

# Cursillo Secretariat Minutes 05/18/26

**Attendees:** Veronica Lucas, Rhapsody Canepa, Freddie Sordia, Bart Blaylock, Aurora Hicks, Ted Cruz, Sharon Matson

**Absent:** Dcn. Ernie Gonzales

6:35 PM: meeting called to order by Veronica Lucas who led The Leaders Prayer and Prayer To The Holy Spirit.

Meditation Lead by Veronica.

**Minutes:** Bart moved to approve the April minutes, ted seconded. minutes approved.

## **Business:**

### **Lay Director Report-Veronica Lucas:**

Fr. Killian Potluck: One of the Secretariat members was told that there will be a barbecue and potluck for Fr. Kilian at Mount Claret on May 25th from 3-7 PM. Veronica will follow up with Tom McGuire to confirm this to and to see if it is open to everyone.

### Cena Report:

Veronica reports that there were 35 basket options last year and this year there were 70 basket options - double! Having 2 people and 2 computers to enter the basket information really shortened the work and set-up time on Friday.

This year we had 4 people at the registration desk and Veronica suggests that we need at least 6 people for next year, especially if we have these increased numbers.

This year we reserved 230 guests with 30 team members, more than doubled from last year. With these increased numbers, Veronica acknowledged that the kitchen was a little slow and this is something that will have to be thought through for next year. Ted asked how we can handle these large crowds better next year, Veronica indicated that we need more people in the kitchen, more grills, more prep cooks, more cooks and more servers. We had 30 volunteers this year and we will need many more than that next year if we have the same large number of attendees.

The Christmas Tree and Paddle Ask garnished approximately \$12,000.00 and said that the Christmas Tree should definitely make a return appearance next year.

Both Veronica and Terry McDonald intend to create a Cena committee for next year so that they can train people to take over the chairmanship. They both plan that next year

will be their last year as co-chairman. The Secretariat agreed that a Cena committee is a must.

Website: Veronica reports that Scott Hicks will redo our website and take over the administration of it. Veronica suggests a meeting with Jacque, Sharon, Freddie and herself to meet with Scott and brainstorm.

**Treasurer's Report-Rhapsody Cenepa:** see separate attachment for detailed treasurers report.

Cena Report: Rhapsody will prepare a detailed Cena report but gave the Secretariat an overview of expenses and income. Prior to covering any expenses, it looks like the Cena brought in \$18,618.58 as of 05/18/2026.

**School Of Leaders (SOL)-Freddie Sordia:** the next diocesan SOL will be Thursday, May 20th at Mount Claret. The focus of the evening will be on group reunion. Next Westside SOL at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, will be Saturday, May 30th.

**Secretary Report-Sharon:** Sharon suggested that as many members of the Secretariat as possible attend the northern Arizona Ultreya on May 30<sup>th</sup> at sacred Heart Parish in Prescott. Several members of the Secretariat committed to do so.

**Pre-Cursillo-Bart Blaylock:**

New Application: The new application process is working. The community should use the new application and disregard all older versions. Jacque has put the new application on the website. Starting in the Fall, if an old application is received, we will request that the new one be completed for consistency. Bart spoke to a member of the community who had expressed concerns about removing the parish reps interaction from the application process. With only 40% of parishes in the diocese having a designated parish rep, that part would go unsigned most of the time anyway. The goal is to include parish representatives (as available) on acceptance emails so that they can be aware of approved candidates.

Application Deadline: Bart will send out an announcement via Facebook and Flocknote to the community as well as posting on the website regarding the guidelines for the application deadline. All candidate applications must be submitted 14 days prior to a Cursillo Weekend. This is very important so that the applications can be processed properly, sponsors/parish representatives can reach out to the community to collect Palanca, enable the Bishop to have time to ensure there are enough priests and spiritual directors for both the weekend and for confessions on Friday, and importantly, so that the team may properly prepare for the candidates as well, both in the kitchen and the Rollo room. This deadline is at the request of the applications team, but is supported by Bishop Nevaes.

Bart has identified 4 parish reps who will help with a video presentation that appeals to the community for an increase in commitment as parish reps across the Diocese. This video will explain a bit about the role and include testimonials from the 4 parish reps on how the role is helping them to live their 4th day. The video can be posted on the website, on YouTube, and highlighted in Facebook posts and Flocknote messages.

### **Three Day Chair Report-Aurora Hicks:**

**Weekend Surveys:** Aurora says that she received 3 surveys from the men's weekend in April and 7 from the women's April weekend. She will follow up to see about obtaining additional feedback.

Aurora mentioned that the surveys revealed that the team would like more help in learning how to write a Rollo. She is suggesting a separate workshop for this. Or spoke with the fall Phoenix directors and both Joe Ortiz and Deborah Hernandez agreed that this would be a great addition to their formation. Sharon, Ted and Veronica offered to help Aurora with this piece.

**Update on Northern AZ Teams:** Aurora reports that she has obtained a Rector for the October men's weekend in Northern Arizona. It is Art Obregon, whose wife Olivia is the women's Rectora for the October Northern Arizona weekend. They are from the Diocese of San Bernardino and have many years of experience in the Cursillo Movement.

**Update on April Women's Clausura:** Aurora reports that the women's Clausura had to be moved from the conference center into the chapel due to the fact that the conference center was being re-carpeted. It was a last-minute change, but all went well.

**Weekend Clean-Up at Mt. Claret:** There was some confusion between Mount Claret and Aurora with regard to cleaning responsibilities of the property at the end of the weekend. Aurora was under the impression that Mount Claret brought in cleaners to do the deep cleaning and the team only needed to do a light cleaning. This is something Mt. Claret did provide prior to the hiring of Ed McDonald. Aurora was corrected about the cleaning responsibilities by Shawnee and Aurora reported that the women's team had to do a call out to get help to clean up on Sunday. Moving forward, she will make this distinction clear to any future Rector(a).

Aurora also strongly suggested and advised that we allow some community to come in on Sunday; very, very discreetly/not breaking any cloister, to assist the kitchen with the cleaning of the center. Discussion by the Secretariat ensued, and the Secretariat was in agreement on this issue.

**Post Cursillo Report-Ted Cruz:** Ted recently attended the Ultreya at Christ the King Parish and reported that it was a great success. It was coordinated by parish reps, Jason and Candee Champagne.

On May 30th, Ted will attend the Ultreya at St Anne's Parish where he will also make a presentation. Ted tries to attend as many parish Ultreyas as he can.

**Closing Prayer:** Sharon offered the closing prayer.

Next meeting: Monday, June 6, 2026 via ZOOM.

7:58: Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sharon Matson, Secretary for the English Phoenix Cursillo Movement.