Birth of
CHARIS
Catholic Charismatic Renewal International Service

The eight official documents, distributed from Vatican City, 18th April 2018,
by
Michelle Moran, Pino Scafuro,
Julia Torres and Oreste Pesare (Secretaries)

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0. June 1st 2014 Speech pope Francis in Olympic Stadium in Rome
‘...You, people of God, people of the Charismatic Renewal, be careful not to lose the freedom that the Holy Spirit has given you. The danger for the Renewal..., is that of excessive organization.... Yes, you need organization, but do not lose the grace of letting God be God! ... there is no greater freedom than that of letting oneself be carried by the Spirit, refusing to calculate and to control everything, ...
I have been asked to tell the Renewal what the Pope expects from you...

1. June 12th 2015. Letter of pope Francis to Mrs President of ICCRS Michelle Moran and Mr President of the Catholic Fraternity Gilberto Barbosa
‘... Perhaps the time has arrived in which the one current of grace (the definition is not mine, it is that of Cardinal Suenens, as you know), should have one international extended service, here in Rome, where ICCRS, Catholic Fraternity and all the other realities are equally represented, and where the Holy Spirit can be the only guide and driver....’

2. October 30th, 2015. Message from the Holy Father to the Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships on the 25th anniversary of its Pontifical approval – Vatican City.
‘...preserving what is essential and reforming what is accidental for a better service of the men and women of this time in which the Church is engaged, I believe now is the time to discern together, Catholic Fraternity and ICCRS,... ’ ‘I still wait for the answer to my personal letter handed to the Presidents of CF

3. November 9th, 2015. Letter of President of ICCRS Michelle Moran and President of the Catholic Fraternity Gilberto Gomes Barbosa to pope Francis.
‘we give you, in faith, our “yes”.... We would be very grateful if you could grant us an interview to deepen our dialogue and share face-to-face and in detail the next steps to follow.’

‘Regarding a unified international service for the one current of grace, I appointed Michelle Moran and Pino Scafuro responsible to carry it forward until its realization, and Julia Torres and Oreste Pesare as secretaries operating from the office in Rome. In this task, it is necessary to count on the accompaniment of the PCL.’

‘...I would like to assure you that we will do our best to accompany the process of preparing the 2017 Golden Jubilee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, particularly in its ecumenical dimension. At the same time, we will diligently accompany and help the people you have appointed, Mrs. Michelle Moran and Mr. Pino Scafuro, and the secretaries, Mrs. Julia Torres and Mr. Oreste Pesare, to carry on the implementation of "the one single international service for the one current of grace" which is the Catholic Charismatic Renewal....’

Complete text on next pages.

6. May 29th, 2017. Act of constitución of a new one service for all the expressions of the international Catholic Charismatic Renewal with a letter of Mrs. Michelle Moran and Mr. Pino Scafuro to Pope Francis.

‘...we called together a small consultation group of respected leaders from around the world...’ Complete text on next pages.

7. March 6th 2018. STATUTES of CHARIS signed by Mrs. Michelle Moran, Mr. Pino Scafuro, Mrs. Julia Torres and Mr. Oreste Pesare in the offices of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

8. 18th April 2018. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

...If you have any further questions or need any help we can be contacted at: info@charis.international ...

Complete text: 0439uk on www.stucom.nl

1. June 12th 2015. Letter of pope Francis to Mrs President of ICCRS Michelle Moran and Mr President of the Catholic Fraternity Gilberto Barbosa

Vatican City, June 12th 2015

Mrs President of ICCRS
Michelle Moran
Mr President of the Catholic Fraternity
Gilberto Barbosa

Dear brethren,

I am very grateful that you have come together to give testimony to the Bishop of Rome, to the common belonging to the current of grace of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, and I am also grateful for your service to this current of grace, that was inspired by the sovereign move of the Holy Spirit in February 1967 in the Church and for the Church.

Over the years, the Holy Spirit has inspired many expressions and realities like covenant communities, schools of evangelisation, religious congregations, associations of the faithful, ecumenical communities, etc., all born through this current of grace.

Sometimes this has not been understood as such and there are many places in the world where it is still said: “we are charismatics, you are not”.

Please, brethren, this expression not only denies the work of the Holy Spirit but also does not reflect the diverse reality of the current of grace in the Church!

In two years’ time it will be your Golden Jubilee. I am leaving you with a thought to reflect on together, in prayer and intercession, allowing the Holy Spirit, who takes us into the communion of the Trinity, to move us.

Perhaps the time has arrived in which the one current of grace (the definition is not mine, it is that of Cardinal Suenens, as you know), should have one international extended service, here in Rome, where ICCRS, Catholic Fraternity and all the other realities are equally represented, and where the Holy Spirit can be the only guide and driver. This does not mean losing your identity, it means growing in the life in the Spirit, each with their own charism, in mutual enrichment, all born from the Spirit in the same current of grace. And, it will also reinforce the unity in the International
Charismatic Renewal, which, as you know, needs strengthening… Think about it and discern if this is the place where the Holy Spirit is taking you 50 years after having inspired it. In Argentina this started a few years ago, and it is an experience that could be useful to you.

I ask you for one other thing: celebrate your anniversaries in the simplest possible way. The international realities can celebrate in their countries where they are, with their own nationals, without coming to Rome. And the money that running an international event involves: hiring facilities, plane tickets, and other expenses, can be given to the poor in their own countries. I ask you, please, to do it like this. There is too much poverty and need in the world, and the peripheries of the world where

the Charismatic Renewal that you serve is present with the strength of the Holy Spirit, to spend on celebrations that offend the dignity of so many hungry brethren.

Thank you again for everything that you do, which begins with sharing with everyone in the Church the baptism in the Holy Spirit!

This is what I expect from the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in all its expressions.

Thank you, and please, do not stop praying for me.

May Jesus bless you and the Holy Virgin look after you.

Franciscus

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2. October 30th, 2015. Message from the Holy Father to the Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships on the 25th anniversary of its Pontifical approval – Vatican City.

Message from the Holy Father to the Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships on the 25th anniversary of its Pontifical approval – Vatican City, October 30th, 2015

Dear brothers and sisters,

Happy birthday! May the Lord bless you especially on this Silver Jubilee of the pontifical approval of the Catholic Fraternity. I remember that the desire of the founders, Brian Smith and Bob Cavnar, was to link themselves in a more direct and filial way with Peter’s successor, under the guidance of the Pontifical Council for the Laity. These 25 years have borne fruit of growth in the number of communities as well as in the diversity of charisms and in relationships of fraternal communion. Let us thank God for that!

Last year, during the meeting with the Charismatic Renewal on the 1st of June at the Olympic Stadium, you were already preparing a step forward which became a reality a few months later: the CF and ICCRS, the two institutions serving the worldwide Renewal, now share the same office, thus giving testimony of one sole current of grace manifested in the great diversity created by the Holy Spirit.

This decision of deepening the communion between both institutions is already a reality which has made me very happy. Changes are always difficult, and it is hard to leave our own securities and places to follow the Lord’s inspiration. We also need the courage that comes from the Spirit and I thank you. At the same time, you have been able to confirm that neither of you, CF, nor ICCRS, have lost your own characteristics, but you have been enriched in the communion, because communion is the work of the Holy Spirit.

As you know, following the opinion of the Council of Cardinals created to help me in the government of the Church and the reform of the Roman Curia, I have instituted the Congregation for the Laity and the Family, to which the Pontifical Academy for Life will be linked.

In this spirit of preserving what is essential and reforming what is accidental for a better
service of the men and women of this time in which the Church is engaged, I believe now is the time to discern together, Catholic Fraternity and ICCRS, in light of the experience of communion you have already begun to live, the need to continue deepening in this communion forming one single service to the worldwide Charismatic Renewal, which represents the one current of grace, without losing each one’s own characteristics.

This means that both, CF and ICCRS, can offer the experience they have lived to a multiple variety of expressions that the Holy Spirit has wanted to bring forth all over the world. I ask you, CF and ICCRS, to go forward in this path of communion. To deepen and “widen the tent” (Is 54, 2-4) of this communion would be the best way to celebrate the Jubilee. All are strengthened in this communion and nobody loses its identity, otherwise it would be uniformity, which certainly does not come from the Spirit, but rather communion in the diversity He brings forth.

I still wait for the answer to my personal letter handed to the Presidents of CF and ICCRS during my visit to the 3rd Worldwide Priests Retreat, last June 12th, where I spoke in this sense.

On Pentecost 2017, it will be 50 years since the eruption of this current of grace in the Catholic Church. I have invited you to celebrate this Golden Jubilee with the Bishop of Rome at St. Peter’s Square. Let it not be the celebration of a “movement”, which you are not! Let it be the renewal of Pentecost for the Church and the world, together with all Christians who have lived the experience of “being born again” that Jesus spoke about with Nicodemus (Jn 3: 3-6). The Church and the world need, today more than ever, the Holy Spirit! They need, more than ever, the announcement of the Kerygma proclaimed by Peter on the morning of Pentecost! And in order to do that, Christians should be united, as the Lord asks (Jn 17: 21-23), to give witness together to the Father’s merciful love, which does not show partiality among people, manifested to us in Jesus Christ, Lord and Saviour!

I am happy that two people who have worked with me for years in my previous diocese, working for a better understanding and unity in the current of grace, as well as in the ecumenical task towards the unity of the Body of Christ; are today in the CF. Their knowledge and experience can be of great help for the launching of these two great challenges set before you.

I finish by confirming the mission I gave you last year. Share with each one in the Church the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Do not forget your origins; the Charismatic Renewal was born ecumenical! The ecumenism of the encounter in fraternal prayer, in the service of your neighbour, and in the prayer of intercession through our common martyrs.

Work to alleviate the needs of the weakest and the victims of all human suffering. Reach out to them and touch in them the wounds of Jesus himself. Share also with them the Baptism in the Holy Spirit!

These issues are dealt with in depth in the first three documents of Malines, about which I have spoken to you in other occasions as a safe guide for your action. In this Year of Mercy that is about to begin, be merciful amongst yourselves, and with your neighbour. Know how to distinguish between the sin and the sinner! Towards the sinner, mercy like Jesus’; towards sin, rejection and asking for forgiveness.

In order to do so, strengthen yourselves daily with the prayer of praise, a gift from the Holy Spirit that you have rediscovered for the Church, and which takes us to an ever greater intimacy with the Trinitarian God.

I give you my blessing, with all my affection. May Jesus bless you and the Holy Virgin Mary take care of you! And I ask you, please, continue to pray for me!

Francesco
3. November 9th, 2015. Letter of President of ICCRS Michelle Moran and President of the Catholic Fraternity Gilberto Gomes Barbosa to pope Francis.

Vatican City, 9 November 2015

His Holiness Pope Francis
Santa Marta House
00120 Vatican City

Most Holy Father,

Gathered for the 25th anniversary of the Catholic Fraternity, we send you our most fraternal greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. We thank you wholeheartedly for your fraternal message addressed to the Catholic Fraternity on this happy occasion.

We are sorry for not having replied to the letters you sent to the Catholic Fraternity and ICCRS which we have received during the III Worldwide Priest Retreat last June. Unfortunately we haven’t had since then the occasion to meet again.

Your letter has been for us a surprising challenge. We recognized in it the prophetic direction of the Church to discover more deeply how we are called to serve the current of grace of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

Historically, and following the directions in our respective Statutes, the two presidents have often worked together, bearing witness to unity in diversity to the entire current of grace. This equally covers the work done jointly for the organization of the Colloquium on Charisms in 2008, the One Day Retreat for Priests in 2010, and the recent 3rd Worldwide Priests’ Retreat.

We are well aware that you are asking us to deepen our communion and our service in a more radical way than we could imagine. This is certainly a crucial moment for our story, which will have consequences well beyond our Jubilee of 2017.

In response to the breath of the Spirit through your words, we give you, in faith, our "yes".

We commit ourselves to walk together in prayer and discernment to concretely implement this new direction.

We are well aware that this path involves not only those responsible, but all the realities we serve. These, certainly, will need time to adapt to this new path; we understand the responsibility of preserving the unity that has been built to date and over the years.

During the preparation of the Jubilee, we will have the opportunity to meet regularly, which will give us the opportunity to deepen our reflection on this vision.

Most Holy Father, we highly value your concern and the pastoral guidance that you offer us in these special moments. We would be very grateful if you could grant us an interview to deepen our dialogue and share face-to-face and in detail the next steps to follow.

We assure you of our prayer and repeat that we are at your service in the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Michelle Moran, President of ICCRS
Gilberto Gomes Barbosa, President of the Catholic Fraternity


To Venerable Brother Cardinal Stanislaw Rylko
President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity

On Monday, April 25, I received in audience the President of the CF, Gilberto Barbosa, and Michelle Moran, President of ICCRS, accompanied by a small delegation.
The topics discussed were the celebration of the 2017 Golden Jubilee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal at Pentecost 2017, and the realization of a single service for the one current of grace.

Regarding the Golden Jubilee, I asked that it must also have an ecumenical dimension; this is an aspect that cannot be missed in such celebrations.

Regarding a unified international service for the one current of grace, I appointed Michelle Moran and Pino Scafuro responsible to carry it forward until its realization, and Julia Torres and Oreste Pesare as secretaries operating from the office in Rome. In this task, it is necessary to count on the accompaniment of the PCL.

Please make this letter known, and I thank you for your constant availability.

Also, please, don’t forget to pray for me. May Jesus bless you and the Holy Virgin protect you.

From the Vatican, 27 April 2016

Franciscus


PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM PRO LAICIS 3 May 2016
443/16/S-61/B-53

Most Holy Father,

I received your venerable letter dated April 27th, in which you share with me the topic that you discussed with the President of the Catholic Fraternity, Mr. Gilberto Barbosa, and the President of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS), Mrs. Michelle Moran, during the audience with your Holiness, accompanied by a small delegation, on April 25th.

I would like to assure you that we will do our best to accompany the process of preparing the 2017 Golden Jubilee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, particularly in its ecumenical dimension.

At the same time, we will diligently accompany and help the people you have appointed, Mrs. Michelle Moran and Mr. Pino Scafuro, and the secretaries, Mrs. Julia Torres and Mr. Oreste Pesare, to carry on the implementation of “the one single international service for the one current of grace” which is the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

Finally, we will not fail to ensure that the current Presidents of the Catholic Fraternity and the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services are made aware of your letter.

Most Holy Father, we assure you of our prayer for your intentions and ask you to bless our humble service in the Apostolic See.

Stanislaw Card. Rylko
President

6. May 29th, 2017. Act of constitución of a new one service for all the expressions of the international Catholic Charismatic Renewal with a letter of Mrs. Michelle Moran and Mr. Pino Scafuro to Pope Francis.
ACT OF CONSTITUCIÓN OF A NEW ONE SERVICE
FOR ALL THE EXPRESSIONS
OF THE INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

Michelle Moran and Pino Scafuro, nominated by the Holy Father on April 2016 as responsible for the creation of a single, new service for all the expressions of the International Charismatic Renewal, met in Rome in May 29, 2017, with the secretariat of Julia Torres and Oreste Pesare, and declare this new service constituted on this day.

In the coming months, we will take the necessary steps to prepare Statutes for this new service with the accompaniment of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

During this time ICCRS and the Catholic Fraternity will continue to operate and serve as they have until now.

Michelle Moran
Responsible

Pino Scafuro
Responsible

Oreste Pesare
Secretary

Julia Elena Torres
Secretary

Brian Cardinal Farrell
Prefecto

Vatican City, May 29th. 2017

With a letter of Mrs. Michelle Moran and Mr. Pino Scafuro to Pope Francis
Dear Holy Father,

We want to assure you that we are taking seriously the mission that you entrusted to the two of us on 25th April 2016, namely to work towards the establishment of one single service for all the Charismatic Renewal. Taking into account your clear expectations of Charismatic Renewal that you shared at the Olympic Stadium in 2014, particularly the call for us to share with all in the Church the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit, we have met on several occasions to reflect on what the service could look like and how we can continue to move forward.

Recently we called together in Rome a small consultation group of respected leaders from around the world, in order to listen to their experience and learn from their wisdom. This proved to be a very rich and fruitful encounter. We were able to see that the vision you have given to us is for a new model of service for all the Charismatic Renewal. This will certainly require more than a simple merger of the two existing bodies; ICCRS and Catholic Fraternity. Indeed, as these two bodies are totally different in composition and constitution a merger as such would be impossible. So we need to move towards creating a new body respecting and not losing in any way the fruits that have been given to us through the two existing bodies with Pontifical right.

The new body needs to reflect that Catholic Charismatic Renewal is part of an ecumenical current of grace because we share the grace of baptism in the Spirit with so many Christians throughout the world. We need to highlight the importance of continuing to follow the path of the Holy Spirit that leads to unity in the body of Christ.

To focus upon building communion between the existing charismatic bodies and realities
To foster the inclusion of wider charismatic realities, associations and ministries.

We recognise that this Jubilee year and our celebration with you at Pentecost marks the beginning of a new time of the Holy Spirit. It is a Kairos time, a milestone moment for the release of the new things that the Spirit wants to do in this our day. We are therefore confident that in the time after the Jubilee, we will be able to move forward with confidence and begin to lay the initial foundation stones of the new service, accompanied by the Dicaster for Laity, Family and Life. We assure you of our commitment to continue to move forward until this mission is completed.

We pray for you with love and obedience

Michelle Moran

Pino Scafuro
7. **March 6th 2018.** STATUTES of CHARIS signed by Mrs. Michelle Moran, Mr. Pino Scafuro, Mrs. Julia Torres and Mr. Oreste Pesare in the offices of the *Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.*

These Statutes come into force on June 9th 2019. On the day these statutes come into force, the Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships and International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services cease to exist. The goods and patrimony of these two entities are transferred to CHARIS.

Complete text: 0440uk on [www.stucom.nl](http://www.stucom.nl)

8. **18th April 2018.** QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

...If you have any further questions or need any help we can be contacted at: info@charis.international ... Complete text: 0439uk on [www.stucom.nl](http://www.stucom.nl)

This is document 0438uk on [www.stucom.nl](http://www.stucom.nl)