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 Perchtold, GECC Alberto Stang, GLCC Gail Terrana, NACG

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

2013 May

De Colores, and Happy Birthday, my brothers and sisters in Christ,

The great feast of Pentecost is near – the birthday of Mother Church. We give thanks and rejoice in the gifts that the Spirit brings.

1 Corinthians 12.7 we read: To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

The Church has formally recognized the Cursillo Movement's own **Charism** that characterizes, identifies and distinguishes it from other movements, associations and communities of the Church. At the origin of the Cursillo movement is that special grace (manifestation) of the Spirit, an inspiration to bring the love of God to all, especially those far away.

The challenge for us is that whatever we make of our lives, that we let it be something that reflects the love of Christ. The challenge is for us to accept one another, with all our differences, so that God's love is proclaimed by the way we treat one another.

St Augustine prayed "Breathe in me Holy Spirit, that all my thoughts may be holy. Act in me Holy Spirit, that my work may also be holy."

This of course leads me to my usual reminder of the importance of **Palanca**. It is a joy to see the requests between countries of the Cursillo world for palanca.

This month the <u>GECC</u> will hold their Encounter where the countries to take on the office of GECC and the OMCC for the next term will be prayed about and chosen.

In <u>August</u> the member countries of the <u>GLCC</u> will meet in Bogotá, Colombia for their XIV National Encounter, and an Ultreya which will celebrate 60 years of the Movement in Latin America, and the anniversary of the first Cursillo for Women held also in Colombia.

At an Ultreya, during the VII World Encounter in <u>November</u>, <u>Australia</u> will celebrate 50 years of Cursillo. We all depend on the generous Palanca offered for these events.

Directory and Cursillo Numbers: Again we say thank you to those Secretariats who have answered our requests for changes to the Directory, and for the numbers of Cursillistas. Our Executive wishes to hand over to the incoming OMCC Executive records that are in good order. Please keep sending the information.

Our Website-www.orgmcc.org You will notice some of the links to websites of countries within the International Groups have changed. .

World Encounter: Information and registration forms are now on the OMCC website Homepage. This is a reminder to fill in and send your registration forms. We are eagerly waiting to welcome you to the Great South Land of the Holy Spirit. Australia has a new Apostolic Nuncio – Archbishop Paul Gallagher. We will be able to show him the warm friendship of Cursillo when he joins with Archbishop Coleridge of Brisbane to concelebrate the Opening Mass.

Fundamental Ideas Draft only Chapters: Thank you to those who are completing and returning the chapter questions. It will be the input of cursillistas worldwide that will determine the final writing of the chapters. This is the ideal season in the life of the Church to call on the Holy Spirit for guidance to commence work on this final stage.

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I finish this letter on the feast of St Athanasius, where the Gospel exhorts us "remain in my love" Jn15.9. In this Year of Faith we can take the opportunity to renew our commitment to deepen our prayerful relationship with Christ, respond to his unconditional love by remaining in it, and reaching out, in all our environments, to our brothers and sisters – especially those in need.

Wishing you peace and blessings.

Your sister in Christ,

Yvonne

From our Spiritual Advisor

GOD BEING AT HOME WITH US

If you know you are going to die what do you say to those you love? You do not beat about the bush. Time is too short for that. You want to hit the key points.

Read chapters 14-17 of John's gospel. Don't read them quickly. The way Jesus speaks in this his last speech to his disciples at the Last Supper has a way of breaking through and making us think again and think deeply. Take these words, for instance: "If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him."

The Father and the Son want to come and be at home with us. This is not: are we at home with God? This is God wanting to be at home with us. And not just being at home with us, but making a home with us. I find this an amazing statement: God wants to make a home with us. This is not some forced occupation. This is not squatters moving into an abandoned dwelling and living there. This is God making a home with us without violating our privacy.

We are all well aware of the difference between a house and a home. A house is a dwelling made by builders with whatever features its owners want. It becomes a home when the people who move into it make it that. At home, we can be ourselves without fuss or pretence. There is a sense of comfort and easiness. At home, we are challenged, nurtured, welcomed, valued, loved, cared for. We belong. Those in our home know us inside and out and still value us.

God makes a home with us by letting us see up close and personal who the divine self is. God makes this home with us by valuing us, being interested in us, making room for us, not giving up on us when we deliberately speak rudely and abrasively, act selfishly. Matters will be talked through, not swept under the carpet and we shall grow.

When Jesus spoke to his friends he knew he was going to die. He spoke of what was most important. He wanted them and us to know that what God had in mind for us: We want to make a home with you.

Today, sit down with God, not in the all powerful, thunder and lightning mode, but as one who washes our feet when we are foot sore and grubby, sets a meal for when we are hungry, talks to us when we feel no one is interested.

Shalom

Fr Adrian