

THE 4TH DAY



Filipino Cursillo Movement of San Diego, CA | Volume XXXVII, Issue 3 | October 2018

Upcoming Dates

CHRISTMAS REUNION

December 1, 2018
11AM - 3PM
Good Shepherd, Mira Mesa

CLASS 119

June 27 - 30, 2019
Quinta-De Guadalupe

CLASS 220

July 11 - 14, 2019
Quinta-De Guadalupe

ST. CHARLES ULTREYA PERSPECTIVE



By Bro. Cenon Crisotomo
Class # 114
Good Shepherd Parish

Most people think that the heart of “Cursillo” is the three-day retreat weekend. It is not! When one has attended a three day retreat, one goes back home to normal daily life. The Fourth Day is the day back at home. It is the day with the usual responsibilities and pressures. It is filled with the temptations and inertia of daily life. The Fourth Day is filled with challenges and difficulties. Retreat life is easy while the Fourth Day is hard – and every succeeding day of our lives is the Fourth Day of our life. The assembly of faithful people to help us meets on the Fourth Day. It has to be both a challenge and a support throughout the rest of our lives. A retreat weekend can be a good experience. It can demonstrate and help us practice the value of small supportive groups who pray, study and act together. However, the retreat has to end. Where will we find such a supportive group and event in all the Fourth

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Days of our lives? Many such gatherings exist but the one I will be focusing on is the Fourth Day Ultreya.

On August 5, 2018, my wife, Sis Tess Crisostomo and I, together with our newest Cursillista daughter, Clarisse L. Crisostomo, Class # 117, arrived at St. Charles Parish Hall around 1:00 pm and she immediately joined the new Cursillistas in a separate room where the School of Leaders and the Secretariat were giving lots of information about the structures and the different functions of the Filipino Cursillo Movement of San Diego. Most of them were listening attentively to what was being shared while the rest of the Brothers and Sisters from different parishes were busy setting-up the place and preparing the food that will be served towards the end of the event. Everybody was excited, not only for welcoming Classes 117 and 118, but because it was the first time the Auxiliary Bishop of San Diego, Rev. Bishop John Dolan will be giving the Spiritual Talk as a fellow Cursillista.

After an hour, the newest Brothers and Sisters of the Filipino Cursillo Movement of San Diego exited the room and joined the rest of the Cursillistas already seated, anxious to start the main program. Like a regular Ultreya, the first part was the gospel singing, followed by Sister Josie Banayat, the Emcee, introducing Father Emilio Magana, Pastor of St. Charles Parish, a Cursillista, who led the Opening Prayer. Next was the Floating Group Reunion. Sister Mary Ann de Guzman was one of the lucky Sisters who teamed with Bishop Dolan. Can you imagine sharing your PSA with a Bishop? WOW! The next part of the program was the Witness Talk given by Sister Mari Magahis of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. It was very inspiring to hear a young adult share her stories. The Echo of Sister Kim Ortiz followed. Afterwards, since it was the new Brothers and Sisters' first Ultreya, they were asked to stand up, face the rest of the group and wave their hands to be recognized. Everyone welcomed them with cheers and applause.

The part that everyone was anticipating was the Spiritual Talk of Bishop John Dolan. Before he started, he went up the stage and took out his cellphone and did a selfie with all the Cursillistas in the crowd. Everybody was surprised and started cheering and of course, smiling for the picture taking. His talk was so inspiring and full of lessons everyone truly appreciated. After the Spiritual Talk, Brother Rudy Sigarlaki announced future Cursillo activities like the Annual Picnic, the CLP (Cursillo Leadership Program) etc. Finally, Father Andre Ramos led the Closing Prayer and blessing of the food, which is my favorite part of the Ultreya, like Brother Rudy. There was so much food to share that take-home is a must. My wife, daughter, and I always look forward to the next Ultreya and enjoy the love, friendship and joy shared by everyone with our Lord Jesus Christ, the center of each Cursillo gathering.

DE COLORES!

NATIONAL ENCOUNTER

By Bro. Aaron Jurado

Class #116

Sis. Clarisse Crisostomo

Class #117

My fellow brothers and sisters in Christ,

From August 16th to 19th Sis. Clarisse and I were blessed with the opportunity to attend the 28th National Cursillo Encounter in Seattle, Washington. The Encounter lasted from Thursday to Sunday, which is exactly how Cursillo Weekends are structured. Being in Seattle University, a Catholic university, was the ideal location for our spiritual weekend because the university provided us with



lodging, a space big enough for over 700 Cursillistas, and plenty of food to feed us all! As we were both new members of the movement, we wanted to experience all of what Cursillo offered and we were not disappointed. Upon signing in for the Encounter, we were welcomed with smiles and greetings from throughout America. Each day there was a mass and many talks throughout the weekend. The masses and events were done in a way that felt inclusive with all languages being spoken at different times, enabling all to understand what is going on. There was not a single moment that we could not feel the presence of God. Even during food breaks all of the clergy and spiritual directors were there striking up conversations with people all over the nation.

However, Sis. Clarisse and I noticed that most of the Encounter attendees were over 40 years old. About only a handful of attendees were under 40-years-old, let alone young adults. Despite this fact, the Cursillistas did not make us feel excluded. Rather, they were very pleased with our attendance. It goes to show that the movement does not care about age. Instead it cares about how we can use our own individuality and experiences to continue evangelizing our movable space. During the weekend, we met with other Cursillistas personally and got to know how they are living their 4th day. These were such refreshing talks

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reminding us how God worked in other people's lives bringing together families and overcoming addiction. The National Cursillo Encounter offered us a new perspective of what it means to be an active Catholic: it is not meant to be lived alone, but to be experienced together, and shared with all.



As new Cursillistas, this is our challenge to you, veterans and even young adults, to consider making the pilgrimage to at least one National Cursillo Encounter. Next year, the 29th National Cursillo Encounter will be held in Scranton, Pennsylvania from July 18th to 21st, 2019. This would be the perfect experience to help strengthen your faith with like-minded people from around the nation in the presence of God.

De Colores!

DID YOU KNOW

Johannes Gutenberg, the inventor of the printing press, was Catholic and the first book ever printed was the Catholic Bible.



CURSILLO ANNUAL PICNIC

By Bro. Robert Villenueva

The Annual picnic, August 25, 2018, started as a cloudy morning but eventually the summer sun shone over Bonita's Rohr Park, Gazebo R3. The picnic was held in the same spot last year. It was a nice rest and relaxation for this year's hard days and nights of preparations and service for the recent two Cursillo Proper weekends, several parish welcomes, the Diocesan 4th Day ultreya, and the 40th Anniversary celebration of the Filipino Cursillo of San Diego.

Post Committee Co-Chairman Brother Joey led the few who came at 9 o'clock to set up early and unload picnic supplies, ice bags, utensils and charcoal. In the spirit of Christian brotherhood, service and generosity, Brother Julian (Class 118) of St. Michael, like a breath of fresh air in the morning, came early to give a hand to the few Post members in covering the tables, moving food supplies and other menial tasks. The banners of our movement were hung from the two sides the gazebo to direct attendees. Post member Sister Tim made special aprons for all Post Committee members to identify them with three unique ironed-on labels: "San Diego Filipino Post-Cursillo Committee," "Go Fourth" (Ultreya meaning Go Forth, Forward, 4th Day), and "Be a Friend, Make a Friend and Bring a Friend to Christ." The aprons were also given to other picnic volunteers in appreciation and for use in the future ultreyas.

Then the Cursillo leaders and families from the parishes of San Diego arrived with their assigned delicacies. St. Michael and OLMC parishes brought chicken and white rice; Good Shepherd/St. Gregory, fried calamari; Corpus Christi, macaroni salad; Resurrection/St. Mary Escondido, vegetable dish, pinakbet; St. Catherine/Holy Family, potato salad; St. Jude, chips; St. Mary/St. Rita and St. John of the Cross, varied fruits; St. Pius/Mater Dei/St. Rose of Lima, salad; St. Charles/Guardian Angel, selection of desserts; Young Adults, condiments and all



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fixings for hamburgers and hot dogs. Many more unidentified and generous individuals from other parishes added more potluck dishes and water bottles.

There was more than a hundred people attending. Guests included children, non-Cursillistas and potential Cursillistas. The groups and families put up their individual shade covers and canopies in the grassy area around the gazebo and the nearby tree. The young grouped and played their games and toys. The young adults and the not-so-young-anymore set a blanket on the ground under one canopy to enjoy mahjong. The few gazebo benches were given to those who came without their own beach chairs and blankets.

Sisters Nancy and Jorene from OLMC parish expected the small groups “Rosary walk” done in years past. With no prohibitions they got some brave souls to walk and pray the Rosary around the park, returning in time for grace before lunch at 11 o’clock. It was something refreshing to the participants, as it benefits both the body and the soul.

As soon as the meats were brought in, grill-master Brother JQ lit up the charcoal and with minimal interruption kept up with the demand for hamburgers and hot dogs. There was enough food for everybody even for the late-comers, and still more leftovers for those who wish to take them home.

The party games were started by Brother Rudy and several sisters. The Bingo game had a way of getting the participants to go around everybody, getting to know those they encounter. We missed the loud music for line dancing because the city had removed the park gazebo’s electric outlets.

Our North Country brothers and sisters have attended the picnic faithfully through the years by traveling for at least half-hour each way to Bonita. They could perhaps take a breather from long driving by recommending another great yet closer maybe central location for our picnic next year. Otherwise Rohr Park Bonita will repeat.

The Annual picnic was terrific for those who love the outdoors, to have family nurturing fun and games, and to reunite with long-time friends in our community. Everyone cherished the opportunity to get more acquainted with our sisters and brothers from Class 117 and 118. It was a wonderful break before returning to our parish ministries and to the stressful beginning of the school year, our small friendship groups, our vocations and workplaces, to our often dreary and tedious routines, all essential to our living out what is fundamental to being a Christian.

This was another unforgettable exclamation to our long and exciting summer, but it was also about renewing friendships, connections and oneness in Christ, and continuing to seek new friends for our next summer and picnic!

De Colores!

By Sis Remy



Welcome aboard,

Brothers and Sisters!! We will have fun days at sea!

The Secretariat and the School of Leaders are planning a 7 - Day Mexican Riviera Cruise..."PILGRIMAGE at SEA". A round trip cruise from San Diego to Cabo San Lucas,

Mazatlan, and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. So, please save the date: November 2 - 9, 2019.

This is in lieu of our Annual Workshop and Annual Retreat. The details of the activities are still in progress and we will inform you as they become available. Watch for announcements from your Parish team coordinators. Flyers will also be distributed.

This cruise is open to non-Cursillistas. So, invite your family, friends and relatives and let them witness the joy of being a Cursillista.

This will be an unforgettable event...a time to get out of our routine, a time for prayer and fellowship, a time to enjoy each other's company...

So, Brothers and Sisters, get your passports ready and let's go sailing!!

De Colores!!

Sis Remy Jimenez Sis Novy Balan (for Sis Ditas Manabat)



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