

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF PHOENIX CURSILLO MOVEMENT

Our Lady of Hope. For more info go to <https://www.nationalshrine.org/blog/our-lady-of-hope-sustaining-us-in-times-of-trouble/>

FROM DEACON MARTY POGIOLI

De Colores! August is an important month for me. First of all, on 12 August my wonderful wife Barbara and I will be celebrating our 54th wedding anniversary. God called me to diaconal ministry in the Church through my wife. God spoke to her, and she spoke to me almost 40 years ago. I have learned that it is best to listen to both of them.

August is a month of anticipation. We look forward to the end of summer and the monsoon season and the beginning of football season. This being our fourth summer in Phoenix, we have learned to appreciate the beauty and hazards of each season. God is blessing us in every season of the year and every season of our lives.

August is especially important because on the 15th we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption. We believe that that at the end of her life, the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken, body and soul, into Heaven. While this event isn't found in scriptures and there is no scientific proof or personal witness, the Church has recognized this since the 5th century. Some say it is a BIG ASSUMPTION, but it is a dogma of our faith.

Mary, who was conceived without sin, entered heaven, and gives us hope for eternal life. Our merciful God is ready to forgive our sins and welcome us to eternal life. Cursillo, our short course in Christianity, is deeply rooted in Mary. Praying the Rosary on our weekend and in our 4th Day helps us to meditate on the life of Christ with His mother Mary. It gives us strength to live faithfully the Cursillo method.

Mary was, after all, the first tabernacle. She carried Our Lord in her womb for nine months. Her blood coursed through His Body. That is the Blood of Christ we receive in the Eucharist. Could we be any closer to Mary? Jesus gave us His mother at the foot of the cross and she truly became our mother.

Mary is a model for us as we reflect on our Cursillo experience and live our 4th Day.

Mary had an Ideal, to live as best she could the Deuteronomic Law to love God with her whole heart and soul and to love her neighbor as herself. We are called to do the same. Have you re-examined your ideal lately? How are

you spending your treasure? How are you spending your time? Where do your thoughts take you?

Mary was given Sanctifying Grace. It wasn't something she earned by saying the right prayers or doing the right things. It was pure gift to her as it is for us. She used that gift to bring about the Kingdom of God. How are we using that gift in our lives? Grace is like a muscle. If we ignore it, it atrophies. If we use it, it becomes stronger and has the power to transform our lives.

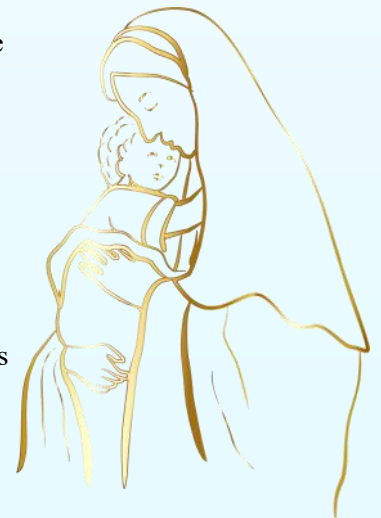
Mary accepted God's Actual Grace. Can you imagine the challenges of being pregnant and unwed in Jewish society? Can you imagine fleeing to Egypt on foot with a newborn child? Can you imagine standing at the foot of the cross watching your only child die? God's actual grace was certainly at work. Are we open to that same actual grace as we face the challenges in our everyday lives? God is ready with His grace to help us do good and avoid evil.

Mary was the first Laywoman in the Church. She was the first and best apostle of Christ. And yet we have no record of any miracles she performed or any books she wrote. She did the simple ordinary things in life in faithfulness to God. Can we learn from her to do the same?

Mary was a woman of Piety. She accepted her role courageously and did what was required joyfully. She did everything with God at her side. God is at our side as well. We have only to recognize Him and put our hand in His. He will lead the way.

May God bless you through His Mother Mary.

Happy 4th Day! Deacon Marty Pogioli



August 2021

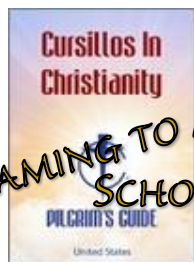
Aug. 2 7:00 PM Rosary for our Country (Mt. Claret)
 Aug. 10 6:30 PM Secretariat Meeting
 Aug. 14 TBD Parish Rep/Sponsor Workshop
 Aug. 21 9:30 AM School of Leaders
 Aug. 28 9:00 AM ULTREYA (St. Mary, Chandler)
 September 2021
 Sept. 6 7:00 PM Rosary for our Country (Mt. Claret)
 Sept. 9-12 Men's Spanish Weekend #934 (Flagstaff)
 Sept. 14 6:30 PM Secretariat Meeting
 Sept. 18 TBA Diocesan ULTREYA (Mt. Claret)
 Sept. 23-26 Women's Spanish Weekend #935 (Flagstaff)

Upcoming Cursillo Weekends

Sept. 9-12 Men's Spanish #934 (Flagstaff)
 Sept. 23-26 Women's Spanish #935 (Flagstaff)
 Oct. 21-24 Men's Spanish #936 (Mt. Claret)
 Oct. 28-31 Women's Spanish #937 (Mt. Claret)
 Nov. 4-7 Men's English Weekend #938 (Mt. Claret)
 Nov. 18-21 Women's English Weekend #939 (Mt. Claret)

Other Important Dates

Aug. 14 Parish Rep/Sponsor Workshop (Mt. Claret CC)
 Sept. 18 Diocesan ULTREYA (Mt. Claret CC)
 Cena de Colores date to be determined



STREAMING TO A DEVICE NEAR YOU!
SCHOOL OF LEADERS

Join Zoom School of Leaders:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88658541324?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88658541324?pwd=d1U4OHkxek0zZlNnR0ZvSUZjMIJCZz09)
[pwd=d1U4OHkxek0zZlNnR0ZvSUZjMIJCZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88658541324?pwd=d1U4OHkxek0zZlNnR0ZvSUZjMIJCZz09)
 Meeting ID: 886 5854 1324 Passcode: 338064

Cursillistas, please join us for an opportunity for 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.

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

ULTREYA!



Saturday, August 28, 2021

St. Mary Parish, 200 W. Galveston, Chandler

Mass at 8:15; Gathering and refreshments immediately after Mass, Ultreya following

Please bring a bite to share!

SAVE THE DATE

Come to the Diocesan Ultreya!
Mt. Claret Retreat Center
Saturday, September 18th

Everyone is invited to Ultreya!

What a great place to bring a friend to give them a taste of the experience of the fellowship and the beauty of the Cursillo Movement.

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.



Parish Rep and Sponsor Workshop

WHO IS INVITED? Current Parish Reps, those considering becoming Parish Reps, and those who will sponsor a friend for a Cursillo Weekend.

Basically EVERYONE—are YOU being called?

WHEN? Saturday, August 14, 2021

DETAILS: Begins with Rosary at 8:30 AM; Workshop begins at 9:15am, will end by noon. It will be held at the Mt. Claret Conference Center

Watch your email for more details soon or contact Precursillo Chair Dave Daniels at 480-313-6684 or precursillo@phoenixcursillo.com

Behold, I stand at the door and knock!

DIOCESE OF PHOENIX ANNUAL MARIAN CONFERENCE NEWS

Each year, the MIR Center holds a Marian Conference in August. Unfortunately, last year's was cancelled. The good news is this year they are going to hold one virtually at your convenience, tentatively beginning August 20. For information on attending this beautiful conference, go to <http://arizonapeacecenter.org/>



FROM OUR LAY DIRECTOR

Happy August everyone! When used as an adjective the word august means “venerable, inspiring reverence and admiration.” The Catholic Church traditionally dedicates this month in devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, truly the most admirable of God’s creatures. Right in the middle of the month, on August 15th we celebrate the Solemnity of her Glorious Assumption into Heaven. I would feel remiss if I didn’t include a quote from the “Doctor of Grace” Saint Augustine, whose feast also falls this month. Augustine says of God’s relationship with Mary, “*He chose the Mother he had created; he created the Mother he had chosen*” (Serm. 69, 3). We recognize Mary as the pure and holy vessel, predestined before time to be the Christ bearer, the Mother of God. So how does our Blessed Mother still serve as a model for us on our journey to holiness today?

In his first encyclical, God Is Love, Pope Benedict XVI states that “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.” By her openness to the mystery of God Who is Love, Mary enjoys the privileged gift of being the first Christian believer to encounter the Word Incarnate. God takes a human bodily form in her womb, and His precious blood pulses through her

Immaculate Heart in a perfect sacrament of Holy Communion. Contemplation of our Blessed Mother’s heavenly glory in her Assumption opens our lives to new horizons of hope. We know that this world is not our ultimate homeland, but if we live each day with our gaze fixed on eternal happiness, we can make this world a more beautiful place.

The passage from the first chapter of Luke’s Gospel that we hear on the Solemnity of the Assumption offers us a wonderful example of how we can follow Mary as our guide in the decisive direction to eternal joy. “*Gratia Plena*”, (full of grace) upon encountering God’s great love manifested in the Incarnation through the Holy

Spirit, her first impulse is one of evangelization. She goes with haste on mission to visit her cousin Elizabeth. In the spirit of gratitude she can hardly wait to joyfully share in the good news. In her Magnificat, Mary says “*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.*” And we see the instant fruitfulness of Mary’s visitation, not only in the greeting of Elizabeth, but in the infant

John the Baptist who leaps for joy in her womb.

In the film, “Pay It Forward”, a young boy embarks on a social studies experiment to perform random acts of kindness, and asks the recipients to pay it forward with



three acts of kindness for others. I hear stories from time to time of someone who is having a rough day being given hope by the random gifts of strangers. Several years ago when I was a regular customer at a local coffee shop, I was surprised one day to learn that someone had bought a gift card and told the baristas to pay it forward for the next person who comes in. This started a chain where everyone paid it forward and the shop was filled with laughter, smiles and joyful giving that lasted three days. In the Visitation, Mary takes the love of God and grace that she has received and she pays it forward.

Have you ever paid forward the gift of Faith that you have received? Have you ever been inspired to give a rosary, religious item, or book to someone who you thought could use it? Perhaps someone has shared the gift of their Faith with you. I have a rosary that I use all the time that is very special to me. It was gift from my friend Kevin, who, while in Assisi prayerfully discerning his religious vocation, was suddenly compelled to purchase this rosary for me and have it blessed on the very spot where Saint Francis received the stigmata. Each time that I take up the rosary I am reminded not only of how Kevin has affected my journey to Christ, but of two phrases that I often hear him say. The first is from 1 Peter 3:15: *"Always be ready to give an answer to anyone who asks you a reason for your hope."* The second is just two words that Kevin, now known as Brother Dismus, uses to describe the ministry that he serves in as a Friar of the Sick Poor of Los Angeles: *"Pure Joy."*

In his apostolic exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel" Pope Francis explains how we are all called to share the good news with a fervor of rejoicing. Through what we have learned in Cursillo we find the strength to embark on this journey with the knowledge that God has taken the first step. He has taken the primal initiative and loved us first. Armed with this understanding we can echo the proclamation of our Blessed Mother, *"The Almighty has done great things for me, and Holy is His name."* Just as Mary ventured out bringing the living Jesus within her to the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth, we also go forth bringing Christ into our environment, guided by the love of God encountered through the Holy Spirit.

In light of the gospel message, our parish, St. Thomas

Aquinas, has decided to hold a Stewardship Day the weekend of the Assumption and invite parishioners to serve in various ministries to fulfill the needs of the community. We all have particular individual Charisms: God-given talents and gifts of the Holy Spirit to advance the Kingdom of God for the good of the Church. When you meditate on the Visitation in the second joyful

mystery of the rosary, pray about how you might use your talents to the greater glory of our heavenly Father.

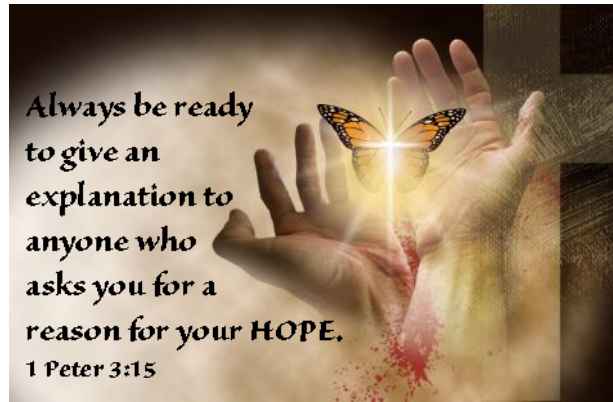
The Cursillo Movement has scheduled a Parish Rep workshop that same weekend, on Saturday, August 14th at Mount Claret. Parish Reps play an important role in leading faithful Catholics to experience the grace of the Cursillo

method, and there are far too many parishes in our diocese that do not have Cursillo representation. "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." (MT 9:37) I invite you to please join us to discern if you are called to help build up the Cursillo community at your parish by serving as a Parish Rep, or to learn more about sponsoring others to share the joy of encounter with Christ that you experienced on your Cursillo. Besides the time that I spend as Lay Director, I also serve as Sacristan, RCIA instructor, and Cursillo Parish Rep. In the busy world today that may seem like a lot, but I can say without question that there are few things that bring greater joy than being the vessel that God uses to bring others to Christ.

In a special way this month let us invoke the intercession of St. Anthony Mary Claret, founder of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, also known as the Claretians. St. Anthony was a committed evangelist whose zeal for sharing the Gospel continues to inspire the faithful to this day. The Claretians were instrumental in building the Cursillo Movement in the early days of our diocese. Let me close this message with words of prayer of Saint Anthony: *"O Heart of Mary, furnace and instrument of love, enkindle me with love of God and my neighbor."*

I pray that the through the Immaculate Heart of Mary the Lord will continue to grant our Cursillo family many blessings of hope. May the grace that we receive open our hearts to joyfully pay it forward, and to "Serve the Lord with Gladness."

De Colores! Joe Fairlie #781





The Parable of the Mustard Seed Mt.13:31&32

He proposed another parable to them. "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants.

It becomes a large bush, and the birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches."

When we first start pulling together a Cursillo weekend team, during each person's introduction, we include the question "Why did you say YES to the invitation to work on the team?" Most respond with, "I prayed about it and this is where I need to be", or "it's a blessing to be surrounded by a group of Cursillistas for three months." The sentiment is that it makes us better Christians leading more virtuous lives.

Working on a weekend team also reminds us of our Cursillo weekend and the metanoia and grace we experienced. Working a weekend is a commitment that not everyone can make; however, those who can are like the birds in the parable – dwelling in a heavenly, grace-filled environment. My Cursillo experience is that mustard seed that is growing in my life that fills me with Faith, Hope, and Charity, a consequence of following the urgings of the Holy Spirit.

On the last team that I worked, I gave the Study of the Environment Rollo. This Rollo has two parts: developing our battle plan and developing a battle plan for approaching others using the Cursillo Method. In our battle plan we need the support of an active, prayer-filled tripod of Piety, Study, and Action. The second battle plan in approaching our environment is focused on opportunities to make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend to Christ. One plan supports the other.

Many of you are involved in weekly or monthly group reunions to keep renewing your tripod through the sharing and encouragement of your fellow Cursillistas. During your group reunions, how often do you share about that friend you are bringing to Christ or seek support from your group? Spreading the joy and hope of Cursillo and how your metanoia, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, has changed your life is to be shared with others. How are we impacting our environment as we were called to do on our

weekend? Bring a friend to Christ by sponsoring them on Cursillo weekend.

I recently took on the role of Precursillo Chair. In this role I work with parish representatives with sponsoring candidates from their parish for a Cursillo weekend. Each of these parish representatives have a list of Cursillistas in their parish from the application forms filled out for their Cursillo Weekend. One of the responsibilities of the parish representative is to help train sponsors for new candidates in their parish. Unfortunately, less than 50% of the parishes listed on our Cursillo website have Cursillistas who have volunteered as parish representatives

On August 14th, we are having a workshop at Mt Claret for those Cursillistas interested in learning more about being a parish representative or a sponsor. This is a great opportunity to meet with other Cursillistas interested in impacting their parish environment and expanding the Cursillo community. *All current Parish Reps are strongly encouraged to attend.*

For those interested in sponsoring a candidate, we will provide a sponsor's hand book that we will review to help you understand how you approach a candidate in discussing the Cursillo weekend, the qualifications of attending the Cursillo weekend, and what to expect on the Cursillo weekend. We will also review what is expected of you as a sponsor before, during and after the weekend.

Those of us that have sponsored candidates in the past will also share best practices to help others.

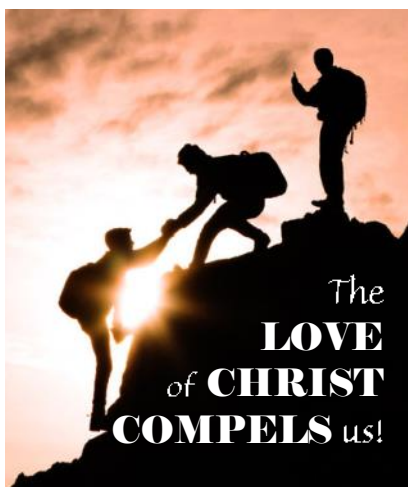
For those who might be interested in learning more about the role of parish representative, we will also have a parish team handbook to help guide the understanding of the parish representative and building a team at your parish. This includes, how to process an application, managing your parish list of Cursillistas, examples of announcements for you parish bulletin, and how to support group reunions and

Ultreyas. Again we will have existing parish representatives attending as this is an annual refresher for them as well as learning from sharing their best practices.

To make this event a bit more lively we will have a few contests with prizes to get everyone involved.

I hope those who want to make an impact on their environment using the Cursillo Method will take this invitation to join us on the 14th.

De Colores! Dave Daniels, #677



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 Precursillo Chair at (precursillo@phoenixcursillo.com).

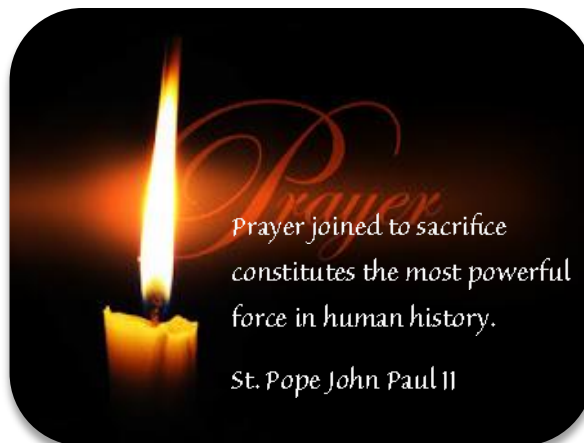
Ultreya! It just takes a place and some friends to rejoice together in the graces we receive as we live our piety, study, and action throughout our 4th day. Please get in touch with the Postcursillo Chair, if you are interested in helping with or hosting an Ultreya in your area.

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).

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