



ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS

# THE VOICE

NOVEMBER 2021

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF PHOENIX CURSILLO MOVEMENT

## FROM FR. DEACON ERNIE GONZALES

### Cursillo is ALIVE and HAPPENING!

De Colores, fellow Cursillistas!

My name is Deacon Ernie Gonzales and I am currently assigned to Sacred Heart Parish in Prescott. I lived my Cursillo Weekend in 2006 in Yuma and have been involved ever since. I was ordained in 2012 in the Diocese of Tucson and have assisted the Cursillo Movement since then. In 2017 my wife and I moved to Prescott Valley to retire. Currently my wife and I are involved in the Northern Arizona Cursillo movement. It has been a true blessing.

Boy, has it been a wild time in our world recently. In November we will give thanks on Thanksgiving Day. American's first Thanksgiving was about prayer and giving thanks to God. Families gathered to share a meal and celebrate the union of the first Thanksgiving of the Native Americans and the Early Settlers. Without their help, who knows what would have happened.

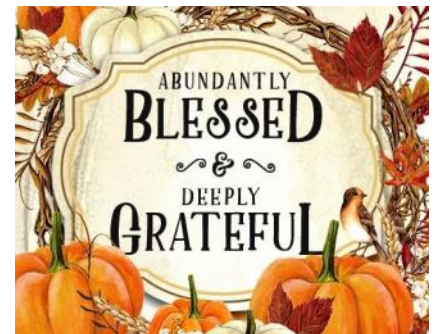
Even now families and friends still gather to celebrate this special day. People travel great distances to be together on this day. Fond memories are created we are gathered and the wonderful smells of the feast fill the house where the cooking is taking place. What a wonderful and thanksgiving time.

We have so much for which to be grateful. I know what you are going to say about our world today. I know there are great concerns about our world and what is happening. But let us sit back and think and pray for a moment or two about what we have to be grateful for this day. The Lord mentions the message "BE NOT AFRAID; FOR I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS" 365 times in the Bible. Why would our Heavenly Father mention it so many times if it wasn't important? And we are reminded that Jesus says, "WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED, I AM IN THEIR MIDST." We are given the message of reassurance to gather and give praise and glory to our Lord. Our Heavenly Father loves us beyond our imagination and only wants the best for us. He wants to fill our hearts with the love He has for us. What more could we want?

With that said, lets us gather once again as a Cursillo community, reliving our spiritual experience together. Think about it for a minute. There are only a few places that give you the opportunity to share your walk with the Trinity (The Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit) on your Piety, Study, and Action; to talk about our ups and downs in life and share the gifts we receive daily. Our Group brothers and sisters have always been there for each other. Why not call a fellow group brother or sister and see how they are doing? Maybe join a group if you have been away or call someone that has not come back in a while.

Cursillo weekends are alive and happening. This November 4-7, the Men's Weekend will take place at Mount Claret. On November 18-21, the Women's Weekend will take place. Maybe write a general palanca to the candidates attending, sharing the wonders the Lord blessed you with on your weekend. You can go on the Phoenix Cursillo website [www.phoenixcursillo.com/teams-in-formation](http://www.phoenixcursillo.com/teams-in-formation) and get the names of the candidates attending. Or attend the Clausura on Sunday afternoon. There are numerous ways to get reconnected to the Cursillo movement and your faith.

Deacon Ernie Gonzales, Sacred Heart Parish, Prescott



## SCHOOL OF LEADERS

### SECRETARIAT ELECTIONS

#### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

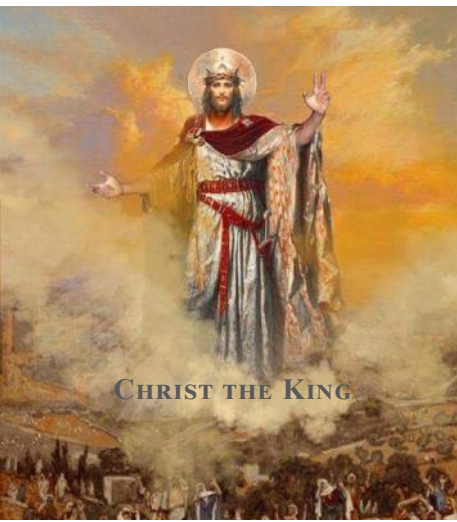
If you are interested in serving, please contact Joe Fairlie at 602-291-2669.

Nominations accepted until December School of Leaders. Positions Open: Lay Director, Three Day Chair, School of Leaders Chair, Precursillo Chair, and Treasurer  
More info inside!

### How can I repay the Lord for all the good He has done for me?

Psalm 116

*Won't you please prayerfully consider serving on the Secretariat of the Diocesan Cursillo Movement? You ARE a leader—your talents ARE needed!*



CHRIST THE KING

## CALENDAR AND EVENTS

### November 2021

- Nov. 4 **Men's Eng. Weekend #938** (Mt. Claret)  
Nov. 9 6:30 PM Secretariat Meeting  
Nov. 13 9:00 AM ULTREYA (OLO Mt. Carmel)  
Nov. 18 **Women's Eng. Weekend #939** (Mt. Claret)  
Nov. 19 6:45 PM ULTREYA (Miles Jesu)  
Nov. 20 9:30 AM SOL (TBD)

### December 2021

- Dec. 11 11:00 am ULTREYA  
(St. John Vianney, Sedona)  
Dec. 14 6:30 pm Secretariat Meeting  
**School of Leaders, Nominations, and Election Dates**  
will be sent in an upcoming email.

### 2022 CURSILLO WEEKENDS

#### Men's English Cursillo Weekends

- March 3-6, 2022 (Flagstaff)  
March 10-13, 2022 (Mt. Claret)  
August 25-27, 2022 (Mt. Claret)  
November 10-13, 2022 (Mt. Claret)

#### Women's English Cursillo Weekends

- March 17-20, 2022 (Mt. Claret)  
March 24-27, 2022 (Flagstaff)  
September 8-12, 2022 (Mt. Claret)  
November 17-20, 2022 (Mt. Claret)

*Numbers to be assigned as information comes regarding when Spanish Weekends are scheduled.*

*Election Note: Please refer to the Apostolic Plan and Articles of Operation for details regarding Secretariat Positions and the Cursillo Movement. They can be found on the Secretariat Page of the website.*

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

# ULTREYA!



#### Eastside Ultreya

Saturday, November 13, 2021

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

2121 S Rural Rd, Tempe

Mass at 8 AM

Gathering/refreshments after Mass,

If you would like, bring a dish to share

Ultreya following

#### Ultreya at Miles Jesu

Friday, November 19, 2021

1925 E Baseline Rd, Phoenix

5:45 PM Holy Hour; confessions available

6:30 PM Pilgrim's Guide Apostolic Hour Prayer

6:45 PM Ultreya

#### Ultreya in Sedona

Saturday, December 11, 2021

St. John Vianney

180 St. John Vianney Lane, Sedona

11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Water and Snacks provided

#### Would you like to schedule an Ultreya at your parish?

Postcursillo Chair, Veronica Lucas, is here to help!

Please call or email her for more information:

(602) 909-3459 or cursillo.v@gmail.com

She will help plan, facilitate, and spread the good news of your Ultreya.



**GREETINGS.** I'd like to begin this message by thanking Vince Johnson and the Cursillo Region X team, as well as all of our friends in Northern Arizona who hosted a wonderful Regional Encounter in Flagstaff last weekend. It's always a joyful occasion when we Cursillistas can get together and share our love for the Lord. It was especially nice to finally meet face to face with some of the Lay Directors from other diocese and regional service team members who, since we haven't had



an in person encounter in two years, have only gotten to know one another through Zoom meetings.

Personally, I was looking forward to a couple of added bonuses of the trip to Flagstaff. One was that I was able to enjoy a lovely dinner with our daughter who is a student at NAU. The other benefit that I hoped for was to see some colorful fall foliage. As I was driving north I couldn't help but notice that the landscape

seemed to be missing the vibrant golden groves of Aspen that were typical of this time of year in seasons past.

On Saturday morning I found myself sitting between John Stalker and Deacon Chris Giannola, when the conversation turned to cutting wood. I was surprised to hear that dead Aspen trees can be found readily available lying along the side of the forest roads. It was then that I learned of a natural phenomenon which the Forest Service has labeled with the acronym SAD, for Sudden Aspen Decline.

Scientists haven't been able to say with certainty what the cause of decline is, but they have several hypotheses including disease, sustained drought due to climate change, and consumption of new growth by deer and elk. In reflection, there are some similarities between SAD and the recent challenges that we face in the Church and the Cursillo movement.

For those who may not be aware, we have a Regional Secretariat that is made up of Lay Directors from each diocese in Arizona and New Mexico, who meet periodically to discuss what is happening in the movement and to share ideas. As we went around the room at our meeting last Friday, the most pressing topic on everyone's mind was the COVID-19 pandemic. One by one each Lay Director talked about the difficulties of keeping the movement alive in their diocese, while making safety a priority in the face of this disease. They spoke about the

lack of facilities due to closures, and the challenge of forming teams without active participation in School of Leaders. Some of the communities in these other dioceses are also separated by hundreds of miles. It seems to me that like the trees of the forest, the spirit of De Colores is facing its own version of SAD, a Sudden Apostolic Decline. Let's look at some of the similarities.

The Trembling Aspen is an interesting ecosystem. All of the trees in a grove are actually one large organism linked by a common root system. When one tree falls, another sprout rises from its roots to replenish the forest. In much the same way, the individual people of the Catholic Church are One Body of Christ, rooted in communion through His Body and Blood in the Eucharist. Through Apostolic succession and Sacred Tradition the Church has continued to grow for over two millennia, as new saints continue to spring from the foundation that Jesus laid in forming His Church.

Just as the forests have suffered from a period of drought, we too have faced periods of separation from the Living Water offered through the sacraments. Although in our diocese the time that we were unable to attend mass was relatively brief, we are still not fully recuperated from that drought and I fear that some may never return. The gathering of the family of God's people is incredibly important and vital to the regeneration of the vineyard for generations to come.

The National Forest Service has taken to erecting protective fences to keep elk and deer out of Aspen stands in order to protect new shoots from being consumed before they are strong enough to survive on their own. In a similar way, Cursillo uses the term "Total Security" to describe the gifts of Group Reunion and Ultreya, which provide the protection and strength that are needed to assure that we continue to grow as a community in Faith.

These tools that Cursillo provides are especially relevant for all of the newer Cursillistas, some of whom lived their weekends just prior to the pandemic shut down and didn't have an immediate opportunity to form a group. Left alone without the security found in our small communities, we can easily be consumed by other interests and our faith can be overshadowed by trees that



are not rooted in Christ. Thank you to all who have continued to group and host Ultreyas at your parishes.

We are very fortunate in Phoenix compared to other areas of the country. We are the only one of the five dioceses in the region who have been able to successfully host Cursillo weekends since the pandemic took hold in March of 2020, or to have upcoming weekends scheduled. That being said however, we are not immune from these same challenges. We need your continued support to continue moving forward with diligence to keep our community active and safe. Ultreya!

Please offer your Palanca for the candidates, team members, and spiritual advisors on the November Cursillo weekends. Come spend some time with our Lord in Adoration at Mount Claret during those weekends. The links to the Adoration schedule for the men's and women's weekends are now available on the website at [www.phoenixcursillo.com](http://www.phoenixcursillo.com). If you are sponsoring a candidate, it's important that you continue to accompany them for up to a full year assuring that they join a group reunion and are attending Ultreyas whenever possible, so they can grow to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Just as the all of the trees in nature run their course and have to make room for new growth, so do the term limits of our secretariat come to an end, and five members of our executive board will be retiring from our positions. We need new leaders to take up the torch and keep the Cursillo fire burning. I've already spoken briefly about the importance of a vibrant School of Leaders. The Three Day Chair is essential to the formation and support of team leaders for our retreat weekends. The Treasurer

position assures the financial solvency of the movement so that we can continue to pay our bills, as well as offer scholarships so that no one is turned away from Cursillo due to financial hardship. As of now we don't have any volunteers for these three important posts. While we do have a few very good candidates for the Precursillo and Lay Director positions, nominations will remain open up until the elections at the December School of Leaders when Elections will be held.

You can find a brief description of the duties of each secretariat position in the Articles of Operation and a more detailed one in the Apostolic Plan, both on our website. Our remaining officers who are staying on, Tisa Williams and Veronica Lucas, have a great love for Cursillo. I'm sure that you will find great pleasure in working together with them, along with our Bishops and clergy, in making decisions to guide our movement and bring the joy of the Gospel to our friends. Who of you are you willing to take the leadership baton and run with it?

Thank you to all and may the grace of God continue to bless you and our beloved movement. With your dedication and devotion, I know that Cursillo in Phoenix will continue to reflect the light of Christ in our world, and shine like the golden glow of a flourishing grove of Aspen trees in autumn.



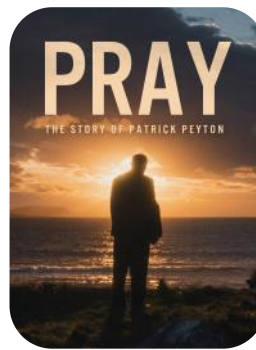
De Colores! Joe Fairlie, #781

## PIETY, STUDY, ACTION

### **Family Dinner/Family Rosary - By Zelda Graham**

In November of last year, as things were beginning to open up after all of the Covid closures, my husband Doug and I decided to go see a movie. Only limited movies were out and we heard of one call "Pray", a movie/documentary about Fr. Patrick Peyton who came to America from Ireland in 1928. Crediting his fervent prayers for Mary's intercession for his healing from a disease, Father Peyton dedicated his vocation and his life to spreading the message of the power of prayer, especially the Rosary. He did this, beginning in 1940, through radio, film, and huge Rosary rallies around the world, enlisting some of Hollywood's biggest Catholic stars for his pro-faith, pro-family mission. He coined the phrase, "The Family That Prays Together, Stays Together."

We left there touched by one man's crusade to



*The movie, PRAY, can be streamed online.*  
<https://www.praythefilm.com/seethefilm>

evangelize the world through family prayer. Doug said, "I wish we would have done that with our kids when they were young." We prayed with our kids and the Rosary was something we prayed occasionally, but not with consistency or commitment. He then said, "Why not start

now?" We talked about how we would go about it and decided we would pick one night, Tuesday, to have a family Rosary. Whoever showed up, showed up, but we committed to being there every week. Now, how would we get them there? I thought about what lured us to my mother's house on a regular basis and immediately knew the answer: dinner. She had a regular taco night each week early in our marriage and all of my siblings knew they could pop in and have tacos after work before going



home. We committed to making dinner every Tuesday, having it ready at 5:30. We don't let them bring anything because we want them to be able to just show up, eat, pray and get kids home by bedtime. We eat together and begin our Rosary promptly at 6:30. The first night, we were happy to see our three married children, their spouses and all our 8

grandchildren show up. Our youngest son even joined us via FaceTime from Denver and thus our Tuesday night dinner and Rosary began.

It has been amazing to see the graces showered on our family through this time. Some nights it is pure chaos as the grandkids energetically (and loudly) greet each other as they walk through the door. Dinner time has been a time to catch up on what has happened in the past week and to discuss family events, calendars and holidays. It's loud and lively and I love every minute of it. Everyone pitches in to clean up and then we gather in our living room to begin our prayer.

As Doug leads us through the Rosary we pray for each other, our jobs, our health, our family, and friends. We also have many prayers of thanksgiving for prayers answered. It has been wonderful to see the little ones catch on that this is a special time of prayer. As the weeks progressed, they began to chime in with their little voices, sharing their own prayer petitions: a classmate's grandpa with Covid, another whose cat died, prayers they do well on a test, prayers they don't fight with their siblings, and for three weeks in a row my grandson Gus prayed for himself for "getting stung by a scorpion". It's beautiful to see them bring their heartfelt petitions with such purity and faith that our prayer time will help. The youngest three children, all under 3 years would wander while we recited each decade, but as we sang "Ave Maria" in between decades, they would stop in their tracks and sing with us. Our youngest grandson who is two can now recite all of the prayers and another has made it clear it is his "job" to lead the St. Michael prayer at the end.



We end the night with ice cream, singing the popsicle song, or having a dance party until parents round up the kids to take them home. During Lent, one set of grandkids decided to give up dessert so we all decided that we would, too on our Tuesday night. Hence a lesson on fasting as a family.

A few months into our Rosary time, my niece who is not Catholic and an only child, started coming over, at first just to have dinner and eventually staying for the Rosary. It is beautiful to see her now participating, sharing her petitions and able to recite the prayers with us. As a single mom, you can tell that this time is a time of peace and support for her and we can see our Blessed Mother touching her heart each week.

Some weeks not everyone is there for various reasons: sickness, work or out of town, but most weeks most of us are there either in person or via FaceTime. Doug and I are thankful that God has graced us with this time with His

Mother. She has shown us that she is with us, taking our petitions to Her Son. We now see our sons and daughter and their spouses using this time to pray with their children, teaching them about this beautiful sacramental of our faith.

*Remember Oh 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.*

She never fails us. I am thankful that my husband was inspired to lead our family to this special time of prayer. Where we thought initially it was too late to start a tradition of faith like this, we now see this was the perfect time. It's NEVER too late. We encourage you to invite the Blessed Mother into your home and make her part of your family dinner night.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for Us!

Zelda Graham, #340



## 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))



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

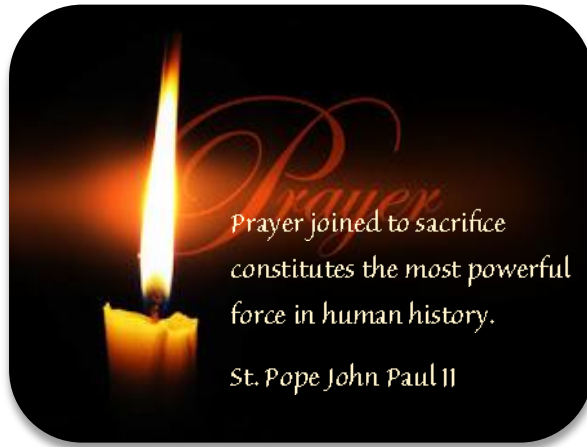
**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**



**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](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.

<b>General Palanca</b>	<b>Amount</b>
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](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**