



## CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL BRISBANE ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

Dear members of CCR Brisbane,

It is my pleasure and privilege that I present the Annual Report for 2017-18 on behalf of CCR Brisbane. This year we made a decision not to formally organise too many events but to listen and respond to the leading of the Spirit. The result is that we have had a busy year.

### **Future Vision**

This report comes amidst a time of change, change that is going to change the world. The Word of the Lord through prophecy has been alerting us for some years that change is coming and has called on us not to rely on the past but to be prepared for something new. This is happening and has been heard at the highest level in the Church with a call from Pope Francis for one stream of Grace and one service at an international level of CCR.

We now have new statutes for CCR internationally, with a new body called CHARIS—Catholic Charismatic Renewal International Service. These statutes will change the structure of Renewal internationally and will also influence how we relate to those who have experienced this one stream of Grace that is the Holy Spirit at a local level. CHARIS is Greek for Grace and represents an amalgamation of the 'Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships' and 'International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services' into one international service. How this change translates on the ground within the 36 prayer groups and ministries in our Archdiocese as well as state wide, nationally and between groups and other streams of the same Grace, is not yet clear. We will continue to listen, discern and act as we are led. There will be challenges for all of us in adapting to this change.

Over the past 12 months, one thing is certain, God is asking each one of us to change—change the way we think, change our attitudes, change our perception of what is possible, change the way we live. CCR has long bemoaned that it has been marginalised by the Church. That sort of thinking has to cease. We can no longer see ourselves as being on the margins but rather as instruments through whom God is able to renew the Body of Christ in and through the Church. Our own Archbishop has constantly reinforced that we are at the heart of the Church. As I said in the last edition of Face-to-Face, we have to see ourselves not so much as prayer groups but as members of God's worldwide Catholic and Apostolic Church, actively participating in its mission to evangelise, embracing all those who have experienced this one stream of Grace and leading others into this stream. On our own, we are powerless but together with the Holy Spirit, we are unstoppable.

It will require discipline to meet the challenges ahead. Discipleship in Jesus and that entire relationship means for each one of us will be essential. The call to take a deeper walk with the Lord is becoming more and more evident as we respond to His call to be pure, to be more active in seeking greater holiness in Him. We can expect a severe trimming to our comfortable positions so that we grow and produce fruit in different ways and locations which is the norm for a disciple of Jesus.

The emergence of Is 54/2-3 as the vision for CCR Brisbane and CCR state wide two years ago, is exciting. As this call is closely linked to evangelisation, there is no end to its influence. There are signs that the Spirit is on the move within the Church, ecumenical circles and outside the Church.

### **Ministry Activities and Events for 2017-18**

We have sought to respond to the call of the Spirit through a range of activities over the past 12 months as follows.

#### **August, 2017**

- Presentation of the Grace of Baptism program at Maximillian Kolbe Parish at Marsden 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> August;
- Participation again in the Mary MacKillop Feast Day event at the Cathedral 8<sup>th</sup> August;
- Ministry to CCR by Fr Jack Soulsby 12<sup>th</sup> August AGM. The theme was *Bringing in the Harvest*. We appreciated the enthusiasm of Fr Jack as always and his ongoing encouragement to "think big."

Fr Jack gave us variety in his presentation but the “7 keys to unlock the Holy Spirit” were particularly interesting:

1. Intercede with Jesus;
2. Get God's heart for the lost;
3. Ask, seek and knock;
4. Know your authority in Christ;
5. Step out in faith;
6. Be obedient to Jesus;
7. Go outwards.

We also enjoyed hearing from those who attended the 50-year celebrations in Rome as follows:

A new Pentecost for a new evangelization	Colleen Tracey
The beginning and the development of CCR	Video
Maintaining vibrant prayer groups	Margaret Kerwick
Growing and moving in the Charisms	LP Seow
Spreading the Grace of Baptism in the Holy Spirit	Miriam Holmes
The healing power of the Spirit	Helena Montegrando
Pentecost Vigil: Pope Francis' message	Jenny McCormack
Pentecost Vigil: Fr Cantalamassa & Pr Giovanni Traettino	Audrey Chan-Seow
Priests Jubilee meeting	Fr Nev Yun

It was also pleasing to receive confirmation of Scriptures from Rome that had been received by CCR Brisbane and to know that we are in line with the international move of the Spirit.

### **September, 2017**

- Submission to the Archbishop for an Ecumenical Festival of Praise and Worship which was approved;
- Aneel Aranha's Ministry across the Archdiocese in September which included 11 parish events in addition to a Leaders' ministry night;
- Catholics Come Alive at St Patrick's, Beenleigh 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> September presented by Roger L'Huillier and his team.

### **October, 2017**

- Submission to the Archbishop requesting permission to provide a third Healing Prayer Centre at Petrie approved on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017;
- Aneel's School of Discipleship was also approved by the Archbishop on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017 for use in the Archdiocese;
- Catholics Come Alive was commissioned as an affiliated ministry under the CCR banner.

### **November, 2017**

- Prophetic Ministry Workshop was delivered by Anne Marie Gatenby, Ann Brereton and Margaret Kerwick 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> November;
- Participation in Fr Ray Sanchez retreat *Where is God in the Time of suffering?* on 11<sup>th</sup> November at Sunnybank;
- Fr Leonard Uzuegbu was appointed as Chaplain to CCR Brisbane by the Archbishop. We are excited to have Fr Leonard as Chaplain and a guide for CCR ministry;
- Peter Pellicaan, Private Secretary to the Archbishop, was guest speaker at the November end-of-year event with Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph Oudeman.

### **February, 2018**

- Prophetic Ministry and Intercessory Prayer were combined, with Margaret Kerwick accepting responsibility for picking up Watchman over Queensland, Gatekeepers and Mountain Movers intercessory responsibilities;
- Archbishop celebrated Mass with CCR on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2018;
- Sought connection with Emmanuel following the Pope's call for one stream of Grace in February 2018. Connection has not yet been made due to changes at Emmanuel but is still in the pipeline;
- Approval gained from the new Dean, Fr Peter Brannelly, on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 for the Cathedral Prayer Meeting to continue on the first Wednesday of the month;

- Representation to Jubilee Parish Priest, Fr Gerry Kalinowski, for approval to continue the Bardon Prayer Group, February 2018, and to present the Grace of Baptism program at Pentecost 2018.

### **March, 2018**

- First Discipleship Day combined with the national day of prayer held 17<sup>th</sup> March this year at the CCR Centre at Northgate. The theme was *Potential and Purpose*.

### **April, 2018**

- Executive members met with the Parish Priest, Fr John Echewodo, at Coomera on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018 to discuss opening a new prayer group at Coomera.

### **May, 2018**

- The Grace of Baptism was presented at Bardon on the Pentecost weekend 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> May 2018;
- CCR gathered at Bardon for the annual Pentecost celebrations with Peter Pellicaan as guest speaker 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

### **June, 2018**

- Executive members facilitated the opening of the new Coomera prayer group on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018 and continue to support the formation of the group;
- CCR Brisbane prayer group members participated in the Corpus Christi procession in the city on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018 and carried the CCR banner;
- Music ministry participation in CCR Bardon Retreat at Labrador, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018, facilitated by Fr Vince Hobbs;
- Executive members participated in Couples for Christ seminar on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> June 2018, with presentations by Jenny McCormack on Discernment and Audrey Chan-Seow and LP on The Gifts of the Spirit;
- Executive members met with Jak Hardy, Sunshine Coast, on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018 to discuss participation in 'Thy Kingdom Come 2019' (TKC2019).

### **July, 2018**

- Presentation of a Gift Clinic at Jindalee, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018;
- Participation in the Fr Ray Sanchez retreat *Where is God in the midst of our daily life?* 14<sup>th</sup> July 2018;
- Executive members met with Peter Pellicaan to discuss deliverance ministry in the context of the new Archdiocesan approach, involvement in the 'Thy Kingdom Come 2019' gathering on the Sunshine Coast and possible linkages by CCR Brisbane with the Alpha program in the Archdiocese;
- Second Discipleship Day held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018. Presentations by Angela Clarke who provided an excellent presentation under the theme of *The True Vine* and Len Airey who spoke on the *Cost of Discipleship*. Another blessed day in the Lord.

### **Ongoing**

- Ongoing healing prayer through the three Healing Prayer Centres at Northgate, Jindalee and Petrie;
- Ongoing organisation and facilitation of the CCR Prayer Group at the Cathedral co-ordinated by Maureen Allison;
- Ongoing contact including visits to various prayer groups by CCR Brisbane committee members throughout the year.

### **Prayer Groups closing**

Two prayer groups closed during the year, that of Ipswich and Annerley/Ekibin. The remnant of Annerley/Ekibin has joined forces with the Beside Restful Waters Prayer Group at Upper Mt Gravatt.

The Ipswich Prayer Group was one of the oldest and strongest, especially in the early days of Renewal. Time and age has been catching up with remaining members to the point where they were no longer able to function.

We express our appreciation for the wonderful ministry provided over many, many years and thank all prayer group members for their wonderful contribution to the spiritual health of the Archdiocese and the many people who have benefited from personal prayer and ministry.

### **Coming up**

- Hervey Bay ministry to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> September. A new Parish Healing Retreat will be presented;
- Intention to offer healing prayer ministry at Mary MacKillop celebrations in August, Vocations and Youth Expo, and Ignite Conference;
- Audrey will officially represent CCR Brisbane at the National Training School on Discernment with Fr Ken Barker on 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August 2018 in Melbourne. Other CCR members will also participate.

We should not under-estimate the prayer, organising and dedication of the committee and ministry teams in attending, creating, providing and participating in all of these activities, as well as those dedicated prayer ministers who have continued to provide this very important ministry. In addition, all members have been active in their own prayer groups presenting teachings and holding seminars during the course of the past 12 months.

### **Continuous Life in the Spirit Seminars**

We want to continue to broaden opportunities for the presentation of various spiritual growth programs in the Archdiocese or wherever we are called. We also encourage prayer groups to continue to offer these programs in their parishes.

### **State Service Committee**

Jenny McCormack continues to work hard in her role as President of the State Service Committee for CCR as well as representing the State on the National Service Committee. Jenny is well known for her communication and keeping CCR members in the other dioceses in Qld informed about what is happening within CCR nationally as well as internationally. We appreciate her applying her prayer and expertise on our behalf at State and national levels.

### **Healing Prayer Centres**

Healing prayer is proving to be such a blessing for people seeking this ministry. To be able to sit with people and listen, love and pray with them is a privilege. No one leaves a prayer session without healing. So much positive feedback has been received.

Thank you to Jenny McCormack, Prayer Centre Co-ordinator, and Audrey Chan-Seow, Prayer Centre Administrator, for their work in facilitating this ministry. This can be a time-consuming task. I also thank every prayer minister and intercessor who has provided ministry over the past 12 months. This is a wonderful ministry.

### **Face-to-Face**

Once again, I express our gratitude to our Editor of *Face-to-Face*, Gail Creswell, for the magnificent job Gail is doing as editor. The content of the newsletter is very enriching. (Gail's presentation skills always make everyone feel like there is something good to read there.) Thank you, Gail.

### **Bishops and CCR Chaplain**

What a wonderful privilege it is to have our Archbishop make the time to celebrate Mass with and for us once again this year. We express our grateful appreciation to His Grace for making the time and, as always, for his ongoing encouragement and support of CCR Brisbane.

We also acknowledge the contribution of Bishop Joseph for his willingness to celebrate Mass for us and for his teaching and guidance over the years.

We very much appreciate the teaching, learning and support we receive from our bishops and express our gratitude for their ministry to people of the Archdiocese.

Thank you to Fr Leonard for his presence here today and for his openness and willingness to guide us in our ministry journey. Fr Leonard has recently been appointed Parish Priest at Wilston which has increased his responsibilities at a time when he is also undertaking further studies.

We thank Fr Leonard for his ongoing ministry and look forward to working with him during the years to come.

## **Thank you**

The work done by the Executive Team during the past year has been substantial. It has been a blessing for me to work with such a dedicated and talented team of people.

Audrey and LP are the duo that roll off the tongue. They have been such a significant and positive influence on CCR Brisbane over many, many years and are respected everywhere. Audrey, in her roles as Vice President, Ministry Co-ordinator and Healing Prayer Centre Administrator, and LP as Treasurer and Prayer Warrior intercessory ministry are their official positions. But there are so many other services they perform which influence the success of our many activities. We thank them greatly for their service to the work of the Lord. LP is also Treasurer for the State and National Committees. Thank you, Audrey and LP.

There are not too many people who will put themselves forward as Secretary of any organisation. Miriam is an exception and is exceptional. Miriam has a great mind. Keeping CCR Brisbane in line with Archdiocesan policy and ensuring that due process is followed in our committee meetings are just some of Miriam's exceptional skills. Miriam also fulfils the role of Liturgy Co-ordinator and organises everything that is needed in this area of ministry. Her organising skills and understanding of what is needed in these roles are outstanding and second to none. Thank you, Miriam.

Thank you too to Assistant Secretary Juliana Tan for her support in the preparation of the minutes. The secretarial roles are extremely important. Without these records, we would not be in a position to reflect on what has been discussed and developed over the previous year. Thank you, Juliana, for your contribution to these records.

Fil locco, who was also an Assistant Secretary, had to resign during the year to care for her elderly parents. While we missed Fil, she has responded to a higher call. We acknowledge her contribution to the committee and thank her for her service and support.

Thank you to Helena for taking up, once again, the role of Hospitality Co-ordinator and to Rosa for filling this role during Helena's absence. This is one of the most important ministries of CCR Brisbane. We need this sustenance to be able to do what we do. We thank all who assist in this area too and for the great home cooking that appears on the tables at our events.

Thank you to Maureen Allison for stepping in to the job of Co-ordinator of the Cathedral Prayer Group. Maureen's leadership skills are legendary and appreciated by all who know her. The prayer meeting at the Cathedral is a constant CCR presence at the heart of the Archdiocese.

I thank each member of the CCR Service Committee for their commitment, work and support during the last 12 months. The level of teamwork and unity within the committee has been outstanding. We are blessed to have such a great bunch of unified people.

I thank the various members of ministry teams including Paul who does the videoing of various events. It is great that we have a person with such skills.

I thank my CCR music ministry colleagues, Angela, Vicki, Cathy, Helena, Genevieve, Tom and Calvin, who have put time aside for practice and ministry during the year. What a joy it is to praise and worship the Lord!

Thanks also to members of affiliated prayer groups and ministries for their ministry, prayer support, participation in events, and for their dedication and commitment to the Lord's work. We look forward to deepening our relationship with Jesus and moving into new ministry areas in 2018-19.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President over the past seven years. I could not have performed this role without the support of the Executive Team. This is my last year as President. It is time for me to step aside. I believe that this is part of the change that God wants in moving CCR Brisbane forward. My prayers and support are with the new Executive.

Len Airey  
President