

Lay Director's Report to the 2022 Annual General Meeting (OACM),

Thank you, all my OACM brothers and sisters, for the past three exciting years. It is unprecedented to have such a long period to steer the Secretariat (one and a half years each as Assistant Lay Director and Lay Director). This was occasioned by the pandemic which altered so many plans in 2020. With God's help, we had a successful 2021-22 year.

I have appreciated those Secretariat colleagues who have worked to ensure the health and success of the Cursillo community in this period of uncertainty and challenge. Murray Hatt (Treasurer), for instance, has ensured our financial health such that we can underwrite the upcoming weekend.

Since the AGM in 2021, we have continued to hold online Ultreyas every other month and in person at Andrew Haydon Park monthly this summer. This is possible because of the dedicated and enthusiastic work of the Fourth Day Coordinator (Marni Crossley), Musica (Tabea Silverthorne) and the musicians, and Fourth Day speakers.

After having stored our supplies for several years, City View United Church asked us to vacate its premises for renovation. Thanks to the Weekend Coordinator (John Chapman) for securing space at St. Stephen's and coordinating the move in August. Thanks also for researching a home for the upcoming Women's Weekend.

The Nominating Committee under the leadership of Jim Wilson has been busy seeking candidates for nomination (the list is available online at oacm.ca). Thanks, Jim, for many years of service in this position, as you retire.

The Pre-Cursillo responsibilities have been shared between the Coordinator (Harry Bender) and the Database Coordinator (Andrew Gibb, who had spent four years as Pre-Cursillo Coordinator), who also handles event registration. This is a very successful partnership and I endorse it for the future as the two roles require different skills.

The Handbook is vastly improved since 2018 thanks to the Herculean efforts of the Communication Coordinator (Sandra Clark). Several suggested changes will be brought to the floor of the 2022 AGM for your consideration. Improvements include correcting internal inconsistencies and language errors as well as updating procedures to reflect the current reality and modern requirements.

Thanks to Jan Staniforth (Spiritual Director) for stick-handling handbook changes with respect to new diocesan 'safe church' considerations and closing Secretariat meetings with prayer, sending us out into God's world with a message of compassion and inspiration. We're all delighted to welcome Jon Martin as a Spiritual Director to share the portfolio with Jan.

The status of our insurance as an organization and in connection with weekends has been regularized and we have confirmed coverage under the diocesan policies, thanks to John Chapman.

Our Secretary, Shelly Yerburgh, is working with Sandra to ensure that the Diocesan Librarian has copies of all necessary OACM documents going back several years. This will be completed in 2022.

Karen Daley (Palanca) has started each of our Secretariat meetings with inspirational words setting the tone for deliberations, for which we are grateful. She has sent Palanca Indicators to scores of Cursillo weekends around the world on our behalf (some with French and Spanish translations).

As I make the transition from Lay Director to Assistant to the Lay Director, I thank David McCreery for his support and wisdom as he preceded me in both these roles.

I have enjoyed the partnership with Wayne Kauk this year, including collaboration on an article for Crosstalk. I look forward to our continuing work when he becomes our new Lay Director for 2022-23.

I am indebted to Bishop Shane who has affirmed our relationship within the Ottawa Diocese and prizes OACM as an important diocesan ministry.

I look forward to seeing all of you at upcoming events.

Ultreya!

Respectfully submitted

Colleen Mayo
Lay Director, OACM
August 9, 2022