

What do we want for them? What kind of accompaniment does the YCW need today?

1. that they are trained, that they have the means they need for the task
2. that they are committed to the YCW's mission (available !)
3. that they are able to form others and promote extension.

The formation offered to these participants was based around these objectives which produced these key elements of formation.

- Mutual knowledge of one another through the presentation exercise. It was evident that not everyone had the same level of experience of YCW.

- Knowledge of the International Council: (for many of us it was the first time for taking part in one - so accompanying the young people during an IC was a new experience in YCW chaplaincy.)
- The particular role of the chaplain.
- The Christian and Apostolic dimension of the YCW.

We should not forget to mention the time spent with the young delegates informally which were precious moments and very fruitful for the chaplains. Because it was the place to gather together the needs and realities of YCW chaplaincy in our time.

Encouragement: all these agreed efforts in formation deserve our encouragement and congratulations because the times set aside for formation were at the end of the day's work and we met together happily. This spontaneous and free gesture marks yet again the interest that these chaplains took in their formation. We look forward to the time when these methods create a pathway across the Movements and their chaplains. It's also time for us to go forward together!

## TESTIMONIES

"I made a commitment to be more open, flexible in my accompaniment of the young people." – **Annie -Claude A. (YCW Reunion)**



"This is my 2<sup>nd</sup> participation at an international event, but this time as lay adult companion. I discovered new values of the YCW and the happiness behind the accompaniment of the young people." – **Carmen M. (YCW Dom. Republic)**

"It was here that I received the real method of accompaniment and thanks also to the chaplain trainer (Fr. John). I was strengthened by the contributions and visions of other chaplains that were new to me." – **Fr. Simeon (YCW Korea)**

"I saw a great solidarity during the twelve days of the International Congress. It was the background of this great review of life in the 3 days of exchanges regarding the reality of the YCW on portraits of young people, projects, campaigns; The trainings around the vision and mission of the ICYCW and of Cardijn, and testimonies of the faithful committed to follow Christ.

A lot of work will continue around the future plans for the development of the general future plan of the ICYCW (2012 – 2016) and the new guidelines of the International Secretariat to follow in building this school for life." – **Emile G. (YCW France)**



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The ICYCW is a non-profit International Youth Organisation for the evangelisation and education of young people of the world of work recognised by the Holy See through the Pontifical Council for the Laity as a private international association of the faithful.

It is as an organisation of the Church focused specifically on young people entering or experiencing the world of work/unemployment who are often oppressed, voiceless and at risk.



# CHAPLAINCY NEWSLETTER

2012  
EDITION

## EDITORIAL



We walk together!

Without losing sight of the realities of geographical distance which separate us one from another, from one region to another, a truth also must be affirmed.

Conscious of this fundamental reality that we are united in the work of our YCW Movement, the delegates of the 2012 International Council took the following decision:

“The International Secretariat will promote communication between chaplains and adult companions and will produce a bi-annual newsletter with the testimonies, best practical ideas and means of formation especially for those who accompany the YCW”. The new ICYCW International Secretariat commits itself therefore to making concrete this decision by creating a review entitled “Chaplains’ Newsletter”, the first edition of which we now present.

Its principal purpose is to provide articles which will keep chaplains and adult companions informed about recent activities which concern YCW chaplaincy.

It is also a means to avoid the isolation of one or another given that we are called to act in the same kind of way in our accompaniment.

It is finally an appeal for a sharing of experiences and mutual support. In brief we want the “Newsletter” to be a means of solidarity and information.

We are also sending out without further delay news of the 8<sup>th</sup> International Council 2012 held at Alton Castle in the United Kingdom from 25<sup>th</sup> August to 5<sup>th</sup> September. You will find in this review a general presentation of the formation received by some of you during the International Council. Added to this are testimonies of some of the participants about this formation.

Happy reading!

Fr. Sébastien ALABI

## ECHOES OF THE 8TH IC 2012 !



“Everything by the young people, nothing without the chaplains”  
**(Joseph Cardijn).**

Out of respect for our founder Joseph Cardijn chaplains/adult companions were chosen 2 from each region not only to accompany the delegates sent by their respective Movements but also to acquire new methods in accompaniment through the programme of formation proposed to them.

Out of 11 adults officially invited for the event 4 were not able to join the group because of being refused a visa ; and so let us note in passing that Africa was not represented at this rich interchange neither to give nor receive. We acknowledge all the same their good will and great effort to be there.

Among those present there were two who came just as observers without knowing anything about the YCW

. The formation as such was given by our elder chaplains Fr. Bernard Robert (YCW France) and Fr. John Marsland (YCW England and Wales)

Why formation?

The programme of formation for chaplains and adult companions was designed in the light of the actual situation i.e.:

- Lack of knowledge of the Movement: the majority of chaplains, appointed or voluntary do not know enough about YCW and the role of the chaplain.
- Visible absence of the chaplain: lack of chaplains and adult companions appointed and made available ...

These fundamental causes are found at all levels and make up the general objectives of a plan of formation namely to perfect and/or consolidate the strength of YCW chaplaincy.