



FORWARD



JUNE 2018

*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](http://www.sdcursillo.org)



## ***A MESSAGE FROM THE CURSILLO SECRETARIAT PRESIDENT***

*The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love* Galatians 5:6b

Cursillo 142 was a fabulous, spiritual experience. Debbie Kistler and the entire 142 team came together at Pine Valley Bible Conference Center to welcome 15 new Cursillistas. We all experienced the love of Christ, the servanthood of others, and the inauguration of our new surroundings. We found the camp welcoming, flat (mostly), spacious and comfortable. Food was good and plentiful.

The Rollos were great, the Table Leaders skillfully facilitated the table discussions, and the Prayer Warriors prayed, set up the rooms, and expressed their love through serving. The clergy were supportive, along with the Asst. Rec's and 'old' Recs. Everyone played a critical part to allow the Holy Spirit to work. Sunday afternoon was a joyous celebration, with the Cursillo Community coming before Clausura to pass out flowers, Mañanitas, and join together as the new Cursillistas exclaimed, "Here I am, Lord. Send Me!". This was followed by a spirit-filled Eucharist.

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, many of us, including 10 of the 15 new Cursillistas came together for a wonderful Day of Deeper Understanding. We had music, grouping, talks, and good food to help explain some of the workings of Cursillo. Thank you, St Dunstan's for hosting.

The Grand Ultreya was May 19<sup>th</sup> at St John's in Chula Vista. More than 40 Cursillistas attended an exciting evening of music, good food, grouping, fellowship, and a moving witness talk given by Mike Jewett. The evening was capped off by Fr. George announcing:

Miguel Cosio is the Rector for Cursillo #143.

The weekend is Oct 25-28 and will be a spirit-filled, joyful event. Miguel is accepting applications (found on the website) for team members and it is certainly not too early to be looking for candidates.

Blessings to all,  
Kit Chevalier

## ***MORE FROM THE PRESIDENT***

### Look In the Mirror

As we each attended our Cursillo Weekends, be it #1 or #142, most of us became acutely aware of the strong 'community' of Cursillo. It was a community open to hugs, laughter, tears of emotion, and available to each other for encouragement in our renewed walk with Christ. Greetings of 'De Colores' were heard anywhere two or more Cursillistas were gathered. 4<sup>th</sup> Day Groups, were formed and many went on for years and are still going. Tight bonds, and lifelong friendships, were formed. As many of us attended Ultreyas, worked weekends, and attended Clausuras, it felt like coming home to family.

Many times, when people enter a close-knit family, they feel as an outsider would. They don't know everyone, the 'back-stories', the history that has gone on before. They are an outsider, and usually hope to become part of the established circle. Occasionally families can be so close, they seem unwelcome to new-comers.

Not that they seek to exclude, but are perhaps un-aware of behavior that does not welcome.

I have recently heard of a few stories that concern me. One story came from a couple that have not attended a weekend. Their impression was that Cursillo is an exclusive clique. 'Members' only talk to or sit with other 'members' on the church patio, or similar scenarios. If approached, the talk is only of Cursillo events, which they don't understand. Not that they weren't invited to attend a weekend, but only if they did attend a weekend, would they be welcome to fellowship with other Cursillistas. They didn't know if they wanted to be that cliquish.

Other experiences actually happened to newer Cursillistas at a Cursillo function, where those who have been around a long time, did not seem to be welcoming to others trying to join a casual discussion. Discussion stopped when approached, and no invitation to 'join us' came. In one situation, there was a language difference, but not the case in all.

My invitation to each of us is to 'look in the mirror' and ask ourselves if we have ever witnessed these behaviors, or even, unintentionally been a participant. Have each of us been as loving, welcoming, and neighborly to everyone, whether part of the 'family' or not? Is our behavior such that encourages others to want to participate in Cursillo? Have we welcomed the newer Cursillistas to be active on weekends, Ultreyas, grouping, and just casual events? Have we treated them as an integral part of a weekend team, in whatever capacity God has called them to serve? Do we sit with only those from our own church at Ultreyas? Have we ever intentionally sat with those sisters and brothers whom we may not know? Have we invited those without a group to join your group, no matter how long you have been together, or the size of the group?

This message comes out of love for the Cursillo community, and the desire for it to be a witness of God's love. There is no *them* and *us*, *inner-circle* and *outsiders*. Old-timers give us experience, newbies bring the future and a fresh perspective to help us all share God's love. We are all children of God and he loves each of us equally. As a reflection His love, should we do any less?

Blessings, Kit

## ***A MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN CURSILLO SPIRITUAL ADVISOR***

### **“You are a Soul in a Body”**

*“Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.” Genesis 2:7*

The British philosopher, John Locke, told the story of a Prince and the Cobbler who go to sleep at night. While they are sleeping, the contents of their respective consciousnesses are exchanged. The question Locke asks is, “When each awakens in the morning, will he be the same man?” Their personal identities are located in their consciousnesses. So, even though the prince's consciousness is now in the cobbler's body, he still knows he is the prince. Each man has a soul that is his self that exists in a state of consciousness, not in the body. The identity of the soul alone is who we are. You have a body, but you are a soul.

The body is the outward part of you; the soul is the inward part of you. The body exists in the material world and so you are a material being—a piece of material reality. You are a material girl, or boy, a woman or man. But you also exist as an immaterial self, which we call in Theology, “the soul.” The word “soul” is “psyche” in Greek and it is interchangeable in English with the words “self” and “mind.” The soul is the “I” inside the body. The soul is the owner of your experiences. The soul is the subjective agent full of intentions—of intentions of things to do. This “I” or “soul” is immaterial. It exists in a state of consciousness. As consciousness the soul exists with self-awareness. The soul is subjectively aware of itself and the world of objects around it. Because the soul exists as consciousness, it is not brain functions, but depends upon the brain in order to function. Because the soul or the “I” does not exist in the brain, but in consciousness, there isn't a little man or a little woman inside the brain. The brain is the hardware that the soul or the self or the mind runs on. The soul exists as first person subjective consciousness and the brain exists as third person objective unconscious processes. The soul is the software. It exists as consciousness running on the hardware of the brain.

Over the last hundred years there has been an intense effort by some researchers in academic circles to try to show that the soul is an illusion and all that exists is really a brain. There have been philosophers, psychologists, and neuroscientists determined to rid people of the idea of the soul so that a strictly materialist world view could be upheld. Many atheists have been interested in eliminating the soul. In popular culture there has developed from this effort a prejudice that sooner or later we will discover that a brain function will explain away the soul. This prejudice is cloaked in the aura of scientific inevitability. But this way of thinking cannot be true. It is impossible to reduce the intentionality we find in consciousness into non-conscious third person processes of brain function. Intentionality exists in consciousness; it does not exist in unthinking physical causation. When one marble bumps into another marble, the marble itself does not do so out of intentional, conscious agency. The marbles aren't agents of action. The supposed removal of the soul robs the person of their dignity, their freedom, their values, their memories, their hope and aspirations; the person's life is reduced down to a purposeless and meaningless existence, to turn human beings into being nothing more than a biological machine; it's an attempt to turn us into zombies.

We need to pay attention to the soul. God doesn't want you to be a zombie! God loves you and me and that means he wants to help us souls. We try to take care of our bodies, but more importantly, we need to take care of our souls. Our souls can easily be invaded by sins such as the seven deadly sins of pride, greed, lust, envy, gluttony, wrath, and sloth. These sins pull us away from God and His grace that enlivens and builds up our souls. The church is a hospital for sinners and the community where people experience the healing of their souls. We need both the healing of the soul and the body, but the church primarily exists for the healing of the soul. The sickness of the soul often manifests itself in negative emotions. Look to see if there is an underlying sin that is causing your negative emotions.

The soul points toward God. The soul is full of desires, and longings that need to be fulfilled. We have inside of us a longing for moral completion and perfection. We have a longing for understanding that cannot be completed in this world. These longings can only be fulfilled by God, and so these longings in our soul point us toward God. We are created by God in the image of God. The image of God inside of us is like a mirror that reflects God's purposes and plans in the world. The soul experiences fulfillment when God's image inside of us is functioning as it should—when our lives are reflecting God's purposes and plans.

Let's use the analogy of the computer to talk about life after death. If the soul is like software and the body is like hardware, then just as the software of a computer can be loaded onto a new computer's hardware so can our soul be loaded into a new resurrected body after we die. The soul provides continuity of identity between our earthly body and our resurrected body. The soul is the essential you that will be transferred by God into a new body in a new creation. God can transfer your soul into a new universe. Salvation is resurrection and resurrection is salvation. Our resurrection into a new universe is our salvation.

Your friend in Christ,

Father George

## ***CURSILLO CALENDAR***

*6/02/18: SERVANT COMMUNITY MEETING, ST. DUNSTAN'S, 8:30 AM - NOON*

*6/02/18: SECRETARIAT MEETING, ST. DUNSTAN'S, 12:30 PM TO 3:00PM*

*6.09/18: ULTREYA, ST. DAVID'S, 6:00PM POT LUCK, 7:00PM ULTREYA*

***7/18: CURSILLO AWARENESS MONTH, ALL PARISHES, TELL YOUR STORY, PULPIT TALKS, CURSILLO INFO, FALL WEEKEND INTEREST, SPONSORSHIP.***

***7/15/18: CURSILLO AWARENESS SUNDAY (SEE ABOVE)***

*7/29/18: FORWARD ARTICLE DEADLINE*

## ***PALANCA***

Hello Dear Friends!!!

**Cursillo #142** was soooo fantastic !!. We had countless moments when the presence of the Holy Spirit was so present, touching our hearts, and our candidates'. **Kudos to all!!!**

I found myself reflecting deeply on current readings from the feasts of Ascension and Pentecost: "And surely I am with you always, even to the very end of the age". *Matthew 28:20* (rings the bell.....),

Oh.... and the Royal Wedding's sermon by The Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, how about that message of love!!.

Now that Bishop Curry has made the Episcopal Church so tangible to the world, let's be the echo to his message of love that comes only from God who sent his beloved son to save us.

May the Holy Spirit continue guiding us.

Let me invite you to send Palanca, and keep praying throughout the weekend when our brothers and sisters gather on their Cursillo Weekends on the following dates:

**JUNE** 6/7-10 Cursillo #213, Alabama, [jpoole@pooleandcompany.com](mailto:jpoole@pooleandcompany.com)

6/8-10 InStep, Texas, [Piggity@Jsrsystems.info](mailto:Piggity@Jsrsystems.info)

6/21-24 Mississippi, #134, [cursillomississippi@gmail.com](mailto:cursillomississippi@gmail.com)

**JULY** 7/12-15, Cursillo #138, South Carolina, [PaulaEGreenway@gmail.com](mailto:PaulaEGreenway@gmail.com)

7/13-16, Rio Grande, [kpittman@uwa.edu](mailto:kpittman@uwa.edu)

De Colores!

Isabel Lynne

### 2018 Secretariat Lay Members

Name	E-Mail	Function	Term Exp.
<b>Kit Chevalier</b>	<a href="mailto:kmsopsinger@yahoo.com">kmsopsinger@yahoo.com</a>	<b>2018 President</b>	<b>'19</b>
<b>Miguel Cosio</b>	<a href="mailto:gmiguelcosio1971@yahoo.com">gmiguelcosio1971@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Community Partners Chair</b>	<b>'18</b>
<b>Humberto Garcia</b>	<a href="mailto:ambrsunny2@aol.com">ambrsunny2@aol.com</a>	<b>Pre-Cursillo Vice Chair</b>	<b>'20</b>
<b>Susan Miller</b>	<a href="mailto:miller.sv@sbcglobal.net">miller.sv@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Pre-Cursillo Chair</b>	<b>'20</b>
<b>Jlill McGrew</b>	<a href="mailto:jmegrew2015@gmail.com">jmegrew2015@gmail.com</a>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Day and Comm. Partners Vice-Chair</b>	<b>'18</b>
<b>Jon Turley</b>	<a href="mailto:turley.jonixxi@gmail.com">turley.jonixxi@gmail.com</a>	<b>3-Day Weekend Chair</b>	<b>'18</b>
<b>Isabel Lynne</b>	<a href="mailto:ilynne1700@yahoo.com">ilynne1700@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Palanca</b>	<b>'20</b>
<b>Craig Noble</b>	<a href="mailto:craignoble@cox.net">craignoble@cox.net</a>	<b>2019 President Elect 3 Day Weekend Vice-Chair</b>	<b>'19</b>
<b>Rachel Ambasing</b>	<a href="mailto:rachel.ambasing@gmail.com">rachel.ambasing@gmail.com</a>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>'19</b>

### 2018 Secretariat Clergy Members

Name	E-Mail	Function	Term Exp.
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<b>Rev. Paul Gambling</b>	<a href="mailto:gfrpaul@gmail.com">gfrpaul@gmail.com</a> <a href="#">subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business</a>	<b>Asst. Spiritual Advisor</b>	<b>'19</b>
<b>Rev. Rick Showalter</b>	<a href="mailto:Symen1@aol.com">Symen1@aol.com</a> <a href="#">subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business</a>	<b>Asst. Spiritual Advisor</b>	<b>'20</b>
Open	TBD	<b>Asst. Spiritual Advisor</b>	<b>'20</b>
<b>Rev. Carlos Garcia</b>	<a href="mailto:carlangas1986@cs.com">carlangas1986@cs.com</a> <a href="#">subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business</a>	<b>Asst. Spiritual Advisor</b>	<b>Bishop Apnt'd</b>

## **SPECIAL CURSILLO SERVANTS**

Name	E-Mail	Function
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<b>Larry Salvadori</b>	<a href="mailto:lasalvadori@yahoo.com">lasalvadori@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Servant Community Convener</b>
<b>Judy Anderson</b>	<a href="mailto:jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net">jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Parish Reps / 4<sup>th</sup> Day Chair/ Ultreyas</b>
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<b>Shell Pierce</b>	<a href="mailto:roaminchristian@mindspring.com">roaminchristian@mindspring.com</a>	<b>Alt. Webmaster</b>

## **CURSILLO CORNER - DONATIONS**

The Cursillo community accepts donations year-round. These donations allow us to set up “scholarships” to help defray the cost of sponsoring new Cursillistas and workers, pay our bills, support ministries, and the Episcopal Cursillo Ministry. If you’d like to make a Donation/Gift to Cursillo, please sent it to:

Jamie Wood – Treasurer

4554 Point Loma Avenue

San Diego, Ca. 92107

Checks made out to: Cursillos in Christianity



## Episcopal Cursillo Ministry Committee Is Scouting for Talent

Have you found yourself wondering, “What can I do to help spread the Good News? I felt a burst of enthusiasm after my Cursillo weekend, but I don’t know how to help bring that experience to other people in my community, let alone in other parts of the country.”

If that thought has crossed your mind, then let’s talk. The Episcopal Cursillo Ministry Committee (ECMC) needs your help.

Following a change in bylaws passed by a vote at the annual conference in Oklahoma City in October 2017, the ECMC will begin recruiting five At-Large Representatives who possess skills that will help further the organization’s mission.

The types of skills we are seeking fall into the following general areas:

- Communications (written, electronic or oral)
- Events Planning
- Webmaster
- Training
- Administration

The primary role of the At-Large Representative will be to serve on at least one of the Committee’s subcommittees — Cursillo Leadership Development, Communications, Publications, Annual Conference, and Executive. If there is a District Representative vacancy within a region, the At-Large Representative may be asked to cover the position until such time that the vacancy is filled. The Representative may also be assigned special projects or responsibilities by the President. The Representative has an equal vote on all Committee decisions and may hold all positions on the Committee.

SEP

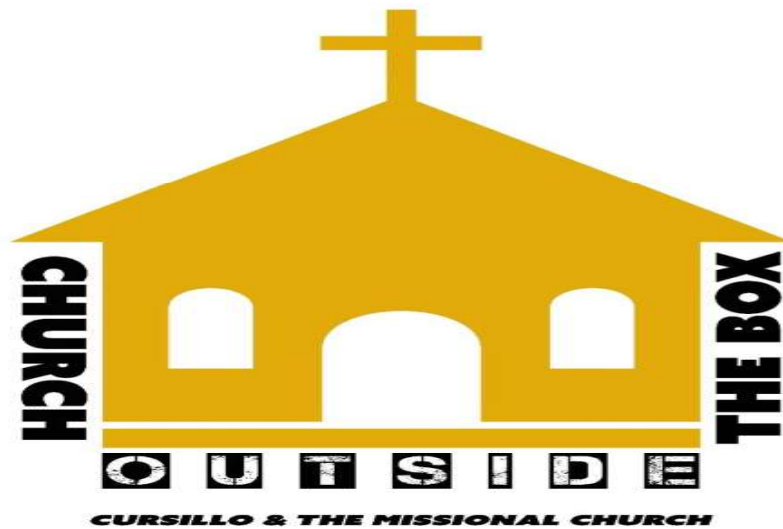
“But wait,” you say, “I’m not sure if I can commit to serving a three-year term on the ECMC.”

That’s okay. The ECMC still needs you. If you have skills and would like to share your expertise, without standing for election as a Committee member, we would still appreciate your help on one of the subcommittees.

For information contact ECMC President **Harriet Duff** at [hfd@gmail.com](mailto:hfd@gmail.com).



**EPISCOPAL CURSILLO MINISTRY**  
RELATIONSHIP • EVANGELISM • RECONCILIATION



## **Plans Proceeding For October 19-20, 2018 ECM Houston Conference**

Houston will host the 2018 annual conference of the Episcopal Cursillo Ministry on October 19-20. Plans include a number of insightful, hands-on workshops to enhance not only the Cursillo weekend but also deepen the Fourth Day experience. Watch Current plans are for conference attendees to receive a special rate at the Sam Houston Hotel. When conference registration is ready to begin, News Notes will send a special email with details about the conference and links to make early reservations both for the conference and the hotel.

