



## ORGANISMO MUNDIAL DE CURSILLOS DE CRISTIANDAD (OMCC) MÉXICO 2018-2021

### **“PUT OUT INTO DEEP WATER AND PAY OUT YOUR NETS FOR A CATCH”**

Msgr. Faustino Armendáriz  
Eucharistic Celebration, Thursday

On this first day, at the beginning of our First Ordinary Meeting of the World Organization of Cursillos in Christianity, after we have introduced ourselves as brothers and sisters, we celebrate this Eucharist in order to present our intentions, but also in thanksgiving. I wish we let us be enlightened by the Word of God at this important moment, because the Word of God undoubtedly lights today, as it always does, everything we do and everything we dream. We look at Jesus who becomes “visible”, who does not stay inside the synagogue, waiting for people to arrive. He goes where people are, and the reason people gather around Him is not only because of the signs He made. One of the fundamental reasons is His availability; He was available so that people could be heard, receive His blessings, celebrate the Eucharist.

I believe that this is the characteristic of those who want to perform well any task whatsoever, and everyone, in one way or another – priests and laypersons, especially you leaders, is a shepherd who must be characterized by closeness to others. In this regard, Pope Francis has urged us to be “a church on the missionary outreach” and the Cursillo Movement cannot be an exception; it must be a Movement in missionary outreach, a Movement with open doors, a Movement that, without a doubt, in the name of God, carries out the evangelizing work; because in the name of God it was realized.

We see how the fishermen, many of the Apostles, were cleaning their nets. Their nets were their work tools, the nets along with their boats were all they possessed, the nets were practically their lives.

However, when Jesus arrives, He invites them to believe – even though Jesus probably did not know the techniques of fishing, He tells them to cast the net again... Those amazed men said to him: “Lord, we are tired, we have not fished. We spared no effort, we applied our fishing skills and have not been able to fish” However, Jesus is the one who is beyond our strengths and capabilities. We could not bear any fruit without God’s help. Our fishermen could not realize this experience through the Cursillos in Christianity, if the Holy Spirit had not been among them.

Jesus was on the look out for those men. He is among the fishermen and that is why they say: “*Lord, we are going to go, but only because you say so, we will pay out the nets*”.

I think sometimes we go through very difficult and challenging dramas; we look at extreme situations that seem to be deemed to failure. However, I believe that the solution to face these challenges is here: casting yourself at sea, even though you have already tried it, again and again.



That is why the disciples express faith in the Lord: “Only because you say so”. The Gospels have plenty of very clear signs and one of them is to recognize our own diseases or limitations and tell the Lord, I do believe in you. And the only effect is the amazement. Who will not be surprised, when that boat was so full that it threatened to sink? Lord I go back to the sea because you say so.

Brothers and sisters, today the Lord invites us to remember that our commitment is with Him. It is the Lord, not a person, we have to please and whom we have to believe in. Therefore in the name of the Lord, believing in Jesus, we believe that any miracle can be performed.

Cursillos is a Movement of fishermen, because it is a Movement of casting nets, because we have to cast them with our testimony, we have to cast the nets of our faith, of our ordinary conditions, and in the remotest places, as Pope Francis says, "in the peripheries".

From that moment the disciples stayed with Jesus and left their most valuable possessions, they left their treasure, their nets and their boats and embraced the treasure that is worth more. I know it is not easy to say, but with the experience of a Seminary, of a Priest, of committed laypersons like you, this is understandable: the Cursillo has marked the lives of many and we have seen so many testimonies of men, women, entire families, after they have gone through different paths, when they meet Jesus like those Apostles and integrate with the Lord, their life changes radically.

Because it is Jesus who got interested in you, so that you were here; because it is the Lord who casts the network, but we have to start over. And He invites you to start again with an attitude of conversion, of personal conversion, of community conversion. Only the Lord can do the miracle of heart fishing, only the Lord can do the miracle of conversion, only the Lord can guide this beautiful Movement towards its mission.

May the Lord help us and may God continue to enlighten our efforts, especially those of these three days of meeting. So be it.