



# Forward

## ***Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego***

**Volume VI**

**August 2001**

***Our Mission: To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership***

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### **FROM THE CHAIR**

Summer is almost over and our thoughts turn to the start-up of programs at church, to our children returning to school and to all of the activities in which we find ourselves and the rest of our family involved. Added to all this the Teams are forming for the fall weekends. And the National Episcopal Cursillo Seminar is being held in October at Camp Allen outside Houston.

We find ourselves rushed in the midst of our everyday lives. We can so easily lose sight of what is important. We need to stay focused on the One who sustains us. We can only do that by bringing Him into our every day life. We need to be living our FOURTH DAY.

How do we live our FOURTH DAY? We do so by maintaining our Rule of Life. What is the Rule of Life? You might ask. It can be different for everyone. It would include - Daily Personal Prayer Time, you know, that time you spend alone with God, talking to Him and more importantly, listening TO Him. It would include a daily examination of your conscience, Bible Reading and other study as well as your ACTION to bring others to Christ. It could include going to church and the Holy Eucharist, or just sitting prayerfully in His presence at church. It includes what brings you closer to our Lord Jesus Christ and what strengthens and nourishes you so that you can change your environment for Christ.

Living our FOURTH DAY also includes Group Reunion or Grouping. This is so very important. For Cursillo is not about holding weekends. It is about changing our environments for Christ. It is about Making a Friend, Being a Friend and Bringing that Friend to Christ. We hold weekends in order to bring people into Group Reunions. It is there that we are held accountable to our Rule of Life. It is there that we are loved, accepted and encouraged in our Daily Walk with Him.

So, how are you doing? In the rush, rush, rush of our daily life we need to stay connected. We need to be connected to our Lord Jesus Christ and we need to maintain our Rule of Life in order to have strength and fortitude to be

### **THE 2001 SECRETARIAT**

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| Vice-chairperson:          |              |
| Babs Tally                 | 858-571-6114 |
| Spiritual Advisor:         |              |
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| Barbara McBride            | 858-292-5246 |
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| Ken Rice                   | 619-656-6306 |
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| Eileen Pierce              | 619-448-9401 |
| Rev. Fred Wood             | 760-434-9764 |
| Ultreya:                   |              |
| Doug Woods                 | 760-727-6088 |
| Treasurer:                 |              |
| JoAn Taylor                | 619-466-9147 |
| Hispanic Comm. Chairperson |              |
| Gonzalo Mendez             | 619-690-2457 |

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|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Servant Community |              |
| Stew Dadmun       | 619-298-9670 |

All that we can be in the Army of God.

Ultreya,

John Wiser

## SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

The lazy, hazy days of summer are drawing to a close. Thuds and groans from a hundred football fields tell us coaches are getting serious about team training involving a lot of physical conditioning. If you are like me, your spiritual muscles may have turned to mush over the summer. How to get back in shape so we are spiritually fit to play on God's team? This week I came across a book which I think you will find helpful. The title is "A Spiritual Formation Workbook", a Renovare resource for spiritual renewal written by James Bryan Smith. Here is one set of exercises (there are three or four others as well) which involves piety, study and action.

1. Meditate on a short section of the Bible.

Keep your selection simple: for example, Psalm 1; John 1:1-18; Philippians 2:1-11. Take twenty minutes or so to read it slowly and carefully. Pause and ask questions: What does that phrase mean? What might God be telling me about Himself? About me? About others? If a particular word or phrase strikes you, spend additional time reflecting on it.

2. Memorize a verse of scripture.

Select a verse with which you are unfamiliar. These are some good ones: Galatians 2:20; Romans 5:1; John 3:16; Psalm 1:1; Ephesians 2:8. Or choose any others. Memorization is a powerful tool in allowing the word to have access to our thought life. It is easiest to memorize the verse one phrase at a time until you are able to repeat the whole verse from memory. As you go through the day repeat it to yourself often.

3. Read one of the shorter books of the Bible out loud.

Take one of Paul's letters and read it out loud to yourself. Imagine how the audience of Christians listening to it for the first time would have reacted.

4. Look for an opportunity to tell someone about your faith.

Prayer precedes these opportunities, so begin by praying that God will put you in contact with someone who needs to hear about Jesus. Ask that

you be given some means of knowing when it is the right person and the right time and when it is not. When you are asked what you are doing, or how things are going, begin speaking about how your faith is central to your life. Do *not* speak in such a way that the person feels he or she is being judged

or manipulated. Simply witness to what has happened to you and let that word go forth in honesty and simplicity.

5. Evangelize by your actions.

St. Francis reminds us, "Always preach Christ; use words when necessary. This week let your actions speak for you. As you encounter different people, pay particular attention to your actions and what they are conveying. The fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, etc.) is a tremendous witness to the power of God. When people see us exercise these virtues, they will want to know what makes us "different".

Before beginning, pray for the insight to see certain areas of your life as others see them. By the end of the exercise you should be able to pick out areas of your life that speak well of Christ and others that will need some change.

Fr. Tom Bond ^

Look for the next Forward in mid-October  
with team and candidate lists.

Articles, calendar events and other materials are due

***no later than September 27th.***

Send to

Harry Packard

5336 Noah Way San Diego CA 92117-1330

Phone: 858-274-1019 Fax: 858-274-5435

e-mail: hapackard@earthlink.net

**New names, addresses and changes to Barbara Taylor,**

**Phone 619-421-5612 e-mail: just4taylor@home.com**

## **FROM THE TREASURER**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you know, the Cursillo movement is supported entirely by donations. We attempt to "break even" on the weekends, using general contributions throughout the year to pay for expenses such as the Forward, training materials, workshops, our web site, Ultreyas, our support of National Cursillo, etc.

But this spring, for some reason, not only our donations but also our responses for the weekend fell far under expectations. Even now, with most of the costs and committed payments in, **we are still more than \$3000 short.**

A fundamental principle of the Cursillo program is that NO ONE will be denied an opportunity to make Cursillo or serve on a weekend because of lack of direct financial support. However, expenses for the weekends are real; to plan effectively to cover them, we must know what to expect from each sponsor and team member.

If you are ready to sponsor someone, and willing to meet all of the obligations of sponsorship both before and after the weekend, the inability to make a donation to cover the candidate's expenses is not an obstacle. Similarly, if the Lord calls you to work a weekend but the time is not right for you to make a financial contribution, this is perfectly okay.

But we *do* need to know what to expect. *Please be assured that information about your contribution is kept strictly confidential:* no one else will know whether you contributed \$5 or \$80 or \$160 or nothing.

Here is how you can help for future weekends:

1. If you are sponsoring someone, be sure to *complete and send in the form* sent to you by the Pre-Cursillo committee after your candidate has been accepted.
2. If, after you have made a donation, your candidate is unable to attend, please let us know if you want your contribution held for a future weekend for that person. Otherwise it will be considered a current gift.
3. If a parish fund is to cover expenses for either a candidate or a team member, please *follow up with your church office* to make sure a check is actually sent.
4. If you are going to be working the weekend, be sure you *return the form* passed out at your team meeting indicating what you will be able to contribute financially.
5. If you send in a check for either a candidate or a team member *without a form, be sure to make a notation as to how you want the donation credited.*
6. *If you would like to contribute toward a scholarship for a special weekend, simply indicate that on your payment and it will be credited to that weekend.*

The San Diego Cursillo community is wonderful in the continual outpouring of love, time and other treasures. May God bless you all!

JoAn Taylor, Treasurer

are the one to start this weekly reunion. Think about it - Pray about it — and remember, Christ is counting on you!

Praise God

Jim Merriken

## HOW DO I SPONSOR SOMEONE?

### BACK TO THE MOUNTAIN

Larry and Jeanne will be leading the Back to the Mountain weekend at Camp Stevens coming up on January 4-6, 2002. The theme and weekend worship song is “Sing a New Song Unto the Lord” (our spiritual journey in 2002). All who come will be asked to meditate and share on this theme. Ed and Dee Renner are the weekend spirits.

We will expand on this and have an application in the October **Forward**.

In His Love,

Larry and Jeanne Salvadori

## GROUP REUNION

“Christ is counting on you!” Does that phrase sound familiar? I hope so, because it is on the front cover of your Rule of Life card. If you are participating in a weekly Group Reunion you see it on a regular basis. You are using a powerful tool to strengthen your walk to our Lord.

Most of us that do “group” weekly look forward to this reunion as the high spot of our week. The bonding of your group is something you can treasure forever; and you know the Lord is always there with you. You can meet anywhere. Some gather at their church, others in their homes and some at restaurants. Some people have their grouping at 7:00 a.m. and some at 7:00 p.m.. It’s all God’s time.

You may find that you will feel more comfortable with a different group than you have been meeting with. That’s O.K. As long as you dedicate that time weekly with your fellow Cursillistas you will find yourself growing in Christ.

If you are not grouping, perhaps you

This is a question that many of you may be asking yourselves. You have had the wonderful experience of attending “The Weekend” and you want to share this experience with everyone you know. You are looking around and trying to identify just who should go to this next set of weekends.

FRIST OF ALL you should be in prayer asking God to show you who He wants to attend this set of weekends. Talk to God before you talk to your friends. Only He knows what is in their hearts. THEN talk to your priest about that couple. Your priest knows if they are ready for Cursillo. It might not be the right time.

The prospective Cursillista should be a baptized Christian, stable and mature, with a desire for God’s love, a longing to be set on fire with a zeal to do His work in the church and in the world. Do you

see  
Christ  
in  
the  
person



? Does this person have the potential of seeing Christ in everyone? Will

they grow from the experience or will they look at it as just a nice weekend? Remember Cursillo is not intended to be a conversion experience. It is not intended to be a time to “fix” people’s problems.

Do you have the time and finances to sponsor someone? It is a big job and you are financially responsible for paying for their weekend. Plus buying them their dinner on the way up and on the way home. So maybe you don’t want to work the same weekend that you sponsor someone.

Your job does not begin and end with seeing that they get to the weekend. You must prepare them for the weekend. Answer ALL of their questions. Every single one of them. NOTHING is a secret. This is no secret organization. There are no secret

handshakes nor are there any secret phrases or words. Make them feel comfortable. Set their minds at ease.

If you are sponsoring a couple then you need to be there for-the wife when the man~ his weekend. Do they have children who need to be looked after? That is your job. Do they need help with shopping? That's your job. When you bring them to the camp on the weekend you DO NOT and I repeat...YOU DO NOT leave them at the door and drive off leaving them to feel abandoned. You help them get settled and bring them up to the lodge and introduce them to people you know. Then you are back up there on Sunday morning for Mananitas and again for the "Closing".

And your job isn't finished with taking them home after the weekend. You are to make sure that they are in a Group Reunion. You need to be grouping yourself, so how about your own Group Reunion? If there isn't a Group Reunion that is convenient for them then start a new group with them.

It is your responsibility to make sure that your new Cursillistas get to Fourth Day and to the Grand Ultreya. They hear so much on the weekend that not everything sinks in. At Fourth Day they hear some of the talks from a new angle. They hear about Sponsorship and Action. Ultreyas are also important in our walk. Here we group, hear a witness talk about "How I am changing my environment for Christ". We hear at least one response and the clergy response.

Sponsorship is a huge but very rewarding task. It must be taken prayerfully and lovingly. And now you want to know where to find the Sponsor forms. They are on our Cursillo Website at: [sdcursillo.org](http://sdcursillo.org); or from your Parish Rep, and in this issue of the Forward. Happy Sponsoring!

Ultreya,  
Anne Wiser

## **FROM THE RECTOR, #101**

Decolores!

Isn't it amazing how fast the summer seems to go? So, now that we're all back from the lazy, relaxing days of vacation, it's time to look forward and make

plans for the fall, and....

It's time to start thinking about the next Cursillo weekends coming up in October. The men's team is now being formed, but it's not too late to add more names! In fact, we still are in need of a few more people to help make the weekend run smoothly. So, if you are willing in spirit, own a good pair of tennis shoes, enjoy giving hugs, don't mind being tired, love to sing, and love good food, and are ready to surround others and be surrounded by the awesome power of prayer and God's glory, send in an application, or call me.

However, if you are unable to participate during the fall weekends, or if your calendar is already filled, that's ok; God will still provide you with the time needed for prayer, and I ask that you please remember the team, sponsors, and especially the newest candidates in your prayers.

If you have already sent me an E-mail application, and have not received confirmation or acknowledgment from me, please call me. I may not have received it, due to earlier internal problems with my carrier.

My mailing address is:

Ken Rice  
601 Telegraph Canyon Road # 108  
Chula Vista CA 91910

## **FROM THE RECTORA, #102**

***Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5***

At times, preparing for the weekend seems to be a maze of details. There's a team to gather, assignments to make, menus to write, food to order and on and on the list goes. Thanks to the prayers and support of our Cursillo Community and a lot of trust in the Lord, I am confident that it will all come together. Just as it has always done.

I ask that you continue your prayers for the team and for the candidates that God has selected to be part of this weekend. As of this writing, both teams are still in need of members. Team meetings start on September 22nd. If you are feeling called to step out and serve; please do not hesitate to call. I have it on great authority that there is always need for last minute additions to the team.

Traditionally, daily or weekly meditations have been part of the women's team preparation for the weekend. Through a collaborative effort and guided by the Holy Spirit, a prayer has been written to use instead of the meditations. Please add it to your daily devotions as you pray for all that will be on the mountain this October.

Blessed are You, O Lord, for you give us grace to sustain our hearts; and grant us eternal life in your Son, Jesus Christ. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit now, in this time of service to You and to one another. Help us to trust in you with all our hearts and to lean not on our own understanding, but on Your infinite power to change hearts and lives. As we face the trials in our paths before and after this Cursillo weekend, keep us ever aware that You are the God in whom we trust in the good times; and You are the God that will remain with us in the difficult times. Give us grateful hearts, Father, for all your mercies, and make us mindful of the needs of others. Amen.

I thank you for your prayers.

Connie Fowle

**NEW CURSILLISTAS  
MEN'S WEEKEND #99**

(List not available for June issue.)

David Boal (no phone on application)  
8575 FOUCAUD WY, SAN DIEGO, CA 92129

Russ Bogue  
909-487-8709  
398 BURLINGHAM DR, SAN JACINTO, CA 92583

Gregory Craft 619-466-3219  
2323B SPRING GROVE LN, SPRING VALLEY, CA  
91977

Mike Dowell 619-479-6458  
5633 PRAY ST, BONITA, CA 91902

Jim Greer 619-692-1628  
P O BOX 34518, SAN DIEGO, CA 92163

Mark Kingsley (no phone on application)  
2215 SAN DIEGO AVE, RAMONA, CA 92065

Mike McCarthy 760-815-2339  
1624 GLENWOOD DR, SAN DIEGO, CA 92103

Ndibu Muamba 619-472-219?  
3718 CRESTA BONITA DR, BONITA, CA 91902

Scott Shackelford 520-360-3623  
5151 N KAIN AVE #69, TUCSON, AZ 85705

Robert Shields 909-657-3319  
22650 VALLEY ST, LAKE MATTHEWS, CA 92570

Michael Steel 858-458-1501  
4321 EASTGATE MALL, SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

Neil Taylor 520-627-0914  
1536 WEST CO 17-3/4 ST, SOMERTON, AZ

All are invited and are urged to attend. This is the annual gathering of Cursillistas from around the United States - and beyond. The Bahamas ALWAYS puts the rest of us to shame as they usually have 25 to 35 people attending. This is a wonderful opportunity to see what your National Board is doing, learn new things, and meet new friends.

The Keynote Speaker this year is The Most Reverend Frank Griswold, our Presiding Bishop. The workshops cover many areas. Last year our delegate, John Wisner, and his wife, Anne, reported that they brought back many new ideas.

Camp Allen is about one hour from Houston International Airport, bus transportation provided. While this is a "Camp", the seminar is being held in the Conference Center, which compares very nicely with a 5 star hotel.

Cost is \$300 for a single and \$230 per for double. You can find out more about the Seminar on the National Cursillo Web-sit at: <http://www.episcopalcursillo.org/> Look them up, discover which subjects will be covered and register and meet us there. Let's see if we can match the showing of the Bahamas. See you-all there.

Anne Wisner

## !!!!!!! GRAND ULTREYA !!!!!

The Grand Ultreya will be held on Saturday, Nov. 3 immediately following the 4th Day Program. The location will be announced far and wide in October! We will have a potluck around 5:30 PM; the Ultreya to start around 7:00 PM; and we should have you on your way home by 8:30 PM. Music, Witness Talks, Announcements, Grouping **and** Election of new secretariat members. This is an important part of our community as these are people, like you and me, who have said "Here Am I Lord" to serve and direct our Cursillo Community. So be there to vote for and support your new secretariat.

Ultreyas are not limited to just two Grand Ultreyas in and around the weekends, but should be happening frequently throughout the Diocese. If you would like to have an Ultreya occur in your parish, let me know. I have the tools and support to help you make it happen.

Ultreya!

Doug Woods.

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## **N** MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER 2001

14 Application due date for Fall Weekends (see p. 7)

22 Team Meetings: Good Samaritan, 8:30—3:30

Servant Community: 9 – 12 @ Good Samaritan

24 Due Date for October **Forward**

**29** Team Meeting

### OCTOBER

6 Team Meeting

13 Team Meeting

18-21 Men's Weekend

25-28 Women's Weekend

### NOVEMBER

3 4th Day and Grand Ultreya

### JANUARY 2002

4-6 Back to the Mountain

### FEBRUARY

22-24 Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop (ECLW)

WEBSITE: <http://sdcursillo.org>