

REPORT ON 21st ASIA PACIFIC ENCOUNTER – 7-10 October in Los Angeles, USA

“Rekindle the Fire of your Love in our Hearts”

For all those who attended, the fire within was given a burst of energy by the experience of the 21st Asia Pacific Encounter. Hosted by the Chinese speaking cursillistas of North America, the occasion provided a perfect opportunity to also celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Chinese speaking Cursillo Movement in the US, as a result of an outreach from Taiwan.

All delegates were welcomed graciously and warmly. The hospitality was a highlight of the Encounter, as our hosts displayed the essence of Cursillo in extending the hand of Friendship in such a genuine manner. It was delightful to witness and be part of the exchanges between the peoples of our neighbouring Asia Pacific countries. The strong emphasis on spiritual devotion was a highlight and it was especially beautiful to hear hymns and prayers in diverse languages.

Two keynote talks were presented on the theme of the Encounter, by OMCC President Yvonne Carrigan and Spiritual Advisor, Fr Adrian Farrelly. Yvonne spoke of the absolute and unconditional love our God has for each of us. Fr Adrian challenged our complacency and reminded us of the need to tend the spiritual fire within us. Various witness talks were also presented by Chinese cursillistas sharing their spiritual journeys.

The country reports by Heads of Delegation summarised the activities of the last two years. The APG meetings chaired by APG Coordinator, Tam Nguyen were valuable opportunities to share successes and challenges, to improve communication, to review the By Laws and to examine the way ahead. It is planned to hold the 22nd APG Encounter in Sydney, hosted by Vietnam in Diaspora in September 2012.

The Encounter closed with Mass, followed by a tour of the City of Angels, including their magnificent new cathedral and the Cursillo Retreat House.



