



Forward

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Volume XXV

October 2011

Our Mission: To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership

Message from the Chair



During my recent summer vacation to northern California I had the opportunity to go camping with my two grandsons, Ryan and Ronan. I must admit, my original vacation plans did not include sleeping in a tent with an active 5 year old and 3 year old. But, since I hadn't seen the boys in almost a year, I couldn't turn down the invitation to be with them and their mother for a weekend adventure away from home.

We didn't leave the house until after work on a Friday evening. We estimated our driving time to be about two hours. As we sat in Bay Area traffic with "Are we there yet?" echoing from the backseat, I quickly realized that this was a perfect time for prayer and to ask God for travel mercies and patience for all. After three hours, we had made our way west from Vacaville to Jenner at the mouth of the Russian River. Darkness was closing in on us and we still had to travel another hour up the coast on Highway One before reaching our destination.

Just about the time I started to feel really queasy from all the turns and switchbacks on the road, we finally arrived at the campground. We checked-in at the gate and began to search for our assigned campsite. Once in the park, gigantic redwood trees flanked our car on either side. Their enormous width filled the far reaches of our headlights. In the dark, we strained to see more of these awesome giants but without success. We eventually located our campsite and our friends who had arrived earlier in the day, welcomed us with a warm campfire and a tent completely set up and ready for our use. Although tired and weary from the long journey, we felt truly blessed by their kindness.

In the morning, the ocean fog had covered the tables and benches with a thick layer of dew. The campground was slowly waking up and the smell of cooked bacon and eggs filled the air. Our group was planning a trip to the beach, and despite the cold, the kids were looking forward to playing in the water. As for me, I gladly volunteered to stay behind to keep the campfire going. My camping skills left a lot to be desired but curious bluejays and quick footed chipmunks were on hand to give me some advise.

The morning chill had lingered on into the afternoon, but the heat radiating from the open campfire was comforting. The sounds from the other campsites were muffled by the

Where is the Mission Field And Who are the Missionaries?"

Back in the early 1980's, when I was a student at Virginia Theological Seminary, I was elected President of the Seminary's "Missionary Society". The Society's responsibility was to support missionary work throughout the world; we gave grants to missionaries in Africa, South America, and the middle east. The idea of missionary work has been understood as spreading the Gospel to the far corners of the earth. This is a noble goal. But as I have matured in my theological thinking, especially during my sabbatical this summer, I have seen that there is an erroneous assumption behind this understanding. The idea being, that people in western Europe and the United States are already Christians and those who are far away in the jungles of Africa or the Amazon rain forest, are not Christians. Europe and the United States were defined as "Christendom", where the culture and people are Christian. But is this really true? Yes, and No. Yes, we do have a Christian foundation to much of our culture today in Western Europe and the United States. But many aspects of our culture have little to do with Christianity, and some aspects of our culture are opposed to Christianity. Furthermore, the truth is that there is probably a greater percentage of people practicing Christianity in Africa than there is in western Europe and the United States. The mission field can no longer be exclusively defined as far away. The mission field is right here, all around us, in the Diocese of San Diego.

If the mission field is here, then we need to become missionaries. This is a revolutionary change in the paradigm of how we view the church. We are no longer in the business of simply trying to attract people who are already Christians to our church. We must see our work as reaching out to people who are not Christians. Some people may feel uncomfortable thinking of people they know as not being Christians.

But if you look at the PEW 2008 survey, it is clear that, especially here in California, most of the people around us are not Christians. They may be baptized and wear a denominational label, but as the survey makes clear, they are not in any way practicing Christianity. It is interesting to note that there are many people who aren't even baptized

As I write this, our last team meeting before the weekend is tomorrow! It will be full of all the last minute details that need to be accomplished before we go up to the mountain. But it will also be a time of prayerful reflection about why we do this and to "Remember, I am with you always to the end of the age." The team has been reminded of this lately as we have seen mighty answers to our prayers. We ask the community to continue to pray for us on the team and for the 20 Candidates. Several team members have had to drop off the team for various reasons including illnesses. Please keep the Rev. Maryanne Lacey, Ann Gilbert, Connie Gach, Victoria Van Horn and Yesenia and Ronald Hernandez in your prayers for healing. We would like to fill their shoes, especially for a Nurse/Medic to work the weekend. So if you feel led to work the weekend (Oct. 20-23) please let me know at lynn28quilts@aol.com or (619)275-5609 or my cell (619)750-2648.

Please come up to Camp Stevens on Sunday for Mananitas at 6:00 AM and stay for Eucharis tand to Sunday Angel. Closures is at 4:00 PM. All are encouraged to come and welcome our newest Cursillistas to the Community.

With love, gratitude and thanksgiving,

Your Sister in Christ, Lynn Nicholson

Team List

Baty, Gary	Nelson, Karen
Bendos, John	Nicholson, Lynn
Bolan, Patti,	Parsons, Pat
Brotherhood, Frances JK	Parsons, Ted
Brown, Judy	Peralta, Barbara
Brusewitz, Dale	Peralta, Darryl
Chan, Bryan	Pierce, Eileen
Davino, Debra	Potter, Judy
Embick, Ed	Rice, Karen
Gambling, Rev. Paul	Rice, Ken
Garcia, Fr. Carlos	Rush, Linda
Gilbert, Ann	Sarnecki, Lynn.
Gross, Elery	Selman, Joseph F
Hopkins, David	Selman, Judie
Jones, Johanna	Shaw, Bob
Lavigne, Amy	Shaw, Janet
Lyons, Linda	Sparks, Jackie
Lyons, Tim	Stevens, Janie
Martin, Jan	Tagdulang, Fr. Peter
Miller, Susan	Taillac, Elaine
Morelli, Tom	Thompson, Rochelle
Mumford, Laurie	Turley, Jon
Nelson, Deacon Bob	Weir, Bruce
	Wilder, Shirley A.
	Wood, Kathleen

(From the Chair Cont'd)

density of the trees. Like a lush green carpet, shamrocks grew in the shadows of these majestic sentinels of the forest, and the low laying clouds clung to the tops of the canopy like a sheer blanket of fine lace. As I gazed up into the magnificent splendor of God's creation, I could feel His presence and all was well.

"Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good."

Genesis 1:31

I give thanks to the Lord for calling me to His side, and to my grandsons for the yummy smores and the slightly charred marshmallows.

In His Service,

Anyone interested in working on the planning committee for hospitality for the Church Convention in February please contract Dotty or Gary Baty at cctdotty@san.rr.com or cctgary@san.rr.com.

CANDIDATE LIST

Blasingame, Craig - Christ Church - Coronado
 Garcia, Jocelyn - St. Philip's - Lemon Grove (Spanish only)
 Garcia, Ramón - St. Philip's - Lemon Grove
 Hayes, Sally - St. Dunstan's - San Diego
 Jurkiewicz, Jean - Good Shepherd - Hemet
 Medina, Rosie - St. Philip's - Lemon Grove
 Monge, Steve - St. Dunstan's - San Diego
 Nicholson, Jayson - Agape House - San Diego
 Peterson, Erik - St. Andrew's - La Mesa
 Reilly, Karen - Good Shepherd - Hemet
 Sandke, Bill - Christ Church - Coronado
 Sandke, Tami - Christ Church - Coronado
 Simon, Ken - St. Dunstan's - San Diego
 Steven, Sue - Christ Church - Coronado
 Streeter, Karl - St. Timothy's - San Diego
 Thompson, KC - St. Peter's - Del Mar
 Thompson, Linda - St. Peter's - Del Mar
 Valenzuela, Xochitl - St. Philip's - Lemon Grove
 Vargas, Alejandra - St. Philip's - Lemon Grove (Spanish only)
 White, Peter - Good Shepherd - Hemet

(Cont'd from page 1)

and have had absolutely no contact with a church other than attendance at a wedding or a funeral.

We are in the mission field. We are the missionaries. Our whole way of thinking needs to change, so we, in Cursillo, see each of our congregations as a launching pad for mission. I ask that you begin thinking of yourself as a missionary, and not just a church member. Question: How am **I** going to bring Jesus Christ to people in **my** mission field? We need to use the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given us for ministry outside of the church. I ask that you would be open to thinking about ways that God can work through you. I ask that you pray and be open to what God may be calling you to do. We will need to have different ministries of word and deed to reach the people around us. What we don't need to do is sit around and wish that we were back in the 1950's and everyone was a Christian. Of course, in reality, even the 50s, everyone wasn't a Christian. But what worked in the 50s, 60s and beyond, will not work today in our current culture. We will be entering into a new stage of vision, and ministry; we will become missionaries. May I welcome you to the Mission Field.

Your friend in Christ,

Father George

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.

SUNDAY ANGELS: I am looking for people to help Saturday or Sunday Angel. If you are going to Sunday angel, you are welcome to come and help Saturday night also. Or if you want you can come Saturday evening, spend the night in Bishops and be there in the morning without having to get up an extra hour earlier. Sunday angels help the team clean the camp, help the candidates get packed and set up for Clausura. If you are interested in helping please email me at lindalyns@aol.com or call at 760-803-3025

FOURTH DAY:

The Grand Ultreya will be Nov. 19 at St. Dunstan's. Spring Rector/Rectora will be announce. Potluck at 6:00, Ultreya at 7:00. Judy is still looking for musicians. You can contact her at jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net. The Christmas Party will be on December 3.

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

THE 2010 SECRETARIAT

Secretariat Chair	
Barbara Peralta	bperalta6@yahoo.com
Secretariat Chair-Elect	
Judy Brown	jbrown3944@aol.com
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Assistant Spiritual Director	
Rev. Paul Gambling	aramis313@yahoo.com subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business
Assistant Spiritual Director	
Rev. Peter Tagdulang	frpete@yahoo.com subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business
Assistant Spiritual Director	
Rev. Frank Maguire	(619) 421-6907
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Co-Chair: Judy Potter	judithdhs@aol.com
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Chair: Gary Baty	cctgary@san.rr.com
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Eileen Pierce	angelslight@mindspring.com
Treasurer	
Jamie Wood	jamiewood2@cox.net
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCTOBER

8 9:00 am Final Team Meeting, St. David's, Clairemont

20-23 Cursillo #130, Camp Stevens

27-30 NEEC Conference, Phoenix, Arizona

NOVEMBER

3 6:30 pm Secretariat Meeting, Good Sam

5 8:30 am Day of Deeper Understanding, St. David's

19 6:00 pm Grand Ulthreya, St. Dunstan's

25 December Forward articles due

DECEMBER

3 8:30 am Servant Community Meeting, Good Sam

12:30 pm Secretariat Meeting, Good Sam

10 6:00 pm Cursillo Christmas Party, Episcopal Service Center

JANUARY

5 6:30 pm Secretariat Meeting, Good Sam

6-8 Back to the Mountain, Camp Stevens

15 Cursillo Sunday

27 February Forward articles due

28 Secretariat Retreat, St. Timothy's

Please check the Cursillo website www.sdcursillo.org for updates and Directions to churches.

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