



# Forward

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

Volume XI

October 2006

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

### From the Chair

I want to share with you my excitement about the Ecumenical Ultreya that was held on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. It was held at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in El Cajon. Roman Catholic, Episcopal and Methodist were in attendance. We did everything we would do at any other Ultreya - grouping, talks, fellowship, music and even a few snacks to munch on - but so much more. There was something wonderful about grouping on piety, study and action where the religion is different, but the faith is the same. The dedication of those in attendance only helped to strengthen my own determination to carry on with what ever God sets before me.

We heard two sets of talks - first witness, echo and response by Episcopal Cursillistas, followed by grouping and then a second set of talks by the Roman Catholic Cursillistas. What a great afternoon. Many from each of the communities were there, and it was good to see so many familiar faces. But for me it was meeting a new group of friends, others whose love of Christ is just as strong as ever. The room was filled with the Spirit and joy was seen on every face. What a blessing it was to be there.

It was brought to everyone's attention that this was only the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ecumenical Ultreya since the 1960's. That, in itself, is something we all need to work on. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to share and learn from each other. I challenge each of us to work on making this a more "annual" event.

Make a new friend, be a new friend and learn to help bring others to Christ.

We are all invited to the monthly Ultreya held at the home of Kim Koed in Escondido. The address is 1338 Wicker Pl. It is the last Sunday of every month at 5:30pm, including a potluck. If you want more information on this Ultreya you can e-mail Deacon Mitch Rennix at [MRennix@cox.net](mailto:MRennix@cox.net). I hope to see you there sometime.

I also want to remind you all of our own Ultreya that will be held in November on the 4<sup>th</sup> at St. Dunstan's. It starts at 6pm and also includes a potluck. All those who are sending candidates to the fall weekends need to plan on bringing your new Cursillistas to this Ultreya. We will also be voting for the new Secretariat members at this Ultreya, so come and vote.

Ultreya, Victoria

### THE 2006 SECRETARIAT

- Secretariat Chair  
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- Vocare Liaison

WEB SITE: [www.sd cursillo.org](http://www.sd cursillo.org)  
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From the Spiritual Advisor

## You Must Ask the Right Question to get the Right Answer!

This last summer, I attended a seminar at Fuller Seminary, in Pasadena, on "Six Tough Questions for the Church," taught by Reggie McNeal. In the class, McNeal pointed out that the church often asks the wrong question and then comes up with the wrong answer. An example of a wrong question is, *How do we develop church members?* The question pre-supposes that people are converted to the church, that the Christian Life is about membership in a church. But being a Christian is not about being converted to a church, but about being converted to Jesus Christ. The right question is, *How do we develop followers of Jesus?* Following Jesus is the key to being a Christian. It is possible to be a member of a church and not a follower of Jesus, so church membership is not the key question. Of course, if you are a follower of Jesus, you will want to be part of His community on earth, the church. It is important that each one of us asks the right question about our relationship with God, and not be misled by wrong questions. We may ask, *How can I make enough time to go to church with my busy life?* But perhaps, our life is too busy because our priorities are mixed up, so we ask the wrong question. The right question, the key question, would be, *How could I become a better follower of Jesus Christ?* This is the important question we should ask ourselves. We should ask this question as a prayer and then listen to Jesus for an answer. Our lives would become less cluttered and more focused. Asking this question would improve every aspect of our lives. It would not just improve our lives, it would allow God to break into our lives with His marvelous presence and power; it would allow God to give us abundant life. I hope that we will be willing to ask tough questions of ourselves and not be misled by superficial and wrong questions. It is easy to ask the wrong questions that will lead to wrong answers. But wrong answers rob you of your life! Instead, ask the question that gives you life, *How can I become a better follower of Jesus?* The answer to this question will change everything.

Your friend in Christ  
Fr. George

## BACK TO THE MOUNTAIN January 5—7, 2007

Many people make Back to the Mountain weekend an annual pilgrimage, finding it a wonderful opportunity for renewal and to reconnect to the larger Cursillo community.

The first San Diego Episcopal Cursillo "Back to the Mountain Retreat" was held in 1987. The first weekend began at noon on Saturday and ended after lunch on Sunday. It was quickly expanded to include Friday evening and end late Sunday morning after Eucharist.

The structure of the weekends have varied over the years. Early weekends had three talks on Saturday and a fourth talk on Sunday morning. In recent weekends there have only been three Saturday talks. Some Back to the Mountain weekends included a Saturday evening Ultreya, others have had evening skits.

The format has become somewhat standardized with each rector and rectora adding activities to complement their theme.

Friday night begins with music, introductions, and clergy reflection on the weekend theme. The evening ends with compline, and then guests may visit or choose to have some quiet time. Often the Blum library is designated as a quiet area for reading and reflection.

Saturday starts with morning prayer in the chapel area followed by breakfast in the dining hall. After breakfast there are two talks with discussion and/or an activity. There is a break between the two morning talks. Another talk and discussion time follows lunch. Arrangements are normally made to have books and other items available for purchase from Saturday morning until the Saturday afternoon break. A long afternoon break is planned to give people the opportunity to go on a hike, drive into Julian, take a nap, visit with friends, or just take some quiet reflective time. Before dinner there is a clergy reflection, Eucharist, and healing service. After dinner there is another clergy talk, sharing of personal blessings and challenges, compline, and then time for socializing and music.

Sunday morning begins with morning prayer, followed by breakfast. There is then time to pack and clean the facilities. The weekend is completed with morning Eucharist.  
**\*check the website for additional details\***



## Grand Ultreya

Saturday, November 4, 2006  
Begins with Potluck at 6:00 P.M.  
St. Dunstan's

We will be voting for the new Secretariat members at this Ultreya, as well as announcing the Rector and Rectora for the Spring Cursillo weekends.

### Fall Sponsors:

Please be sure to bring our newest Cursillistas!

### Candidates for Secretariat:

#### Judy Anderson

I made my Cursillo 25 years ago in the LA Diocese and worked many weekends there and in San Diego. At St. Dunstan's I am Cursillo Parish Rep (for 13 years), lector and Daughter of the King. On the diocesan level, I am a member of the Servant Community and have the responsibility of Parish Rep Coordinator. If I am elected to the Secretariat I will continue to focus on the 4th day--the rest of my life!!

#### Linda Lyons

No bio available

#### Machelle May

Machelle has been active in the Episcopal Church for as long as she can remember, first at Holy Trinity Ocean Beach and eventually moving to All Souls' Point Loma. Beginning with Vocare and International Order of St. Luke the Physician, Machelle has been a part of the renewal movement in the Episcopal Church for many years. She made Cursillo #112 and has been busy with the community ever since.

#### Craig Noble

I am deeply honored to be asked to be a nominee for the Secretariat. I attend Good Shepherd, Bonita since moving to Chula Vista ten years ago. I am an active member of the Church as well as in Cursillo. At Good Shepherd, I am on the Vestry, until my term ends this January. At the 7:30 AM Sunday service, I serve the Lord as an acolyte, lay reader, psalmist, and chalice bearer. I was an active member of my Church in San Leandro, CA prior to moving to San Diego County in 1996. I served on the Vestry there and attended my Cursillo weekend in Oakland, CA in March, 1993. Currently, I am actively grouping each week and have worked the men's weekends since Cursillo 105. I welcome the possibility of continuing serving our

#### Lani Woods

I attended Cursillo #32 at Pala Rey in 1984. I have been grouping ever since I attended Cursillo and have been grouping with one of my grouping sisters for the past 19 years. I have worked many Cursillo weekends serving in the capacity from Cocinera to table leader, to Rollista, and Rectora. I have attended several National Episcopal Cursillo Seminars and served on the planning committee for both NEC Seminars held in San Diego. I presented a workshop on team training at the 2005 NEC Seminar in Virginia Beach and represented the San Diego Episcopal Cursillo at the 2006 NEC Seminar in Kansas City. I have attended both Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshops held in San Diego. I am completing a one year term on the Secretariat and also serve on the Advisory Board for new Rectors and Rectoras. I believe it is important for us present the Cursillo method to fellow leaders and potential leaders in the church in order for them to have the tools to evangelize all their environments for Christ. I would be honored to be elected to the Secretariat.



**Editor's Note: The following article is in reference to a wonderful new informational video created by members of our Servant Community.**

Congratulations to the "Hollywood Committee"!!

We used the video "San Diego Cursillo Welcomes You" at St. Dunstan's on August 20 on Cursillo Information Sunday. At each service a recent Cursillista gave a testimony and following each service we showed the video, answered questions, and distributed brochures and applications. As a result, we will have two more women candidates, with a total of six from my church for the fall weekend. Much interest was also generated in Cursillo in general, although the prospective candidates could not go in October.

In addition to the positive response from the parishioners at St. Dunstan's, a visitor from the Bay area was so excited about the video and brochures that he asked where he could buy one. I gave him a DVD and brochures to take home to show his community.

Look for the next Forward in early December  
Articles, calendar events and other materials are due  
(preferably in electronic format)

*no later than November 27.* Send to:

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**New names, addresses and changes for  
Saint's Roster to Barbara Taylor,  
Phone 619-421-5612 e-mail: just4taylor@cox.net**

## From the Rector – Cursillo #119

*Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*  
**Matt. 6:33 (KJV)**

The planning for the fall Cursillo Coed Weekend continues. The men's core team is complete, but we need two more applicants to fill out the kitchen team. If God is leading you to serve on the fall Cursillo weekend, it is not too late to email your application to Darryl Peralta at [darryperalta@msn.com](mailto:darryperalta@msn.com) or mail it to 522 Beacon Place, Chula Vista, California 91910.

For those who are unable to work the weekend, we need folks to serve as Sunday Angels. Sunday Angels are very special folks whose participation have always been key to sustaining team spirit as the Cursillo weekend comes to an end. If you want to serve as a Sunday Angel, contact Darryl Peralta or Ken Rice.

There are two team meetings remaining, as follows:

Oct 7 – Team Meeting @ Good Shepherd, Bonita  
Oct 14 – Team Meeting @ Good Shepherd, Hemet

Oct 26 through 29 – Fall Cursillo Coed Weekend @ Camp Stevens

Lastly, a Cursillo team needs attendees if it is to accomplish God's plan for the weekend. Now is the time to work with your parish representative and rector to identify and recruit the brothers and sisters He is calling to attend a Cursillo Weekend. We will be about the business of seeking His kingdom this fall, please pray that our endeavors will help each team member to walk just a little closer with Him.

In His service,  
Darryl Peralta

PS. Candidate, Sponsorship, and Team applications can be found on the Cursillo website. Palanca from Community members is especially meaningful and will be most appreciated.

## Cursillo #119 Team

Bob Wells	AHC Camp
Wayne Hiebert	AHC Kitchen
Michael Benedict	Cocinero
David Berglund	Cocinero
Bryan Chan	Cocinero
Roger Christiansen	Cocinero
Tony Crisostomo	Cocinero
Jim Foster	Cocinero
Sean McShefferty	Cocinero
Ross Mills	Cocinero
Rich Rechif	Cocinero
Steve Schuyler	Cocinero
Tom Slipper	Cocinero
Ken Rice	Head Cook
Fr. Carlos Garcia	Kitchen Priest
Russ Bogue	Palanca
Joe Landry	Sacristan
Jerry Webb	Table Leader
Dave Porter	Asst. Rector
William Blakeslee	Table Leader
Miguel DeValle	Table Leader
Ed Embick	Table Leader
Tim Norcott	Table Leader
Ted Parsons	Table Leader
Craig Noble	Table Leader
Mike Rohland	Table Leader
Darryl Peralta	Rector
Fr. Tom Bond	Head Spiritual Director
Fr. Paul Gambling	Asst. Spiritual Director
Elery Gross	Asst. Rector
Tim Lyons	Experienced Rector
Clint Taylor	Head Musician

## PALANCA

As a reminder, or as information for new Cursillistas, palanca should be separated between team and those attending the weekend, in alphabetical order, men and women separate. Sponsors should not send up personal gifts as palanca, but should give anything of that nature to their new Cursillistas on the ride back down. Also please avoid sending palanca with specific time and place of distribution designated. The palanca people are extremely busy and often don't have time for such special requests.

Remember, the best palanca is prayer for the team, the candidates, sponsors, and all who will be traveling the road to Camp Stevens. Each weekend is fueled by prayer, and that is the most important palanca you can provide.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### OCTOBER

- 5 Secretariat, 6:30 p.m., Good Sam's
- 6 New Beginnings, Green Oak Ranch
- 7 Team Meeting, 8:00 a.m., Good Shepherd Bonita
- 13 NEC Seminar, Kansas City, Kansas
- 14 Team Meeting, 8:00 a.m., Good Shepherd Henet
- 20 Vocare #34, St Peter's Del Mar
- 26-29 Cursillo #119/120, Camp Stevens  
Darryl Peralta, Rector & Tami Norcott, Rectora

### NOVEMBER

- 2 Secretariat meeting, 6:30 p.m., Good Sam's
- 3 Happening, Green Oak Ranch
- 4 Grand Ultreya, 6:00 p.m., St. Dunstan's
- 18 Day of Deeper Understanding, 8:30 a.m., St. Timothy's

### DECEMBER

- 9 Servant Community, 8:30 a.m., Good Sam's
- 9 Secretariat, 12:30 p.m., Good Sam's

**Don't Forget!**

Servant Community Meeting  
Saturday, December 9  
8:30 am to Noon