February 2002

To: National Mailing Recipients

Fm: Office of the National Secretariat

Re: National Mailing

New National English-speaking Coordinators:

In November 2001, Louis Robbio (our National English-speaking Coordinator) resigned his position due to health reasons and a pending move from Rhode Island to Florida. Following the National Secretariat's acceptance of his resignation, discussion took place concerning ways to insure the English-speaking Cursillo commnities would continue to be served effectively. The Executive Director recommended a new approach that would allow four individual coordinators to service various areas of the United States instead of one individual be responsible for servicing the entire country. It was agreed that individuals would be asked to service these various areas on a trial basis. These individuals would be compensated for their expenses; however, they would not receive any form of salary at this time. It was stated that at the completion of this trial basis, a National English-speaking Coordinator would most likely be chosen.

Following the National Secretariat meeting, the task of recruiting individuals to serve various areas of the country began. As of this date, the following individuals have been selected to serve. Gail Terrana (Niagara Falls, NY) will service Area 1, which is comprised of regions 1, 2 and 3. Gerry Rice (Jackson, MI) will service Area 2, which is comprised of regions 4,5 and 6. Victor Lugo (San Antonio, TX) will service Area 3, which is comprised of regions 7, 8, 9 and 10. Since no one has been found to service Area 4, which is comprised of regions 11 and 12, Tom Sarg will insure that these regions are properly serviced until an individual can be found.

As these three individuals have begun working in their respective areas, it has become necessary to formally recognize a title that will reflect the service they are providing. During the second weekend in February (8-10) 2002, the National Secretariat's Executive Committee conducted their Winter/Spring meeting in Dallas. One of the topics of discussion was the formal title that would be bestowed on these individuals. The Executive Committee agreed that these individuals should be titled as the National English-speaking Coordinator for Area 1, 2, or 3. It was also discussed that this was still to be considered as a trial basis. The National Secretariat will review the progress of this trial following a one-year period.

Jorge Barcelo (National Spanish-speaking Coordinator) and the Executive Director shared with the Executive Committee the fact that if this trial proves to be effective, then a similar approach will be done with the Spanish-speaking areas of the country.

We ask for all your prayers as we proceed in this new approach and pray that all the Cursillo communities will find themselves better served because of this approach.

National Evangelization Walk:

We continue to proceed in a very positive manner with the 1st Annual National Evangelization Walk. We have secured the support of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' committee on evangelization through the media (the *New Evangelization of America*). The leaders of the *New Evangelization of America* have agreed to co-sponsor our efforts, assume ½ the cost of the t-shirts for the Walk, and participate in the Walk. The *New Evangelization of America* has also asked to be able to co-sponsor next year's 2nd Annual National Evangelization Walk. They are already formulating ways to make next year's Walk an even greater success.

As of this writing, the Walk brochures are being printed and all the paperwork is being prepared to send to all the diocesan/archdiocesan Cursillo Movements. It is our goal that as the Diocesan Secretariats receive their packets (containing brochures, pledge sheets, walker's information sheet and instructions) they will distribute the information to the individuals who will be participating in the walk. We are encouraging the walkers to hand out brochures to their friends, family members, people they work with and people in their parishes. Encourage people to read the brochure first, before asking them to make a pledge. The pledge can be for the entire walk, or so much per kilometer that the walker completes or merely a donation for our efforts. As the brochure states, if they are unable to pledge a monetary amount, please ask them to offer prayers for our efforts. In addition, we want to insure that there are plenty of copies of the brochure so that they can be handed out to people along the Walk route.

Here is what will be included inside the brochure:

One nation under God, indivisible

On December 7, 1941, the people of the world were horrified as Japan attacked the United States' military personnel and property. On September 11, 2001, the people of the world were again shocked as terrorists attacked the United States' people and property. Each of these events proved to be rallying points for the United States of America, but more importantly, they became rallying points for "one nation under God, indivisible."

These two events brought the American people to their knees. It brought the American people to their churches. It brought the American people to pray with one another.

Several months have passed since the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. During this time people have found the comfort that they fought so hard to find. The awareness of the presence of Christ had a sweeping effect on the American people.

Now we once again find ourselves permitting comfort to ease back into our lives. Christ has helped us to carry our crosses.

But, what now?

The 1st Annual National Evangelization Walk, to be held the day before Pentecost, is an opportunity to refresh our dependency on Christ and also bring about awareness to help others come to know Him.

Many people are unaware that the mission of the Roman Catholic Church is Evangelization. This mission is for all facets of the Church. Bishops, priests and deacons focus their evangelization efforts by insuring that the parishioners (the laity) have a full understanding of the responsibility passed on from Jesus Christ through His apostles. Laity focus their evangelization efforts in the various aspects that make up their daily lives: their families, their places of work, their neighborhoods, their social gatherings and their political arenas.

On May 18, 2002, someone you know (probably the person who handed you this brochure), will be taking part in the 1st Annual National Evangelization Walk. That person, along with many other Catholics, throughout the United States is making an effort to bring about an awareness of this great need. Won't you please support all of these people with your prayers, and if possible, a monetary pledge of support? Their efforts and yours can make a difference.

Many Secretariats have already contacted the National Office in order to gather more information. Some Secretariats are planning on conducting the Walks in more than one location throughout their diocese. Since some of the proceeds will be going directly to the Bishop's Office and since the *New Evangelization of America* committee is co-sponsoring our event; some Secretariats are already asking their bishop(s) to participate in the Walk. Some Secretariats are utilizing this event to hold a Cursillo picnic immediately following the Walk.

The National Office will be sending the 1st Annual National Evangelization Walk t-shirts approximately two weeks prior to May 18, 2002. For this reason it will be necessary that the walkers submit their Information Sheets as soon as possible. These shirts will be free to the individuals participating in the Walk. We will also make some additional shirts available to those who are unable to participate in the Walk, but would like to support the effort by purchasing and wearing the t-shirts. A separate form will be sent to each Secretariat to provide the necessary information to the National Office for those shirts that will be sold.

This is the first of hopefully many Evangelization Walks. We encourage all of you to obtain newspaper (secular and parochial), television and radio coverage. Ask for businesses to cosponsor your local efforts by providing bottles of water for those who will be walking. Some may wish to co-sponsor by providing snacks and/or souvenir trinkets to those participating.

As a reminder, the money collected from pledges will be distributed in the following manner:

- 1. *40% goes to the local Cursillo Movement.
- 2. 10% goes to the local bishop's office.
- 3. *5% goes to the Region.
- 4. *5% goes to the cursillista who raises and collects the most pledges.
- 5. 40% goes to the National Office.

12th National Encounter – Bellarmine University in Louisville, KY:

During the Executive Committee meeting, plans were finalized for the 12th National Encounter. Workshops were determined, the schedule was "tweaked" and the theme was set. The theme for this year's National Encounter is taken from II Timothy 1:6 "Stir Into Flame the Gift of God."

The focus of the Encounter will be three-fold.

First, we will be focusing on one of our Precursillo environments – the media. Teresa Tomeo is a professional speaker, a media consultant, and a broadcast-journalist with twenty years of reporting experience in the radio and television market. Teresa currently hosts a daily talk show on Christian radio, has also served as a radio news director and a radio/TV news reporter and anchorwoman. Teresa will provide us with a presentation entitled: Affecting the Media Environment, We Can Make a Change!

Secondly, we will take the time to focus on Social Justice issues from the Church's perspective. Bishop Agustin Roman, from the Archdiocese of Miami, will provide us with a presentation on social justice. We do not have the title of his presentation at this time.

Thirdly, we will enter into a "Synod Session." The word "synod" means "a journey made together." We plan to take this wonderful opportunity, of everyone being together, to effect the work of the Cursillo Movement throughout the entire United States. Recently many Diocesan Pastoral Plans were submitted to the National Office. It is obvious that a great deal of work has gone into the development of these Plans. It was also obvious that very few of these Plans resembled one another. The National Staff and the Executive Committee realized that the National Office needs to do more in order to assist all the diocesan/archdiocesan Movements with the development and continual implementation of their Pastoral Plan. It was determined that during the National Encounter, we could conduct a Synod and everyone could help with the development of a national form to assist diocesan/archdiocesan Movements.

The next four pages will contain the schedule for the 12th National Encounter.

^{*}We realize that most participants, dioceses and regions would gladly assist in this Evangelization Walk without any monetary reward. At the same time, by placing these monetary rewards it creates an atmosphere of friendly competitiveness, which in turn generally leads to more funds being created. Each participant, diocese and/or region is free to do with their monetary reward, as they deem fit. Some examples might be to have a post Evangelization Walk party for all who participated (invite the bishop); use the money to purchase Cursillo literature; set up a sponsorship fund to send cursillistas to workshops or regional or national meetings; have workshops; donate it to a worthy charity; set it aside for future hardships to individuals, the diocese, the community, etc. There are many ways that all of us can continue to spread the efforts of evangelization.

National Encounter at Louisville, KY

July 11-14, 2002

Stir Into Flame the Gift of God!

<u>Thursday – July 11, 2002</u>

5:00pm – 6:45pm Dinner

6:30pm - 7:15pm Orientation session for first-time Encounter participants

7:30pm Fieldhouse - Opening of the 12th National Encounter

A. Welcome by Louisville Lay Director

B. Welcome by Tom Sarg

Night Prayers and Opening of Reconciliation Service - Fr. David Smith

Friday – July 12, 2002

6:30am - 8:00am Breakfast

8:00am – 8:30am Morning Prayers

8:30am – 9:30am Fieldhouse - Major Presentation

Teresa Tomeo – Affecting the Media Environment, We Can Make a Change!

9:30am - 10:15am Questions

10:15am - 10:30am Break (prepare for Mass - remember to observe the 1-hour fast before

Communion)

10:30am – Noon Mass

Noon – 12:45pm Lunch (Persons with last names beginning A-K. Others are on break at this time)

12:45pm - 1:30pm Lunch (Persons with last names beginning L-Z. Others are on break at this time)

1:30pm – 2:45pm Workshop Sessions

- 1. Spiritual Advisors Fr. David Smith
- 2. Lay Directors Tom Sarg
- 3. Lay Spirituality Deacon Gary Terrana
- 4. Precursillo Babarba Levich
 - 5. 3-Day Gene Myers
- 6. Postcursillo Barbara Poe
- 7. School of Leaders Victor Lugo
- 8. Purpose, Method and Strategy of the Movement Gerry Rice
- 9. Group Reunion Gail Terrana

2:45pm - 3:00pm Break

3:00pm – 3:45pm Fieldhouse - Major Presentation

Bishop Agustin A. Roman (Miami, FL) – Social Justice

3:45pm – 4:15pm Questions

4:15pm - 4:30pm Break

4:30pm - 5:00pm Fieldhouse - Overview of tomorrow's Synod Session

Tom Sarg – National Executive Director

5:00pm - 6:00pm Dinner (Persons with last names beginning A-K. Others are on break at this time)

6:00pm - 7:00pm Dinner (Persons with last names beginning L-Z. Others are on break at this time)

7:00pm – 8:00pm Meetings by language (English, Spanish, Portuguese and Vietnamese)

- 1. Regional Leaders (Regional Episcopal Advisors, Regional Spiritual Advisors, Regional Coordinators, Regional Service Team Members)
- 2. Diocesan Leaders (Diocesan Spiritual Advisors, Diocesan Secretariat Members, School of Leaders participants)

- 3. All others
 - a. The Work of Personal Contact Steve Cyrs
 - b. The Importance of Literature Carol Palesh

8:00pm - 8:15pm Break

8:15pm – Regional Meetings (Primarily to get everyone acquainted with one another)

Each region will conduct its own Night Prayers

Saturday – July 13, 2002

6:30am - 8:00am Breakfast

8:00am – 9:30am Morning Prayers and Mass

9:30am - 10:00am Break

^{*} If a person is servicing at both the diocesan and regional levels, that person should attend the Regional Leaders' meeting instead of the Diocesan Leaders' meeting

10:00am - 10:20am Begin the Synod portion of the National Encounter.

Here the participants will take part in one of the following six topics. These topics will be covered separately in English-speaking and Spanish-speaking groups. Vietnamese and Portuguese participants may have separate meeting areas or they may join either the English-speaking or Spanish-speaking groups. Each topic will have a designated meeting area and the participants will be instructed which meeting area they will report to. Each group will begin with a 15-20 minute presentation to assist in the development of generic information to be included in diocesan/archdiocesan Pastoral Plans.

- 1. Group #1 Precursillo (selecting environments)
- 2. Group #2 Precursillo (application and candidate preparation)
- 3. Group #3 3-Day Cursillo
- 4. Group #4 Post Cursillo
- 5. Group #5 Integrating New Cursillistas
- 6. Group #6 School of Leaders

((Everyone needs to be sure to take good notes in each of these groups))

10:20am – 11:15am Separate into smaller "discussion groups" of ten to fifteen participants in order to discuss the information presented to the larger group.

- 11:15am 11:30am Break
- 11:30am Noon Continue the small "discussion groups"
- Noon 12:45pm Lunch (Persons with last names beginning A-K. Others are on break at this time) (Continue your "discussion group" discussions)
- 12:45pm 1:30pm Lunch (Persons with last names beginning L-Z. Others are on break at this time) (Continue your "discussion group" discussions)
- 1:30pm 2:15pm Reassemble into your "discussion group" to list main ideas.

 These ideas must be recorded on paper.
- 2:15pm 3:30pm Reassemble into the larger groups in order for each "discussion group" to share the main points they discussed. Be sure to hand in your written main points
- 3:30pm 3:45pm Break (prepare for Sunday anticipatory Mass remember to observe the 1-hour fast before Communion)
- 3:45pm 5:00pm Fieldhouse Mass (Anticipatory Mass for Sunday)
- 5:00pm 6:00pm Dinner (Persons with last names beginning A-K. Others are on break at this time)
- 6:00pm 7:00pm Dinner (Persons with last names beginning L-Z. Others are on break at this time)

7:00pm - 7:30pm Break

7:30pm - 9:00pm Ultreya

9:00pm – 9:15pm Night prayers and the official closing of the 12th National Encounter

9:15pm - ? Fiesta

Sunday – July 14, 2002

6:30am – 8:00am Breakfast (Available to all participants)

Pilgrimage to Mallorca, Santiago de Compostela and Fatima:

Plans are still continuing for our pilgrimage in preparation for our 50th Anniversary of the Cursillo Movement in the United States of America. We have run into some difficulties and it is possible that we may have to postpone this pilgrimage until a later date. We will keep everyone informed as information and determination become available. Please continue to pray for the efforts of those who are arranging all the details.

It is our hope to be able to offer this Pilgrimage for less than \$2,000.00 per person (actually we are shooting for under \$1,800.00). This will cover the cost of flying from a designated location in the United States to Madrid then on to Mallorca. From there we want to go to Santiago de Compostelo (the Shrine of St. James the Apostle) and then on to Fatima. The entire journey will take 10 days (maybe 11). In addition to the airfare, the price also includes all your hotels, meals, transfers and admissions. Tipping and souvenirs will be up to the individual participants.

In order to determine if we need to actively pursue this Pilgrimage, it will be necessary for individuals to contact the National Office to let us know that you would be willing to go on such a pilgrimage if we secured one for the price mentioned (or even less). A form has been included with this mailing. Please fill out the form and fax it to the National Office by April 15, 2002.

CATCH THE VISION - Read the CURSILLO LITERATURE

Not too long ago, Carol Palesh from Region III, prepared an excellent pamphlet titled "Read the Cursillo Literature, Catch the Vision". It sums up all the available literature of the Cursillo Movement in the United States and explains the purpose of each listed book. We need to encourage the Cursillo Leaders to "Catch the Vision: *The Christian transformation of society's moral and ethical values*" (National Pastoral Plan.) This can only be accomplished if the Leaders of the Cursillo Movement become visionary Leaders, which includes 1) the Leader, believes that this vision is possible 2) the Leader understands the key elements of the vision and 3) the Leader communicates the vision in such a way that makes people be contagious to it.

We need to apply the steps of a visionary Leader.

- We need to believe in ourselves as Leaders; in the vision and make it our own.
- In order to understand the key elements of the vision we need to read and study the Cursillo literature so we understand the Movement and apply its method properly to obtain the vision. This is where experience and Literature come together, to help us. The pamphlet prepared by Carol can help us choose which books are best for us according to our stage of knowledge of the Movement.
- True leaders must *live and witness* that vision. Just as we do with the extended talks on the Leaders Manual, they were written by someone else, now you have to make them yours by reading and studying them, then you make them alive with your own witnesses.

We are talking about a change, a change in ourselves and a transformation of all society. Our vision centers on the change of people, so that when people change our environments change and subsequently the whole of society does as well. This is what the Cursillo Movement is about.

John Paul II a day after the 3rd World Ultreya said, that what characterized the "Cursillos de Cristiandad," as well as similar ecclesial movements, "is the new evangelization of adults." Over

the past half century, these realities have caused a genuine revolution in the Catholic Church: "The Christian message is proposed through times of intense spiritual experience, capable of making one rediscover the beauty of encountering Christ and of being Church, as well as the joy of fraternity and reciprocal service, permeating the whole of life with a Christian spirit."

"The new evangelization of adults" as John Paul II calls it, is a serious business. We as Cursillo leaders need to take it seriously, we need to study the Cursillo literature so we can grasp "...the ideas that motivate, sustain and form the backbone of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement. It is difficult for them to be grasped in their authenticity by those who with their prejudices sift realities." "The Cursillos in Christianity are not perfect, because their instruments are human. Into perfecting them and giving them power, we put our whole effort, but that is not perfect either. The Cursillos like all human works of any transcendence are subject to dangers and deviations. Dr. Hervás said very rightly that they are a 'precision instrument,' and therefore every unconsidered and uncoordinated modification, every extemporaneous specialization and every whim handling may do considerable damage to the Work and to souls." (Structure of Ideas-Epilogue)

As we all know the Cursillo method is simple when applied properly. The Cursillo founders put all their experience, study and research on books so we don't have to reinvent the wheel. I believe here lie most of the problems that we all encounter in our Movement today. It is true that we all want to do the right thing, however, many of us want to add and experiment with our own methods, ideas and procedures which may be well, but will deviate from the essence of the Cursillo. It's been said that "the worst enemies of our Movement are those who promote it without knowing it". When we ignore or don't read enough of our literature it becomes harder to understand our Movement.

We in the U.S. have the necessary literature to conduct our Cursillo Movement free from any adaptation. It may be well to read other literature about the Movement when it does not confuse us or interfere with the proper way of conducting the Cursillos in the U.S. The *Leaders Manual* and the *3-Day Manual* of the U.S. are the official Manuals to conduct the Movement. The Leaders Manual is designed to assist the Cursillo Leaders or those seeking to be Leaders. It must be used in our School of Leaders. Our new 3-Day Manual assists us in conducting the 3-Day Weekend in a simple manner and free of any adaptation. It also includes the extended outlines.

The How and the Why, this book costs only \$2.00 and its content is priceless. It contains an account of the history of Cursillos, the purpose, method, and structure of the Cursillo Weekend. In those early years it is clear that the founders had a vision of the place of the Cursillo in the world and a deep understanding of the Cursillo method.

Structure of Ideas, it is probably the most brilliant of the Cursillo writings. It shows that not all the efforts of the early movement have been put into practice today. Personal contact, both during the weekend and after the weekend, is emphasized and recorded in this book. There are many other good books. For more information please refer to the pamphlet or contact Vicky Sarg or María Cruz at the National Office (214-339-6321).

The National Office through the Regional Service Team also offers so many workshops, which will help us on our education; we need to take advantage of them. For more information on how to bring one of the many workshops to your diocese, please contact your Regional Coordinator.

The National Staff

12th National Encounter Bellarmine University/Louisville, KY July 11-14, 2002

Registration Form

Cost for the 12th National Encounter is listed on the reverse side of this form

(Please use a separate Form for each registrant)

(<u>PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY</u> - THANK YOU ** <u>PLEASE FILL IN ALL THE BLANKS</u>)

Preferred Language:				
Last Name:			First Name:	
Preferred Complete Name for	Name Tag:			
Address:				
City:			State:	Zip Code:
Home Telephone:			Work#:	
Fax#:	E-Mail A	ddress: _		Diocese:
Age group (Circle one): <u>Under</u>	$\frac{100}{100}$ $\frac{30-4}{100}$	<u>5</u> <u>46-60</u>	<u>over 60</u>	
Health (Circle one):	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>
Gender (Circle one):	Male	Female	Spouse attending?	YesNo
If you desire to room with a sp must accompany this form. W accompany one another.				ther individual's Registration Form commate if the forms do not
Roommate preference? (Circle	e One) Yes:	No: _	If Yes, Name:_	
I plan to drive:				
I am arriving by airplane:	(D.4.)	(T')	(Airline)	(FP-14-//)
				(Flight #)
I am departing by airplane: _	(Date)	(Time)	(Airline)	(Flight #)
Special needs (dietary/handica	np/walking or pr	oblems w	ith steps/etc.):	
Date you attended Cursillo an	d where:			
	music ministry? SNoSe	YesWhand form a		l you like to be part of the Liturgical

Dallas, TX 75211-0226

Telephone: (214) 339-6321, Fax: (214) 339-6322, e-mail: tomsarg@gte.net

Full payment and form must be received by April 11, 2002 to insure discounted price.

National Mailing – February 2002

If payment is received in the National Office by April 11, 2002 (3 months prior to the start of our 12th National Encounter) the total cost per person will be:

\$235.00 - Staying on-campus.

\$170.00 - Commuter Rate.

COMMUTER RATE IMPLIES STAYING OFF-CAMPUS AND PROVIDING YOUR OWN HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION.

If payment is received in the National Office after April 11, 2002 and by May 11, 2002 (2 months prior to the start of our 12th National Encounter) the total cost per person will be:

\$260.00 - Staying on-campus.

\$195.00 - Commuter Rate.

If payment is received in the National Office after May 11, 2002 and by June 11, 2002 (1 month prior to the start of our 12th National Encounter) the total cost per person will be:

\$285.00 - Staying on-campus.

\$220.00 - Commuter Rate.

If payment is received after June 11, 2002) the total cost per person will be:

\$325.00 - Staying on-campus.

\$250.00 - Commuter Rate.

A \$35.00 fee, per person will be charged for cancellations made until June 11, 2002. Cancellations received after June 11th may be subject to a 50% cancellation fee. Failure to appear, without any notice, may be subject to a 100% cancellation fee.

Individuals who have to cancel, after having been guaranteed on-campus lodging, may allow someone else to receive their on-campus lodging. The individual who cancelled will be subject to the aforementioned penalties and the person taking their lodging will be subject to the registration rate at the time of the transfer. This means that if "Person A" signs up by April 1, 2002 and pays their \$235.00, then on June 5, 2002 decides they cannot attend but will allow "Person B" to take their place, then "Person A" will receive a \$200.00 refund and "Person B" will need to pay \$285.00 within the next 6 days or pay \$325.00.

Use this form if you would like to be put on the list for the Pilgrimage to Spain				
Last Name:	, First Name:	, M. I.:		
Preferred Language:				
Address:				
	State:			

Fax this form to the National Cursillo Center by April 15, 2002 Fax #: (214) 339-6322