

OMCC Executive:
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:

Joo-Young Chang	APG
Álvaro Moreno	GECC
Filipe Vanososte	GLCC
Estelita René	NACG



ULTREYA!

All over the World the month of May is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. In Portugal this devotion is assumed in a very deep way.

At the feet of Mary every Christian put their concerns, their problems and requests.

The Mother of the Lord has a special attention to those who ask for her intercession with Jesus, her son.

At the beginning of this mandate, the Executive Committee at its first meeting went to the Chapel of the Apparitions of Fátima's Sanctuary, for many called altar of the world, where we did our consecration to Mary and ask for her guidance in our mission.

So we will do again in this month of May in which we want to start programming the organization of V World Ultreya that we want to accomplish in Fatima in 2017, year of the first centenary of the apparitions.

It will be a great moment of joy and, we are sure, that will serve to encourage the Movement and renew our evangelizing spirit as asks us our Holy Father Pope Francisco.

We hope that each one book on its agenda the day **May 6, 2017**, so everyone can be present at Fatima on the **V WORLD ULTREYA!**



News

MEETING OF THE OMCC

The Commission that prepares the final version of the book Fundamental Ideas are working in full in order to be able to present the new edition during the month of August.

Álvaro Moreno, from GECC, has worked intensely in this sense, always counting with the help of all elements of the Commission. For all of them, our wishes for good work!

For its final signing, the Executive Committee is preparing a meeting of the OMCC (Executive Committee and International Committees), to be held on September 13 at Fatima (Portugal).

In the Sanctuary of Fatima, all the days 13 of each month are especially dedicated to Mary. Will be under the love of Mary that the new edition of the book Fundamental Ideas will be definitively approved.

May Mary help us to find the best words to express the whole truth and essence of the Charism of the MCC.

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CURSILLOS IN CHRISTIANITY IN UGANDA

Report by Francis Napoli - April 2014

Following my visit in August 2013 to Uganda when I had the opportunity to meet with Archbishop Denis Kiwanuka Lote of Tororo (President of the Uganda Bishop's Conference and Chairman of the National Lay Apostolate Commission), and after he gave permission for the introduction of the Cursillo Movement in his Archdiocese, he appointed Fr Mark Busima to be the person with whom I should liaise.

Preparations got under way immediately and after some months of information being passed on to Fr Mark, the decision was taken to launch the first Cursillos in Uganda in March 2013. The first two would take place in Tororo and the third in the Diocese of Jinja. I had met with Bishop Wamika of Jinja Diocese during my visit in August 2013 and we spoke about Cursillos for a while. Upon my return to Gibraltar I sent him all information possible and he immediately agreed to the launching of these at the earliest opportunity. It was then agreed that the Cursillo in Jinja should follow those of Tororo in order to maximise the availability of the international team of leaders. The dates agreed were to be from 13th to 16th March and from 20th to 23rd March in Tororo and from 27th to 30th March in Jinja. It was now time to get a team of leaders together for this mission and the following agreed to give of their time very generously:

Rob Paul; Myron Quarsingh; Allyson King; Nomsa Malindisa; Farida Clark; Lorna van Doorene and Michelle Bagley (from South Africa), Dan Moore (Ireland) and Mgr Paul Bear and myself from Gibraltar. Rob and Myron could only make themselves available for the first Cursillo due to work commitments and so we added two of the candidates of Cursillo No.1 for the second and third. These were chosen to be Bruno Ojangoe and Grace Namonyo. Peter Mweru of Cursillo No.2 also served in Jinja. Mgr Paul Bear could also only stay for the first two Cursillos and Fr Mark Busima, having lived the first two, took over as Spiritual Director on the Jinja weekend as if he was a seasoned cursillista.



Mgr Paul Bear and I left Gibraltar on 10th March en route to Johannesburg where we met the rest of the team from South Africa and where a sending-away Mass had been organised by Karon Willson, the co-ordinator of the Cursillo Movement in the Archdiocese of Johannesburg. She was instrumental in fact in all matters of logistics; printing of Pilgrim Guides and other material with the Uganda logo etc. After a beautiful celebration of the Eucharist it was then time to set off for Entebbe in Uganda where we arrived four hours later to be met by Fr Mark Busima and by Dan Moore who had flown directly there from Dublin. We rested for the night at a centre for the further formation of priests in the capital Kampala.

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Early on the morning of 12th March we set off for Tororo on our six hour journey to a Benedictine Convent next to the Archbishop's residence. That was to be our home for the next thirteen days and where the first two Cursillos were to be held.

Cursillo No.1 got under way at 17.30 on 13th March with a total of eighteen candidates from the different parishes of the Archdiocese of Tororo, who had previously been officially invited to participate in writing by the Archbishop. It was to prove a huge success for the greater glory of Our Lord. Certainly the love of God was manifested in all and the testimonies at the closing ceremony were tremendous and filled those of us in the team with joy and a great sense of achievement, even if under continuous threat from Malaria infected mosquitoes!



We then "rested" for three days until the following weekend. I say this in inverted commas because we spent most of the time on the road travelling to Fr Mark's parish in the mountains and then to Kampala and Entebbe, where we stayed at the Sisters of Mary Reparatrix Convent for two nights. Wednesday was time to get back to Tororo and to our six hour journey once again. During the morning we visited the Cathedral of Kampala and on the way we visited the beautiful Basilica of the Blessed Martyrs of Uganda on the outskirts of the Capital.

Cursillo No.2 again started at 17.30 on 20th March with a total of seventeen candidates. Bruno Ojangoe and Grace Namonyo of Cursillo No.1 joined the team as auxiliaries. If No.1 was successful, this one was lived with great enthusiasm by all and was to prove even more so with many of the participants. At the proposal of the Archbishop, the closing ceremony was this time held in his private Church, which was full to capacity with parishioners and even a choir. It was presided by Archbishop Denis Kiwanuka Lote (now Archbishop Emeritus) and by the new Archbishop Emmanuel Obbo. Both were greatly impressed and happy with the testimonies expressed by the candidates and later posed for pictures with all of us and the lay faithful. All in another great day for The Lord.

After resting for the next three days we prepared for Cursillo No.1 in Jinja. This was to prove different to the first two. It took place at the St Kevin Convent Retreat Centre and we had to wait for many participants who were travelling and we could not get started until 19.15 instead of the programmed 17.30. Some even turned up midway through the morning of Friday and had to be turned back! In the end we had 39 candidates taking part and what a beautiful experience it would turn out to be. Fr Mark took the place of Mgr Paul Bear as Spiritual Director and Peter Mweru from Cursillo No.2 joined the team.

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The intensity of every moment in this Cursillo was enormous. The commitment of the candidates was tremendous and the love and joy that we all shared cannot be put into words. They could not be hugged enough each day of the Cursillo and their singing of the De Colores song in **Spanish** before each meal was to be one of the highlights for all of them. At one point the ladies entered the conference room dressed in typical yellow attire and knelt and sang in front of Our Lady of Europe (I had taken a statue from Gibraltar to present to the Cursillo Movement in Uganda).

They even shouldered Her and carried Her around the conference room where the Cursillo was being held singing and full of joy. This happened without prior notice on the Sunday morning before we all lived the De Colores Mass. The love of God had also arrived and was very present in Jinja.



The testimonies at the closing ceremony were substantial with many of them describing their encounter with Jesus Christ during the Cursillo. The atmosphere was such that a priest from Kenya who happened to be staying at the Retreat Centre actually approached me to ask what this Movement was all about and that from what he was experiencing and by looking at the participants, he wanted us to take it to Nairobi. Since arriving back home I have had communication from him and we are now working at obtaining permission from Cardinal John Njue whom I had the pleasure of meeting in Cameroon in 2012 during the Pan-African Congress for Catholic Laity held in the capital Yaoundé. The Lord works in mysterious ways.

After travelling all the way back to Entebbe on Monday, we all left for home on Tuesday 1st April - most to South Africa; Dan Moore to Dublin and myself to Gibraltar, in the knowledge that although poverty in Uganda is evident, nevertheless their faith and happiness shows in those great smiles we all received at all times during our stay.

I thank The Lord for the team that He put together. They were all excellent with their Rollos, but especially in their untiring work at the tables and the love they all gave the participants; Mgr Paul Bear and me during the three long weeks we were together. They are all special people and I know that He will be very pleased with them.

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To finish allow me to say that although these Cursos have been held on a mixed-gender basis as was done in South Africa, the idea is that they will now celebrate Cursos separately for men and for women. The first Curso for men in Tororo is already being programmed for the month of May 2014. They really want to move fast and Archbishop Emmanuel Obbo is intent on keeping the momentum going. As soon as they have celebrated a couple in Tororo a team will be going out to Kampala to get the Movement going in the capital.



My heartfelt thanks go to the many people who sent in Palanca from all over the world offering their prayers and sacrifices. There were some 1,000 of them from all continents and these were instrumental in touching the hearts of all participants. That is what Cursos is all about! This is the Church I am proud to be a part of!

God bless you all.

¡DE COLORES!