



ICCS - CICS - CICE - IKKP

# CIRCULAR *Letter*

April 2009

## World Youth Days



The WYD are not only the big events that take place every two/three years like in Cologne (Germany) and Sydney (Australia). Every year the Holy Father invites young Catholics to celebrate a WTD in their own country. On Palm Sunday there will be the 24<sup>th</sup> WYD which is under the spiritual theme: "We have sent our hope on the living God" (1 Tm 4:10). Pope Benedict has invited us to participate and for this he gave a spiritual orientation. You can find this under the web-site: [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)



We give you some ideas from His letter:

*My dear friends,*

...Next Palm Sunday we shall celebrate the twenty-fourth World Youth Day at the diocesan level. As we prepare for this annual event, I recall with deep gratitude to the Lord the meeting held in Sydney in July last year. It was a most memorable encounter, during which the Holy Spirit renewed the lives of countless young people who had come together from all over the world. The joy of celebration and spiritual enthusiasm experienced during those few days was an eloquent sign of the presence of the Spirit of Christ. Now we are journeying towards the international gathering due to take place in Madrid in 2011, which will have as its theme the words of the Apostle Paul: "Rooted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the faith" (cf. Col 2:7). As we look forward to that global youth meeting, let us undertake a path of preparation together.

We take as our text for the year 2009 a saying of Saint Paul: "We have set our hope on the living God" (1 Tim 4:10), while in 2010 we will reflect on the question put to Jesus by the rich young man: "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Mk 10:17). ...

...If you find your sustenance in Christ, my dear young people, and if you live profoundly in him as did the Apostle Paul, you will not be able to resist speaking about him and making him known and loved by many of your friends and contemporaries. Be his faithful disciples, and in that way you will be able to help form Christian communities that are filled with love, like those described in the Acts of the Apostles. The Church depends on you for this demanding mission. Do not be discouraged by the difficulties and trials you encounter. Be patient and persevering so as to overcome the natural youthful tendency to rush ahead and to want everything immediately. ...

## World Youth Days 2011 in Madrid



XXVI WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011  
MADRID, SPAIN

The World Youth Days in 2011 will take place in the time from 16th to 21st of August. In April 2009 there will be a preparatory Meeting by the Pontifical Council for the Laity. After this ICCS on World and European level together with our member organizations in Spain: MSC (Movimiento Scout Católico) and Minyons Escoltes I Guies de Catalunya, will start planning our presence during the World Youth Days.

## First meeting of the new World Secretariat

After the World Council of ICCS in Rome in November 2008 the members of the World Secretariat met for the first time in Munich (Germany) in the Retreat House Schloss Fürstenried of the Archdiocese of Munich. This

nice place has been summer residence of the Bavarian Royal Family up to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



The Secretariat Members said good bye to the previous World Ecclesiastical Assistant, Mgr. Bob Guglielmone who received also the decoration of membership in the Brotherhood Saint George.



Fr. Leo LeBlanc, his successor got an heartily welcome and best wishes for his new task.

The main points of the Agenda have been the evaluation of the World Council 2008 and the recommendations for the Future Plan. Last but not least financial issues and the Working plan of World ICCS 2009.

## St. George Day in the European Capital of Culture 2009 – Vilnius

In 2009 Vilnius, the capital city of Lithuania, is announced as European Capital of Culture. The Scouts take this opportunity to celebrate in Vilnius the St. George Day as a special event of the capital's program. 1.000 scouts are expected from Lithuania and other European countries who will be citizen of a scout village, including a camp site.

On the Agenda are:

- Social, cultural and historical excursions in Vilnius city and surroundings, coordinated by scouts themselves.
- Ecological projects
- Modern art workshops
- Intercultural learning discussions
- Popular music concerts

For more information and registrations contact: [international@skautai.lt](mailto:international@skautai.lt)



In 2010 the capital of culture in Europe will be the city of Essen. The catholic scouts (DPSG) are preparing a special international program called : "Move to 10"

### Slovenian Jamboree

The Scout Association of Slovenia (ZTS) invites Scouts from all countries to their 13<sup>th</sup> Jamboree from 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009 in the Region of Pomurje. Also staff volunteers are welcome. The camp site will be near Murska Sobota in the North Eastern part of Slovenia. For more information please contact the National Scout Office of Slovenia:

[pisarna@zts.org](mailto:pisarna@zts.org) and [nina\\_ria@hotmail.com](mailto:nina_ria@hotmail.com)

### Pilgrimage of Scouts et Guides de France to Rome



From 28<sup>th</sup> December 2008 to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2009 Scouts et Guides de France had invited leaders, chaplains and groups'chiefs for a Pilgrimage on the traces of St. Paul to Rome. They have been 500 participants including 80 scout Chaplains.

<http://www.scoutsetguides.fr/>

### Scout Week in Taizé



In 2007 ICCS started contacts with the brothers of the Ecumenical community of Taizé. In consequence Taizé prayers and celebrations have been included in our program in the Faith and Believe Zone during the World Scout Jamboree in England.

The European Region continuous in having

good contacts and communications with the community of Taizé. A wonderful result is the Scout Week in Taizé that will take place from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2009. Participants from all our member organizations are invited to join this experience.

We add to this Letter the Euro-Med News of this event.

### Souvenirs from the Pilgrimage of ICCS in Rome 2008



*Foto lupetti di cub-scouts AGESCI with coffee cake and games*



*Mass with the Chaplains in San Paolo Fuori le Mura*

### Simply Scouting - World Jamboree 2011



The 22<sup>nd</sup> World Scout Jamboree will take place from July 27<sup>th</sup> to August 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 on the Rinkaby Fields in Kristianstad in the South of Sweden. The theme that has been given to this event for boys and girls in Scouting and Guiding between 14-18 years olds: Simply Scouting. The Jamboree will be hosted by the Svenska Scoutradet (The Swedish Guide and Scout Council) and WOSM.

The International Catholic Conference of Scouting (ICCS) will be present at this World event of Scouting. First contacts and exchanges with the organizing people of the Svenska Scoutradet , with Catholics in Scouting, the National Catholic Youth Association and the Church happened already. ICCS will be part of the Jamboree program by spiritual and religious activities in the "Faith and Believe Zone" and will be present with information and the possibility of talking for participants and visitors of Jamboree. Any ideas and proposals for ICCS activities are welcome and will be checked with the organizers of the World Scout Jamboree.

### Peace Light of Betlehem arrived in Mexico

In 2008 the Peace Light of Bethlehem arrived via the United States for the first time to Mexico. This initiative that started around thirty years ago by the Austrian Television and the Scout Association in Austria (Pfadfinder und Pfadfinderinnen Österreichs/PPÖ) and has become namely a scout activity outside Austria, spread nearly to all European countries, the Middle East, USA and now also to Mexico. In the Nativity Church of Bethlehem the Light is taken every year from the "Star of Bethlehem", the place where a light is burning permanently in remembrance of the manger of Jesus and then sent to the world as a sign for peace in the Spirit of Christmas. The Peace Light of Bethlehem comes to the parish churches, homes for old and handicapped people, hospitals etc. and also to family homes by scout groups after it has been distributed in Vienna (coming by plane from Palestine through Israel) to delegates from different countries. This delegates take the Peace Light home to their countries and transmit it also to neighbour countries like in a relay race.

### 60 Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

As an International Organization ICCS is dealing through World Scouting and the universal Catholic Church with the fight for human rights. For this we want to make you aware about the statement that was given by the representatives of the Holy See in September 2008 in Geneva (Switzerland).



### Scouts de Liban celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary

On 30<sup>th</sup> November last over 1000 leaders among which 350 old scouters from different generations have attended the gathering for the symbolic celebration of the 70 Anniversary of the foundation of the association.



To mark this occasion a mass was celebrated by the scout bishop and General Chaplain Monsignor Georges Iskandar assisted by some Chaplains and Followed By a projection focusing on the development, evolution, growth and progress outlining the most important events and moments the association

has gone through despite the difficult times faced during the Lebanese war.

Les Scouts du Liban who are always active on the local and international level count today 14000 members represented in 112 scout groups (representing 452 units: cubs, Scouts, Pioneers and rovers – boys and girls) scattered in all parts of Lebanon.

Les Scouts du Liban are looking forward to continue its mission in the development of the Lebanese youth while playing an active role in the church of Lebanon and the construction of justice and peace among the diversified Lebanese communities.

### 3rd World Scout Inter-Religious Symposium in October 2009

From 21st to 25th of October 2009 the 3<sup>rd</sup> WSIS will take place in Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda. After the first one in Valencia organized by ICCS and MSC and the second one 2006 in Taiwan the third one will be organized by IUMS (International Union of Muslim Scouts) in Uganda. The event will be supported by the national scout organization of Uganda.

The WSIS is under responsibility of the World Scout Inter-Religious Forum (WISF) which is an informal group of representatives from the different faith communities present in Scouting. Our General Secretary as member of this Forum is involved in the preparations.

There should be a good participation from ICCS Member Organizations because the working theme of this Symposium is of high importance for our activities: Solidarity, Reflection and Peace.

Detailed information you can find on the WOSM web-site: [www.scout.org](http://www.scout.org)

### ICCS Scout Jamboree 2010 in Thailand

The Asia Pacific Region of ICCS invites scouts and guides at the age from 12 to 18 years old. The different ages will be considered in the program.

The event will take place from 27 Dec.2010 to 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 and will be situated in the Vajiravudh National Scout Camp – Chomburi (Thailand) .

This Jamboree has a special religious aspect: Scouts as servant of the Gospels

As we know from the past our friends in Thailand will make it as a very special and unforgettable event. They offer also home hospitality 3 days and 2 nights before or after the Jamboree. An extra Pilgrimage or Tour before or after the Jamboree will be organized.

Youth activities will be:

1. Religious and Inter-religious dialogue and activities
2. Pilgrimage
3. Crossroads of Cultures
4. Science and Technology
5. Global Development Village
6. Community Development

7. Our Heritage: Nature, Culture and Occupation

8. Hiking

9. Tournament or Scouting skills

More information you can get contacting the Ratanakosin Scout Association at:

[info@rsathailand.com](mailto:info@rsathailand.com)

### Robert Guglielmono, Bishop of Charleston in South Carolina (Usa)

Pope Benedict XVI has appointed our World Ecclesiastical Assistant, Mgr. **Robert E. Guglielmono** as the 13<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, South Carolina.

ICCS has sent congratulations expressing being proud that our former World Chaplain has been chosen for such important task in the Church.

After Mgr. Guglielmono got this appointment he expressed his sympathy for immigrants who are an important part of the people in his Diocese and for children and young people. Evangelization will be his primary focus.

Mgr. Guglielmono, born in New York, obtained a Degree in Education and has been an High School business teacher. After the theological studies in Huntington he was ordained as priest in the Diocese of Rockeville Centre on April 1978. Since his Seminary days he has been active in catholic scouting and has been a scout Chaplain on National level and Ecclesiastical Assistant on ICCS World from 2000 to 2008. After having been Director of the Priest Seminar on the faculty of Immaculate Conception Seminary as the Director of Pastoral Formation and Dean of Seminarians, he became the Rector of St Agnes Cathedral in Rockville Centre.

Bishop Guglielmono was ordained and installed as Bishop of Charleston on March 25, 2009, at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, by the Archbishop of Atlanta, Wilton D. Gregory, and the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America, Archbishop Pietro Sambi, and other Bishops.

Again our congratulations and our wishes for the blessings of the Lord in his new responsibility and for the assistance of the Scout Patrons: St. George, St. Francis and St. Paul.

*Congratulations!*

### New ICCS World Chaplain

Fr. **Leo LeBlanc** from the Diocese of Norwich (USA) and Parish priest of St Matthew in Plymouth (New Hampshire) has been confirmed as a new World Ecclesiastical Assistant by the Holy See after being elected by the Steering Committee of ICCS in Barcelona 2008. Fr. Leo started his new task on the 1st January 2009. Before Fr. Leo has served ICCS since 2000 as

regional Chaplain of the ICCS Inter-America Region. Fr. Leo is a very well experienced Scout Chaplain and a polyglot too.

We are happy about him in his new function.

We have asked to Fr. Leo three questions for the beginning of his mandate to publish in this Circular Letter and he gently offered his answers we publish underneath:

*1. What values by your personal experience the importance and richness of scout education (being a scout)?*

I feel truly blessed and in awe of the responsibility of being world chaplain. I am happy to serve because the Church and Scouting have always been an important part of my life.

When I was growing almost all my friends were scouts.

As I reflect on this experience of being a scout in a parish troop, I am very grateful for all the wonderful, faithful people I came to know. Scouting helped form my character. It taught me so much about many things such as nature, teamwork, service, positive values, and the goodness of people. Scouting also encouraged me to acquire skills such as swimming and outdoor adventure, which still enrich my life.

*2. What are the most important aspects of a religious education in scouting?*

Scouting also had a beneficial effect on my spiritual formation.

Our troop went to camp every summer the week of August 15, feast of the Assumption. I still remember how special it was for the parish priest, our chaplain, to come to camp to celebrate an outdoor Mass. I learned that faith is not only celebrated in Church but in the great outdoors too. Scouting made practical much of our classroom catechism lessons. As scouts we saw how the creation we learned about in class, is really a wonderful gift to be enjoyed in the midst of living in nature. In camping I learned community and collaboration, piety with prayer before meals, and morality from the leaders campfire talks. The list could continue.

I also worked on and earned a religious *Altare Dei* medal, which required me to learn much about the Sacraments in my scout group. Programs such as this one, sponsored by the NCCS, made it possible for scouts at all levels to deepen their knowledge and practice of the Catholic faith. This is necessary since our groups are almost all composed of people from different religions.

*3. Where will be your personal accents in your responsibility as the World Chaplain of ICCS?*

I intend to make relationships an important emphasis during the next years. Scouting is one of the great worldwide fellowships, a true brotherhood and sisterhood. The Church is possibly the largest community in the world.



With this in mind I would like to see the strengthening of the bonds between all the ICCS member associations, new and old.

I will endeavor to strengthen the bonds that bind us. I would like us to be a real sign to the world of peace and unity. I hope to give more youths a chance to be scouts in a solid program according to the vision of BP and with a strong connection with the Church.

In the finest Scouting tradition, "I will do my best".

### Our new contact partner in WOSM

The World Scout Committee of WOSM replaced **Mario Diaz**, member of MSC – Spain, who became Vice Chairman of the World Committee, by **Georges El Ghorayeb** as person in charge for relationship with ICCS. The World Council of ICCS elected him again as Auditor.

*Congratulations to Mario and George.*

### Bishop Josef Clemens honoured by Austria

Bishop **Josef Clemens**, Secretary of the Pontifical Council for the Laity in Rome and former Scout chaplain in the DPSG / Germany, has been honoured by the Government of Austria with a high decoration "*Großes Goldenes Ehrenzeichen mit Stern*" (Great Golden Sign of Honour with Star) in 2008. The decoration has been given for his outstanding work on relationship between Austria and the Holy See and his involvement for young people. We say: *Congratulations!*

### High mission for a scout Salesian

Br. **Jean-Paul Muller**, a Salesian of Don Bosco (SDB) and former member of the Catholic Scout Association in Luxembourg (*Letzeburger Scouten*) has been appointed as member of the "Consulta mondiale" of his Congregation as expert on Mission, Youth Pastoral and Social Communication. Jean Paul Muller is director of the Don Bosco Mission in

Germany (Bonn) but times ago also appointed as member of the European Commission "Justice and Home Affairs" and as expert for the European Daphne Programme that fights against sexual misuse of children. We send our congratulations for the new tasks.

### Members of Brotherhood Saint George

By chance of the Steering Committee of ICCS in Barcelona in October 2008 our former General Secretary from 1996 to 2002, **Enrique López Viguria** (MSC – Spain) and the former Regional Secretary of the ICCS European Mediterranean Region (MSC/ Minyons Escoltes i Guies de Catalunya - Spain), **Jaume Bosch**, were honoured by getting the membership of the Brotherhood Saint George. Both friends did a great job in Scouting for many years in their country and on regional and world level. Enrique is now the Technical Secretary of ESADE (Executive Education Business School) in Barcelona and Jaume has the responsibility for the city of St. Boi de Llobregat (Barcelona).

*Our sincere congratulations.*

Fr. **Klaus Dietz** SJ, former National Chaplain of the Catholic Scout Groups in Sweden, students' Pastor at the University of Stockholm and actually now parish priest of the Central Parish St. Eugenia in Stockholm received also the honour of membership of the Brotherhood St. George.

The ICCS is in contact with Fr. Klaus because



of a project for Catholic Iraqi children who are as refugees in Sweden and of the World Jam-boree 2011.

*Our thanks and congratulations.*

### News from the Associations:

– **Josephine Abounayan** from Scouts de Liban, former member of the ICCS E/M Committee and special responsible for coordination of ICCS activities in the Middle East, has been appointed as new International Commissioner of Scouts de Liban. By elections she was replaced in her position in the European Committee of ICCS by **Antoine Maksoud** from Scouts de Liban.

– The Catholic Scouts of Saint George in Germany (DPSG) have elected a new National Commissioner, **Manuel Rottmann**, former chief commissioner of DPSG in the Diocese of Essen.

*Good luck and congratulations to all!*

– DPSG initiatives for scout chaplains. The Deutsche Pfadfinderschaft Sankt Georg (DPSG), the Catholic Scout Movement in Germany, has published a new Handbook for scout chaplains "*Gemeinsam unterwegs*". Our General Secretary contributed with an historical article on the concept of pastoral and spiritual work of scout chaplains. In November 2008 DPSG has organized a seminar and training for scout chaplains in Vilnius/Lithuania.

– Pilgrimage to Rome. After Scouts and Guides de France (SGdF) had a successful pilgrimage to Rome in December 2008 the Catholic Scouts in Germany (DPSG) invite, commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of DPSG, scouts and rovers and adult members of the association to join a pilgrimage to Rome. It will start on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July and end at the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2009.

Accommodation in Rome will be offered in a Scout Camp at Roma-Ostia. We wish a great success!

### Personals

We advice all our members and readers to inform the Headquarters of ICCS in Rome about people in our Associations who have finished an important service or having been elected for new tasks, or honoured and promoted. Thanks in advance.