

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF PHOENIX CURSILLO MOVEMENT

FROM FATHER KILIAN McCAFFREY

"Curillo is not 'a doctrine that must be learned.' Rather, it is a 'reality that must be lived.'" "For me, the Gospel is always the right orientation, an illuminating light, and a constant encouragement at all the crossroads of my life.

My goal has always been to pray the Our Father, daily and in truth."

Servant of God Eduardo Bonnín, Founding Member of the Cursillo Movement.

"Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus" (Acts 1:1-3).

St. Luke opens the Acts of the Apostles with these beautiful words. I believe that they are fitting for an article on the history of the Cursillo Movement. In 2019 we are in the 75th (Diamond) Jubilee year of the beginnings of the renewal movement in Mallorca and in Spain through the idea of a massive pilgrimage of young people to the Cathedral of St. James the Apostle at Santiago de Compostela. It is the 75th Anniversary year of the first Cursillo in Mallorca; the 60th Anniversary year of the first Cursillo in Phoenix – ten years before the founding of the

Diocese; and, of course, the 50th (Golden) Jubilee year of the Diocese of Phoenix. It is most timely to reflect on the beginnings of Cursillo Movement. As a veteran of two pilgrimages on the Camino in Spain, it is good to remember.

Over the course of this summer, I will be writing a series of articles on the history of the Cursillo Movement in Spain and how it has spread over the world in a manner that can only be explained by the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We will reflect on the humble beginnings out of the ruins of the Spanish Civil War; to the early growth from the Balearic Island of Mallorca to mainland Spain; through the slow, steady growth in Europe and to the United States in the early – mid 1950's; and to the rapid growth in Texas and, subsequently, to Arizona and the first Phoenix Cursillo towards the end of the 1950's.

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The 29th National Encounter will be held on July 18-21, 2019 at the University of Scranton, in Scranton, PA. We will joyfully celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the First Cursillo in Mallorca at this special Encounter! It is expected to be a fully packed event with special guests from Mallorca, hundreds of Cursillistas, both clergy and laypersons,

from the United States' Cursillo multiple language groups of English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Filipino, Portuguese, Korean, and Chinese. For more information go to https://www.natl-cursillo.org/encounter2019/.

ARTICLES

Along the way we will learn of the layman Eduardo Bonnín, the priest Sebastián Gayá, and the Bishop of Mallorca, Bishop Juan Hervás, among others who were instrumental in the beginning of the Movement. We will encounter the names Bernardo Vadell, Augustin Palomino and Fr. Gabriel Fernandez, who held the first Cursillo weekend on US soil in 1957 at the Church of St. Francis on the Brazos in old-town Waco.

Also, we will learn of the first Cursillo at Immaculate Heart Church in Phoenix led by Fr. Alfonso Maria Duran, CMF, Spiritual Director; the first Phoenix Rector, Mr. Roberto Benevides, and Professor Humberto Acevedo, both from the Laredo Center, Texas, who led and helped form the first team; and the Rojas family from Waco, Texas, who were of great help in the early days, promoting and helping with the first weekends in Arizona. We will also take a look at the history of the Cursillo theme song, *De Colores*.

We are currently gathering information from many sources at this time and hope to use this summer and fall to retrace the roots and history of Cursillo and also plan to build on the foundation of over 920 Cursillos in our Diocese alone. If you have any interesting information, particularly from the early days, please reach out to us. We look forward to a great journey of learning and discovery, together, my fellow Cursillistas.

In Christ, De Colores, Fr. Kilian McCaffrey (#643)

FROM OUR LAY DIRECTOR

VENI, SANCTE SPIRITUS!

The week between the Ascension of the Lord and Pentecost has always intrigued me. As Cursillistas, who are so accustomed to calling on the Holy Spirit in prayer, we may feel like we have been granted a sort of privileged information that may not be known to everyone. Imagine what it must have been like for the Apostles in the upper room during that very first Novena to the Holy Spirit. Certainly they must have been confounded by Jesus leaving them and anxious about the fulfillment of His promise when he basically told them to wait right here, don't go anywhere. It's almost like when someone tells you that something really big is going to happen and then builds the anticipation; "Wait for it...wait for it..." and then BOOM!

I have to admit that at times in the immaturity of my understanding of the faith, I've struggled to grasp the necessity for the Ascension. I now see that the reason for my struggle is that when taken apart from the events of Pentecost, the Ascension leads to the misunderstanding that Jesus has left us. This can cause the mindset that God is some far away Deity, rather than a True Presence in our daily lives. Nothing could be further from the Truth. In the readings from St. Paul's letter to the Romans (Rom 8:8-17) the apostle speaks repeatedly of the Spirit of God who DWELLS in you, and Saint Luke tells us in Acts that the disciples were "filled with The Holy Spirit." No, God is not distant from us at all, in fact He couldn't be closer. Saint Catherine of Siena says that "God is closer to us than water is to fish!"

In the Creed every Sunday we say that "We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord the Giver of Life" and I truly do believe it because I have



seen the fire of the Spirit alive in you, my Brothers and Sisters in Christ, and in our beloved Movement. At the time this article is published we will have a full house celebrating the first Cena De Colores in a few years, because the Holy Spirit has inspired our community, and you have responded in a big way, like the strong driving wind of Pentecost which "filled the entire house in which they were."

Like the disciples, sometimes we have to wait for the Spirit to come. When we held our first planning meeting for the Cena only two couples showed up, the Kellers and the Fairlies. But, like every Cursillo meeting, we prayed that little prayer to the Holy Spirit that we rely on, and before long we had a wonderful committee of volunteers dedicated to our Lord and our movement and we had to search for more chairs to seat everyone. Like the gifts of the Holy Spirit, each one brought their own gifts and talents to make the Cena a success for the good of Christ's Church and our movement.

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I see the Spirit at work in all of you who have stepped up to work on teams for Cursillo weekends, and in the new Cursillistas who are on fire to share the Good News in their environments. I see the Spirit alive in, and I am truly grateful for, our Spiritual Advisors who lead us in our walk with Christ.



The late president of Notre Dame University, Fr. Ted Hesburgh, would say: "The Holy Spirit is the light and strength of my life, for which I am eternally grateful. My best daily prayer, apart from the mass and breviary, continues to be simply, 'Come Holy Spirit.' No better prayer, no better results: much light and much strength." So whenever you are in need of guidance, whenever you don't see an obvious solution to any particular circumstance, remember that little prayer we love so well.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of us Your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created and You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit instructs the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

In the Peace and Love of Christ, Joe Fairlie

PIETY - STUDY - ACTION WITNESS BY JOE ORTIZ

During the homily at Mass on Good Shepherd Sunday, Matalin—my 6-year-old granddaughter—asked me this question: "If the Good Shepherd's family is in danger and his sheep is in danger, which one would He save first?" Matalin pays attention in Mass. She reflects and wonders, and will often ask questions like this one.

"He wants to save us all at the same time," I whispered. A simple answer to be sure, but she seemed satisfied with my response.

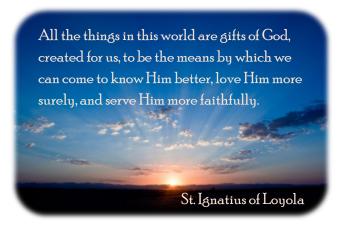
As Matalin—and my other grandchildren grow older—there inevitably will be challenging questions that are not so easily (or quietly) answered. "Why do Catholics pray to Mary?" "Why do we have to go to Mass on Thanksgiving if it's not a Holy Day?" "None of my friends go to church, why should I?" My own children asked questions like these when they were younger. During that time, my typical answer to any question about our Catholic faith was: "Go ask mom."

My wife, Diana, was far better catechized in the Catholic faith than I. Although I was a cradle Catholic, my family fell away from the Church early in my life. Diana, however, was raised in a devout Catholic family. Walking into their home, you knew you were in a Catholic household because crucifixes, Holy cards, and religious calendars adorned the walls. They attended Sunday Mass as a family, prayed before meals, prayed the rosary, and they made regular visits to the Blessed Sacrament. Her family lived the Catholic faith. In fact, soon after we started dating in college, I learned that

Diana went regularly to daily Mass. I admitted to her that I thought daily Mass was for people who were unable to attend Sunday Mass—like a "make-up" Mass! Clearly, my knowledge of the Catholic faith was malformed.

Perhaps out of pity or simply as a charitable act, Diana quickly made me her RCIA project. Anytime a question arose about our Catholic faith, she had answers. When children came into our lives, Diana adeptly filled the role as the family catechist while I sat on the sidelines.

Seeds for taking responsibility for my own faith formation were planted during my Cursillo weekend. Among the many graces I received on my weekend, one was most gripping: I gained a deeper appreciation for the rich faith tradition into which I had been baptized. This occurred through simple encounters, like truly listening to the words of the *Memorare* as it was prayed during the



Piety, Study, Action cont'd on pg. 4

CALENDAR AND EVENTS

June 2019			
June 1	5:00 PM	CENA DE COLORES	
June 3	7:00 PM	Rosary for the US (Mt. Claret)	
June 4	6:30 PM	SOL (Mt. Claret)	
June 8	9:00 AM	ULTREYA (Miles Jesu)	
June 11	6:30 PM	Secretariat Meeting	
June 15	9:30 AM	SOL (St. Agnes)	
June 16		Father's Day	
June 22	9:30 AM	Westside Ultreya (TBD)	
		de colores	
		The second	
July 2019			
July 2	6:30 PM	SOL (Mt. Claret)	
July 4	8:30 AM	Mass and Rosary for the US	
		(St. Thomas the Apostle)	
July 9	6:30 PM	Secretariat Meeting (Mt. Claret)	
July 18-21	2019 NATIONAL ENCOUNTER, Scranton, PA		
July 20	9:30 AM	SOL (St. Agnes)	
July 27	9:30 AM	Westside Ultreya	

ULTREYA!

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

June 8, 2019

Miles Jesu Community, 1925 E Baseline Rd, Phx 7:15 am Holy Hour followed by Mass 9:00 am Ultreya

Bring your Pilgrim's Guide! Confession available during Holy Hour; breakfast treat provided.

Please RSVP to robertdelogu3@gmail.com

THREE DAY WEEKEND SCHEDULE 2019

Flagstaff: Men's Spanish #923 Aug. 22-25; Women's Spanish #924 Sept. 12-15 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

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

Piety, Study, Action cont'd from pg. 3

rosary one evening, which awakened me to the beauty of traditional prayer in drawing us closer to our Blessed Mother and her Son. Additionally, I gained insight to the value of study as a way of growing more deeply in my Catholic faith.

Although study is central to my work as a college professor, the idea took on a renewed meaning in the context of the Cursillo tripod of *piety*, *study*, and *action*. I learned that dedicated study brings the grace of *metanoia*: a conversion of heart and mind. Such a change in one's heart and mind then open us to really *know* Christ. Dedicated study prepares us to meet Christ while walking to Emmaus.

Cursillo prompted me to ramp up my study in order to know Christ. I am now intentional in choosing good books to read. For example, I'm currently reading *Life in Christ:* A Catholic Catechism for Adults, which makes the Catechism accessible and supports sharing the Catholic

faith with others. Even my digital reading includes study. I subscribe to online resources, like *Integrated Catholic Life* and *Aleteia*, and follow Catholic thought-leaders on Twitter. When I go to the gym, I listen to Catholic podcasts, such as *Clerically Speaking* and *The Bishop's Hour*. In short, I do what is necessary to expose myself to good books, digital resources, and media broadcasts to help me better understand the Catholic faith, to grow in piety, and to lead others in the way of Christianity.

Because of dedicated study, I'm in a better place today to help Matalin and my other grandchildren to know, to love, and to serve Christ. Certainly, their questions about the Catholic faith and practices will get tougher, and I may not always have the answers. But as we read in scripture: "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." (1 Peter 3:15). Through prayer, study, and God's grace, I stand ready.

De Colores! Joe Ortiz (#635)

29th National Cursillo Encounter

Celebrating the 1st Cursillo in Christianity
of Cala Figuera!



Come join us in the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the first Cursillo in Mallorca. The encounter is being held during July 18-21, 2019 at the University of Scranton in Scranton, PA.

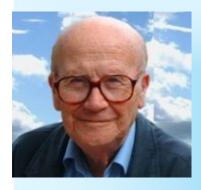
There will be daily Eucharist, fellowship, friendship, food & fiesta. The US Cursillo continues to delve further into the legacy of our Founder and The Foundational Charism of Cursillo. Two Cursillistas from Mallorca will be the guest speakers.

The rollos for this encounter include:

- * The Life of Eduardo Bonnin
- * Eucharist, Central Theme of Cursillo
- * Living Witnesses of The Foundational Charism
- * Precursillo
- * Step by Step Rector's Guide
- * Postcursillo
- * The Role of the Spiritual Advisor



www.netl-curefllo.org



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 favore 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.)

<u>Parish Reps Needed!!!</u>: 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).

<u>Ultreya!</u> 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.

<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. This can be done from your home! Please contact Three-Day Chair at (zeldagraham@yahoo.com).



SUPPORT CURSILLO AT MT. CLARET

We have all heard the "Sermon on the Amount." We know the beauty of Mt. Claret and the legacy of Cursillo in Phoenix. It is hard to imagine having Cursillo any where else. Yes, of course, Cursillo weekends would be a life-giving and God-serving part of the Movement in Phoenix if held almost anywhere, but those of us who lived our weekends at Mt. Claret know the special meaning of "going up to the mountain."



YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! The Cursillo Movement runs primarily from your generous contributions and fundraisers. Won't you please prayerfully consider how you can help? How about \$5.00 or \$10.00 a month? Help us safeguard the vision of the Claretian priests who were the caretakers of the Movement in Phoenix in the beginning, and all those Cursillistas, along with Msgr. McMahon, whose stewardship (time, talent, and treasure) and love over the years were instrumental in the beautiful Holy ground that is Mt. Claret Retreat Center today.

Here are two ways to donate: automatically at **EASYTITHE.COM/CURSILLO** or by making checks out to the Cursillo Movement and mailing to Cursillo, Mt. Claret Retreat Center, 4633 N 54th St, Phoenix, AZ 85018. And no worries, you will be tapped up for

Please prayerfully consider serving and supporting your Cursillo Community.

SUPPORT CURSILLO AT MT. CLARET

Give online at www.easytithe.com/Cursillo or make checks out to the Cursillo Movement.

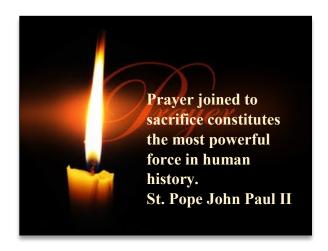
Record your prayers and
sacrifices for upcoming Cursillo
weekends both in our Diocese and
other Dioceses either on the form
below or on the website. Palanca is gathered
cumulatively, recorded, and relayed in a general palanca
letter for those weekends, both locally, in the US and
Internationally. Send 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 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