



Forward

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Volume XV

February 2010

Our Mission: To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership

From the Spiritual Director

Why I Believe in Both Fun and Fulfillment

Mark Pinsky, in his interesting book, *The Gospel According to Disney*, tells the story of Pinocchio. He points out that in the Disney movie the white haired woodcarver, Geppetto, knelt on his bed, folded his hands on the windowsill and turned his eyes to heaven. "Then in his soft Italian accent, he did not pray. Instead, Geppetto wished upon a star." The transformation of the wooden puppet into an animated boy-like puppet was by magic, not a miracle performed by God. We find the magic of Pinocchio to be fun, we are entertained by it.

One of the most powerful ways we have fun is by pretending that something is true that is not true, what is called "make-believe." Walt Disney understood the powerful connection between make-believe and having fun. In make-believe we pretend that we can make a wish upon a star and what we wish will come true. We believe that through magic we have what we want, that we can control the world. When we watch the movie Pinocchio we pretend that magic can transform an inanimate wooden puppet into an animated puppet and then by the end of the movie into a real boy.

When we enter into a make-believe world of a movie or a theme park like Disneyland, we have fun. And having fun is a very important part of life. People that can't have fun are often just existing and not living. Having fun by pretending is refreshing and uplifting, it is an important part of life. I strongly believe in having fun.

But having fun is not the same thing as having a fulfilling life. If a person spent their life living to have fun, they would lead an empty, unfulfilled life. A life centered on "make-believe" and pleasure would destroy a person. Make-believe is unreal and to have unreality at the center of life is destructive. To live for pleasure leads to despair, it is fun at first, but quickly becomes an empty life. It is a big mistake many people make to think having fun will be a fulfilling life. Fun is not real accomplishment, it is not realizing potential, it is just fun, not fulfillment.

We need to have God lead us and empower us to have a fulfilling life. Jesus Christ, God come among us, said: "I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Abundant life, life that is full and meaningful is a gift that Jesus gives us when we let Jesus come inside of us. It is Jesus living inside of us that gives us a fulfilling life. He transforms us from the inside out. He leads us into God's plan for us. All these things give us a fulfilling life.

We are called to have faith in Jesus, which is not the same thing as make-believe. In make-believe we pretend what is

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Spiritual Director, cont.

untrue is true, what is unreal is real. In faith, we don't believe in the untrue and the unreal, we believe in Jesus Christ the foundation of all truth and reality. Faith is not pretending it is trusting in the reality of Jesus. It is vitally important that our life is centered on the reality of Jesus Christ.

I believe both fun and fulfillment are important. There is a child inside of us that needs to have fun, we need to pretend and enjoy make-believe worlds. Having fun refreshes us from the day-to-day grind of the world.

Letting Jesus Christ give us abundant life also lifts us out of the day-to-day grind of life and makes life full and meaningful. We should not forget that letting Christ give us a fulfilling life is far more important than having fun. But we should also remember that Jesus did not come to take away our having fun. Why not have both a fun and fulfilling life? Both are important.

Your friend in Christ,
Father George

From the Chair

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

Then I said, "Here am I, send me!" (Isaiah 6:8)

My Dear Cursillistas,

Do you remember the above words that were spoken to us at the end of our wonderful weekends, and our response? It was a huge special moment in my life! Imagine, to be commissioned in the service of our Lord, just as He commissioned Isaiah to His service thousands of years ago. Totally awesome! And, by the way, I don't remember any time period, or limits, placed on the commissioning either then or now, do you?

It's 2010 – A new year. It's time once again to renew our lives and our commission with our Lord, and work for Him, our Diocese, our Parish, and Cursillo. For those active in the last year, keep up the good work. For those that have been on the side lines, it's time to re-engage.

The sky is clear, the air is clean, the taste of the earth is sweet, and it's time to "get up" for our Lord, and live our Christian lives again to the fullest, in His Name, and to His Glory!

Back to the Mountain at Camp Stevens was a wonderful way to start the year. Thank you Linda and Tim for providing for "a time to remember" where we've been. For those who missed out, it's not too late to go Back to the Mountain. We need workers and Saints of all ilks to work the Spring Weekend. Go to our web site and send in your applications to Craig, now! Do not hesitate! He, or She, who hesitates is lost. This is not a time to be lost. It's a time to be found.

We just finished the first of many annual Cursillo Sundays on Jan. 31. We had the best time at St. Barts. How about you? Let the Secretariat know. We owe so much to Fr. George, Linda Lyons, Bishop Mathes, and the Diocesan Council who made Cursillo Sunday a reality. Now it's up to the rest of us to build upon this great gift by:

- Sponsoring able candidates for the up-coming Spring Weekend April 22-25.
- Working the Spring weekend.

- Having Palanca Parties at our Parishes for the weekends
- Supporting our Rectors with Leadership and Servanthood in our Parish.
- Coming to Servant Community Meetings
- Attending, and participating in, and hosting Local and Grand Ultreyas.
- Making a friend, being a friend, and bringing your friend to church. Leave the rest of it up to God.
- Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ in our lives.

It's a start! Much, Much more to come!
In His love, .Larry Salvadori, Chair

From the Rector – Cursillo #127

"Your Holy presence living in me" from *Breathe* by Marie Barnett is the theme of the upcoming Cursillo Weekend (April 22-25).

With His presence, we will have the weekend, and will pray for the team and candidates. The core team is taking shape and planning the weekend. Our second core team meeting is February 6, and we will be firming up the team meeting schedule. New this year is team meetings of only half days. This is to make it easier for team members to attend who travel a great distance or cannot devote a full day. A fourth Saturday will be devoted as the Rollo critique day. The schedule is as follows:

- 6 March 2010 – St Alban's El Cajon (8:30-12:00)
- 13 March 2010 – Newbie training during Servant Community at Good Samaritan San Diego
- 20 March 2010 – St Bartholomew's Poway (8:00-4:00) Rollo Critique only
- 27 March 2010 – St Timothy's Rancho Penasquitos (1:00-4:30)
- 17 April 2010 – St Alban's El Cajon (8:30-12:00)
- 22-25 April 2010 – Cursillo Weekend #127

It is expected that lay team members make all three team meetings, with one excused absence if needed. If you cannot work the weekend but would still like to participate, you can be a Sunday Angel as they have been in short supply these past few Cursillos. Palanca is another way to participate without attending the weekend. Pray for more team members to submit applications, sponsors to sign up candidates, and for the San Diego Cursillo community. My prayers are for all of you. Bless you and keep you safe.

De Colores,
Craig Noble

PALANCA

Have you begun your Palanca for the Spring Weekend? Have you begun praying for the candidates, whoever they may be, or the team? It's never too early to get started. If you wrote a few notes each day, or made this one of your Lenten projects, you would be done well before Thursday, April 22. If you are going to do computer-generated Palanca, please write a short message on each one - especially for the candidates. I don't think anyone ever forgets their first Palanca bag. I know I won't. So get going. Plan a Palanca party at your church, maybe with a potluck supper. Palanca is important, and prayer is the most important Palanca. Let the candidates and the team know that YOU care.

Judy Potter, Palanca Chair

We have had a request from the Anglican Community of Jamaica, West Indies for Palanca for their first Cursillo weekends. They will be assisted by teams from the Diocese of Southeast Florida and the Bahamas. The men's Cursillo Weekend No. 1 will be held on July 15-18, 2010 and the women's Cursillo Weekend No. 1 on July 29-Aug 1, 2010.

Palanca should be sent to:
The Rev. Michael Elliott
mike_ell63@hotmail.com
and/or William (Bill) Poinsett
wpoiset@yahoo.com

The mailing address is:
The Anglican Cursillo Movement
Church House
2 Caledonia Ave.
Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies

SAN DIEGO CURSILLO COMMUNITIES

ECUMENICAL GRAND ULTREYA

SATURDAY, FEB. 20, 2010
11:30 am Catered Lunch, 1pm Ultreya

OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH
Maloney Center
2766 Navajo Road, El Cajon CA

All Cursillo expressions are invited to come to the Biannual Ecumenical Grand Ultreya. Catered lunch will include chicken breast with apricot sauce, rice pilaf, vegetable, salad, dessert and drinks for only \$5. We will have Ultreya speakers, grouping, and music. ALL CURSILLO EXPRESSIONS (ROMAN CATHOLIC, EPISCOPAL, WALK TO EMMAUS, ANGLICAN AND KAIROS) ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.



Please RSVP to Judy Anderson, jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net, 619-286-1208 by Feb. 17. If you need childcare, please let us know.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 12-13 San Diego Episcopal Diocesan Convention
- 20 Ecumenical Grand Ultreya, Our Lady of Grace Church. 11:30 AM
lunch, 1:00 PM Ultreya

MARCH

- 6 Cursillo Team Meeting, St. Alban's, 8:30 AM
- 13 Servant Community - 1st Time Cocinero & Rollo Room Training, Good Samaritan, 9:00 AM
- 13 Secretariat Meeting, Good Samaritan, 12:30 PM
- 20 Cursillo Team Rollo Critiques, St. Bartholomew, 8:00 AM
- 26 Deadline for April Forward Articles, e-mail to Linda Lyons
- 27 Cursillo Team Meeting, St. Timothy, 1:00 PM

APRIL

- 8 Secretariat Meeting, Good Samaritan, 6:00 PM brown bag, 6:30 meeting
- 17 Cursillo Team Meeting, St. Alban's, 8:30
- 22-25 Cursillo #127 Co-Ed Weekend, Craig Noble Rector, Camp Stevens