



**CUSTODIA
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PRESS RELEASE

OPENING OF THE TWO EXHIBITIONS

FOR THE CENTENARY OF THE BASILICAS OF TABOR AND GETHSEMANE

Exhibitions title: LUXTENBRA: 100 years since the building of the Basilica of the Transfiguration
LUXTENEBRA: 100 years since the building of the Basilica of the Agony

Inauguration dates: 16 April 2024 at 5.00 pm at the Basilica of the Transfiguration on Mount Tabor
19 April 2024 at 6.00 pm Basilica of the Agony in Gethsemane - Jerusalem

Duration: the exhibitions will be displayed inside the basilicas until the end of 2024.

Languages: English, Italian, Arabic, Hebrew.

The exhibitions will be inaugurated by the Minister General of the Order of Friars Minor, Br. Massimo Fusarelli, who is visiting the Holy Land.

The exhibitions are part of the cultural activities planned for the Centenary of the building of the Basilica of the Transfiguration on Mount Tabor and the Basilica of the Agony at Gethsemane.

Built by the architect Antonio Barluzzi on commission from the Custody of the Holy Land, the two basilicas marked the beginning of the fruitful activity of the Roman architect in the Holy Land.

The Basilica of Mount Tabor is a suggestive reflection on the mystery of the Transfiguration of Jesus. The simple geometries and perfect proportions of the church blend with the beauty of the surrounding nature, generating an experience of contemplation and wonder in the pilgrim.

The Basilica of the Agony captures the emotional intensity of Jesus' agony before his crucifixion. The skillful use of mosaics and symbolic elements in the decorations conveys a profound sense of sacredness, inviting the faithful to reflect on the meaning of suffering and redemption.

The celebration of the 100 years since the dedication of these two important basilicas also becomes an opportunity to delve deeper into the value of the work of the Custody of the Holy Land in the first decades of the 20th century, from a historical, theological, artistic/architectural and ecclesial point of view.

The two exhibitions are made up of 10 panels each. A journey that will accompany the visitor to get closer to the meaning of the Basilicas, through five short sections:

1. the evangelical passages;
2. the archaeological importance of the sites;
3. the historical context;
4. architecture and works of art;
5. the sanctuaries today.

Exhibition curated by: *Vincenzo Zuppardo*

Texts: *Alessandro Coniglio, Narcyz Klimas, Gianantonio Urbani, Vincenzo Zuppardo*

Scientific Committee: *A. Coniglio, S. Srebrenović, R. M. Bustos, S. Milovitch, N. Klimas, V. Zuppardo*

Exhibition design: *Vincenzo Zuppardo Architettura*

Graphic project: *Giuseppe Mazzotti*

Exhibition created with the contribution of: *Association pro Terra Santa*