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Francisco Salvador, President
Rev Fr. Senra Coelho, Sp Advisor
Romy Raimundo, Secretary
Joaquim Mota, Vice President
Fausto Dâmaso, Treasurer
Mário Bastos



ORGANISMO
MUNDIAL DE CURSILLOS
DE CRISTIANDAD

MCC

OMCC Coordinators:

YoonShik Shim	APG
Álvaro Moreno	GECC
Filipe Vanososte	GLCC
Estelita René	NACG

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER June 2015



CM, a bit of history...

It is necessary for us to know our own history to recognize, maintain and update our identity, "to remember the past with gratitude, to live the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence". It is a way to grow in unity and to respond to the necessary renewal that God's Spirit inspires according to the needs of men and women of our world today.

This should not only be known as a series of dates, events and people only, but above all as, an explanation of the ideas, living attitudes and pastoral options which, over time, gave birth to the CM, in a way that encourages an understanding of the 'why' of the movement, its essence and mentality.

This implies knowing the historical circumstances – the context – which raised a number of problems and possibilities, and how in the attempt to solve these problems and possibilities, the basic concepts evolved.

The Cursillo Movement was born in Spain, specifically on the island of Mallorca, in the 1940's.

The specific social and religious background that characterized the reality at that time must be taken into account.

Spain was going through a post-war period (the Spanish civil war had taken place from 1936-1939) and the society was being rebuilt in an atmosphere of change and insecurity.

The religious situation was also complex. The Catholic Church also experienced great difficulties of insecurity and persecution during the civil war. The post-war period began a restoration process for the Church in which Roman Catholicism was the "official religion" in an apparently Christian Spanish society. What existed, however, was a 'social Christianity' that lacked practically any authentic Christian life.

That was the background in which Catholic Action which was implemented largely in Spain, sought to promote greater authenticity and involvement of the laity in the life of the Church. The youth section, the Spanish Catholic Action Youth (JACE), then resumed a project that

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was conceived prior to the civil war: a large pilgrimage of youths to Santiago de Compostela, which was eventually held in 1948.

The National Council of JACE, then headed by Manuel Aparici, established an intense preparation with the ideal of a spiritual pilgrimage that took place through the "Cursillos for Advanced Pilgrims", which were diocesan and led by members of the National Council of the JACE, and "Cursillo for Leaders of Pilgrims", held in parishes, led by members of the Diocesan Councils.



Manuel Aparici Navarro

At that time there was a very lively and active Diocesan Council of Youth of Catholic Action in Mallorca, and the youths of the island had an intense participation in the activities that led to the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in 1948, mainly in the Cursillos for Advanced Pilgrims and for Pilgrims Leaders.

There was among them a well-formed group of youths that shared common attitudes and criteria, notable apostolic concern and a clear dissatisfaction with the existing pastoral approach.

In the origin of Cursillos can be recognized the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that was received and shared by a group of people, among them, Eduardo Bonnín, a laymen with a preeminent leadership role, some priests such as Mons. Sebastian Gayá and, the then Bishop of Mallorca, Mons. Juan Hervás. They developed what today we would call a new way to evangelize, reaching those who were far away from God and the Church, what later on was called "Cursillos in Christianity".



Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló

Between the years 1944 and 1949 an intense study, reflection and experimentation was carried out. They took elements from the Cursillos already existing in Catholic Action, and adapted its method to a new purpose.

The seed planted by the Holy Spirit was flowering into something new: an outreach to all people including those who were far away, that would allow the essential content of Christianity to be captured in all its intensity even by those who lived on the fringe of religion.

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With the grace of the Holy Spirit, this work gave origin to the "Cursillos in Christianity", something new and different in focus, purpose and meaning.

The Movement, begun in the early forties, and which became a reality in the diocese of Mallorca, was consolidated in the subsequent years (1949-1954).

More Cursillos were held, their beneficial results were clear, it was proved that the Movement could bear a universal solution in the task of evangelization since it presented itself as an answer to different people (young and old, close or far from the religion), and to different social realities.

Some basic structures are created: the School of Leaders with its prominent role; Group Reunions and Ultreyas to support life in the Postcursillo; and Diocesan Secretariats as specific and particular service structures.

From Mallorca the CM enters mainland Spain, in 1953 (Valencia). As a result of both – personal initiatives and the activities of the JACE National Council, the Movement spreads across various dioceses of Spain.

The transfer of D. Juan Hervás to the Diocese of Ciudad Real in 1955, and the publication in 1957, of the Pastoral Letter "Cursillos in Christianity, Instrument of Christian Renewal", stand as defining moments for the acceptance of the CM and its national and international expansion.



D. Juan Hervás y Benet

Many lay people and priests who participated in the Movement in various dioceses of Spain, excited about its evangelizing potential, bring it through different means to the Latin America countries.

The first country to receive the CM was Colombia, through Catholic Action, where the first Cursillo outside Spain is held. This was also where the first Cursillo for women was held (1953).

In a few years, in various ways, it spread throughout other countries of South America. In North America the first Cursillo was held in the United States in 1957 and from there it spread to other English-speaking countries.

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Across the Americas it extends with great strength and vitality: large numbers of people and groups are mobilized; service structures are established; integration into diocesan pastoral activities and leavening of the environments resulted.



Mons. Sebastián Gayá Riera

From Spain, and later from different countries, it is introduced into Western Europe, where an active Movement develops, which is consolidated at the diocesan level.

In Asia and Oceania, a similar process occurs during those years.

A new impetus occurs in the CM when, from Austria, it is introduced to the countries of Eastern Europe and, although to a more limited extent, it is introduced in some countries of Africa.

In this way the CM is shaped as a universal Movement spread throughout the whole world, in different cultures and social realities It evangelizes, builds up and serves the Church worldwide.

In *Fundamental Ideas* – 3rd wording-2014 – 1st Chapter

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Once more, our newsletter count with the collaboration of one International Group. This collaboration will enrich the content and permit a greater proximity of all cursilhistas to the structures that represent them.

In this edition we will have the APG's contribution that below publish.

APG's contribution:**Korea**

On the 46th national meeting which took place in the past day on February 28 and March 1, under the spirit of the "joy of the Gospel, and that had the participation of 180 cursilhistas and priests from 15 Dioceses, was decided that the theme of reflection for the Cursillos movement, for the year 2015, will be the proposal contained in paragraph 10 of the Apostolic exhortation of Pope Francisco with the following formulation:

"Let's recover our passion, retrieve our joy, receive the joy of Jesus and live our life illuminated by the enthusiasm"

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The members of the Secretariat chose September 15th for the celebration of the 17th National Ultreia which will take place in the Diocese of Daejeon, and initiated the preparation of the 50th anniversary of the introduction of the CM in Korea which is complete next year. It was also decided to rebuild the Korean version of APG's web page.

New members of the National Secretariat of Korea:

Spiritual Advisor: Amatus Yim Duk Il
 President: John Bosco Yoon Sik Shim
 Vice-Presidents: Justino Sang Gu Do and Agnes Wha Young Kim

New APG Executive Committee members:

President: John Bosco Yoon Sik Shim
 Vice-President: Agnes Wha Young Kim
 Secretary: Joanna Sooin Joo Lee
 Treasurer: Martin Hyoung Bin Choi

Australia

As we begin this 2015 journey I offer three questions that had a particular effect on me when hearing them at a recent in-service I attended.

What are three things that I value?
 What is distinct about what we do?
 What are three words that describe what we do?

The in-service was a day attended by all the people who work for the Archdiocese of Brisbane. We came together to celebrate the beginning of the New Year. The aim was to set the direction for the year to come. During the day we reflected on the three questions and as I took part in the discussions with my colleagues I felt that these three questions were of particular value when related to my journey as a Cursillista.

As Christians we have been entrusted with administering the riches and blessings that we have received from God; and, we are called to serve and care for those around us. We are stewards of our God given talents. Our stewardship requires faithful use of the gifts we have received.

National activities planned for in Australia in 2015:

National Encounter - Joy of the Pilgrim Heart – 16th to 18th October - Canberra, ACT
 Cursillo of Cursillos - 16th to 19th April - Sidney

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