



Forward

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Volume XXV II

February 2012

Our Mission: To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership

Message from the Chair

This is a beginning of firsts. I've chaired my first Secretariat meeting. This is my first letter from the chair. So we are off and running.



I attended the Back to the Mountain (BTTM) Jan 6-8 where we had another first, our first choir for Eucharist on Sunday morning. The theme was "Come to the Water". Water is such an integral part of our lives from before our birth & throughout our lives.

In our life with Christ, it begins with our baptism into Christ's death with outward symbol of water being poured over us. Christ is the Living water. He said so in John 4:14 "but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty." We need to remember to always come to the Living water to be refreshed, comforted & rejuvenated. Remember to take time out to take the drink. You can do this by reading God's Word, reading spiritual books, regular worship and praying. You then go forward and listen to God and do His work in the world.

I will try & remember these things also as we begin planning for the year ahead. We are now headed for the Spring 3-day weekend scheduled for April 26-29, 2012. Please pray for Bryan Chan, Rector of the weekend, as he builds his team to serve God & the candidates. Pray for the candidates and the team. Pray & listen to see if God is calling you to either be part of the team or nominate candidates for the weekend.

Your in Christ,

Judy Brown

From the Spiritual Advisor

I Was Blind, but Now I See



I am now in my mid-50's and recently, I have had a hard time seeing things such as reading labels on food packages and other items in small print. Sometimes on Sunday, I have even had a hard time reading the bulletin. For the first time in my life, I have realized how important seeing is for living everyday life. All it takes is not to be able to read one or two things and what you are doing may have to come to a stop. I have felt that in some ways, I have been blind, and have felt the frustration that blindness brings. I am happy to report that, after going to my optometrist, I now have new contact lenses and glasses that let me read with ease. It is amazing how much I was not seeing; I was blind, but now I see.

The famous hymn, "Amazing Grace" (Hymnal 671) has the words in it, "was blind but now I see." John Newton (1725-1807) wrote those words because he was a slave trader who was blind to the harm he was causing other people, and he was blind to his sin before God. It was when he believed in Jesus that amazing grace flowed into his life and he saw his sin, saw God's forgiveness and love for him. None of us at Good Shepherd has lived a life as evil as John Newton, but all of us have sin in our lives that blinds us from seeing ourselves as we truly are. We, left to our own devices, will never see our blindness. We are like alcoholics who cannot see the problem of their alcoholism. It is only when we yield control over our lives, more and more, to Jesus, that through his amazing grace, we can see ourselves as we truly are.

I majored in Philosophy in college and I strongly believe in philosophical reasoning, but philosophy cannot overcome the spiritual blindness from which we all suffer. In the church, we learn to give our lives to Jesus and, as we do, he enlightens us. Jesus is, "the true light, which enlightens everyone . . ." (*John 1:9*) Spiritual enlightenment is the result of faith in the miracle of God's grace, freely given to us in Jesus Christ. It is the miracle of grace working inside of us that enlightens us, not our own reasoning.

(Cont'd on page 2)

Secretariat / Servant Community News:

Cursillo Shed Status: Craig Noble and Larry Salvadori reported that shed construction has progressed to the point that things can now be stored in it. Craig has the keys to the newly installed entry door. Weather has prevented completion of work on the roof and window. Other pending installations include shelving, lighting, and entry steps. The shed also needs a sign, which may become a Servant Community project. Larry and Craig are working with Camp Stevens personnel to ensure that the shed is ready to support the Spring Weekend.

By-Law Review – Ed Embick: The review has been completed and a revision to the by-laws written to include allowing members to serve on the Secretariat no earlier than one (1) year after completion of their last term. Since all work is complete, the Chair entertained a motion to approve the revised by-laws. A motion was subsequently made, seconded, and approved. M-Susan Miller, S-Ed Embick.

Articles for Church Newsletters-Judy Brown: Glenn Parrish to generate twelve (12) boilerplate articles that can be placed in church newsletters by parish representatives. **Please contact Glen if you are interested. glenn.parrish@navy.mil**

A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

On December 10th, thirty-five of us celebrated our Savior's birth at the elegantly decorated Episcopal Church Center in Ocean Beach. Nancy Holland is the hostess with the mostess, providing Advent-themed decorations and linens. Our musicians—Lisa Chaddock, Geoff Hanson, Ed Embick, and Ed Busch—played Christmas carols for our singing enjoyment. Alyssa Osian, ECS Director of Development and Marketing, gratefully accepted the gifts for the mentally ill and formerly homeless men and women of ECS's Safe Havens transitional programs. Thank you all for your generous donations to this outreach effort.

Judy Anderson, Ultreya Committee

Please let us Ed Embick, sueanded@san.rr.com know if you have a change to your email or address.

Please let me know, lindalyns@aol.com if you would like to have an article or news item inserted into the Forward.

Larry Salvadori has been the Servant Community coordinator for many years. Thank you Larry for your Servant heart. If you would like to know more about the Servant Community work contact Larry, lalvadori@yahoo.com or come to the next meeting on March 10th at Good Sam's.

(Cont'd From the Spiritual Advisor)

In the upcoming season of Lent, we will try to yield control of our lives, more and more, to Jesus, so that we may be enlightened by him, lifted out of our darkness, and emerge into His light. It is exciting; it is wonderful; it is life-giving to come to a point where you can say, "I was blind, but now I see."

Along with John Newton, our entire soul sings out the words, "Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saves a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see."

Your friend in Christ,

Father George

Cursillo #131

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11 NIV.

DeColores My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God does have great plans for each and every one of you. Cursillo weekends are a wonderful time to share His Grace, His Love and your passion and heart for Jesus with others. It's a time to share, a time to sing, a time to love, a time to grow in your relationship with the Holy Spirit. Sign up and join us for Cursillo #131, April 26-29 2012 to serve and share the Love of Jesus. And I said, Here am I. send me!" Isaiah 6:8.

Schedule of our team meeting to follow... God Bless you and may your walk with Jesus always be joyful,

Bryan Chan, Rector #131

There is great sadness in the San Diego Cursillo Community as Tom Webb, a veteran Cursillista, died Saturday, January 28th at his home.

Tom was Rector of Men's Cursillo #89 held in September 1998, and an active member of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Poway.

Please keep Cynthia, Geoff, and Corey in your prayers as they prepare for the celebration of their life with Tom, and have to cope with the reality of their loss.

DID YOU KNOW THE CURSILLO LIBRARY IS CONTINUALLY BEING UPDATED?

In the last two years alone, four booklets have been published:

What is Cursillo
Servant Community
Music in Cursillo
A Statement on Interdenominational Cursillo

I am renewing my commitment to Cursillo by re-reading and updating my Library and re-ordering the booklets which have been re-printed. Do you have a Library? Is it up to date? When was the last time you re-read it? Listed below is the current Table of Contents. Booklets are \$2 each. Complete hard copy of the Library is \$40, CD \$25. The material order form with a brief description of each booklet is available at necoffice@nationalepiscopalcursillo.org.

Judy Anderson, 4th Day Chair

ULTREYAS

The next Ultreya is scheduled for Feb. 25 at St. Timothy's in Rancho Penasquitos, potluck at 6 and Ultreya at 7.

Just confirmed is an Ultreya at Christ Church, Coronado, on March 10. More about these two Ultreyas will be sent when details are settled.

Remember, you don't have to be a Cursillista to attend an Ultreya. As a matter of fact, it's a good way to introduce your prospective candidates to Cursillo.

If you haven't had an Ultreya scheduled in your church in a while, just contact me.

Judy Anderson, Ultreya Coordinator, jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net, 619-286-1208

How's Your Fourth Day—the Rest of Your Life?

We're preparing for a great weekend April 26-29, but what's more important than the weekend is your own Fourth Day. Remember that Cursillo started out with groupings of men who banded together to learn how to impact their environments. It was only after many months of groupings were weekends developed, and these have continued and expanded throughout the world. How's your Fourth Day? Are you grouping? Would you like help finding a group? Would you like help in starting a group? Stew Dadmun has a data base of groups throughout the diocese. If you're looking for a group and one might not be active in your church, Stew may be able to suggest another group. If you're interested in starting a group in your church (remember you do not have to be a Cursillista to group), Stew may be able to help, too.

Stew's address is sedadmun@att.net, phone 619-298-9670.

If you have any questions, you can also call or write me jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net, phone 619-286-1208

THE 2010 SECRETARIAT

Secretariat Chair	Judy Brown	jbrown3944@aol.com
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

10-11 Diocesan Convention, Crowne Plaza Hanalei
Friday 8:00am-9:00 PM, Saturday 8:00 –5:00 pm

25 6:00 pm Potluck
7:00 pm Ultreya, St. Timothy's, Rancho Penesquitos

MARCH

10 8:30 am Servant Community Meeting, Good Sam
12:30 pm Secretariat Meeting, Good Sam
6:00 pm Potluck
7:00 pm Ultreya, Christ Church, Coronado

23 April Forward articles due

APRIL

3 Cursillo #131 applications due

5 6:30 pm Secretariat Meeting, Good Sam
26–29 Cursillo #131 Weekend

MAY

3 6:30 pm Secretariat Meeting, Good Sam

12 8:30 am DUDU, St. Matthew's, National City

25 6:00 pm Potluck
7:00 pm Grand Ultreya, TBD

26 June Forward articles due

Please check the Cursillo website www.sdcursillo.org for updates and Directions to churches.

Cursillos in Christianity
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