



DICASTERIUM
PRO LAICIS, FAMILIA ET VITA

Prot. N. 2018/949 - II/20

DECREE

With a letter dated June 12th 2015, coinciding with the third world retreat for priests, and two years prior to the celebration of Catholic Charismatic Renewal's Golden Jubilee, the Holy Father Pope Francis wrote to the Presidents of *International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services* (ICCRS) and the *Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships*. In this letter the Pope wrote: "Perhaps the time has come for this unique current of grace - as you know, the definition is not mine: it comes from Cardinal Suenens -, to have a single international service, here in Rome, where ICCRS, *Catholic Fraternity* and the other realities might be represented equally with the same rights, and where the Holy Spirit would be the unique guide and leader. This does not mean losing one's identity, it means growing in the life of the Spirit, each with one's own charism, in mutual enrichment, all born of the Spirit in the same current of grace. Moreover, this will reinforce unity in international Charismatic Renewal, which, as you know, needs to be reinforced... Think about this, and discern whether this is where the Holy Spirit is carrying [Catholic Charismatic Renewal] fifty years after having awakened it".

After this came the Pope's message of October 30th 2015, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Holy See's recognition of the Catholic Fraternity, where he repeated his encouragement to form one single service for Catholic Charismatic Renewal, understood as one single current of grace. To this call from the Holy Father, the Presidents of ICCRS and the Catholic Fraternity replied together, with a letter dated November 9th 2015, manifesting their commitment to walking together in prayer and discernment in order to bring to fulfilment this new indication from the Successor of Peter.

Another important step in this process was the Holy Father's appointment of two coordinators and two secretaries, charged with bringing to fulfilment the project of a single international service for Catholic Charismatic Renewal, and asking the Pontifical Council for the Laity to accompany this (FRANCIS, *Letter to His Eminence Cardinal Stanisław Rylko*, April 27th 2016). Since September 1st 2016, this task has been carried forward by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

Following this, in Rome, on May 29th 2017, the four persons appointed by Pope Francis signed the Act of Constitution of the new single international service for all the



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expressions of Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Finally, on March 6th 2018, they presented the draft text of the statutes of this new body to the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

Consequently:

Having examined the final text of the statutes of CHARIS with attention;

In accordance with canons 116-123 and 312 § 1, 1^o of the Code of Canon Law;

Given the competency set out in article 7 § 1 of the Dicastery's statutes;

The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life hereby decrees:

1. The erection of CHARIS as a public international organism, with juridical personality, for the service of all the expressions of Catholic Charismatic Renewal in conformity with the canonical norms in force and, by analogy, according to canons 298-320 of the Code of Canon Law.
2. The approval *ad experimentum* of the statutes of CHARIS, duly authenticated by this Dicastery on this day and deposited in our archives.
3. The coming into force of these statutes on June 9th 2019, Solemnity of Pentecost. On that day, *International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services* and the *Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships* will cease to exist. Prior to this date, the goods and patrimony of these two entities must be transferred to CHARIS.

From the Vatican, December 8th 2018, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

Fr. Alexandre Awi Mello, I.Sch.

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Secretary



Kevin Card. Farrell

Kevin Card. Farrell
Prefect