



# Queensland Report for Brisbane AGM 2020

Isaiah 54:2-3 "Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. <sup>3</sup>For you will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities "

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## **CCR Queensland Structure: 49 prayer groups/ministries over 5 dioceses**

**CCR Brisbane - 34** prayer and ministry groups with 3 Healing Prayer Centres operating at Northgate, Jindalee and Petrie.

**CCR Toowoomba - 4** prayer groups: 3 in Toowoomba (23 members), Warwick (5 members), and 1 Intercessory prayer group

**CCR Rockhampton - 6** prayer groups: Rockhampton (7 members), Blackwater (8-10 members), Emerald Ecumenical (5-7 members), Mackay (4 members), Bundaberg (7-18 members), Gladstone (12-20 members)

**CCR Townsville - 2** prayer groups: Townsville (40 members), Mt Isa (15-20 members), 1 Intercessory Group, and 1 Bible Study Group

**CCR Cairns - 3** prayer groups: Cairns, Edmonton, and Tully

## **Queensland Service Committee Meeting**

In Queensland, members of each diocese come together for a yearly weekend meeting in Brisbane. Present at last meeting November 2019 was Jenny McCormack (Queensland President), Audrey Chan-Seow (Brisbane President), LP Seow (State Treasurer), Cheryl Gothmann (Queensland Deputy), Colleen Mullins (Rockhampton President), Trudy Clarke (Townsville President), and David Vella, Mick and Maree Pyke (representing Toowoomba), Therese Hunt Cairns (apologies).

We have been working towards unity, vision and communication. We had moved forward in agreement, and the Lord had blessed this unity. Psalm 133:1.3. Every diocese agreed to continue in our joint response to God's vision by working in unity, agreement and commitment for **'a joint vision towards expansion for the whole of Queensland'** which is **'Enlarge the site of your tent and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out, do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left and your descendants will possess the nations and will settle the desolate towns. Fear not, you shall not be put to shame; you need not blush, for you will not be disgraced. The shame of your youth you will forget, the reproach of your widowhood no longer remember'**. Isaiah 54:2.4

## **What did the Lord have to say?**

Prophetic Word and visions from the weekend are recorded and prayerfully discerned. The golden threads that emerged were **"Catholic Charismatic Renewal has been called and set apart to be a prophetic people who hear and act on the Word of God as we enter into a 'new season' of the Holy Spirit in unity with all charismatic realities under CHARIS bringing the joy of the Gospel to all nations."**

## **Queensland Intercessory Prayer**

**'Watchmen over Queensland Catholic Charismatic Renewal'** is specifically for the needs of each diocese. This is being used to pray the State discerned Prophetic Word into being, along with praying towards local CCR events in Queensland. All dioceses have **local**

**intercessory prayer** operating. We all understand that nothing happens without prayer, and that we need to press in for the grace and blessing of God towards our intentions.

### **Happenings over Queensland since last Brisbane AGM**

**COVID-19** brought all planned activities to a halt in March this year. All prayer groups went into lockdown and isolation according to Government regulations. Our diaries were suddenly empty and we were brought to our knees in intercessory prayer. Lockdown was also a time of grace. During this time, every diocese sought other means of communication towards staying connected by encouraging members and sharing stories through phone calls and social media. Zoom became a new way of spiritual connection for prayer, formation and spiritual renewal. Some prayer groups continued to meet in this way. Members joined amazing spiritual recourses through virtual Masses, CHARIS Pentecost Vigil, Pentecost Pilgrimage, 'live out retreats', and teaching through U tube.

#### **CCR Brisbane**

President Audrey Chan-Seow has presented the report for Brisbane so I will not include it again here. I will just give a mention to the **Healing Prayer Centres**, as I am the coordinator of this ministry.

**COVID-19** had a devastating effect on our **Healing Prayer Centres**, which operate under Brisbane Archdiocese. Many prayer appointments had to be cancelled. The waiting list continued to grow in number until finally we received permission to operate through Zoom media. Then as restrictions eased, we have been able to operate through 'face to face' ministry. **Prayer appointments since August 10 last year are 79**, (20 less in number from last year). Unfortunately, due to fresh outbreaks in Brisbane, we will only continue through Zoom and WhatsApp media until conditions change.

**CCR Toowoomba** is running a marathon—a slow and steady run—as the tent of **Isaiah 54:2.4** is being stretched within the diocese. Much prayer and work has been fruitful with the establishment of a Diocesan Service Committee along with a Mission Statement. Committee provides CCR articles for quarterly diocesan publications. Members continue to work towards expansion into other towns in the Toowoomba Diocese; without success at this point, but hopeful for a fruitful future. Bp McGuckin has been a source of encouragement and support.

#### **'Wings of Freedom' Toowoomba Prayer Group**

- Members host monthly Parish Masses with morning tea, offering prayer ministry after Mass
- New ministry unfolding 'Outreach to the Aged' ministry of praise/worship in Aged Care Centres
- There is a desire to set up a prayer group for Mum's with children
- 7 members attended Healing Prayer Training at CCR Brisbane Centre

#### **CCR Rockhampton**

Coordinating team meets three times yearly for discussion and prayer, with Bishop Michael McCarthy attending if possible. All groups have been given the challenge to rise up and to be prepared to offer to parishes what they have received. Since numbers for gatherings have been increased **some prayer groups have been gathering in homes.**

- Members committed to Praise/Worship/Teaching/Prayer ministry
- Working towards raising new leaders and strengthening older members
- Contact has been made with a prayer group in Mackay
- Encouraging another group in Rockhampton with younger people

- Rockhampton Yearly Conference was cancelled due to COVID-19

### **CCR Townsville**

Members of Townsville prayer group have developed a 3-year plan with vision and goals of developing young people towards spiritual leadership. Since numbers for gathering has increased **prayer group has been gathering in homes.**

- **Townsville Regional Conference with presenter Shayne Bennett will go ahead on 7th-9th August**
- Endeavouring to establish new prayer groups, especially in Ayr
- Focussed on expansion and outreach in both Catholic and Ecumenical Churches
- Serving local parish and giving attendances to Ecumenical Church events

### **CCR Cairns**

Leadership is focused on weekly Prayer Group meetings, Intercessory Prayer, monthly Healing Masses, and the hosting of an annual CCR Conference. Numbers are small with much being accomplished when the whole Diocesan Team works together.

- **CCR Cairns Conference was cancelled due to COVID-19**
- Contact has been made with a group meeting in Mareeba
- Support given to Community of the Risen Lord

### **Raising the Profile of CCR in Queensland**

Every member of the State Service Committee has committed to the vision and scripture of **Isaiah 54:2.4** and are prayerfully listening to the Lord for direction, stirring up the gifts of the Spirit, and seeking to become a mighty army. The Lord is stretching and strengthening us, preparing and positioning us for **'mission and ministry to mainstream Church'**. COVID-19 may have put us **in the trenches** where we are safe and comfortable, but we will not stay there. Our time of isolation has given us time for spiritual renewal by being infused with supernatural power, impassioned by the Holy Spirit **to step out into the open** by witnessing to our faith through **Baptism in the Holy Spirit. This is our call as Missionary Disciples through the Lord's invitation to us through Catholic Charismatic Renewal** and with the help and strength of the Holy Spirit we must press on and finish the race which we have started. For no matter what the cost, **'we were born for such a time as this'**.

Presented on behalf of Queensland Service Committee.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Jenny McCormack (Queensland State President of Catholic Charismatic Renewal)

## **National Service of Communion for Family of Catholic Charismatic Renewal**

As Queensland State President, I represent the State of Queensland on the **National Service of Communion (NSoC)** representing CHARIS in Australia. The Holy Father Pope Francis, called for this implementation of CHARIS in order that all Charismatic Communities and Realities worldwide would unite as one family and serve as **'One Stream of Grace'** to assist the Church in Her Mission of Evangelisation and Healing. **CHARIS internationally was launched at Pentecost last year.**

Members of the NSoC are in **'transition'** stage as we are yet to have elections of members and official paperwork set up for **Australia**. Shayne Bennett as **Oceania Representative for CHARIS**, led a meeting in November last year with members represented from Emmanuel Community, Servants of Jesus Community, Bread of Life Community (Catholic branch of Servants), Disciples of Jesus, School of Evangelisation, Flame Ministries, Youth Representation, Prayer Groups represented by leaders of each State and Territory; Fr Ken Barker (MGL) was also present and a member representing New Zealand. Since then, other communities and spiritual organisations have been contacted in each State and Territory and made aware of CHARIS, and have been encouraged to join internationally at an invitation to attend an official platform for the **launch of CHARIS in Australia.**

The platform for the launch of CHARIS was planned at end of April in Sydney this year. **Due to COVID-19** this needed to be cancelled. At this time, the launch is booked for November this year but it is uncertain if this will go ahead. We will be having a **Zoom meeting during August**, and we will all know a little more after discussion and deliberation.

**Catholic Charismatic Renewal internationally** has been given the expectation of **Pope Francis** and there is much to be achieved by the power of the Holy Spirit, and with the public support of Pope Francis, can go from strength to strength. It **rests with each of us** to give Pope Francis every reason to continue his support and encouragement, by uniting as **'One Stream of Grace'** and to serve the Church more fully through **Catholic Charismatic Renewal** as 'we enlarge the site of our tents, lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes, trusting that we will spread out to the right and to the left and that our descendants will possess the nations and will settle the desolate towns'. Adapted from **Isaiah 54:2.4**

I am honoured and grateful to be part of Catholic Charismatic Renewal nationally with the opportunity to stretch wider as National Service of Communion under **CHARIS internationally** and I want to thank you all for this opportunity to serve the Lord in this amazing ministry.

Presented on behalf of CCR National Service of Communion (NSoC)  
Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,  
Jenny McCormack (CCR Queensland State President)