

Identity of CCR:

The Holy Spirit transforms human life

■ **Julienne Mesedem**

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In the Nicene Creed, revised at the First Council of Constantinople in 381, it is written, "I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life." We call the Holy Spirit *ruah* in Hebrew and *pneuma* in Greek, which translates as breath, wind, or air. That is to say, it is something invisible with visible effects.

As water make the earth fertile by penetrating it, so does the Spirit fill man with life by permeating him. The fire of the Holy Spirit burns without consuming. (cf. Ex 3:2) This is a sign of the permanence of life.

A soul that has the Holy Spirit inevitably feels a kind of joy. The soul is never bored in the presence of God. Out of the heart of this person emanates something, because the Holy Spirit sanctifies.

At creation, God breathed into man's nostrils to give him life (Gn 2:7). The work of the Holy Spirit is to mould, to shape, and to sanctify. This is to make us living icons of Jesus.

Cardinals Mercier and Verdier revealed the secret of holiness. We can approach it, "if every day for five minutes, we mute our imagination, we close our eyes to sensitive things and we close our ears to all the noises of the earth, to turn inwardly and enter there the temple of the Holy Spirit to speak to that Divine Spirit, saying, "O Holy Spirit, soul of my soul, I adore You. I love You. Enlighten me. Guide me. Strengthen me. Console me. Tell me what I should do. Give me Your orders. I promise to submit myself to all that You wish me to accept and to everything You permit to happen to me. Make me only know Your will. O Holy Spirit, love of the Father and the Son, always inspire in me what I have to think, what I have to say, how to say it, when to hold my tongue, what to write, how to give You glory, how to acquire good for souls, and how to provide for my own sanctification. O Holy Spirit, all my trust is in You.'"

Our lives will be transformed, calmed, and fulfilled. Even in the midst of trials, grace will abound even more, giving us the strength to face them.

St. Paul wrote, "Do you not realise that you are a temple of God with the Spirit of God living in you?" (1 Cor 3:16). However, the Spirit is not content to stay still, like a statue in a temple. He is engaged in ceaseless activity, which radically sanctifies our being. He involves us in the very nature of God. He has us share in the life of the Father and the Son, as a result of the union that

He establishes between Christ and us.

Before this deifying process happens, the Holy




Spirit purifies us. St. Paul told the Corinthians, "you have been washed clean, you have been sanctified, and you have been justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and through the Spirit of our God." (1 Cor 6:11). The Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus Christ, cleanses us from original sin and rebuilds us into new beings.

The Spirit of Adoption unites us in Christ in whose Body we are then adopted by the Father: "All who are guided by the Spirit of God are sons of God." (Rom 8:14)

All these changes lead us to a new, abundant life that is to:

- forgive and love like Jesus, while blessing our enemies;
- not only read and hear the Word of God, but to proclaim and live it every day;
- not only ask of God, but to give of Him in praise and thanksgiving;
- pray regularly;
- give our life to God;
- practice filial obedience and confidence; obedience being a perfect denial of our own will. If we obey the movements of the Holy Spirit, they will be more abundant. If we neglect them, they may instead become scarce. Disobedience numbs consciousness, darkens the soul, and dulls our spiritual energies.
- be humble. Humility is the only key that opens the mercy of God. Vain thoughts of glory, self-satisfaction, and delusions of righteousness are stubborn obstacles to the coming of the Holy Spirit. Prayer is an essential practice, but it is also a means to achieve humility. Before God, man recognises his weakness and helplessness by this confession, and receives in exchange the love of the Creator (Jean Pliya, *To Give Oneself to the Holy Spirit*).

With the Holy Spirit, we are always joyful, especially when He throws us off balance. When this happens, we can be sure that He is at work. Then we can hope for a display of all His power. Trust in Him as you go along for the ride, because the Holy Spirit is unpredictable. 



With the Holy Spirit, we are always joyful, especially when He throws us off balance.



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Annual Financial Report 2012

ICCRS Productions

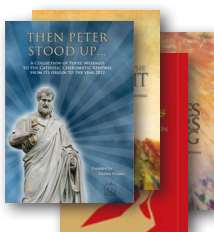
Over the years, ICCRS has published books, booklets, DVDs, and other resources for the CCR.

You can now buy our products "online" with a credit card or PayPal by clicking the "Add to Cart" buttons on the website!

[Add to Cart](#)

Publications

Books and booklets on main topics on CCR.



Media Products

DVD: A New Pentecost.

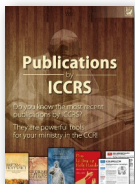
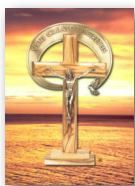
A brief history of the CCR.



Other Products

The Cross of the Renewal

www.crossoftherenewal.com



Please visit

<http://iccrs.org/en/index.php/blog/category/productions>

to download a catalogue with more information on these and other recent ICCRS publications.



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On behalf of ICCRS, I would like to thank all those who have generously contributed to support its mission for the worldwide Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the year 2012. In his message on 24 April 2000, given to the participants of the Charismatic Gathering at Rimini, Italy, Pope John Paul II effectively highlighted the role ICCRS is called to play for the International Renewal in the following words, "ICCRS, an organization whose role is to coordinate and foster a sharing of experiences and reflections among Catholic charismatic communities throughout the world... ICCRS will play an important role in developing this ecclesial awareness in the various Catholic charismatic communities throughout the world." Through the support rendered, you have played a key role in helping ICCRS fulfill the mandate given to it by the Magisterium of the Church.

We at ICCRS consider it very important that we place a brief report about the financial position of ICCRS before you for information. The following are some highlights relating to the financial position of ICCRS in the year 2012:

Income

Our total income for the year, from January to December, 2012, was 160,087 EUR. It included 82,643 EUR received as donations from National Service Committees (NSCs). Donations from individuals, groups and communities amounted to 62,394 EUR whereas response to the Hope Sack appeal was only 5,344 EUR. 300 EUR were received as sponsorship for ICCRS staff. The ICCRS newsletter generated revenue of 2,672 EUR and books and other materials brought in 2,579 EUR.

Expenses

We took stringent measures to control expenditure at ICCRS. As a result, expenditure for the Council members and meetings was 13,037 EUR less than what was budgeted. There was a saving of 4,763 EUR in office and administrative expenses which includes stipends for volunteer staff. We had to ask two of our volunteer staff to leave due to insufficient income received. Even on the *Newsletter*, there was a saving of 730 EUR. With our concerted efforts, despite the increase in costs, the total expenses for the year came to only 171,899 EUR, which is 26,101 EUR less than what was budgeted. On behalf of the Finance Committee, I would like to thank our President, Michelle Moran, and Director, Oreste Pesare, for the judicious management of scarce funds.

Present Position

Presently ICCRS is left with funds to carry on its work only for a couple of months. In order to continue the service of ICCRS to the worldwide Renewal, we need generous and sacrificial offerings, support and prayers from every one of you—the ICCRS Sub-Committees, NSCs, communities, groups and individual donors.

Please support ICCRS

Through financial assistance, you have helped ICCRS to continue its important mission in the Church. Please continue to help us in 2013 and thereafter. I pray that Almighty God will bless all those who generously responded to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to support ICCRS through contributions and prayers.

Cyril John

CHAIRMAN OF THE ICCRS FINANCE COMMITTEE



ICCRS needs a webmaster & graphic designer!

From time to time ICCRS seeks the help of those who are willing to serve at its office with their God-given talents and time, furthering their mission in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal within Vatican City, at the very heart of the Church.

ICCRS now seeks a well-organised and responsible person who is familiar to graphic design and web mastering, to fulfil the following tasks: designing and maintaining the website; designing and printing publications; producing publishing material; using multimedia resources; coordinating translators and proofreaders, among others.

It is important that the volunteer helpers speak English in addition to being fluent in another language.

If you are interested, please send an e-mail to director@iccrs.org with the following information:

- A detailed CV.
- A detailed résumé about your pastoral path.
- A passport style photo.
- A letter of recommendation from your bishop, group/community leader or the NSC of your country.

Productions in the Spirit

Throughout the years, ICCRS has sought to publish literary, audiovisual and other productions for the CCR. Indeed, one of their services is “promoting other writings and publications on CCR in different parts of the world and facilitation of their translation into other languages” (Statutes, article 9). The ICCRS productions are, by virtue of its mission and with the Holy See, a true treasure of the charismatic stream, because they are the result of the experience of leaders, ministries, groups, communities, schools and other realities on the five continents.

However, the main concern of ICCRS regarding the productions is formation: “Catechesis, which is growth in faith and the maturing of Christian life towards its fullness, is consequently a work of the Holy Spirit, a work that He alone can initiate and sustain in the Church” (*Catechesi tradendae* 72). Books, booklets, videos and other items that help you progress in the life in the Spirit also offer deepening, growth and maturation.

Books published by ICCRS cover topics such as Life in the Spirit Seminar, prayer, CCR, leadership, healing and charisms in general, baptism in the Spirit, and papal documents addressed to the CCR. There is a DVD called “New Pentecost” that describes in 30 minutes the main aspects of the CCR. Finally, we have the Cross of the Renewal—adopted as the symbol of the RCC, in its variety of items, ranging from crucifixes and crosses in general to pins, pendants, key chains, and liturgical vestments.

You as CCR members should “always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have” (1 Pt 3:15) and your charismatic identity. Visit our website and see the details of our productions. ICCRS can process transactions through PayPal, which makes easy, fast and secure the purchase of products by credit card. We also invite publishers and shops within the RCC to contact the ICCRS office for bulk orders or for the translation and publication of our books in their respective languages and regions. 🏠

ICCRS COUNCILLORS' PROFILES

Fr Wojciech Nowacki



Fr Wojciech Nowacki was born on 20 April 1961 in Ostrow Mazowiecka, Poland. He completed his studies in philosophy and theology at the Major Seminary in Lomza and was ordained a priest on 31 May 1986. From 1986 to 1991, he continued his studies in theology with a specialisation in theology in Rome, at the University of the Holy Cross, receiving his doctoral degree.

After returning home, on 1 July 1991, he began the service of Trainer and professor of dogmatic theology at the Major Seminary of Lomza. He also was responsible for different assignments in the diocesan curia, including that of Director of Youth Ministry and Assistant to the Diocesan Council of Movements and Catholic Associations.

He is a member of the Programming Council of the quarterly magazine for priestly formation *Pastores*, and of the bimonthly magazine of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Poland, *Zeszyty Odnowy*. Since 1993, he has been the Diocesan Coordinator of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Lomza. Since 1997, he has been part of the National Service Committee of the CCR. He presided the NSC from 1999 to 2010. He is a member of the Theological Commission of the Renewal in Poland.

Since 2006, he has been the rector of the Major Seminary of Lomza and a professor of dogmatic theology there.

Fr Wojciech Nowacki joined the ICCRS Council in July 2012, representing East Europe. 🏠

A New Pentecost for a New Evangelisation!

ICCRS WebTV

After great efforts and thanks to the prayer support of many brothers and sisters, we rejoice in announcing a new project now materializing: ICCRS WebTV.

WebTV seeks to make available online all the videos and audios present in the “Brian Smith” Library at the ICCRS office, including teachings and testimonies from the early days of the Charismatic Renewal in the Catholic Church. Also, main ICCRS international events would be broadcast via live streaming on this website.

Every week we intend to add new videos to those you can find online now.

We are happy to launch this new ICCRS Project today, convinced that for a New Evangelisation, a New Pentecost is needed. And we invoke the Holy Spirit that he uses this means to make known the grace that the CCR worldwide has received. We also pray for this service which is becoming increasingly important in our age—the digital age.



You can access WebTV through www.iccrs.tv or by visiting the ICCRS website and clicking on “ICCRS WebTV”.

Please continue to pray with us for this project and support us with your abilities and donations!

ICCRS President's ministry in the Americas

It was a great joy that our president was invited by the NSC to minister in Argentina in the beautiful province of Cordoba, from 12 to 17 April. There were two programmes: The first one was a new event, inspired by the time that some of the Argentinean leaders spent in Rome attending the LFI. Then, following the LTC that was held in Buenos Aires in 2010, the NSC discerned the need to run regular times for leadership formation and to make them available to as many leaders as possible. She met with about 400 leaders from all over Argentina. The programme consisted of teaching, practical sessions and some deep moments of ministry. The second programme was a retreat for priests as a time of refreshment for priests involved in the Charismatic Renewal and also as an opportunity to introduce priests to the Renewal and enable them to receive the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit.

From 19 to 21 April, President Michelle was a guest speaker at the XXVIII Latin US-American Catholic Charismatic Meeting (ECCLE, in Spanish) held this year in Arkansas, USA. The theme was "The door of faith is always open" and there were more than 300 participants from all over the USA and Canada. Andrés Arango, who is the coordinator of the Hispanic NSC in USA, is also a past participant of the LFI in Rome and his wife Kathia attended the LTC held in Steubenville in 2010. 🏠

CCR in Peninsular Malaysia needs to go beyond prayer groups

That was the challenge presented to more than 500 members of core-teams of renewal groups (prayer groups and covenant communities) from the area. The leaders from the four language groups (Bahasa Malaysia, Mandarin, Tamil and English) met for two days (26 and 27 January 2013) at the Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre in Kuala Lumpur. The theme for the conference was "Come be transformed" and the main speakers were Bishop emeritus Selvanayagam (Tamil), Rev. Fr Steven Ng (Mandarin), Rev Fr Leonard Lexson (English) and Maurice Awit (Bahasa Malaysia). 🏠

Renewed hope in the Kenyan CCR

The efforts to unite and reignite the renewal fire in Kenya culminated in a National Leaders Conference held at the Little Sisters of Saint Francis in Kasarani, Nairobi Archdiocese from 16 to 18 November 2012. The theme of the National Leaders Conference was, "KCCR—Servant Leadership" (cf. Jn 3:30). Participants in the conference hailed from different parts of the nation with 149 leaders from 10 dioceses and 4 archdioceses in attendance. The conference served as an ideal platform for the NST to unveil its vision for the Kenyan CCR movement, which was well received and supported by the leaders present. 🏠

ICCRS FORMATION

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



V LFI • Rome, Italy

■ 8–28 September 2013



LTC • Miami - Florida, USA

■ 23 February – 2 March 2014

■ Contact: Andrés Arango → andresfelipearango@yahoo.com

LTC • Trois-Rivières - Quebec, Canada

■ 29 May – 6 June 2014

■ Contact: Denise Bergeron → denise@centredeprierealliance.org

LTC • Lima, Peru

■ 26 July – 3 August 2014

■ Contact: Elvira Cárdenas → national@rccperu.org

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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