



ORGANISMO  
MUNDIAL DE CURSILLOS  
DE CRISTIANDAD

**MCC**

# OMCC NEWSLETTER

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ORGANISMO MUNDIAL DE  
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# EDITORIAL

The ecclesial year 2025 is clearly marked by its jubilee character. We are in the Great Jubilee of Hope, and we are all called, as a Church, to live this celebratory and spiritual key with enormous synodal resonances: called to meet together, to celebrate together, and to journey together in hope. The MCC, in all its realities, is also called to live that jubilee dimension, rediscovering that “pilgrimage in hope” that is in tune with our origins and attending, as the Pope indicates, both to the grace of hope that the Holy Spirit gives us and to the signs of hope that are produced in the concrete becoming of history. This Jubilee call takes shape, in a singular way, in the IV MCC World Ultreya to be held in Rome in June 2025, precisely within the framework of the Jubilee of Movements, Associations, and New Ecclesial Communities (7 and 8 June 2025; <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/>).

The synodal path, the jubilee year, and the World Ultreya event have an unavoidable common background: they are spaces for encounter, community, and communion. They point to, reinforce, and enable the essential reality of our being Christian: we are Christians with others and for others, never alone, never isolated, and never for ourselves. This makes sense for our personal lives, as well as for our lives as cursillistas and the whole life of our Movement. Pope Francis ended the Bull of the Jubilee Year by pointing out that “it will be a Holy Year characterized by hope that does not decline, hope in God. May it also help us to regain the necessary trust - both in the Church and in society - in interpersonal bonds and international relations”. That could also be our approach, to take a year so

that in the MCC, at all levels, from dioceses to international groups, we can get to know each other better, understand each other better, love each other more, and thus walk in hope.

**De colores!**

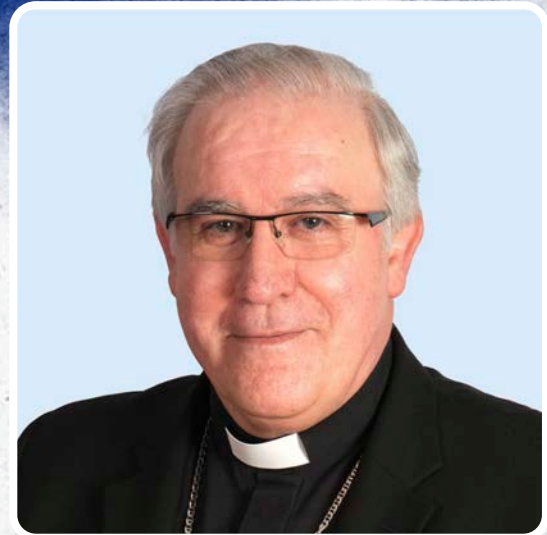






# WORDS OF THE SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

## Pilgrims and apostles



### TIME FOR CURSILLOS

De Colores! Dear CursillistaS brothers and sisters who are on pilgrimage throughout the five continents: We have begun the Jubilee Year 2025. It will be a time of grace in which God grants us all his goods for our interior renewal; a time of penance, of receiving God's forgiveness; a time of personal, community and social conversion; a time of growth in Christian life, of forgiving others, of rebuilding broken personal relationships in the family, in the community, at work, in the environment; a time to reflect on the meaning of our existence and on the call to orient our life according to the Gospel; a time to adopt a new lifestyle. The Jubilee Year is an excellent occasion to stop along the way, to reflect and discern, and to project the future in a new way, resolving the problems of the present with determination, and facing the future with hope.

Pope Francis invites us to live the Jubilee as pilgrims of hope, and wishes us to be able to transform, with God's grace, our world. Our hope is founded on faith and nourished by charity, our hope is in Jesus Christ. For this reason, each one of us, and all the People of God, must welcome with full participation and commitment both the proclamation of the hope of God's grace and the signs that bear witness to its presence and efficacy. The man of today is thirsty for transcendence, thirsty for God, even if he is not aware of it. And Jesus continues to offer him faith and love. From the personal encounter with him arises a new look at one's own life, the recognition and acceptance of him as Messiah, and the adhesion to his message of salvation and the desire to spread it in the world.





A characteristic element of the Jubilee is the pilgrimage, which recalls the condition of human existence as a journey. Throughout the Holy Year it is very important to go on pilgrimage to the Jubilee temples and to gain the grace of the Jubilee. It will also be essential to live the interior dimension of the pilgrimage. We cannot forget that from birth to death, the condition of the human being is that of homo viator, traveling man, itinerant. The human being can cling to material goods, to power, to pleasure, to personal achievements and honors, but in the end he will find himself empty because he is created for something much greater, he is created for transcendence. Hence, this incessant search is what moves homo viator to walk until he encounters Christ, the One who can satisfy his longing for transcendence and fulfillment. The pilgrim is aware that the road he travels leads him to the Truth that illuminates all roads, to the Life that gives fullness and offers an answer to all his questions and longings.

The Cursillos of Christianity Movement was born in Mallorca (Spain) in the framework of the pilgrimage of the Youth of Catholic Action to Santiago de Compostela, in 1948. That is why the spirituality of Cursillos is impregnated with the pilgrimage ideal, engraved with fire in the minds and hearts of those young people. Don Sebastián Gayá and Eduardo Bonnín worked with depth and intensity in the preparation, and participated in it; Monsignor Juan Hervás accompanied and encouraged at all times the preparation. In this Jubilee Year, let us give thanks to God for all the love He has showered on the Cursillo Movement, and let us open our hearts to the new gifts and graces that He wants to grant us. Because it is time for Cursillo, because Christ counts on us, He has chosen us and sends us.

The men and women of our time need to hear the proclamation of the kerygma, the proclamation of God's love, the call to a new life. The Church counts on us to leaven today's environments with the Gospel, with our witness of life and word. "Ultreia et Suseia". With colors!

**+ José Ángel Saiz Meneses**

Archbishop of Seville (Spain), Spiritual Advisor of the OMCC







# NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT



If there is any external sign that immediately identifies the Cursillo Movement throughout the world, it is the greeting “de Colores!”. That’s right, in Spanish. Derived from the song “de Colores”, which is also the unofficial hymn of the MCC throughout the world.

The story is well known: the song, a popular tune in 1940s Spain, was used in the first Cursillo weekends and was gradually adopted as something of their own, with the first words, “de colores” (of colors) becoming the cheerful greeting with which the people of Cursillo identified. Its meaning was connected to the Cursillo experience: the experience of God’s love, the new proposal of grace, the encounter with oneself and with others, all of this shaped a “colorful life”, in contrast to the black and white life in which the Lord is not present. And the task was, therefore, to “paint the world in colors”, to bring light, color, the joy that is born of the Gospel to all environments...

Indeed, today, it is still a very powerful and valuable image to show graphically what the MCC



does: to make a “colorful life” possible. To emphasize that with God things are different and to point to a mission shared by all, that of painting a better world. But there is another interpretation of the motto “de colores” that it is also enormously needed today: we are colorful people, the MCC is full of colors... and the colors are multiple, different, diverse, with various nuances, shades, and intensities. The diversity of colors also reflects the diversity of the Movement.

I believe that it is vital, today, in our Movement, in the Church, that we assume, with all our heart and with all our mind, this reality of DIVERSITY. We are different. We are different in our Church and in our Movement: we do not think the same in everything, we understand things in different ways, we feel differently, we communicate with different nuances, we have different customs and traditions... We are of different colors and different shades and different intensities. Sometimes, we are in brighter areas, and other times, we are in darker parts. And among us, not everything is always “life in pink”: some moments are brown, gray or black...

We have to accept and embrace diversity. We have to accept and embrace that there are differences: between people, between groups, between diocesan secretariats and between national secretariats. Differences of all kinds and in many aspects. We have to understand it not as a problem or a difficulty but as a gift, as an opportunity. Because God is in diversity, because it is a manifestation of the God who makes things new and different and who creates each of us as unique and free and who opens up different paths before us, whether they be green meadows or dark ravines... and in all of them, He is always with us.

That is where the urgent call to unity in diversity is leading us. Understanding it not as an easy-to-repeat slogan, but as a long and arduous road to travel. The road of synodality: walking together, but being different, moving at different paces, sometimes choosing different sides of the road... but in the same direction. Like colors: they are all different, but they are all different manifestations of light, of a single light. In our case, the differences cannot hide the fact that we are a single reality, a single charism, with the same origin and the same destiny: the Spirit of the Lord, who is the one who has impelled us to live and has called us all to it. DE COLORES!







# OMCC INFORMATION

## OMCC Regular meeting

### *Mallorca 2024*

**The regular meeting of the OMCC for the year 2024** was held **October 6-9** at the Casa de Espiritualidad Son Bono, in **Palma de Mallorca, Spain**.

The 10 members of the OMCC attended this meeting: Alvaro Martinez (President), Adair Batista (Vice-President), Thomas Creen (Treasurer), Francoise Delaunoy (Secretary), Alfred Bongi (APG Delegate), Kresimir Percela (GECC Delegate), Jacquelyn DeMesme-Gray (NACG Delegate), Alberto Stang (GLCC Delegate), Msgr. José Ángel Saiz Meneses (Spiritual Advisor) and Fr. Jaime López-Peñalba (Vice-Spiritual Advisor).

In the first face-to-face meeting held in Rome in 2023, it was agreed that the next one would be in Mallorca, since this city is the cradle of the Cursillos of Christianity Movement. It was considered important to use this place as a source of inspiration, motivation and knowledge.

The meeting began on the afternoon of the 6th with a preliminary meeting to discuss general information about the house of welcome, the work plan and methodology, translations and languages, activities and schedules. Then, the committee went to the **Cathedral of Palma de Mallorca**. There they were able to greet and share with the diocesan bishop, D. Sebastià Taltavull and with the diocesan consiliary of the MCC, canon of the cathedral, with whom they toured the cathedral and heard about its history, ending with the celebration of the Eucharist presided by D. José Ángel.

On the morning of the 7th, the work days began with an **initial reflection on the unity, identity and ecclesiality** of the board and the Cursillo Movement.

The second work session was to **take stock of the year 2023-2024**, analyze the participation and management of each member, the fulfillment of the goals for this period, analyze successes and failures. It was concluded that it is too early to feel that any of the projects have failed; all of them are being addressed and worked on. It is important to have a continuous evaluation system to measure the performance and achievement of the projects. Emphasis is placed on the





good development of the communications area. The good communication between this OMCC and the IGs is also highlighted.

The third working session was the **World Ultreya of Rome 2025**. The organizing committee (OMCC-SN of Italy) was presented and a series of points related to economy (approximate attendees, registration fee, budget and complementary ways of financing), logistics (requests to the basilica, delivery of kits, stand to be exhibited and simultaneous translation), contents and development (theme, slogan and logo, content, speakers and participants, etc.) and dissemination (information to be given to the IGs, deadlines, special invitations and motivational campaign for the Ultreya) were discussed.

After the afternoon session, the group went to the **Monastery of San Honorato** to visit the tomb of Don Sebastian Gaya. They toured the hall where the first Cursillo was held and celebrated the Eucharist in the Chapel.



Day 8 began the day with the fourth working session, which was to discuss and make an **analysis of the global situation of the current CQI**. The results of the online questionnaire applied were discussed; the current work between the Executive Committees and the IGs; and the delegates were asked to contribute as soon as possible with relevant issues to be resolved in each of their groups.

The fifth work session covers the development of all the Projects being addressed, which are listed below in the order presented at this meeting:

1. **Finance & Economics OMCC:** Budget analysis; preparation of an Annual Economic Report; discussion of new funding plan; community awareness of economic issues; possible donations; and other funding alternatives.
2. **OMCC Communication Network:** OMCC Newsletter; website update, RRSS dynamization, community awareness on the use of RRSS; SN interactions with OMCC official accounts, among other minor issues.
3. **OMCC Revaluation Plan:** OMCC revaluation campaign with documents, audiovisual material and connections between the IGs and their NS.
4. **Reflection and Discernment Program:** Analyze the results of the online questionnaire applied; search for and select the panel of experts; develop a basic online training program.

After the afternoon session, the group went to **the Capuchin Church** to visit the **tomb of Eduardo Bonnin**. They had a moment of prayer before the tomb and greeted the members of the SD of Mallorca, with whom they shared the celebration of the Eucharist, again presided by D.





José Ángel.

On the 9th, the Work Projects continued to be developed in the following order:

5. **Youth:** Analysis of their group and behavior; detection of current problems; development of ideas to involve youth; analysis and action plan.
6. **International Coordination Protocols:**
7. **CQI Structures (Support Program):** Analysis of each reality by IG.
8. **International Projection Plan:** Africa Project; Europe Project; Japan Project, others.

The work was concluded with the last 3 sessions, which were: to make a joint reflection on **synodality** in the OMCC and in the Cursillista reality of the world in general; to organize and discuss specific topics for the **OMCC-GI meeting in Rome in 2025**; and to talk about the **conclusions** of the meeting and the assignment of tasks.







# OMCC INFORMATION

## MCC Youth pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela

### August 2024

The history of salvation has two levels, two heights: a grandiose one, the one recorded in Scripture, which goes from Adam to the Apocalypse, illuminated by the great light that is Jesus Christ.

But there is also a small, everyday, familiar story that may go unnoticed, but is also part of God's plan of salvation.

This is what 115 young cursillistas from all over the world, from a dozen countries and twenty dioceses, have experienced during the week of August 5-11 a Camino de Santiago, a history of salvation, in a big way, and in a small way.

I really enjoyed the smallest things, so important: living together, the fatigue, the hills, the joys at the end of each stage, and, of course, the explosion of joy when we arrived at the Plaza del Obradoiro. And the shared faith, the trust and openness with each other, little by little and more and more...

It has been a great church experience, a great moment of building cursillista family. A great team work. What a beauty to see how each and every one of the Secretariats have contributed their own talent, according to their personality: some generating unity and communion, others from the spirit of sacrifice putting themselves at the pace of those who walked with more problems, some with their rollos, others with their music, those over there filling the group with joy, those over there with their creativity and their new ideas... It has been a precious experience of Cursillos, of unity, of overcoming prejudices, of fraternity, of trust, of mutual help to open ourselves all to the Lord.

Personally, I have enjoyed this return to the origins. The Camino de Santiago is from my first experiences as a cursillista, when I was a young man of 20 years old. The Camino has always helped





me to understand what it means to be a believer and to be a disciple of Christ. I do not understand those who do not want to live like that, and prefer to be tourists, rather than pilgrims. Cursillos was also born from this pilgrim spirituality, when those young people from Mallorca discovered that a living faith and a life of grace was better preserved and more enthusiastic when the style of living was that of the pilgrims.

What can this August 2024 Camino del Santiago mean for the great history of salvation? What does it add to the history of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement?

I believe that this pilgrimage serves to put down roots. During these days, there have been beautiful conversations, questions, sharing the history and stories of the Cursillos in Christianity family. Thus, we have taken care of the roots, which serve to nourish, to receive grace, to grow. Definitely, we have learned a lot to be cursillistas. Something wonderful has happened: we have helped to build the movement, through the youth.

As it happens to families, who so often get together and meet, through the things of their children: their birthdays, their parties... everyone makes more efforts to be together, to be well, so that the little ones feel comfortable belonging to that family. I think the same thing has happened to us: we had more than 100 young people on pilgrimage, and all over the world, Cursillo has been attentive, has wanted to be careful, has prayed more, has done palanca, has done its part. I believe that, thanks to the experience of the Camino that the young people have lived, the whole Movement has become more holy, has become more apostolic, has become more united.

In the end, this Camino de Santiago leaves in the heart the desire for new stages. After Compostela, it seems that there is nothing more. But it is not true. May we be able to invent new stages, for young people and for all the leaders and all the Schools: goals, horizons, that help us to keep on walking.

We ask the Holy Spirit to continue to be the strength and drive to continue taking steps.

**DE COLORES**

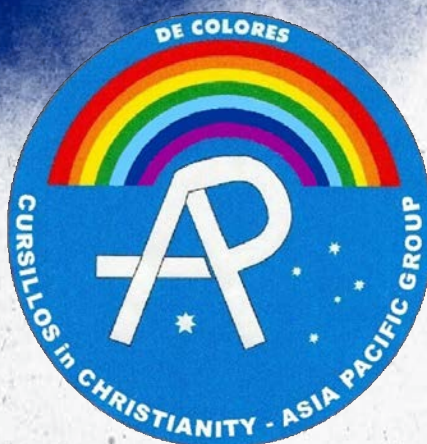






# GROUPS INFORMATION

## Asia Pacific Group (APG)



### APG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The last APG Executive meeting highlighted the connection of APG, through the OMCC, with the Synodal journey proposed by Pope Francis for all the Church. At the APG, a clear conscience of the evangelizing potential of the Cursillo Movement should be fostered. The member countries should realize that we could help evangelize the Asian region. That is why the theme of the APG 23rd Encounter should be "Cursillo, a tool of evangelization in the Asian Region. The speakers would be the president of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conference (FABC), the Vice-President of the FABC, and the keynote speaker would be the OMCC Spiritual Advisor. This is the idea; the Spiritual Advisor would talk about how Cursillo can be an instrument for renewal and evangelization. The second topic would be, if the president is available, Cursillo, a tool for evangelization; the vice-president is for renewal. So, it could help the church in Asia to know Cursillo as a help in the renewal and evangelization. Cursillistas are well-equipped and ready for the realization that we've been waiting for. The key is understanding that our actions are a means of spreading Christianity.

The question we need to ask ourselves is: how can we evangelize the Asian Region? The answer lies in using Cursillo as a tool. We can start by joining forces and using Cursillo to spread Christianity in Asia, where, except for the Philippines and East Timor, the Catholic religion is a minority. Our mission is clear: to spread Christianity. Let's focus on the approach and consider this as a good starting point for us. Cursillo should play a part in evangelization.





## ASSEMBLY IN MCC AUSTRALIA

The Australian National Cursillo Movement held its Annual General Meeting on the 7th and 8th of September at the Good Sheperd Seminary, Homebush, Sydney. Delegates came from different Dioceses and spent two days listening to each other, sharing experiences, identifying problems they were facing, as well as those activities that were working well. A workshop was held to look at the Promotion and Renewal of the Movement with special time to listen to what God's Spirit is saying to the MCC now. The meeting concluded with a formal commitment from each delegate to pray for the renewal and promotion of the Movement and to take this message back to their diocese.

## NATIONAL MEETING MCC FILIPINAS

The Philippine Cursillo Movement had its 21st National Encounter last July 18-21, 2024. It was held at the Carmelite Missionaries Center for Spirituality in Tagaytay City. It was attended by the Cursillo leaders and priests from different Cursillo secretariats in the country. The theme of the encounter centered on synodality. "Paglalakbay ng kilusang kursilyo patungo kay Kristo" (Journey of the Cursillo Movement towards Christ). It was a successful gathering blessed by the wonderful promptings of the Holy Spirit set in an atmosphere of spirituality, peace and joy.







## GALLERY PHOTOS



Cursillistas on Pilgrimage in Santiago



International Ultreya in Santiago de Compostela



Young Cursillistas on pilgrimage to Santiago (Monte do Gozo)



Young Cursillistas in Obradoiro Square







Cursillo in Polonia



OMCC meeting in Mallorca



Visit to Capuchinos in Mallorca



50 Birthday of Cursillos in Croacia



50 Birthday of Cursillos in Croacia





# GROUPS INFORMATION

## European Group of Cursillos (GECC)



### CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CURSILLOS IN CROATIA

On September 29, 2024, the 50th anniversary of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement was celebrated in Croatia at the Tabor House of Spiritual Retreats in Samobor, where the first Cursillo was held in 1974. The Movement arrived in Croatia in the 1970s thanks to Father Andrija Vrane and many lay people and priests who responded to God's call to cooperation and laid the foundations of this movement in Croatia. For 50 years, it has been spreading and consolidating in communion with the Church of Croatia and developing multiple activities in the service of evangelization.

Over a thousand collaborators and friends gathered for two days to celebrate and thank the Lord for fifty years of meetings, grace, and joy. Cursillistas from all over Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina attended, and prominent guests included delegates from the National Secretariats of Europe: Spain, Austria and Hungary, Great Britain and the Czech Republic, as well as the World Organization of Cursillos in Christianity.

Along with the rich program of events, there was also an exhibition on the history of Cursillo in Croatia. The main event of the anniversary celebration was a solemn Eucharistic celebration on Sunday, September 29, presided over by the Apostolic Nuncio to the Republic of Croatia, Monsignor Giorgio Lingua, in concelebration with the Military Ordinary at peace, Monsignor Juraj Jezerinec and Bishop at peace, Monsignor Josip Mrzljak, with numerous priests collaborating with Cursillo. In his speech, the nuncio emphasized the importance of the role of the laity in the Church, giving the example of the Movement. He stressed that changes are not always straightforward and that





it is not easy to carry out every inspired idea. "No one has an exclusive claim on the Holy Spirit," he said, but rather that together, laity and priests make the Church alive and are the driving force for growth and renewal.

After Holy Mass, lunch was served, and the celebration continued into the afternoon. Cursillo collaborators gave powerful testimonies about the Lord's action in all aspects of life through Cursillo, from marriage and family to work to living with illness, underlining the importance of community.

Filled with songs, prayers, tears of happiness, and laughter, all those present felt the presence of the Holy Spirit flowing through Cursillo and impacting the lives of more than 40,000 souls in our country over the last 50 years.

### **THIRD CURSILLO HELD IN POLAND, IN THE DIOCESE OF CRACOW**

On October 20th, the 3rd Christianity Course of the Diocese of Krakow-Poland, which took place from October 17th to 20th, 2024, at the Monastery of the Norbertine Sisters of Imbramowice, was closed and opened to the world. The team was made up of leaders from Poland, Ukraine, and Spain, who contributed their best efforts, their enthusiasm, and their dedication to the Lord's work.

The joy and fraternity that emanate from the Holy Spirit were not lacking during these three days. The new Cursillistas expressed, among other things, that they had encountered a very joyful Church and a very energetic community, and they are willing to get involved so that, God willing, there will be a long journey for the Movement in Poland.

### **PRESENCE OF THE MCC IN PRISONS**

In several European countries, the Cursillo Movement has had a long history of cooperation with the Prison Ministry, so many cursillistas and leaders have collaborated in this social action, accompanying prisoners, helping them as much as possible and enabling them to get closer to and know the Lord. On some occasions, this evangelizing task has materialized in celebrating a Cursillo weekend in the prison. Logically, with the conditions and limitations imposed by the fact that it is being imparted in a prison regime, but always with the realization that the Lord continues to act and the miracle of men and women who find themselves, with others and with God continues to happen. The pandemic brought these activities to a standstill, as it did so many other things, but in recent years, Cursillos have been held again in prisons in Hungary, Spain, and Italy.







# GROUPS INFORMATION

## Latin American Group of Cursillos (GLCC)



Grupo Latinoamericano de Cursillos de Cristiandad

Dominican Republic 2023-2027

*Together beyond, always beyond*

To travel this apostolic path brings us today, great challenges, but the Holy Spirit always helps us. Pope Francis encourages us to move forward, without ceasing to look to Heaven and to our brothers and sisters; I pray for you - he said - and he has blessed us to continue fulfilling the mission to which the Lord invites us and to travel this road brings us some difficulties and many satisfactions.

With our eyes fixed on the Lord and many leaders working and organizing, Regional meetings of the countries of Central North America and the Caribbean have been held in Honduras; of the Bolivarian countries, held in Bolivia and soon to be held in the Southern Cone in Brazil. With the Grace of the Lord, the 18 countries that make up the Latin American Group GLCC have participated in this journey together, looking beyond the barriers, as the synodal Church that we are.

Our motto in the meetings has been to reflect on the question that Pope Francis has asked us: Have you shared your Encounter with Jesus? A common meditation was indispensable, in which





dialogue and communication with the brothers resulted in mutual motivation and commitment to continue on the journey and fulfill our mission as leaders.

In a climate of friendship and hope, we have shared objectives related to the advances in each Secretariat, always keeping in mind the reality of Latin America, as well as analyzing essential themes for the Cursillo Movement related to the method and Fundamental Ideas 3, in a framework of attentive listening to the Word of God.

Likewise, and resorting to technology, our formation program has been carried out virtually, sharing topics on spirituality, as well as deepening in the identity of the leader, the secretariats, the precursillo, the cursillo and the postcursillo; as well as the essential, the important and the accidental in the three times.

Finally, this re-learning and updating has been the opportunity to unite criteria and faithfully follow our effective method enlightened by the Holy Spirit, as well as the vision of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life. We are certain that the divine pedagogy illuminates our path and guides our decisions.

In this following of the Lord, we have witnessed the enthusiasm and joy of the brothers and sisters participating in the Ultreyas of Costa Rica and Honduras celebrating the 60th anniversary of the arrival of Cursillos in their countries and in Mexico in their traditional national encounter; they are great evidence that the reunion of reunions continues to be a reason to respond to the call of the One who loves us.

We are a Church movement in synodal key; the challenge that this time presents for Cursillos in Christianity is an invitation to continue in permanent prayer and creative human work focused to continue reaching the farthest from the presence of God in all environments.

We are part of a worldwide network of leaders who aspire to live in Grace and we know that the Encounter with me, with Christ and with others changed our lives and we long to give testimony so that others, many more may have this experience of God.

**De colores**







# GROUPS INFORMATION

## North America and Caribe Group (NACG)



### LEARNING TO LISTEN

*"Listening with the ear of the heart," Pope Francis,  
2022 World Communications Day*

The revision and approval of the 2022 OMCC Statutes, along with Pope Francis' Call to Synodality, have given the NACG a renewed sense of hope. It has opened the door to accepting the vital reality that finding unity in our diversity requires everyone to listen to one another respectfully. This concept is both novel and perhaps unique, marking it a first in Cursillo, particularly within the OMCC and NACG.

In his great wisdom and humility, Pope Francis has called us to walk in synodality—a word illuminating our path and encouraging us to respond to the call. Synodality encompasses the collaborative process of listening and discerning what the Holy Spirit communicates to us as God's people and as His Church. It signifies a journey together, enabling both laity and clergy, to fulfill our mission: to be the face of Jesus in the world.

The new structure of the OMCC is now achieving outcomes that were previously unattainable before the revision of the Statutes. Each International Group (IG) now has a representative on the OMCC who possesses a voice and a vote equal to those of all other members. With our NACG representative, this change has made the OMCC feel more accessible, allowing the voices of the NACG to be heard. The perception of the OMCC as another layer of hierarchy is rapidly diminishing. This is synodality in action!





Similarly, the NACG Executive Committee, under its Coordinating Country, Canada, now reflects the diverse cultures within the IG. It gathers officers from each country to ensure that all cultures—Canada, the Caribbean Islands, and the US—are represented. The NACG has also established a “Think Tank of Friends,” which promotes openness to diverse opinions and leverages the extensive experience of many Cursillistas throughout the IG who have been on this journey for years. This is synodality in action!

As a group, we blessed our representative as she prepared to participate in the first OMCC meeting held in Mallorca, the birthplace of the Cursillo movement. Members of the OMCC arrived from various parts of the world, bringing diverse perspectives, but united as one under the warm welcome of the Mallorca Secretariat. During their visit to the burial sites of Eduardo Bonnín and Father Gayá, who played pivotal roles in establishing the Cursillo movement, any differences among them in Cursillo became less significant. They engaged in respectful listening, allowing their shared commitment to the Charism to take center stage. This is synodality in action!

Let us, Cursillistas from around the world, unite this June as Pilgrims of Hope during this Jubilee Year of Hope. Together, as one, let us celebrate at the World Ultreya and the Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, in Rome, in friendship, joy, and hope. This is synodality in action!

As we move forward together, in synodality, may we continue to listen to our Cursillo brothers and sisters more intently, so that we may truly become the people of God!

**De Colores**







# BACKGROUND TOPICS I

## From the Spirit to the World: The Legacy of the World Ultreyas of the Cursillo Movement

The Cursillo Movement (MCC) is a gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church and the world, a powerful tool to bring the proclamation of Christ to the most everyday environments. In its more than seven decades of history, the Cursillo Movement has ignited hearts, awakened vocations, and transformed lives, proclaiming that Christ lives and that his love is for all. In this journey, the five World Ultreyas have been much more than encounters; they are living Pentecost where thousands of Cursillistas from all over the world received the call of the Holy Spirit to renew the missionary ardor from the charism of the Cursillo Movement. In each of them, torches of faith and hope were lit that have illuminated the Church and the world. They have meant a call to continue “Forward, always beyond” so that the pilgrim ardor of those initiators who left Mallorca to ask the apostle Santiago “to be saints and apostles” would not be lost.

### ► Rome, 1966: The initial fire

The first World Ultreya marked the official recognition of the Cursillo Movement by the Universal Church. In Rome, using prophetic words, St. Paul VI encouraged the Cursillistas to be living witnesses of Christ in their environments, qualifying them as “leaven in the dough.” This moment was a renewed Pentecost, a sending out to the world’s peripheries with the message of God’s love.

Rome 1966 was not only an Ultreya but a milestone that assured the MCC its place as an evangelizing movement for the initial proclamation of the Gospel. Today, as it was then, the call of the Holy Spirit is the same: to be authentic Christians who transform their realities with love, joy, and Christian friendship.

### ► Tlaxcala, 1970: Unity in Mission

The second World Ultreya, held in Tlaxcala, Mexico, brought the fire of the Cursillo Movement to





Latin America, the continent of hope. In an environment marked by cultural diversity, this encounter emphasized the importance of unity in the charism of the Cursillo Movement.

The debates and tensions that arose were not obstacles but opportunities to reaffirm that the mission of the Cursillo Movement transcends cultures and borders. The cursillistas are united in a single spirit: to bring Christ to the world. Tlaxcala reminds us that, despite our differences, we are called to work together for the Kingdom of God.

### ► **Rome, 2000: Witnessing in a New Millennium**

The turn of the millennium brought new challenges for the Church and the Cursillo Movement. At this third World Ultreya, held again in Rome, St. John Paul II encouraged Cursillistas to face the 21st century with courage. "Christ, yesterday, today, and forever" was the motto that marked this encounter, a call to proclaim that Christ's truth and love are eternal and present.

At this meeting, the Cursillo Movement received the mandate to be a protagonist in the New Evangelization, bringing the first proclamation of the Gospel to a world that cries out for meaning and transcendence.

### ► **Los Angeles, 2009: Evangelization in Multiculturalism**

In Los Angeles, USA, the Cursillo Movement celebrated its fourth World Ultreya in a context marked by multiculturalism and religious plurality. Pope Benedict XVI stressed the need to seek the light and strength of the Holy Spirit to respond to the challenge of the new evangelization, bringing the joy of the Gospel to a world wounded by indifference and individualism.

The shared testimonies and reflections reminded the cursillistas that, beyond cultural differences, the mission of evangelization remains intact. The Cursillo Movement must be a bridge between cultures and a beacon of hope in a world that often lives in the darkness of spiritual isolation.

### ► **Fatima, 2017: "It is time for Cursillo."**

The last great world encounter of the Cursillo Movement was held in Fatima, Portugal, under the protective mantle of the Virgin Mary, the star of Evangelization. On the centenary of her apparitions, Cursillistas from around the world gathered to renew their commitment to Christ, inspired by Mary's unconditional yes.

Fatima 2017 was a reminder that the mission of the Cursillistas is not only to proclaim the Gospel but to do so with the confidence that God guides every step. This meeting invited us to be like Mary, docile instruments of the Holy Spirit, bringing light where there is darkness and hope.





where despair reigns.

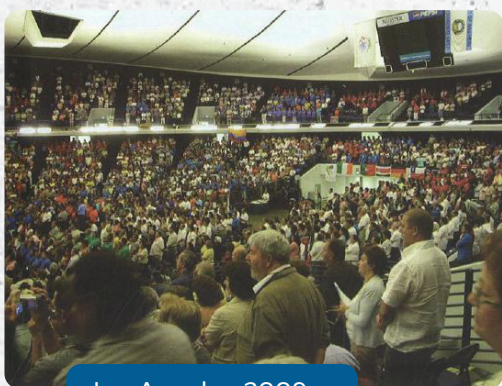
### **An urgent call: Forward, always forward!**

Each World Ultreya has been a Pentecost; a fire lit that has been inviting the cursillistas not to stop. In a world that seems more divided and distant from God than ever, the Cursillo Movement has the responsibility to respond with joy, hope, and courage.

Today, the question that resonates for every cursillista is straightforward: Are we ready to move forward, or are we prepared to step out of our comfort zones and bring the message of Christ to those who need it most?

The cry of “De Colores!” is not just a celebration but a proclamation that Christ transforms lives, that the Kingdom of God is possible here and now, and that the Cursillo Movement is a key instrument in this mission.

Ultreya and onward! May every cursillista, inspired by these five World Ultreyas, renew their commitment and live the Gospel with passion and conviction.



Los Angeles, 2009



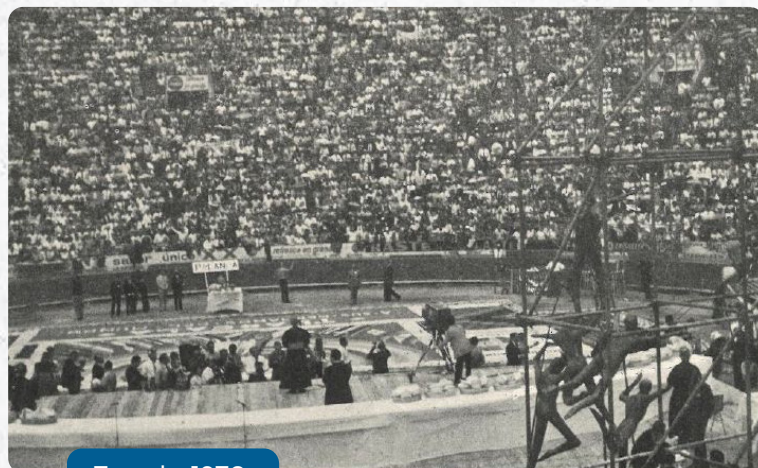
Rome, 2000



Rome, 2000



Rome, 2000



Tascala, 1970







# BACKGROUND TOPICS II

## 10 years since the publication of Ideas Fundamentales 3Ed

- The agreement for the revision of the book of Fundamental Ideas of the Cursillo Movement was made at the VI World Encounter of the Cursillo Movement, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 2005.
- The Drafting Committee, as approved at the Sao Paulo Meeting, was formed and held its first working meeting in 2007 in Gibraltar.
- Between 2007 and 2013, the new version of the book was prepared: a first draft was prepared and sent to the National Secretariats, contributions to the text were collected and the final draft was finalized, which was again sent to the National Secretariats for their final consideration.
- The final basic text, previously studied by the National Secretariats, was approved at the VII World Meeting in Brisbane, Australia, in November 2013.
- The Drafting Committee completed the writing, review and translation process throughout 2014, presenting the resulting text, in Spanish and English, at the regular OMCC meeting held in Fatima, Portugal, in September 2014, where its final approval was agreed.
- The new edition of Fundamental Ideas (IF3Ed), complete in all its contents, in the official Spanish and English versions, was sent to the OMCC on 25 January 2015, the day of St. Paul's conversion.
- The OMCC arranged for the worldwide publication of the book with Paulus Publishing House, which made it available to all the International Groups and National Secretariats in





June 2015, with an official presentation of the book, in the different languages available, in October 2015.

Ten years have now passed since the publication of IF3Ed, from 2015 to 2025. In these ten years the text has been officially translated into seven different languages (Portuguese and Brazilian, Italian, German, Hungarian, Korean and Vietnamese) and work is currently underway on new translations (French, Croatian, Japanese). Thousands of copies have been distributed in all these languages all over the world through National and Diocesan Secretariats and thousands of cursillistas and leaders have it among their bedside books.

In these years, the IF3Ed book has been a fundamental tool for the formation of leaders, for the work of the Schools and for the orientation of Diocesan and National Secretariats, as well as for the International Groups and the OMCC itself. It has been an instrument of renewal for many realities of the Movement. Countless Conferences, Workshops and Cursillo de Cursillos have been held on IF3Ed. and very good materials have been prepared to deepen its contents. It has been used repeatedly for the presentation of the Movement, in Church spaces, before Bishops and Episcopal Conferences and whenever we have worked to take the Cursillo Movement to new territories.

But, in a certain way, it is still a document to be released. Because it continues to be an extraordinary tool for each one, each cursillista, each leader, each School and each Secretariat, to deepen in the experience of the charism of the Movement, in its mentality, in its essence. And that is something always new and always necessary. As a Cursillo Movement we will always be in a dynamic of renewal, of growth, of journey... and the book of IF3Ed is one of the guides that are needed for the journey.

The words that close the introduction of the book by the Editorial Committee are still valid: "It has, therefore, limitations. But it also offers many possibilities and opens up new paths. Possibilities for growth. Clear and valid ways to reach where Christ and the Church want us to go. For union and communion in the CCM, throughout the world, in all instances, in all situations. For the reflection and revision of our identity and current reality, at all levels (Diocesan and National Schools and Secretariats). With the help of the Holy Spirit, to continue offering the love of God to so many men and women in this wonderful ecclesial movement that is the CCM".





# ECCLESIAL RESONANCES

Moderators meeting June 24

Pope Francis words



In the last “Annual Meeting of International Associations of the Faithful, Ecclesial Movements and New Communities”, promoted by the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life (DLFV), the theme “The challenge of synodality for mission” was addressed. The aim of the meeting was to reflect on the synodal dimensions that pose new challenges for the growth of associations and movements and for their evangelizing activity. Pope Francis addressed the participants in a speech from which we would like to highlight the following guidelines due to their undoubted relevance for the synodal journey of our MCC.

I have often emphasized that the synodal journey requires a spiritual conversion because without an interior transformation, lasting results cannot be achieved. My hope is that following this Synod, synodality may endure as a permanent mode of working within the Church, at all levels, permeating the hearts of all, pastors and faithful alike, until it becomes a shared “ecclesial style”.

However, achieving this, this demands that a change must occur within each of us, a true “conversion”. In the light of this spiritual conversion, I wish to highlight some attitudes, some “synodal virtues”, which we can derive from the three announcements of the Passion in the Gospel of Mārk (cf.





Mk 8:31; 9:31; 10:32-34): thinking as God thinks, overcoming exclusiveness, and cultivating humility.

### **First: to think as God thinks**

This is the primary interior change that is asked of us: to overcome “merely human thought” to embrace “God’s thinking”. Before making any decision, before starting any program, any apostolate, any mission within the Church, we should ask ourselves: what does God want from me, what does God want from us, at this moment, in this situation? Is what I envision, what we as a group have in mind, truly aligned with “God’s thinking”? God is always greater than our ideas, greater than prevailing mindsets and the “ecclesial fashions” of the moment, even the charism of our particular group or movement. Therefore, let us never presume to be “in tune” with God: rather, let us continually strive to rise above ourselves and embrace God’s perspective, not that of men and women. This is the first great challenge. To think as God thinks.

### **Second: overcoming exclusivism**

Please, let us be wary of the temptation of the “closed circle”. Though chosen to be the foundation of the new people of God, open to all nations of the earth, the apostles fail to grasp this expansive vision. It is also a challenge for us: to limit ourselves to what our “circle” thinks, being convinced that what we do is right for everyone, and defending, perhaps inadvertently, the positions, prerogatives, or prestige of the “group”. Alternatively, we could also be impeded by the fear of losing our sense of belonging and identity by opening up to other people and to different points of view, which stems from failing to recognize diversity as an opportunity rather than a threat. These are “enclosures” in which we all risk imprisonment. Let us be attentive: our own group, our own spirituality are realities that help us to journey with the People of God, but they are not privileges, for there is a danger of ending up imprisoned in these enclosures. Synodality instead asks us to look beyond barriers with magnanimity, to see the presence of God and his actions even in people we do not know, in new pastoral approaches, in unexplored mission territories.

### **Third: cultivate humility**

The starting point of spiritual conversion must be humility, the gateway to all the virtues. It saddens me when I meet Christians who boast: because I am a priest from this place, or because they are lay people from that place, because I belong to this institution... This is a bad thing. Humility









is the door, the beginning. It compels us to scrutinize our intentions: what am I really looking for in my relationships with my brothers and sisters in faith? Why do I pursue certain initiatives within the Church? If we detect a hint of pride or arrogance in ourselves, let us ask for the grace to rediscover humility. Indeed, only the humble accomplish great things in the Church, because they have a solid foundation in the love of God, which never fails, and therefore they do not seek more recognition. They esteem others and welcome their contributions, their advice, and their inner richness, bringing out not their own “I” but the “we” of the community. It is the humble who safeguard communion in the Church, avoiding divisions, overcoming tensions, knowing how to set aside their own initiatives in order to contribute to joint projects. In serving, they find joy and not frustration or resentment.

### Final note on ecclesial movements

Ecclesial movements are for service, not for ourselves. It is sad when we feel that we “belong to this one, to that one, to another”, as if this had to do with superiority. Ecclesial movements are meant to serve the Church, they are not a message in themselves, an ecclesial centrality. They are for service. May you always be able to appreciate your respective charisms through an “ecclesial lens”, enabling you to make a generous and invaluable contribution to the mission of evangelization, to which we are all called.

Pope Francis

Address at the Annual Meeting of International Associations  
of the Faithful, Ecclesial Movements and New Communities.

Rome, 2024





