

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Oh Mother of all mothers, pray for, guide, and protect all the mothers in the world, so that they may love their children in the same way you loved your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF PHOENIX CURSILLO MOVEMENT**FROM DEACON MARTY POGIOLI**

De Colores,

May is a wonderful month in Arizona. It is a time of transition in our weather as we enjoy the last of our cool mornings. My bicycle rides start early in the morning to catch the cool breeze. I am already anticipating the summer heat and the necessity to start my ride before sunrise.

This year it may be a time of transition from the devastating impacts of Covid to whatever is our new normal. May is the month when we honor mothers as we celebrate Mother's Day on May 9. Finally, on the last day of the month, we honor men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military as we celebrate Memorial Day.

For Catholics one of the most important aspects of May is our focus on Mary. We aren't sure how this came about. Some think it is because Mary brought new life into the world and May is a time when spring is in full bloom. Others think it is a carryover from the ancient Greeks and Romans who honored goddesses of fertility and blossoms in May.

Whatever the reason, honoring Mary in May has become an important tradition in our church. It began in the 13th century and became very popular in the 18th century. Crowning a statue of Mary with flowers reminds us that she is the queen of heaven and earth.

Her role in God's plan of salvation cannot be overstated. She is the mother of Jesus, our Savior. There could not be a

more important human being than Mary, except of course for the human nature of Jesus. She is our spiritual mother, whom we can turn into in our time of need. I have done that many times in my life. One of the most powerful prayers is called the Memorare:

"Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen."

Our petitions go through Mary to her son Jesus, with a mother's touch. How beautiful is that!

One of the blessings of this Covid has been that my wife and I find ourselves home together much more. Daily we take a morning walk and pray the rosary together. We thank God for his many blessings, one of which is Cursillo. We also pray for the many needs of our family, our community, our country, and our world. The list is getting quite long so the walks are now over two miles in length. At the end we pray the Chaplet of

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CURSILLO WEEKENDS RESUME!

Is there a friend you are considering sponsoring?

June 3-6, 2021 Men's English Weekend #932 (Mt. Claret)

June 17-20, 2021 Women's English Weekend #933 (Mt. Claret)

Orientation for #932 & #933 May 19, 2021 7:00 pm

Sponsors start the Application procedure. Applications may be acquired from Parish Reps or the Precursillo Representative, Dave Daniels, at precursillo@phoenixcursillo.com



CALENDAR AND EVENTS

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 #932 & #933
(Mt. Claret)

June 2021

- June 3-6 Men's English Weekend #932 (Mt. Claret)
June 7 7:00 PM Rosary for Our Country (Mt. Claret)
June 8 6:30 PM Secretariat Meeting (Virtual)
June 17-20 Women's English Weekend #933 (Mt. Claret)
June 19 9:30 AM School of Leaders (Virtual)

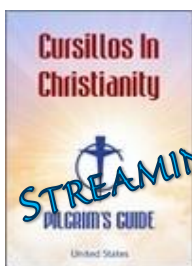
2021 CURSILLO WEEKENDS

- June 3-6 Men's English Weekend #932 (Mt. Claret)
June 17-20 Women's English Weekend #933 (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?
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 May 15, June 19, and July 17.



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



ULTREYA!

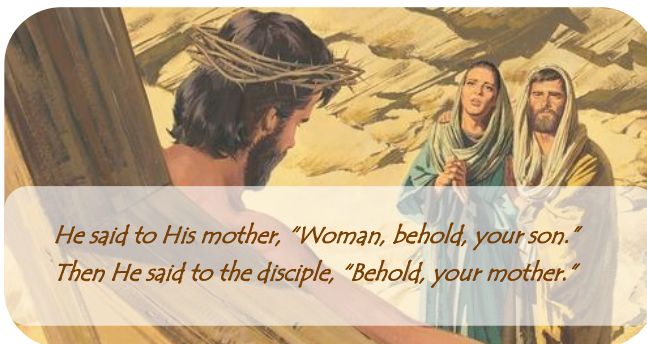
As Parishes begin to open up, please watch the Newsletter and the website for Ultreya locations. If you know of an Ultreya happening, or are interested in holding an Ultreya, please contact the Postcursillo Chair, Veronica Lucas at Postcursillo@phoenixcursillo.com.

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Divine Mercy. Mary has a central role in God's mercy. Remember at the end of the rosary we pray "Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy."

One of our Lord's final acts before His death was to share His mother with us. In John 19:27, Jesus said, "Behold thy mother." Jesus gave us Mary not just for comfort and protection but as a role model. The apostles and the early Christians learned from Mary. So can we.

Let us use this month of May to honor Mary through our Cursillo tools of piety, study and action. Let us pray more fervently. In doing so we will deepen our relationship with her Son and piety will grow in us. Let



*He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son."
Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother."*

study more diligently to learn more about Christ. If we only knew Jesus as Mary did, our lives would be much different and our faith much stronger.

Let us put our faith into action. Mary's "yes" to God, her fiat, was followed by a life of action doing God's will. May it be so for us as well.

Happy 4th Day, Deacon Marty Pogioli

SURROUNDED BY YOUR GLORY

I always get an uplifting feeling when I hear the song "I Can Only Imagine" by the band Mercy Me. It holds a special place in my heart because it was the theme song when I lived my Cursillo weekend in 2008. The lyricist sings about what it would be like to be in the presence of God. He asks the question "Will I stand in your presence, or to my knees will I fall?"

This sentiment seems to coincide with the title of Bishop Olmsted's latest apostolic exhortation on the Holy Eucharist, *Veneremur Cernui*, which translates as "Down in Adoration Falling." How should we act when we come before the Lord of all Heaven and Earth? The songwriter is evidently contemplating seeing Jesus upon reaching his own hopeful destination in Heaven, but believing Catholics should know that we don't have to wait for judgment day to be in the presence of Christ, the Lord is available to us in the Blessed Sacrament every day.

There's been much talk about the crisis of faith in which many Catholics today don't believe in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. For those who weren't raised in the knowledge of this essential truth, or who only practice a casual spirituality, it can be a hard concept



to grasp. I once heard my pastor Father Muir tell the story of a conversation with a Protestant friend who asked him, "So you really believe that Jesus turned bread into His Body and wine into His Blood?" Father Muir somewhat sarcastically replied, "Why? Your Jesus can't do that?"

I could go on and on about the important teachings of the Real Presence in the Eucharist, but Bishop Olmsted explains it beautifully, and I highly recommend that you read his document if you haven't done so already.

So how should we approach those who may feel that Christ's presence is just an abstract or symbolic idea?

Perhaps a deep lecture in theology is not the best approach. In the skeptical world that we live in, people are like Saint Thomas, we need to see and feel something in a substantive way before we can believe it for ourselves. It's hard to fathom the concept of God if we don't look to see him in our everyday lives. That I think is one of the beauties of the Cursillo method. We don't attempt deep theology lessons, but allow the participants to experience a profound encounter with Christ through the very tangible friendship of others. Pope Benedict XVI was asked in an interview; "Where is God exactly?" The Pope Emeritus' answer included "God is present wherever faith and hope and love are, because they constitute the personal space in which we move into the dimensions of God." In Cursillo, we move into this personal space in the silent reflection of God's love for us during the Stations of the Cross on the first evening.

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As the weekend progresses His Presence becomes more apparent. Pope Benedict further reflects on the question of God's location: "He may be encountered in a more profound presence wherever we approach those dimensions of existence that most closely correspond with His inner being—namely those of Truth, and Love, of goodness of any kind." Through the meditations with our Spiritual Advisors and the witness of the Lay Rollistas, we begin to see goodness in others, and consequently to love the Christ in them.

The Cursillo weekend is in every way a Eucharistic experience highlighted by the revelation of Christ's Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the exposition and perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament commencing on Friday evening. For many, this is the first time that they really begin to understand and appreciate with deep reverence the True Presence of the Eucharist.

In life, God is present everywhere, but we become keenly aware of His Presence when we are on His Holy Mountain at Cursillo, and experience how He is working in the lives of our brothers and sisters. Perhaps we carry this awareness with us as we approach the altar and receive Communion, and realize that we are changed. Through the Sacrament we enter into union with God, and together with His people we become His body, the Church.

Cursillo prepares us to not simply share the Gospel good news, but rather to BECOME the Good News that Jesus is alive in the here and now, dwelling in and among His people. We have the opportunity, indeed we have a missionary calling, to invite others into this profound encounter with Christ. Will you bring someone that you know to share the love of God on the upcoming Cursillo weekends this June? Will you spend an hour in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament lifting the teams and new Cursillistas up with Palanca prayers? I hope that you will.

Come back to the Mountain this spring! Bring a friend to Christ! Imagine their joy as they are surrounded by His glory, truly present in body, blood, and in the hearts of the community sacrificing and praying for them. As the song says, what will their hearts feel? I can only imagine.

De Colores! Your Brother in Christ, Joe

PIETY, STUDY, & ACTION

Greetings from the Northern Region Cursillo Community and San Francisco de Asis Parish in Flagstaff!

My name is Cathy Allen and I am honored to serve as Rectora for the next Women's English Cursillo June 17-20 at Mt. Claret #933. Our Women's Cursillo Team was 6 days away from the start of our Cursillo last March when everything was shut down due to COVID-19. The men had just finished their weekend and our Men's Team was also looking forward to supporting and helping us on our weekend.

After our initial disappointment, we decided to keep meeting just in case this was only a temporary delay. Well, 14 months later we are back in formation and looking forward to bringing our friends and candidates to

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW...

Flagstaff weekends are Diocese of Phoenix weekends – they have been going on for many years and our weekend numbering includes them. They have an Area Representative (Mr. John Stalker of San Francisco de Asis Parish) who reports to the Phoenix Secretariat and Bishop Nevares. Their weekends are held at a former convent next to Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel in Flagstaff.

The upcoming women's weekend in June is for ALL candidates in the Diocese of Phoenix to attend; not just those from Northern Arizona. The team has both Northern Arizona and Phoenix area team members. Let us demonstrate our "southern hospitality" in the true spirit of Cursillo, and support this weekend with your palanca and presence. Thank you to all the team members for coming together in friendship for this weekend!

By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.
—John 13:35



Christ in June!

When I first got the invitation from Joe Fairlie to bring our team to Mt. Claret and lead this Cursillo I had two thoughts. "You are asking me to do what?" followed by "Why me, when there are so many other more qualified people?"

So I brought these two questions to our Perpetual Adoration Chapel – a gift to me from Cursillo as I had never visited the Chapel before my weekend in 2008. As I gazed upon the Blessed Sacrament I saw the sign right below that says "Be Still and Know That I Am God." I tried to quiet my mind but the Martha in me insisted that first I straighten the pamphlets, put away CD's, and refill

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the candles. It was during this time that I felt the Holy Spirit start to nudge me.

I made my way to the kneelers in front of the Blessed Sacrament and started to pray. The first thing that came to mind were the words of "The Servant Song".

What do you want of me Lord?

Where do you want me to serve you?

This had been one of my most frequent prayers during the last year. However, this wasn't part of my plan or the plan I thought God had for me. But I had my answer. Christ is counting on me and our team to be His hands and feet and continue to do the work of building His Kingdom by bringing these new candidates to Cursillo. "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done."

My spiritual strength comes from worshipping with our Catholic and Cursillo Community and my prayer is usually through music and song. Because of the limitations of COVID I have felt somewhat disconnected spiritually even though I have attended Mass and honored my commitment to the Adoration Chapel. I have also continued our team formation, grouped with my Cursillo Sisters and even held Choir rehearsals in the parking lot, but I have been hesitant in my social contact – Make a Friend, Be A Friend, Bring Your Friend to Christ.

During these last few weeks of renewed formation the Holy Spirit has been present and has brought us many blessings. We are making new friends with our Cursillo sisters and brothers in the Phoenix Community and through our Action we are able to make a friend, be a friend and bring our friends to Christ through Cursillo. There also seems to be a renewed energy – a fire – within the Team and surrounding the weekend.

So while the Action leg of the tripod is strong, the Piety and Study legs need some focus. I rely on my Grupo sisters for their spiritual guidance, to lead me in these areas and to hold me accountable. I am continually inspired by the ways they bring prayer into their daily

lives. Some offer structured prayers every day such as Liturgy of The Hours and Rosaries and they have prayer bowls where they put the intentions of everyone who asked them for prayers and offer a daily prayer for those intentions.

One prayer that has stood out to me recently is the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel. "Defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil." This prayer has brought me comfort and courage during the last year with the pandemic and political divisiveness, knowing that St. Michael is fighting for all of us.

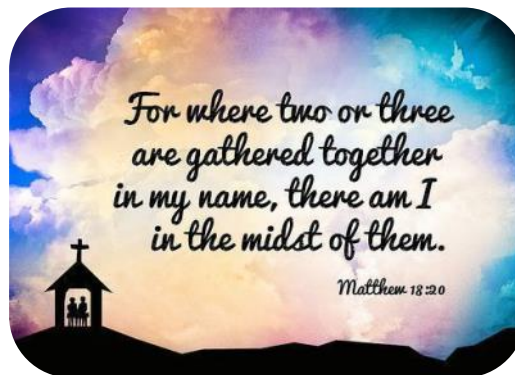
Study has always been the most difficult for me.

However, I have found that is where my true inspiration and spiritual growth happen. After my Cursillo I was inspired to Study and I found a book called "Being Mary In A Martha World." This hit the nail on the head for me. As I had heard during the weekend being busy and focusing on the task work was actually preventing me from an authentic relationship with God.

This is once again where my sisters have helped me. In our Grupo we look for books that are meant to be read and studied through group conversations. We are currently working our way through "Rooted" which is part of the *Blessed Is She* program and has sections on the different types of Prayer, Sacraments, Cardinal Virtues, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, The Our Father, Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. This book is a companion to the Catechism of the Catholic Church and has taught us how to use the Catechism as a spiritual study guide.

In closing I want to share that "He's Still Working On Me" (a song). I am trying to be a good example of Christ's unconditional love in all my environments and I am looking forward to serving on the Women's Cursillo in June.

De Colores from Your Sister in Christ,
Cathy Allen (2008)
San Francisco de Asis, Flagstaff



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.

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 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) or go directly to 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)



YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!



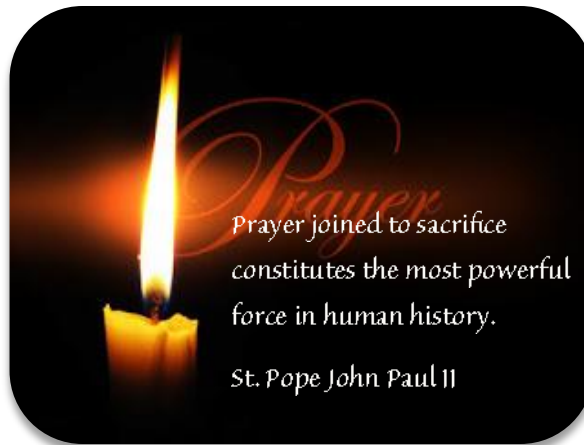
Parish Reps Needed!!!: To see if your parish is one of those not covered, please go to our website. If interested, please contact the Postcursillo Chair at (postcursillo@gmail.com) or Precursillo Chair at (precursillo@gmail.com).

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).

**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.



**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.

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

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:	

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.
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 Website: www.phoenixcursillo.com
Facebook: Phoenix Cursillo Movement