



FORWARD

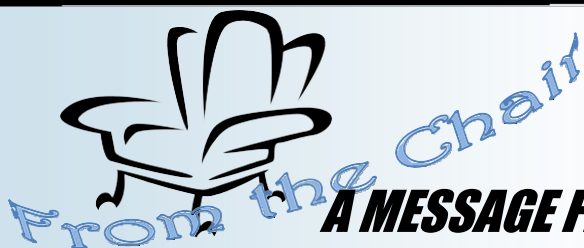


AUGUST 2017

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Our Mission Is To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership

Please visit our Cursillo website for a ton of information at: www.sdcursillo.org



A MESSAGE FROM THE CURSILLO SECRETARIAT PRESIDENT

JULY WAS CURSILLO AWARENESS MONTH: Have you been busy making your congregation more aware of Cursillo?

Some have celebrated Cursillo at Ultreyas: June 24th at St. Phillip's. Miguel Cosio gave a spontaneous witness talk from the heart, and Julian Sanchez taught us some new music in Spanish. Grouping followed with time to celebrate friendship and to share cross-cultural experiences. July 22nd at Good Shepherd, Hemet, Jan Martin witnessed and grouping followed.

Grouping on a regular basis

Examining your experiences with Piety, Study and Action, and sharing it with others is a proven method of building your faith. As you live your life, you are a witness of God's love. Your actions and your words reflect what is in your heart! If you are not grouping, try to find a time and group that works well with your lifestyle. Consider starting a group: a few Cursillistas, a good time and a meeting place. The time is now. If you need help getting started, contact Judy Anderson or me.

Enjoy the rest of summer, but fall will be here before you know it!

Now is the time to think and pray about candidates for #141 Fall Weekend, October 19-22, 2017. Fall weekends at Camp Stevens in Julian are usually blessed with fine weather, with just a touch of autumn. Do you know a friend at church who would like to attend? Why not invite them after you consult with your priest? Many churches have or are forming accounts that Cursillistas can donate to and thus provide funds to send their candidates. If your church has not done this, why not present the idea to your Priest. You can support Cursillo in many ways. You can sponsor a friend by helping the candidate complete their application, driving them to and from camp, attending the Open Closura, and taking them to the Night of Deeper Understanding and the Grand Ultreya after the weekend. Your work is not done yet! Then you need to nurture them by helping them to find a group. Another way for you to serve is by joining the camp team. The Rector for #141, Pete Castalagno has selected a strong core team, and needs you to fill out the team. Prayers are said every day in support of him, the team, and the candidates, known and unknown. **Consider completing a team application and serving on #141 (see website www.sdcursillo.org). God is calling you to come and share your gifts.**

Pray – Pray – Pray – for #141 – for Pete and his team and for the candidates God is calling.

Jill McGrew, Secretariat President

FROM THE DIOCESAN CURSILLO SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

The Life of Faith

“Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards.”--Soren Kierkegaard

I often hear people tell me that they believe in God. But what do they mean when they say they believe in God? Do they simply mean that they believe God exists? But according to the book of James, even the Devil believes God exists. Believing that God exists will not necessarily bring changes to your life. It is possible to believe in the existence of God and not have any intention of submitting your life to God. Some people tell me that they believe that Jesus is the son of God. But simply to agree with the idea that Jesus is the son of God is not to really believe in Jesus. It is only to intellectually ascent to an idea in the mind. Having the correct idea in your mind about Jesus, while a good first step, is not the same as having faith in Jesus. Faith goes beyond ideas and reason in the mind. Faith looks into the future, beyond reasoned reflection. As Kierkegaard tells us, life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards. Faith trusts that God and his son Jesus will be working in ways that go beyond what we know. The faithful look into an unknown future and trust Jesus by putting their lives into His hands. This faith in Jesus is an unconditional faith. It is trusting in Jesus no matter what happens, no matter what the situation, for the best future.

A person living by faith in Jesus Christ is living a life of faith. A life of faith trusting in Jesus for a better future is a multi-dimensional reality. Some of the dimensions are as follows:

- A life of faith always involves taking risks for God. These risks are God-directed. When we take these risks, God leads us and we are being obedient to God. These risks, when taken, allow us to actualize the potential that God has given us.
- A life of faith allows us to live by grace. When we take risks for God, we are allowing God's grace, his active favor, to work in our life.
- A life of faith allows for God to guide us. As Kierkegaard points out, our understanding looks backward. We must depend upon God to guide us into an unknown future.
- A life of faith allows for God to have a relationship with us. We make an actual connection with God through faith. This connection allows us to experience God's presence inside of us.
- A life of faith allows for emotional feelings of joy and peace. These emotions are a consequence of God's presence inside of us.
- A life of faith helps us to overcome our suffering. Faith also helps us to interpret our suffering in a constructive way rather than simply trying to escape from it or be devastated by it.
- A life of faith calls us to do loving actions towards people that we would not do if left to our own selfishness. Faith lifts us outside of ourselves giving us a bigger life and enabling those around us to experience the blessings of our faith.

A person living a life of faith agrees with John the Baptist's statement in the Gospel of John, Chapter 3, verse 30 "He must increase, but I must decrease." What John is saying is that Jesus Christ must increase in our life as our self-centeredness decreases. As Jesus increases, he leads us into a larger life, a practical and daily way of life that is radically different from a self-centered secular life.

Paradoxically, as we "decrease," we become a bigger and better person.

To have faith in Jesus, is to have all the above moving parts of faith. This life of faith involves every aspect of our being. It is filled with many different dimensions. I hope that you will live a life of faith and experience the wonder of God working through your whole life.

Your friend in Christ,
Father George

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSPIRATIONAL TESTIMONY WE CAN GIVE THE GIFT TO OTHERS THROUGH SPONSORSHIP

My Cursillo Experience
By Tina Noon

I had been invited to attend Cursillo for years before I finally went. Life just kept getting in the way. Work, school, home responsibilities, you name it. To be honest, there was also a part of me that didn't really understand why it was so important to everyone else at church that I go. I thought, "I'm at church all the time. I attend. I volunteer. I participate. I give. I've taken the Alpha Course. Why do I really have to go away for a long weekend to learn about Christianity?" The idea of being away from my life, especially my family, for a long weekend really kind of stressed me out.

Finally the timing seemed right. Everyone at home was healthy. My daughter was older, and could be helpful at home. And because it was April, my school had Spring Break, so I didn't have to feel guilty about taking time off from work.

So it was really going to happen, I was all set to attend Cursillo 136. Church friends seemed very happy about this.

Then the afternoon before I was to leave for my send-off dinner, my daughter came home from school really upset about some things that had happened with her friends. There was a lot of drama and crying. All I could think about was, "What kind of a mother leaves her daughter at a time like this?" Just as I was thinking that I shouldn't leave, my ride (Darryl Peralta) pulled up in the driveway (early). This turned out to be a blessing because I didn't have time to back out. My mom was telling me to go. Everything would be fine. So we were off. Me, feeling guilty.

As Darryl, Father George, and I were approaching Camp Stevens, Darryl shared some words of wisdom. He told me that when we get there, people are going to want to do things for me and I should let them. I remember thinking, "O-kaaay.(?)"

As we pulled into the camp, it started raining. A gentleman came to the car and took my luggage from me. I let him, even though it felt a little weird. Then someone asked for my phone and promised to return it at the end of the weekend. That was uncomfortable because that was my connection to home. I remember I was also asked for my watch, but I hadn't brought it because I was told not to (I was told not to bring my phone either, but I guess I was hoping they weren't serious about that. They were.)

Then we went into a room where everyone was gathering and introductions were being made. Father George led us in prayer and said a few words to kick off the Cursillo weekend. Then he and Darryl went out the door and I remember thinking, "Hey! Where are they going?" I was feeling like a kindergartener who just got left at school for the first time. Suddenly Ginny and Ruben Rodriguez were sitting on either side of me, as if they could read my mind. And so the weekend had begun.

Throughout the weekend people waited on me hand and foot. It was a little uncomfortable at first because it made me feel lazy and somewhat entitled. I'm typically a worker, not someone who sits around and lets everyone else do all the work. At Cursillo, you are very well taken care of. You are told when to go to bed and when to get up. The food is never-ending. Your every need is met. There were a lot of very powerful talks given by people who had been to Cursillo before, as well as clergy. These talks were always followed by group discussions. It was a weekend full of deep meaningful conversations, prayer, laughter, tears, music, and singing. There were many surprises, and it was hard not to feel emotional at times. It rained almost the entire weekend... but that didn't dampen the spirit.

Things I learned during my weekend:

#1. You go up that mountain, you're on God's time. Something I think God is always trying to teach me: Live in the moment.

#2. All weekend I was witness to examples of love and serving. People waiting on me did it with such passion and joy. Most of them were complete strangers to me, but they were thrilled to serve me. They served me with God's love, which is what I am meant to do.

#3. Why did I need to go away for a weekend? To get away from my life, which is so full of distractions. This was an opportunity to be immersed in good Christian love. Here I had time to reflect and figure out how I feel and what I believe. And how it all applies to my life. And how I, as a Christian, should live. Sometimes we need to "unplug" to get it. No TV. No computer. No phone. God was saying, "Can you hear me now?"

On the last day of the weekend, the sun came out. I went off on my own for a little while to actually see the beauty of the camp. It was graduation day. On that day I made a promise: to gladly serve my brothers and sisters with God's love. It was an easy promise to make. Serving others, even in the smallest of ways... and serving God brings me joy. And it's one way I can be a positive light in this world.

Here I am, Lord. Send me.

READ-REREAD-REMEMBER-ACT-VOLUNTEER-DO IT-WITH LOVE **CURSILLO IS COMING TO CONVENTION=-A REMINDER**

CURSILLO HAS BEEN ASKED TO PROVIDE HOSPITALITY SERVICES AT THE DIOCESAN ANNUAL CONVENTION AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S ON NOVEMBER 10-11, 2017. WE HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH THE DIOCESAN AND ST. BART'S CONVENTION TEAMS AND FOLLOWING IS THE GAME PLAN FOR CURSILLO. WE INVITE YOUR INPUTS FOR ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES CURSILLO CAN PROVIDE TO MAKE THE 2017 CONVENTION AN EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER.

Hospitality offerings and responsibilities:

1. Beverage Bars – Coffee (regular; iced; etc.), Tea, Water – Start Friday and Saturday @7:30 AM.
2. Comfort/Necessities Stations : Start 10:00AM Friday- through Saturday
 - a. Create Comfort Station(s) at strategic location(s)
 - b. Snack Bags (protein, energy) with inspirational message(Palanca)
 - c. Telephone Charging Areas
 - d. Face Wipes, personal items, etc.
 - e. Note Writing, Passing (encouraging, love, engaging, etc)
3. Std. Box Lunch for Friday lunch. Serve 400: (crew of 8)
 - a. Box Lunch (sub sand, chips, pickle. cookie, palanca note).
4. Continental Breakfast (fruit, muffins, etc.) for Saturday Morning – start @7:30 AM.(crew of 4)
5. Chili (make for 400 = 35 gallons)(crew of 8) for Saturday Lunch with all the fixings: small baked potato; butter; onions; sour crème; cheese; chili powder; hot pepper sauce; Brownies.
6. Provide entertainment and music for Friday night dinner: Cursillo Musicians.(sing-a-long)
7. Provide serving people for Friday Night meal as necessary (crew of 8).
8. Provide drivers for St. Bart's Carts to/from remote parking as necessary(crew of 6)
 - a. Rent (Friday) an extra 6-passenger for service project.
9. Cursillo will organize a continuous prayer vigil for all Convention attendees from 7:00 AM Friday through 4:00PM Saturday. Prayer request boxes will be placed at strategic locations.
10. Cursillo will provide palanca for all attendees including brownies, muffins, and cookies.

LARRY SALVADORI (PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR AND PEST)

VOLUNTEER NEEDS AS OF 8/1/1017:

1. *ONE MORE CREW OF 8 FOR FRIDAY LUNCH. (FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER AND SATURDAY CHILI LUNCH COVERED)*
2. *MORE COOKIES FOR FRIDAY BOX LUNCH(SEE BELOW)*
3. *MORE BROWNIES FOR SATURDAY LUNCH (SEE BELOW)*
4. *250 MORE PALANCA NOTES IN ENVELOPES FOR BOX LUNCHES.(150 COVERED) SEE BELOW*
5. *COFFEE BAR POURERS AND GOPHERS, COMFORT STATION STACKERS AND GOPHERS*
6. *MORE TO FOLLOW.*

NOTE: ONE SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR PALANCA NOTES IN ENVELOPES FOR BOX LUNCHES:

Dear Child of God,(also on outside of sealed envelope)

You have answered a call from God by attending this Convention. i know that God will bless you and bring you closer to Him. I will dedicate my Friday and Saturday prayers to you, and the success of the Convention.

With Love,

(first name only)

NOTE: STANDARDS FOR COOKIES AND BROWNIES:

:*COOKIES: ABOUT 3" IN DIAMETER; NO NUTS/COCONUTS ; IF SOFT, WRAP IN WAX PAPER; DELIVER IN DISPOSABLE BAG.

* BROWNIES: APPROX. 2" X 2-1/2" (20 PER 13' X 9" PAN); NO NUTS; WRAP IN WAX PAPER; DELIVER IN DISPOSABLE BAG OR WRAP.

VOLUNTEER FORM AT END OF FORWARD

CALENDER YEAR - 2017

AUGUST 12, ULTREYA, GOOD SHEPHERD, BONITA, 6:00PM PL, 7:00PM UL
AUGUST 26, CURSILLO #141 TEAM MEETING, ST. ALBANS, 9:00AM-12:30PM
SEPT. 9, SERVANT COM MEETING, ST. DUNSTANS, 8:30AM-12:00 NOON
NEWBIE TRAINING
SEPT. 9, SECRETARIAT MEETING, ST. DUNSTANS, 12:30 PM- 2:30PM
SEPT. 16, ULTREYA, ST. TIMS, 6:090PM PL, 7:00PM UL
SEPT. 19, CURSILLO #141 APPLICATIONS DEADLINE
SEPT. 23, CURSILLO TEAM MEETING, ST. ALBANS, 9:00AM – 12:30 PM
SEPT. 29, FORWARD ARTICLE DEADLINE
SEPT. 30, ROLLO CRITIQUES, ST. BARTS, 8:30AM – 1:00PM
OCT. 5, SECRETARIAT MEETING, ST. DUNSTANS, 6:30 PM
OCT. 6, MAKE-UP TEAM MEETING, ST. PHILIPS, 6:00PM – 10:00PM
OCT. 7, FINAL TEAM MEETING, ST. ALBANS, 9:00AM – 12:30PM

CURSILLO NEWS/NOTES

FROM JUDY ANDERSON/ DEBBIE KISTLER- CHAIR/CO - CHAIR

ULTREYA AT ST. PHILIPS:

27 Cursillistas attended the potluck and Ultreya at St. Philip's on June 24. Miguel Cosio gave an inspiring Witness Talk on PRAYER, Joe Gamboa was wonderful with his Echo on FAITH and Fr. Carlos tied them together beautifully in his Scriptural Response. Julian Sanchez received a round of applause as a first time Head Musician with a good mix of songs in Spanish and English. Miguel even commented that one of the songs gave him encouragement for his Witness Talk. Pete Casalegno was able to update us on Cursillo #141 and was excited about the new "Angel" positions. Laughter, hugs and catching up was had by all. Hope to see more of you at the next Ultreya at Good Shepherd in Hemet. The 10:00 am ultreya will be followed by a potluck lunch. Carpooling is suggested, leaving San Diego before 8:30 am.

Debbie Kistler, 4th day co-chair.

ULTREYA REPORT – Good Shepherd Hemet – July 22, 2017

A record 40 people attended the Lunch Ultreya at Good Shepherd Hemet on July 22. The day began with coffee and pastries for the San Diego people who made the 1-1/2 to 2 hour trip to the desert. Although the day was hot (102) it was cool in the Parish Hall and church, and the Ultreya in the church was followed by a sumptuous lunch in the Parish Hall. Jan Martin spoke on how she has grown so much through her Cursillo experience from being a shy candidate to cocinero to table leader, rollista and rector. She now does not hesitate to share her faith either publicly or privately. Lynn Sarnecki, her grouping sister, told of how she experienced Jan's growth. Fr. Rob Eaton, who lead the music (and introduced two new songs, naturally), gave the scriptural response (which was quite easy since Jan gave him her scriptural reference of Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."). We wished Eileen Pierce Godspeed in her move to Idaho.

Below are some of the pictures Art Conn took of the event:



2017 Secretariat Lay Members

Name	E-Mail	Function	Term Exp.
Jill McGrew	jmegrew2015@gmail.com	2017 President	'18
Miguel Cosio	gmiguelcosio1971@yahoo.com	Hispanic Partners Chair	'18
Katherine Gordon	yosemiteshair@yahoo.com	Pre-Cursillo Vice-Chair	'17
Debbie Kistler	dk.outoflove@cox.net	4 th Day Vice-Chair	'17
Kit Chevalier	kmsopsinger@yahoo.com	2017 President Elect, Publicity, Grouping	'19
Eileen Pierce	angelslight@mindspring.com	Vice-Chair Communications Historian/Kairos	'17
Jon Turley	turley.jonixxi@gmail.com	3-Day Weekend Chair	'18
Craig Noble	craignoble@cox.net	3 Day Weekend Vice-Chair	'19
Rachel Ambasing	rachel.ambasing@gmail.com	Palanca	'19

2017 Secretariat Clergy Members

Name	E-Mail	Function	Term Exp.
Rev. George Calvert	calvert@calalum.org subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business	Diocesan Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd
Rev. Paul Gambling	gfrpaul@gmail.com subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'19
Rev. Bob Nelson	bobnelson1@hotmail.com subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'17
Rev. Cristina Borges	haolam000@gmail.com	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'17
Rev. Carlos Garcia	carlangas1986@cs.com subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd

SPECIAL CURSILLO SERVANTS

Name	E-Mail	Function
Judy Brown	jbrown3944@aol.com	<u>EMS Liaison</u>
Jamie Wood	jamiewood2@cox.net	<u>Treasurer</u>
Larry Salvadori	lasalvadori@yahoo.com	Servant Community Convener
Judy Anderson	jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net	Parish Reps / 4th Day Chair/ Ultreyas
Larry Salvadori	lasalvadori@yahoo.com	Forward Editor
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	<u>Pre-Cursillo Chair</u>
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	Cursillo Music Coordinator
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	Secretary
Barbara Peralta	bperalta@yahoo.com	Rector Support Team
Ruben Rodriguez	Rodriguez_ruben@msn.com	Rector Support Team/ Outreach
Ed Embick	sueanded@san.rr.com	Webmaster
Shell Pierce	roaminchristian@mindspring.com	Alt. Webmaster

Palanca Events Around the Globe

August

8/24-8/27, Cursillo #252, ellenpanchot@gmail.com, Texas

August

8/24-8/27, Cursillo #252, ellenpanchot@gmail.com, Texas

August

8/24-8/27, Cursillo #252, ellenpanchot@gmail.com, Texas

August

8/24-8/27, Cursillo #252, ellenpanchot@gmail.com, Texas

September

9/7-9/10—Cursillo weekend, mgrottgers@gmail.com, Heartland

9/7-9-10—Cursillo #209, lipmonm@gmail.com or rholiday@russellands.com, Alabama

9/13-9/17, Cursillo #159 jgriffing@naihalford.com, Central Gulf Coast FL/AL

9/14-9/17, Combined Men's and Women's Cursillo #20, fortiter@paradise.net.nz, Christchurch, New Zealand

9/28 - 10/1, Coed Weekend #163, laydirector@cursillodiosova.org, Southern Virginia

9/28 - 10/1, Men's Cursillo WE #138, mwiller@bellsouth.net, Florida

9/28-10/1—Women's Cursillo #112, pam.laws.clark@gmail.com, Southeast Florida **September**

9/7-9/10—Cursillo weekend, mgrottgers@gmail.com, Heartland

9/7-9-10—Cursillo #209, lipmonm@gmail.com or rholiday@russellands.com, Alabama

9/13-9/17, Cursillo #159 jgriffing@naihalford.com, Central Gulf Coast FL/AL

9/14-9/17, Combined Men's and Women's Cursillo #20, fortiter@paradise.net.nz, Christchurch, New Zealand

9/28 - 10/1, Coed Weekend #163, laydirector@cursillodiosova.org, Southern Virginia

9/28 - 10/1, Men's Cursillo WE #138, mwiller@bellsouth.net, Florida

9/28-10/1—Women's Cursillo #112, pam.laws.clark@gmail.com, Southeast Florida

CURSILLO VOLUNTEER /REGISTER FOR CONVENTION FORM

NOTE: YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, ETC. WILL BE CONVERTED INTO AN OFFICIAL REGISTRATION FORM FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO DIOCON 2017. THERE IS NO FEE TO VOLUNTEER.

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____ PARISH _____

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

BAKE COOKIES FOR BOX LUNCHES. NO NUTS, COCONUT. I WILL BAKE DOZEN.(4-MINIMUM).

BAKE BROWNIES FOR CHILI LUNCH. I WILL BAKE DOZEN. (4-MINIMUM)

BAKE MUFFINS FOR SAT. CONT. BREAK. I WILL BAKE DOZEN (3-MINIMUM)

- PREPARE/MAKE/SERVE FRIDAY BOX LUNCH. 8AM – 2 PM. LUNCH INCLUDED.
- SERVE FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER. 4PM – 8PM. DINNER INCLUDED.
- SET-UP, SERVE CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST. SATURDAY START 7:30 AM – 9:30 AM.
- PREPARE/MAKE/SERVE SATURDAY CHILI LUNCH. 8AM - 2PM. LUNCH INCLUDED.
- PREPARE/SET-UP/STOCK COMFORT STATIONS. START 8 AM FRI/SAT. LUNCH INCLUDED.
- COFFEE BARS. SET-UP, SERVE. START 8 AM FRI/SAT. LUNCH INCLUDED.
- DRIVE GOLF CARTS. START 7:30AM FRI/SAT. LUNCH INCLUDED
- GREETERS/USHERS START 8 AM FRI/SAT. LUNCH INCLUDED
- PRAYER RUNNERS. START 9 AM FRIDAY. CHECK PRAYER BOXES. EMAIL TO PRAYER VIGIL
- MUSICIANS FOR FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER. 5PM TO 8PM. DINNER INCLUDED.
- PALANCA NOTES. NEED 400 INSPIRATIONAL NOTES, FOR THE DELEGATES, TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FRIDAY BOX LUNCHES.

NOTE: ALL OPPORTUNITIES ABOVE WILL BECOME PART OF A TEAM OF CURSILLISTAS WITH BACK-UPS, UNION HOURS, GOOD FUN, AND GOOD FOOD. WE WILL WEAR OUR BALONEYS AND APRONS TO LET ALL PRESENT KNOW THAT CURSILLO CAN PROVIDE HOSPITALITY SERVICES AS ONLY CURSILLO CAN. WE DO THIS SERVICE BECAUSE WE WERE ASKED, AND BY SAYING YES, WE FULLFILL TWO OF THE COVENANTS IN OUR ANNUAL WRITTEN 2017 PASTORAL PLAN WITH THE BISHOP.