

In this letter: CHARIS Nordic service of communion formed, ESC-meeting in Poland, Prayer-groups in the charismatic renewal

CHARIS Service of Communion in the Nordic countries formed.

At a digital meeting on August 13, 2024, CHARIS service of communion for the Nordic countries (CNSC Nordic) was established. We are seeking to build communion within the wide and diverse family of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (prayer groups, communities, networks, schools of evangelization, religious institutes, publishing houses, particular ministries, ecumenical initiatives, youth, etc.) and a summons had been sent to all charismatic realities we knew of.

In 2019, Pope Francis established CHARIS as a structure in the Vatican under the Dicastery for laity family and life with the aim of keeping in touch with and guiding the worldwide Charismatic renewal (CCR). According to the [[statutes](#)], it shall consist of an international council, composed of representatives of the renewal of the various continents, continental councils composed of representatives of the various countries, and, finally, national councils (or by episcopal conference involving several countries as is in the case for the Nordic countries).

The newly formed communion team includes representatives of 6 prayer groups (4 from Sweden, 1 from Norway and 1 from Finland) and 2 communities. Charismatic renewal in the Nordic countries is currently quite small compared to a much busier period in 1970 - 2010. Among other things, there were two Nordic charismatic conferences in Stockholm, [[1985](#)] and [[2010](#)].

The following people representing the groups we got contact with in the Nordic countries are part of the team:

- Bengt Malmgren, Prayer group in Catholic cathedral Stockholm (S)
- Bozena Ziep, Prayer group Siloe, Malmö (S)
- Ines Gynette Buzirukanyo, Prayer group S:t Lars parish, Uppsala (S)
- Inger Helene Møinichen, Prayer group Lumen, Oslo (N)
- Ivan Vysochanskyi, Community of the Risen Christ GALILEA, Uppsala (S)
- Justyna Kadziewicz, Community Koinonia John the Baptist, Täby (S)
- Lina Joannou-Jyränki, Prayer group, Helsinki (SF)
- Ludwig Gelot, Prayer Group, Holy Trinity parish, Järfälla (S)
- Pancho Chin A Loi, Deacon, Prayer group Holy Trinity parish, Järfälla (S)
- Ulrika Classon, Contact person, Visby (S)

Bengt Malmgren was elected as coordinator in the team.

There are more groups not affiliated to the communion yet, they have the possibility to join by register on the [[CHARIS Nordic homepage](#)]. If you identify yourself as part of the current of grace from the experience of the baptism in the Holy Spirit and are recognized by competent authority of the Church, you are welcome in the communion.

CHARIS European Service of Communion (ESC) meeting in Poland.

For the first time the NSC in the Nordic countries will be present as full member in a European continental meeting. ESC will meet in the Totus Tuus retreat center in Zembrzyce near Krakow on 27th-29th September. From NSC Justyna Kadziewicz will participate with delegation from coordinator. Ulrika Classon accompanies as observer. We hope to report from the meeting in next newsletter.

Prayer-groups in the charismatic renewal



Prayer groups have an essential place in the charismatic renewal. A prayer group can be born from the desire of some people or from the intuition of a single person. They may consist of hundreds of people or just a few.

Prayer groups are often the gateway for many people in need of encountering God. Many of them come with hurts and limitations. People who come to one of these groups quickly experience an atmosphere of fraternity where they can confidently express their prayer spontaneously to God.

The prayer groups carry the grace of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit which irrigates the Body of Christ. Present in the largest parishes and also in the humblest ones, prayer groups are the main actors of the [\[great mission of CHARIS\]](#): *“To share with everyone in the Church the grace of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit”*.

- It is often in the prayer group that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is received.
- It is a place where the little ones and the poor have an equal place.
- It is where Christians of all denominations can feel good together.
- It is a group of brothers and sisters who do not hesitate to pray for one another.
- They are Christians who are connected to their bishop and trust him.

[\[Read more about prayergroups at CHARIS international homepage\]](#)