what Brother Roger contributed to the "great tree of monastic life," on which Taizé is "a simple shoot that has been grafted," as he liked to say, participants will reflect on the meaning of a religious vocation today. There will also be different workshops and Bible reflections.



Colloquium on Brother Roger's Contribution to Theological Thought

From Sunday 30 August to Sunday 6 September

International colloquium for young theologians: theology students, researchers or those already involved in ministry in the Church.

Brother Roger did not take part in academic debates on theology. But he always had friends who were theologians. And he developed an original outlook, perceptible in his writings as well as in the life of the community and the young adult meetings. Protestant, Orthodox and Catholic theologians from different countries will come to help illuminate some aspects of his thought and the significance of Taizé.

Be a Volunteer at Taizé in 2015

In 2015, in addition to the volunteers who spend several months at Taizé for an experience of prayer, service and community life, the brothers invite young adults between 18 and 29:

- ▶ to help out in Taizé from 2 to 23 August;
- ▶ to live elsewhere for a few weeks in small provisional communities (see below).

This invitation is for all, but especially for those who have been to Taizé several times and those who have already been volunteers with the community. For more information contact: info2015@taize.fr.

To come to Taizé as a volunteer for a longer period, you can find more information at: www.taize.fr/2015



Small Provisional Communities

During the first half of 2015, living in a small group of young adults for a few weeks in a neighborhood or village to witness to the Gospel and share the joys and the difficulties of those living there. A life following the rhythm of three prayers together each day. Pastoral and social activities with local Christian communities, visits to people who are alone or in difficulty, leading prayers open to all and youth gatherings.

To prepare for this, those who wish to take part in this project should spend a week in Taizé between Easter 2014 and February 2015.

For more information contact: info2015@taize.fr