

○ FEBRUARY | ○ 2019



# Cursillo *forward*



Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego  
Our Mission is to Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership  
Please visit our Cursillo website for more information at [www.sdcursillo.org](http://www.sdcursillo.org)

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

Well, here we are, another year and I start mine as the Secretariat President for 2019. First things first, I'm Craig Noble and have been very active in the San Diego Episcopal Cursillo since I worked my first 3-day weekend #203 the fall of 2005.

January 11-13, we held our yearly post-Christmas and New Year's retreat "Back To The Mountain" (BTTM). This is our second year at Pine Valley Bible Conference Center. Our leaders were the Three Amigo's, Larry Salvadori, Ruben Rodriguez and Jon Turley. The Theme was "Friends of Jesus love one another, just as He loves us (John 15: 12-13, 17). Each of the three talks was preceded by a verse from the song "What a friend we have in Jesus", three verses, three talks. Each talk was the speaker's perspective of the theme in their life. All talks were inspired and inspiring for us. There was also time to relax, meditate and refresh from the hectic holidays. I hope you can join us next year.

Secretariat President  
Craig Noble



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

### The Revealed Word of God and Your Unconscious Mind

When we think about religion we almost always think of conscious activities, such as listening to a sermon, Bible Study, prayer, or feeding the homeless.

What we don't think about is what effect religion has on our unconscious mind. A big part of who we are and what guides our actions happens in our unconscious. What effect does our religion have on our unconscious?

Viktor Frankl (1905-1997) was an Austrian psychiatrist and neurologist who also was interested in the study of religion. He argues in his psychiatry of religion book, *Man's Search for Ultimate Meaning*, that in our unconscious there is "a latent relation to transcendence inherent in man." According to Frankl, we have an unconscious relationship to transcendence (God) that we are trying to satisfy. But when we repress religion or let this religious sense in us atrophy then we descend into distorted religious concepts, superstition and even compulsive neurosis. Our deep inner desire for transcendence when not properly focused can be very destructive, leading us to deify human reason, technology, ideologies, that drive us into "neurotic existence." Frankl experienced firsthand the results of a misdirected desire for transcendence while being an inmate in a concentration camp. As Frankl said, "once the angel in us is repressed, he turns into a demon." Nazism claimed a transcendence for itself but really was a non-transcendent, sick, and evil religion. Nazism took the angel of the desire for transcendence and turned it into a demon.

Frankl believed that genuine religion must be a conscious and free choice made by an individual. It must be a decision that is freely chosen and not forced or driven by external or unconscious forces. Frankl said in opposition to Carl Jung, that there is no "religious drive." Frankl said, "As for myself, I would not give a damn for a religiousness that I owed to some 'religious drive.' Genuine religiousness has not the character of drivenness, but rather that of decidedness. Indeed, religiousness stands with its decidedness—and falls with its drivenness. In a word, religiousness is either existential or not at all." This freely chosen religion that connects us to transcendence (God) is what true religion is. This is the religion that satisfies the religious sense in us that longs for transcendence. This is the religion that gives ultimate meaning to our lives.

Now that I have tried to summarize Frankl's views on religion from his psychiatric point of view, I would like to point out that it is important that we let God speak to us through the words of the Bible. When God turns the words of the Bible into an event of divine revelation for us, those words speak to us on both a conscious level and an unconscious level. On the conscious level, God's asking us to make a free decision of faith, and on an unconscious level we are satisfying our longing for transcendence. The angel in us is no longer repressed but set free to soar to ever greater heights.

God's revealed word changes our conscious thinking. God reveals to us new ideas that open up new possibilities – a new future. But God also pours this revealed word into our unconscious, changing us, how we feel and act, even when not consciously thinking about what we are doing. God's revealed word gradually becomes part of who we are, as we believe in and act upon His miraculous word. In the church we hear, believe and act upon the Word and we are gradually changed throughout the depths of our being. God's word in our unconscious causes us to delight in the will of God, making us eager to walk in His ways. At an unconscious level we want to do God's will as our sinful nature is gradually being replaced by "a new person in Christ."

I am convinced that much of the work that God does in us is at an unconscious level. Inside us are many past wounds and there is evil that is hidden in our unconscious. The bad things that are hidden in us can drive us to do things that we don't want to do. The more we believe in and act upon God's word, the more God comes in and heals

our unconscious. God's word becomes life giving. At the level of our religious unconsciousness the Word of God gives us new life. Open your heart. Pray that God's revealed word will speak new life into the depths of your being. Happy Epiphany!—By the way, the word *Epiphany* means Revelation!  
Your friend in Christ,

Father George  
Diocesan Cursillo Spiritual Advisor

## FOURTH DAY ACTIVITIES

38 Attended St. James for the first Ultreya in many years! It was a joyful gathering of Cursillistas and potential candidates at St. James on Jan 19. Two Alexes (Tuttle and Benestelli) played guitar and piano to the packed house. The talks by Chris McKellar and Tim Lyons spoke to how their lives were touched by Kairos and how the "big, burly guys" cried when reading the notes and colored placemats sent by the children of the diocese. Ultreyas are held every month in different areas of the diocese. Next month it will be held at Good Shepherd, Bonita.

Judy Anderson, Ultreya Coordinato

## BACK TO THE MOUNTAIN

*JON TURLEY   RUBEN RODRIQUEZ   LARRY SALVADORI*



**THE THREE AMIGOS WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE CRAZY/ LOVING PEOPLE WHO ATTENDED THE BTTM WEEKEND WITH ALL OUR HEARTS. WE CANNOT IMMAGINE HOSTING A MORE LIGHT-HEARTED, FUNNIER, NUTTIER WEEKEND COMPLETE WITH OUR "TRES AMIGOS" MOVIE SATURDAY NIGHT. AND YET, WITH ALL OF THAT, THE HOLY SPIRIT MADE AN EASY ENTRÉE INTO THE FIRESIDE ACTIVITIES CABIN TO FILL US, AND TO BLESS US WITH LOVE, COMMUNITY, FELLOWSHIP AND HOSPITALITY FOR EACH OTHER. SPECIAL THANKS GO TO JILL FOR BREAKING THE ICE, KIT FOR MORNING/EVENING PRAYER, FR. PETER FOR MEDITATIONS AND BEING THE WEEKEND PYROMANIAC ON DUTY, JEANNE AND AMBER FOR SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL TIME, AND FR. GEORGE FOR A SPIRIT FILLED SUNDAY EUCHARIST.**

*JON, RUBEN, AND LARRY - LET'S RIDE!*



## Cursillo's 4th Day Likened to Missional Communities

By Jeannie Haas

Cursillo's post-weekend Fourth Day activities may provide a model for emerging "missional communities" within the Episcopal Church, a speaker told a rapt audience.

The Rev. Canon Joann Saylor, Canon for Mission Amplification for the Diocese of Texas, gave the keynote address at the 2018 Episcopal Cursillo Ministry Conference in Houston, Texas. Canon Saylor spoke of her own Cursillo experience, which she said is the reason she is "in a collar right now."

Cursillo is "really about the Fourth Day," connecting with the spirit and focusing on what God calls us to do, she said. The goal of Cursillo, to build a relationship one person at a time to fill pews, which used to be how we defined a successful congregation.

However, the definition of church growth as measured by attraction to brick and mortar buildings has changed. People do not attend churches today for many reasons. As apostles of Christ, the job of church members—including Cursillistas—is to "seek and serve Christ in all persons." Therefore, Christians today need to go outside the church building to find those serving Christ in our communities. Thus, the church proper becomes a "sending church" and the faith group identified in the community becomes the "missional community."

Canon Saylor defined missional communities as "missionary outposts" which cannot or will not function in the traditional church. The goal is "for parishes to ... equip and send missionaries into the world to seek and serve Christ in all persons." The sending church commissions and deputizes lay leaders for ministry and provides support and training to go out and form missional communities.

The missional communities meet regularly with some kind of narrative reflection. Weekly seems to be more successful. They have no vestry or staff. Missional communities in the Diocese of Texas gather for prayer service in an assisted living center, deliver food via food truck to stressed areas (such as Houston's hurricane recovery efforts) and meet in house churches. The Diocese has a farm church which meets once a month to worship and share a meal. Groups with commonalities such as veterans, LGBTQ persons, and people with language barriers have formed missional communities. Liturgical connection is present. Canon Saylor characterized these communities as the Church that Jesus intended.

Canon Saylor stated that the missional community is less revolutionary than it appears. The desire is for Christians to meet people in more creative ways. An increase in participation by the lay ministry, as presented in apostolic action, makes missional communities a more viable means to "spread the good news of Christ."

Further, Canon Saylor suggested the future of Cursillo would be to shape the movement to equip and empower in more creative ways. Missional communities can be applied. Missional communities may be the Cursillo movement of the future, Cursillo in the 21st Century.

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## And now... a message to our sponsors from Susan Miller

- Quoting *Edwardo Bonnin*, one of the founders of Cursillo: “We do not have Group Reunions so that there will be people to attend a Cursillo Weekend; on the contrary, we have Cursillo Weekends so that there will be people to make Group Reunions.”
- The Cursillo Ministry provides opportunity for every Cursillista to be involved in a vital small group, where we can grow and help others grow; where we can reach a community for Christ, and help others do the same. Our small groups are where we find friendship, validation, exhortation, encouragement and are challenged to live every day for Christ. We can't get there without **Sponsorship**. To get the most out of the 4<sup>th</sup> Day experience, it is vital to have sponsors who know what their responsibilities are, and are willing to carry these out. This is where Palanca comes in.
- And as you already know, “Palanca = Sacrifice”. Sponsorship involves a lot of sacrifice. If you've raised children, and had to put aside your own interests in order to do what's best for them, then you know what I'm talking about. You set a good example, even if it means eating vegetables you don't like. I had almost forgotten that phase of my life until I got a puppy 3 years ago. Talk about sacrifice! The demands of feeding, training, visits to the vet, et all, were time consuming but well worth the effort. I learned that socialization in the first 16 weeks, that is, introducing him to as many new experiences as possible, was imperative if I wanted a well-adjusted dog. My puppy is now very sweet, very smart, (of course) and at 100 pounds, a very big dog! Learning to be comfortable early on in various situations--socialization--helped make him a calm and happy dog.
- Now I'm not going to put raising puppies on a par with sponsorship, but there is a thread of similarities. The first few weeks before and after the weekend are very important in a Cursillista's 4<sup>th</sup> Day experience. That is where Palanca in the form of Sponsorship is often overlooked.
- I want to acknowledge *my* sponsors, Barbara and Darryl Peralta, who “socialized” me in the Cursillo community. They invited me, even drove me to the Day of Deeper Understanding, the Grand Ultreya and local Ultreyas, until I became acquainted and felt at home in the Cursillo movement and with you all.
- I was invited to group with Barbara *before* I went on the weekend. The concepts of Piety, Study, and Action didn't make a lot of sense to me, but I tried my best to follow along as the other women talked, and was *deeply impressed* by their sincere and genuine friendship with one another. I continued with that group for years after I made my Cursillo.
- My sponsors continue to write me notes of encouragement from time to time. Those sacrificial gifts of time and attention solidified the things I learned on the weekend and moved me in the direction God was urging me to go.
- There is another Cursillo maxim you might remember from the Community in Action Rollo: “**you do not have to do it alone.**” For one thing, the cost of sponsoring a candidate or working a weekend has risen.
- **Co-sponsorship:** To share the cost of the weekend, friends within the Cursillo Community are teaming up to sponsor a candidate, sharing the cost and the driving responsibilities during the weekend with one or more people.
- **Parish Scholarships:** Our church has a Cursillo Fund for donations given by Cursillistas throughout the year. One church holds fundraisers to financially sponsor its candidates.
- **After-Weekend Sponsorship:** Remember, our job as a sponsor does not end at on Sunday afternoon, nor is parish financial support complete sponsorship. Effective sponsorship is personal rather than institutional. Sponsorship is hard! But the rewards are eternal.
- Our new Cursillistas need our help and encouragement at first. Help them to find a weekly group, drive them to the Day of Deeper Understanding and the Grand Ultreya. Then continue to encourage them so they feel connected to the wider Cursillo Community, are sponsoring others, and living out Piety, Study and Action!



## Cursillo events calender

Feb-09-19	Secretariat Retreat	Home of Cursillista	<u>Craig Noble</u>	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Feb-23-19	Cursillo #144 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team Meeting	<u>St. Alban's</u>	<u>Kit Chevalier</u>	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Feb-23-19	<u>Ultreya</u>	<u>Good Shepherd Bonita</u>	<u>Ultreya Committee</u>	6:00 PM Pot Luck 7:00 PM Ultreya
Feb-28-19	<b>Cursillo # 144 Applications Deadline</b>	<u>Cursillo Applications</u>	<u>Pre-Cursillo Chair</u>	COB
<b>March 2019</b>	More Information Click <a href="#">Link</a>	Directions Click <a href="#">Link</a>	Click <a href="#">Link</a> to e-mail POC	<a href="#">Return to top</a>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>POC</b>	<b>Time/Day</b>
Mar-02-19	<u>Servant Community</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> Time Cocinero & Rollo Room Training	<u>St. Dunstan's</u>	<u>Larry Salvadori</u>	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Mar-02-19	<u>Secretariat</u>	<u>St. Dunstan's</u>	<u>Craig Noble</u>	12:30 PM
Mar-09-19	Cursillo #144 Rollo Critiques	<u>St. Bartholomew's</u>	<u>Larry Salvadori</u>	8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Mar-16-19	Cursillo #144 Final Team Meeting & Eucharist	<u>St. Alban's</u>	<u>Kit Chevalier</u>	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Mar-28-19 thru Mar-31-19	Cursillo #144 (Coed) <i>Mananitas 2:15 PM (Flowers only)</i> <i>Open Clausura 2:30 PM Sunday</i>	<u>Pine Valley Bible Conference Center</u>	<u>Kit Chevalier</u>	7:00 PM Thursday through 5:00 PM Sunday
Mar-31-19	<b>Forward Deadline</b>		<u>News Letter Editor</u>	COB
<b>April 2019</b>	More Information Click <a href="#">Link</a>	Directions Click <a href="#">Link</a>	Click <a href="#">Link</a> to e-mail POC	<a href="#">Return to top</a>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>POC</b>	<b>Time/Day</b>
Apr-04-19	<u>Secretariat</u>	<u>St. Dunstan's</u>	<u>Craig Noble</u>	6:00 P

# Palanca

Greetings brothers and sisters:

**Cursillo #144** is March 28 thru March 31st. Time to pray for the new candidates to say YES!!!. The deadline for submission of applications is February 28th. It is also time to start thinking about the many ways we support our candidates, and all the people serving during the weekend, by offering prayers and the gifts of Palanca; keeping in mind how very special each prayer is for us all, and the great support offered thru the gifts and prayers we gather in the bags.

Please pray, pray, pray as the weekend approaches, and keep in mind the dates for the following Cursillistas that are holding their weekend throughout our nation and the world.

## **FEBRUARY**

2/7-10, Cursillo #991, San Francisco, pwandersen@mac.com

2/21-24, Cursillo #992, San Francisco, pwandersen@mac.com

2/21-2/24 Upper South Carolina

2/28-3/3 Alabama #216 jpoole@pooleandcompany.com or lipmonm@gmail.com

## **MARCH**

3/21-3/24 East Tennessee

3/21-24, Coed Cursillo, Massachusetts, Harlandart@verizon.net

3/21-24, Men's Cursillo, Central Florida, grammiefor4@gmail.com

3/28-31, Coed English-Spanish Cursillo, San Diego, ilynne1700@yahoo.com

3/28-31, Women's Cursillo, Central Florida, grammiefor4@gmail.com

De Colores

Isabel Lynne

## **2019 SECRETARIAT LAY MEMBERS**

Name	Email	Function	Term Exp.
Craig Noble	craignoble@cox.net	2019 President	2019
Ruben Rodriguez	rodriguez_ruben@msn.com	TBD	2021
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	Pre-Cursillo Chair	2020
Humberto Garcia	ambrsunny2@aol.com	Pre-Cursillo Vice Chair	2020
Mike Jewett	hdbg90@hotmail.com	TBD	2021
Kit Chevalier	kmsopsinger@yahoo.com	TBD	2019
Judy Brown	Jbrown3944@aol.com	TBD	2021
Isabel Lynne	ilynne1700@yahoo.com	Palanca	2020
Rachel Ambasing	rachel.ambasing@gmail.com	Secretary	2019

## **2019 SECRETARIAT CLERGY MEMBERS**

Name	Email	Function	Term Exp.
Rev. George Calvert	<a href="mailto:gcalvert@berkeley.edu">gcalvert@berkeley.edu</a>	Diocesan Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd
Rev. Carlos Garcia	carlangas1986@cs.com	Assistant Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd
Rev. Paul Gambling	gfrpaul@gmail.com	Assistant Spiritual Advisor	2019
Rev. Pam Rieger		Assistant Spiritual Advisor	2021
Rev. Peter Sickles	psickles@msn.com	Assistant Spiritual Advisor	2021



***SPECIAL CURSILLO SERVANTS***

Name	Email	Function
Judy Brown	jbrown3944@aol.com	ECM Western District Representative
Jamie Wood	<a href="mailto:jamiecwood3@gmail.com">jamiecwood3@gmail.com</a>	Treasurer
Larry Salvadori	lasalvadori@yahoo.com	Servant Community Convener/ Forward Editor
Judy Anderson	jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net	Parish Reps / 4 <sup>th</sup> Day Chair / Ultreyas
Debbie Kistler	dk.outoflove@cox.net	Historian
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	Cursillo Music Coordinator
Ruben Rodriguez	rodriguez_ruben@msn.com	Rector Support Team / Outreach
Ed Embick	sueanded@san.rr.com	Committee Chair / Webmaster
Shell Pierce	roaminchristian@mindspring.com	Alternate Webmaster

***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 small, medium, or large 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