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,APGHans Perchtold,GECCAlberto Stang,GLCCGail Terrana,NACG

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope that your New Year has commenced on a positive and joyful note.

Our congratulations and thanks to those Cursillistas who have committed to serve through Diocesan or National Secretariats . This is a timely reminder for all of us who, through the service structure of our Movement, seek to live and promote the Charism. It is a help to recall the words I used last year in our May/June bulletin –(words attributed to St Augustine)"*in essentials, unity; in doubtful matters, liberty; in all things, charity."* I pray that we will always work together with this in mind.

PALANCA: I cannot stress enough the importance of this facet of our Movement. Each day there is some item to remember as we Palanca: 3 day weekends; monthly meetings; personal situations for families and friends; the 2nd Ordinary meeting of the OMCC in June; National Encounters etc. Join with us in calling on the Lord for guidance, discernment, acceptance, and that great gift of Friendship which is a cornerstone of our Movement. Please, offer Palanca for one another.

In Korea, Cursillo President Hong, Hwa Soon (Matthew) was called to rest by God on December 30, 2011. We offer our sympathy and prayers to all our Cursillo brothers and sisters in Korea.

PCL: The OMCC has received an invitation from the PCL to attend the Pan-African Congress of Catholic Laity to be held in Yaounde, Cameroon from September 4-9, 2012. We will keep you advised.

DIRECTORY: Our Secretary, Margaret, thanks those Secretariats and International Groups who have notified us of any changes. If there are any errors in the OMCC Directory please advise us.

I would like to share with you on another topic, Love. Not the passionate words of the poet, or the eloquent orator, but a few 'cursillo' thoughts of my own.

"God's love is constant and irrevocable; our part is to be open to it and let it transform us.

There is absolutely nothing we can do to make God love us more than He already does; and there is nothing we can do to make Him love us less. We are stuck with it!! The only difference is between those who allow that and those who don't, but they are both equally and objectively the beloved..." (Richard Rohr - Things Hidden: Scripture as Spirituality)

I have used this passage in talks, and I read it often in my private prayer time. It never ceases to amaze me that I, at all times, am 'the beloved.'

God is love. His love has come to us through the coming of the Son, and with the gift of the Holy Spirit. This enables us as Christians, and especially as Cursillistas, to invite others to share that love.

Each one of us has to grow and mature in love, in all our relationships, within our families, in our work place and in all our social environments.

God loves you. Christ has come for you, for you Christ is the way, the truth and the life. (John 14:6 and Christifideles Laici, 34) As a cursillista I need to proclaim this, and to do so in truth it must be visible in my life, and indeed in the life of each of us, through the Word and lived experience. Then, and only then, can we genuinely say, "God loves me, Christ has come for me, God loves you, Christ has come for you!"



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For me personally, living our Charism – to the PERSON in FRIENDSHIP - is the road which facilitates love.

May you feel each day that you truly are 'the beloved.' Peace and Blessings,

Your sister in Christ.

Yvonne Mrs Yvonne Carrigan – OMCC President

From our Spiritual Advisor.

Ash Wednesday falls on February 22nd and once again we begin our '40'days journey to Easter. Those coming into full communion with the Catholic Church, and those being fully initiated on Holy Saturday, might well be filled with joy and enthusiasm. What about those of us already in full communion, what shall we experience at Easter?

May I suggest that we aim at making the renewal of our baptismal promises a moment of adult commitment to our faith, our unity with Christ in the Church, and our reaffirmation of the charism which makes every encounter with every person a time when Christ is active in the friendship we extend.

I shall look at the promises more fully in the March Newsletter but for now, think about the fact that God accepts us as friends. We talk easily about our good friends who know us well and still stick with us. Friends we have let down, disappointed, even betrayed, but who still do not abandon us. This is what God does. From the time of Abraham to the present, God has remained our friend even though we complain constantly, abandon our friend to go our own way, reject numerous offers to enjoy our friend's company- (is this not the story of the old and new testament!).

We know the power of friendship but take time this month to ponder deeply on God choosing to be our friend.

Shalom

Fr Adrian