



## TALKING

**Juan Adolfo Moguel Ortiz**  
**President**

Dear brothers and sisters Cursillistas,

I write these lines on the eve of Palm Sunday; beginning of the week during which we, the Catholics, accompany Jesus Christ on the ascent to Mount Calvary through the Way of the Cross.

Today I want to share with you some beautiful experiences that by the grace of God I have lived recently. Last March, I received a formal invitation to attend an official event at the Nunciature of Mexico City for the sixth anniversary of Pope Francis' pontificate.

After celebrating the Eucharist of thanksgiving, the Apostolic Nuncio delivered a message from Pope Francis, especially addressed to the members of CELAM who met recently in Latin America. Because of its importance, I shall transcribe some excerpts:

"In Latin America and all over the world we are currently experiencing a true "change of epoch" which requires us to renew our languages, our symbols and methods. [...] I do not mean here simply to improve some "marketing" strategy but to follow the method that God himself chose to approach us: Incarnation. By assuming all that is human – apart from sin - Jesus Christ announces to us the liberation that our hearts and our peoples long for.

Which are the most emblematic or significant sectors in the change of Latin American era? In my opinion there are three: women, young people and the poorest.

First, women. [...] Hope in Latin America has a female face. Secondly, young people. [...] Jesus Christ eternally young, is present in their sensitivity, in their countenance and in their concerns. And third, the poorest and most marginalized. Because in her preferential option for them the Church manifests her fidelity as Christ's spouse.

Excellent message by the Holy Father who also calls us as a Church movement so that we can lead our evangelizing efforts to face this change of epoch.

Equally and significantly it is appropriate to point out that in the next year the OMCC celebrates 40 years of existence in the service and coordination of the Cursillo Movement in the five continents. We do not want to let this anniversary go unnoticed since the number 40

has a very special meaning or connotation in the Scriptures: "For seven days from now I will bring rain down on the earth for forty days and forty nights" (Gen 7, 4). For 40 days, Joshua explored the land of Canaan. (Num 13, 25). Forty years the Israelites wandered in the desert (Num 14, 33). The preparation for the celebration of Easter (Lent) also lasts 40 days...

I believe that the question is a must: How are we preparing ourselves in the CM and in this Executive Committee to celebrate with dignity the first 40 years of the OMCC? In our next delivery we will inform you of the activities that we are projecting in the Executive Committee.

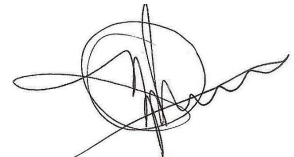
It is also opportune to share with you some of our most significant activities in the coming months:

- On April 25-28, we will attend, Mons. Faustino Armendáriz and I, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Pacific Encounter to be held with the grace of God in Honolulu, Hawaii.
- From May 14 to 19 we will both go to Panama to hold three meetings with the dioceses of Chitré, Santiago and Panama City.
- From May 28 to June 1, also accompanied by Monsignor Faustino and a team of leaders of the North America and Caribbean Group, we will share the experience of a Cursillo de Cursillos for the Spanish-speaking Schools to be held in the city of Miami, Florida.

We urge you to accompany us with your prayers in these activities. Let's not forget that San Juan Diego, a poor and excluded native, was precisely the small, insignificant and humble instrument that Saint Mary of Guadalupe chose for the mission of evangelizing the American continent. Let us entrust ourselves to her intercession so that when we lack strength we will remember that it is precisely in weakness that the strength of God can do his best work (2Cor 12, 9).

See you in the Eucharist.

¡De Colores!



Juan Adolfo Moguel Ortiz  
President



# REFLECTING

**Msgr. Faustino Armendáriz Jiménez**  
**Spiritual Advisor**

*"Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!"*  
(1 Cor 9, 16)

Dear Cursillistas:

With the above words the Apostle Saint Paul addressed the Christians of Corinth, with the firm conviction that in those words and as a consequence of them, his vocation and mission was defined: a vocation and mission for which he did not spare risking his life, his honour, his health, his integrity, in order to win over as many as possible for Christ. Throughout the centuries, the Church has assimilated those words in different ways, sometimes perhaps, not with the strength and parrhesia that they demand and entail. However, the Holy Spirit who does not abandon us, has recently reminded us again, to the point of inspiring our pastors to understand that this is the essence of the Church, because *"the Church exists to evangelize, that is to say, in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate the Christ's sacrifice in the Mass, which is the memorial of His death and glorious resurrection"* (EN, 14).

As an Ecclesial Movement we cannot ignore the motions of the Spirit that move us to follow the example of Saint Paul. We are invited to witness, in the new forms of the Areopagus, our faith and our experience of having met the Lord.

I have said it and I repeat it again: we need to become a Movement in missionary outreach: first, going to knock on doors, "house by house", and in direct contact, "talking about our experience of God" in such a way that, afterwards, we offer them in our Schools a process of formation and personal and community growth, centred on the Word of God, on the truths of our faith and friendship. In addition, it is necessary to take advantage of the "new digital roads", where so many men and women sail in search of meaning for their lives and for their history. There, we can go out to meet them and announce the love of God, fostering in them the interest of moving from the digital to the experiential in the ecclesial life. For this reason, I encourage you to take advantage of the digital media available. It is not about filling Facebook, Instagram and Twitter with sweet and honeyed words, but sharing our experience

of faith. Modes and ways will depend on the creativity and audacity of each and every community.

The power and scope of these media are very high and enable you to reach unimaginable limits. However, the curious aspect is that they are not handled as communication instruments only: behind each one of them there are people, and therefore, subjects with ideas, feelings, emotions, creeds and interests. Our challenge is "to evangelize these people; identify them and share our experience of faith".

We are faced with the challenge of a culture that is often undermined by the so-called *fake news*, which are nothing more than "false information based on non-existent or distorted data meant to deceive and manipulate the reader. Spreading fake news can serve to advance specific goals, influence political decisions, and serve economic interests".

We, Cursillistas, as a consequence of the experience lived in the Cursillo, are invited to leaven the environments with the Gospel, committed with the temporal affairs, in such a way that we become "Church in the world", without belonging to the world, in a natural way, day by day, each person in their own reality, where God has placed them. (See FICM3, no. 267).

De Colores!

A handwritten signature in black ink, starting with a cross symbol and the name 'F. Armendáriz'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

+ Msgr. Faustino Armendáriz Jiménez  
Bishop of Queretaro  
Spiritual Advisor



# MEDITATING

Formation and Studies Department

## YOU ARE THE “NOW” OF GOD

The Pope begins his Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Christus Vivit*, addressed to young people and to the entire people of God, saying that Christ "in a wonderful way brings youth to our world", and affirming that "everything He touches becomes young, new, full of life". And so, he continues, "the very first words that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and He wants you to be alive!"

The Church, of course, has always cared for and attended the young. The initiative that gave rise to the World Youth Day had its origin in the idea of Pope Paul VI who, in the Holy Year of 1975, gathered in Rome thousands of young people representing many countries, after their participation in the "First International March of the Christian Reconciliation" that crossed the way of San Francisco, between Assisi and Rome. In 1984, during the papacy of John Paul II, a new world call was held to encourage youth participation in the Church. Since then, each edition brings together millions of young people.

The Cursillo Movement began with and for young people. There was (in the Youth of Catholic Action of Mallorca) a well-formed group of youths that shared common attitudes and criteria, notable apostolic concern and a clear dissatisfaction with the existing pastoral approach (FICM3, 8). However, over the years, the "adults" became the most numerous members of the Movement – to the point of transforming young people, who had once been "the rule", practically in exception...

There are many reasons that lead us to the conclusion that this situation cannot be sustained: the evangelization of youth is at the origins of the CM; it is imperative that young people be able to replace the current leaders in the near future; as an Ecclesial Movement, we must correspond to that evangelizing priority and go out as missionary disciples in search of new people.

In the *Christus Vivit*, Francis addresses, in the first chapter, what the Word of God in the Old and New Testaments has to say about young people. In the second chapter, he shows that Jesus Christ is ever young, and speaks of Jesus' youth and the youth of the Church, that is open to renewal and is always attentive to the signs of the times, because in her heart, Mary, the young woman of Nazareth, watches over her children. Besides, he also speaks about the young saints.

But it is in the third chapter that the Pope defines the young as being "the now of God". His look at the reality of young people in today's world indicates that they live in a world in crisis, they are exposed to desires, hurts and longings, they live in a digital environment, they are

affected by migrations and suffer abuses. However, there is a way out of it, says Francis, because the gift received on the morning of the Resurrection guarantees that the young people can become what God, their creator, wants them to be: fully themselves.

Are we convinced that the Cursillo Movement, by announcing the kerygma, through the closeness of friendship and the strength of testimony, can do wonders for the youth of our time, which is both the present and the future? So, let's get down to work and develop a renewed and renewing spirit, to include ever more those who can today, as in the forties, give their strength and courage to this Movement so that it can be more and more a true "instrument of Christian renewal".