



Corpus Christi Movement for Priests

CCM Newsletter

Founded by Blessed Teresa of Calcutta in 1981

www.corpuschristimovement.org

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News Briefs

- **World Youth Day**, Rio de Janeiro: the MC Family will participate with an Exhibition on the life of Blessed Teresa and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. If you are planning to be there please email Fr. Pascual so we can try to meet each other in Brazil (corpxti@gmail.com).



July 23-28, 2013

- **USA Regional Meeting:** Fr. Pascual is arranging a fraternal meeting for all CCM priests in the USA, which will include a workshop on giving retreats in our spirituality. It will be in New York in October or November. More details later...
- On December 12, 2012, the **United Nations General Assembly** passed the following resolution: "*Recognizing* the efforts of charitable organizations and individuals, including the work of Mother Teresa, *Decides* to designate 5 September as the International Day of Charity."
- As CCM priests, let us pray daily to Holy Spirit for **Pope Emeritus Benedict**, and for the new Pope: "Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful..."
- Please pray for the soul of **Mr. Anton Gschwind**, father of Fr. **Andreas Gschwind**, who died in January.

Corpus Christi Governing Council

International Coordinator: Fr. Pascual Cervera (Madrid)

Msgr. Leo Maasburg (Vienna)
Msgr. Luis Cuña Ramos (Rome)
Fr. Joseph Illo (Los Angeles)
Fr. Jaroslav Broz (Prague)

From the International Coordinator, Fr. Pascual Cervera

We have received a letter from Cardinal Mauro Piacenza, Secretary of the Congregation for Clergy, informing us that the Congregation has given final approval to the statutes of the Corpus Christi Movement of priests. We are now in the process of preparing an English translation of the Statutes and other information which will be made available to you soon. In Cardinal Piacenza's letter he reminds us of the purpose of the Association [the CCM Movement]:

"I express ... my hope for a renewed momentum of the Association to accompany priests in their personal sanctification and in their exercise of their sacred ministry, for the good of the Church and the salvation of souls; a union of priests among themselves and with their own Bishops, in the assiduous celebration and adoration of the August Sacrament of the Eucharist, the source and summit of the life of the Church, in the total reliance on the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, and in the participation in the spirituality of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta and in the spirit of the Family of the Missionaries of Charity."

International CCM Meeting in Czestochowa, Poland (June 2012)

From June 25-30, 2012, fifty-one CCM priests from twenty-three countries, including seven from the United States, gathered in Czestochowa, Poland, for our biennial retreat. Fr. Thomas Kleinschmidt, OVM, an American working many years in Austria, served as retreat master. His theme was "I Thirst: Hearts burning with love at the foot of the Cross." He emphasized that the charism of the Corpus Christi Movement is the charism of Mother Teresa, to quench the burning thirst of Christ for souls. Fr. Thomas quoted much from Mother, of course, and from John Paul II, and used themes from the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. We stayed at the Archdiocesan seminary, and made many visits to the shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, just ten minutes' walk from the seminary. We also spent

a "pilgrimage day" visiting Auschwitz, Krakow, and Sr. Faustina's shrine of Divine Mercy. Next retreat: 2014, place to be announced...



POPE BENEDICT AND CARDINAL DOLAN INVOKE MOTHER'S EXAMPLE

Closing Vigil of the Year for Priests, June 2010

At a Vigil in St. Peter's Square, Pope Benedict spoke with 16,000 priests. We had gathered from every part of the world to mark the conclusion of the Year for Priests. Following are selections from the intervention of a priest from Japan, and Benedict's reply, citing the example of Mother Teresa. Like St. John Vianney, she lived radical poverty without impoverishing the liturgical dignity of the Holy Eucharist.

Holy Father, I am Fr. Atsushi Yamashita and I come from Japan. The priestly model that Your Holiness has given us this Year (the Curé of Ars) sees the Eucharist, the Sacrament of Penance, and personal repentance at the centre of our life and ministry, and at the same time love for the worthy celebration of the liturgy. St John Vianney combined his rigorous spirit of poverty with his passion for dignified worship. How can we live these fundamental aspects of our priestly life without falling into clericalism?



Thank you. So the question is how to live the centrality of the Eucharist without conducting a purely cultic life, as a stranger to the everyday life of other people. We know that clericalism is a temptation for priests in all ages. And it is even more important to find the authentic way of living the Eucharist, which is not closure to the world, but openness to the world's needs. ..the Eucharist is, in itself, an act of love and obliges us to love others ... the opposite of clericalism, of closure in oneself. We think of **Mother Teresa**, truly the great example in this century, at this time. [She manifested] a love that leaves itself, that leaves every type of clericalism, of estrangement from the world, and goes to the most marginalized, to the poorest, to those nearing death. She totally gave herself up to love of the poor, the marginal-

ized. But Mother Teresa who gave us this example, and the community that follows in her steps, always required, as the first condition for a new convent, the presence of a *tabernacle*.... I would say that living the Eucharist in its original sense, in its true depth, is a school of life. It is the surest protection against the temptation of clericalism.

Homily for the Opening of the Academic Year on September 5 at the New York Major Seminary by Cardinal Timothy Dolan

At a Mass of the Holy Spirit in the Dunwoodie Seminary chapel, Cardinal Dolan welcomed all and offered a special welcome to the seminarians. The cardinal also noted that it was the feast of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, who died Sept. 5, 1997. Mother Teresa, together with Pope John Paul II, "will be given special credit for the renewal of the priesthood in the Church Universal," Cardinal Dolan said. He then cited "six lessons" from Mother Teresa's life and teaching.



1. **Prayer.** The cardinal told a personal story: In June 1976, traveling home to be ordained, he happened to be on the same Air India flight as Mother Teresa. He approached her and asked, "Mother, will you sign my breviary?" She replied, "I'll sign it if you'll say it." She was urging me to prayer, to the consistent, daily rhythm of prayer with the Church in the Divine Office. Cardinal Dolan stressed the central place of the Mass and Eucharistic adoration in Mother Teresa's life.

2. The call to **personal conversion** and "humble openness" to interior change.

3. **Perseverance.** Mother Teresa practiced perseverance in the face of severe spiritual dryness; the cardinal compared her suffering to Christ's when he cried "I thirst" from the cross. Yet Mother Teresa "never, ever gave up," he said.

4. **Trust** in divine providence.

5. Maintaining "a sense of **joy**".

6. "**Sacrificial love for God's people**," a requirement for the priesthood, the Cardinal said.

Recent books

about Blessed Teresa of Calcutta by the MC family include:

- *Where there is Love there is God*, compiled by Fr. Brian Kolodiejchuk MC
- *Mother Teresa of Calcutta: A Personal Portrait*, by our own Fr. Leo Maasburg.