



BULLETIN

MARCH-APRIL 2018



TALKING

Juan Adolfo Moguel Ortiz
President

"All power is feeble with dissension."
Jean de la Fontaine

Happy Easter Season, dear brothers and sisters of the Cursillo Movement. By means of this bulletin, I want to share with you an affectionate and fraternal greeting from all members of the current Executive Committee of the OMCC.

I write this message in the first week of Easter Season, recalling that it was the same Risen Lord who, during the past Lent, gave us another opportunity for self purification and, at the same time, to emphasise our missionary and apostolic commitment, so that we can – with His divine help – carry out the resolutions and intentions that, year after year, we promise to carry out in our environments.

As the days, the weeks and the months go by, we notice that we gradually abandon our excellent Lenten resolutions and easily deceive ourselves by mentally repeating certain excuses: "I no longer have a place in the Movement..."; "I have realized that they do not take my proposals seriously..."; "next week I will return to the CM Leaders School..." etc.

I am generalizing, of course. It is a fact that some people did fulfil their Lenten resolutions, and others continue struggling to carry them out. My admiration and respect for their effort, perseverance and commitment, because they serve as an example to those of us who are still – with much difficulty – in the process of pursuing our goals.

Since the beginning of the current OMCC Executive Committee activities, we have planned and committed ourselves to move on the path of **unity and respect to the plurality of thought** of everyone, without excluding anyone for thinking differently, and in this sense, I share with you the following anecdote:

"According to a legend, a magical well was hidden in a secret place. If one drank its water, he would never get thirsty again. There was a map that indicated its exact location, and, as expected, everyone talked about this wonder but nobody knew for sure if it was true or fiction.

One day, a man found the map of the well, hid it in a secret place, and immediately started a journey to find it, but he never returned.

Years later, another person found the map, did not say anything, hid it and went out on its search. He did not return either.

And so it happened with many others – they never came back. One day, a poor man accidentally found the map and informed the whole population about his finding. As a result, a good number of people in his community joined him in the journey to find the hidden well. They faced many hardships that they overcame by helping each other, and, at last, in the middle of the desert they found the well. It really existed, and the most curious thing about that well was that it was surrounded by several skeletons of those who had travelled in secret and had dehydrated to death because they had no bucket or rope to get the water from the well.

Putting together everyone's clothes, they built a rope and managed to get down to the water mirror a pot carried by one of them. This way, they got the magic water and, indeed, never got thirsty again. Then they returned together to their village to tell the others about what had happened."

As I have already stated, the OMCC Executive Committee trusts in the strength of the unity within the CM. That is why the purpose of the four-year period of our term is that all of us together, united, in communion, seek and find **that living water** of which Jesus speaks in his encounter with the Samaritan woman.

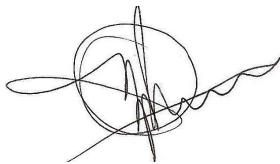
We do not understand the unity that we intend and seek in the Cursillo Movement as something **monolithic in which the plurality of thought does not exist or have a place**. On the contrary, we are fully convinced that the richness of the Movement lies precisely in the different ways of thinking of all the members of the Leaders' Schools in the different regions and places where we are active as an evangelizing Movement at the service of the Church.

If we successfully combine, unite, and blend the potential wealth of thoughts that currently exist within the CM, under the regulatory framework we have given ourselves to achieve it – the **"Fundamental Ideas 3"**, as well as the **"OMCC Statute"** definitely approved by the Holy See – we would be laying the basis to further strengthen the Cursillos in Christianity, guiding the new generations of leaders, and preserving our identity as a Movement, so that it will last and transcend in time and in the history of the church.

We do not cease to pray that God, our Father, grant us the necessary strength for it, so that the inspiration and care of the Holy Spirit enlighten our actions. With this same purpose we have welcomed the intercessory and protective shadow of the ever Virgin Mary of Guadalupe.

Then, if the day or time comes when any of us grow weak or give up the resolutions and commitments assumed with Lord Jesus, when hearing the cry of: **Utreya!!** he will be revived, stimulated and encouraged to reach the promised goal. So long...

De Colores.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a circular scribble with several vertical lines extending upwards and downwards, and a horizontal line at the bottom.

Juan Adolfo
President



REFLECTING

Msgr. Faustino Armendariz
OMCC Spiritual Advisor

Dear Cursillistas,

The formula of our faith has this truth imprinted in its fundamental structure: *"I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who... on the third day (he) rose again"*. (cf. CCC First Part, Second Section, Chapter 2, 422-429 and 638-658). The roots of this formula undoubtedly anchors in the Scriptures and in the apostolic tradition of the Church, seeking to transmit to this day the truth of faith that gives meaning and basis for the Church's being and acting, because St. Paul declares *"And if Christ has not been raised, then empty too is our preaching; empty, too, your faith. Then we are also false witnesses to God, because we testified against God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, neither has Christ been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are still in your sins."* (1 Cor 15, 14-17). In fact, only if Jesus has risen it can be said that something truly new that changes the world and the human being condition has happened.

What really happened? How does that event question us? What does it teach the Cursillistas today?

The answer to these questions posed over the centuries has demanded that many writers, historians and theologians, from the standpoint of history, revelation and faith, dedicate themselves to put down on paper a totally new, surprising and ineffable experience, capable of transforming everything.

The gospels and the scriptures coincide in declaring that Jesus rose *"On the third day, according to the Scriptures"* (1Cor 15, 4). The *'third day'* seems not to be a theological date, but the day of an event that for the disciples meant a decisive change after the disaster of the cross. The *'third day'* is the day of the encounter with the empty tomb, but it is also the day of the first encounter with the risen one – two realities that will favour the change in the thought, cultural and religious structures. Saturday is no longer the holy day. Now Sunday is the Lord's day.

On the third day, the witnesses of the resurrection were able to confirm that the promises of the resurrection had been fulfilled and they had seen the Risen One. It is the clear example of the first community of believers whose witness is based on the evidence given by people known to the Christians, most of whom still lived among them. These *"witnesses of the Resurrection of Christ"* (cf. Acts 1: 22) are first of all Peter and the Twelve, but not only they: Paul speaks clearly of more than five hundred people to whom Jesus appeared at one time, besides James and all the Apostles (cf. 1 Co 15, 4-8).

It is important to reassert this fundamental truth of our faith, whose historical basis is extensively documented, although today, as in the past, there are those who, in different ways, question it or even deny it. The weakening of faith in the resurrection of Jesus weakens, as a consequence, the witness of the believers. Indeed, if the faith in the Resurrection fails in the Church, everything gets paralyzed, and collapses. On the contrary, the attachment of heart and mind to the dead and risen Christ changes the life and enlightens the existence of persons and peoples

In this sense, the pedagogy and methodology of our *Cursillo Movement* is oriented in such a way that those who are living the *Cursillo* might live the paschal experience of encountering the risen Lord. The

effectiveness of the Cursillo lies in the grace of God, in the technique employed and in personal collaboration. When outlining the general principles of technique and methodology, we first speak of the pedagogy of the Cursillo. Its purpose is to create an atmosphere that facilitates the encounter with the Lord. This atmosphere is built through the doctrinal structuring, the personal contact, the language used, the incisive and direct style and, finally, an environment of simplicity, sincerity, naturalness and joy.

One lives in the *Cursillo* the *kerygmatic* and *witnessing* dimensions of the Church. The message is proclaimed, the witness of the word is given, the witness of life is also communicated. Facts of life accompany, illustrate and confirm the word at individual, team and community levels. They are presented with simplicity, naturalness, awareness that they are God's gifts.

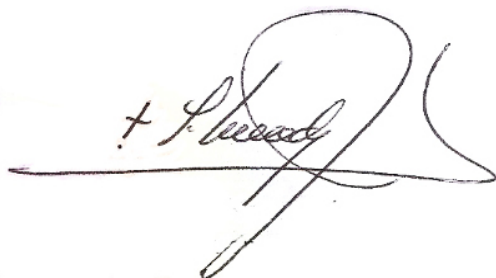
The third day of the Cursillo is entirely oriented to the accomplishment of the ultimate purpose of the Movement, and is aimed at “encouraging the insertion of the cursillista in the community and his/her responsibility in their own environments.” (*Fundamental Ideas 3, 228*)

In this sense we can make a comparison that from my point of view is very valid. What the day of the resurrection was for the community of disciples, is today for those who are living the ‘third day’ of the Cursillo. After encountering the mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord, they are called to welcome and make life the message of the risen one “*Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature*” (Mark, 16, 15). The ultimate purpose of the Movement is centred in this mandate of the Lord: to leaven the structures in which each cursillista lives.

The bishops have said in Aparecida: “*An authentic Christian journey fills the heart with joy and hope and moves believers to proclaim Christ continually in their life and their environment. It projects toward the mission of forming missionary disciples at the service of the world. It trains for proposing appealing projects and styles of Christian life, with organic actions and fraternal collaboration with all members of the community. It helps combine evangelization and pedagogy, communicating life and offering pastoral itineraries in accordance with the Christian maturity, age, and other conditions proper to persons or groups. It fosters the responsibility of lay people in the world for building the Kingdom of God. It arouses continual concern for those who have distanced and for those who are oblivious to the Lord in their lives.* (Aparecida Document, n.280, d.).

May the joy of these days strengthen even more our faithful attachment to the crucified and risen Christ. Above all, let us be conquered by the fascination of his resurrection. Happy resurrection feast!

De Colores!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read '+ Faustino Armendáriz Jiménez'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish at the end.

+ Msgr. Faustino Armendáriz Jiménez
Bishop of Querétaro
Spiritual Advisor of the OMMCC 2018 – 2021



NEWS



OMCC WORKING ENCOUNTER

Querétaro, Mexico, April 16 and 17, 2018.

In the diocese of Querétaro, during two days, our Ecclesiastical Advisor, Msgr. Faustino Armendáriz, and our President, Juan Adolfo Moguel, got together in order to analyze the Movement's progress and the activities being carried out by the different Departments of the Executive Committee.

On the occasion, several matters were dealt with: the Activities Schedule for the remainder of this year; the Internal Regulations of the Executive Committee; the Survey to be sent to the International Groups and to the National Secretariats; the financial situation and the shortage of resources, the setting up of the new Website, and the Online Development School that will be incorporated to the website.

It was also established that Fr. Roberto Tarín, from Mexico, will co-ordinate the activities of the Assistant Spiritual Advisors.

GRUPO LATINOAMERICANO DE CURSILLOS DE CRISTIANDAD GLCC 2018 - 2021 COMITE EJECUTIVO



Andrés y Gema Nitsche, representantes ante el Episcopado; Enzo y Sylvia Arellano, Tesoreros; Patricio e Isabel Cid, Vocales de Ambientes; Víctor Salgado, Presidente y Patricia de Salgado, Vicepresidenta; Gustavo y Paula Rosende, Vocales de Secretaría y Comunicaciones; P. Carlos Serrano, Asesor Eclesiástico; Carlos y Annette Martínez, Vocales de Piedad; y Eugenio y Ticó Severín Vocales de Formación y Estudios

GLCC WORKING ENCOUNTER

On Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 April an intense working encounter was held in the diocese of Talca, Chile, in order to plan the activities of the GLCC Executive Committee, particularly those concerning the next three REGIONAL ENCOUNTERS for the National Secretariats that make up this International Group:

- REGIONAL ENCOUNTER OF THE NORTH, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES OF THE GLCC, in PANAMA, from May 24 to 27.
- REGIONAL ENCOUNTER OF THE BOLIVARIAN COUNTRIES OF THE GLCC, in BOLIVIA, from June 28 to July 1, and
- REGIONAL ENCOUNTER OF COUNTRIES OF THE SOUTHERN CONE, in URUGUAY in July.

**"Wealth ensures nothing. Indeed, once we think we are rich, we can become so self-satisfied that we leave no room for God's word, for the love of our brothers and sisters, or for the enjoyment of the most important things in life."
(Pope Francis - Apostolic Exhortation Gaudete et Exsultate N° 68)**

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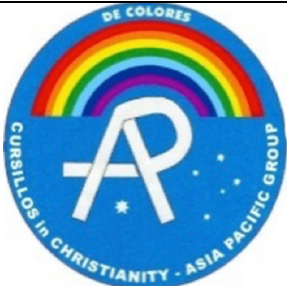
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PROFILE



MSGR. JOSÉ ÁNGEL SAIZ MENESES, NEW SPIRITUAL ADVISOR OF THE EUROPEAN GROUP OF THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT (GECC)

The Bishop of Terrassa, Catalonia, Monsignor José Ángel Saiz Meneses, has taken over as the new Spiritual Advisor of the EUROPEAN GROUP OF THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT (GECC), for the period 2018-2021.

Monsignor Saiz Meneses was born in Sisante (Cuenca), on August 2, 1956. In 1965 his family moved to Barcelona, where he was admitted to the Minor Seminary Our Lady of Montalegre, in 1968. He studied Psychology at the University of Barcelona between the years 1975 and 1977, and then, at the Major Seminary of Toledo, he took the courses of philosophy, spirituality and theology (1977-1984).

He lived his Cursillo in December 1973, when he was in the Minor Seminary, and though attending the daily celebration of the Eucharist, the morning and evening prayers, and dedicating himself to very serious and demanding studies, in a boarding school regime during the week, on weekends he would join the local activities of the CM and attend the Ultreya and the Group Reunion every Saturday. During his two years at College, before entering the Major Seminary, he also participated in the School of Leaders.

On July 15 1984, he was ordained a priest in the Cathedral of Toledo, obtaining the same year the Bachelor Degree in Theology at the Theology College of Burgos. In September 1989 he returned to Barcelona. At the Theology College of Catalonia, he carried out his undergraduate studies in Theology with the dissertation: "**Genesis and Theology of Cursillo in Christianity**", and in the same Theology College he took the doctorate courses and began the elaboration of his doctorate thesis on "**Agents and institutions of evangelization**".

As for his pastoral experience, he began in 1984-1985 in the Archdiocese of Toledo, as parish priest of Los Alares, Valdeazores and Robledo del Buey, and also of Anchuras de los Montes, in the diocese of Ciudad Real. He later served as Parochial Vicar in Illescas, from 1986 to 1989.

In the meantime – between 1985 and 1986 – he did military service as a soldier chaplain at the Military Hospital of Valladolid. Among other services carried out in Toledo, he was also Spiritual Counsellor of the Teams of Our Lady (1986-1989), Spiritual Counsellor of the Movement of Christian Teachers and Professors (1986-1989) and Religion Professor at the Professional Formation of the Sagra of Illescas School (1986-1989).

In September 1989 he returned to Barcelona and was appointed Vicar in the Parish of Sant Andreu del Palomar, and in 1992, Rector of the Mare de Déu del Roser Church in Cerdanyola del Valles and Head of the University Pastoral Ministry at the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Also in 1992 he was appointed head of SAFOR (Assistance and Religious Formation Service) of

the Autonomous University of Barcelona and Head of the CCUC (Christian Centre of College Students of Cerdanyola del Vallés).

In 1995 he was appointed Diocesan Spiritual Advisor of the Cursillo Movement of the Archdiocese of Barcelona.

On May 6, 2000, he was appointed Secretary General and Chancellor of the Archbishopric of Barcelona.

On October 30, 2001, he was appointed Titular Bishop of Selemsele and Auxiliary of Barcelona, and consecrated on December 15 of the same year in the Cathedral of Barcelona.

On June 15, 2004, Saint John Paul II created the new diocese of Terrassa, in Catalonia, and appointed him as the first bishop of the new see, and on July 25 he took solemn possession in the S. J. Basilica of Sant Esperit in Terrassa.

In the Spanish Episcopal Conference he was the Head of the Youth Department of the Secular Apostolate Commission from 2002 to 2008. He was also a member of the Commission of Consecrated Life and the Commission of Catechesis and Teaching. Between 2008 and 2014 he was the President of the Commission of Seminars and Universities and, since 2014, he has been responsible for the Penitentiary Pastoral Department of the Episcopal Commission of Social Pastoral.

In July 2017, he was appointed Spiritual Advisor of the Cursillo Movement in Spain, and in January 2018 he became Spiritual Advisor of the EUROPEAN GROUP OF THE CURSILLOS MOVEMENT (GECC) for the period 2018-2021.



The powerful witness of the saints is revealed in their lives, shaped by the Beatitudes and the criterion of the final judgement. Jesus' words are few and straightforward, yet practical and valid for everyone, for Christianity is meant above all to be put into practice. It can also be an object of study and reflection, but only to help us better live the Gospel in our daily lives. I recommend rereading these great biblical texts frequently, referring back to them, praying with them, trying to embody them. They will benefit us; they will make us genuinely happy.

(Pope Francis - Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate* N° 109)

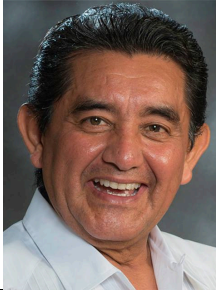


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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



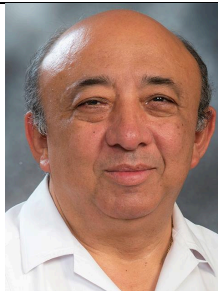
Mons. Faustino Armendariz
Obispo de Querétaro
MEXICO
Asesor Eclesiástico OMCC.



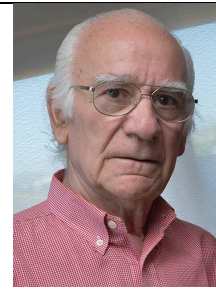
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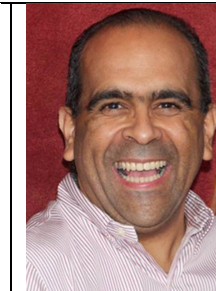
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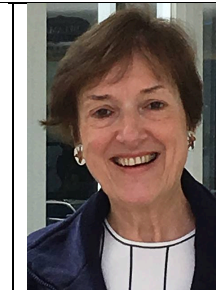
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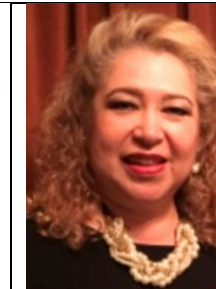
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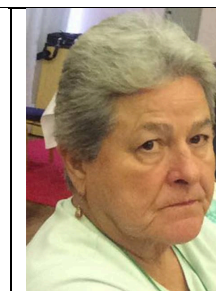
Eva Herrera
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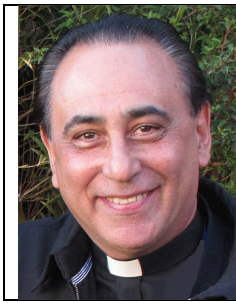
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