

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 Perchtold,	GECC
Alberto Stang,	GLCC
Gail Terrana,	NACG

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

2013 February

De Colores, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Benedict XVI said that "the center of existence, what which makes sense of the full and firm hope of the road, often difficult, is faith in the encounter with Jesus Christ."

The theme of our Encounter is Friendship. That is carried out- through Him, with Him, and in Him. Our VII World Encounter (our journey) finishes on the feast of Christ the King, the Sunday which closes the Year of Faith.

To commence our Journey I want to share with you a reflection from an Australian Cursillista.

Stepping Out In Faith

We are blessed to be living in this Year of Faith when we can certainly expect God to pour out the gift of faith to those who ask it of Him. This year I want to step out in faith, but what does that mean? It means being obedient to that still small voice, as Mary encourages us to "Do whatever He tells you."

So what does stepping out in faith look like? What are the things Jesus tells us to do?

When Jesus healed the crippled man he told him to take up his stretcher. He encouraged the man with the withered hand to stretch it out. He asked his apostles to go ahead and hand out a few loaves and fishes to the hungry crowd. At the well He asked the woman to give him a drink. At Cana He told the servants to fill the ewers with water. The lepers had to show themselves to the priests.

Each day God asks me to "do ordinary things with great love." Sometimes His requests call for humility, sometimes courage. It seems to me that walking in faith cannot be separated from dying to self. It means going beyond our feelings and even our logic. It's doing the loving thing for someone who was cruel to us. It's listening to another's point of view, and being patient when they don't listen to us.

It is not just Pope Benedict, but it is God Himself, who asks us to act in faith. To go beyond what is our duty, or what is expected of us. To step into the doorway of faith, knowing that God walks beside us and that "all things are possible for those who believe in Him." This year may we step out expectantly, believing that God will augment our meagre actions performed in good faith. De Colores.

This is encouragement for us to prepare wisely and well for stretching out the hand of friendship, especially to the 'far-away', who need us to show them that

God loves unconditionally It is encouragement for us to be that witness to God's love, not just in our own 'square metre' but in all environments.

Within our Movement we need to work with one another in unity and harmony, (as we read above, *walking in faith cannot be separated from dying to self*), so that all our actions and interactions are through Him, with Him and in Him – the Heart of the Charism.

Encounter: This week the OMCC Executive committee is planning the topics to be presented at the Encounter. Your International Group Committees have been of great help to us during these Encounter preparations. Pray that we are guided by the Spirit in our efforts to spread the Cursillo message in all its richness.

Numbers: In January I asked each National Secretariat to provide us, if possible, with the number of people who have lived the Cursillo in that country. Our thanks to those who have responded already.

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We will be most grateful for those numbers because, as I said last month, we have no accurate record in the OMCC files.

Thank you for your commitment to your "Fourth Day" and all you do to spread the Good News of God's love in your daily lives.

As always, peace and blessings,

Yvonne

Mrs Yvonne Carrigan - OMCC President

From our Spiritual Advisor

Pope Benedict XVI, on 26 January 2013 spoke to the members of the Roman Rota. The Rota is similar to the supreme court in our countries. At the start of each year the Holy Father meets the personnel of the court and speaks with them.

This year in the context of the Year of Faith he spoke about some aspects of the relationship between faith and marriage, observing how the actual crisis of faith, which concerns various parts of the world, brings with it a crisis of the conjugal society, with all the weight of the suffering and pain which this brings also for the children as well as the husband and wife. He took as a point of departure the common linguistic root which, in Latin, the terms fides (faith) and foedus (pact or covenant) have. The latter, covenant, is the word used in the Code of Canon Law to designate the natural reality of marriage, as an irrevocable pact between man and woman (cf. can. 1055, § 1). A reciprocal entrusting of one to another is, in fact, the unrenounceable foundation of any pact or alliance whatsoever.

As Cursillistas we have a special interest in those who have drifted away from faith in Christ and from the Church. Contemporary culture with its emphasis on an accentuated subjectivism and ethical and religious relativism places pressing challenges before each of us and our families. A pervasive mentality says a person only becomes who they are meant to be by being autonomous and entering into contact with another only by means of relationships that can be interrupted at any time.

Such thinking deprives people of possibility of growth that comes with linking oneself with a bond which lasts an entire lifetime and which influences every aspect of life. This thinking leads people into error about themselves and their liberty and self-realisation. They think that only by fleeing suffering can one be happy. The welcoming of faith renders you capable of the gift of self which, as you open yourself to the other, to children and to the family and allow yourself to be moulded through suffering, is the only way to discover the depth of the person of the human being.

Our friendship with others is always to mirror and draw upon our friendship with Christ, who willingly gave his life so others could find life. This is our Faith and the rock on which our marriages and all other relationships are built.

Shalom

Fr Adrian