



FORWARD

Volume XXXVI December 2013

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Our Mission Is To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership

FROM THE CHAIR

Well, its been an interesting year for the country, and for us as well. While we've had our challenges this year, we've also made significant progress on one of the key elements of our pastoral plan with the diocese - expanding our Hispanic outreach.

We held another great bi-lingual Cursillo weekend last spring. We've purchased Spanish prayer books for Camp Stevens and authorized a stipend for translation services. We were also blessed with the opportunity to contribute financially to the diocese of El Salvador when their Cursillo retreat was in jeopardy this past summer due to a lack of funds.

Shortly thereafter, we took a big hit ourselves when we cancelled our fall weekend due to a lack of candidates, and lost our deposit. But just as we were ready to help our brothers and sisters in El Salvador, many of you have stepped forward to help restore our own finances. Those who attended the Grand Ultreya heard a special appeal to recoup that loss, and gave generously on the spot. If you were unable to attend, you can still contribute by sending a donation. (See page three.)

Please join me in congratulating our own Father Carlos, who has been elected to the National Cursillo Secretariat! We can expect both help and direction from National as we move forward on our commitments to the Hispanic community.

In closing, I'd like to welcome the new members of the secretariat that you elected at the Grand Ultreya: Laurie Mumford and Ruben Rodriguez. Father Ed Busch and Mercedes Weber were reelected to fill full terms. Susan Miller is your new Chair. As I pass the reigns over to Susan and step down from the secretariat I am reminded again of how blessed we are to have such a dedicated and talented group of people doing God's work in our diocese.

Have a blessed Christmas, and...

Ultreya! Glenn Parrish



The Message of Advent: Christ is Coming!

“And now, the First Sunday of Advent tells us nothing else: your redemption is drawing near! It is already knocking at the door; don’t you hear it? It is breaking open its way through the rubble and hard rock of your life and heart. It isn’t happening quickly, but it is coming. Christ is breaking open His way to you.

“Do you want to be redeemed? That is the one great question Advent puts to us. Does even a vestige of longing burn in us? If not, what do we want from Advent; what do we want from Christmas? A little inner emotion? . .

“Lift your heads you army of the afflicted, the humbled, the discouraged, you defeated army with bowed heads. The battle is not lost; the victory is yours. Take courage, be strong. There is no room here for shaking your heads and doubting, because Christ is coming.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The Latin word *adventus* means “coming.” The season of Advent is a season of preparation, to prepare each of us for the coming of Christ into our lives. This season of coming is when we focus on Christ’s redemptive work coming to us. As Bonhoeffer points out, the one great question of Advent is, “Do you want to be redeemed?”

Redemption is being brought back to God from sin and death. Christ comes to us to bring us back to God. Is this what you want? Or, if you are not interested in Redemption, perhaps all you are interested in, as Bonhoeffer says, is “a little inner emotion” at Christmas.

What is important is that you open your heart, to let Christ come to you during this Advent Season. Perhaps you could say some extra prayers, make an Advent wreath, light a candle on the wreath before dinner, and say prayers inviting Christ to come to you. Or, another idea: pray the four collects of Advent in the prayer book (pages 211 and 212) at home, each collect for a separate week. Think about these collects: how do the ideas in these prayers apply to you? Another idea: look in the New Testament for instances where Jesus came into the lives of people. What can you learn from these New Testament accounts of Christ’s coming?

Advent is a time when we look back at how Christ came 2,000 years ago; it is also a time for us to look forward to Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. But, most importantly, it is when we allow Jesus Christ to come to us today.

Your friend in Christ,

Father George

DIOCESAN-WIDE CHRISTMAS PARTY AND SONGFEST

For the benefit of ECS Safe Havens Adult Programs

Saturday, Dec. 7, 12:30 pm

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

6555 Park Ridge Blvd., San Diego

This event will benefit the adult clients of Episcopal Community Services' Safe Havens transitional programs. Forty-eight mentally ill and formerly homeless men and women currently reside in two program locations in San Diego and our gifts will again brighten their holiday. Everyone is invited to attend this Christmas Potluck, Party and Songfest at St. Dunstan's, 6556 Park Ridge Blvd., San Diego, beginning at 12:30 pm on Saturday, Dec. 7.



Bring a dish to share and one or more unwrapped gifts from the list below:

Adult socks; Men's and women's underwear; Shampoo, conditioner, hair spray and hair gel; Hairbrushes and combs; Toothbrushes and toothpaste; Soap and shower gel; Deodorant, cologne and perfume; Body and hand lotion; Shower shoes (flip flops); Alarm clocks; Pocket calendars; \$25 gift cards to Wal-Mart or Target; Checks in any amount payable to ECS with Safe Havens in the memo line.

Invite your friends to join us in celebrating Our Savior's birth. Attendance at a Cursillo weekend is not a requirement to participate. We'll eat, drink, sing Christmas carols and know that our gifts will make a difference in the lives of many less fortunate men and women.

IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THE PARTY AND WANT TO DONATE GIFTS, JUST GIVE THEM TO ANY SECRETARIAT MEMBER, LEAVE THEM IN YOUR CHURCH OFFICE, OR TAKE THEM DIRECTLY TO ECS. For further information, contact Judy Anderson, 619-286-1208, jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net.

Mailing Address for Contributions to San Diego Episcopal Cursillo

Cursillos In Christianity
c/o Jamie Wood - Treasurer
4552 Point Loma Avenue
San Diego, CA 92107

CALENDAR

December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 07-Dec-13 Servant Community 9:00 am—11:00 am
St. Dunstan's
- 07-Dec-13 Secretariat 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
St. Dunstan's
- 07-Dec-13 Cursillo Christmas Party 12:30 pm-4:00pm
St. Dunstan's

January 2014

- 10-Jan-14 to Back to the Mountain 7 pm Friday to
12 Jan-14 Camp Stevens Noon Sunday
- 19-Jan-14 Cursillo Sunday All Churches
- 24-Jan-14 Forward Deadline
- 25-Jan-14 Secretariat Retreat 9:00 am-3:00pm
Susan Miller's home

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

- 21-Feb-14 40th San Diego Episcopal Diocesan Convention
22 Feb-14 The Crowne Plaza Hotel

Save the Dates!

Spring Cursillo #134 - April 24-27, 2014
Fall Cursillo #135 - October 23-26, 2014

2013 SECRETARIAT MEMBERS

Name	E-Mail	Function	Term Expired
Glenn Parrish	glenn.parrish@navy.mil	2013 Chair	'13
Judy Anderson	jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net	4th Day Chair	'14
Judy Brown	jbrown3944@aol.com	3 Day Weekend Chair Secretary	'13
Ed Embick	sueanded@san.rr.com	Communications Chair	'14
Justin Jordan	JJordan2259@verizon.net	Communications Vice-Chair	'15
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	2014 Chair-Elect Pre-Cursillo Chair	'14
Karen Rice	ktkrice@cox.net	Pre-Cursillo Vice-Chair	'15
Larry Salvadori	lasalvadori@yahoo.com	Servant Community Convener	'15
Mercedes Webber	858-277-4183	3 Day Weekend Vice-Chair	'13
Jamie Wood	jamiewood2@cox.net	Treasurer	
Bruce Wier	ruthandbruce02@att.net	Hispanic Community Lay Representative HC	Apnt'd '06
Rev. George Calvert	gcalvert@cox.net	Diocesan Spiritual Advisor	Apnt'd '05
Rev. Ed Busch, M.D.	edwbus@hotmail.com	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'13
Rev. Babs Meairs	edwbus@hotmail.com	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'14
Rev. Steve Wendfeldt	steve@ardellwendfeldt.com	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'15
Rev. Carlos Garcia	carlangas1986@cs.com	Hispanic Community Spiritual Advisor	Apnt'd '06

Please let Ed Embick at sueanded@san.rr.com know if you have a change to your email or address. Please let Sharon know at jimsharon157@verizon.net if you would like to have an article or news item inserted into the Forward. If you would like to know more about the Servant Community work contact Larry at lasalvadori@yahoo.com

Cursillo 134

DeColores,

I am Judy Brown and I have been called to be the Rector for the Spring 2014 weekend. God and the Secretariat feel I am ready to lead this weekend.

I am humbled and honored by this trust. Due to the cancelation of the Fall weekend and the financial loss the community took by the cancelation, we have a major responsibility to pull this weekend together. We need the community support to achieve the success of the Spring weekend. I am currently working on the Core team & have a few folks already committed to work the weekend.

Our objective is to have enough candidates and team members. I am prayerfully asking God's guidance for a theme for the weekend and looking forward to starting to put together a schedule to publish so everyone knows when we will be having meetings.

Applications are on the SD Cursillo website. You can reach me at jbrown3944@aol.com or on my cell, 619-925-0173 if you have any questions. I am excited about what God has planned for this weekend; for all who will be there to experience their Cursillo and for those who will be on the team.

In His Service, Ultreya, *Judy Brown*

CELEBRATE CURSILLO SUNDAY

January 19, 2014 is Cursillo Sunday in our diocese. This is an opportunity to make Cursillo a very visible presence in your parish--the time to engage non-Cursillistas in dialog about attending a weekend. Parish Reps are encouraged to speak with their priests about celebrating Cursillo. Some parishes have had testimonies at services, included Cursillo brochures in church bulletins, shown the Cursillo DVD, sponsored a coffee hour.

With the cancellation of the Fall weekend and the expectation of a full weekend in the Spring, applications should be submitted well before the deadline date of March 24. Before you know it April 24 will be here. Remember how you felt on your Cursillo weekend? Don't you want to help a friend experience the joy of Cursillo, too?



Back to the Mountain January 10-12, 2014



Experience the beauty of the mountain by attending Back to the Mountain at Camp Stevens, January 10-12, 2014. Anyone who has attended a 3-5 day retreat weekend is invited. It is a time to recapture your experience on this mini retreat, and spend time relaxing with your brothers and sisters in Christ. There will be some planned time with plenty of free time as well. Register now through December 13, 2013 for the lower price of \$135 per person; and \$145 after December 13, 2013. Last day to register will be December 24, 2013. Dinner will be offered on Friday evening for an additional \$7.50 per person. Applications are now available on the Cursillo website and in this issue of the Forward. Please contact Laurie Mumford for additional information.

From the Chair-Elect

I'm looking forward with anticipation and some trepidation to serving in 2014 as Chair of the Cursillo Secretariat. Trepidation, because being a chair person takes me beyond my experience and out of my comfort zone. I've learned a lot from our current chair, Glenn Parrish: Things like being prepared for each meeting; knowing what needs to be accomplished—whether it be the overall health of our Cursillo community or the details that make a weekend work—and getting it done; and last but not least, how to run a meeting (a.k.a. the gentle art of crowd control).

My Cursillo Weekend in 2004 was a pivotal experience in my Christian life. I am grateful toward God, my sponsors the Peraltas, and every person that worked or contributed in some way to that weekend. Their prayers, their service, the weeks of preparation, their sacrifice of time, all are appreciated and will not be forgotten. It is in the spirit of thankfulness that I continue to be involved with Cursillo so that as many as possible may have the opportunity to meet God in a fresh way, become equipped to “Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ,” and influence their environment for Christ in ways they may not have been aware of before attending Cursillo.

It is also with anticipation that I approach the New Year and my term as Chair. I've been prayerfully considering what our course should be. More on that at a later date....

Susan Miller, Chair-Elect

FOURTH DAY ACTIVITIES

Forty-eight Cursillistas attended the Grand Ultreya at St. Tim's on Nov. 16 to hear Joy Winter speak on her eye ministry to Ghana. Good Shepherd Bonita had the most Cursillistas attending this ultreya, with St. Andrew's La Mesa a close second. Joy reminded us all that we should listen to God when He tells us to be still and just pray. On the three legged stool of Prayer, Study and Action, many of us have a very long action leg, so during this busy holiday time, try to stop and listen before you forge ahead.

Ed Embick is updating the Saints Roster; if you have had any additions or corrections to your e-listing, please make the appropriate change through the website. Our Diocesan-wide Christmas Party for the Benefit of ECS Adult Ministry Safe Havens is being held on Dec. 7 at St. Dunstan's. Join us!

Judy Anderson, 4th Day Chair

**Dear Lord, purify my heart and guide my steps today
so that I may be a faithful witness for you; that someone out in the world
can see your light shining in me and be drawn to you. Amen.**

Newly Elected Secretariat Members

Congratulations and thank you to those who consented to run and were elected to the Secretariat beginning in 2014.

New to the board are:

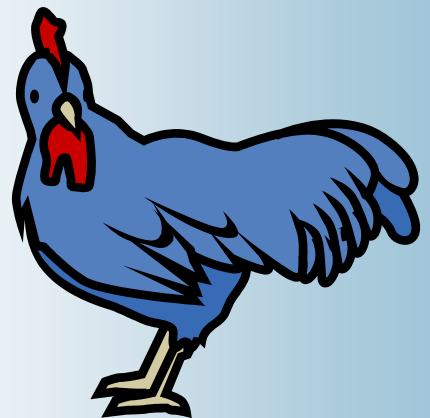
- ♦ Ruben Rodriguez and Laurie Mumford.

Continuing on after serving a partial term are:

- ♦ Mercedes Webber and Fr. Ed Busch.

Thanks also to our outgoing members who finish their 3 year terms in December:

- ♦ Glenn Parrish and Judy Brown.



Back to the Mountain

January 10-12, 2014



Blessed Be God:

Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit

2 Corinthians 12:14

**May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. NIV**

Come listen, talk, sing, pray, learn, grow, have fun and be refreshed at Back to the Mountain in the New Year.

- Camp Stevens, Julian CA Food is provided by the camp.
- Begins at 7:00 pm on Friday, January 10 and ends around noon on Sunday, January 12. For an extra \$7.50 you can join us for dinner in the dining hall at 6:00 pm for dinner on Friday evening.
- All Cursillistas and adults who have been on an equivalent three day weekend, such as Walk to Emmaus, are welcome.
- Cost is \$135.00 per person when paid by 12/13/2013; and \$145 after 12/13/2013. Last day to register is December 24.*

There will be planned activities and lots of free time to enjoy the beautiful surroundings.

We hope you will join us!

Laurie Mumford and Eileen Pierce, rectors, BTTM 2014

Application and Payment should be sent to: Laurie Mumford, 10992 Via Abaca, San Diego, CA 92126

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Please make checks payable to "Cursillos in Christianity" with "BTTM" on the memo line.

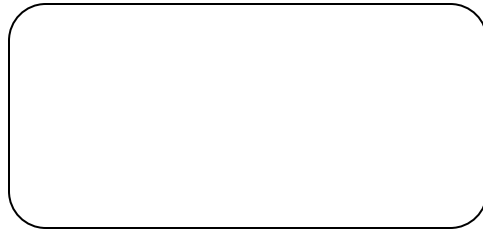
*No refunds after December 24 if you are unable to attend.

Name(s)	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Phone (day)	Phone (eve.)
Parish	Email
No. of Reservations: male () female ()	Amt. Enclosed \$
Friday Dinner? (add \$7.50 per person) No () If Yes () How many? ()	
Special Dietary Needs?	

Cursillos in Christianity

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO
2728 SIXTH AVENUE, SAN DIEGO, CA 2103-6397
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

SEND TO: SUSAN MILLER
15815 INDIAN VALLEY ROAD
JAMUL, CA 91935



Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
"Whom shall I send? And *who will go for us?*"
And I said, "Here am I, Send me!" ISA 6:8

