

April 2003

**To: National Mailing Recipients
Fm: Office of the National Secretariat
Re: National Mailing**

NATIONAL EVANGELIZATION WALK

It is now less than two months before the 2nd Annual National Evangelization Walk steps out on June 7, 2003. The National Office is in the process of printing the brochures and the tee shirts. It is imperative that all of our Lay Directors inform us of how many brochures and tee shirts they will need. There will be English brochures, Spanish brochures and Vietnamese brochures. There will be only one design for all the tee shirts, however, they will be significantly more colorful than last year's shirts.

There will not be any cost for the brochure. The shirts will be free for each participant who receives a minimum of \$25.00 worth of pledges, otherwise the shirts will sell at a price of \$10.00 each. Due to the printing process involved, it will be necessary to get your complete shirt and brochure orders in by May 1, 2003. This will enable the printers the opportunity to print up the shirts and the brochures and mail them out to you by May 20, 2003. Of course the sooner you place your order the sooner you will receive them.

Shirt sizes will be Small, Medium, Large, X-large, XX-large (\$5.00 additional) and XXX-large (\$5.00 additional).

The brochures will prove to be invaluable as a means to explain the Evangelization Walk to those individuals whom you are seeking pledges from. They can be handed out to people you work with, you live near, you go to church with and of course – relatives. Some dioceses are already very busy collecting pledges from individuals. One individual wrote and informed us that he had collected nearly \$500.00 in pledges in just 3 days of effort. This same individual also encouraged us to make the Evangelization Walk even more enjoyable by having friendly challenges between members of a diocesan Secretariat, challenges between dioceses, between regions and even a challenge amongst the National Secretariat members.

For those who may not be aware of the particulars of the National Evangelization Walk, the money collected is distributed in the following manner:

40% of the money collected remains with the diocesan treasury.

10% of the money collected is sent to the local bishop.

5% of the money collected is distributed to the individual, from that diocese, who collects the most amount of pledges. Some dioceses choose to separate this by language groups and some combine all the language groups.

5% of the money is forwarded to the Region, from which the diocese is a part of.

40% of the money is forwarded to the National Cursillo Center.

If you have any questions concerning the 2nd Annual Evangelization Walk, please contact the National Cursillo Center at (214) 339-6321, or fax your questions to: (214) 339-6322.

13TH NATIONAL ENCOUNTER IN CINCINNATI, OH (JULY 17-20, 2003)

Plans are progressing very well for our 13th National Encounter. We are anticipating a larger than normal attendance due to the facilities, the focus of the Encounter and the overall excitement of the Cursillo Movement. We already have a large number of individuals registered. Fortunately, Xavier University will be able to lodge and feed whatever number of people we will have registered. The only small drawback is the fact that the main conference room will only accommodate 600 people. We have made provisions that will allow additional individuals to be placed in alternate conference rooms and view the presentations on a large screen via a direct feed from the main conference room. The company that is providing our simultaneous translations has assured us that their equipment will be able to send the audio signal (in both English and Spanish) to those in these alternate conference rooms.

Due to this situation, it will be necessary to assign the first 600 registrants to the main conference room and the remaining registrants will be placed in the alternate conference rooms.

All National Encounters are open to all cursillistas, regardless of their level of involvement or the amount of time that they have been a cursillista. It is for this reason that we encourage diocesan Lay Directors to make sure that this information (along with other information in this mailing) is distributed to your cursillistas via your diocesan newsletter or other communication means. The Encounter provides an excellent opportunity for cursillistas to meet with other cursillistas from different dioceses, different regions, different languages and different backgrounds. Many long-lasting relationships have been formed at our National Encounters.

PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN

Originally, we had planned to take a second pilgrimage to Spain during the month of October 2003. Due to several factors this has to be postponed. We are now planning to conduct the pilgrimage in March 2004. This will provide all of the pilgrims with an opportunity to visit Santiago de Compostela during its Jubilee Years and thus pass through the Cathedral's Holy Doors. This will be a tremendous grace-filled opportunity.

One of the reasons that the October pilgrimage was postponed was due to financial reasons. It was very likely that each person would have paid nearly \$2,000.00 in order to attend the pilgrimage. Our goal is to keep the pilgrimage around \$1,800.00 per person. We will keep you informed, as more information becomes available.

ROLLOS

The Cursillo Movement came about in Spain in the early 1940's and as such we utilized several Spanish words/terms. One such word/term is rollo. This is a very difficult word to translate into the English language because there is not necessarily a literal single-word/term translation for the word/term rollo. The word/term rollo means sharing of a lived experience, but that is not necessarily the extent of the definition. The word/term varies according to the use of the word/term. For example, at Ultreyas English-speaking participants use a single-word/term

witness, and in this context this is proper. However, during the 3-Day Weekend experience, English-speaking team members give talks, or presentations. These words/terms do not provide for the correct understanding of the fullness of a rollo.

To better explain what should happen during a 3-Day Cursillo Weekend it would be best to hear what the founder of the Cursillo Movement said when asked which “talk” the Team Coordinator (Rector/Rectora) should give. Eduardo Bonnín’s response was “*The one that the person is living.*”

Upon careful reflection on those 7 words, it became evident that the talks in the 3-Day Manual were nothing more than outlines of a topic. Our job, as Cursillo leaders, is to transform those outlines into rollos by including our lived experience. Including our lived experience is just that, it is ours. We cannot share someone else’s lived experience. Then it is not a rollo. A rollo is not a teaching nor an academic. We cannot share just theoretical points. Then it is not a rollo. During the 3-Day Cursillo Weekend it is important that we take the theoretical points of the outlines in the 3-Day Manual and give substance to all those points by sharing the fact that these points are attainable in an everyday situation.

All 15 talks are to become rollos. During the Ideal rollo we do not mention anything about Christianity, however, we do share living experiences on how we had a different ideal (s) (a nice car, house, bike, money, fame, etc.). They were an important part of our old lifestyle. We share how we became aware of better ideals, to obtain the best of the best. The rollo "the Laity in the Church" it is also a living experience of how we are living our Christianity in the world; our own small world. Finally, the hierarchy will provide their own rollos during the 5 spiritual rollos.

We have a 3-Day Manual that is full of outlines and expanded outlines, which, when shared with our life experiences become rollos. Study the outlines in the 3-Day Manual, then share your rollo with the candidates.

KAIROS

There have been several inquiries concerning the Kairos Prison Ministry, so rather than merely respond to each individual inquiry it would be best to give an explanation about Kairos to all.

In the late 70s many diocesan Cursillo Movements were involving themselves in the prison ministry. It was realized that the focus of the Cursillo Movement was very much needed in the prison environment; however, many Federal and State prisons would not allow the Weekends to be exclusively Catholic. In order to provide for this great need, while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the Cursillo Movement, the National Secretariat took on the task of developing an alternate program.

For these reasons the National Secretariat developed the Kairos Prison Ministry program as an ecumenical program similar to the Cursillo Movement. At its conception the National Secretariat made it very clear that it would support the Kairos efforts during the first year, however, after the first year the Kairos Prison ministry would need to become its own entity.

Because Kairos is a completely separate entity it does not receive official support from Cursillo leadership entities (Secretariats, Schools of Leaders, etc.). It does however enjoy the individual support of cursillistas who choose to work in the prison ministry.

Furthermore, we do not actively promote cursillistas to involve themselves in this ministry. Likewise, we do not actively promote cursillistas to involve themselves in any other ministry, such as the Right to Life Movement, the RCIA Program, Charismatic Renewal, Marriage Encounter, St. Vincent de Paul, etc. At the same time, we should not be overly concerned if cursillistas decide to involve themselves in Kairos. We must respect their discernment just the same as for those in another ministry serving in religion classes, parish council, Knight of Columbus, Daughters of Isabella, etc.

In 1998, I had the pleasure of attending the ecclesiastical meeting in Rome (called by Pope John Paul II). Leaders of over 50 ecclesiastical organizations and groups within the Roman Catholic Church attended this meeting. Of particular attention was the fact that there are great many needs throughout the world. None of these organizations and groups are able to address all the needs, however, each of us have special gifts which allow us to address the needs particular to our charism (gift from the Holy Spirit). Individually, we cannot address all the needs, however, collectively we do. It is each organization and group's responsibility to do the best it can in fulfilling its particular purpose so that the entire Church will be honored.

Let's continue to pray for each other and the entire Cursillo Movement.

May our Lord continue to bless you, your loved ones and all that you do to fulfill His Will. I remain,

Your Servant in Christ,

**Thomas E. Sarg
National Executive Director**

Other Staff members:

**Jorge Barcelo
National Spanish-speaking Coordinator**

**Joachim Thong Tinh Le
National Vietnamese-speaking Coordinator**

**Victor Lugo
National English-speaking Coordinator**

**Gail Terrana
National Administrative Assistant**

**Bishop James A. Tamayo
National Episcopal Advisor**