



FORWARD



FEBRUARY 2018

*Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego
Our Mission Is To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership*

Please visit our Cursillo website for a ton of information at: www.sdcursillo.org



A MESSAGE FROM THE CURSILLO SECRETARIAT PRESIDENT

The year 2018 will prove to be an exciting year for San Diego Episcopal Cursillo. We welcome 3 new members to the secretariat; Isabel Lynne comes to us from All Souls', Humberto Garcia joins us from St Andrew's, La Mesa, and Susan Miller from Good Shepherd, Bonita, makes a return. A new year brings a major change; a move from Camp Stevens to Pine Valley Bible Conference Center, (PVBCC). Last summer, changes in cost structure and general procedures at Camp Stevens, prompted the secretariat to investigate and visit numerous camps in San Diego county. We decided Pine Valley would be the most suitable for our needs. Although costs will be higher than previous weekends, it will still be far less than what Camp Stevens would be.

We were able to experience our new venue in early January when Jan Martin, Lynn Sarneki and Debbie Kistler led a powerful Back To The Mountain weekend. Those attending were able to see the facilities, experience the dining hall, and work on the logistic plans for Cursillo 142. We found the camp staff very friendly and helpful and the facilities comfortable. Very Exciting!

St. Matthews held a wonderful Ultreya on Jan 20, with motivating speakers, fun music, and as always, good food. Thank you, Mother Christina, and all of St Matthews for a great evening.

In early March we will be hosting members from the Episcopal Cursillo Ministry Committee at St Alban's in El Cajon.

They will arrive Thursday evening, March 1, and hold meetings Friday and Saturday. On Saturday we will have pot luck for the entire Cursillo community at 1 pm, then an Ultreya, led by the national team, at 2. This is an event not to miss. Remember- St Alban's, March 3, 1pm. Music, fellowship and good food!

Weekend 142 is fast approaching. The dates are April 19-22, and will be held at Pine Valley Bible Conference Center. Debbie Kistler, the Rector for the weekend, and her core team have been busy praying and planning for the weekend. Now is the time to be looking at candidates for the weekend, and to consider working. Applications are available on the website, SDCursillo.org. You don't want to miss our inaugural weekend in Pine Valley.

Please continue your prayers for the entire Cursillo community and especially for weekend 142, that the Holy Spirit guides the team and brings the candidates to a closer walk with Christ. Blessings on you.

Kit Chevalier, Secretariat President

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN CURSILLO SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

The Only Thing That Matters is Faith Expressing Itself in Love

Galatians 5:6b

In the above verse, Paul is warning the Galatians not to get bogged down in useless controversies, but to focus on faith expressing itself in love. There is a powerful connection between faith and love. Faith enables the supernatural love of God to flow into us and through us. This supernatural love is a gift of grace; it is not of ourselves. In the Cursillo weekend, I believe there are three movements of divine love enabled by faith:

1. God's love towards us.
2. Our love towards God.
3. Our love towards other people.

I believe the order of the movements of divine love is very important. It is vital that we start with God's love towards us. We do not have enough love in our natural human hearts to overcome the powerful forces of sin that are within us. We are very selfish, and love does not come naturally or easily to us. Love is an act of the will. It is not an emotion. Love is like a pebble dropped into a pond and the emotions of love are like the ripples caused by the pebble. The emotions of love are a response to acts of love. The emotions of love are real, but they are not love itself. We need the supernatural love of God acting in us to cause our actions of love to flow into others. This loving act of God empowers us to become the loving people God created us to be.

1. God's love towards us: This movement of love is based on John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life." Notice that God's love comes to us in Jesus Christ and we accept God's love by belief in Jesus Christ. When Jesus comes to us, we are given God's love, which is bigger and better than any human love. In 1 John 4:10 it says, "In this is love, not that we love God but that He loved us and sent His son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." God's overwhelming love is expressed to us in that he loves us even though we are sinners. Jesus loves us as He's dying for our sins on the cross. This love is an unconditional love, not based on any human merit. It is divine love that cannot be earned but can only be received through faith. Divine love towards us is the most important movement of love.

2. Our love towards God: When we experience God's love towards us through faith in Jesus Christ, then we are free to respond with our love towards God. This second movement of love is described in the first of the two great commandments by Jesus: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. Faith enables us to love God with heart, soul, and mind. This love of God is expressed in worship. To love God is to worship God.

3. Our love towards others: The second great commandment states "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." We cannot naturally love our neighbor as ourselves; we are too sinful and selfish. It's the supernatural love of God flowing into us that enables us to love people who we would not otherwise love. When we love God, God's love overflows through us into other people. A Cursillo weekend is full of overflowing divine love. It is the three movements of love flowing in the weekend that bring God's grace and work into the lives of the participants.

In conclusion, a Cursillo weekend is focused on faith expressing itself in love.

Your friend in Christ,
Father George

FOURTH DAY NEWS

30 Cursillistas assembled at St. Matthew's on Saturday, Jan. 20 to feast, sing, share and listen. Our witness speaker, Barbara McBride, told us of the work she does in the healing Order of St. Luke the Physician. Barbara saw the Lord, through her, heal many people. Barbara is the regional coordinator of OSL and she invited anyone with healing powers to investigate this organization. Ann Jarrett, an OSL member at St. Dunstan's, told of a woman still in the congregation who was healed of her unbelief through Alpha and is now contributing to the church which saved her. This lady is now on the Vestry and looks forward to giving back to Alpha participants when the new course begins in the spring. The music, led by Rachel Ambasing, caused even the non-singers to lift their voices in song.

Ultreya, according to the Cursillo Library, is a grouping of the groups. While you might not share intimately in the Ultreya groupings (after all, you may not even know the people you're paired with), grouping is a way to hear what others are doing in their lives to live out the great commission to go and serve the Lord. We invite you to attend Ultreyas on a regular basis—I guarantee that you will come away invigorated!

Judy Anderson, 4th Day Chair

SPONSORSHIP WISDOM **Palanca, Puppies and.....Pine Valley**

Quoting *Edwardo Bonnin*, one of the founders of Cursillo: "We do not have Group Reunions so that there will be people to attend a Cursillo Weekend; on the contrary, we have Cursillo Weekends so that there will be people to make Group Reunions."

The Cursillo Ministry provides opportunity for every Cursillista to be involved in a vital small group, where we can grow and help others grow; where we can reach a community for Christ, and help others do the same. Our small groups are where we find friendship, validation, exhortation, encouragement and are challenged to live every day for Christ. We can't get there without **Sponsorship**.

To get the most out of the 4th Day experience, it is vital to have sponsors who know what their responsibilities are, and are willing to carry these out. This is where Palanca comes in. And as you already know, “Palanca = Sacrifice”. Sponsorship involves a lot of sacrifice. If you’ve raised children, and had to put aside your own interests in order to do what’s best for them, then you know what I’m talking about. You set a good example, even if it means eating vegetables you don’t like. I had almost forgotten that phase of my life until I got a puppy 2 years ago. Talk about sacrifice! The demands of feeding, training, visits to the vet, et all, were time consuming but well worth the effort. I learned that socialization in the first 16 weeks, that is, introducing him to as many new experiences as possible, was imperative if I wanted a well-adjusted dog. My puppy is now very sweet, very smart, (of course) and at 100 pounds, a very big dog! Learning to be comfortable early on in various situations--socialization--helped make him the calm and happy dog he is.

Now I’m not going to equate raising puppies with sponsorship, but there is a thread of similarities. The first few weeks before and after the weekend are very important in a Cursillista’s 4th Day experience. That is where Palanca in the form of Sponsorship is often overlooked.

I want to acknowledge *my* sponsors, Barbara and Darryl Peralta, who “socialized” me in the Cursillo community. They invited me, even drove me to the Day of Deeper Understanding, the Grand Ultreya and local Ultreyas, until I became acquainted and felt at home in the Cursillo movement and with you all. I was invited to group with Barbara *before* I went on the weekend. The concepts of Piety, Study, and Action didn’t make a lot of sense to me, but I tried my best to follow along as the other women talked, and was *deeply impressed* by their sincere and genuine friendship with one another. I continued with that group for years after I made my Cursillo.

My sponsors continue to write me notes of encouragement from time to time. Those sacrificial gifts of time and attention solidified the things I learned on the weekend and moved me in the direction God was urging me to go.

There is another Cursillo maxim you might remember from the Community in Action Rollo: **“you do not have to do it alone.”**

One of the many changes occurring with our move from Camp Stevens to Pine Valley is the higher cost of sponsoring a candidate and working a weekend. One idea is **co-sponsorship**: sharing the cost and the driving responsibilities during the weekend with one or more people.

As a member of the pre-Cursillo committee, I am aware of the communication that goes on with sponsors and candidates before each weekend. The danger of group sponsorship is that everybody’s job may turn out to be nobody’s job. Especially important will be to have **one contact person** for the sponsorship group designated on the form to whom the Pre-Cursillo Committee can communicate to address any concerns or questions about your candidate’s application. Here’s a suggestion--find the *natural administrator* in your group (every group has one!) and let that person coordinate the responsibilities inherent in sponsoring a candidate to Cursillo.

As my grandmother use to tell us repeatedly, *“Many hands make light work”* (to which she always added, “It rhymes in German!”) As part of our new beginning at Pine Valley Bible Conference Center we’re taking a new look at sponsorship. I hope this has helped you realize how important a sponsor’s role is; and remember “you don’t have to do it alone!”

Susan Miller
Cursillo Secretariat

**BRIGHT IDEA TO COVER SPONSORSHIP COSTS*
PUT A DOLLAR IN THE HAT OR PURSE EACH WEEK WHEN YOU GROUP. FOR A
GROUP OF FOUR, BY THE END OF THE YEAR, THERE WOULD BE ENOUGH TO
SPONSOR ONE CANDIDATE AND DINNER.
BY JAMIE WOOD*

2017 DIOCESAN CONVENTION THANK YOU

FROM

OUR ASSISTING BISHOP

"Dear Jill and Cursillo Members,

Over the Veteran's Day weekend, the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego held our 44th Diocesan Convention in Poway. It was a glorious weekend in which the leadership of the diocese came together to conduct the the business of the church, worship, and rejoice in shared fellowship. Because the Convention was on Veteran's Day weekend, we paid tribute to our veteran - active service members, reservists, and their families. This convention was notable in that we observed a marked increase in our children's ministry and youth presence.

On Saturday, the convention unanimously passed the following resolution and asked that I send it to you:

'*RESOLVED*, that this Forty-fourth Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego extend its appreciation to the San Diego Cursillo community for their presence and service of hospitality to this convention.'

Please know of my appreciation for all that you do to advance the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Your Servant in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori
Assisting Bishop "

CURSILLO CALENDAR

2/17/18: CURSILLO #142 FIRST TEAM MEETING, ST. DUNSTAN'S, 8:30 – 12:00 NOON

3/01-04/18: EPISCOPAL CURSILLO MINISTRY COMMITTEE MEETING, ST. ALBANS, THURS-SUNDAY

3/3/18: SERVANT COMMUNITY, ST. ALBANS, 9:00-10:30 AM

3/3/18: SECRETARIAT MEETING, ST. ALBANS, 10:30-1:00 PM MTG – EUCHRIST

3/3/18: POT LUCK/ULTREYA, ST. ALBANS, 1:00 – 4:30 PM.

3/3/18: ECMC PARTING, ST. ALBANS, 5:30 – 6:30 PM

3/17/18: CURSILLO #142 SECOND MEETING, ST. MATTHEW'S, 8:30 – 12:00 NOON

3/19/18: CURSILLO #142 APPLICATIONS DEADLINE

3/30/18: FORWARD ARTICLE DEADLINE

PALANCA

DEAR READERS, THE PALANCA NEWS REPORTING WILL BE MADE BY OUR NEW SECRETARIAT MEMBER ISABEL LYNNE. ALL SOUL'S, STARTING IN THE APRIL EDITION.

February 2018

2/8-2/11, Cursillo #137, South Carolina, PaulaEGreenway@gmail.com

2/8-2/11, #137, Upper South Carolina, jjendron@usit.net

2/22-2/25, Men's English Weekend, Los Angeles, NancyWiebenStock@outlook.com

2/22-2/25, Cursillo #211, Alabama, jpoole@pooleandcompany.com

2/22-2/25, Cursillo #253, Texas, Piggity@JsrSystems.info

March 2018

3/1-4, Women's English Weekend, Los Angeles, NancyWiebenStock@outlook.com

3/10, Reflect and Retreat, Alabama, jpoole@pooleandcompany.com

3/15-18, Cursillo #278, West Texas, Itempleton254@gmail.com

18 Secretariat Lay Members

Name	E-Mail	Function	Term Exp.
Kit Chevalier	kmsopsinger@yahoo.com	2018 President	'19
Miguel Cosio	gmiguelcosio1971@yahoo.com	Community Partners Chair	'18
Humberto Garcia	ambrsunny2@aol.com	Pre-Cursillo Vice Chair	'20
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	Pre-Cursillo Chair	'20
Jlill McGrew	jmegrew2015@gmail.com	4th Day and Comm. Partners Vice-Chair	'18
Jon Turley	turley.jonixxi@gmail.com	3-Day Weekend Chair	'18
Isabel Lynne	ilynne1700@yahoo.com	Palanca	'20
Craig Noble	craignoble@cox.net	2019 President Elect 3 Day Weekend Vice-Chair	'19
Rachel Ambasing	rachel.ambasing@gmail.com	Secretary	'19

2018 Secretariat Clergy Members

Name	E-Mail	Function	Term Exp.
Rev. George Calvert	calvert@calalum.org <u>subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business</u>	Diocesan Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd
Rev. Paul Gambling	gfrpaul@gmail.com <u>subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business</u>	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'19
Rev. Rick Showalter	Symen1@aol.com <u>subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business</u>	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'20
Open	TBD	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	'20
Rev. Carlos Garcia	carlangas1986@cs.com <u>subject: Cursillo Secretariat Business</u>	Asst. Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd

SPECIAL CURSILLO SERVANTS

Name	E-Mail	Function
Judy Brown	jbrown3944@aol.com	<u>ECM Western District Rep</u>
Jamie Wood	jamiewood2@cox.net	<u>Treasurer</u>
Larry Salvadori	lasalvadori@yahoo.com	Servant Community Convener
Judy Anderson	jmanderson38@sbcglobal.net	Parish Reps / 4 th Day Chair/ Ultreyas
Larry Salvadori	lasalvadori@yahoo.com	Forward Editor
Debbie Kistler	dk.outoflove@cox.net	Historian
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	Cursillo Music Coordinator
Ruben Rodriguez	Rodriguez_ruben@msn.com	Rector Support Team/ Outreach
Ed Embick	sueanded@san.rr.com	Comm. Chair/Webmaster
Shell Pierce	roaminchristian@mindspring.com	Alt. Webmaster

CURSILLO CORNER - DONATIONS

The Cursillo community accepts donations year-round. These donations allow us to set up “scholarships” to help defray the cost of sponsoring new Cursillistas and workers, pay our bills, support ministries, and the Episcopal Cursillo Ministry. If you’d like to make a Donation/Gift to Cursillo, please sent it to:

Jamie Wood – Treasurer
4554 Point Loma Avenue
San Diego, Ca. 92107

Checks made out to: Cursillos in Christianity

WELCOME TO PINE VALLEY

PLEASE WATCH FOR VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT OUR MOVE TO PINE VALLEY FOR OUR WEEKENDS. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PUTTING TOGETHER THE FACTS THAT WE THINK YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GOING TO PINE VALLEY:

- ***WHERE IS IT?***
- ***HOW DO YOU GET THERE?***
- ***HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET THERE?***
- ***COMING FROM THE WEST, WHAT AND WHERE ARE THE GOOD RESTERANTS TO HAVE DINNER WITH YOUR CANDIDATE ON THURSDAY NIGHT?***
- ***THE SAME COMING FROM THE EAST?***
- ***WHERE TO PARK WHEN YOU GET THERE?***
- ***WHERE TO GO FOR FELLOWSHIP WITH YOUR CANDIDATE BEFOR 8:00PM?***
- ***WHERE TO GO FOR OPEN CLAUSURA?***
- ***AND MORE.***

LARRY SALVADORI, FORWARD EDITOR