



ICCRS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XLI, NUMBER 3

MAY - JUNE 2015

Fanning the flame through the Spirit of Power Love & Self Control: **Families as the domestic Church**

■ **María Eugenia F. de Góngora**

IN THIS ISSUE

ICCRS Newsletter

Fanning the flame through the Spirit of Power Love & Self Control:

Families as the domestic Church

María Eugenia F. de Góngora

Report:

Annual Financial 2014

Cyril John

Snapshot CCR Councillors:

Julienne Mesedem & María Eugenia F.

ICCRS Leadership Bulletin

Guided by the Spirit:

The cost of Leadership

Denise Bergeron

The Spirit blows where he wills:

Leading with new eyes and new heart

Robert Canton

Questions to the ICCRS

Doctrinal Commission:

Glossolalia, Xenolalia and Xenoglossia



The family is a gift of God's perfection and infinite mercy for the humankind, without which the humankind could not live and its survival would be at stake. The family is in fact a gift to live in love, fellowship, joy, safety, peace, harmony and effort. Its current situation is commonly known, which does not accurately reflect these characteristics. The onslaught against the family is straightforward.

Recently, a meeting of lay movements was held in the Vatican, which aim was to give the Pontifical Council for the Family contributions to the Synod. All those present came to a unanimous conclusion: we are facing a serious anthropological problem, since the family institution is being torn apart in every way; never in the history of the human race the family had been put at risk in such a way, disrupting God's plan and even the law of nature. Marriage is being distorted and maliciously called what is not.

It is really a bleak outlook; there are many factors that set a death-trap for the family. What will we do? How to stop this dismal reality that affects the family day after day? It is time to act! If we do not, the consequences will be dire. We are standing at a great cliff's edge, where there is only death at the bottom. The attacks are not with toys, and they are truly against God, His creation and His plan for humanity (cf. Familiaris consortio 42).

The Sacrament of Matrimony is the union by love of a man and a woman, who are open to life and blessed by God. It is a sacred bond where the grace of God operates effectively. His holy presence is absolutely essential. Without Him the family will fall as a house founded on sand.

The CCR from his spirituality and simplicity can serve the family, in order to develop the God's plan and mission for it; by sharing the grace the Renewal was given: the experience of the baptism in the Holy Spirit, which is necessary to meet the living

Jesus Christ — Himself living in the believer's heart, making the closed, indifferent, cold heart a new heart open to God and the others. The family members will be an Upper Room where they will



continually ask for the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Only with this inner strength the family will open to others, to the Word, the sacraments, especially the Sunday Eucharist, the main nourishment so that the family may be a true domestic Church.

The family that lives in love will be driven naturally to witness joyfully where its strength is: this is the best message today to distant, wounded and faithless families. The Holy Spirit, inner Master, will make every family be like the family of Nazareth, living a strong spirituality, through which life in all its stages will be protected and valued.

His Holiness Francis spoke beautifully to the CCR on 1st June, referring to the grandpas or elderly people: "The elderly! They are our wisdom, they are the wisdom of the Church — the elderly whom we so often discard, grandparents, the elderly... And that little old lady, Anna, did something extraordinary in the Church: she canonized gossip! How did she do it? Like this: instead of gossiping about somebody else, she went all over town talking about Jesus: "He is the one, he is the one who is going to save us!". Also, the Holy Father said during the same meeting: 'Families are the domestic Church, where Jesus grows; he grows in the love of spouses, he grows in the lives of children. That is why the enemy so often attacks the family. The devil does not want the family; he tries to destroy it, to make sure that there is no love there. Married couples are sinners, like us all, but they want to go forward in faith, in fruitfulness, in their children and their children's faith. May the Lord bless families and strengthen them in this time of crisis when the devil is seeking to destroy them'.

It is a privileged time for missionary disciples of the CCR, as at Pentecost. It is not all easy, however, since the goal to be achieved is the conversion of the whole human family in the name of Jesus. But the promise is that the devil cannot destroy it because God is always stronger. 🙏



The Sacrament of Matrimony is the union by love of a man and a woman, who are open to life and blessed by God.



Report:

Annual Financial Report 2014

■ Cyril John

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed generously to support the work of ICCRS. As you are aware, ICCRS exists to serve the worldwide Renewal in all of its various streams and expressions. As we are making preparations for celebrating the Great Jubilee Year in 2017, the ICCRS Council under the leadership of its President, Michelle Moran, has stepped up its efforts to make ICCRS more relevant to the worldwide Renewal. Your support did help ICCRS in a big way to carry on its operations and fulfill the mandate given to it. We, in ICCRS, are united with St. Paul in our thoughts: "I thank God for you each time I think of you, and each time I think of you I do so with joy..." (Phil 1:3).

I consider that it is important that we place a brief report about the financial situation of ICCRS before you to ensure transparency and accountability. The following are some highlights relating to the financial position of ICCRS in the year 2014.

Income

Our total income for the year, from January to December, 2014, was 176,812 Euros. It included 116,634 Euros received as donations from National Service Committees (NSCs). Donations from individuals, groups and communities amounted to 38,374 Euros whereas response to Hope Sack appeal was 3,844 Euros. 7,500 Euros were received as sponsorship for ICCRS staff. The ICCRS newsletter generated revenue of 2,469 Euros and books and material brought in 6,495 Euros. The events organized by ICCRS including the Leadership Training Courses generated 27,460 Euros.

Expenses

On an average the annual expenses at ICCRS was approx 192,266 Euros per annum compared to a budget of 198,000.

We took stringent measures to control expenditure at ICCRS. As a result, it has been possible to keep the expenditure below the budgeted figures. For example, expenditure for Office Rent was 33,427 Euros as against 38,500 Euros provided for. The savings has been due to ICCRS now sharing the Office with the Catholic Fraternity, thus reducing ICCRS portion of the rental paid to the Vatican. Office expenditure, newsletter, outreach, etc are specific areas where reduction in expenditure could be achieved. With our concerted efforts, despite the increase in costs, the total expenses for the year was 5,354 Euros less than what was budgeted.

Present Position

Presently ICCRS is left with funds to carry on its work only for a couple of months. In order to continue the service of ICCRS to the world-wide Renewal, we need generous and sacrificial offerings, support and prayers from every one of you - the Sub-Committees, NSCs, communities, groups and individual donors.

ICCRS needs your support

Through financial assistance, you have helped ICCRS to continue its important mission in the Church over the years. We appeal to you to continue to help us to bring to fulfillment some of the very important projects in hand, especially those linked to the Great Jubilee of the CCR in 2017. After introducing the facility for online payment, transmitting of funds to ICCRS has become hassle-free. You may please visit our website (www.iccrs.org) and make a donation or pledge your support to the Hope Sack Appeal.

You would be delighted to know that at the ICCRS chapel we intercede and organize special Eucharistic celebration for the intentions of all our benefactors. May the Good Lord continue to bless you abundantly for your generosity! 🙏

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit www.iccrs.org or e-mail events@iccrs.org for more information about our events.



Open European CCR Conference

"I have come to bring fire to the earth" (Luke 12:49)

■ Warsaw, Poland · 1 - 4 October 2015

The European subcommittee of ICCRS invites you for an open European conference of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. This will take place in Poland in 2015. The meeting in 2015 will be an open conference for everyone in the CCR and shall be an encouragement to all CCR in our time!

Date and Place: The conference will take place from 1st – 4th October 2015 in Warsaw, Poland. We will provide accommodation in hotels and retreat-houses close by as well as a shuttle from/to the airport and the train-station in Warsaw.

Meals: We offer a simple but good lunch and supper. The first meal is supper on 1st October and the last meal is lunch on 4th October 2015. Costs: 50 Euro in total.

Accommodation: We offer accommodation in 3 different categories on "first come, first served" basis. The costs of the rooms depend on the standard of the hotels/retreat houses and include "bed & breakfast". All rooms are with toilets and showers.

For more information and registration, please visit our website www.iccrs.org 🙏

Julienne Mesedem & María Eugenia F.

JULIENNE MESEDEM



When I received the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in 1984, I felt nothing special. At the time I was in charge of the music ministry. It is only two weeks later, during a personal prayer time in a chapel, that I learned to speak in tongues. However on the day of the outpouring of the Spirit, the Icon of our Lady Door of Heaven began to ooze oil with the fragrance of roses. Although we anointed those who wished it, the oil kept on oozing, even when exposed to the sun. We knew that it was a Marian blessing that the Lord was giving us.

Now I am in charge of the teaching ministry in my prayer group, in the diocese, at the national and international level, and responsible for the spiritual guiding ministry. I also write books, such as “For a better knowledge of the CCR”, “Char-

isms”, “Lent”, “Pray with Novenas”, and others to be printed.

The last book that I read is « The Joy of the Gospel » by Pope Francis. I advise everyone to read it, because I think that announcing the Gospel is urgent, as it is the proclaiming the Good News in our world of uncertainty, where so many people seem lost. I advise also “The Power of Intercession Prayer” by Cyril John, as our world so need intercessors.

If we want the CCR to survive, we must leave all the space to the Holy Spirit, be always listening, we must let Him act, or let Him surprise us. We should be more open to the youth, train and encourage them, as they are more docile to the Holy Spirit than adults who are so often trapped by habits or knowledge. And let us not forget that there is no Cenacle without Mary. 🙏

MARÍA EUGENIA F. DE GÓNGORA



In 1976, our Lord enabled us to experience the baptism of the Holy Spirit. While we were very young and without having been married, Rafael and I were invited to participate in a prayer group. I thought I did not need this, but he did need it, because he was going through a very deep sorrow: the loss of his mother, who had died of cancer. But the mercy of our Lord always reaches us and forgives us, since as the seminar developed, deep roots that were not the best began to stir on the inside: pain, frustration, loneliness, lack of love. When the time to pray for the baptism in the Spirit came, I really experienced my personal Pentecost, and everything, everything changed. The most important thing, which I remember as if it was the first day, is the fact of encountering the living Jesus Christ. I just realized that he loved me and was very close to me, that He had always been knocking on my door and, finally, I - in the midst of my fragility and smallness- had opened the door and had let Him in... I experienced how great it is to ‘dine with him’.

That is how this marvellous adventure began. We were called to serve in the prayer group, then to share the Word. And unwittingly or unknowingly, Jesus Christ called me to serve in various coordination services, in my own country, Guatemala. Then the call was at the Central American level and I currently serve as ICCRS Councillor and president of CONCLAT (Latin American Catholic Charismatic Council, in Spanish). Such calls have been enormous blessings and enriching experiences. Everything is God’s gift by his infi-

nite mercy; His love and trust are incomprehensible, as He is aware of the weak and limited clay we are.

The Lord providentially gave us away the encyclical *Evangelii gaudium*, very important for our time that will also help us prepare to celebrate the Golden Jubilee. Not only must it be read, but reread many times. It is also appropriate to read or reread: the Malines documents, the exhortation *Familiaris consortio*, the catechesis for the next Synod on the Family ‘Love is our mission’, the exhortation *Evangelii nuntiandi*, *Las aguas vivas que borbotean* (The living waters that gurgle) by Fr José Antonio Fortea and *As by a new Pentecost* by Patti Mansfield.

With expectant faith I see the CCR in the future spread throughout the world, with more maturity and the necessary minimum organisation. I see it being a channel to bring about to every corner of the earth a new Pentecost, building the culture of life and love: the culture of Pentecost. The CCR, a missionary disciple, will offer the gift that Jesus wants to give to all who come, believe in Him and are thirsty, so that from its breast run rivers of living water (John 7:37): the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the unique and indispensable condition to truly know and love Jesus. The CCR in the fire of the Holy Spirit may surely give this testimony, the love of God lived, the world needs it! This will attract even more men and women so they surrender to Him and His Church, and so they trust in the powerful intercession of Mary, Mother of Jesus and our mother. 🙏

NEWS FROM THE WORLD

Please send news from your group, community or NSC to newsletter@iccrs.org.

Gathering of the Renewal for a New Evangelization of the Family

During the World Meeting of Families · Philadelphia 2015, the Gathering of the Renewal for a New Evangelization of the Family will be held, organized by the CCR of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Centro Internazionale Famiglia di Nazareth and many other realities of CCR including ICCRS and the Catholic Fraternity.

The event will take place in the Convention Center, on Saturday 26th September at 8.30 am – 1.30 pm.

Please for more information visit the website www.worldmeeting2015.org.



ICCRS FORMATION

Visit www.iccrs.org or e-mail formation@iccrs.org for more information about our training programmes.



LFI · Rome, Italy

■ 6 – 26 September 2015 ■ Contact: ICCRS Formation → formation@iccrs.org

ICCRS offers its VI Leadership Formation Institute programme. Classes include studies in Scripture, Ecclesiology, Pneumatology, Mariology, Kerygma, CCR, Leadership and Ministry. Students will be offered practical teaching and workshops on various aspects of the ministry within CCR. In addition, the students will go on several field trips in the eternal city of Rome. The school will be held primarily in English, but other languages will be made available depending on the number of requests. Please make an indication on the registration form so that we can take your language preference into consideration.

Online registration is open on www.iccrs.org.



LTC · Slovenia

■ 15 – 22 November 2015 ■ Contact: Andrej Justinek → andrej.justinek@gmail.com

LTC · Seattle - USA

■ 10 – 17 April 2016 ■ Contact: Tammie Stevens → LTC2016@wwccr.org

LTC · Poland

■ 06 – 13 August 2016 ■ Contact: Fr.Wojciech Nowacki → wnowacki@odnowa.orgau

LTC · Guadeloupe

■ 22 – 30 October 2016 ■ Contact: Huguette BOQUE-OLANOR → o.boque@only.fr

The ICCRS Leadership Training Course is for people of all ages, from charismatic organisations worldwide who want to spend some time of their lives being formed in leadership within the CCR.

In partnership with local Charismatic realities, ICCRS provides this week-long programme that will call and empower new leaders as well as strengthen and encourage current ones. The programme includes daily Mass, Eucharist Adoration and a time of Charismatic Praise and Worship. The teachings cover: the foundations and vision of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal; and practical help and ideas for ministry. There is also time for reflection, sharing and ministry.

ICCRS International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services

The *ICCRS Newsletter* is an international publication released bimonthly in English, Spanish, Italian, French, Portuguese, German, Arabic and Romanian for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Its purpose is to provide information about the growth and development of CCR throughout the world, as well as the events organised by ICCRS.

Permission is granted to reprint an article from the *ICCRS Newsletter* as long as ICCRS is quoted as the source.

The *ICCRS Newsletter* is e-mailed freely. It can be posted to you for € 10 per year. In addition, the *ICCRS Leadership Bulletin* can be e-mailed for an annual subscription of € 15.

Begin or renew your subscription to the *ICCRS Newsletter* and the *ICCRS Leadership Bulletin* today!

You will receive the most current news and topics of discussion in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

Postal Address: Palazzo San Calisto, 00120 Vatican City – Europe
Telephone: +39 06 69 88 71 26/27
Fax: +39 06 69 88 72 24
Website: www.iccrs.org
E-mail: newsletter@iccrs.org

ICCRS Council Members

Michelle Moran, England (President)
Marcos Volcan, Brazil (Vice President)
Robert Canton, USA
Denise Bergeron, Canada
María José C. de Ortiz, Chile
Fr Wojciech Nowacki, Poland
Dn Christof Hemberger, Germany
Br James Sang Hyun Shin, South Korea
Jude Muscat, Malta
Ann Brereton, Australia
Bp. Francis Kalist, India
Andres Arango, USA
Jean-Christophe Sakiti, Togo
Francis Edo Olotu, Nigeria
Claude Lopez, Australia (Advisor)
Oreste Pesare, Italy (Director)