



ICCRS NEWSLETTER

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The Zeal of a Leader

■ **Jude Muscat**

Certain words and phrases conjure up mental images that help us grasp a certain concept. Although images help us to understand, certain concepts remain difficult to express them in words. Furthermore, words or phrases evoke different images and notions to different individuals or group of individuals. For this reason I would like to invite you to reflect briefly upon the title of this article, and let it evoke a picture and a basic notion of what it means to you. This basic but important exercise is necessary since I do not intend to give a description or in any way try offer an ideal model of a zealous leader. I would very much like you to retain your own image and concept, since the ideal image must be moulded within a particular environment if it is to be effective. I consider my role in this endeavour to be a simple scene changer. By giving a different backdrop to your perceived image, I might be able to help you behold and consider this image in a new light.

In order to bring out a clearer background it is necessary for me to separate and briefly discuss the two key words in our title, Zeal and Leader. At the end I will try to bring the two notions together for a completely new scenery.

Zeal

The English word zeal translates the Greek word *zelos*, which literally means “heat” or “come to boil”. Figuratively it is used in two diverse senses: in a positive sense it is a great ardour or enthusiasm for a cause, a person or an object, which we normally refer to as zeal, and in the negative sense it is the darker side of envy or jealousy. In the New Testament the word *zelos* is thus translated either as zeal (see Jn 2:17; Rom 10:2; 2Cor 7:11) or as envy or jealousy (see Rom 13:13; Jam 3:14, 16). Etymologically the term refers us to a wide spectrum of strong emotions that can range from a death to self in an act of love to a murderous spirit of envy and hate.

Discussing zeal in relation to love, Thomas Aquinas (ST I-II, Q. 28, a. 4) concludes that zeal arises from the intensity of love towards an object, person or cause. This motivates the ‘lover’ towards the object with such a force that compels one to withstand and eliminate all obstacles that come in the way. This he calls love of concupiscence. On the other hand zeal motivated by what he calls the love of friendship is stimulated by the good towards the

other, including the force to remove hindrances which can harm the good of the other.

Leader

I have always been intrigued by the fact that in CCR the term ‘leader’ has prevailed. Probably it denotes the loose structure that characterises our reality, which in turn contributes to the construction of a particular concept ‘leader’. Probably there are as many definitions of a leader as there are leaders, and for this reason I will try to keep as close as possible to the essence of leadership.

Jesus himself provided the contents of this essence when he said to his disciples: “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all” (Mk 9:35). Service is truly an excellent mark of leadership but Jesus laid down a deeper foundation to it since in unity with the Father he lays down his life for his beloved sheep (cf. Jn 10:11-15). In a nutshell, Christian leadership is a pilgrimage starting from death to self unto life in the triune God that expresses itself in service to the others.

Before going to the Father, Jesus made sure that he brought out the very best out of his disciples through teaching, training and finally through the unique experience of the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Only then could he entrust to them the mission to evangelise the world. Thus, another essential characteristic in true leadership is the sending away ceremony—sending mature and empowered disciples into the world.

Leading with Zeal

Synthesising the two ideas offers no serious ordeal since there exists a common foundation: the intensity of love. Love is the essence of the Triune God (cf. 1Jn 4:8, 16). The whole universe and especially the economy of salvation reflect the uncreated inner beauty of God which is dynamic love. We could say that zeal is love in action since love is eternally creative, moving into new and uncharted territories, manifesting itself in mercy, trust, hope and faithfulness.

In practice zeal can manifest itself in tasks like organising new events, coming up with bright ideas, teaching passionately, and ardent exhortation. These are necessary elements but they should only be outward manifestations of the true zeal that is Christ-like in nature. John the Evangelist recalled Psalm 69: “Zeal for your house will

UPCOMING EVENTS

17/03 — 20/03, 2011

Assisi, Italy

Colloquium on the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

08/06 — 12/06, 2011

Assisi, Italy

Assisi 2011: Growing in the Charisms

29/06 — 06/07, 2011

Townsville, Australia

ICCRS Leadership Training Course

03/09 — 26/09, 2011

Sacrofano (Rome), Italy

ICCRS Leadership Formation Institute



The Zeal of a Leader *(continued)*

consume me”, when Jesus drove out the sellers and money changers from the temple (cf. Jn 2:17). Zeal incorporates an inflamed desire to grasp God’s vision for his people and like Jesus be ready to be consumed for the cause.

A zealous leader is always motivated and compelled

by a God inspired vision that seeks the good and the protection of all. Since zeal puts love in action it builds community, but respects diversity in the special calling of each individual. It launches us towards a journey of self-giving through humble service for the greatest glory of God. 

NEWS IN THE WORLDWIDE CCR

Asian Catholic Laity Congress

■ **Cyril John**

First Asian Catholic Laity Congress was organized by the Pontifical Council for the Laity of the Holy See in Seoul, South Korea from 31 August to 5 September, 2010. The theme of the Congress was “Proclaiming Jesus Christ in Asia Today”. The Congress was hosted by the Archdiocese of Seoul in collaboration with the Commission for the Laity of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of Korea. It was designed to sustain and promote a greater and more appropriate participation of the laity in the life and mission of the Church in Asia.

According to the Pontifical Council for the Laity the event was organized in Asia as “a sign of missionary concern towards the people of a continent rich in traditions, cultures and age-old religions, which appears in the third millennium as a protagonist in new worldwide scenarios.” The Conference opened with two lectures on “2000 years of the mission of the Church in Asia: Currents of evangelization, holiness and martyrdom and “Jesus Christ, a gift for Asia: Exigencies, tasks and challenges of evangelization today”.

Delegations from 20 countries and representatives of 33 new Ecclesial Movements and Communities which are active in the Asian countries comprising of 400 delegates participated in the event. Mr. Cyril John (India), Vice President of ICCRS Council and Br. James Shin (South Korea), ICCRS Council member represented the ICCRS at the Congress. An exhibition at the Congress venue also displayed some of the initiatives of the ICCRS Council.

Mr Cyril John gave a presentation on some of the initiatives of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the area of evangelization in Asia during a panel discussion on “Movements and new communities in the life and mission of the Church in Asia”.

The Congress was inaugurated by His Eminence Cardinal Stanislaw Rylko, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity. In his concluding talk, the Cardinal said, “Pope Benedict XVI sees in these new associations and communities, the renewing flame of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church and encourages pastors to be ever more open to this great gift. The Holy Father said, “After the Council the Holy Spirit has given us the ‘movements’... places of faith where young people and adults try out a model of life in faith as an opportunity for life today. I therefore ask you to approach movements very lovingly. Here and there, they must be corrected or integrated into the overall context of the parish or Diocese. Yet, we must respect the specific character of their charism and rejoice in the birth of communitarian forms of faith in which the Word of God becomes life.” Therefore, my heartfelt thanks go to the representatives of ecclesial movements and new communities working on this continent. Thank you for the priceless testimony that you brought to our Congress and thank you for everything that you do to serve the Church in Asia, which can only benefit from these new charisms, from an ever greater openness, in pastoral charity, to this gift of the Holy Spirit that is a precious sign of the hope which does not deceive.” 

1st Regional CCR Leaders’ Conference for South-East Asia

■ **Josephine Navis + Gerry Pereira**

The first Conference organized by the ICCRS Sub-Committee for Asia-Oceania (ISAO) and hosted by the Peninsular Malaysian Service Team (PMST) was held in St. Anne’s, Bukit Mertajam from 12th to 15th August, 2010. This was attended by about 800 prayer group leaders and potential leaders from the various dioceses in East and West Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines and Cameroon. The theme for the conference was “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch” (Luke 5:4).

The Conference started with the celebration of the Eucharist by Bishop Antony Selvanayagam, Episcopal Advisor of the CCR in Malaysia. In his welcome note, Simon Matthew, Chairman of Peninsular Malaysian Service Team, asked the leaders to recollect on their first calling as leaders to the CCR. In the keynote address by the president of the ICCRS Council, Mrs. Michelle Moran began by explaining the theme of the conference, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch”. She said that this scripture passage chosen by Pope John Paul II in his encyclical “Novo Millennio Inuente” looked like a mandate for the Third Millennium and he had three things in mind when he said this. He said, “Remember

the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm and look forward to the future with confidence.”

Mr. Cyril John, Vice President of ICCRS and Chairman of ISAO spoke in the afternoon on “Our call to be Intercessors” in his talk with quotes from the Catechism of the Catholic Church and Scripture he placed the responsibility and importance of intercession on every leader irrespective of the ministry they are involved in if they are to see fruits of God’s presence in the CCR. Fr. Bart Pastor spoke on the importance, nature and dynamism of charisms. The days that followed were packed with sharing on different subjects, followed by group sharing facilitated by the leaders in the sub-region, Felix Ali Chandra, Gerard Francisco and Francis D’Souza. The Eucharistic celebrations were presided by Bishop Paul Tan Chee Ing, Archbishop John Lee and Archbishop Murphy Pakiam.

The highlight of the conference was the healing and revival rally and the parade of the nations held in St Anne’s Church. The number of people participated in the rally was 1500 including the participants of the conference. The parade of the nations saw many provinces in Malaysia and countries being offered to God



1st Regional CCR Leaders' Conference for South-East Asia (continued)

through songs of praise and surrender marching to the altar. The healing rally was followed by prayers of healing and praying over for the people

by the leaders of the CCR. The conference ended with the session on planning by the national and the diocesan groups.

Covenant Communities anniversary

On September 28, 1970, the first covenant community began in Ann Arbor, Michigan USA. The initial group made a retreat together to decide on how the community should be formed, and then made a covenant commitment to one another. On November 23, the second group made the covenant commitment. The covenant communities in the Charismatic movement developed rapidly and internationally from that point on. The first covenant community was named The Word of God, and that community expanded to become the worldwide community of communities, *The Sword of the Spirit*. Currently there are two other major groupings of covenant communities, the *Catholic Fraternity*, a worldwide federation of both life and covenant communities and *The People of Praise*, with several branches in North America. In addition, there are a number of smaller groupings and independent covenant communities. There are a variety of celebrations of the 40th Anniversary of the first covenant community this year.

The canonization of Father Emiliano Tardif

With pleasure we have received recently the following news that we share with all charismatic brothers and sisters of the worldwide CCR:

On October 31st, 2010, Cardinal Nicolás de Jesús López Rodríguez of Santo Domingo of the Dominican Republic announced the beginning of the canonization process of the servant of God, the beloved Father Emiliano Tardif, former ICCRS Councillor. We praise the Lord for this special grace to all the Church and send our congratulations to the members of the Community founded by Fr. Tardif, "Servants of Christ Alive" (Siervos de Cristo Vivo)!

ICCRS Project Fund activities

In response to the "Love in Action" International Conference held in South Korea in 2009, ICCRS have established partnerships supporting two HIV/AIDS projects through special funds donated to the ICCRS Project Fund with the help of the Kkottongnae Community.

The first partnership is with the House of Love located in Bushenyi District, Uganda. This project cares for children and youth who are orphaned because of HIV/AIDS. We have been able to help House of Love with some funds so that they can expand their residential care, provide more medical treatment, and establish an on-going counselling program. We will remain in contact with House of Love via Fr. Emmanuel Tusiime.

The second partnership is with St. Francis Xavier's Clinic in Yangon, Myanmar. This project is run by the congregation of the sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition with four centres that care for people with HIV/AIDS. Our funds will enable them to provide medical care for more people. The sisters will keep us updated with how things are progressing via Br James Shin.

UPCOMING EVENTS**COLLOQUIUM***on the***BAPTISM IN THE SPIRIT — OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT**

SACROFANO (ROME), ITALY · MARCH 17–20, 2011

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) is meeting for a third Colloquium of experts from all over the world to reflect on the doctrine and practice of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit in the Church today. Organised by ICCRS under the patronage of the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

ATTENDANCE AT THIS EVENT IS BY INVITATION ONLY.

ASSISI EVENT 2011**GROWING IN THE CHARISMS · JUNE 08–12, 2011**

Join ICCRS and the international Catholic Charismatic community for a special event in Assisi leading up to Pentecost. This event will be an occasion to hear influential speakers, attend workshops, daily mass, and share your experience with others. Following the event there will be two optional pilgrimages — to explore the sites of St. Francis in the city of Assisi and to visit Christian sites in Rome.



ICCRS FORMATION

Visit www.iccrs.org or e-mail events@iccrs.org or call us at +39 06 6988 7126 for more information.

ICCRS LEADERSHIP FORMATION INSTITUTE

SACROFANO (ROME), ITALY

IV

03-26 SEPTEMBER, 2011

ICCRS
INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC
CHARISMATIC RENEWAL SERVICES

The ICCRS Leadership Formation Institute began in response to John Paul II's invitation to foster "ecclesial maturity". It is a three-week intensive course for leaders in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal near the very heart of the Church in Rome, Italy. Classes are supplemented with talks, field trips to Christian sites, and dicastries within the Church.

Classes will be held in English, with other languages to be made available by request.

ICCRS Leadership Training Course

The ICCRS Leadership Training Course is a way for ICCRS to help foster leadership in the worldwide Catholic Charismatic Renewal. In partnership with local Charismatic realities, ICCRS provides this week-long programme that will call and empower new leaders as well as strengthen and encourage current leaders.

Take strength from the grace which is in Christ Jesus. Pass on to reliable people what you have heard from me through many witnesses, so that they in turn will be able to teach others.

2 Tim 2:1-2

LTC Townsville, Australia

■ June 29—July 06, 2011

Please contact Trudy Clarke by e-mail at trudy.clarke4@bigpond.com for more information.

ICCRS IS HIRING

From time to time, ICCRS seeks the help of those who are able to serve with their God-given talent and time, furthering the mission of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the very heart of the Church for a minimum of one or two years. We are looking for well-organized and responsible people who are familiar with publishing programs—or capable and willing to learn.

If you are interested, please send an e-mail to director@iccrs.org with your CV and a photo.



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