

**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:**

Sung Min, Son	APG
Álvaro Moreno	GECC
Filipe Vanososte	GLCC
Estelita René	NACG

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE - 2016

# V World Ultreya

4,5 and 6 - May - 2017



## “Is the hour of Cursillos”

“He who has ears to hear, let him hear!” (Mt 11, 15)

« The Cursillos Movement (CM/MCC) was born in the forties of last century, one of the most turbulent periods in the History of Mankind, in a Europe devastated by war, in a world troubled by clutter, and avid of peace and more and more ignorant of the things of God.

In such era, Cursillos were an adequate response to the challenges that Europe was living then, especially in front of the growing De-Christianization that occurred along those days' time.

It was not an easy task, and not always well understood, even within the Church, because the CM for those years was **avant-garde** (and as we all know, **vanguard** must to renew and to this must to be revolutionary).

The CM anticipated, in advance of many years, much of what came to become reality in the Church by the Council Vatican II. It was **forefront**, so it grew and gave fruit.

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*Based on its original charism, Cursos Movement presented a proposal for a conversion and a challenge to holiness in normality. Holiness for men and women in the simplicity of their daily living testimony. Being a saint at home, being a saint in the employment, and being a saint in society. Being a saint wearing suit and tie, or the blue suit of a worker.*

*As well, the world of today, and especially Europe, lives in difficult and troubled days. So for, we are once more called to be a nowadays **forefront!***» (OMCC's Executive Committee president speech – European Ultreya, Rome 2015)

Pope Francis in his apostolic exhortation *Evangelium Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) draws a portrait of the current paradigms and design concepts of society and family and alert us to the difficulties often arise within the Church, in the people of God.

The economic systems of exclusion, the idolatry of money, money that rules rather than serve, the social inequalities that generate violence, cultural challenges of globalization, the inculturation of the faith, and the destruction of the family are some of the many challenges that Pope exhortation references and where recognizes that «*as children of this age, though, all of us are in some way affected by the present globalized culture which, while offering us values and new possibilities, can also limit, condition and ultimately harm us.*» (Evangelium Gaudium 77)



But the Holy Father challenges us not to be afraid and, in his speech on the occasion of the European Ultreia - Rome in April 2015, told us: «*The pioneers of your movement were authentic missionaries: they didn't doubt in taking initiative and, bravely approached people, involving them with sympathy and accompanying them on the path of faith with respect and love.*» ... «*Since the beginning of the movement you understand that only by narrowing the genuine friendships, it was possible to prepare and accompany people in its way, a way that part from the conversion, passes for discovering the beauty of a life lived in the grace of God, and comes to the joy of becoming Apostles on everyday life. And so, since then, millions of people around the world were helped to grow in the life of faith. In the current context of anonymity and isolation typical of our cities, it's so important the cozy and familiar dimension, on a human scale, that you offer with the Group Reunion.*»

And continued later: «*The Church, in fact, is an "open-hearted Mother" which invites us sometimes to "stop", to "put away the anxiety of making eye contact and listen", the "resign to the special needs to join with those*

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*that are left alone". (Evangelii Gaudium, 46). It's nice to help **everyone**, especially those that have more difficulty to live their faith, to stay in contact with this "Mother" always close to this great family friendly which is the Church.» (Pope Francis speech – European Ultreya, Rome 2015)*

The new challenges that we face are mainly the result of encounters and disagreements that so often cause the destruction of the families. It is also for those who suffer their lives this scourge that the Pope Francis calls us to attention and, full of mercy explain us that: «*the Church is called to be the house of the Father, with doors always wide open. One concrete sign of such openness is that our church doors should always be open, so that if someone, moved by the Spirit, comes there looking for God, he or she will not find a closed door. There are other doors that should not be closed either. **Everyone** can share in some way in the life of the Church; **everyone** can be part of the community, nor should the doors of the sacraments be closed for simply any reason.*» ... «*The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak. These convictions have pastoral consequences that we are called to consider with prudence and boldness. Frequently, we act as arbiters of grace rather than its facilitators. But the Church is not a tollhouse; it is the house of the Father, where there is a place for everyone, with all their problems.*» (Evangelii gaudium, 47)

*«If the whole Church takes up this missionary impulse, she has to go forth to **everyone** without exception.» (Evangelii gaudium, 48).*



That's why the CM has to correspond with courage and audacity, once again being the **forefront** as in the early days. And the redrafting of Fundamental Ideas (FI3ed) is very clear as can be read in its pages: «*At the origin of the CM there is a special grace of the Spirit, an inspiration to bring the love of God **to all**, especially those far away*» (FI3ed 41) «***Every person**, whatever their circumstances, is called to meet God, to transform their life and become a witness of the Gospel.*» (FI3ed 78 b)) «*In principle, the Precursillo cannot exclude **anyone**: **any person** may be open to evangelization in the CM. With the right preparation, **anyone** can encounter the Lord through the CM. Also through the CM **anyone** can find themselves in a Christian community to live their conversion process. **Any person**, through the witness of their own conversion, can become leaven in the environment in which they live.*» (FI3ed 178)

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With the certainty that the love of God is equal for all, endowed with this "tool" that the Holy See recognizes as the "*official expression of the CM*" (OMCC statutes approved by the Holy see in December 2014) we can face the challenges that are posed by Pope Francisco in his most recent apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love).

Holy Father exhorts us: «*The Church's way, from the time of the Council of Jerusalem, has always been the way of Jesus, the way of mercy and reinstatement... The way of the Church is not to condemn anyone forever.*» ... «*Consequently, there is a need "to avoid judgements which do not take into account the complexity of various situations" and "to be attentive, by necessity, to how people experience distress because of their condition".*» (Amoris Laetitia, 296).

«*No one can be condemned for ever, because that is not the logic of the Gospel! Here I am not speaking only of the divorced and remarried, but of **everyone**, in whatever situation they find themselves.*» ... «*As for the way of dealing with different "irregular" situations, the Synod Fathers reached a general consensus, which I support: "In considering a pastoral approach towards people who have contracted a civil marriage, who are divorced and remarried, or simply living together, the Church has the responsibility of helping them understand the divine pedagogy of grace in their lives and offering them assistance so they can reach the fullness of God's plan for them", something which is always possible by the power of the Holy Spirit.*» (Amoris Laetitia, 297)

Mercy's words of the Pope that we must welcome and put in practice in the CM, as an [avant-garde](#) Movement that we want to and we should be.

## **This is our mission!**

"[It's the hour of Cursillos](#)" is the motto of the [V World Ultreya](#) that will be held on [4,5 and 6 may 2017](#) near of Our Lady of [Fatima in Portugal](#).

So let it be the moment of the CM knows how to give a firm response to all of these challenges that the Pope and the Synod Fathers present us!

**"He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"** (Mt 11, 15)



**"He who has an ear, let him understand what the Spirit reveals to the churches!"**

(Rv. 2, 11)