



Forward

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Volume XI V

February 2009

Our Mission: To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership

From the Chair

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you....” Matthew 28:19-20

We all know this commission of Jesus Christ to the apostles but what does it mean to us today. Is it still relevant in today’s world? After some discussion, Fr. Calvert and I have come to the conclusion it is very relevant. So relevant in fact, that we have decided to use this as the theme of the Secretariat retreat held on January 31st.

I personally hope that we can also take this message to all of the parishes in the diocese with a minor change in the commission: “Therefore go and make disciples of all people for Christ through Cursillo”. We as a community need to work together to bring the Cursillo movement back to life in our parishes. This is my goal for the coming year. To bring Cursillo back to the vibrant community it was just a few years ago. The San Diego Community was a model for communities around the country. Yes, unfortunately we have lost many Cursillistas because of the turmoil of the past few years. But we are still alive in Him. We are still a community that has experienced the “Mountaintop with Christ”. Let us not forget that experience but rather become eager share it with those in our parishes. I am not sure about other churches but our parish continues to grow and add new members who have not yet experienced Cursillo. Especially in these times of trouble and woe, we need community and especially the Cursillo Community to help bring up these new leaders to share the message of hope and renewal in Jesus Christ. So as I challenged the Secretariat at the retreat, I too challenge each and every Cursillista to once again help bring the Cursillo Community back

THE 2009 SECRETARIAT

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to a vibrant renewal movement in our diocese. I will be asking Bishop Mathes to help us in this mission.

One way we hope to help our Parish reps is to have a Parish Rep Retreat in February or March. Giving them the tools they need to do their jobs properly. Also getting input from them as to how the Secretariat can better help them in their jobs. Again, we are a community not isolated Christians so we must work together to "Make a friend, be a friend, and bring that friend to Christ."

I welcome your comments and suggestions. Please feel free to email me a lindalyns@aol.com

Ultreya, Linda Lyons



You Are Cordially Invited to an Ultreya

*Saturday, February 21, 2009 at
All Souls Episcopal Church
Point Loma*

Celtic Service; 5:00 pm

Pot Luck; 6:00 pm

Program; 7:00 pm

*Please invite your fellow parishioners
who may be interested in learning
more about Cursillo.*

RSVP to Drusilla Grubb, 619-917-7657

Drusilla@drakegroup.com

*We look forward to seeing you there, and
may God Bless you!*

Look for the next Forward in early April
Articles, calendar events and other materials are due
(preferably in Word format)
no later than March 27. Send to:
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From the Rectora

*"We are His workmanship; Created for good works
in Christ."* Ephesians 2:10

De Colores! I am very honored and humbled to have been chosen to serve as the Rectora for Cursillo #126, which will be held at Camp Stevens on April 23 - 26, 2009.

My theme comes from the chorus of a Keith Green song called "If you love the Lord", and hopefully we will get to sing it on the weekend. This theme describes what we in Cursillo attempt to refine in ourselves and bring out in others, utilizing the Cursillo method.

The core team has begun to meet and as we are praying for, planning and preparing to serve on the weekend, we ask for your prayers as well, for team and candidates and the weekend itself, so that it will remain the Lord's weekend above all else.

There are still many open spots on the team, so I encourage all of you who are interested in serving on the weekend, as the Lord leads, to please send in your applications (available on the sdcursillo.org web site), as soon as possible to the email address below. I will also have hard copies at upcoming Ultreya's.

Due to the scheduled completion of Bishop's Lodge in March, in addition to utilizing the yurts for team housing, we can again accommodate a full team, besides a full complement of candidates in Blum Lodge, which sleeps up to 48 people. Please also be praying about those in your parish who have leadership potential and are ready to make a Cursillo weekend this spring.

Ultreya!

Diane Blaisdell
Rectora, Cursillo # 126
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Note: The Team Training Meetings (Required) for Cursillo #126 are as follows:

March 14th 9:00am-12:00pm, New Cociner(a)/ New Rolista /New Table Leader training and Servant Community Meeting, Good Samaritan, University City

March 21st 8:30am - 3:00pm St. Alban's, El Cajon

April 4th 8:30am - 3:00pm Good Shepherd, Bonita

April 18th 8:30am - 3:00pm Good Samaritan, University City

From the Spiritual Director

"See, I am making all things new" Revelation 21:5

Recently I have become fascinated with the idea that the universe has a beginning and an end. This is now not just a theory, but a scientific fact with far-reaching implications. It means that material existence must not be the ultimate reality as atheists have claimed; the universe cannot come from nothing, nor can it just disappear into nothing. There has to be something prior to the universe from which it has come and something after it, into which it is absorbed. The idea that the universe is eternal and therefore the ultimate reality is no longer a valid idea.

We, as Christians, believe that God is the ultimate source of all that exists. God is what is eternal; his creation is a passing reality. The Judeo-Christian idea of creation is the world view that is compatible with the scientific facts.

We believe that God created the universe and that God will destroy the universe so that he can replace it with a new creation. We know this from Revelation, chapter 21, where St. John the Divine tells us that, ". . . I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away . . ." I find it interesting that if the universe is going to be destroyed and replaced, it means that everything will be destroyed and replaced. In fact, the mystery of the old being destroyed and replaced with the new is at the heart of Christianity. Jesus' earthly body was destroyed through the process of crucifixion and replaced with a resurrected body in the resurrection. God wants to get rid of that which is old and replace it with the new. He wants to destroy our sins and replace them with the righteousness of Christ. He wants to destroy the things in our lives that are robbing us of life, so that he can replace them with new life in Christ. Finally, he wants to destroy our bodies through death, so that our bodies can be replaced with new resurrected bodies.

A few weeks ago, many people made New Year's Resolutions, hoping that the new year would make things new in their lives. These resolutions are often just wishful thinking. In order to make things really new in our lives, we have to let go of something to

make room for what is new. The problem is that we do not have the power to let go of the old, to make room for the new. But fortunately, we believe in a God who can destroy the old and replace it with the new. It is the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection working through us that re-creates us into something new; Christ living in us is the power that makes us new.

I know in my own life, that I need to let go of certain things. For me, I need to lose 40 pounds of weight. I need to let go of many other things as well. But, it is when I yield myself to Christ and let him destroy the extra weight and other things that are holding me back, that I can be re-created into what God would prefer. A New Year's Resolution is not enough. It's when I let God destroy the things that I need to rid myself of that I encounter the Christ who says, "See, I am making all things new." And I do see.

I invite you to join me in this year of 2009 to live into the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, the mystery of God who destroys and replaces all things. I hope that you will see Christ making something new in you. Amen. Happy New Year.

Your friend in Christ, Rev. George M. Calvert



ULTREYA!!

2008 is past and 2009 has just begun. The Ultreya Committee has arranged 4 Ultreyas this spring. Why not make a New Year's resolution to mark the dates on your calendars and to attend each one? All of the following Ultreyas start at 7 pm, preceded by a potluck at 6 pm. As always, everyone is invited to Ultreyas. Non-Cursillistas are welcome.

Jan. 31 – St. Luke's, San Diego

Feb. 21 – All Soul's, Point Loma (potluck preceded by a Celtic Mass at 5 pm)

Mar. 28 – St. Timothy's, Rancho Penasquitos

Apr. – No Ultreya—see you at Camp Stevens

May 16 – Good Shepherd, Bonita (Grand Ultreya and welcome to new Cursillistas)

We're always looking for new locations for Ultreyas. Please contact Judy Anderson, 619-286-1208
jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net
to schedule one at your church.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 6-7 San Diego Episcopal Diocesan Convention, Good Samaritan
- 21 Celtic Mass (5:00 PM), Potluck (6:00 PM) and Ultreya (7:00 PM), All Soul's Point Loma

MARCH

- 14 Servant Community - 1st Time Cocinero & Rollo Room Training, Good Sam, 9:00 AM
Secretariat Meeting, Good Sam, 12:30 PM
- 21 Cursillo Team Meeting, St. Alban's, 8:30 AM
- 27 Deadline for April Forward articles

APRIL

- 2 Secretariat Meeting, Good Samaritan, 6:30 PM
- 4 Cursillo Team Meeting, Good Shepherd Bonita, 8:30 AM
- 18 Cursillo Team Meeting, Good Samaritan, 8:30 AM
- 23-26 Cursillo 126 (Coed), Camp Stevens, Diane Blaisdell - Rectora