

FROM THE MONSIGNOR

Dear Cursillistas,

I have come to believe and become more aware of how often I am "surprised by Grace" ... by God. Let me share one of those "surprises".

This past summer while sitting in the quiet of the parish church of my home visit in Ireland, I was reading my breviary and it was the feast of St. Augustine. I must confess I did not always read all of the readings but that's another story. This time I read and discovered the prayer of St. Augustine ... and every line was a blessing. I had heard or glimpsed at the prayer before, but now I heard it with my heart. Let me share a few lines from the prayer:

"You called, you shouted, and you broke through my deafness."

"You flashed, you shone, and you dispelled my blindness."

"You touched me, and I burned for your peace." These lines are embedded in my mind. I had heard them before in bits and pieces ... now I heard them with my heart. I truly can say to God, "You touched me (and you)." I thought of all the other times when he touched me, and the Cursillo experience came to mind ... being introduced to Psalm 103. Also, my 30-day experience with the Ignatian Exercises ... the list is long.

Cecelia tells me she has room in The Voice for the prayer. May it be a blessing for you, too.

God bless, Father Mike

Late have I loved You,

Beauty so ancient and so new, late have I loved You!

Lo, You were within, but I outside, seeking there for You, and upon the shapely things You have made I rushed headlong – 1, misshapen. You were with me, but I was not with You. They held me back far from You, those things which would have no being, were they not in You.

You called, shouted, broke through my deafness; You flared, blazed, banished my blindness; You lavished Your fragrance, I gasped; and now I pant for You; I tasted You, and now I hunger and thirst; You touched me, and I burned for Your peace.





Thank Youl

A sincere thanks to everyone in the English and Spanish Cursillo communities who participated in Fiesta 2018! We thank the Good Lord for the motivation to persevere; our goal was to bring our community together for the good of the Cursillo Movement

in our Diocese.

The Fiesta was a success due to all who participated, because of their abundant generosity of time, talent, and dedication – despite the fact we had no budget and the date had many conflicts!

Please check the website (phoenixcursillo.com/fiesta.html) for the full report and pictures! God bless, Terry McDonald and her Fiesta Committee



CALENDAR

March 2018 April 2018 Mar. 6 6:30 pm SOL (Mt. Claret) EASTER Apr. 1 Mar. 10 9:00 am Ultreya (St. Bernadette, Phx) Apr. 3 SOL (Mt. Claret) 6:30 pm Mar. 13 6:30 pm Secretariat (Mt. Claret) Apr. 10 6:30 pm Secretariat (Mt. Claret) Apr. 21 Mar. 17 9:30 am SOL (St. Agnes) 9:30 am SOL (St. Agnes) 9:00 am Mar. 24 9:00 am Ultreya (St. Thomas the Apr. 28 Ultreya (Westside Loc TBD) Apostle, Phoenix)

ULTREYA!

Saturday, March 10, 2018 St. Bernadette 16245 N. 60th St., Scts 8:30 am Mass 9:00 am Potluck and Ultreya

Saturday, March 24, 2018 St. Thomas the Apostle 2312 E Campbell, Phx 8:30 am Mass 9:00 am Potluck and Ultreya

Please note: The March 3rd Ultreya at St. Luke Church has been postponed.

Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ! All Are WELCOME!

Interested in hosting an Ultreya? Please contact Brenda Hope at postcursillo@phoenixcursillo.com.

FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR

De Colores, my fellow Cursillista brothers and sisters!

I pray that all is well with you and your families, as we continue our journey through this Lenten season. Lent has become my favorite time in the liturgical calendar. When I was young and less informed, I thought of lent as a 'have to' form of exercise. I 'have to' get ashes, I 'have to ' fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, I 'have to' eat fish on Fridays, and I 'have to' give up something that I like. I now realize the value that sacrifice, abstinence, and fasting has in drawing me closer to Christ. "He must increase, but I must decrease" as John the Baptist states in John 3:30. I must decrease in all that I like, so that Christ may fill in those voids. We do this in preparation for Easter, when Christ rises to put to death all sin that separates us from Him. This year, Easter happens to fall on April 1st, which is April Fool's Day. This may have been the original April Fool's joke; when the Roman guards went to the tomb of our Lord, only to find it empty. April Fool's! He is not here, He has risen!

Before I dive into the remainder of the Leader's Prayer, I would personally like to thank everyone who came out to support the Fiesta. I especially want to thank Terry McDonald for taking on the task of Fiesta chairperson, and all who volunteered their time and talents to making this happen. Although it was in competition with other events such as the Diocesan Men's Conference and the Phoenix Open, it was a bona fide success, and we look forward to having it again next year. It is a great way to bring the Spanish and English communities together for Christian fun and fellowship!

12. ... and that this Spirit may let us see your attractive goodness marked in all our faces, your warm accents in all our words and in our lives something superior to the world, something that proclaims your living presence among us. This last line of the prayer sums up what we strive for in our walk with Christ, to become more and more like Him. We do this by living our piety, study, and action. We do not rely on ourselves, for we can easily be lead astray. We do this with our community, prayer life, the sacraments, and especially, the Holy Eucharist. We also rely on our brothers and sisters who do not agree with us, may disregard what we say and do, and may even hate us. It is through them that we have the most to learn about ourselves; am I being authentic, patient, kind, and joyful? Are they seeing any attractive goodness coming from me? Or do I just perceive myself as kind and attractive? Am I truly living a life of Grace?

"In Cursillo, there is one idea: To live the life of Grace with full and reflexive consciousness, to share it and to spread it...Leaders in Cursillo must be nothing else but 'the incarnation of Christian values."" "These values are personified in Cursillo leaders as an interior spirituality shining forth. They bear witness to Christian values even in their most insignificant gestures as they live a life of divine simplicity." *The How and the Why, Eduardo Bonin* (p.12, p. 27)

In conclusion, Cursillo leaders need to pray this prayer regularly and live the words of this prayer. We need to believe the words, believe in ourselves and believe in the Cursillo vision. We need to know and study the Cursillo literature so we can understand the Movement and apply its method properly to obtain the Cursillo vision. Finally we must live and witness the Cursillo vision by living the Cursillo Method, and let others see this vision by our Catholic witness. Living the tripod of piety, study, and action changes ourselves, others, environments and subsequently the whole of society as well. In this way, we bring Christ to the world which is what the Cursillo Leaders' prayer and the Cursillo Movement is all about.

Ultreya! Ruben Trevizo



We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You; because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

Witness of Piety - Study - Action

Study – The Second Leg of the Tripod

Last month's sharing was about the familiar tripod of Piety, Study, and Action. This article will focus on the Study leg of the tripod; in particular, the call for me to study the Movement and its Foundational Charism.

My call to do further study first came when I took part in the Cursillo De Cursillos in October 2014. I had been involved with the Movement in Phoenix for over 10 years, and had worked a number of teams during that time. I thought that I understood the Movement fairly well. The Cursillo De Cursillos showed me that, not only did I not understand the Foundational Charism of the Movement, I had never even heard of it. I knew that I needed to study it if I truly wanted to understand the Cursillo Movement.

What I really loved about this study is the simple beauty of the Foundational Charism. It is truly all about making a friend, being a friend, and bringing that friend to Christ; the method of the Movement. I had been taught on my Cursillo weekend that I needed to study my environments in order to figure out how to Christianize them. "Environments" were places such as the workplace, the family, etc. As an introvert, I found this rather daunting. With my new understanding, though, my environment is more of a one-on-one experience with whomever I come in contact. Evangelization is done through friendship, by letting my friends know how much God loves them.

My study of the Foundational Charism is leading me to a better study of my environment, and I have learned that I need to start within my own friendship group reunion. I need to study and figure out how to be a better friend to my group brothers, to remind them that they are beloved children of God, and to help them experience the joy of being loved by God.

I'm really looking forward to strengthening these bonds of friendship with my group brothers as we walk together on our faith journey. Brian White

On Friendship

"A friend isn't just an acquaintance, someone you enjoy passing the time of day with. Friendship is something much deeper...When you love someone, you want to be at their side, to care for them and help them, to

A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; They who find one find a treasure. A faithful friend is beyond price; no sum can balance their worth. Sirach 6:14-15

say what is on your mind. But you never abandon them. That's how Jesus is with us; he never abandons us." Pope Francis

"Friendship, as has been said, consists in a full commitment of the will to another person with a view to that person's good." Pope St. John Paul 11 Did you know that the patron saint of Friendship

is St. John the Apostle?

<u>A Call for Articles for the Voice</u>: Every month we would like articles from Cursillistas sharing their piety, study, or action! How are you living your 4th day? What has been your closest moment to Christ? What was your experience of the weekend you lived? How has Cursillo made a difference in how you live your life? Articles up to 600 words will be eligible, email them to info@phoenixcursillo.com, or mail them to the Center and include your contact information.

Christ is Calling You!

<u>**Parish Reps Needed</u>**: To see if your parish is one of those not covered, please go to our website: phoenixcursillo.com. If interested, please contact Brenda Hope at (Postcursillo@phoenixcursillo.com) or Nancy Kijewski at (Precursillo@phoenixcursillo.com).</u>

<u>Ultreya!</u> Please get in touch with Brenda Hope, the Postcursillo Chair, if you are interested in helping with or hosting an Ultreya in your area. (Postcursillo@phoenixcursillo.com)

<u>Palanca Chair:</u> 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. Please contact Three-Day Chair, Sharon Matson at (threeday@phoenixcursillo.com).

SUPPORT CURSILLO AT MT. CLARET

Give online at **www.easytithe.com/Cursillo** or make checks out to the Cursillo Movement. For the 2017 Financial Report go to page 6 & 7 of the September 2017 Voice at phoenixcursillo.com/news.html.

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:	

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.



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 information 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 Email: info@phoenixcursillo.com Website: www.phoenixcursillo.com (602) 840-5066 x4

The Voice