



THE VOICE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF PHOENIX CURSILLO MOVEMENT

Remembering Msgr. O'Grady

We knew him as Msgr. O'Grady, but if he introduced himself to you or left a message on your phone, he always identified himself as "Fr. Mike."

In July, the Cursillo lost one of its most loyal and endearing clergymen, who provided leadership to our movement for many years. Since the early 1960s, Fr. Mike always had a soft spot in his heart for Cursillo, especially after the Claretian priests left Mt. Claret in the late 1990s. He began as the primary support to Msgr. John McMahon, who had taken over Spiritual leadership, and then eventually Fr. Mike became the Spiritual leader in 2015.



Keeping in tune with his favorite expression, "Just show up", he would often walk in at various Cursillo functions, with no fanfare after everyone was settled into the business at hand. However, it is clear that the role he relished most was being part of weekend teams. He had favorite stories he would tell to make a point, and he had no problem in making himself the brunt of the joke, if it helped to get his point across, while providing a hearty laugh for his listeners.

He had the ability to tell the same old stories in such a

way that we were equally entertained, no matter how many times we heard the same tale. When he celebrated the Thursday night opening Mass for a weekend, which was typically the case in recent years, he would weave into his homily what some of us refer to as the "Morenci" story.

In his early days in Arizona he was sent to the remote mining town of Morenci. It didn't take long at all, after he made his first Cursillo weekend, before he wanted to share the experience with his parishioners. He started by asking a man to make a Cursillo, a man by the name of Tony, who immediately wanted to know who else was interested in going on a Cursillo. Fr. Mike told Tony that one of his friends (Fermin) would be going. When the conversation ended, Fr. Mike quickly went to Fermin and invited him, saying Tony would be going. Eventually Fr. Mike was able to convince three or four to make the trip to Phoenix. At the Cursillo opening, Fr. Duran asked each man to tell why they had come to the Cursillo. Tony said it was because Fermin was there, and Fermin said it was because Tony was there, and so on. When it came to Fr. Mike, he said, "well someone had to drive them"! The story ended with the statement from Fr. Duran, "it's funny no one said he is here because God wanted him to be here."

One of his most endearing qualities was his ability to see the good in everyone. Once on his annual visit to his

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Feast Day of the Patron of Mt. Claret, St. Anthony Mary Claret - October 24

In 1849, he founded the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, known today as the Claretians. The Claretians were an essential part of the growth of the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Phoenix, purchasing the resort property that became Mt. Claret for the purpose of holding Cursillo weekends.

For more info about St. Anthony go to <http://www.claret.org/founders/st-anthony-mary-claret/>

"Christian perfection consists in three things: praying heroically, working heroically, and suffering heroically."



CALENDAR AND EVENTS

CALENDAR

October 2019

- Oct. 3-6 MEN'S ENGLISH #925 (Mt. Claret)
Oct. 8 6:30 PM Secretariat (Mt. Claret)
Oct. 11 7:00 PM Ultreya (Miles Jesu)
Oct. 13 2:00 PM Ultreya (Sacred Heart, Prescott)
Oct. 17-20 WOMEN'S ENGLISH #926 (Mt. Claret)
Oct. 26 9:00 AM Ultreya (St. Timothy)
9:30 AM Ultreya (Westside—location TBD)
8:00 AM Region X Fall Encounter (Tucson)

November 2019

- Nov. 5 6:30 PM SOL (Mt. Claret)
Nov. 12 6:30 PM Secretariat (Mt. Claret)
Nov. 14-17 MEN'S SPANISH #927 (Mt. Claret)
Nov. 16 9:30 AM SOL (St. Agnes Cafeteria)
Nov. 21-24 WOMEN'S SPANISH #928 (Mt. Claret)
Nov. 23 9:30 AM Westside Ultreya



DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND YOU WISH TO SPONSOR?

Applications are available from your Parish Representative or email Bruce and Debi Wiskirchen at applications@phoenixcursillo.com.

A list of Parish Representatives can be found at <https://www.phoenixcursillo.com>

UPCOMING THREE DAY WEEKENDS

Mt. Claret: Men's English #925 Oct. 3-6;
Women's English #926 Oct. 17-20
Mt. Claret: Men's Spanish #927 Nov. 14-17;
Women's Spanish #928 Nov. 21-24

2020

Mt. Claret: Men's English #929 Jan. 16-19;
Women's English #930 Jan. 30-Feb. 2
Mt. Claret: Men's English April 16-20;
Women's English April 30-May 3
Mt. Claret: Men's English Oct. 22-25;
Women's English Nov. 5-8

Please Note! 2020 weekend numbers will be assigned when the Spanish and Flagstaff Weekend schedules are known.

Y por eso los grandes amores
De muchos colores, me gustan a mí
Y por eso los grandes amores
De muchos colores, me gustan a mí

ULTREYA!

Friday, October 11, 2019

Miles Jesu Community
1925 E Baseline Rd, Phx

6:00 PM Holy Hour 7:00 PM Ultreya

Bring your Pilgrim's Guide!

Confessions available during Holy Hour

Sunday, October 13, 2019

Sacred Heart, Prescott
19640 N. 35th Ave., Glendale
Conference Rooms 1 and 2
8:00 am Mass
Pot luck and Ultreya follow

Saturday, October 26, 2019

St. Timothy
1730 W Guadalupe Rd, Mesa
8:30 am Mass
Pot luck and Ultreya follow

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

Remembering Fr. Mike, cont'd from pg. 1

native Ireland, he said his brother Tom asked him how he liked the new pastor in his home parish. Following a rather uninspiring homily, he confessed that he was not overly impressed. After which Tom said, "Yeah, but he is good with the poor." To which Fr. Mike cautioned that at times the unique gifts each us has is not always obvious.

His favorite talk on weekends was the late Friday afternoon talk on the Sacrament of Reconciliation. During that talk he would recount the difficulties he personally had with what he referred to as a case of "scruples". In his early days in Phoenix he couldn't get to the Sacrament often enough and praised the patience of the priests he sought for Confession during that time. To keep the talk from getting too heavy, Fr. Mike would intersperse stories of his youth: how his Mom would tell him what to confess; how he and his brothers heard there was a priest in a neighboring town who was hard of hearing; or how after thinking he had disguised his voice to his parish priest he was then asked by this confessor if his Dad would be cutting meat this week! Toward the conclusion

of the talk Fr. Mike would distribute his favorite Psalm 103, emphasizing the words, "As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our sins from us."

His favorite parable had to be the woman at the well from St. John's Gospel. He always took extra time to unravel the key points of Christ's desire to meet anyone in need, in whatever situation they might be, and God's readiness to forgive their sins.

Fr. Mike did not like meetings. A few years ago at a clergy-officers meeting following some lengthy discussion (in which he had not participated) about the business of Cursillo, he was asked his thoughts. His response was, "I don't want to see any changes made that will lower the number of persons who will be able to make future Cursillo weekends." A short time later he left the meeting because he had another commitment.

Msgr. O'Grady was a very special gift to the Phoenix Community. Because of his good example and the many graces he has facilitated in our lives, we pray that we will join him one day in the Heavenly Kingdom. May he rest in peace.

Deacon Bob Carey

FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR

Bring a Friend to Christ

Having spent the earlier part of my life in the Northeast, autumn has always been my favorite season of the year. Living now in the Arizona Desert, we may not have the opportunity to see the fall colors like those in other regions of the country or state, but God still provides reminders that the long hot summer is ended and better times are ahead.

In a way, the transition from summer to fall in Arizona is similar to many of the Psalms. They often begin with a cry of lamenting the hard struggles that have befallen the psalmist, and then take a turn to sing the praises and glory of God, and faith that He will bring us through the tough times. After we've suffered through what seems like ages of unrelenting heat, the rains came in this week and the triple digit temperatures seemed to go away overnight.

Along with the clouds a number of rainbows appeared. I'm sure that you've seen some of them too. The appearance of rainbows play a role throughout Sacred Scripture, from the story of Noah in the book of Genesis, to the glory of Heaven in the book of Revelation. Ezekiel chapter 1:28 states *"As the appearance of the rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the surrounding*

radiance; such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD." The rainbow has always served as a sign of God's Grace, and this is especially true in the life of those who are living their Cursillo. Whenever I see those beautiful colors in the sky, it seems to lift my spirits with the feeling that there are wonderful things to come, as my heart is filled with that song that we all love so well, De Colores.

It truly is a beautiful time to be a Cursillista! Earlier this month we had a Sponsor workshop that was not only informative, but well attended and the joy of the Holy Spirit was evident. Just recently we had a Diocesan Ultreya together with our Spanish speaking brothers and sisters that was a wonderful blessing for the entire community. We also celebrated a memorial mass for our beloved Monsignor O'Grady and shared wonderful stories

of his humor and how he touched the hearts of everyone who knew him. In his summation at the Ultreya, Deacon Bob Evans cited the passage on the calling of the disciples from John's gospel chapter one, and in particular Phillip's invitation to Nathaniel, which illustrated that the Cursillo



theme “Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ” has been at work long before there was a Cursillo Movement.

Interestingly enough, I had just introduced that same passage of Scripture to my new RCIA class that I teach at Saint Thomas Aquinas. After retelling how John the Baptist pointed to Jesus saying “Behold the Lamb of God,” Andrew ran to get his brother Simon Peter, Phillip went and retrieved Nathaniel, I asked the new pilgrims “What brings you here?” Is there a John, or Andrew, or Phillip in your story, or did you hear the invitation of Jesus to “Come and see?” In the Phoenix Cursillo Movement, many of you have taken up the charge to bring your friends to Christ by sponsoring candidates for the upcoming Cursillos, and I want to thank you. We have a men’s weekend starting this Thursday October 3rd and it is near capacity with candidates. The women’s

weekend beginning on October 17th promises to be just as full. The rainbow is shining bright and good things are happening. Please lift the teams and new candidates up with your prayers of palanca and let’s show them the love of our community at the Clausura for each weekend.

At the conclusion of RCIA class this week I asked if any of the inquirers still needed a sponsor and three of the ladies raised their hands. They all have different stories and reasons why they don’t have strong Catholic friends or relations, and I didn’t have to think long on where I might find suitable sponsors to accompany them on their journey of faith. I’ll just look among our family of Cursillistas, because that’s what we do. We bear living witness to the call to **“Make a Friend, Be a friend, Bring a Friend to Christ.”**

De Colores, and May the Lord bless you with His grace!
Your brother in Christ, Joe

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 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)

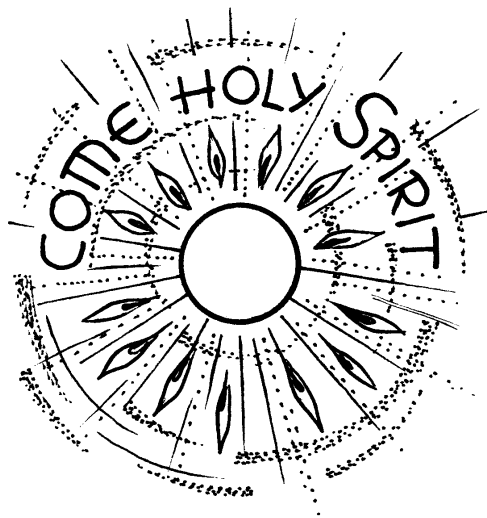


WITNESS OF PIETY - STUDY - ACTION

What great blessings Cursillo has brought to me! It all started 27 years ago when I experienced my first group reunion back in Chicago. After receiving some gigantic graces of conversion, the Spirit led me to a radical community named Miles Jesu (Latin for Soldier of Jesus). They were radical because they were going against the tide and living the Gospel. What an experience it was to encounter a group of young men who, instead following their selfish passions, were making prayer, doing sacrifices, being chaste, evangelizing, and striving to be saints. Sign me up!

Who was directing these guys? Miles Jesu grew out of Cursillo in the 1960s. Being the spiritual director of Cursillo in Phoenix, Fr. Duran would naturally counsel Cursillistas about vocation, helping them to discern that state in life which would really help them to grow in holiness, whether it be the priesthood, married life, or consecrated life. Under Fr. Duran's guidance, several single men began living together and formed a community with a simple rule using the ideals of Cursillo. In this way they could better persevere in grace and continue their discernment. This was the beginning of the first Miles Jesu community and their rule included weekly group reunion.

Experiencing group reunion gave me that structure which has been a constant guide in my Christian vocation. By the daily practice of the basic Christian dynamic of piety, study and action, I've been, by God's grace, developing my Christian life. For piety, it is to frequent the sacraments, make daily meditation, and prayer to Mary. Mornings then, always start with the Divine office. Then I attend Mass followed by about 40 minutes of adoration. On the way to work I pray the rosary. This relatively long session of prayer keeps me rooted in God throughout the day. In the evening, there's time for some spiritual



reading. And, as we are taught, only the best books will do--those faithful to the teachings of the Church.

In the last 27 years what's probably helped me the most has been reading and meditating on the life of Christ using books by great authors such as Fulton Sheen, Romano Guardini, and Alban Goodier, to name a few. Those books really helped me fall in love with the Lord. Also, the lives of the saints, especially St. Anthony Mary Claret. Very helpful too has been the reading of Church documents about the role

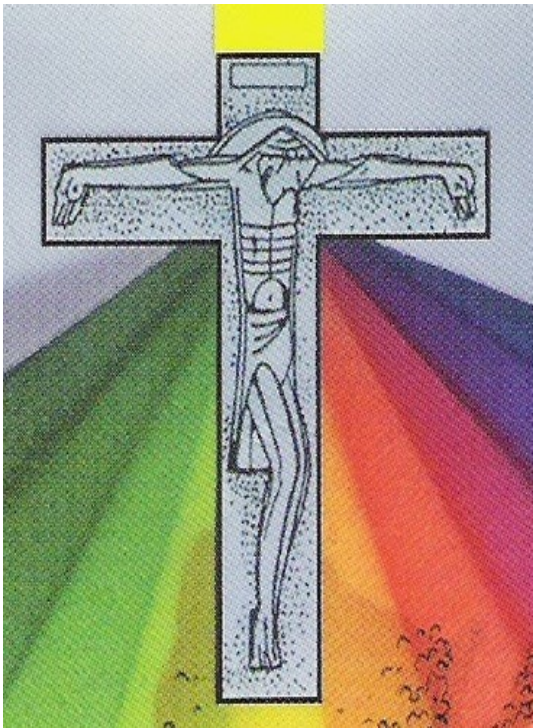
of the laity: *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, *Evangeliū Nuntiandi*, and *Christifideles Laici*. Also books pertaining to the spiritual life such as *My Daily Bread*. Currently I'm reading and meditating on the Old Testament. What a joy it is to learn about the roots of our Christian life and worship.

Before 2010, instead of a secular job, I took on administrative roles for the Church or participated in evangelization activities like passing tracts or helping the poor. Living in England for three years, I would regularly take the train into central London, often walking through each train car handing out tracts. After 2010 it was time to spread the faith in the secular work environment. "Make a friend, be a friend, bring that friend to Christ" has been a constant focus for me as I continually study my environment.

Extremely important, too, is to do my job well. I've taken advantage of many opportunities to pass out literature and talk about my faith to others. Many seeds have been planted. Just a couple of weeks ago I gave a guy a booklet about going to confession. It's been nearly 20 years since he's gone. Please pray for him and for all those to whom we have given witness but have yet to devote themselves to the Lord.

De Colores!
Bob Delogu





REGION X ENCOUNTER

Foundational Charism of Cursillo

Carisma Fundacional del Cursillo

October 26th, 2019

7:30-8:00 am Registration

8:00am- 5:00pm

Diocese of Tucson Pastoral Center at Cathedral
Square

192 S. Stone Ave Build #2

Tucson AZ 85701

Registration \$35 (Includes continental breakfast & meal)

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/carisma-fundacional-del-cursillo-tickets-70350043875>

For more information contact:

Carlos Leyva: (602) 743-4726

Theresa Brophy: (505) 870-2702

Jesus Tiznado (520)343-8014

Malena Amaya: (520) 400-1881

DE COLORES!

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW...

SERVANT OF GOD, EDUARDO BONNÍN

On February 15, 2015, The Chancellor of the Diocese of Mallorca, Spain, read the written petition as the first step toward the beatification of the founder of the Cursillo Movement, Eduardo Bonnin Aguilo. The petition was presented by the Cursillo Secretariat of the Diocese of Mallorca, and was solicited by the national Secretariats of Italy, Portugal, and El Salvador. Bonnin can now be called Servant of God, and we can pray for his intercession. Any miracles which occur as the result of his intercession can be submitted to the postulator, Father Gabriel Ramis, at Feba-usa.org, as a possible step toward the cause of beatification or canonization of Eduardo Bonnín.

Vatican approved prayer for intercession

"Oh God, the dispenser of all graces and charisms, You granted your servant Eduardo Bonnín 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.)



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 PRAYER
PALANCA REQUESTS**

There is a prayer list on the website that will be updated weekly 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.

**YOUR HELP
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	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:	

PHOENIX CURSILLO DATABASE

A significant amount of volunteer time has been spent maintaining and updating the database of Cursillistas. If you know someone who is not getting the Voice, please have them contact the Cursillo office.

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.

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