



Forward

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Volume XXX

December 2012

Our Mission: To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership

Message from the Chair

My year as Chair is coming to an end. I've learned so much & learned how to so much more trust in the Lord. God is always teaching us if we are willing to open our hearts and minds to His Love and guidance. As a Secretariat we still are working toward leading the local community in the direction God has for us to do.



Glenn Parish is the Chair for 2013. Welcome Glenn and I know you will do a great job. I still have one more year on the Secretariat and I am transitioning to the secretary so I am still available if anyone ever has any questions.

I went to the National Cursillo convention in October. It is the annual business meeting of the National Cursillo but is also an opportunity to worship together and get to meet so many fellow Cursillistas from around the country. It is an opportunity to learn new ways to conduct a weekend and share ideas how weekends are conducted throughout the country. I met so many folks from New York/Long Island who ultimately were impacted by Hurricane Sandy. This made my prayer practice be able to put possible faces to those impacted by the disaster. I prayed & continue to pray they are doing well in the aftermath of the situation.

We had a successful fall weekend and are looking forward to the spring weekend April 25-April 28, 2013. The Rector for the weekend is Elery Gross. Please prayerfully consider working the weekend and submit your application to Elery. Also pray regarding who will be candidates to attend the weekend. Both applications are available on the website.

Back to the Mountain is January 4-6, 2013. Applications are on the website and need to be submitted to Susan Miller for planning purposes. It's a great way to pause after the busy holiday season to reflect, refocus & refresh for the new year.

Thank-you to those leaving: John Bendos, Barbara Peralta, Eileen Pierce and Father Peter Tagdulang. Your service was greatly appreciated. I learned much from your participation on the Secretariat and look forward to your future support of the San Diego Cursillo Community. Thank-you again.

(Cont'd on page 2)

From the Spiritual Advisor



If the world comes to an end on December 21, how will I be able to open my Christmas presents on December 25?

Many people are talking about December 21, 2012 as the date the world will come to an end, because this is the date the Mayan calendar supposedly comes to an end. The end of the world has fascinated people today as it has down through the ages. The topic of the end of the world is good material for a sensational movie or news story. All it takes is for someone to come up with some reason for the world to end in the near future and to pick a specific date. Then the controversy can begin; it is all so entertaining.

But if we think about the end of the world, not as entertainment or controversy, but as a serious theological topic, then it may shed light on our lives today. What if we further ask, "what does Christmas have to do with the end of the world?" Let us begin answering these questions, by stating what Jesus tells us, that no one knows the time, nor the season when the world will end. It is futile to speculate about the time of the end of the world. But it is very useful to remember that the world will end. Both science and the Bible agree that the world will end; there is no doubt that this will happen. Knowing that the world will end helps us to look at the world in a different way. It is only a temporary reality; it is not permanent and ultimate reality. So often in our daily lives, we deceive ourselves into believing that the world is the ultimate reality. We can so easily slip into living for the things of this world, for material things. What we need to live for is ultimate reality, which is found in Jesus Christ. He is the ultimate and permanent reality of God come among us. The God who created our world came into our world in the person of Jesus Christ. In him, we will find the ultimate purpose and meaning for our lives, not in the temporary reality of the world.

If the world comes to an end, it is futile to try to make worldly things the ultimate goal of life. The finite and temporal cannot give ultimate meaning and purpose to our lives. But Jesus Christ, who lives forever, can give ultimate purpose and meaning to our lives.

(Cont'd on page 2)

FROM THE SPIRITUAL ADVISOR (Cont'd page 1)

What began in Bethlehem, 2,000 years ago, will be brought to completion by Jesus when He comes again and the world comes to an end. He will fulfill and complete the purposes of this creation by bringing into existence a new creation, a new heaven and a new earth, as described in Revelation, chapter 21. Christmas is just the beginning of the good news of God's salvation that continues through the Crucifixion and Resurrection to the second coming, the end of the world, and the arrival of a new creation.

Thinking about the end of the world should help us see where our true focus should be in this life. We should be focused on Jesus Christ who will be with us forever, and on what He is doing for us and with us here on earth, and not on the world, which will pass away.

Your friend in Christ,
Father George

In November we held elections for new members to the Secretariat. Incoming lay members are: Justin Jordan, Larry Salvadori, Karen Rice and Mercedes Webber. Incoming Clergy is Father Steve Wendfeldt.

Thank-you to those leaving: John Bendos, Barbara Peralta, Eileen Pierce and Father Peter Tagdulang. Your service was greatly appreciated. I learned much from your participation on the Secretariat and look forward to your future support of the San Diego Cursillo Community. Thank-you again.

DeColores and Blessings,

Judy Brown



““Come and See!” is the theme of this year's **Back to the Mountain** Retreat at Camp Stevens. We begin on Friday evening, January 4. There is plenty of space for participants, but the last day to get your application in at the lower price of \$125 is Friday, Dec. 14, and the last day to register is Dec 24. The details and applications are available at the Cursillo website. There will be planned activities and lots of free time to enjoy the beautiful surroundings during the weekend. So **“Come and See”!**

Susan Miller , Rectora



Jesus Our Friend

"A rule I have had for years is: to treat the Lord Jesus Christ as a personal friend. His is not a creed, a mere doctrine, but it is He Himself we have."

-Dwight L. Moody

John 15:15

"I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you." (NIV)

One of the main things we learn on our Cursillo weekend is “Make a Friend, Be a Friend and Bring a Friend to Christ. In this Christmas season, it is so very important not only to reach out to those around us who may be alone. This is the perfect season to practice friendship, at home, at church, at work or even at the store. As people are hustling and bustling and tempers may get short, remember to extend the hand of friendship wherever you make go.

Remember, your actions speak louder than words. Be a beacon of light to all you meet.

Back to the Mountain is January 4-5, 2013

Registration cut-off is December 24

Spring weekend #133 dates are April 25 – 28, 2013;

Application cut-off is March 25;

Day of Deeper Understanding is May 11;

Check the calendar on the back page for the team meeting schedule or on the website: www.sdcursillo.org

Cursillo Sunday

Bishop Mathes fully supports the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese so much so that he has designed one Sunday a year to be called Cursillo Sunday. January 20, 2013 has been designated as Cursillo Sunday.

The Bishop's hope is that the message of Cursillo is proclaimed on this day. Cursillo began in 1945 in Spain as a way to bring men back into the church. It has evolved from the Catholic Church to the Episcopal Church.

Cursillo is an intensive three day "short course in Christianity." It is not a secret club, a sect, or an organization you have to be asked to attend. What it is is a wonderful spirit-filled way to reconnect with your Christianity. There is no cost to attend, you are sponsored by a current Cursillista and recommended by your pastor.

Please take the time to look over our brochures, ask your parish representative or any one you know who has attended a Cursillo weekend about their experience.

The next weekend will be held at Camp Stevens in Julian from April 25 – April 28, 2013.

THE 2010 SECRETARIAT

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This is my last issue of the Forward. I thank you all for the opportunity to serve you this way.

Susan Miller and Sharon Vanden Bosch will be taking over the job.

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.

If you would like to know more about the Servant Community work contact Larry, lalvadori@yahoo.com or come to the next meeting on January 8th at St. Dunstan's.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER

24 Last Day to Register for Back to the Mountain

JANUARY

3 6:30 pm Secretariat Meeting, St. Dunstan's (Tentative)

4-6 7:00 pm – Back to the Mountain Weekend, Camp Stevens, Julian
Noon

20 Cursillo Sunday – Diocesan Wide

25 Forward Deadline

26 Secretariat Retreat

FEBRUARY

2 TBA Ecumenical Cursillo, St Catherine Labouré

8-9 SD Diocesan Convention, St. Margaret's Palm Desert

MARCH

2 9:30 am Servant Community, St. Dunstan's
12:30 pm 1st time Cocinera & Rollo Room Training
Secretariat Meeting

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

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