

# He is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF PHOENIX CURSILLO MOVEMENT

## FROM BISHOP NEVARES

Dear Cursillo Friends,

The word “Lent” means springtime, and as we hurry toward Easter, we see the beginning of trees and flowers coming back to life after the cold of winter.

The penances, sacrifices, and works of charity that we have done during Lent is precisely to lead us into the Fullness of Life in Christ Jesus.

This fullness of life will be celebrated in a special way during the annual Liturgical celebrations of Holy Week: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. These Holy Days commemorate the last days of Jesus on the face of the earth.

Easter Sunday is the Bedrock of our Catholic-Christian Faith: “Christ has Died, Christ IS Risen, Christ will come again.” We live each and every day with our Faith in this Promise of Jesus: “I AM the RESURRECTION and the LIFE. Whoever believes in Me will NEVER DIE.”

Being Faithful to Jesus Christ in this Life, may we hear those Precious words of God our Father when we see Him Face to Face, “ Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the JOY prepared for you from the foundation of the World.”

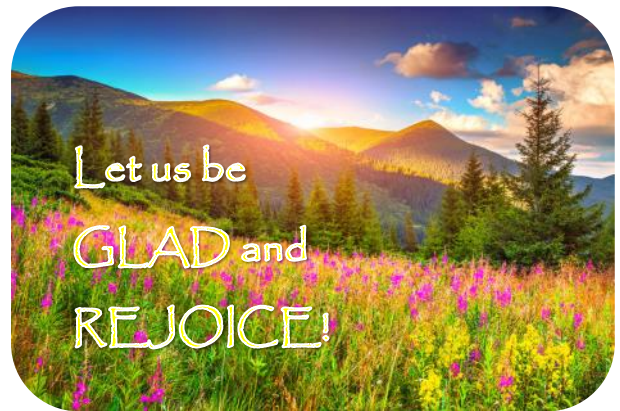
I also want to congratulate our Filipino Brothers and Sisters as they celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Catholic-Christian faith’s arrival to the Filipino nation.

Wishing All of you a Most Blessed Easter.

DE COLORES!

+Eduardo A. Nevares

Auxiliary Bishop of Phoenix



## CURSILLO WEEKENDS RESUME!

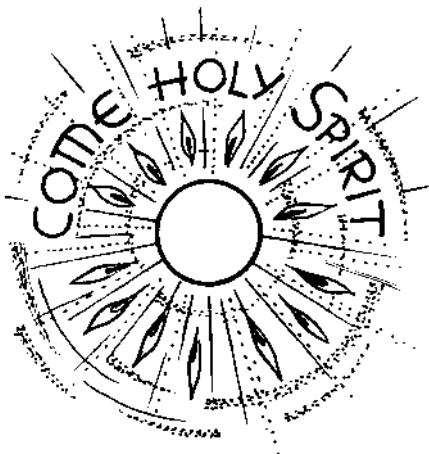
Is there a friend you are considering sponsoring?

**June 3-6, 2021 Men’s English Weekend #933 (Mt. Claret)**

**June 17-20, 2021 Women’s English Weekend #934 (Mt. Claret)**

**Sponsors** start the Application procedure. Applications may be acquired from Parish Reps or the Precursillo Representative, Dave Daniels, at [precursillo@phoenixcursillo.com](mailto:precursillo@phoenixcursillo.com)

Please note: Applications go through the Parish Rep/Pastor of the parish where the candidate is registered.



## CALENDAR AND EVENTS

### April 2021

- April 5 7:00 PM Rosary for Our Country (Mt. Claret)  
April 13 6:30 PM Secretariat Meeting (Virtual)  
April 17 9:30 AM SOL (Virtual)  
April 24 SAVE THE DATE—ULTREYA

### May 2021

- May 3 7:00 PM Rosary for Our Country (Mt. Claret)  
May 11 6:30 PM Secretariat Meeting (Virtual)  
May 15 9:30 AM SOL (Virtual)  
May 19 7:00 PM Orientation for #933 & #934  
(Mt. Claret)

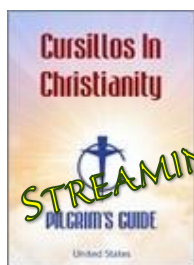
## 2021 CURSILLO WEEKENDS

- June 3-6 Men's English Weekend #933 (Mt. Claret)  
June 17-20 Women's English Weekend #934 (Mt. Claret)  
Nov. 4-7 Men's English Weekend (Mt. Claret)  
Nov. 18-21 Women's English Weekend (Mt. Claret)

### Other Important Dates

- Aug. 14 Parish Rep Workshop (Conference Center)  
Sept. 18 Diocesan ULTREYA (Conference Center)  
Cena de Colores date to be determined

*Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ!*



**STREAMING TO A DEVICE NEAR YOU!**  
**SCHOOL OF LEADERS**



### Join Zoom School of Leaders:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88658541324?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88658541324?pwd=d1U4OHkxek0zZlNnR0ZvSUZjMlJCZz09)  
[pwd=d1U4OHkxek0zZlNnR0ZvSUZjMlJCZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88658541324?pwd=d1U4OHkxek0zZlNnR0ZvSUZjMlJCZz09)

Meeting ID: 886 5854 1324 Passcode: 338064

Please join us for an opportunity for Catholic fellowship including breakout rooms for sharing in group reunion after each talk or meditation.

School of Leaders is the 3rd Saturday of each month at 9:30 am. Upcoming meetings are March 20, April 17, May 15.



**ROSARY FOR AMERICA - MT. CLARET - 7:00 PM - 1ST MONDAYS**



# ULTREYA!

**SAVE THE DATE—Diocesan ULTREYA—April 24, 2021**  
**Watch for details soon!**

As Parishes begin to open up, please watch the Newsletter and the website for Ultreya locations.

If you know of an Ultreya happening, or are interested in holding an Ultreya, please contact the Postcursillo Chair, Veronica Lucas at [Postcursillo@phoenixcursillo.com](mailto:Postcursillo@phoenixcursillo.com).

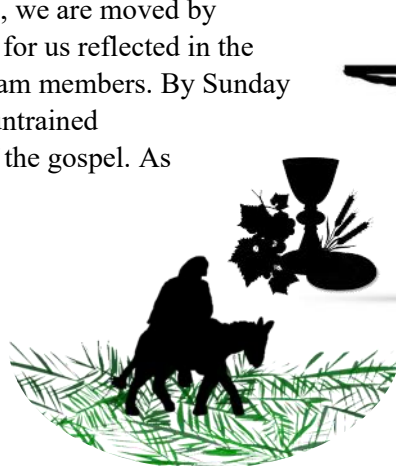
## Three Days That Change Everything!

Peace be with you, and a Happy and Blessed Easter to you and all of your families. As I contemplate writing this message at the onset of the Sacred Triduum, I can't help but think that it is no coincidence that the founders of Cursillo made the weekend format a three-day encounter with Christ. Before I lived my Cursillo, I considered myself a good Catholic just as the disciples who followed Jesus for three years did before the experience of the Paschal Mystery changed lives forever. In some ways, I may have been like an often overlooked character in the Lord's entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, a colt who had never been ridden.

On the Holy Thursday, the Institution of the Lord's Supper, Jesus prepares His disciples for the entry into His passion and for their mission to follow with an example of humble service by washing their feet. On Thursday, the first night of Cursillo, we are initiated into what can be an uncomfortable process of knowing ourselves by entering into the Passion of Our Lord in the Stations of the Cross. Over the next three days, we are moved by Christ's loving sacrifice for us reflected in the humble service of the team members. By Sunday we no longer resemble untrained creatures like the colt of the gospel. As

G.K. Chesterton illustrates in the poem "The Donkey", we are not an awkward untamed beast, but have become a new Christopher, a docile and honorable Christ bearer, with "shouts about my ears, and palms before feet".

I keep reflecting back upon another unusual character who only appears very briefly in the Passion Narrative of Mark's gospel read on Palm Sunday. The person that I'm talking about is the young man who follows Jesus wearing only a linen cloth, and then runs off naked when the crowd tries to seize him. Why do you suppose Mark, inspired by the Holy Spirit, thought that it was important to include this vignette in the account of Jesus' arrest? Theologians generally agree that the young man was an actual person and have speculated on his identity, but I think that perhaps to some degree he is also representative of you and me. Have you ever found yourself in a hostile environment when it seems like all of the other disciples



have abandoned Christ, leaving you feeling alone in fear that your Christian discipleship might be exposed?

In some ways, I see parallels between the arrest of Jesus and the effects of the pandemic on the Church. A year ago, our houses of worship were locked and for some time the Lord was directly taken away from us as we were denied any access to the Eucharist. There was an outcry from many of us that our Bishops should draw their swords like Saint Peter did and make a stand against the political oppressors. Consider, though, what might have happened if Peter hadn't listened to Jesus and sheathed his sword? The attempted seizing of the young man tells us that perhaps all of the future Apostles may have been seized and not survived to found the Church that we have today.

Of course, Jesus knew that the hour of His Passion had necessarily come, and that he would rise victoriously from the grave after three days. Our pastors did not enjoy the same knowledge in regard to the Corona Virus. Our spiritual shepherds had



to navigate often conflicting public health information to make prudential decisions regarding the

safety of their flock. Even as we gradually returned to mass and received the Eucharist, we did so with cautious apprehension. One of the most unfortunate consequences of this has been that in some parishes in the concern for physical health, there has been an unintentional estrangement of many who in their humility upon reception of the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord in the Eucharist, wish to honor Him in the manner which they are accustomed to, in appropriate reverence for the True Presence of Christ. Like the young man in Mark's gospel, some may at times have felt abandoned and shamefully exposed for their love of Christ. That is why I'm excited in anticipation of reading Bishop Olmstead's apostolic exhortation issued on Holy Thursday on the importance of the Eucharist.

In his homily at the Chrism Mass this week, Bishop spoke about the great suffering caused by separation from Christ in the Eucharist during this past year. He stressed that we have to offer more opportunities for Adoration, to invite others to encounter Christ, as Saints Andrew and John did by the banks of the Jordan River. As Bishop Olmstead spoke these words, I thought of our need as

Cursillistas to invite others to share the personal encounter with Christ that takes place through Cursillo. We are very excited to invite you to our Diocesan Ultreya at Mount Claret on Saturday, April 24th.

Our long suffering wait is nearing an end, and we have teams in formation preparing for Cursillo weekends on June 3rd-6th for the men and June 17th-20th for women. What a blessing it is that our sisters in Christ from Northern Arizona led by Cathy Allen as Rectora, who were only a week away from the scheduled Cursillo last March when the pandemic shut down the State, will finally be able to serve the Lord in such a special way at Mount Claret this June. Some of the men's team have also been anticipating serving on Cursillo for as long as a year, and James Diaz is serving as Rector for the very first time. The sacrifice and dedication of these teams are wonderful Palanca for the candidates and the Movement.

Please join me in offering our prayers, and volunteering in any way that we can to support these upcoming weekends. If you know of someone that you would like to sponsor for Cursillo, the Secretariat has decided on a one time reduction in costs for a weekend at Mount Claret to

\$95 per person. If you need an application contact your parish rep, or if you're not sure who your parish rep is, email the Pre-Cursillo Chair Dave Daniels at [precursillo@phoenixcursillo.com](mailto:precursillo@phoenixcursillo.com).

As we move through the blessings and grace of the Triduum and Easter Sunday this year, we need to pray that every Sunday celebration should regain its importance, especially for those who have fallen out of the habit of keeping holy the Sabbath during the quarantine. I pray that our Bishop's apostolic exhortation will inspire a renewed focus on and love for the Eucharist, and that our culture will recognize the saving grace of His True Presence as the center of our lives. My hope is that we will soon be rising from the lengthy passion of Covid-19 to renewed vigor and enthusiasm to make a



friend, be a friend and bring a friend to Christ. Like the Donkey of Chesterton's poem, may our ears be greeted by shouts of joy.

DE COLORES! ULTREYA!  
CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!  
Joe Fairlie, Lay Director



## Veneremur Cernui ~

### Down in Adoration Falling

The Most Reverend Thomas J. Olmsted, Bishop of Phoenix  
to the Priests, Deacons, Religious, and the Lay Faithful  
of the Diocese of Phoenix on the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist

<https://dphx.org/veneremur-cernui/>

## GENERAL PALANCA REMINDER

As weekends are starting up again throughout the world (and in Phoenix, of course), the recording of your continued offerings of Palanca (prayers, sacrifices, and works of mercy) is needed.

Please go to the website and fill out the General Palanca form so that we can add them to the letter we send to other Dioceses and to our own candidates on the weekend.

Right now, after compiling these for a few years, we have a letter of Palanca which includes over 50,000 Masses, Rosaries, Hours of Adoration, Hours of Study, Sacrifices, etc., which candidates receive all over the world. Won't you add your Palanca to these?

<https://www.phoenixcursillo.com/general-palanca>



**H**ere we are, celebrating our second pandemic Easter. I remember hoping last year that this would all be over by Easter... of 2020! Little did we know then that it would continue for more than a year. (That's probably a good thing!) Yet I am thankful for the progress that is being made to help us reach the end of this nightmare, as well as the incredible progress we've made in getting through it.

We have learned that the church is not a building. Just because we are not allowed to physically get together to worship, we can still worship in our homes, via Zoom and internet, and socially distanced in parking lots. I am thankful for those churches that televise their services, which was especially helpful as I recovered from pneumonia in January and now as I am dealing with an arthritic knee flare up. My small church community group has been meeting via Zoom this past year, and have even pulled in members who moved to other states! The pandemic could not even cancel our church's yearly Lenten Fish Fry Fridays—they were simply changed to drive through events, complete with warm greetings from the church staff.

Mr. Rogers said, in the face of adversity, to look for the helpers. Many of us answered Andre House's request for making cloth masks for the homeless. Tutoring has gone online in some districts as well as for my grandson and me. Seems where there is a will, there is a way.

We have learned to appreciate our "quaranteam": family, close friends, virtual coworkers/students, and even pets. On our walks, we have met neighbors, befriended strangers, and learned to connect in new ways. Birthday parties have taken the form of drive-bys and yard signs. We have even attended funerals online. And everyone, it seems, has realized the comfort that God's creatures can bring to us in the form of pets.

Due to the pandemic, the series "The Chosen" (about the ministry of Christ, directed by Dallas Jenkins) was offered free of charge. I enjoy watching and rewatching the episodes. It has greatly helped me visualize the humanness of the people who surrounded Jesus each day.

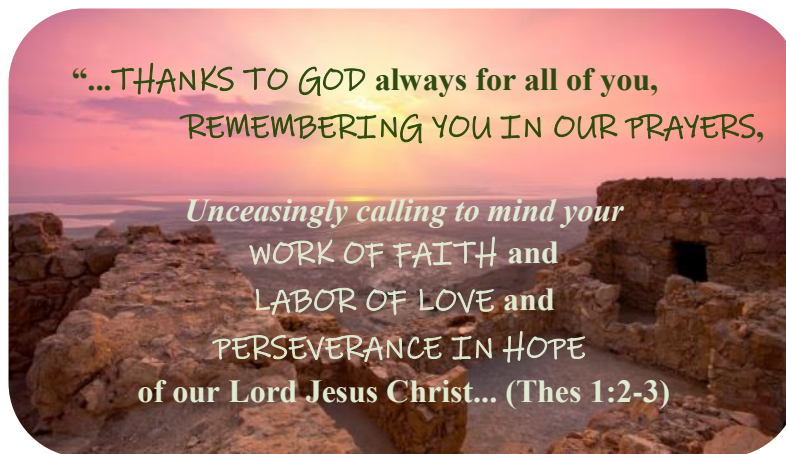
(Matthew and Peter are among my favorite characters.) I am looking forward to Season 2 which starts on Easter Sunday evening.

My faith has been challenged by the book "Epic Faith" by Marty Meyers. Can I really put that much trust in God? Marty and his wife Kelly are truly an inspiration, as they go where God calls them without any idea of how they are going to get there. My husband and I are learning to pray with such conviction that God will take care of the details if we follow his direction.

Christian music has always been important to me. I am hearing more and more songs that really touch me, such as "Just Like Heaven" by Brandon Lake (with the haunting line "I can't get enough of you") and "Waymaker" by Michael W. Smith ("Waymaker, miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness, my God, that is who you are!") Perhaps "Praise You in This Storm" by Casting Crowns should be our pandemic theme song!

My daily time with God has expanded to include a daily meditation app entitled "Give Him 15" by Dutch Sheets. I am learning to dig deeper into God's plan and timing, understand the Greek and Hebrew meaning of many of the words used in scripture, and look for and be able to recognize God's signs in our lives.

I wish I could still say that I do not personally know anyone who had COVID-19 or died as a result of it. My son had Covid in December and a client of my husband's died from complications of Covid. It has become much more personal, but we are learning to endure



and stay the course.

Each day brings new opportunities to know Christ better and witness the power of His resurrection! I believe we will come out of this stronger if we renew ourselves in God's word. Let us be worthy of Paul's commendations to the Thessalonians: "Your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing. Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance." (Thes 1: 3, 4 NIV):

We **will** rise and shine!

Debi Wiskirchen #655

# SUPPORT CURSILLO AT MT. CLARET

## EASY TITHE

- *First, we would like to thank all of you who are currently enrolled with Easy Tithe. Your continued support of the Cursillo Movement is greatly appreciated.* (If your card has changed or expired, please take a minute to go to [www.Easytithe.com/Cursillo](http://www.Easytithe.com/Cursillo) and update/)

- **WHAT IS IT?**

A low cost monthly auto withdrawal from your bank account directly to the Cursillo Movement to help pay for operating expenses of the Movement (i.e., rent, supplies, stipends and scholarships). You choose the amount you'd like to contribute, when, and how often.

- **WHY?**

- A major goal of Cursillo is to allow every qualified candidate to live their weekend. The cost of the weekend should never keep someone away. The actual cost to put a candidate through the weekend is in excess of \$350 per person. However, we strive to maintain the stipend at \$150 per candidate. To accomplish this goal requires fundraising, including our Easy Tithe program.

- While Cursillo weekends can be held almost anywhere, we are truly blessed to call the beautiful, holy ground that is Mt. Claret Retreat Center, "home". It has been home to the Cursillo for many years due to the vision of the Claretian priests who were caretakers of the Movement in Phoenix in the beginning, the devotion of Msgr. McMahon, and the love, time, and talent of many Cursillistas over the years. Support through Easy Tithe assists in ensuring that Mt. Claret remains our home for future candidates and all Cursillistas.

- **HOW?**

Simply go to the Easy Tithe link on the Cursillo website ([www.PhoenixCursillo.com](http://www.PhoenixCursillo.com)) or go directly to [www.Easytithe.com/Cursillo](http://www.Easytithe.com/Cursillo).

- **PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION**

A five (\$5) or ten (\$10) dollar monthly Easy Tithe donation can make a huge difference in not only a candidate's life, but also the many Cursillistas in our Diocese. Please prayerfully consider participating in Easy Tithe and enroll today.

On behalf of the Cursillo Movement of Phoenix,  
we thank you for your prayerful consideration and support.

If you have any questions, please contact Karla Keller ([Treasurer@PhoenixCursillo.com](mailto:Treasurer@PhoenixCursillo.com))



## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!



**Parish Reps Needed!!!**: To see if your parish is one of those not covered, please go to our website. If interested, please contact the Postcursillo Chair at ([postcursillo@gmail.com](mailto:postcursillo@gmail.com)) or Precursillo Chair at ([precursillo@gmail.com](mailto:precursillo@gmail.com)).

**Ultreya!** It just takes a place and some friends to rejoice together in the graces we receive as we live our piety, study, and action throughout our 4th day. Please get in touch with the Postcursillo Chair, if you are interested in helping with or hosting an Ultreya in your area.

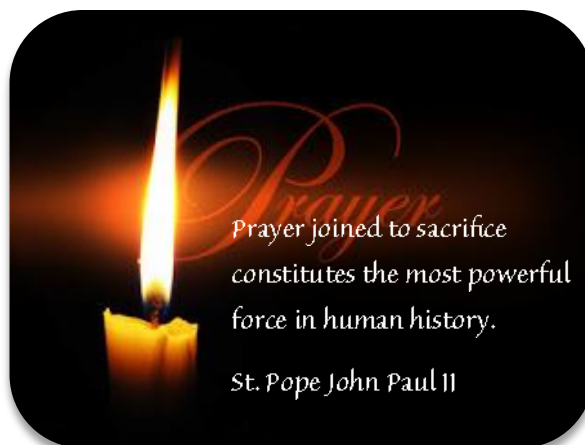
**Palanca Chair:** The palanca chair is responsible for requesting General Palanca for Phoenix, and sending General Palanca for other Diocese's weekends, and downloading and printing the General Palanca for our Weekends. This can be done from your home! Please contact Three-Day Chair at ([zeldagraham@yahoo.com](mailto:zeldagraham@yahoo.com)).

# NOTICES AND PRAYER

## GENERAL PALANCA

Record your prayers and sacrifices for upcoming Cursillo weekends both in our Diocese and other Dioceses either on the form below or on the website. Palanca is gathered cumulatively, recorded, and relayed in a general palanca letter for those weekends, both locally, in the US and Internationally. Send the form below to Cursillo Movement, Mt. Claret, 4633 N 54th St, Phoenix, AZ 85018 or bring the form to School of Leaders. Your intercessory prayer, sacrifice, and works of mercy are the levers which lift up the Movement all over the world.

General Palanca	Amount
Sacramental Masses	
Spiritual Communion	
Hours of Adoration	
Visits to Blessed Sacrament	
Daily Prayers	
Rosaries	
Glory Be	
Hail Holy Queen	
Hail Marys	
Our Fathers	
Instances of Fasting	
Hours of Prayer	
Hours of Study	
Hours of Service	
Leader's Prayer	
Chaplets of Divine Mercy	
Novenas	
Offerings of Pain/Distress	
Reconciliation	
Other:	
Other:	
Other:	



## PRAYER REQUESTS

There is a prayer list on the website that will be updated with your prayer requests and 5th day notices. On this page, you will find a form to send in your request, or send it directly to [info@phoenixcursillo.com](mailto:info@phoenixcursillo.com).

People will remain on the prayer list and on the 5<sup>th</sup> day list for one month. Resubmit if you would like to have the name remain on the list.

### Vatican-approved prayer for the intercession of Servant of God, Eduardo Bonnin, Founder of the Cursillo Movement

*“Oh God, the dispenser of all graces and charisms, You granted your servant Eduardo Bonnin Aguilo the grace of dedicating his whole life with humility and generosity, to the work of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement, as he traveled the five continents proclaiming that God in Christ loves us. Grant us through his intercession the favor that we now implore Thee. (Name favor being requested.) Also grant us the grace, of his beatification for your greater glory and the good of your Church, that shines throughout the lives of its saints. We beg this of you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.”*  
*(At the end pray the Lord’s Prayer.)*

### PHOENIX CURSILLO DATABASE

**Please help us keep the Cursillo records up to date.**

If you change your address, email, phones, etc., please email the updated info to [info@phoenixcursillo.com](mailto:info@phoenixcursillo.com).  
THANKS!

PS... Info on the database is never given out or sold. It is used only for sending Cursillo news such as the Voice and contacting persons for Team Formation.

**Cursillo Movement**  
Mt. Claret Retreat Center 4633 N 54th St, Phoenix, AZ 85018  
(602) 840-5066

Email: [info@phoenixcursillo.com](mailto:info@phoenixcursillo.com) Website: [www.phoenixcursillo.com](http://www.phoenixcursillo.com)  
Facebook: Phoenix Cursillo Movement