

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



ORGANISMO
MUNDIAL DE CURSILLOS
DE CRISTIANDAD

MCC

OMCC Coordinators:

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

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

19th May, 2010

My dear Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

We hope you have been enriched by the blessings of the Easter Season and ready to be filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

We celebrate the month of the Mother of the Church, our Blessed Mother Mary. She has a special place within the Cursillo. Let us ask her to plead with her Son for graces and blessings on our work. We ask her special protection for our brothers and sisters who have been devastated by many natural disasters over these past few months.

This month we are happy to introduce to you, our friends on the Executive committee of the GECC in Austria.

Johann (Hans) Perchtold, speaker

I made my Cursillo in 1979. Since 1984, I have been working as a leader in the Cursillo Movement. I have been several years in the leaders' team of my Diocese and some years in the Austrian leaders' team.

I am married to Maria, and we have two daughters.

In my work I am actually in a pre-pension phase.

Spiritually I am at home in the Cursillo Movement.

Robert Nagl, treasurer

Born in 1945. My Cursillo was in 1969, I have been a Cursillo leader since 1970. For more than 30 years, I have been in the Cursillo Leaders' Team of my Diocese, and for six years in the Austrian leaders' team.

I am married to Anneliese, and we have two daughters and two sons.

My profession was industrial engineer, I retired in 2007.

I am also spiritually at home in the Cursillo Movement.

Cristina Gawlas, spokeswoman for international affairs

Born in 1948. My Cursillo was in 1982, I have been a Cursillo leader since 1988. My profession is translator for Spanish and German. I have been working for more than 35 years as a Spanish speaking journalist in the Spanish News Agency EFE, where I was pensioned in 2008. I have two grown up children, a son (34) who has become an assurance expert, and a daughter (29) who is studying microbiology and genetics.

I also feel spiritually at home in the Cursillo Movement.

Christine Koptik, secretary

Born in 1947

My Cursillo, in autumn of 1977 was a turning point in my life. I have been a Cursillo leader since 1979 in Vienna, and I have been on the Vienna Diocesan Secretariat for more than ten years. Since the beginning of 2010, I have been the speaker of the Austrian National Secretariat. I have been working many years in the editorial office of a newspaper and in several international enterprises. Since 2009 I am pensioned. I have an adult daughter and live alone now. The Cursillo spirituality is the base for my commitment in the service for people.

Fr. Maximilian Bergmayr OSB, Spiritual Advisor

Born in 1968, I am a Benedictine of the Abbey of Kremsmünster and teach in our High School. I have worked in the Cursillo Movement since 1995, first in the Cursillo for the Young and from 2000 on for adults. I am especially committed to the Cursillo in the Diocese of Linz, Upper Austria.

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I am very thankful for all the years in the Cursillo Movement. Many people, many friends – or rather God through them - have given me such a lot of grace and joy. At the moment I am working on the topic "mission in dialogue" and I am trying to find out more about how we can bring the kingdom of God into the hearts of our neighbours and find Christ already present in them, as we are facing both secularism, and the desire for God, at the same time in our society (of Europe).

A very short History of the GECC

From its beginnings in Majorca the Cursillo Movement has spread to several European countries.

18 countries make up the International European Group (the GECC, which used to be called EWG: "European Working Group" or GET: Grupo Europeo de Trabajo).

SPAIN, the CM spread from the island of Majorca to the mainland in 1953. A team from Majorca, with Eduardo Bonnín as Rector and P. Juan Capó as Spiritual Advisor, conducted the first Cursillo in Valencia.

PORTUGAL. Their first Cursillo took place at Fatima in 1960.

The first German-language Cursillo was held in **AUSTRIA** in Vienna in 1960. Today of course Austria is the coordinating country of the GECC

In **ITALY**, the Cursillo Movement had its foundation in 1963.

In **FRANCE**, a Cursillo weekend was held in Perpignan in 1961 but the movement did not survive. However in 1993 the Vietnamese community held a Cursillo 3 days and it is now held annually in Vietnamese.

In **BELGIUM**, the first cursillo was in English in 1964 – but nothing further was heard until 1982.

The Movement started in **SWITZERLAND** in 1963 coming from Vienna. The first Cursillo in French was given in 1992. There is also a Catholic Cursillo Movement in Switzerland for the German speaking. It started in 1994.

The Cursillo Movement was introduced in **GERMANY** in 1961 by cursillistas coming from Vienna, Austria.

Vienna, Austria, introduced also the Cursillo Movement 1974 in **CROATIA**, in Samobor, and 1989 also in **HUNGARY** in Székesfehérvár.

Hungary took the Cursillo Movement 1990 to **ROMANIA**.

Portugal took the Cursillo to **ENGLAND**, in 1970.

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Since the inception of the Cursillo Movement in **GIBRALTAR**, 4 weekends are held every year. Gibraltar was the seat of the International group GET (European Working Group) from 2006 to 2010. In 2009, a team from Gibraltar and Ireland founded the CM in **Durban, South Africa**.

Cursillo was introduced in **IRELAND** with the help of the United States.

The Cursillo movement was introduced to **CZECH REPUBLIC** and **SLOVAKIA** from Germany. The first Cursillo weekends took place in 1991.

GERMANY introduced also the Cursillo Movement in **SÜDTIROL (ALTO ADIGE)** 1969.

We remember in prayer all those cursillistas, who over the years worked for the spread of Cursillo in these countries.

Some reminders of coming events:

USA [20th National Cursillo Encounter](#), to be held July 29 - August 1, 2010, at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri.

The Asian Congress of the Laity August 31 – September 5, in Seoul Korea

Asia Pacific Encounter – Los Angeles – October 7–10th at De Paul Evangelization Center, Montebello CA

Again, we urge you to continue your practice of **Palanca** for one another – not just for the Cursillo 3 days, but for the Diocesan, and National Secretariats all over the Cursillo world.

Work is continuing on the Fundamental Ideas – we plan to have a meeting later this year, working on a revised timeline.

We hope the people profiles and the news items from these newsletters are giving you a better idea of the many brothers and sisters in Cursillo throughout the world. Here in Australia our Diocese are often as big as countries in Europe, but with far less population. It is good for us to become acquainted with you all, even if only through a newsletter.

Our prayers and good wishes until we 'meet' again.

Your Sister in Christ,

Yvonne ...

OMCC President

from our Spiritual Advisor

Decision making: to hold back from making a decision is to make a decision!

Decisions about directions the Church takes are the outcome of discussion and prayer, not by anything more dramatic like shared visions of the Lord standing in the midst of the decision makers and saying clearly what is to be done. The procedures can appear very mundane.

The eleven apostles, for instance, in choosing a successor for Judas who was dead, did not go into something resembling a séance and wait for God to make the decision for them.

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What they did was decide on criteria for candidates, prayed for help and then cast lots. In our days, we might flip a coin. The eleven had two eligible candidates. They tossed a coin and Matthias was chosen.

At the meeting of the apostles and elders that has become known as the Council of Jerusalem, those gathered made a decision about male circumcision. Some in the community said it was required of those men seeking to be a follower of the Way (what the early Church was known as); others said no. The decision was that circumcision was not required for those seeking baptism and entry into the community. What is interesting is the way they expressed the decision: "It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements ... They then listed four things among which was not circumcision. However, it is the easy use of the Holy Spirit that takes our attention. Those gathered in council saw their decision as good to them and to the Holy Spirit.

When the cardinals elect a new pope the procedure is not much different. They gather, they pray, they discuss, they vote. If no one achieves the required majority they repeat the process. The rules they follow can be found on the internet. When they arrive at a replacement it seems good to them and to the Holy Spirit and the Church has a new Pope.

With our daily decisions, we are foolish if we hold off making a decision until God writes it on a wall in our home or office. How often do we worry over making the right decision? Better to ask: have I discussed the issue, thought about it, prayed about it? When that has been done, make the decision. If later on, another decision needs to be made, then repeat the process, but trust that the wisdom of the Holy Spirit is at work if we have asked for it in prayer and don't delay making a decision.

Shalom,

Fr Adrian....