



# Forward

**Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego**

Volume XXIV

August 2011

*Our Mission: To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership*

## Message from the Chair



I've been a movie buff almost all my life. For a kid like me, eating popcorn at a Saturday matinee was the best part of the whole week. Nowadays, as much as I like watching those old nostalgic movies on TV, I still look forward to watching a good action and suspense thriller on the big screen. I recently conducted research on a number of films where the main character experiences the awesome power of God. God skillfully uses the eye of a camera to bring us a glimpse into lives not only ravaged by hatred and rejection, but also lives transformed by the grace of God through faith. I was surprised to discover that the majority of these films, nearly two dozen, were produced during the 1940's and 50's. This was at a time in our history when faith in God and pride in our country was at its highest peak. "Family night" meant getting together to watch a good movie or to play games. Blockbusters such as the 1956 "The Ten Commandments" and the 1959 "Ben Hur" continue to be aired on television especially during the Lenten season. There are some lesser known but equally notable films such as the 1944 "The Keys to the Kingdom" and the 1953 "The Robe". Films about the life of Christ have proven their worth at the box office and their ability to withstand the test of time. Beginning in the early 1960's, however, there appears to be a noticeable decline in movies with religious themes. Only about a dozen or so films were brought to the silver screen during the next 50 years that followed. Scripts that proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, and qualities such as mercy, sacrifice, forgiveness and redemption all seem to have been relegated to the cutting room floor and replaced by the secular need to be politically correct.

"... whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."  
Galatians 6:7

Over time, our exposure to God's righteousness through films have become limited. Despite this trend, I believe that there are still a few brave souls in the industry who like to leave us clues of God's presence. For instance, in the action film "Mr. and Mrs. Smith", the main actors are sitting in a restaurant wearing jackets with the words "Jesus Rocks" printed on the front. In "Masters and Commanders", "The Lord's Prayer" is said in its entirety, no fading-out or cutting away. And, in the recent version of "True Grit", the storyteller boldly states, "Nothing in this world is free except for the Grace of God." This summer,

## **Cursillo #130 October 20-23, 2011**

"...And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age". Matthew 28:20

Summer is flying by and we in San Diego have been blessed with wonderful weather. Here in Clairemont at my church, St. David's, we have been having Mass at the beach at 5 o'clock in the afternoon the past four Sundays in July. It is so relaxing to be on the shore and to listen to Our Lord's message "to come to the water." I am, refreshed for another week. My days have been busy preparing for Cursillo #130 to be held at Camp Stevens in Julian Oct. 20-23, 2011. I have been praying for the team and God knows who they are. However, I don't know who you are! There are many positions still to be filled and team applications have been very slow to arrive in my mail box or email. Please prayerfully consider working the fall weekend and send your applications in soon!

The team meetings are on Sept. 10, at Good Samaritan Church in University City from 9 am to noon. This is a must meeting for first time cocineros and rollistas, but everyone is welcome to attend. The next meetings are:

Sept 24 at St. Andrew's La Mesa,  
Oct. 1 at St. Bart's, Poway, Rollo Critique and  
Oct. 8 at St. David's Clairemont,

Please see calendar on last page for times.

God bless you all,  
Your Sister in Christ  
Lynn Nicholson, [lynn28quilts@aol.com](mailto:lynn28quilts@aol.com)

## Cont'd

I hope that you and your family will take the time to enjoy the sights and sounds of some of your favorite films. Look for the clues that have been left behind for us to find, and discover for yourself how God continues to make His presence known to all.

In His Service,  
Barbara Peralta

## Fourth Day Article From Gary & Dotty Baty

The first time Dotty and I heard about Cursillo, was when some good friends asked if they could sponsor us to go to a three day weekend. We inquired about the weekend and what it entailed and with some trepidation and not knowing what to expect decided to go. This decision I think was one of the best decisions we have made for our Christian growth; for it is written: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)

The three day weekend came and went before we knew it, and all the thoughts and experiences were lost in our minds and emotions. Our best understanding culminated with the Fourth Day, when all the workers, sponsors and new Cursillistas were gathered together to share in a climate of sincerity, trust, and sharing. It is written; "Know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God". (Ephesians 3:19) With this climate and communion made possible by this a dialogue where all are able and have something to share, teach and learn by asking questions and giving suggestions, we experienced this love of Christ.

With the three day weekend behind us, it's not surprising that we now only have a vague grasp on the importance of the concepts which were delivered on the third day. Of course these concepts were intended to prepare us for the Fourth Day, which is the beginning of the rest of our lives in service to our Lord and fellow Christians as leaders for Christ.

It has been said that Cursillo activities are not meant to be a substitution for active, committed weekly involvement in parish worship and ministry. This is a true statement, but it is also true that parish life and the ministry are enriched and enlivened by Cursillistas at every level of service who are living out a life of piety, study and action while practicing it through group reunions and monthly Ultreyas. Remember, Is not what we have in our lives, but WHO we have in our lives! Do not ask the Lord to Guide your Footsteps if you are not willing to move your Feet. Even though you can't see Him, GOD is there for you always, as it is written; "... I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." (Mat 28:20)

I encourage everyone to join a Group Reunion for their personal strengthening and Christian growth. Dotty and I have learned from our respective groups that it is a wonderful thing to meet with like minded Christians to share our lives, joys, sorrows, and prayers and to be strengthened by one another's experiences.

As we think of the Fourth Day, remember, there are several things we can learn on the Fourth Day, looking ahead with trust in the Lord and having a prayerful heart and mind.

trust in the Lord and having a prayerful heart and mind. Below I will leave you with these thoughts:

- Have a more centered life, having Christ at the center with prayer, study and fellowship.
- Have the mentality of apostolic action as leaders in the work of Christ wherever it may be.
- Have more commitment and be involved with Christ in His Kingdom here on earth, united as leaders in one body of Christ.
- Have the understanding of others, knowing each other's gifts and talents and work in coordination as one.
- Be willing to make sacrifices, putting aside personal needs and directing the time, talent and treasure to the Lord's work.
- Be willing to measure the pulse of the group at reunions and promote "friendship and love."

Remember the words of Christ when the scribe asked? "Which is the first commandment of all? (Mark 12:28) Jesus answered this; "The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment." (Mar 12:30) "And the second is like, namely this, Thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these." (Mar 12:31)

Now remember when you attend the next Fourth Day, to develop and strengthen co-workers and to help serve the larger community of Cursillistas, supporting them in their work of transforming environments serving and showing forth the love of Christ.

In Christ's Love

Gary Baty

Anyone interested in working on the planning committee for hospitality for the Church Convention in February please contact Dotty or Gary Baty at [cctdotty@san.rr.com](mailto:cctdotty@san.rr.com) or [cctgary@san.rr.com](mailto:cctgary@san.rr.com).

## Back to The Mountain 2012

Last January I promised that I would encourage everyone that had attended a Cursillo weekend to reserve time and funding that we might fill all bed space that is available at Camp Stevens for a relaxing, fun, and spiritual time with God and others that have shared our experience on the mountain.

This is a time to make plans for the year 2012, or maybe just enjoy the company of old or new friends. I pray you will nurture the seed I am giving you and plan to attend, Reserve the time and save for your tuition for:

BACK TO THE MOUNTAIN (January 2012)

Date: January 6th, 7th, and 8th, 2012

Cost for the weekend: \$120.00 per person

If Friday night Dinner is desired include additional \$7.50 per person

This great weekend is on my heart and in my prayers. Please pray with me and enjoy God's Blessings!

In God's love,  
Eileen Pierce, [angelslight@mindspring.com](mailto:angelslight@mindspring.com)

**Servant Community Update—Larry Salvadori:** Discussed the sale of Camp Stevens' firewood as a fundraiser for Cursillo and Camp Stevens. Peter Bergstrum has offered to share the abundant firewood stacked around the camp if Cursillo would like to come up with a plan to sell it as a fund raiser. The name "Holy Wood" was suggested and there was discussion as to how to sell it. Instead of making small bundles for sale at various events, as was originally suggested, Larry will bring our idea of having people sign up for and then pick up their own wood to Peter Bergstrom for his thoughts. Larry will research the feasibility of this Fall Project and report back to the secretariat at a future meeting.

### Fourth Day Update:

Judy Anderson is looking for a venue for July and September, particularly in North County.

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She needs a pool of musicians to draw from to play at Ultreyas. If you are interested in being on the list please contact her at [jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net). The Grand Ultreya will be Nov. 19 at St. Dunstan's. The Christmas Party will be on December 3.

**PALANCA:** It is not too early to begin thinking about starting your Palanca. Remember back to your weekend. Seeing all those gifts of love in your bag, Let's do our best to give our new Cursillistas that same feeling. Also it is not too early to start praying for the team and candidates.

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### AUGUST

- 16 NEC advanced registration deadline
- 27 4:00 pm Ultreya, Good Shepherd, Hemet  
4:00 pm Pot Luck: 5:00 pm Ultreya

### SEPTEMBER

- 10 8:30 – 12:00 Servant Community Meeting, Good Sam's  
1st time Rollo room / Cochiera training  
12:30 pm Secretariat Meeting Good Sam's – Open to All
- 23 Forward Submission Deadline

- 24 9:00 am Cursillo #130 Team Meeting, St. Andrew's, La Mesa  
3:00 pm

- 26 Cursillo #130 Guest Application Deadline

### OCTOBER

- 1 8:30 am Team Meeting, Rollo Critiquing, St. Bart's Poway
- 6 6:30 pm Secretariat Meeting Good Sam's – Open to All
- 8 9:00 am Final Team Meeting, St. David's, Clairemont

- 20-23 Cursillo #130, Camp Stevens

- 27-30 NEC Conference, Phoenix, Arizona

### NOVEMBER

- 5 8:30 am Day of Deeper Understanding, TBA

Please check the Cursillo website [www.sdcursillo.org](http://www.sdcursillo.org) for updates and Directions to churches.

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