



FORWARD



APRIL 2018

*Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego
Our Mission Is To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership*

Please visit our Cursillo website for a ton of information at: www.sdcursillo.org



A MESSAGE FROM THE CURSILLO SECRETARIAT PRESIDENT

The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love Galatians 5:6b

By now we have come out of a Holy Lent and have celebrated a Joyous Easter. I hope you feel renewed and full of life.

Early March provided an opportunity to host the Episcopal Cursillo Ministry Committee, which included members from throughout the country. They held their meetings at St Albans' in El Cajon. On Saturday, March 3, there was a wonderful potluck and Ultreya. The speakers were part of the visiting committee, the food was wonderful, and a good time was had by all. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly Thursday through Saturday. A big thank you also, to the host families who opened their homes for our guests.

We are eagerly anticipating the inaugural Cursillo weekend at Pine Valley Bible Conference Center. The team for #142 is ready to go. The music is coordinated, the table leaders are ready to listen and guide, the prayer warriors are ready to pray and serve, and the clergy team will be ready after recovering from a busy Holy Week. As of now, we have at least 15 candidates. A big thank you to all the sponsors for encouraging participation this Spring. Everyone's prayers are needed for all participants involved in the weekend.

New Time for Open Closura... 3:00. If you would like to bring flowers for Mananitas on Sunday, for the new Cursistas, please come at 2:15 to greet them and distribute flowers (no gifts) as they walk from Closed Closura to Open Closura.

The Grand Ultreya is Coming! Save the date! Saturday May 19th, St John's in Chula Vista. We will be announcing the Fall Rector, enjoying good food and singing great music.

Blessings, Kit

MORE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Grouping

With at least 15 new Cursistas, comes the need for grouping opportunities. What is Grouping? And what is it not?

Grouping is not a clique from one church gathering to discuss church politics or people.

Grouping is a group of Cursistas, possibly from multiple churches, who have found a convenient time and location to join together to discuss Study, Piety and Action. Many groups read a book during the week to discuss.

Grouping is not a time to judge whether you have done 'enough' Piety, Study or Action.

Grouping involves brothers and sisters in Christ encouraging one another to live their baptismal covenant, and support each other in their efforts.

Grouping has no socio-economic requirements, and does not *have* to be held at a particular location. Grouping can be held immediately before or after church on Sunday morning. It can be held in a coffee shop, over a meal at Denney's, (or wherever), or at a home. The possibilities are numerous.

Grouping is not an exclusive group. As people leave, move or whatever, newcomers should be welcomed. Deep relationships are often formed within a group, but new blood, insights, and friendships can renew a long time group. We should welcome newcomers as Jesus taught us to welcome the stranger.

If you are grouping, please look to see if your group has room for one or two more Cursistas. If you are not grouping, let your parish representative know you want join a group. Or, contact Craig Noble at craignoble@cox.net. Craig is the grouping coordinator for the secretariat.

Kit Chevalier, Secretariat President

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN CURSILLO SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Paul's Conversion and Our Conversion

The Apostle Paul was named Saul prior to his conversion to Christianity. He was a Pharisee who was zealous to uphold Old Testament law. He believed that that laws of the Old Testament were the means of salvation and that Christianity intended to replace the law by making Jesus the means of salvation. He saw Jesus and his followers as a threat to Judaism and its laws. Paul wanted Christianity annihilated, even to the point of killing Christians. His conversion to Christianity is the greatest conversion story in history.

Richard Peace of Fuller Theological Seminary has some interesting things to say about Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus. First of all, he points out that Paul's conversion was seen by Luke as so important that there are three accounts of Paul's conversion in the Book of Acts: in Chapters 9, 22, and 26. In all of these accounts there are three essential parts of Paul's conversion. The three essential parts of Paul's conversion comprise the model for all Christian conversions. Richard Peace is very much aware that there are many aspects of Paul's conversion that are unique to Paul's experience and not essential for everyone else. In fact, everyone who has a conversion experience has an experience that is unique to them in many ways. Nonetheless, Peace has identified three common elements in the varied conversion experiences down through history that can be found in Paul's conversion. The essentials of Christian conversion are: Insight, Turning, and Transformation.

1. **Insight:** When Paul met the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus and Jesus asked him,

“Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”

And Saul asked, “Who are you Lord?”

The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.”

In this moment of supernatural divine revelation, Paul cannot argue with Jesus, even with all of his Pharisaical training and reasoning. Human reason must surrender to the supernatural divine presence and revelation. Paul instantly becomes overwhelmed with the revealed knowledge that he is persecuting God's people, and not only that, but that he is a murderer violating God's law. He inwardly has a new insight into his life, that he is not righteous before God, but is the chief of all sinners. Jesus' supernatural revelation gives him this new insight that reinterprets his entire life. His conversion begins with God's revelation giving him insight into his life. Conversion begins with a revealed insight that reinterprets one's life.

2) **Turning:** Once Paul receives the supernatural insight he is willing to turn from his sinful life towards Jesus. He puts his life under Jesus' authority even in his question to Jesus on the road to Damascus. He asks, “Who are you, Lord?” The fact that he uses the word “Lord” is already an indicator of his willingness to turn and put his life under the authority of the one who is speaking to him. Paul's life after the revelation was never the same. There was a turning that took place on the road to Damascus that was the beginning of a new life. All true conversion involves a turning toward Jesus with a willingness to serve Him.

3) **Transformation:** Paul's life was so transformed that he was changed from being a religious fanatic who was trying to uphold God's law with his own understanding and power to a person filled with the grace of Jesus Christ—he lived by Christ's grace rather than his own efforts. He would write "By Grace you are Saved." He became such a different person that he was called Paul rather than Saul. All true conversion shows a life of grace that is different than any human striving or fanatical religion. All true conversion results in a life transformed by Grace.

Paul met the risen Christ on the road to Damascus. We, today, may not meet the risen Christ in the same way that Paul did, with a flash of light and a voice calling down from Heaven. Most events of revelation and conversion are not dramatic. But nonetheless, the risen Christ is alive and present today and He comes to us in moments of supernatural revelation. In these moments, we are overwhelmed with new insight that comes only from God, an insight that re-interprets our life allowing us to see the change that God wants to make in us. We can turn to Christ when we have this new insight. Or we can reject the insight and turn away from Christ. It's our choice to turn towards him. But when we do turn towards Jesus, we are transformed. The Holy Spirit comes and pours the grace of Christ into our souls, giving us a new life.

These three parts of conversion happen in big, sudden conversion experiences, or they happen in small, gradual events of conversion. The three parts of conversion, whether big or small, happen in sudden and mysterious ways for all who are willing to accept them. Meeting the risen Christ is not just about having an enjoyable experience. It's about letting Him do His work of conversion in you. Pray that you are open to meeting the risen Christ and He will come to you. The Risen Christ comes giving us insight, turning, and transformation—conversion!

Alleluia. Christ is Risen,

Father George

CURSILLO CALENDAR

4/05/18: CURSILLO SECRETARIAT MEETING, ST. DUNSTAN'S, 6:30 PM MEETING

4/07/18: CURSILLO #142 FINAL TEAM MEETING, ST. ANDREW'S, La MESA, 8:30 – 12:00 NOON

4/19-22/18: CURSILLO #142 WEEKEND AT PINE VALLEY, OPEN CLAUSURA 3 PM SUNDAY

5/03/18: CURSILLO SECRETARIAT MEETING, ST. DUNSTAN'S, 6:30PM MEETING

5/05/18: DAY OF DEEPER UNDERSTANDING, ST. DUNSTAN'S, 8:30AM – 3:00PM

5/19/18: GRAND UNTREYA, ST. JOHN'S, CHULA VISTA, 6 POT LUCK, 7 PM ULTREYA

5/25/18: FORWARD DEADLINE

6/02/18: SERVANT COMMUNITY MEETING, ST. DUNSTAN'S, 8:30 AM - NOON

6/02/18: SECRETARIAT MEETING, ST. DUNSTAN'S, 12:30 PM TO 3:00PM

PALANCA

Dear friends:

I hope the Joy of Easter is still filling your hearts with love and joy for our Lord's resurrection.

I still gets goose bumps when I remember our loud and joyful proclamation during the Easter service **The Lord is risen Alleluia !!**

This remind me of the promise I made –Here I am Lord... send me, during the closure of Cursillo #138, my first one. The great, peaceful and fearless feeling comes to me by His promise "And surely I am with you always, even to the very end of the age." Mathew 28:20. Which is the theme chosen wisely by our Cursillo-Rector Debbie Kistler.

I want to remind to all of you to pray for our candidates, the teams, and every single person working in our Cursillo #142 at Pine Valley.

We also needs lots of prayer for all the Cursillos held across our Country and the world.

Here are the dates so you will know who you are praying for:

April:

4/5-8, North Carolina, Parish Based weekend All Saints Concord, rcamcooke@yahoo.com

4/19-22, Cursillo #212, Alabama, jpoole@pooleandcompany.com

4/19-22, Cursillo #142, San Diego, kmsopsinger@yahoo.com 4/19-22, Co_ed Weekend #164, Southern Virginia, palanca@cursillodiosova.org

4/18-22, East Tennessee , VtMaryhunter@gmail.com

4/26-29, Cursillo #106, New York, cursillo-pr@nycursillo.com 4/25-29, #97, East Carolina, corgiblue@aol.comMAY:

May:

5/3-6, Cursillo Weekend, Massachusetts, Harlandart@verizon.net

5/3-6, Cursillo #74, Fond Du Lac, laydirector@monarchcursillo.org

5/5, Reflect & Retreat, Alabama, jpoole@pooleandcompany.com

5/31-6/3, Cursillo Weekend, Oregon, oregoncursillo@gmail.com

5/31-6/3, Cursillo Weekend #94, Southeast Florida, pam.laws.clark@gmail.com

I also would like to thank the Secretariat for their constant support on my new endeavor as the assistant to the Palanca committee, especially Larry Salvadori and my predecessor Rachel Ambasing; their help, and knowledge has made a smooth transition for me.

De Colores,

Isabel Lynne

2018 Secretariat Lay Members

Name	E-Mail	Function	Term Exp.
Kit Chevalier	kmsopsinger@yahoo.com	2018 President	'19
Miguel Cosio	gmiguelcosio1971@yahoo.com	Community Partners Chair	'18
Humberto Garcia	ambrsunny2@aol.com	Pre-Cursillo Vice Chair	'20
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	Pre-Cursillo Chair	'20
Jlill McGrew	jmegrew2015@gmail.com	4th Day and Comm. Partners Vice-Chair	'18
Jon Turley	turley.jonixxi@gmail.com	3-Day Weekend Chair	'18
Isabel Lynne	ilynne1700@yahoo.com	Palanca	'20
Craig Noble	craignoble@cox.net	2019 President Elect 3 Day Weekend Vice-Chair	'19
Rachel Ambasing	rachel.ambasing@gmail.com	Secretary	'19

2018 Secretariat Clergy Members

Name	E-Mail	Function	Term Exp.
Rev. George Calvert	calvert@calalum.org subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business	Diocesan Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd
Rev. Paul Gambling	gfrpaul@gmail.com subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'19
Rev. Rick Showalter	Symen1@aol.com subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'20
Open	TBD	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'20
Rev. Carlos Garcia	carlangas1986@cs.com subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd

SPECIAL CURSILLO SERVANTS

Name	E-Mail	Function
Judy Brown	jbrown3944@aol.com	<u>ECM Western District Rep</u>
Jamie Wood	jamiewood2@cox.net	<u>Treasurer</u>
Larry Salvadori	lasalvadori@yahoo.com	Servant Community Convener
Judy Anderson	jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net	Parish Reps / 4th Day Chair/ Ultreyas
Larry Salvadori	lasalvadori@yahoo.com	Forward Editor
Debbie Kistler	dk.outoflove@cox.net	Historian
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	Cursillo Music Coordinator
Ruben Rodriguez	Rodriguez_ruben@msn.com	Rector Support Team/ Outreach
Ed Embick	sueanded@san.rr.com	Comm. Chair/ Webmaster
Shell Pierce	roaminchristian@mindspring.com	Alt. Webmaster

CURSILLO CORNER - DONATIONS

The Cursillo community accepts donations year-round. These donations allow us to set up “scholarships” to help defray the cost of

sponsoring new Cursillistas and workers, pay our bills, support ministries, and the Episcopal Cursillo Ministry. If you’d like to make a Donation/Gift to Cursillo, please sent it to:

Jamie Wood – Treasurer

4554 Point Loma Avenue

San Diego, Ca. 92107

Checks made out to: Cursillos in Christianity

CANDIDATES FOR #142, APRIL 2018

Carolyn Adams

Debbie Benson

Roy Hoffman

Shannon Fulton

Nancy McMahan

Ken McMillen

Janice Miller

Charlene Mooney

Michael Nichols

Cybil Nichols

Susan Schoolcraft

Gail Short

Jen Short

Emili Soto

Trim - Odera

Gail Voorhes

Monica Yen

3 Men, 14 women