



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC CURSILLO MOVEMENT

www.cursillo.asn.au

President's Newsletter

June 2024

Dear Friends in Christ

I trust all is well with you, as we enter the cooler season.

It has been a pleasure to hear about some of the activities happening in Cursillo Dioceses around Australia. For example, Canberra -Goulburn held a very well attended Women's Three -Day Weekend in April. Brisbane held a successful Live-Out Weekend for Women in May and Maitland-Newcastle are preparing for a mixed Weekend in June.

It would be great to hear of any other Dioceses who are holding Weekends, Spirituality Days or other activities in the near future. Don't forget to advise our National Palanca Secretary, Helen Andrews at john.andrews7p@bigpond.com, so that she can send out Palanca requests.

Your Executive has been working on some of the issues that were identified at the beginning of our term of office:

- **World Youth Pilgrimage**

This pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela will take place from 5-11 August. No registrations have been received from Australia, which are now closed. Please keep this venture in your prayers, that the youth of the Movement will be enlivened by this unique experience.

- **Insurance**

Thanks to the hard work of our Treasurer, Joe Jambor, we now have a policy with QBE Insurance to cover Cursillo activities for the year, commencing 29/4/ 2024. This policy covers public liability but does not cover abuse issues or other criminal activity. It was impossible to find an insurance company which does so. Please direct any enquiries about insurance to Joe at irmandjoe@gmail.com

- **Safeguarding**

Information received from the Safeguarding office of the Brisbane Archdiocese is that because the Australian Cursillo Movement has been recognised by the ACBC, each diocese must contact their Safeguarding office to ascertain what information needs to be on their Diocesan website to comply with Safeguarding regulations. Currently, treasurer Joe is waiting for information about the wording that needs to go on the National Website.

- **Website**

It would be good if we could have some regular communication between Webmaster Pablo Rossi, and the cursillistas in the Dioceses who are responsible for putting local information on the site. This would enable us to make maximum use of the website.

- **National By Laws**

Since it was decided to change the role of Coordinator to Secretary in the wording of our By Laws, we decided to look at the whole document to see if anything else needed changing. A draft of these changes has been sent to Diocesan delegates for discussion and the final draft will be voted on at the next National Secretariat Meeting. Another document has been prepared as a commentary to accompany the By Laws, which provides a more detailed explanation of what the roles and responsibilities of Executive members entail. It is important to be clear about what the positions involve.

- **National Secretariat Meeting September 2024**

Fr John has booked the Seminary at Homebush for our Meeting from 6-8 September. Would delegates please note these dates in your diary. Observers are always welcome. More details will be sent closer to the dates. Accommodation can be booked by participants at a nearby hotel, if needed. The website is www.darcyshotel.com.au

- **Promotion and Renewal of the Movement**

Maria Mezes of Cairns has advised that the Cairns Diocese will host the Australian Catholic Education Conference in August 2025 and she is hopeful that members of Cursillo will be able to promote the Movement to teachers and high school students. It would be good if we could soon hold some Zoom meetings among interested Cursillo members to find ways to promote the Movement generally. Please be in touch if this is something that you would like to be involved in.

- **OMCC**

It has been an interesting time for World Cursillo matters, with a new Executive for our Asia Pacific Group, as well as a new format and new members in the OMCC. Having an APG representative (Alfred Bongi of Australia) as an official member of the OMCC has been a big advantage. Alfred has been doing sterling work in his role and is a gift to our Movement. He communicates regularly with APG President, Conrado Dizon, the APG Executive and seeks input from them on the needs of our region. World President, Alvaro Martinez recently attended an Episcopal Conference in the Philippines to update them about the Cursillo Movement, as an instrument of renewal in the Church.

You might also like to have a look at the OMCC website to see that its webmaster seems to have taken on board some of the feedback given to him about content. It now has a more attractive and vibrant format, with international information. www.omcc-cursillos.org

Wishing you well for all your endeavours for Cursillo in your Dioceses. May God bless you and your families abundantly.

**De Colores,
Peter**