



*Bring flowers of the rarest, bring flowers of the fairest
From garden and woodland and hillside and vale;
Our full hearts are swelling, our glad voices telling
The praise of the loveliest Rose of the vale.
O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.*

May 2020

The VOICE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF PHOENIX CURSILLO MOVEMENT

FROM BISHOP EDUARDO NEVARES

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Cursillo,

DE COLORES!!!

This is the greatest time of the year physically and spiritually.

Physically, we are surrounded by the blossoms of the spring flowers. Spiritually, we have gone through the difficult days of Lent. We have entered into the High Holy Days of the Easter Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. Now, we have fifty days of the Easter Season where we continue to encounter the Risen Christ in the Scriptures, as we recommit ourselves to our Catholic-Christian faith:

**Christ has died, Christ has Risen, Christ will come again,
ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!**

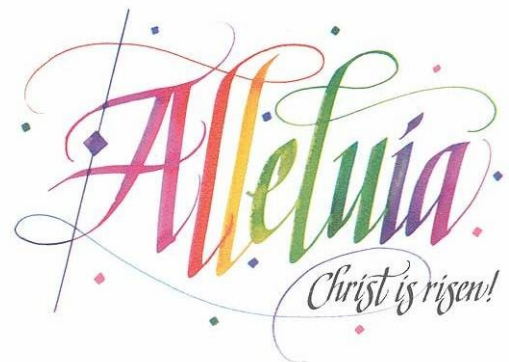
We have all been greatly challenged this past month in so many different ways: we have had our Churches locked down, we have not had any physical contact, we have been wearing masks and gloves, we have been social distancing and staying at home. Most are having a severe case of CABIN FEVER.

Yet, CHRIST HAS DIED; CHRIST HAS RISEN; CHRIST FULFILLS HIS PROMISE: "I AM WITH YOU ALL DAYS."

As we await for all of our Cursillo meetings, groups, weekends and activities return to "normal", please continue to use Social Media Platforms to stay in touch, and continue to support, encourage and to pray for one another. Let us continue to be ALLELUIA PEOPLE, and let us bring our EASTER JOY to ALL WE MEET.

Please receive my Apostolic Blessing,
Bishop Eduardo A. Nevares

P.S. If you or a fellow Cursillista has lost their jobs, please let the Diocesan Secretariat know so that we can provide special covering during these difficult days.



**We look forward to the time when
we can see each other again!
Watch the website for details.**

ULTREYA!

**CENA DE COLORES!
SAVE THE NEW DATE!
November 21, 2020**



“Look! I am bringing the city recovery and healing; I will heal them and reveal to them an abundance of lasting peace.” (Jer. 33:6)

These words of hope, which seem so relevant to our current state of affairs, were spoken roughly 600 years before Christ by the Prophet Jeremiah to a nation that found itself in exile from its cultural and spiritual center, the Temple of Jerusalem. Today, we too find ourselves in a sort of exile. Like the Israelites of old, we are prevented from going to our most sacred house of worship and giving right praise to the Lord in the Holy Mass.

In a way, the cause of each of these exiles is viral in nature. In reading about the study and prevention of viruses I came across an interesting scientific term, “Original Antigenic Sin”. Now I’m not a scientist by any means, so I won’t attempt a complicated explanation. Basically it’s a finding that a body’s immune system has a natural memory that will revert to fight whatever strand of disease it is initially exposed to, even when invaded by newer slightly different strands of disease. We hear a lot about the Novel (new) Corona Virus, but the disease that infected ancient Israel, and continues to plague our society today, is the turning away from God, also known as Original Sin.

I see remarkable similarities in the steps that we are taking to prevent the spread of a virus, and the methods utilized by the Jewish people to avoid the dangers of sin. The Torah imposed rules, such as ritual hand cleansing and purification exercises, that had both spiritual and hygienic benefits. The Jewish practice of avoiding contact with anyone who might be “un-clean,” might be seen as an exaggerated precursor to our “social distancing.” Perhaps we can follow the same model in a positive way to distance ourselves and our neighbors from the occasions of sin.

When I have ventured out of the house to go to the stores lately, I notice more and more people wearing masks, often home made with great personal care. It occurred to me that veiling our faces in this way is a conscientious act not only in recognition of our own vulnerability, but also of concern for the well-being of others. I was reminded of the passage from Matthew Chapter 15 when Jesus teaches that it is not what goes into one’s mouth that defiles us, but what comes out of our mouths. When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with

his face aglow in the Book of Exodus, he wore a veil from then on unless he was speaking to God, or was speaking of God to the Israelites. In the same way, can we prevent the spread of sin by being conscience of how we use our words and holding our tongue when we have nothing good to say?

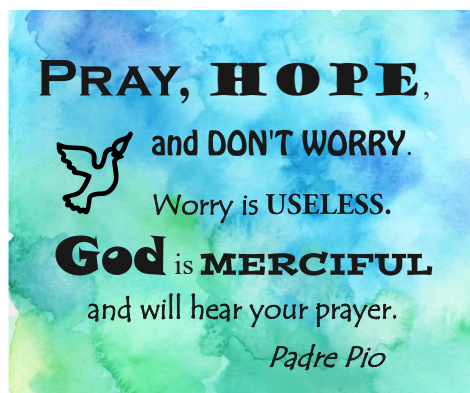
Often times we tend to blame our failings on human nature, but I think it’s important to recognize that we are not created naturally sinful. Like a virus, sin is an outside agent that has infected our spiritual bodies ever since Adam first took a bite from the apple in the Garden of Eden. We’ve looked in the wrong places for the antidote

for all that ails us for two millennia, while the Divine Physician is always with us. We look for political saviors, but that didn’t work out too well when we chose the political rebel Barabbas over the Christ, and politics haven’t brought us peace to this day. We look for security in the law, but the strict law of the Pharisees didn’t remove sin any more than arresting those who don’t cover their face or observe safe distance will rid the

world of infectious diseases. The scriptures tell us that we are not justified by the law, but by faith, and Christ gives us a new commandment to “Love one another.”

In his letter to the Romans Saint Paul tells us “For if, by the transgression of one person, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one person Jesus Christ... For just as through the disobedience of one person the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one the many will be made righteous.” Life in Christ the new Adam, as members of his Body the Church, is the cure for all that infects our hearts. I pray that our time in physical exile from the Church will bring us to a greater appreciation for the Grace that Our Father has bestowed on us.

Soon our community will return to gather in public prayer, and our endurance can be strengthened by the sacramental Vitamin C of Confession and Holy Communion, which too often in the past has been taken for granted like an antibiotic that is misused and has lost its effectiveness. I hope that our long absence from the Eucharist will bring us to understand the healing power of the Blessed Sacrament as more than just a symbolic antibody to sin, but as the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity



of Our Lord Jesus Christ, truly present to dwell within us and heal all of our infirmities.

If we have become disheartened or strayed in the wrong direction like the disciples on the Road to Emmaus, by the power of the Mass, let us be reoriented to run back to Jerusalem. I look forward to the day when

we can put on our Sunday best and go to our Church singing the words of Psalm 122: "I rejoiced when they said to me, let us go to the house of the Lord."

I wish you and your families many blessings of peace and health.

Joe Fairlie

De Colores, my friends!

I hope this finds you well and staying safe.

I was asked to write on my piety, study and action for the Voice. I really did not feel like I had anything to contribute. And if anyone knows me, I am more at ease behind the scenes, like in the kitchen, than writing. To be perfectly honest this is totally out of my comfort zone and I'm scared to death.

Anyway, funny story. When I was asked to do this my first reaction was "Me??" Then, as the saying goes, I was saved by the bell. Actually, my phone rang and it was my husband on the other line. So I said I would call back after I answered his call. But I actually didn't call back till the next day. I went to sleep on it that night and prayed on it. And just like God was talking to me, he let me know I actually might have something to say. It seems like when I least expect it God answers me in some way, shape, or form.

It seems we need our study, piety, and action now more than ever. It's funny how certain things can bring us closer to God sometimes, in good times and sometimes in difficult times. It's funny how people are just finding that out, like it's something new because of this COVID 19 thing. I have found that when I reflect on the different experiences in my everyday life, God is there with me on my walk all the time.

My husband and I are on a core team at our church for engaged couples wishing to get married in the Catholic Church. One of the things we try and teach them is how you can be a Christian in your everyday life, not in just big ways like going to church or reading the bible, but in little ways as well. It's all in your action and how you are living it out.

My closest moments to God can often find me in housework, hiking with my husband, or my gardening. I love to talk to our Lord when I'm doing things. Sometimes even out loud (no, I'm not crazy, at least I don't think so).

When I'm gardening, I see the joy of life in the



blessing of God's abundance in the growth of my roses, or in the newly planted vegetable garden, as my plants take form from a tiny seed. I recently planted eight new bare root roses in February. And every day or evening I pray the rosary as I water them. They are growing and blooming beautifully. One Hail Mary over each rose bush is just the right amount of water for now.

Recently my husband and I went on a camping trip to get out of town for a while. We had a neighbor boy feed our cats and water the garden as we always do when we go out of town. This family also goes to our church. I was explaining to Charlie how to water my roses and garden so as not to over water them. I told him to say one Hail Mary over each rose and to pray the rosary as you water the garden; it gives the plants just the right amount of water. He said he would.

When we got back a couple of days later, I walked over to his house to pay him and see how things went. With a smile on his face he told me he loved praying the rosary over my garden; it was fun, and sometimes the cats would be out there watching him. And my garden is doing beautifully!

As I am writing this letter to you all, I'm using my mother's pen before I put this to the computer. I am reminded of something she once told me. She too loved to grow things. She told me "a family is like a garden given to us from God in some ways. But in order to make it grow we need to sew the seed, nourish it, tend to it and then watch it grow." Kind of like our piety, study and action. Plant the seed of prayer, nourish it with good words of wisdom from the Good Book of Our Lord, and then watch it grow in our family and friends.

Stay well, stay safe and until we meet again know you and your family are in my thoughts, my prayers, and forever in my Heart.

God bless you all,

Your sister in Christ, Pam Diaz

PIETY, STUDY, AND ACTION

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?**

- o 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.
- o 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 (mickkapanicas@gmail.com) or Precursillo Chair at (jdiaz.theocentric@gmail.com).

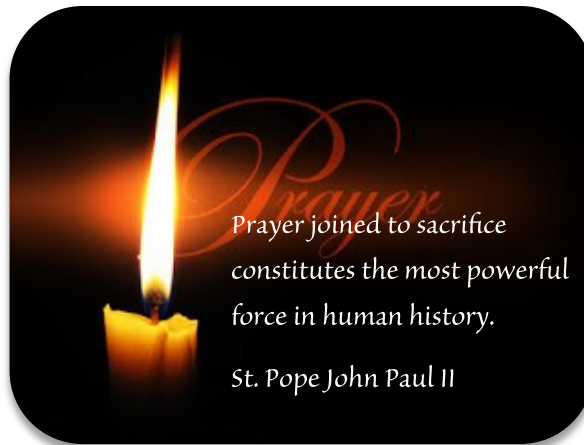
Ultreya! It just takes a place and some friends to rejoice together in the graces we receive as we live our piety, study, and action throughout our 4th day. Please get in touch with the Postcursillo Chair, if you are interested in helping with or hosting an Ultreya in your area.

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).

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.

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.

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