

**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

October/November 2010

### **De Colores, my Brothers and Sisters in the Cursillo World,**

September/October have been busy months with Encounters, Local Gatherings, 3 day Cursillos, all round the world. It is a great blessing that we can Palanca for one another. Thank you .

Fr Adrian, Margaret and myself have just attended the 21<sup>st</sup> Asia/Pacific Encounter held in Los Angeles and hosted by the American Taiwanese cursillistas. As always when cursillistas gather, there was prayer, friendship and laughter. Margaret, our OMCC Secretary, then continued to Rome to attend the canonization of Australia's first Saint – Mary MacKillop – now St Mary of the Cross.

We give thanks to God for such blessings.

In preparing our first report for the OMCC committee at the Encounter I was reminded of the advice given at the Asian Congress by some speakers, - *to accept reality; to confront the contradictions; be present to people; that friendship and love is more important than winning an argument; and finally to whisper HOLY Words.* All this wisdom needs to be applied by each one of us as we deal with the daily issues of our lives, and how we, as the OMCC executive committee, must deal with the diversity within our Cursillo Movement.

Let us always remember to whisper for each other – *HOLY words.*

The theme of the 21<sup>st</sup> Encounter was "Rekindle the Fire of Your Love in our Hearts" – a challenging topic. We hold, of course, the key to that constant rekindling in our use of the Cursillo method of Group Reunion and Ultreya. Perseverance and faithfulness to our groups is a secure way to keep alive that flame of the Spirit we pray for, each time we say "Come, Holy Spirit, enkindle in us the fire of your love."

It is with joy that we of the OMCC executive await the 1st Ordinary meeting during our term of office. The Speaker, and the International Spokeswoman of GECC; The President and Spiritual Advisor from GLCC, and from NACG; and 2 members of A/P; will be attending. The meeting is from 22-24<sup>th</sup> November, and we humbly ask for your Palanca.

It is 12 months since the Cursillo was introduced into American Samoa. The local group continues to meet and plan for their first 'homegrown' 3 days – for women. The tsunami struck the day of the initial first womens cursillo and the numbers were small. So those who could not attend are keen to live their cursillo . A second men's 3 days is in the planning stage for 2011.

The proposed meeting of the FI commission did not take place. However, the English speaking members, from Asia/Pacific, and NACG, took the opportunity to meet together in Los Angeles. Much progress was made in the 2 days before the Asia/Pacific Encounter.

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Our next Bulletin will report on our 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary meeting, so will not be written until the end of November. I thank you for your patience with the change in regularity of the newsletter.

Until next time – we work together in the Lord whom we serve with hope and joy, and whispering for each other 'holy words.' De Colores.

Your Sister in Christ,

*Yvonne*

Mrs Yvonne Carrigan – OMCC President

*From our Spiritual Advisor*

The theme for the recent Asia/Pacific encounter was a request to the Holy Spirit. In one way the theme, and the prayer which we associate with this theme, have a worrying dimension – yes, worrying. What can be worrying about a prayer? The implied passivity of the one praying. We are asking God, the Holy Spirit, to do something in us, to change us. The 'fire of God's love' for others, ourselves, and God, is not as intense a reality as it once was.

If the Holy Spirit is to rekindle the divine flame in our hearts, we cannot be passive. "If today you hear his voice harden not your hearts." We have to act. We have to cooperate with the action of the Holy Spirit. When the Spirit comes to us and lives within us, as within a temple, it is not an action that is akin to us falling victim to a virus or some infection that invades our body without asking our permission. Suddenly we find ourselves with a sore throat, a runny nose and a cough. We did not ask for this!

You might ask, was not the Pentecost experience something that just happened? The Holy Spirit came upon them and they were changed. That is true, but they were waiting in expectation. In a very real way, the door was open and the welcome ready. In John's Pentecost, Jesus is with them and breathes on them saying 'receive the Holy Spirit.' They willingly breathed in his Spirit.

If we have agreement on our having to cooperate with the Holy Spirit – blowing gently on the embers still glowing in our hearts - to bring those embers to a healthy flame – what do we do?

In its simplest form we have to act and speak as people whose lives are centred on Jesus. In him we find the revelation of God's inner reality – we know God. In knowing that, we come to know ourselves and know what it is to be human. In making this change we have to act.

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Our new mind we put on accepts that God loves us - that is our starting point. When we pray we are responding, coming on-line, being available to God who never goes off-line (to use SKYPE language). What is the outcome of prayer? Allowing God to possess us. Is this something we want?

Cardinal Rylko at the Congress for Asian Catholic Laity in Seoul in early September called on the participants to be witnesses of hope for the good of the people of Asia. He, as other speakers, emphasised the need for us to be ready to explain the hope we have. In coming ablaze again we must reject the substitutes for a strong faith and embrace teaching that, when lived, changes the people we encounter. The Cardinal singled out relativism where mission is replaced with dialogue, as if the revelation of Jesus is one religion among equals, or replaced with simple human development, or a false concept of respecting the freedom of others.

John Paul II, now Servant of God, in *Christifideles Laice* spoke of the human person: a dignity violated and exalted and of conflict and peace. The laity are not to be idle. They are to proclaim Jesus, risen from the dead, the ultimate good news.

So to come alive and be active, be guided by the papal teaching that anchors us in the realities of our society and what we can respond to. This is not a search for a feeling, but commitment to a way of living. Embracing this is to find ourselves living again. "Come Holy Spirit enkindle in us the fire of Your love."

Shalom

*Fr Adrian*

**OMCC Spiritual Advisor**