

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,	NACC

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

2011 March Newsletter

Dear Special Persons – brothers and sisters in Christ,

De Colores! I hope the past month has been one of peace and discovery for you as you considered how very special each person, each one of you, is in the eyes of our loving God.

Directory: We have made considerable progress this month, thanks to the work of Margaret and the coordinators of the International Groups, in updating the Cursillo Directory. You will remember that I listed this as one of our priorities for this year. Once the International Group executive committees verify the information we will be able to finish this project.

Statutes: The Statutes are well under way. The International Groups are working on a few amendments in line with the Pontifical Council for the Laity requirements and permission. We plan to have the drafts out to all National secretariats, thru your International Groups, comments returned, and the Statutes sent to the PCL by November this year. I know that each National Secretariat will cooperate fully with any requests so that we can finish this project.

Fundamental Ideas Revision: Again, please storm the Holy Spirit for his guidance in the matter of the revision of the book, Fundamental Ideas. We are currently completing a proposal to send to all the commission members, in the hope that this will move the project forward quickly.

Website: Our website has been a little slow in working as we wish. We know that you are interested and willing to help, because of the generous offers from many cursillistas, especially in Latin America, to assist us. We truly appreciate your interest and would like to involve you, but at the moment we are gaining more knowledge and attending to it here in Australia.

How is your study of the Charism progressing? The fourth element I mentioned last newsletter was: Recognised by the Hierarchy. You will read that the Hierarchy has recognised the Cursillos of Christianity Movement since its beginning. The story of Monsignor Hervas and his support of the movement is worthy reading. He said "*I bless them, and I approve them. And I bless them, not with one hand only, but with both hands.*" (November 20, 1949) Keep reading and studying!

One key component of the charism that is worth reflecting upon is FREEDOM. The key to happiness lies in the freedom "*to be comfortable and content with who you are, what you do and what you know to be true.*" (Peter Cullen) We need to discover and preserve this freedom for ourselves and for each person we relate to in Cursillo and in our daily lives.

The realisation that "God loves me" prompts a person from within. It is a very freeing element. Jesus proclaimed that He came "to set prisoners free." We are prisoners to the extent that we limit God's effectiveness in our lives. We were all chosen, loved into existence. We were born because God loves us and we were created to love Him.

However we are imperfect people living alongside other imperfect people in an imperfect world. We get in our own and in each other's way and thwart God's plan for a full and happy life for each of us. What imprisons us is fear. How many times in the bible does Jesus say, "Do not be afraid."? So many fears can afflict us, but the basic fear we have is fear of not being loved. Because we fear we are not loveable or capable of loving we come up with a whole host of coping strategies.

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Let us go deeper still. Why do we have this fear? Jesus came to set us free from the tyranny of sin. What great freedom can be found in that (If the Holy and Innocent One can forgive me, and since His Spirit is within me, then I can find it within myself to forgive.) There is a need to forgive ourselves, and also to forgive others. If we ask Him, the Holy Spirit will reveal remnants of unforgiveness in our past that keep on erupting in our present life as overreactions, anger, low self esteem etc. The Holy Spirit not only reminds us of these, He gives us healing grace to accept God's forgiveness, forgive those who hurt us and forgive ourselves. Yes, it is possible to live in the freedom of forgiveness.

St Paul, in his letters often speaks of the consequences of living in freedom. Freed from sin, we are free to love as Jesus loves, free to see ourselves and others as Jesus does. He is the perfect image of who we really are. We no longer need to hide behind the coping strategies referred to earlier as we no longer need to defend or justify, punish or elevate, attack or criticise ourselves or others if we know we are truly, deeply, personally loved by God.

Indeed - we are all temples of the Holy Spirit. The kingdom of heaven is very close, it is amongst us, it is within us. This is what we yearn for, the restlessness of which St Augustine speaks. We each have that "God- shaped hole that only He can fill." Once we realise that we are the image of what we are looking for we can live in freedom. We can simply accept that we are all beloved sons and daughters of God through the Holy Spirit that has been given us.

"In Him and through faith in Him we may approach God with freedom and confidence." Eph 3:12

When we feel that way about ourselves and God, we have the freedom to relate to others in love, with respect and acceptance. Because we are secure in God's love, we can remove ourselves from the picture and have the best interest of others at heart. God will take care of us as he does the lilies in the field and the birds in the air. We are free to be the servants of love that Jesus desired of us at the last supper.

Free to live an authentic and full life is being free from striving to meet others expectations, free to acknowledge our weakness, free from the pursuit of our own selfish satisfactions, free to choose the life we will lead, free to stop resisting God's love, free to be open to His will, free to let go and stand in His immense love for us.

In the audio *Journeys with Eduardo*, Bonnin says " *God loves us in Christ; God loves me; To be Christian more than anything else, is to feel loved by God, and live astonished by this, because what is most genuinely Christian is to be loved by God.*"

Let us in freedom pray for each other and pray that any divisions that arise within our Movement may be healed by that love, given freely to one another.

Again - De Colores.
 Your Sister in Christ

Yvonne

Mrs Yvonne Carrigan, OMCC President