

*For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*Romans 8:38-39*

**FROM FR. KILIAN MCCAFFREY**

### ***We Are Living In Interesting Times***

We have reached August 2020 and still there is no end in sight to the mess of a pandemic that we are enduring. But as St. Paul reminds us on the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time, “nothing will separate us from the love of Christ.”

What a difference a year makes. This time last year I was writing about the history of the Cursillo Movement in Mallorca, in Spain, in Texas, and in the Diocese of Phoenix in preparation for the 60th anniversary of Arizona’s Cursillo #1, which took place in November of 1959.

Now we have come through a spring and summer like no other, through lockdowns and reopening phases, masks, social-distancing and hand-sanitizer and on and on it goes. We do not know when we will once again be able to hold Cursillo weekends. We have more time for each other, but through virtual meetings and communication.

I was commenting to someone just the other day that it seems like only recently they were trying to pass laws against Muslim women wearing face coverings in public - and now you will be chastised or worse for not wearing a face mask in public or in Church!

God certainly has a sense of humor... these are strange times indeed....

As we move through August, we see Jesus living in a strange time also. It was the best and the worst of times for Jesus: it was a time of heightened emotion because He was at the peak of his popularity and yet had seen how He was not getting through to the followers and had radically changed how He taught, choosing instead to teach with parables, explaining all about the Kingdom of God.

Then Jesus’ cousin, John the Baptist, was arrested by King Herod. Jesus then went to His home place of Nazareth and was rejected, possibly out of fear of

Herod. On returning to the Sea of Galilee, He heard of the murder of John.

Everything was going wrong and yet Jesus was still hugely popular with the people. Grief-stricken and rejected, feeling the need for some peace and solitude, Jesus left Capernaum by boat and arrived at a place called Tabgha, a deserted grassy cove on the lake shore, where

no doubt He wanted time alone to think about and figure out all that was going on.

You can’t always get what you want! A vast crowd followed Him, many walking along the shore in the late afternoon.

Hanging on His every word, inspired by His authority, witnesses to His miracles, they still wanted more. He was moved with pity for them, cured the sick... and still they wanted more. They wanted to be loved and now they also needed food.

But Jesus knew that God loves a dire situation in order to prove Who God is and

how powerful God is. He combines words and action, combines love and food. Just as at the miracle at Cana when he asked the wedding attendants and stewards to help turn water into wine, He decided to let the disciples play a part in this miraculous meal for thousands and thousands.

We see just how Jesus’ disciples get their well-deserved reward. In the Eucharist above all, He gives us the food that satisfies for eternal life. We are all called to take an active part in this life of Christ and in the generosity of God.

*Cont’d on page 3*

# TRUST IN GOD



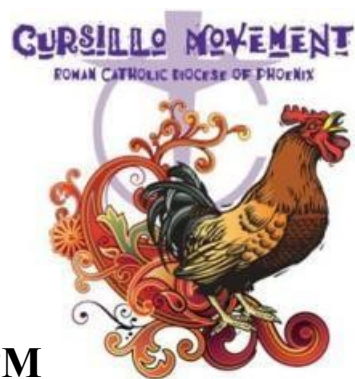
*Two miles from Capernaum on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee is Tabgha, the traditional site of the feeding of the 5000, and of Jesus’ third resurrection appearance to His disciples when He*

*cooked breakfast for them on the shore. There, an ancient basilica was excavated where this 5th Century mosaic was recovered, which is in the present-day Church of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fish.*

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**CENA DE COLORES/  
EVENING UNDER THE STARS**

VIRTUAL Fundraiser  
for the Cursillo Movement  
and Mt. Claret  
**Saturday, October 24th, 5:00—6:30 PM**



**ROSARY FOR AMERICA**

Yes! Join us at Mt. Claret (limited attendance  
with COVID-19 guidelines)  
1st Monday of each month at 7:00 pm



August 3, 2020  
September 7, 2020  
October 5, 2020

**SPONSORSHIP WORKSHOP**

**ULTREYA**

**SCHOOL OF LEADERS**

*Your Postcursillo and Precursillo Committees  
are working hard on making Ultreyas and  
School of Leaders home-friendly.  
Watch your email, Facebook, or the website for  
upcoming details.*

**H**OW MUCH CAN CHANGE IN JUST A FEW WEEKS!  
Cautious optimism at the end of May that we would slowly  
return to Cursillo activities in person has necessarily become  
redirected into positive enthusiasm for virtual meetings for the  
rest of the year. Your Secretariat is looking into several  
options for Cursillo fellowship. **ULTREYA! That is our cry.**

We must continue forward. The fire that burned brightly when you  
started your Fourth Day needs to be nurtured. Please look into the virtual  
activities that are offered. If you aren't already, consider going virtual with  
your Group Reunion. Don't let COVID-19 keep you from keeping the  
awareness your Piety, Study, and Action at the forefront. Come, Holy  
Spirit!

Fr. Kilian, cont'd from page 1

Nothing will separate us from the love of Christ.

Through the eyes of faith, we see how God is still working in our lives in different ways - even in this time of pandemic. Like Jesus, we must adapt and come up with inventive ways to live out our faith in this time. Whatever the difficulties, God is here for us and Heaven is only a prayer away. We are here for each other to help and support the Mission of the Church and each other.

As we move through August we see Jesus performing more miracles and further revealing who He is: the Son of God, the Word Made Flesh, the Bread of Life, Our Lord

and Our God. We must adapt and come up with inventive ways to live out our faith and our lives as Cursillistas. Who knows where this will lead us over the next few weeks and months? We hope to be able to offer more in the way of live-streamed meetings and Masses. Please pray that we will be able to make these available very soon.

***Make a friend. Be a friend.***

***Bring a friend to Christ.***

Fr. Kilian McCaffrey

## FROM OUR LAY DIRECTOR

### De Colores!

I hope that you are all well and finding ways to stay out of the heat. My wife Angie and I recently went on a camping trip on the Mogollon Rim to enjoy the cooler temperatures, and as we drove I was struck with awe by the size of the burn scar caused by the recent wildfires. The “Bush Fire” raged on for three weeks from June 13 to July 6<sup>th</sup>

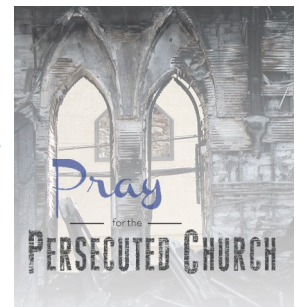
### THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO!

and burned 193,444 acres, or over 300 square miles. The Beeline Highway has always been a favorite drive, with changing landscapes moving from the desert Saguaros to high mountain forest. The landscape now stands as a testimony to the contrast of the devastating power and sheer beauty of nature. From just past Mesa all the way to Rye just south of Payson, on the east side of the road, entire mountainsides are covered with ash and the blackened remains of leafless trees resembling the remnants of a nuclear Armageddon. The west side of the road however, is a picturesque montage of varying colors of grass, brush and trees. As we were driving down the mountain headed for home with a clear vision of destruction and death to the left, and beauty and life to the right, it occurred to me that incredibly the forest will eventually regenerate and be restored to new life. Nature and its ability for rejuvenation stands like a beacon of light as a constant reminder and witness to the awesome power and grace of God.

A day or so later I was meditating on how the wildfire relates to the current social climate in our world and nation, and specifically on the recent attacks on the Catholic Church. These are trying times for Catholics and it can seem like the world is going up in smoke around us. We have to wonder how anyone can hate the Church, who

has championed the cause of social justice, and been the strongest advocate for the dignity of each and every human person. The answer must be that they simply do not know Christ. To the misinformed, even some who were raised as Christians but do not practice religion, the Church is viewed as an institution and perhaps a symbol of oppression. But for those like us who have been enlightened by Faith, we know that the Church is not a mere building or institution, but that we are the Church, the living Body of Christ in the world. We should take these attacks personally, because they are anarchistic personal assaults on God himself, and on us as members of His Body. Each torch thrown at a church, or scathing anti-Christian editorial and meme, echo the cries of a mob 2000 years ago shouting “Crucify Him!” So how do we in our fallen nature, prone to anger and frustration, deal with this? Are we capable of responding with the love and mercy of Christ when He said, “Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do?”

How can those who are estranged from faith, come to know the Catholic Church for who She really is? The Magisterium can release statements reflecting the Catholic stance on social justice all day long, but unfortunately they are largely preaching to the choir. In this day of selective newsfeeds geared towards a targeted audience, those outside the Catholic Church simply aren't listening. I believe that it's up to us, the laity in the trenches, to show Christ to those who have strayed far from Him. A few weeks ago some of us gathered for a



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*Lay Director, cont'd from page 3*

memorial mass to honor our Cursillo brother Art Broulliard who has entered his fifth day and has gone on to be with the Lord. If you knew Art, you couldn't help but be inspired by his example and see him as the face of Christ. When Haiti was all but destroyed by an earthquake in 2010, the Holy Spirit moved Art to found a charitable organization, Action by Christians (ABC) For Haiti, and he brought aid to the children of one of the poorest nations on earth for nearly 10 years, until he was no longer able to due to his failing health. This may seem like a big thing to undertake, but I'm certain that Art didn't see it that way. He probably saw it as, to paraphrase Saint Therese, a little thing done with great love.

Cursillo doesn't work though grand speeches and big gestures. Cursillo is about a personal encounter with Christ. If we are to change the world for the better it will be by allowing those in our environments to be influenced by a personal encounter with the Christ in us. We have the ability and have been provided the tools to do this by living our tripod of Piety, Study, and Apostolic Action. We can't be effective alone in our easy chair. We need to accompany one another and our friends on the journey to holiness. In his Rollo during the recent National Encounter Father Mark Sieker said that "an isolated Christian is a paralyzed Christian." I have to say that I'm very pleased when I see so many of you using innovative

*Above all, let your love for one another be intense, because love covers a multitude of sins.*  
1 Peter 4:8

new ways to meet in your group reunions.

Father Mark also said that "an isolated group reunion is a paralyzed group reunion." We must continue to extend our circle of friendship through Ultreya and other opportunities to invite those who may be far from God to come know and share in His love. The virtual National Cursillo Encounter last weekend was a wonderful gathering of Catholics from far and wide. Although most of us had never met, we were united in the joyful brotherhood as one family in Christ. Unity is essential, so please be wary of voices both from outside and within the Catholic Church who try to cause division among us. One of the more beautiful experiences of the Encounter was that when there were some technical difficulties, the administrators were moved by the kindness and patience

shown by the Cursillistas in the comments window, which is so different from the meanness and impatience that we are accustomed to on social media.

If we always keep in mind Jesus' prayer for us "that they be one" and with that follow His commandment to "love one another", then like the trees of the forest, this society can rise like a Phoenix from the ashes of discontentment and be renewed as a culture of love.

The formula is simple:

Make a Friend, Be a Friend,

Bring a Friend to Christ.

Joe Fairlie #781

## PIETY, STUDY, AND ACTION

### De Colores Everyone! (Jean Polando)

WOW! What trying times we are surviving and persevering in... Jesus, we Trust in YOU! That's a go to prayer several times a day every day for me and so many that I know.

I lived my Cursillo December 2002, #688, and Patty O'Neal of the famous Cursillo Gonzales family was my fabulous Rectora. All her sisters and sister-in-law were on the team. Now that was amazing to me. (However, they did say, never again!) I found it so inspiring and was envious at the same time. I was raised in the suburbs of Detroit Michigan and have three sisters and two brothers. However, I would never be able to work teams with my blood sisters as they are not practicing Catholics. My Cursillo Prayer group sisters, who God has blessed me with for more than 18 years, are another story all together.

We work teams together as much as possible. For example, a few years ago, Veronica Lucas called Geri Desmond to work her team. Geri asked, "What night are you meeting?" V told her Wednesdays and Geri agreed only if all her prayer group sisters could be on team as well, since that is was our prayer group meeting night. Another Beautiful team was formed and there were twenty-two on team including the six of us!

The beauty of Cursillo is that we have been blessed with unlimited brothers and sisters in Christ! I remember when Geri Desmond invited me to go to Cursillo. I said, "YES!" She said "Do you have any questions? I answered

*Piety, Study, Action cont'd on page 5*



Jean Polando, cont'd from page 4

“NO!” I was trusting in God then and I had no idea what to expect. WOW! Zapped again by the Holy Spirit is what happened. So many blessings, so many holy women sharing their lives, struggles, joys, and blessings!

WOW! Working teams, working our Piety, Study, and Action daily is such a blessing! We don't know what we don't know... however, it has been such an adventure figuring it out! Each backup Rollo we are asked to prepare, each Rollo we are asked to give, each assignment we are given when we say YES to God and the team helps us grow in our Piety, Study, and Action!

I have been blessed to have been asked to work many teams and have worked with an amazing number of HOLY women; HOLY men, too, when I have worked Cursillo Renewal teams. So many blessings I can't count them all! I thank God for them all, always. Watching the Rosebuds (candidates) on Thursday nights grow into beautiful open flowers on Sunday is such an amazing transformation: how can we ever get enough of that Metanoia?

I have learned so much and grown so much as a Christian and leader since my Cursillo. My kids, who are

now grown men with a business of their own, use to say that Mount Claret was my second home. I couldn't deny it, as I was there for School of Leaders, Ultreya, Renewal, Opening and Closing of every Cursillo since I lived mine. I love it so much and invite as many as I can!

Truth be told, I have only said, “No” one time to working a team since 2002. That was one of the hardest things I have ever done. I had so much on my plate at the time, I didn't even have room for a pea! I've been through a lot in my life, made some good and bad choices along the way, but by the help of God, Cursillo, my prayer group sisters, and my family, I have become a better person, a better Christian, a better friend: **Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ!**

I'm grateful for all of you and pray for you daily! Please stay safe and love your loved ones even more! Tell them that you love them as often as you can. Life is too short, especially in these CRAZY times! God only knows what HE has planned for each of our lives!

May God continue to bless you all abundantly and always!

De Colores, Jean Polando



**Word Study: Are You Enthusiastic?**

After reading Jean's article I was inspired to research quotes about enthusiasm. Couldn't find it in the New American Bible, but there were many in a Google search.

Ralph Waldo Emerson: “Nothing great was ever achieved without *enthusiasm*.”

“Today is life-the only life you are sure of. Make the most of today. Shake yourself awake. Let the winds of *enthusiasm* sweep through you.” – Dale Carnegie

Picasso: “The essential in this time of moral poverty is to create *enthusiasm*.”

We would probably find the word “zeal” in the Bible as the closest synonym. It may surprise you though - the root of the word comes from the Greek word “Theo”, or **God**, and “entheo”, or **God within**. Don't those quotes have a deeper meaning now? May the winds of the Holy Spirit sweep through our lives; let us have as much enthusiasm as Jean does!

Cecelia Dusold, Editor

**PRAYER RESOURCES FOR THE  
CORONAVIRUS CRISIS**

USCCB: <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-crisis.cfm>



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

### 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 ([mickkapanicas@gmail.com](mailto:mickkapanicas@gmail.com)) or Precursillo Chair at ([jdiaz.theocentric@gmail.com](mailto:jdiaz.theocentric@gmail.com)).

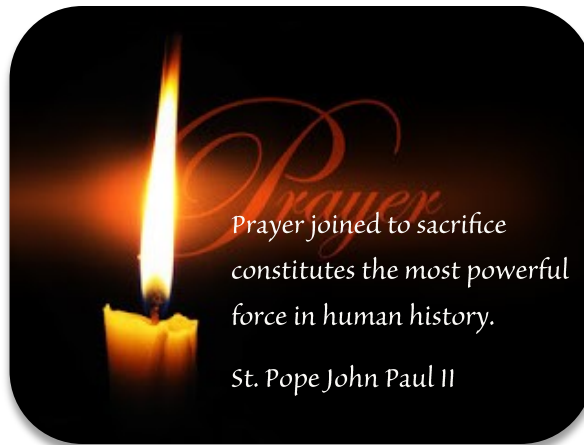
**Ultreya!** It just takes a place and some friends to rejoice together in the graces we receive as we live our piety, study, and action throughout our 4th day. Please get in touch with the Postcursillo Chair, if you are interested in helping with or hosting an Ultreya in your area.

**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)).

## 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**