

OMCC Executive:
Yvonne Carrigan, President
Rev Dr Adrian Farrelly, Sp Advisor
Margaret Morris, Secretary
Derek Moylan, Vice President
Peter McMahon, Treasurer



OMCC Coordinators:

Tam Nguyen,	APG
Hans Perschtold,	GECC
Alberto Stang,	GLCC
Gail Terrana,	NACG

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

14TH April, 2010

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I share with you the following".....*There is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ. There is nothing more beautiful than to know Him and to speak to others of our friendship with Him.*"

These words were taken from a homily that Pope Benedict XVI gave in April, 2005.

We hope that our sharing with you over the past 3 months has introduced you to more Cursillo friends. We now enter the joy filled Easter season, where we pray the Risen Christ has renewed your confidence in his omnipotent presence.

Charisms whether extraordinary or simple and humble, are graces of the Holy Spirit which directly or indirectly benefit the Church, ordered as they are to her building up, to the good of men, and to the needs of the world. Charisms are to be accepted with gratitude by the person who receives them and by all members of the Church as well. (Catechism of the Catholic Church 799) The Charism of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement is focused and based on the **love of God for each person**. There are elements that characterize the Charism of our Movement. We urge you to take time to discover, or rediscover, and understand the richness in these elements.

The Cursillo world continues to spread the Gospel through the personal witness of our lives – striving as we do to balance our Piety, Study and Action. We commend to you Palanca – for many causes, but in particular for the 3 day Cursillos which are planned in Diocese throughout the world.

The **Cursillo of Cursillos** which has been given in Spanish for many years, was first given in English in Majorca in 2007. Since then, Australia, Canada and the USA have held English language Cursillo of Cursillos. Guidelines for these weekends are now available and we encourage as many English language Diocese as possible to use this tool. It does not matter how long or short a time since we each lived our Cursillo, there is always something to learn.

Some events coming up to put in your **Palanca** lists are:
The regional meetings of our International Groups;

As advised by the GLCC the following are already planned.

- Southern Cone countries – 4-6 June in Mar del Plata
- Meeting of Spiritual Advisors in Latin American countries 27-30 July in Mar del Plata – Argentina.
- Bolivarian countries – 11-12 September
- Central, Northern and Caribbean countries 27-28 November in the Dominican Republic

Some news about the **Asian Congress for the Laity** in Seoul in September.

- We have completed the questionnaire from the PCL required for this meeting.
- Our 4 person OMCC delegation will be; Fr Adrian, our Spiritual Advisor; Tam Nguyen – Vietnam in Diaspora, Francisco Kim - Korea, and myself.
{2 of our delegates must be Asian born.}

Please pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit as we represent our brothers and sisters in Cursillo.

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We are in the process of planning the **First Ordinary Meeting of the OMCC**. We will advise you of our plans after consultation with the Executive Committees of the International Groups.

The progress of **Fundamental Ideas Revision** is of some concern to you all. This we understand. Our efforts are directed to sending the relevant material to the commission members as soon as possible. When this is done, we can plan a meeting of the commission. Our biggest problem is the financing of such a meeting. We will place this problem before the Lord, then use our commonsense to find a solution.

Margaret, our Secretary, has been busy updating and preparing the latest **OMCC Directory**. Thank you for your contributions. We will keep working on this to complete it as soon as possible. Reading of the past directories has been of help in our compilation.

As we have not had any requests for particular topics for our monthly newsletter, we will continue to introduce our International Groups, with some of their history. Any suggestions you have will be readily considered.

As an Executive we are holding monthly meetings via Skype, and have regular e-mail contact with each other. The only time consuming factor is the necessity to have most of our correspondence translated.

During this joyous Easter Season I invite you to pray each day to the Holy Spirit for a renewed outpouring of his power, energy and gifts upon our beloved Cursillo Movement.

Until next month. May your lives be filled with many bright colours.

De Colores

Your sister and friend in Christ.

Yvonne

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from our Spiritual Advisor

Easter 2010

Since the last of appearances Jesus made to the eye witnesses after his resurrection no one has seen Jesus in the flesh. Some of the saints report having visions but this is not the Lord in the flesh who can touch and be touched, share a meal, or cook breakfast. What the world has experienced is us, the Church, the men and women who believe, who are nurtured by word and sacrament, who live in communion with the bishop of Rome and his brother bishops throughout the world. It is an incredible responsibility we shoulder. We live knowing that what we say, think and do will determine what people think about the God we believe in.

In recent times, the mass media of the world has made much of the sexual abuse of children by the men ordained to be the ministers of word and sacrament. These are the very ones whose ministry exists to ensure the Christian faithful have access to the riches the Lord wants them to have to grow to be more like him, so that they can complete his work on earth and grow to the fullness of grace.

Understandably many, victims and non-victims, alike, proclaim that the Church is finished. Its credibility is shot. Why would any right-thinking person want to be part of such a Church? In his book, *Forgotten Among the Lilies – Learning To Love Beyond Our Fears*, Ronald Rolheiser, the Canadian oblate priest, paraphrases the opening lines of Carretto's love letter addressed to the Church, the visible institutional Church.

*How much I must criticize you, my church and yet how much I love you!
You have made me suffer more than anyone and yet I owe you more than I owe anyone.
I should like to see you destroyed and yet I need your presence.
You have given me much scandal and yet you alone have made me understand holiness.
Never in the world have I seen anything more obscurantist, more compromised, more false, yet never have I touched anything more pure, more generous or more beautiful.
Countless times I have felt like slamming the door of my soul in your face – and yet, every night, I have prayed that I might die in your arms!
No, I cannot be free of you, for I am one with you, even if not completely you.
Then too – where should I go?
To build another church?
But I cannot build another church without the same defects, for they are my own defects.
And again, if I were to build another church, it would be my church, not Christ's church.
No, I am old enough. I know better!*

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How many Catholics, burdened with the scandals of the Church today, find themselves echoing Carretto's *Love Letter to the Church*? We cannot undo our sins. We have to live with the consequences. But through it all, we still have to live witnessing to the risen Lord alive and living in us. As we look into his eyes we see no condemnation only love. We hear no harsh words – he calls us friend. Rejoice! He is truly risen.

Carlo Carretto, the renowned Italian spiritual writer, in his old age, wrote this Ode to the church:

*How much I must criticize you, my church, and yet how much I love you!
 You have made me suffer more than anyone and yet I owe more to you than to anyone.*

*I should like to see you destroyed and yet I need your presence.
 You have given me much scandal and yet you alone have made me understand holiness.*

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Then too-where would I go? To build another church? But I could not build one without the same defects, for they are my defects. And again, if I were to build another church, it would be my church, not Christ's church.

No, I am old enough. I know better!

Shalom,

Fr Adrian....