

THE 4TH DAY



Filipino Cursillo Movement of San Diego, CA | Volume XXXIX, Issue 2 | September 2020

Upcoming Dates

ULTREYA

September 27, 2020
Sunday, 2pm
Online Via Zoom
Zoom link to be emailed to all

ZOOM ROSARY

October 3, 2020
7:30pm
Zoom link to be emailed to all

MEN'S CLASS 120

July 8-11, 2020
Quinta-De Guadalupe
(Subject to Change)

WOMEN'S CLASS 121

July 22-25, 2020
Quinta-De Guadalupe
(Subject to Change)

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If you know of any Cursilista that has passed on, please contact Bro Rudy to request for Cursillo services during the wake/funeral.

Contact:

Bro. Rudy
619.846.2129
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OUR NEW SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

By Father Vic

My dear Cursillistas, as I step into the World of the Cursillo Movement, I look at this journey not as a movement but as a Ministry.

Let me tell you a bit about myself. I was born and raised in Masbate, Philippines. I was the only one ordained from the first 15 seminarians who

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entered St. Anthony High School Seminary that year in 1974. Of course, later as I went deeper in the seminary formation. I was joined with other seminarians from other regional seminaries.

Fast forward, later, in 1987, there were three of us ordained: Fr. Antonino Ng (now deceased) and Fr. Fidel Tambago, who is currently continuing his priestly ministry in the Philippines. I came to the Diocese of San Diego in 1989 and was given my first parish assignment at Good Shepherd Parish, Mira Mesa in 1990. This is now my 2nd tour assigned to Good Shepherd Parish.

I must remember, I am a priest now for 33 years! OMG! What have I done! I don't have to tell you at this writing the things I have done. It'll be too painful for me to recall, ouch!

What I would really like to tell you is, as your new Chaplain of the Filipino Cursillo in the Diocese of San Diego is to remind all of us that, we are to deepen our loving embrace of our identity as Cursillistas! As we re-visit the mission statement of the Cursillo Movement, we should re-commit to spreading the Gospel message, and continue to enable our fellow 'cursillistas' to live their **Fourth Day!**

One of the purposes of being a Cursillista is to provide all members with necessary information and materials for spiritual, methodological, doctrinal and Formation in a Cursillo Way. In other words, each one must be committed to catechesis. We were catechized when we decided on the first weekend to become a "Cursillista"! Continuing to remind ourselves: we **embraced** Jesus Christ again as our Lord and Savior, we **committed** ourselves to living the life of the teaching of Jesus Christ, the **reception of the Holy Eucharist** which is the very revelation of the mystery of the exaltation of Jesus Christ on the cross who continues to reveal his supernatural life and grace.

This is a lifelong rendezvous as we journey on this earth! The consolation is, we do not have to worry... if we are connected to Him everyday of our lives, He will always be with us to help us, to heal us, and to strengthen us on our journey to Him.

WELCOME, FATHER VIC!!!



NATIONAL ENCOUNTER - OMAHA NEBRASKA

By Sis. Nida Tolentino

COVID-19 OUTBREAK



GLOBAL PANDEMIC

The pandemic Covid-19 changed life for all of us. For instance, the 30th National Cursillo Encounter on July 24-25, 2020 was very different from what I had in mind at the beginning of the year. Instead of traveling to Omaha, Nebraska I attended the Encounter right from the safety of my home. I was hesitant to join the **virtual encounter** because I'm not familiar with

Zoom technology. But with the help of my daughter Melanie (Sis Melanie in the Cursillo) I soon felt comfortable and feel blessed to have attended the gathering.

The National Encounter opened with remarks from [Cindy Bruno](#) of the English Cursillo Region 1. Cindy is a member of the National Secretariat. Tears rolled in her eyes as she greeted everyone and made known that everything is possible with God allowing us to celebrate the National Cursillo Anniversary through the zoom virtual platform.

[Gloria Miranda](#) from the Spanish Cursillo was the moderator. Gloria's beautiful calm voice guided the technical coordinators in assembling everyone through zoom and she graciously introduced every speaker.

The first Lay Witness was [Bobbi Lavoie](#) from the English Cursillo Region 3 and her topic was "**Personal Encounter with God**". Bobbi shared that God is the source of her strength and other blessings. She said she joins our Lord Jesus Christ in His sufferings through the obstacles and sufferings in her life brought by many health issues. She learned to allow others to help her so she in turn can be of help to others. Her will to lend a hand to others is a manifestation of an authentic Cursillista.

[Father Mark Seiker](#), Spiritual Advisor of US National Cursillo, spoke about "**Personal Encounter with Christ**". Father Seiker reminded us that we can do all things through **HIM** who strengthens us. And that we welcome the Lord through our friendship with our brothers and sisters. Father Seiker's talk left me with the following thoughts: God seeks the relationship on each of us which is personal. The Holy Spirit searches the depths of God speaking through our own spirit. It is



important to realize that the Lord communicates with us through the scriptures. Ignorance of scriptures is ignorance of God. Lose God in life and we will be the poorest of the poor. When we are humble and peaceful Jesus is with us. Let Jesus be our vow to love friends and foes alike. An isolated Christian is a paralyzed Christian. It is very important to meet with our group reunion to encourage us to strengthen our relationship with God. We should calmly wait for the grace of God because once the grace comes to us we can do all things.

Next was the talk of [Nadia Lopez](#), National Cursillo Servant Administrator from San Bernardino Region 11. Her topic was “**Friendship with Self, Christ and Others**”. Nadia shared that through friendship we help each other overcome life’s obstacles. Although we all have different qualities, as Cursillistas we have mutual respect with one another. Sometimes even without words, a look or gaze makes us comprehend and understand what the other person is thinking. Friendship is priceless since it can only be understood through appreciation of the same intimacy. When our friendship is permanent and secure we don’t need to preach, we just let our actions do the rest.



Nadia proclaimed that Christ came into the world to become our friend. He made ultimate sacrifice to show true friendship to all of us. With Nadia’s talk, I was reminded of “John 3:16” that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life. God loved us so much that He gave His only son that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but will have eternal life.

Ceferino Aguilon is the English National Coordinator and Service Team of the National English. His topic was “**Calling from God**”. “Luke 5” relates to the calling of Jesus first disciples and continues to describe Jesus’ teaching and healing ministry. In his talk Cef asked, “What more is God asking of me?” God is always at work in our lives. We should not feel unworthy when He is calling us to serve him and



our fellowmen. Through our baptism God wants us to share His gift. We each are called according to His purpose. The purpose and intentions to His calling is that through our cursillo we become Christian Servant Leaders. We need to examine our call carefully, because we are called to be witnesses where God has placed us. Cef reminds us that our vocation to the cursillo is our time, talent and sometimes our treasure. We have to understand and live the specific purpose of the Gospel. The purpose is to share the love of God and communicate God’s message to everyone.

Juan Ruiz is the National Spanish Coordinator. His topic was “**The Christian Leader in the Cursillo Group**”. The function of the Christian Leaders in the cursillo movement is the same as the movement itself. When we decide to accept our calling to serve in the cursillo this calling is our vocation from God. Juan shared that we need to value ourselves as a person and as an active member of the mystical body of Christ. After we value ourselves, we need to know our guidelines, our doctrines and our catechism. We need to progress on our ongoing conversion. On our fourth day it is important that we live our Piety, Study and Action otherwise our Christian life will be lost. Our group reunion and ultreya are also very significant because they are continual commitment to our service to the cursillo which is the work of Christ. The Cursillo Movement is a gift to us and to our church.

Bishop Eduardo A. Nevares is the National Cursillo Episcopal Advisor.

Bishop Navares celebrated the mass for both days July 24 and 25.

Reading from the parable of the sower, Bishop Navares said in his homily that by listening to the word of God we develop our family with the cursillo. We are a family with Jesus and we invite others to join the cursillo movement to be part of the kingdom of God. We begin with our humble heart to recognize being personally invited by Jesus to grow more into the heart of love to everyone. Eduardo Bonin persevered to bring cursillo to everyone. Eduardo, during his life, reminded us that Jesus said, "I call you friends" and with the cursillo movement we invite others to also be friends and develop their relationship with God.



Jesse Jose from Region 11 Filipino Cursillo group and **Dennis Gamalinda** from Region 11 San Bernardino Filipino Cursillo Group were the National Cursillo virtual technicians. The job that these two brothers did was inspiring and impressive. It took a while for some members of the cursillo to log in, but with the help and patience of Jesse and Dennis everything went smoothly. It taught me to be patient and serene. As they assisted each cursillista, I watched and listened to their friendly and calm tone. God bless them both.

I would like to encourage everyone to join the 31st National Cursillo Encounter next year. It will be on July 22-25, 2021 at Chapman University, City of Orange, CA. Brothers and sisters, it is only a drive away and whether it will be virtual or in-person I hope to see you there.

God bless us all and **De Colores!**

OUR PERMANENT GROUP REUNION (Prior to COVID-19)

By Sis. Daisy Juanitas



The four Cursillo sisters in the pictures are Sis Arla, Sis Daisy, Sis Kim, and Sis Siena. Sis Arla and Sis Kim knew each other prior to living their Cursillo Weekend. Sis Siena and Sis Arla met for the first time just a few weeks before June of 2011—both were serving in youth ministry. The three sisters would meet Sis Daisy for the first time during

Women's Cursillo Class 106 for the Filipino Cursillo Movement of San Diego. Little did these ladies know, Cursillo would soon hold a special (and forever) place in their hearts. It has been nearly nine years and many lessons learned from various group reunions finally guided them to a group, day, and time that stuck. Since living their weekend, these ladies continue trying to grow in faith and strengthen their dedication to the Cursillo Movement.

"My favorite way to think of group reunion is like a tv show--it doesn't take up a lot of time and most of us are caught up on how everyone is doing and feeling. We get together for good company, to learn about each other, and to learn from each other...all for the glory of God! Meeting with my sisters in Christ is definitely a highlight in my week." (Sister Siena Dinh)

"Our journey to form our friendship group reunion was a special one. We have seen each other through ups and downs and continue to keep our friendship rooted in Christ. I love how we just have fun with each other, whether it's teaming at our usual location of the Plaza Bonita food court or bringing our teaming to Disneyland. It's always a special time when we're together." (Sister Arla Sigarlaki)

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"Our sisterhood is truly a special one. As we go through different phases of our lives, one thing remains constant: our love for each other which stems from our love for Christ." (Sister Kim San Pedro)

"I am definitely blessed to have these AMAZING sisters in my life. They teach something new to me about our faith, through sharing their life experiences, each week we meet. I believe the commitment, consistency and respect we have continued to show to one another is a reflection of the love and importance we have for God. I'm not sure how I could do life without them by my side to keep me on the right path of our faith journey."

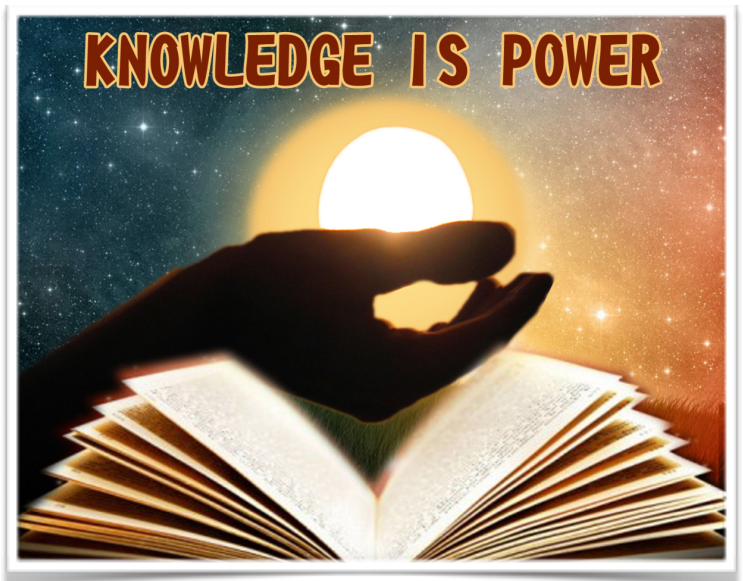


DE COLORES!!

DID YOU KNOW?

St. Monica prayed for her son's conversion for years. She regularly prayed and fasted for him. She even had clergy members talk to her son, but even they said he was a lost cause.

But all in God's time! After 15 years of Faith, Hope and Prayer, her son converted. We all know him now as St. Augustine.



MY REFLECTION

By Sis Remy Jimenez

You don't have to tell how you live each day;

You don't have to say if you work or you play;

A tried, true barometer serves in the place—

However, you live, it will show in your face.

The Hate, Anger, Deceit, injustices you may bear in your
Heart

Will not stay inside where it first got its start

For the skin and the blood are a thin veil of Lace

What you wear in your Heart, you wear on your face

If your life is unselfish, if for others you live

For not what you get, but how much you give

If you live close to God, in his infinite Grace

You don't have to tell it, it shows in your face.

DE COLORES

LET JESUS IN

By Bro Gavin George

My dear fellow Cursillo sisters and brothers, we live in an extremely difficult time in world history filled with a global pandemic, extreme violence, uncertainty, turmoil, and sadness. For the past approximately ten years, I have for the first time in my life finally began to embrace, love, and truly appreciate the endless beauty of the Catholic Faith. I feel extremely blessed to be Catholic and receive Jesus in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, frequently attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and take part in other activities daily that help me grow stronger in my Catholic faith. Like all of God's children I have faced my own struggles during my life. I personally suffer from severe anxiety and depression.

Sometimes when I am talking with other people I find myself hiding how I truly feel smiling outwardly, but inside struggling with either some form of anxiety, depression, or both. During my daily life I help my parents in their Catholic and vitamin store, Nature's Storehouse in Chula Vista. In our store God regularly places me in contact with others who are going through various life circumstances that impact them either emotionally, physiologically, physically, spiritually, or all of the above. Through prayer I know I am called to be at our store as one of God's instruments to possibly pray for these individuals, listen, provide them with love and support, advice, or to share with them parts of my own Catholic faith journey that I have personally experienced.



Up until only recently my prayer life with God and those in Heaven for the most had consisted mainly of organized prayers or in the form of a monologue where I would pray to God for my family, friends, and other such petitions. Early on during the onset of COVID, one of dear friends whom has had a truly beautiful impact on my life and growth as a Catholic suggested for me to spend some quiet time with God.

She told me to talk to God about the questions that I had, listen to Him, and then write down what answers that I felt like I was being given by God. Knowing that my friend had always provided me with extremely helpful and beneficial insights to me, I decided to try this important and beautiful suggestion. Despite the fact that I loved going to Eucharistic Adoration, I cannot recall many instances in my life up until that day where I had ever had a real conversation with God.

My dear sisters and brothers, I had no idea what to expect. By nature I am a talkative person and so this time in silence was both necessary, but initially extremely challenging for me. That afternoon I turned off my cell phone and with pen, paper in hand I put myself in Our Loving God's presence. Up until this time in my daily prayer life, I did not know how to properly recognize God's most tender voice. Up until that afternoon I thought God's voice was a loud, booming voice like movies sometimes portray it as. However, that afternoon in the silence of my heart I heard Our Loving God, encouraging me, answering me, and coming to be with me. I asked the Lord and He answered me with simple words of truth. Since that day I have been trying to make it an important daily

practice to spend quiet time in prayer with God, Jesus, Mamma Mary, and the saints. When I remember, I make sure to invite God, Heaven into my daily life, heart, and all that I do, feel, or experience. Although I am not always successful at this because of my own selfishness, being lazy or getting distracted, the endless fruits that result from making time for prayerful conversations with those in Heaven are truly beautiful. All we need to do on our end is to dedicate time to prayer, talk to God, others in Heaven, and then just listen.



The COVID virus along with other extremely difficult challenges continue to impact humanity. During earlier times with all that is taking place in the world and affecting people, I would have been extremely anxious, depressed, lost hope, faith, and my sense of peace. I still struggle at times.

However, spending these times in conversation with God, others in Heaven, I and my life have changed forever. I am more at peace with what is taking place around me. I believe in myself. I know that we are all children of God, made in His image and likeness, and in whom He is well pleased. I have greater comfort, hope, clarity into certain things, and even have begun to be healed from past brokenness which I have held on to for so long.



My dear Cursillo family, wherever you are at, I tell you we are not alone in all that we face and feel. God and all of Heaven are there with all of us. They are closer to us than we sometimes ever realize. Seek them out daily, talk to them, listen, and I assure you that in even small life giving ways, they will help each of us out. Do not be afraid and speak to them about whatever is on your heart, mind. All we have to do is invite them in and they will graciously accept our invitation. Jesus stands at the door of our hearts, knocks, thirsting for all of us, His sisters and brothers. He wants to share His infinite love with all of us. Let us let Him in and through Heaven's intercession, we may continue to grow in love, faith, peace and hope. God bless each of you, all of my prayers, support, love and **DE COLORES!!!**

peace be with you, brothers and sisters



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