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



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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2015

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 GECC's contribution that below publish.

GECC's contribution:

ECHOES FROM POPE FRANCIS' SPEECH IN THE III EUROPEAN ULTREYA

1. A direct and specific message for us.

In our recent published book, Fundamental Ideas 3rd Edition, it indicates that the MCC, as an ecclesial movement, must always display a firm and convinced ecclesial communion, expressed as a filial relationship with the Pope, who is with the bishops, the principle, basic, perpetual and visible centre of unity (IF3Ed n. 295). In this respect, the recent meeting with the Pope Francis held in Rome at the III European Ultreya, has been a special opportunity to express and witness this filial relationship, that feeling of Church that must characterize our movement. We have the key to keep building and advancing in that way as the Pope expressed in his speech to the community of cursillistas gathered there. He offered us "some helpful suggestions for our spiritual growth and our mission in the Church". It is certainly a privilege that the Holy Father spoke so direct and specifically to our Movement and the truth is, his words are a bright orientation that we must accept and take to our everyday life: groups, Ultreyas, school of Leaders and Secretariats. This is now our responsibility for the Movement, a line of work, reflection, community discernment, that we certainly need to undertake.



Greetings words to Pope Francisco by the President of the GECC, Alvaro Martínez

2. A fundamental idea: Ultreya!

There is a basic idea that he repeats throughout the speech, expressed in different ways and with different words, but with the same meaning: we are called to be fruitful, to go further, to go ahead, to go out...The Pope said very clearly: "you are called, you did not choose, you were chosen, you have been called to make fruitful the charism that the lord has entrusted you". Today, the MCC has to be aware of its enormous potential, the beautiful work that can be

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done, making many men and women, many so-called "dismissed", live "a personal experience of the infinite love of Christ, who transforms our lives and makes us free". That is our task, very necessary today. We must go further in this sense. Perhaps, the most important message of the Pope is to be aware of this idea. We have to go further. We can go further! At all levels and dimensions of our being, personally and as a Movement. Ultreya!



Paul VI room of the Vatican, with Pope Francisco

3. Four basic keys.

For the proposal to go further, the Pope suggests basic keys that can be grouped in four, that are necessary for us as a Christian and as an all as MCC, to make fruitful our charism.

The first one is a vital, primary and essential personal experience of encounter, friendship, relationship with the Lord. "To help others to grow in faith and to make an itinerary to approach the Lord, we must personally experience the goodness and the tenderness of God. This experience is the beginning of your pathway". The beginning of the road... Is it like that? Is this the beginning of all our activities? Is this experience of God in the centre of our lives and our actions? In our personal lives, in our groups, in our schools and Secretariats, God must be in front line: not in a theoretical way, but rather a vivencial, real, palpable way. This must always be a crucial issue, the first priority to go further, to live more intensely our charism, to make it fruitful. The Pope continues saying that it is possible to live that experience of God in our everyday life in the sacraments, in the Gospel, in the encounter of the ecclesial community, in the charity, in the deeds of mercy...



The organizing team, GECC-National Secretariat of Italy, at the last meeting

The second key is to be open, to be attentive, to be committed to others to share what we have received, "communicate what the Lord has done for me, so tenderly, with such kindness and mercy. This is the testimony". This sharing done specifically through friendship: "only within relations of genuine friendship is possible to prepare and accompany people". The Pope reminds us and highlights the two essential keys of our Movement, the witness of life and friendship. Only from our own experience of friendship with the Lord can flow friendship with others. A friendship that we must sow and build, having the initiative to go to others, to accompany them, to serve, to have patience and respect for others...That is our task: from the witness of life and friendship, "proclaiming to all God's love that saves and

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gives sense to our life. And to help men and women of today to discover the beauty of faith and the life of grace that is possible to live in the Church".

And there is the third key proposed by the Pope: always in the Church. All evangelizing activity is activity of the Church, all our work is the task of the Church. And we are called to "always remain in touch with the Mother Church, always nearby to this large, warm family, our Holy Mother Church". In this clear way, we are asked to open to "a larger social and ecclesial dimension" to get involved with other groups, with other movements, with other realities. This dimension of openness, communion and ecclesial, is something that the Pope Francis repeats to all the ecclesial movements, as he emphasized in the Third World Congress of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities, in November 2014: "The true communion cannot exist in a movement or new community, if it isn't integrated in the larger communion which is our Holy Mother Church Hierarchical. The whole is greater than the part (cf. Evangelii Gaudium, 234-237) and the part makes sense in relation to the whole". It is clearly a need so our movement and it's charism to be fruitful in the world and in the Church of nowadays.

The last key: update our charism to the reality, the situations, cultures, values and conditionings of today's world. "This is very important", the Pope repeated twice. "The charism has to be translated, not betrayed, translated to this culture". Maintaining the fidelity to the original charism but to move on, you must keep "looking for modalities to move forward your charism". It is an exercise of discernment, to understand and recognize what is essential in our charism and to learn how to update it in the reality of today, responding to the people of today, to the new situations. Make our charism grow! And therefore, a new and clear clew of the Pope: prayer. "Without prayer, no movement can go ahead, none!



Basilica of St. Paul outside the walls

4. Conclusion: Walking with the Holy Spirit.

We return to the initial proposal, which is also the conclusion that could be drawn from the Ultreya and the Encounter with the Pope: Go beyond. Go forward. Go out, walk, fructify. The Cursillo Movement is called today to go further. Each one of us is called to go beyond. And the way to do it is to be guided by the Holy Spirit. "If you do not trust the Holy Spirit, go back home". This is not our initiative, it is the Holy Spirit that guides us, who makes the charism grow and to be fruitful. The Popes words are very enlightening: "Each charism is called to grow. Why? Because it carries within it the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit makes it grow". The Spirit is with us. We must be aware of this reality, open up to his action and continue walking getting carried away by Him.

Go ahead!

Ultreya!

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CM in Africa



Let's help the CM to spread in Africa!

If we all want we will get teams and means to perform more Cursillos in Africa and in others places in the World where the CM has not yet arrived.

Volunteers are required to form teams and money to organize and perform Cursillos in a continent eager to God.

Help with your prayer and sacrifice, but it is also very necessary to the monetary support.

We just ask that each one contribute with a monetary unit in your country (1 euro, 1 dollar, 1 pound, 1 ...). Together we are millions!

Make your contribution using the bank account:

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