



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARIAT  
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**March 2004**

**To: National Mailing Recipients  
Fm: National Cursillo Center  
Re: March National Mailing**

### **Letter from our new Cursillo National Executive Director**

**My Dear Fellow Cursillistas,**

**I would like to thank God for giving me the blessing to serve Him and His Church as the Executive Director of the National Cursillo Movement. I humbly welcome the opportunity to work with Bishop James A. Tamayo, National Episcopal Advisor, all Spiritual Advisors, Lay Directors, National Secretariat and National Staff, in serving Cursillistas through the Cursillo Movement.**

**The Cursillo Movement was and continues to be a Foundational Charism; a gift of the Holy Spirit, through the Founder of the Cursillos of Christianity, Eduardo Bonnin. We are encouraged to continue to improve the Movement in its obedience to the purpose, method and mentality of our heavenly charge.**

**The purpose of the Cursillo Movement in the United States is to help all Cursillistas and non-Cursillistas to discover the personal and intimate relationship that exists between themselves, our Father in Heaven, and their brothers and sisters; and to help Cursillistas and non-Cursillistas progress in their journey towards God.**

**All Cursillistas - laity and clergy – are prayerfully encouraged to constantly and continually rekindle their intimate relationship with self, Christ and others. Through our free will, we place ourselves in the proper attitude and disposition that allows the Holy Spirit to guide our daily decisions, with conviction, in order to do God's will everywhere as servants and brothers and sisters of Christ and children of God.**

**It is critical to our purpose in the Cursillo Movement that we maintain constancy in our relationships and our awareness of where we are and where we should be in our progressive conversion. We are encouraged to promote our Christianity by example of an authentic pursuit of life in a state of Grace. Life in a state of Grace equips us to better accomplish and promote the evangelization of our respective environments, beginning with**

**one's self – the person who is collectively the most important creation of God – the very persons to whom God has entrusted His plan for salvation.**

**As Catholic Christians and as Cursillistas we are to live a life that mirrors Christ in all of our acts. It is not necessary for one to be a member of the school of leaders or the secretariat in order to proclaim the Good News that God loves us, and to share our intimate friendship with Jesus Christ with our brothers and sisters.**

**The essence of the Cursillo Movement is to make real the truth that a human being can have a relationship with God and that he or she can be a transparent image of the love of God to all persons that he or she encounters. The Movement has its own method, which articulates this reality. This method is a means to place the person in the proper disposition for God to transform the person into a conscious and ever growing Grace. Through this transformation, the person can enter God's will and make decisions constantly with conviction, and consistently in love, so as to have an intimate friendship relationship with themselves, with God, and with others.**

**I call upon you, my sisters and brothers in the Lord, to encourage all Cursillistas to join the National Cursillo Movement of the United States in offering *palanca* for the following intentions: On Mondays for all Secretariats – national, regional and diocesan; Tuesdays for all School of Leaders; Wednesdays for all Cursillistas in the United States; Thursdays for the Cursillo Movement's Apostolic actions; and Fridays for all 3-Day Cursillo Weekends.**

**Let us go forth in our continuous pilgrimage for Christ, towards the Father, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, with the intercession of our Mother Mary and all the Saints, taking our brothers and sisters along with us, as we work to build the Kingdom of God.**

**De Colores and God Bless You!**

**Your brother in Christ,**

**Victor Lugo  
National Executive Director**

### **Spirituality Article for Lenten Reflection:**

#### **Jesus' Meals in Luke's Gospel**

**As we look toward Lent in our world of abundance, one great challenge is to use our fasting to develop a greater spiritual awareness of God's gifts and our solidarity in thankfulness – becoming a Eucharistic people responding to God's gift of Spirit and bread.**

#### **Jesus' Meal Strategy**

**Jesus' ministry not only taught people how to notice God's presence but how to celebrate it with special meals. More than any other evangelist, Luke uses Jesus' meal behavior to reveal what it means to be Eucharistic people. In his gospel are ten meals. Eight are eaten**

with Jesus in his ministry and two with the risen Christ. But in every instance, Jesus and the others at the meal reveal how the kingdom community is to live.

### **Jesus' Meal Behavior**

Jesus' meal behavior challenges the accepted social customs of his day and describes a new style of community living that redefines persons and erases the artificial boundaries that separate them.

Jesus' table companions express the diversity of the kingdom. Jesus dines with men and women, friends and foes, rich and poor, Pharisees and priests of the religious establishment, tax collectors and "sinners". By including men and women he challenged the way society separated them and the hierarchy of male domination. By including the poor he erased the supposition that only the rich are blessed by God and are worthy to receive God's blessings.

Jesus' meals announced that the sheer gift of God's presence transformed ordinary life into something extraordinary and evoked the demand for thanksgiving (in Greek is the root meaning of the word eucharist). Jesus' meals were the concrete example of the kind of behavior required of kingdom living.

### **Learning To Eat as Jesus Did**

In examining these meals, note especially their settings (where they take place), the guest list (who is present with Jesus), and what happens when Jesus interacts with those present. These people represent various aspects of ourselves that are still being challenged today because of our desire to share the eucharist meal with Christ each Sunday.

Following the example of Jesus, we take, bless, break and share the bread and cup. But at the same time through God' mysterious power we are taken, blessed, broken and shared with others as Jesus was.

Our everyday lives become a truly Eucharistic experience. God's new table is all-inclusive and demands a heightened sense of inner readiness. To share the kingdom meal is to be in solidarity with Jesus and with his mission to build the kingdom community today.

Steve Mueller

(Reprinted with permission from Living with Christ, Issue of February 2004)

Attached to this mailing is the registration form for our July National Encounter in Seattle, Washington.

Your Servants in Christ,

**Victor Lugo – National Executive Director**

**Jorge Barceló – National Spanish-speaking Coordinator**

**Joachim Le – National Vietnamese-speaking Coordinator**

**14<sup>th</sup> National Encounter at Seattle, WA**

**July 29 - August 1, 2004**

*Registration Form*

*Cost for the 14<sup>th</sup> National Encounter is \$250.00 if paid in full by May 21, 2004*

**(Please use a separate Form for each registrant)**

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY – THANK YOU – FILL IN ALL THE BLANKS**

Preferred Language: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Complete Name for Name Tag:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_

Age group (Circle one):      Under 30                      30-45                      46-60                      over 60

Health (Circle one):              Excellent                      Good                      Fair                      Poor

Gender (Circle one):              Male    Female    If married, is your spouse attending? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If you do desire to room with a specific individual (spouse, friend, etc) **then that other individual's registration form must accompany this form.** We will not be able to guarantee any particular roommate if the forms do not accompany one another. **There are only 2 persons per room this year.**

Roommate preference? (Circle one): Yes    No    If yes, name: \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs (dietary/handicap/walking or problems with steps, etc): \_\_\_\_\_

When and where did you live your Cursillo? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently involved in music ministry?      Yes \_\_\_                      No \_\_\_

Would you like to be part of the Liturgical Team for the Encounter?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ What is your talent? \_\_\_\_\_

***Send form and payment to:***

***National Cursillo Center***

***P.O. Box 210226***

***Dallas, TX 75211-0226***

*Telephone: (214) 339-6321, Fax: (214) 339-6322, email: [nationalcursillo.center@verizon.net](mailto:nationalcursillo.center@verizon.net)*

Full payment of \$250 per person and form must be received by May 21, 2004

Registration cost will be \$300 per person from May 22, 2004 – June 18, 2004

Registration cost will be \$325 per person from June 19, 2004 – July 27, 2004

Registration cost will be \$350 per person after July 27, 2004