



Link between the Executive Council and the World Christian Life Community

450 years of Ignatian Lay Communities



World CLC is pleased to announce the 450th Jubilee Year of Grace from March 25th 2013 to March 25th 2014.

The year 2013 will mark 450 years of Ignatian Lay Communities.

In 1563, Jean Leunis SJ started the “*Prima Primaria*” in the Roman College. This became the first community to which the many Marian Congregations (or Sodalties of Our Lady) were affiliated. These soon sprung up all over the world. These lay communities were instrumental in preserving and transmitting the Ignatian charism in all areas of life, a role which became all the more invaluable during the suppression of the Society of Jesus. The Congregations had a powerful impact on social and moral life down through all these years. In 1967, the *Prima Primaria* transformed itself into CLC and thus continues its uninterrupted transmission of the Ignatian charism amongst the laity.

This Jubilee is an important occasion for the whole Ignatian family. Especially, we also reflect on and celebrate our 450 years of collaboration with the Society of Jesus and the many fruits this collaboration has produced. To mark this occasion, CLC, especially as heir to the lay dimension of this tradition, will organize some events to celebrate this landmark (at the national, regional and world levels) and invites other Ignatian groups to join us.

We see this as a call to reflect on the role of the lay Ignatian communities in the Church and in the world.

This Jubilee is a great opportunity for:



1. **Grateful remembrance of our history.** We recognize our own roots thereby strengthening our own identity. We identify how we have been guided by the Spirit through the centuries.
2. **Living the present with a renewed enthusiasm.** The celebration of this anniversary could signify a new starting point, refreshing the charisma of our CLC for the challenges of today. Also it is a great opportunity to build bridges with other lay groups of the broad Ignatian family.
3. **Looking ahead with hope.** We contemplate our CLC future with renewed eyes. Look for ways to further strengthen the commitment of CLC members for God's mission in this world.

Also our World Assembly, gathering from July 30th to August 8th, in Lebanon, will take up this jubilee, remembering our roots and building a bridge to the challenges we face today as Lay Apostolic Body.

We invite our National Communities around the world to join this Jubilee in any of the different dimensions:

Celebratory	Consider our roots (Our graced history) / CLC Identity
Reflection - Formation	The role of the laity / The voice of Ignatian lay people today
Visibility - Integration	Encourage our relationship with the Society of Jesus, other Ignatian Communities and the Church

There are also different levels on which to promote specific activities for the celebration of this Jubilee:

National level	Regional level	World level
<p>Activities should be organized by national Excocs according to their own community possibilities.</p> <p>The World CLC and especially the Jubilee Committee, will provide ideas, information and material encouraging you to organize different activities.</p>	<p>Events might be organized at a Regional level. You can contact Exco-links for your region places where there is no regional structure.</p> <p>Consider ways that, at a regional level, different national communities can join in.</p>	<p>-At the World Assembly</p> <p>- Joining the specific celebration of the <i>Prima Primaria</i> in Rome.</p> <p>-Other specific activities: A video contest. A Progressio Supplement (our history) and maybe a public gathering in Rome.</p>



Steps to Follow

We invite each National Community and CLC groups around the world to:

1. Announce the ***450 years of Ignatian Lay Communities*** in the local environment, especially among Jesuits and other Ignatian lay groups besides CLC
2. Organize and schedule activities to join this celebration in different levels and dimensions.

Possible activities suggested:

- ✓ Masses
- ✓ Conferences / Public lectures
- ✓ Workshops
- ✓ Retreats
- ✓ Parties, dinners, concerts, etc.
- ✓ Pilgrimage
- ✓ Articles in magazines
- ✓ Apostolic actions
- ✓ Videos, website features, etc.
- ✓ Merchandising / souvenirs

3. Provide information to WCLC about your planned activities and respective dates, for a common calendar of the Jubilee celebration.

Note: We recommend that the logo of this Jubilee be used for all kind of related communication and activities.

Please, feel free to contact the World Secretariat for material or documents you might need for this celebration. (sofia@cvx-clc.net)

Let us thank God for all the graces CLC has received in these 450 years as we put into our Lord's hands this great Jubilee celebration.

For the Greater Glory of God,

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Secretariat

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Consultor