



CLC NEWSLETTER
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NOVEMBER '94

Dear brothers & sisters in
Christ,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and fall. Ray & I celebrated our 25th wedding Anniversary in September and journeyed to Capreol, Ontario to visit with my family and to celebrate with them.

God has been very faithful and present to us in our calling as Foster Parents to an infant which He blessed us with for 6 weeks before finding her an adoptive family. Now we have a young boy of 15 who is struggling with peer pressure of today's youth in our society. He continues to bless us with our CLC groups in support and understanding.

Our next Newsletter deadline is February 28, 1995. As you know there was no issue in October as nothing was sent to me until after the September deadline. Thank you all for responding, now enjoy the news of our CLC communities.

Have a blessed, Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your Sister in Christ,
Linda

BREAD BROKEN CLC
CHATHAM, NB

Bread Broken CLC has recently mourned the loss of and celebrated the passing into eternal life, Sister Margaret Kenna, our first spiritual guide and beloved friend. We did this in a unique way. Sr. Margaret breathed her last on the morning of August 1st, 1994, right in the heart of summer vacation season. The majority of our group was out of the area at the time of her death, missing both her wake and funeral. We were saddened by this fact. Our present spiritual guide, Sr. Gertrude Corbett, was moved to respond. Her thoughtfulness was expressed by her putting together a special "graveside prayer service". Present were all our group members and certainly Sr. Margaret and the Lord.

She entitled it "Encircled by Creation" - Remembering Sr. Margaret with Love". We all shared in the reading of the prayers, some parts individually, others in unison. Sr. Gertrude is deeply touched by native spirituality. The simple richness of their faith shone through the content of the prayer service. First we celebrated Sr. Kenna as "one" with creation, thanking God for

Creating her. Next, the elements of creation - fire, air, water, and earth - were appreciated as gifts of the Creator. This was followed by a reading (Is. 58:3-11), a prayer for Sr. Margaret, then one for ourselves. End of service.

We decided next to take turns sharing with Sr. Margaret and each other how she touched our lives with her giftedness. This was sad but I believe very helpful in resolving our grief. Overall, a very prayerful, positive and uplifting course of action for us. Thank you Sr. Gertrude for your constant care for us. Thank you Sr. Margaret for your continued presence among us. Thank you GOD for everything.

"I HAVE COME TO BRING FIRE TO THE EARTH AND HOW I WISH IT WERE BLAZING ALREADY"

HONG KONG 1994
World CLC Assembly - July 21-30

Hong Kong 1994 was a special World Assembly for Christian Life Communities. As President Brendan McLoughlin noted in his opening remarks it was the first Assembly of its kind - one held outside a retreat centre and seminary - truly in the world. While the assembly venue, Hong Kong University, posed fairly substantial organizational challenges for the young ten-member Hong Kong host community (aided by local community members), it was a tremendously exciting experience for us, the three Canadian delegates, to be with over 200 CLCers from sixty countries.

The University of Hong Kong is built on five levels and your delegates were given plenty of opportunity for exercise as we moved between the various meeting points: gatherings of the whole assembly were held in a large lecture hall, the small group workshops in classrooms in various parts of the campus and the daily liturgies were held in St. Anthony's Church just outside the university. Delegates were housed in four different hostels both on campus, and in the town. Hong Kong in July is hot and wet: during our visit we experienced torrential rain - a record 16 inches in 36 hours, which caused mudslides and the death of three people in Hong Kong.

The Assembly format: The assembly followed the Ignatian Examen of Consciousness and worked through five stages during the ten days we were all together: (1) Thanksgiving (2) Looking through God's eyes (3) Contemplating reality (4) Enlarging our vision (5) What shall I do for Christ?

The opening ceremonies were a moving experience for all as delegates presented a symbol of their country and decorated the podium with these. For South Africa this assembly marked the first time that country had been able to send black and white delegates to represent them; for Germany, the first time they could represent a united country, and for Brazil, it was two days after they had won the world cup in soccer! Your delegates presented a Mik Mak Basket woven by Ann MacIsaac from the Ichthus CLC in P.E.I. symbolizing community, and to this basket we attached balloons with Canadian motifs and the

Canadian flag.

For our first day together we were brought up to date with the workings of the World ExCo in the four years since the assembly had last met; heard greetings from Cardinal Pironio, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity; and were addressed by Brendan McLoughlin the outgoing president of the World ExCo. Brendan noted that the message of the last world assembly in Guadalajara, To go out and bear fruit is being heard and acted upon in the world community. He pointed to the fact that our numbers are growing: Kenya, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Syria would be presented for affiliation at the assembly; that our financial situation, while not yet ideal, is better than in previous years; and that many countries are working together to promote CLC and share formation programs as evidence. (His report is fairly lengthy but copies are available for those communities who would like to read it more closely.)

Seven workshops were offered: Formation of Guides for the Spiritual Exercises; Formation of Group Guides (Fran attended); The Family: Political and Social Involvement (Gilles); Youth (Fr. Dave Creamer); Work as Mission: Work with the Poor and Marginalized. The Workshops: In small groups we shared our CLC experience both on a personal and national level. Using both the reports we had prepared at home and the posters we had brought to depict our national CLC identity, we were able to give the delegates an overview of

CLC in Canada. From there we examined the workshop topic as it related to action in Canada. As the other delegates shared we were able to note the common world needs, and in a second round of sharing, the shortcomings on the world level. This information was given to a larger feedback group, which in turn presented a synthesis of the information to the Assembly at large. These feedback groups met in English, French and Spanish. The next step for our workshop participants was to assess the changes needed in our own areas and in the world, and our final task was the formulation of an Action proposal where we were asked to pay special attention to the changes in attitudes that such a proposal would involve and the obstacles that would have to be removed. In such a manner, the whole assembly became involved in formulating the common Grace. All of this work took place in meetings over several days. During these days two addresses were delivered to the Assembly at large. The first by French delegate Claudine Coirault New Evangelization and the second by Chilean economist, Rene Cortazar World Trends and the challenges for CLC. (Copies of both of these upon request.)

Forming Community: Trying to form community with 200 people is an almost impossible task, particularly when one is limited by language constraints, however, the small working groups became CLC communities for the duration of the Assembly and it was here that we were able to really get to know the other delegates as they shared on their personal and national experience. My

own group contained delegates from Poland, Australia, Kenya, Lesotho, Ireland, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. The meetings were conducted in English.

Forming community also requires action to make friends with other delegates. Our first step was to introduce ourselves to the two delegates from Quebec who then sat with us in the large Assembly for the duration of our time in Hong Kong, and here we were aided by Gilles' fluency in French, Gilles also initiated a special meeting with the delegates from Mexico, the United States including the Vietnamese Community, (Companions of Jesus) and English and French Canada. Although this was a brief meeting, we felt it was important not to lose the impetus that was started during the inter-continental CLC meetings held previously.

We met with Roswitha Cooper of the World Secretariat, with the Irish CLC delegates and also those from England and Wales CLC. We had a number of gatherings with the delegates from the U.S. During these informal interactions we were able to share our Canadian experience and gain more information about CLC in other countries. We attended the Euro-Link meeting held one evening. We concluded that, because of the distance and expense involved in getting together, Canada probably has no future in joining with the European CLCers but should rather pursue a North American link. However, it was important to meet and get to know such delegates.

Formation Materials: Many countries expressed an interest in purchasing our Canadian

Formation materials (Books I, II, and III were taken to the Assembly, although the last was still unbound). It is heartening to note how many of the delegates were personally acquainted with Fr. John English and a number of them had made the journey to Guelph, On. for various courses. Truly, our Formation materials are being sent all over the world. The Polish CLC group plans to translate our formation materials into Russian to help with the building up of CLC there, and have promised to send us an article for our Newsletter about this involvement.

The Grace of the Assembly:

During this Assembly we have experienced GOD's call to a deep ongoing conversion with regard to our MISSION. As a World Community we have to integrate social realities, with all their problems and challenges, more and more into our life and action. Our conversion finds its source in the poor and humble Christ whom we want to follow and serve. It is in the poor and oppressed of our time that Christ reveals his face. The grace that we receive here and now is the awareness of being a community called to be with Christ and sent by Him into a divided and suffering world. HIS SPIRIT, who governs history, moves us to read the signs of the times and to put into practice our spiritual experience as a service for building justice and peace. We have to live this not only in words but in deeds and in truth. That is what Saint Ignatius teaches us in his SpEx, source and instrument for our apostolic

spirituality, the greatest grace of our lives.

This Grace affirms the direction we in Canada are already taking - i.e. towards apostolic action - but we must keep this as a main focus for the next four years. It will be important that our Group Guides here in Canada ensure that apostolic action is an integral part of our Formation Program.

Jesuit Involvement: Great emphasis was put on encouraging the Jesuits as a group to become more actively involved with CLC. In his address to the Assembly, Fr. Kolvenbach, the Fr. General, stressed the importance of CLC and CLC mission in the world. This address was by video, copies of which can be made available to individual groups. While at the Assembly, the 50 Jesuits who attended, met as a group to consider the Fr. General's message and discussed the importance of formation programs for Ecclesiastical Assistants.

Regional structure: We note that other countries have set up a Regional structure with regional Ecclesiastical Assistants which could be a model for Canada. We already seem to be moving in this direction with Dave Creamer, S.J.; in the West, J.P. Horrigan, S.J. in the Central region.

Youth: We became aware of the fact that approximately 100 young adults in universities in Canada are involved in CLC, and there are also some high school groups in parts of the country (Kitchener-Waterloo and

Winnipeg). Youth form a special category of CLC. They are different from adults in that they have not really a permanent commitment to CLC but rather use it as a help on their faith journey at this stage in their lives. Some mechanism for keeping in touch with these groups will be important as students move from area to area in Canada.

Elections: We participated in the elections for the World ExCo. We considered that it was desirable to have a balance on this ExCo both between male and female and also between the cultures of the world. For the first time a black African (from Zambia) has been elected to this body and we also have a new Treasurer from the Philippines. There are a number of weaknesses in the electoral process because of a lack of sensitivity to the North American community. Although we are very active and progressive (really leaders in the formation process) we are not represented on the World ExCo. (although for many years we were ably represented by Jack Milan). Many countries recognize this shortcoming and consequently strongly supported our nominee for the World ExCo, Cris Kotow-Sullivan. It also became clear to us that if we want a future candidate for the World ExCo to gain maximum exposure, this person must attend the World Assembly. We are to submit a proposal to the World ExCo that those candidates who do not attend the assembly be enabled to meet the delegates in some way (i.e. by way of a video presentation). We also consider that Canada should write to the World ExCo

Regarding a more just method of world representation to help North America again gain a voice on this body.

It was noted that language is considered of great importance for World ExCo nominees and it may well be that future candidates from Canada be proficient in a second language.

NEW WORLD EX CO:

President:

Jose Maria Riera i Mas (Spain)

Vice-Pres:

Maria Clara Lucchetti Bingemer (Brazil)

Secretary:

Ingeborg Von Grafenstein (Germany)

Treasurer:

Vitaliano Nanagas (Philippines)

Consultor:

Johan Vlogaert (Belgium)

Consultor:

Victor Kachaka (Zambia)

Consultor:

Mary Nolan (Australia)

Highlights of the Assembly:

The Canadian delegates met most evenings to evaluate the day's proceedings and to see where the Spirit was leading us. Highlights of this assembly included: (1) Meeting people from all over the world who share our faith, although this is lived out at different levels of thinking and action in different cultures. Through all the obstacles we experienced, problems with the different cultures and traditions, the heat, the rain, the accommodation and fatigue; we felt that the Holy Spirit was working. All the people present at Hong Kong '94 had a

faith that God could still work there and the miracle is that we managed to stay good friends in the Lord and arrive at a common vision of where God is calling us today. (2) Hong Kong was an affirmation of the work of previous assemblies, i.e. Guadalejara where the delegates toiled over the General Principles. There is a strong sense that CLC is moving in the right direction. As always we have to keep reminding ourselves of the importance of daily prayer, the Examen, Spiritual direction, and regular retreats all of which are the cornerstones of our way of life. (3) The awareness that we CLCers have special knowledge and tools that we can share with the rest of the world was stressed by many countries as was the fact that mission has to be integral to our CLC life, and our need to find ways to make this more concrete in our communities. (4) We were really impressed with the Hong Kong Host Team. This group of ten young university postgraduate students and young professionals, who were supported by a core of local volunteers, provided unfailingly courteous service to all the delegates. They worked under difficult conditions - a mix up in the accommodation, the weather (hot, humid and rain, rain, rain) and problems with meeting rooms; yet through it all remained cheerful, hospitable and concerned for our welfare. (5) We were impressed with the liturgies - over 50 Jesuits were present at this meeting and we were able to attend mass in different languages which gave us a small taste of other cultures. (6) We enjoyed the

various celebrations: The Host Team entertained us with song and dance and were most eager that we experience their culture and food. (7) We met with local Hong Kong CLCers on the Sunday visit to the various parishes where we attended mass, met with local people and then lunched with the very hospitable parish groups.

Conclusion: Your delegates are grateful for the opportunity provided to attend such a gathering, which we consider amply demonstrates the gift that CLC is for our world.

"I have come to bring fire to the earth and how I wish it were blazing already!" The flame was certainly lit in Hong Kong. If and how we set the world on fire depends on you and me - on how we, as individuals and as a world community - incarnate the grace and message of Hong Kong into our daily lives.

Fran Morrison, Delegate
World CLC Assembly '94

CLC CENTRAL REGION ASSEMBLY
Sept. 16 - Sept. 18, 1994
Resurrection College, Waterloo

"Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has ready for those who love him" set the tone Friday evening for our theme of Discerning Heart in Community-"Finding God in Today's World". Some 40 CLCers from the Central region began this assembly with a beautiful evening of prayer and

reflection, prepared by Paul and Theresa Tratynek, using this hymn accompanied by beautiful slides. Peter Peloso very ably facilitated the weekend. We are maturing and our gifts as lay people are being called forth. A first was introduced in providing billeting for accommodation, a truly community-building experience.

Saturday's workshops provided many challenges. Fr. John English opened the day by addressing the theme "Finding God in Today's World". He said for him the basic operative, imagine in the world today was mutuality coming from the Contemplation. "We are all in this called-life together. Although God's spirit takes the initiative the movement forward in life depends on our response. God in turn responds to us and calls us forth again. We are in this life together with others, the earth and God. It is in the nitty gritty of our lives that we discern. God's Spirit hovers over the chaos. We have to recognize God's presence in this by being open to his spirit in each one of us, in our community and in our relationship with the rest of humanity and the earth. It is in open and free spiritual conversation in groups that we will express our hope and values; in which we will recognize our need for God and express our enslavement to consumerism and discover actions to combat consumerism. The activity of spiritual conversation will heighten our awareness of forces operating in our world. It will assist us to know what builds the reign of Jesus, what prevents the reign of Jesus, and what

the radical response will be".

Joe & Stephanie Mancini, Founders of the Working Centre in Kitchener-Waterloo followed on the topic of "Meaningful Work in Today's World". They shared their experiences both serving and being served by the hundreds of unemployed who have come through their door at the Working Centre. Joe talked about his experience of being drawn into the corporate world thru the Tri-Tech business they started many years ago when recycling was just beginning to be realized. His struggles with conflicting values ultimately ended in ceasing the business in favor of dealing one-to-one with the reality of individuals whom he encountered on a daily basis. As Stephanie put it, "we provide a place where the unemployed can come and share their struggles in a quiet, listening, caring haven. Moral support is given as well as assistance with jobs and job skills. The importance of each individual is primary. Self-worth is built through community. Stephanie cited the example of going to the hospital to visit one of the women from the Centre only to find another woman from the Centre visiting her. Through this kind of support the one woman had found two part-time jobs, but more importantly they have discovered the goodness of self. Stephanie too, shared her struggles in the corporate world as her job demands attendance at many meetings. Her tensions caused her to look at her own history and go back to her roots of farming and growing their own food. They have expanded their garden this year and have passed their skills on to many of their

clients. They bicycle wherever they can and watch less T.V., all ways they strive to live a simpler lifestyle and combat the over-emphasis on consumerism. Their belief in the strength of the family unit was evident as one year old Thomas toddled around the room and their two girls colored and amused themselves with quiet activities they brought with them. Unfortunately time restraints left a feeling of "just scratching the surface" of some important issues. Joe & Stephanie are always willing to talk to groups. They may be reached at the Working Centre, 58 Queen St. North, Kitchener, On. N2G 1V6. You may also want to be added to the mailing list of the Centre's Newsletter. In summary they live what they preach and preach what they live and left much food for thought at this assembly.

The remainder of the morning was spent in quiet reflection and sharing in triads and with the whole assembly.

A trip to the Waterloo Co. market provided a taste of the rich agricultural benefits of our area, as well as lunch in a festive atmosphere.

The afternoon began with a discussion on what we had learned so far, followed by a discussion with two young OAC students on the topic of: "What are the experiences, desires, energies, disillusionments, hopes, etc. of the youth today," moderated by Paul Tratnyek. The two students shared their views on their goals, education, fears, faith and importantly, stimulated much discussion centering around attitudes of faith and

religion. One comment was made, "I've never heard such an open discussion of faith and religion as this. It is wonderful!" Such is how the Spirit was present and took us back to Fr. John's opening address and the words, "God is in the chaos". Awareness will play a big part for everyone in this day's presentation.

The evening was spent in assessing in triad's the question, "Where did I/we find God today?" After making preparations for Sunday liturgy we enjoyed a time of relaxing and enjoying one another over refreshments.

Sunday morning began with the assembly sharing the fruits of overnight prayer after which Fran Morrison gave a most interesting slide presentation and talk on her attendance at the World Assembly in Hong Kong.

Before moving to the chapel for a beautiful liturgy which began with the children bringing in things they had collected from nature, we formed the following recommendations for the National Assembly:

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ASSEMBLY HALIFAX AUG. 17-20, 1995

1. Communal missioning of one's individual mission.
2. Problems encountered by individual members are communities' problems.
3. More reporting via newsletter, assemblies of existing missions.
4. Brochures be sent to parishes via a specific person.

SPREADING THE GIFT

5. Encourage youth & Young married couples;
6. Mandating Paul Tratnyek to discern service as Youth Rep. and let Ontario reps. know. He should be commissioned at Assembly if he accepts.
7. Offer CLC to RCIA candidates.
8. Contact Bishops to offer CLC as follow up to parish programs.

National CLC Directory:

A National CLC Directory has now been prepared. Any community wishing a copy may obtain them by writing the National Office at 207 Lourdes St., Waterloo, On. N2L 1N8. If any members would like their own copy they may be obtained by at a cost of \$3.00

National CLC Co-Presidents

Bob & Shirley Gatchene from Our Lady of Lourdes Community in Waterloo have been elected as Co-Presidents. We thank Irene Girard for her generosity of spirit in accepting the nomination and we thank all communities who took part in the election process. It was a FIRST for CLC Canada. Previous to our entry into the World CLC we have had only one candidate/s.

CALLING ALL CLC'S
PLAN A MARITIME VACATION!
1995 CLC ASSEMBLY
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
AUGUST 17 - 20, 1995

THEME: "TO ACT JUSTLY, TO LOVE
TENDERLY, TO WALK HUMBLY WITH
OUR GOD"

SPEAKER: MARY BOYD

Watch for further details
coming soon.

Dear Fellow Members of CLC:

It recently came up at the CLC General Council meeting at Guelph in October, that a good way to create a sense of national solidarity is to submit to the Newsletter. I apologize for not having done so in the past and hope that what follows encourages you in your own work in CLC and that you may find the time to let us know how you are doing.

Recently I moved from St. Paul's High School in Winnipeg to study Theology at Regis College, the Jesuit School at the University of Toronto. How this move was anticipated and how it has developed are two different realities. After teaching for three years my sense was to settle back into academic life, a new city and community slowly. This would mean that my involvement in CLC would have to be limited to General Council.

It was as if I had so say in the matter when the most recent whirl wind of CLC began in my life. What this means is that

I will be starting a group of approximately ten university students. Eight of whom are masters level students and two of whom are undergraduate students. My hope is to begin meeting near the first of November. As well, I have been invited to give a talk on CLC to some folks who were involved in RCIA and who want to continue as a group. It is good to see the openness of the pastor in this regard.

October 23, I met with Basilian Father Tom Rosica who has assumed the role of Director/Chaplain of the University of Toronto Newman Centre. During our meeting I requested he allow my group-to-be to meet there. He agreed and was open to joining a CLC himself. I ask for your prayers as this has great potential for CLC.

Elaine Regan, of ExCo, has invited me to speak to a group she is gathering around Youth and Young Adult concerns, and Fran Morrison has invited me to get dialogue going with the university chaplain in her area.

My entire community, seven members in all, has decided to begin meeting to get familiarized with Fr. John's manuals. The hope here is that Jesuit involvement will increase the support to CLC and that the possibilities of new groups and the spread of God's word will be further cultivated.

Other Jesuit brothers of mine, Fathers Drew Sotelo, S.J. (Vice-President of Youth and Young Adult CLC for the United States), and Shane Martin, S.J., were in Chile during the

summer of 1993. While there they acquired a manual for university level students and gave me a copy. In a recent conversation with Drew, I was told that the manual is very good. Members of a new group I started just before leaving Winnipeg have agreed to do the translation of it from Spanish to English and Drew, also a Spanish speaker/teacher, has agreed to edit the translation. I am in the process of getting permission for us to use it and the United States Youth and Young Adult manual. My Chilean friend, now studying in Toronto, does not think there will be any problem with the former. I wish very good luck to Laura Garcia and friends in Winnipeg who have so generously offered to do the translating.

I would like to thank Tom Lussier and Johnston Smith, Fr. Joe Schuck, S.J., et alia of St. Paul's High School, for continuing the work of CLC. It sounds as if there may be news groups starting soon which will span grades nine through twelve. Finally, a thank-you to Glen Drobot who helped me with the design of the new CLC logo and to Tom Dopson of Trans-Continental West printing for donating his time and services for the making of the logo.

I look forward to seeing the delegates at the General Assembly in Halifax, NS, (my home province) in August of 1995, and hearing your news in the next Newsletter. Until then.....

Peace,

ALLAN FOGARTY, S.J.
ECCLESIASTICAL ASSISTANT
YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT CLC

"GOD'S CALL FOR CLC IN 90'S"

Simone Weil, the French religious thinker, states, "it is a pulverization of the soul by the mechanical brutalization of circumstances." The crucified Christ was for her the perfect example of someone afflicted: in physical pain, emotional despair and spiritual desolation.

Weil recognized that affliction does not affect only individuals, but can affect societies as well. I would suggest that North American society is an afflicted society. I see the following symptoms as bearing out this intuition:

- *lack of intimacy in people's lives and the incapacity to sustain long term relationships.

- *a massive spiritual hunger, which institutional religion is not meeting, so that many are leaving the churches.

- *my experience of hearing confession: hearing sins less than hearing hurts.

- *reported widespread promiscuity among the very young, which seems to be less an expression of love and more a feeding on each other.

- *general erosion of confidence in age old institutions, like governments, church, schools and courts.

- *soiling our own nest in the treatment of the environment.

- *a culture in which religious values and the divine does not have a central place, and where people are consistently devalued.

All of these strike me as evidence that we are a people whose soul is being pulverized.

Weil goes on to say, "When thought finds itself, through the force of circumstances, brought face to face with affliction, it takes immediate refuge in lies. Falsehood and affliction are closely linked. St. Ignatius teaches in his Sp.Ex. that the main ploy of the evil one is deception. Satan is the "father of lies". Our society is deceived about the reality of its own affliction. We are easily beguiled by our affluence into thinking that everything is all right. The beauty of the Canadian landscape deceives us into thinking that the planet is not really in jeopardy. Our sense of individual and democratic liberties deceives us into thinking that we are really free. We end up looking at reality with a distorted vision.

Two responses to affliction are contemplation and community. The former clarifies our vision of reality, and the latter provides a base from which to live within afflicted society and work against the affliction.

Thomas Merton says, "Prayer is a kind of corrective lens. It does away with the distorted view of reality that for some mysterious reason seems to be my normal vision....It is not enough that we behave better; we must come to see reality differently." The reality that we need to come to see, is that God is united with his creation. That means that we are not so much seeking union with God as we are seeking an

awareness of that union. It also means that all life is one, because the source of life is one. This has some strong implications for us. Simply put, it means as long as one person in this world hungers, I can never be fully satisfied; as long as one person is imprisoned, I can never be free; as long as one person is rejected, I can never fully belong. This is the vision we proclaim when we approach Eucharist. This is the ground from which contemplation in action grows.

This vision calls us to live more explicitly in the form of community. With the demise of the community generated by religious life, the Holy Spirit may be prompting us to look for new forms of religious community among the laity. Cardinal Carter, in addressing the Canadian Jesuit Congress in 1992, spoke about the first millennium of the Church belonging to the bishops, the second belonging to the religious orders, and the third to belong to the laity. All around us we can see the emergence of new forms of religious life, in l'Arche communities and Catholic Worker houses, and numerous less organized experiments.

Religious orders were founded in the past to provide a radical way of life to meet a need in the Church. The question for the CLC today is whether they can envision themselves as a new form of religious life. What need does and can they meet in an afflicted society.

DOUG McCARTHY, S.J.
CENTRAL CLC REGION ASSEMBLY/93