

Identity of CCR:

Koinonia, marturia and diaconia

■ Jude Muscat

Foreign words might make a document seem more authoritative and scholarly. In our case, they are used solely out of necessity. The Greek words *koinonia*, *diakonia* and *marturia* are not fancy words, they are in fact the principle of our being as a Church, as a community or as a body in Christ.

By way of introduction, I will briefly explain them: *Koinonia* could be described as Christian fellowship in the Holy Spirit especially that brought about by our participation in Holy Communion. *Diakonia* is service or ministry, associated with the material and spiritual needs of the community and beyond. *Marturia* is giving testimony. By their genuine testimony, many Christians gave their lives in times of persecution—an action preserved to this day in the word ‘martyr’.

This three-word model of pastoral ministry describes the function of the Church in the world. Every model of pastoral ministry necessarily has its roots and derives its power from the hub of the Church: The Eucharist. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches, “The faithful are fed by Christ’s holy body and blood to grow in the communion of the Holy Spirit and to communicate it to the world” (948). Our participation in Holy Communion provides the essential link between *koinonia*, *diakonia* and *marturia*. St John Chrysostom gives a lot of importance to the prolongation of the Eucharist through works of love and mercy.


By its very nature, Charismatic Renewal, being charismatic, is stimulated and inspired by the Holy Spirit to move into the world, into uncharted grounds and unknown territories. Its character flows out from the heart of the Church into the world, to give service to the whole world, thus witnessing to Christ’s victory and presence in our midst. It is very much like the vision of Ezekiel (Ez 47ff.). Surprisingly, as he walked away from the temple, the water that flowed out of it got deeper and deeper. The Holy Spirit works wonders through us if we find our source of unity primarily at the heart of the Church, and secondly, in the experience of baptism in the Spirit. This experience helps us to stand “firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel” (Phil 1:27).

Unity does not mean uniformity. It does not exclude



diversity or distinction. In fact, non-uniformity is the root for unity. Talk about unity springs from the fact that we are all different and we are given different tasks to fulfil in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Our model of oneness is God himself: One God, three distinct Persons, perceivable in human history through their function in the economy of salvation. The being of the Godhead is characterised by “an ecstatic love for one another” (Daniel J. Treier, Mark Husbands, Roger Lundin, *The Beauty of God: Theology and the Arts*, p. 22). It is a love that is dynamic, active and eternally creative.

This is the very reason why the *koinonia*, *diakonia* and *marturia* model should characterise CCR’s pastoral work and enhance its very own identity. If our point of departure is *koinonia*, then our action is dynamic and creative, and as it flows into the world through our *diakonia*, it gets deeper and deeper. Deeper into the mystery of the Triune God, especially through the sacraments, prayer and Scripture, for our own sanctification. Deeper into the dynamic action of the Holy Spirit, who wants to heal the world and transform it. Deeper into the structures of the world, be they social, political or cultural, that they may be liberated from all forms of evil (cf. Pope John Paul II, *Redemptor Hominis*, 15). Deeper into the hearts of all peoples that they may also come to know Jesus and accept him as Lord and Saviour.

We can now fully understand why Jesus’ call to unity is not an empty and arbitrary call (cf. Jn 13:35). The action of love and mercy in itself becomes a great sign of God’s presence in the world. The aspect of *marturia* can never be a stand-alone act, a project that arises out of the need to evangelise. *Marturia* flows from the Lord’s Table, which brings about *koinonia*, the foundation of *diakonia*, the self-giving service to all. 

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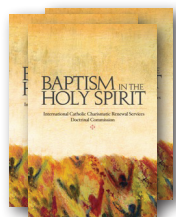
Visit www.iccrs.org or e-mail events@iccrs.org for more information about our events.

World Youth Meeting of CCR

■ Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil · 10–15 July 2012

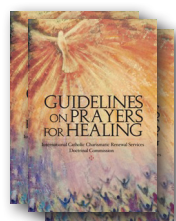
New ICCRS Books!

We are delighted to present you the most recent ICCRS publications. They are important tools for a better understanding of CCR.



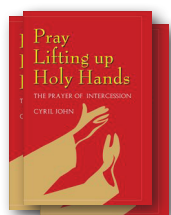
Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Author: ICCRS Doctrinal Commission
Year: 2012 (1st edition)
Pages: 116
Language: English



Guidelines on Prayers for Healing

Author: ICCRS Doctrinal Commission
Year: 2012 (5th edition revised)
Pages: 60
Language: English



Pray Lifting up Holy Hands: The Prayer of Intercession

Author: Cyril John
Year: 2012 (1st edition)
Pages: 146
Language: English

These publications are currently being translated into various languages in different regions of the world.

Please visit

<http://iccrs.org/en/index.php/blog/category/productions> for more information on these and other ICCRS publications.

Days of empowerment for a prophetic youth

After nearly two years of hard work and much expectation, finally the charismatic youth from around the world gathered to celebrate together their faith. Between 10 and 15 July 2012, thousands of people were in Foz do Iguaçu (Brazil) to attend the World Youth Meeting of Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

The programme was designed to provide fellowship among the various realities of CCR, which allowed the leaders of the movement to share experiences of living the charismatic identity. The workshops and preachings encouraged the youth to put their hope in Jesus' name and to witness their faith. Another remarkable element was the strong missionary appeal present in talks and prayers.

The evenings of the World Youth Meeting were dedicated to artistic performances. In a variety of colours, sounds and images, representatives from different countries brought to the stage of the event a bit of their culture: Peru, Venezuela, Argentina, Dominican Republic, Canada, South Korea and the host, Brazil.

As part of the programme, two activities were held outside the Convention Centre and drew attention. The first one was a tree planting in the city of Foz do Iguaçu. The 450 seedlings were calculated in accordance with the terms of the Kyoto Protocol for the neutralisation of carbon emissions coming from the event.

A public proclamation of faith was the other outward action. In a route of six kilometers to the Cathedral of the city, a pilgrimage exalted the Holy Cross. There were moments of prayer and

animation, through which the youth were able to witness the Lordship of Jesus.

An important highlight is that the XXX National Congress of CCR Brazil took place simultaneously with the WYM in the same Convention Centre.

During the closing ceremony of the event, the Chairman of the ICCRS Youth Committee and President of the CCR Brazil National Council, Marcos Volcan, made a brief evaluation on the importance of the Meeting for the life of the movement: "We want to celebrate in advance what will happen in the 50 years of CCR. We have the grace to see what many generations did not see, we are reaching the world with an awakening of an extremely vigorous youth. There were days when God consolidated in our hearts what He was preparing for a long time."

The National Coordinator of CCR Brazil Youth Ministry, Márcio Zolin, and one of those responsible for organising the event said that the Meeting was an opportunity to strengthen youth leadership, but encouraged all not to forget those who preceded them in the pastoral path and remained steadfast all these years: "If the 'gray hairs' are still here, it is because they have deep roots, firm on the rock, like the cedar of Lebanon," he reflected.

As for the ICCRS President, Michelle Moran, the event was of great relevance, as it brought together people from all corners of the world to celebrate together. "We live something new, prophetic. We are going towards the Jubilee and we must have the youth with us on that path," she declared.

Marcos Volcan

CHAIRMAN OF THE ICCRS YOUTH COMMITTEE

Event information

Date: 10 to 15 July 2012

Venue: Convention Centre · Foz do Iguaçu (Brazil)

Registered: 3,822

Countries represented: 40

Servants: 500 (in conjunction with the National Congress of CCR Brazil)

Speakers:

- Michelle Moran (UK), ICCRS President
- Jim Murphy (USA), Director of the ICCRS Formation Project
- Marcos Volcan (Brazil), Chairman of the ICCRS Youth Committee and President of CCR Brazil
- Dn Christof Hemberger (Germany), Member of the

ICCRS Youth Committee

- Br James Shin (South Korea), Member of the ICCRS Youth Committee
- Lázaro Praxedes (Brazil), Member of the CCR Brazil National Preaching Ministry
- Patti Mansfield (USA), Pioneer of the CCR
- Bp José Azcona (Brazil), Bishop of Marajó
- David Bisono (USA), Member of the Latin American Youth Secretariat - CONCLAT
- Márcio Zolin (Brazil), National Coordinator of CCR Brazil Youth Ministry
- Hyde Flávia (Brazil), National Coordinator of CCR Brazil Children's Ministry

Special AIDS/HIV Fund

■ Michelle Moran

In my part of the world, Charismatic Renewal is sometimes labelled as a 'spiritual movement' not very concerned with issues relating to social justice. This is in fact not true, because many people who are in CCR are also active in areas relating to social action. However, I know that in many parts of the world there is less compartmentalisation. I have been inspired to witness wonderful work being done among the poor, marginalised and disadvantaged by charismatics in Colombia, Brazil, Mexico, many African countries, Indonesia, Philippines, and India, to name but a few places.

Although ICCRS is primarily a service in the Church operating with limited funds, we have always had a principle of setting aside a portion of the money we receive from donations to be given to those in need. We do this via the ICCRS Project Fund. In 2009, ICCRS held a major International event in South Korea called "Love in Action." We were hosted by the Kkottongnae Community. Here, we were encouraged to see a fully Charismatic community totally engaged in works of mercy and justice. They

provide social welfare in many areas—among the homeless, orphans, the handicapped, and those with addictions. At the end of our programme we received a prophetic challenge from the founder of the Kkottongnae community, Fr John Oh. He said that as we were giving thanks to the Lord for the wonderful blessings of the conference, so we should also give something to the poor as a sign of our gratitude. So, Fr John gave ICCRS a substantial donation from some funds that he had set aside specifically for those affected by AIDS/HIV.

Consequently, ICCRS has been able to form three partnerships supporting projects across the continents. We sponsor the work of religious sisters in Myanmar who run a clinic in a poor area, helping people of all ages who are victims of AIDS. We also have a similar project with food for the poor in Haiti where after the earthquake many people are still living in tents and cases of AIDS/HIV doubled. The third partnership is in Uganda where we have been able to help the "House of Love", which works with AIDS orphans. 🏡

ICCRS COUILLORS' PROFILES

Jude Muscat

Jude Muscat was born in Malta on 17 June 1956. He was brought up in an extremely devout Catholic family, but opted out of religion and Church at a young age. For some years he lived his life hooked on becoming a great musician and invested most of his youthful energy to become one of the best guitarists. In 1976 the Lord called him back home through a tremendous personal experience. After some months he encountered the Charismatic Renewal and was baptised in the Holy Spirit.

After acquiring a diploma in Business Management he worked for some years with a local manufacturing company, then decided to go into electronics and obtained another diploma, but ended up working as a customs officer for 15 years. Keeping

in mind the ministry that he was called to, he obtained a B.A. (Hons) degree in Theology and Human Studies. In 1994 he entered into full-time ministry dedicating his time to serve God's people in Malta and beyond, especially through teaching and healing. He has served both the Parish and the Diocese in a variety of key positions and has written several articles for local journals of spirituality and theology.

Presently he is the National Coordinator of CCR in Malta, Director of the communications office and Coordinator of the Academy of Praise and Worship in Malta. He also coordinates a small community made up mainly of married couples. Jude married Doris in 1979. They are the proud parents of four boys.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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



Pentecost 2013 in Rome

■ 18 May 2013

In response to the invitation of the Holy Father Benedict XVI to the movements for Pentecost vigil in 2013, ICCRS is happy to announce that a programme has been planned around the meeting with the Pope. All those in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal who will come to Rome for the official event, from all over the world, are invited to take part in this meeting. The proposed plan includes:

- Friday evening, 17 May: Prayer meeting in a central Church in Rome.
- Saturday, 18 May: Pentecost Vigil with the Holy Father.
- Sunday afternoon, 19 May: Pentecost of the Nations Celebration.

More information will be published in the next issues of the *ICCRS Newsletter* and on the website. Please follow the updates at www.iccrs.org to know the details about this "Pentecost of the Nations" celebration in Rome 2013.



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

LTCs in Togo and Singapore and their fruits

From 22 to 29 January an LTC was held in Lomé (Togo), the first one in the French language. It was taught by the Director of the Formation Project (FP), Jim Murphy (USA), accompanied by Julienne Mesedem (Cameroon), Cathy Brenti (France), Jean Pliya (Benin) and Sr Myriam Osée de Jésus (Cameroon); and it was developed in collaboration with the Togolese leaders of the CCR. It took place at the EDA OBA hotel. It was attended by 107 leaders (priests, religious and lay people) from 12 African countries.

An LTC was held in Singapore from 9 to 17 June, preached by the Director of the FP, together with the current President of ICCRS, Michelle Moran (UK), and the former one, Allan Panozza (Australia). Students (priests, religious and lay people), representatives from 12 countries in Asia and Oceania, gathered at the St Francis Xavier Major Seminary to have an experience of growth and maturation in service. 🏡

45th Anniversary of the CCR in USA

The 45th Anniversary of the CCR was celebrated from 1 to 3 June in Philadelphia. The theme was “Let us pray with one heart together with Mary in the Upper Room.” More than 3,000 people from Hispanic, Haitian, Anglo, Filipino and youth backgrounds attended. The celebrants were Bp John McIntyre (Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia), and Msgr. Joseph Malagrega, a national leader in the Hispanic and Haitian Renewal. The emcee was Mark Nimo, a native of Ghana. Key speakers throughout the general sessions were: Michelle Moran (UK), President of ICCRS; Fr. James Kelly, Irish missionary in Venezuela; Dave de la Fuente, a young adult who gave his testimony; and Walter Matthews, Executive Director of the National Service Committee. 🏡

The experiences of the Joshua Camp

“The world will come to London... Will you?” was the invitation to the Joshua Camp that hosted a few hundred young people from all over the world who were enthusiastic about sharing the Good News during the Olympic Games in London. The Joshua Camp was mainly run by the English Sion Community partnering with ReLAY and ICCRS. During the first days the participants received formation after which they went out into the streets to share with people about our God and our faith. Besides evangelising in the streets the teams supported activities of local parishes and provided “rooms of silence and rest” in churches to which tourists and visitors of the Olympic Games have been invited. The Joshua Camp was a great success! The participants were able to make friends with each other from all over the world and grew from their positive experiences evangelising during the Olympic Games.

If interested, you will find on Youtube a video entitled “London 2012 Evangelization & Joshua Camp” made by a participant at the mission and in which is shown a summary of the activity in photos. 🏡

ICCRS FORMATION

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



V LFI • Rome, Italy

■ 8 – 28 September 2013

ICCRS will be offering its V Leadership Formation Institute programme. It is a three-week intensive course near the very heart of the Church in Rome, Italy.

Classes will include studies in Scripture, Ecclesiology, Pneumatology, Mariology, Kerygma, CCR, Leadership and Ministry. Students will be offered practical teaching and workshops on various aspects of ministry within the CCR. In addition, the students will go on several field trips to Christian sites and dicasteries of the Roman Curia.

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.

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