

STRUCTURE

The organizational structure is oriented to guarantee the realization of the formation processes and the aims of the Association: one's own sanctification, the care of one's own family and charitable service of one's neighbour. The fundamental principles guiding the functions and relationships within it are co-responsibility, inter-dependence and complementarity.

The International Coordinating Team of the Lay Canossian Association carries out, with fidelity and perseverance, its service towards all the Lay Canossians throughout the world.

It is composed of Lay people, Canossian Sisters and Fathers. Their duty is to coordinate the Association, so that

"the charism of Saint Magdalene of Canossa may maintain its relevance and spread throughout the world."



ST. MAGDALENE OF

CANOSSA 1774-1835

Magdalene could have lived a sumptuous and very comfortable life, instead she chose to follow the way of the Daughter of Charity and Servant of the Poor.



Magdalene, an intelligent and creative woman, moved by the Holy Spirit, searched for new ways to spread the Kingdom of God. One of these is the **LAY CANOSSIAN ASSOCIATION**.

"... I thought that God wanted to prepare me for a long journey in order to perform some works in a remote corner of the world, where I would have to practise a special detachment."
(Memoirs, Ch. XV, 11)

INSPICE ET FAC

**LAY
CANOSSIAN
ASSOCIATION**



Websites:

www.laican.org — Lay Canossians
www.canossian.org — Canossian Sisters
www.canossiani.org — Canossian Fathers

LAY CANOSSIAN ASSOCIATION

It is composed of men and women of the Church in the heart of the world, and men and women of the world in the heart of the Church. Lay people are God's prophets in the world. They are sent by Him to build a new humanity, a new society, that will be more just, more human and more Christian.

**"The one who does not burn with zeal
cannot set others afire"**

The Lay Canossian commits himself/herself, every day, to realize this lifestyle, within a personal project, cultivating, in a special way, all his/her relationships modelling them on respectful and serene acceptance of everyone, allowing Jesus' spirit to transpire which is

**"most amiable, most generous and
most patient"**



OUR IDENTITY

It can be summarized by the following aspects:

Formation at a personal and group level through local and regional systematic meetings in order to grow in lay spirituality, centred on the experience of the Crucified and Risen Lord and Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows.

Witness of communion:

the first mission of the Lay Canossian is that of being a weaver of communion in the family, in the Church and in society.

Apostolic service:

with special attention for the least, the little ones and the poor.

Personal journey of living the virtues of docility, patience, meekness and gentleness assuming Jesus' form who is meek and humble.



Love one another



Today, a new evangelization of culture, of youth, of peace, of the proclamation of the Gospel in poor countries, is needed.

CANOSSIAN CHARISM



It is the charism of charity, **"a fire which spreads and seeks to embrace everything."** The charism of charity makes the Lay Canossian courageous and creative in living and witnessing the Gospel in every sphere: the family, the world of work, of culture, of politics and economics and in the social and educational fields. He/she is particularly attentive to the situation of justice, peace and integrity of creation.

OUR LOGO

It represents the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ, the Greatest Love. Mary stands beside her Son, a "Woman completely open to the will of God and unconditionally docile to His Divine Word." Jesus and Mary are near the Cross, an expression of love and salvation.



The Logo is a constant invitation for the Lay Canossian to contemplate the unfathomable Mystery of the Love of the Trinity and to communicate it to all our brothers and sisters in their daily life.

**"Inspice et Fac"- "Look and do
likewise"**