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THE NATIONAL CENTER
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April 2004

To: National Mailing Recipients
Fm: National Cursillo Center
Re: April National Mailing

National Encounter – July 29th – August 1

Our National Encounter is being held at Seattle University in Seattle, Washington from July 30th (Thursday) through August 1st (Sunday). The cost for registration is \$250.00 per person. This includes lodging, meals, and workshops from Thursday through Sunday morning and transportation to and from the airport. (At the time of this printing current airline prices to Seattle were: \$228 from St. Louis, \$301 from Newark, NJ; \$308 from Dallas; \$237 from Buffalo or Pittsburgh; \$232 from Orlando; \$201 from Los Angeles or San Diego.) This is the first Encounter we have held in the Pacific Northwest region of the country. We invite you to go online at www.seattleu.edu to visit the layout of the Seattle University campus including a virtual tour of the campus and the Chapel of St. Ignatius. While online you can look for information on sights around the city of Seattle at www.cityofseattle.net. The Pacific Northwest is known for its lush greenery contrasted by magnificent mountain ranges – Glacier Mountain to the East and Mount Rainier to the South.

National Encounters are open to all cursillistas, both laity and clergy, whether you just lived your Cursillo last weekend or 25 years ago! You will grow in your knowledge of the Cursillo mentality and purpose. You will meet new cursillistas from all over the United States, and experience our universal Catholic Church in the magnificent blending of cultures. Many language groups make up the Cursillo Movement in the United States – English, Filipino, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish and Vietnamese. All cursillistas share in our celebration of the Mass and the living of “Church” is so deeply felt in this sharing and blending of all the cultures.

This year, our Encounter will focus on the book, “Structure of Ideas”. The Book was written by Eduardo Bonnin to help cursillistas understand the method and structure of Cursillo. The major presentations will include: “What is Fundamental for being a Christian”, The Purpose, Mentality, and Method of the Cursillo Movement.

The Encounter will be attended by Bishop James Tamayo, our National Episcopal Advisor, Archbishop Alex J. Brunett, Archbishop of Seattle, and Bishop Charles Grahman from the Diocese of Dallas. All clergy are invited to bring their vestments and share in our liturgy.

We encourage you to send in your registration form before May 21st to secure the price of \$250.00. After this date the cost of registration will increase.

Structure of Ideas

The first part of our upcoming National Encounter, God willing, at Seattle University, in Seattle WA, on July 29 – August 1, we will share workshops based on the book "*Structure of Ideas*". This book is a work of a group of laypersons, headed by Eduardo Bonnín, all guided by a deep knowledge and love toward the work of the Cursillos, which is based on life and the adventures of each day.

Written during the time of great controversy in the Movement and for such reason, the "*National Secretariat of Mexico -the first National Secretariat of Cursillos that was created in the world- dared to print and to distribute Vertebracion (Structure of Ideas)*", (Historia y Memoria de Cursillos, F. Forteza, p.160). "*What we present is neither a law nor a rule; it is an attempt to systematize what common sense, teaching and experience suggest regarding the work of the Cursillos (Structure of Ideas, Prologue, page 2,).*

In order to not distort what the authors try to present in this marvelous work (book), I will cite what is written by them in the "Preliminary Notes" of the book, (1st edition, and p.4). "*What we present intends and proposes to attain vertebration of criteria in the Work of the Cursillos in Christianity. We understand by criterion the nucleus of ideas which, based on the inclination of the individual to expose himself without reservations to the truth, gives him a measure for what is certain and a sense of accuracy. Vertebration is the orderly and systematic evaluation of the truths that are embraced, actually or potentially, in this nucleus of ideas.*"

The book displays essential points "of the laboratory of ideas that constituted the office/library of Bonnín" (F. Forteza - Historia y Memoria de Cursillos - p.159). Furthermore, "*we intend to treat only what is essential in the Cursillos in Christianity; on the periphery there is left, then, the consideration of many things that may be important or accidental*" (Last paragraph of the Preliminary Notes - Structure of Ideas; p. 4).

Let us move now to the content of the book. The book is divided into four major parts:

1) The Method – What is being done

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------|---|
| A) A preparation | Precursillo | so that man seeks Christ |
| B) A reactive - | Cursillo | so that he encounters Him (living)
so that he knows Him (knowledge)
so that he accepts Him (conviction) |
| C) A cause | Poscursillo | so that he follows Him |
- 1) Group Reunion
 - a) with whomever you wish
 - b) with whomever you should
 - 2) Ultreya
Witnessing and sharing life experiences

- D) Operational Structures**
 - 1) Secretariat
 - 2) School of Leaders
- 2) **Mentality – Why it is being done – Way of thinking that characterizes a person or a group. In our case, the founder.**
- 3) **Purpose – Why is it being done**
 - A) **Immediate Purpose – The Living of what is Fundamental for being a Christian**
 - B) **End Purpose – The backbone (vertebrae) of Christianity**
- 4) **Systematic – What and how is it being done**
 - A) **Spirit**
 - B) **Criteria**

These are the four parts. Normally, emphasis is placed on the method of Cursillo – especially to the 3-Day Cursillo. In this mailing we would like to concentrate on the Mentality and the Purpose of the Movement of Cursillos in Christianity.

On many occasions I have heard Eduardo Bonnín say that "the Cursillos are still being inaugurated; it is still in its infancy". This is a great truth that I have verified on my journeys throughout the nation. I can verify that many leaders take more care in trying "to improve" the Movement -something that in itself does not need improvement since it is not an improvisation, neither something that fell from heaven into the hands of the founder, but was a deep and long study arising from the restlessness experienced by Eduardo Bonnín and a group of youths from Mallorca. From this study, Eduardo Bonnín attentively formulated the rollo "Study of the Environment".

Others choose to apply their own way. A way that may be good in itself and with very good intentions- but they lack the understanding of the Mentality of the originator in applying the precise ways and thoughts. For this and many other factors, there is deviation in moving towards the true direction of the Movement of Cursillos in Christianity. Therefore, it is beneficial to share some essential points about the Mentality of the Cursillos.

Mentality of the Initiators of Cursillos

The world was wrong because the baptized were not Christians.

What was the laity doing to save the world?

A few of the laity worked in saving souls, which again were absorbed by the corrupted environments in which they lived. It was the integral man that needed to be saved.

Others affiliated themselves in Associations, which appeared to be established for those who were already "good people". They operated to preserve from being corrupted. They attempted to satisfy the hunger for God, without realizing that there was no hunger for God.

The solution was something else:

If the environments were absorbing men, the logical thing was to transform the environments.

The way to transform the environments was to awaken and encourage the community to Christianize from the inside, as a form of ferment.

If there was no hunger for God, the indispensable thing was not satisfying the hunger, but awakening the hunger, and once awake, to maintain it progressively.

Instead of enclosing or grouping the good ones, the preferred way was to choose the better ones in order to return them, as Christians, to their environments: "Free him and let him go", was the order of Christ after Lazarus's resurrection;

The Cursillos would put its emphasis not in "doing" Christian things, but in "being" Christian.

- **"Being" a Christian is to live Christ.**
- **"Doing" Christian things is to live each actual moment in the name of Christ.**

Therefore, they did not choose the Association - without cornering it or despising it - but chose an apostolic movement based on the associative strength of friendship.

Mentality or ideology of the dedicated founder that leads into the practical realization of the Cursillos in Christianity

a) - A triumphant concept of Christianity, that is the unique and true integral solution of all the human problems, in comparison with the conceptual bourgeois, static and inoperative conformist which the Christian does not have, only the name that usurp it.

b) - A dynamic vision of militant Catholicism, understanding the apostolate not as a superabundance, but as a demand for life that, far from being carried out in a bureaucratic organization, constitutes the determined vanguard of the Kingdom of God, the living and operative ferment of the Church.

c) A principle of sincere dissatisfaction, upright and hopeful, the only possible point of departure for every efficient action and inexhaustible fountain of multiple and always better realizations.

d) An exact and profound knowledge of today's men, their problems and their anguish, and also a live, experimental knowledge, obtained not by statistical formulas or by practical, simple manuals, but learned from life itself and from the intimate sharing with men that the evangelical ferment needs to vitalize.

e) A deep conviction of the insufficiency or non-adaptation of certain methods to obtain the essential objective of every apostolic action. A conviction far from exteriorized lamentations or resigned to the fatality of the events. It prompts with growing interest the vitalization of all of value and to the search of new and fertile horizons.

f) A firm conviction that it was really possible that as many living at the margin of religiosity feel the strong awakening by Grace and that, regardless of how far away they are from Christ, they are capable of surrendering totally to Him, provided that things of Christ and His Church are presented as they exist, omitting if necessary any personal preferences or criteria, regardless of how rooted these preferences and criteria were, at the final outcome they were nothing but accidental aspects.

g) The firm hope that upon these experiences the same thing would happen as in the time of Christ: the Samaritans and Zacchaeus would become the most dynamic apostles of the Lord.

h) An intense effort to find a technique of concrete realization that, traced in the apostolic procedures, kept in mind the personal problems and the concrete demands of each individual to solve the problems at the core, with the solution coming from Christ and His Grace, accepted with strength, which influences their entire life.

i) The conviction that the solution was simple and, because it is simple, universal. The Catholicism of the faith is effectively lived in the Cursillo at confronting the same solution and the same environment, although launched to distinct horizons of different classes and diverse cultures.

De Colores - Jorge Barceló

(References: Structure of Ideas - Eduardo Bonnín, Bernardo Vadell and Francisco Forteza; Mentality of the Cursillos in Christianity Msgr. Jaime Capó; Editions Aguas Buenas - Msgr. Jaime Capó; Historia y Memoria de Cursillos - F. Forteza; Cursillos of Cursillos - National Cursillo Center).

To be continued in the May National Mailing.

Evangelization Walk

The time is rapidly approaching for our 3rd Annual Evangelization Walk, scheduled for May 29th, 2004. Many dioceses are finalizing their plans for this event. We have T-shirts available for order for the Evangelization Walk. This year the T-shirts do not have a date or year imprinted so they can be used again next year. If you are interested in ordering T-shirts, please email or fax your orders to the National Office.

In addition to raising an awareness of our mission as Catholics to evangelize, the Walk has provided a way to raise funds for the Cursillo Movement. Some Dioceses reported raising over \$5000.00 from their Evangelization Walk last year. The money collected from the pledges is distributed as follows:

40% Local Cursillo Diocese

5% Region

10% Local Diocesan Bishop

40% National Office

5% Cursillista collects most pledges

The funds raised can help Dioceses cover increasing costs and also allow Dioceses to set up Scholarships for Cursillistas to attend Spiritual Retreats, Regional Meetings and our National Encounters. Attached to this mailing is a pledge form that can be used by your Diocese. If you would like further information regarding the Evangelization Walk, please contact the National Cursillo Center at nationalcursillo.center@verizon.net or (214) 339-6321. We are grateful for your help with this fundraiser.

National Palanca Intentions

Let's continue to join the National Cursillo Movement of the United States in offering *palanca* for the following intentions: 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.

Your Servants in Christ,

Victor Lugo – National Executive Director

Jorge Barceló – National Spanish-speaking Coordinator

Joachim Le – National Vietnamese-speaking Coordinator

14th National Encounter at Seattle, WA
“Unity with Christ”
July 29 – August 1, 2004

Thursday, July 29, 2004

- 1:00pm – 10:00pm** **Registration for the National Encounter**
Registration will not begin until 1:00pm
- 5:00pm – 6:45pm** **Dinner**
- 7:30pm – 8:00pm** **Opening of the 14th National Encounter – Campion Banquet**
- A.** *Opening Blessing: Bishop James A. Tamayo, National Episcopal Advisor*
- B.** *Opening Prayer: Fr. Pedro Garcia, National Spiritual Advisor*
- C.** *Welcome: Pete Jancola, Lay Director of Seattle*
- D.** *Welcome: Natalie Vierra, Organizers*
- 8:00pm – 8:45pm** **Keynote Address - Bishop Charles V. Grahmann, Diocese of Dallas**
- 8:45pm – 9:00pm** **Night Prayers and Opening of Reconciliation Service – Fr. Pedro Garcia (All priests participate)**

Friday, July 30, 2004

- 6:30am – 7:45am** **Breakfast (All participants)**
- 8:00am – 8:30am** **Morning Prayers & Meditation (together at Campion Banquet)**
- 8:45am – 9:15am** **1st Major Presentation: Purpose of the Movement**
(This presentation will be given separately in English and Spanish)
- 9:15am – 9:30am** **Break**
- 9:30am – 10:30am** **Workshop Session #1 (Select from 1-12 below)**
(Twenty-five minute presentation, thirty-five minute question & answer)

There will be three (3) Workshop Sessions on Friday. The participants may select 3 of the twelve workshops listed below: *(Workshops given separately in English and Spanish)*

- 1.** **Precursillo: Selection of Cursillistas**
- 2.** **Leaders School**
- 3.** **3-Day Weekend: Leaders Responsibilities**
- 4.** **3-Day Weekend: Sounding and Stabbing**
- 5.** **Clausura**
- 6.** **Rollos: Preparation, Settings**

7. 3-Day activities
8. Postcursillo: Service sheet, vanguard
9. Postcursillo: Contacts
10. Postcursillo: Group Reunion
11. Postcursillo: Ultreya
12. Secretariat: Essence, types

10:30am – 10:45am Prepare for Mass (remember to fast)

10:45am – Noon Mass - Archbishop Alex J. Brunett, Archbishop of Seattle
Campion Banquet

12:10pm – 12:40pm Lunch (Those whose last names begin with A thru G)

12:40 – 1:10pm Lunch (Those whose last names begin with H thru P)

1:10pm – 1:40pm Lunch (Those whose last names begin with Q thru Z)

1:55pm – 2:55pm Workshop Session #2 (Select from 1-12)
(Twenty-five minute presentation, thirty-five minute question & answer)

2:55pm – 3:10pm Break

3:10pm – 4:10pm Workshop Session #3 (Select from 1-12)
(Twenty-five minute presentation, thirty-five minute question & answer)

4:25pm – 5:10pm 2nd Major Presentation: To Know, To Place, To Enlighten
(This presentation will be given separately in English and Spanish)

5:25pm – 5:55pm Dinner (Those whose last names begin with A thru G)

5:55pm – 6:25pm Dinner (Those whose last names begin with H thru P)

6:25pm – 6:55pm Dinner (Those whose last names begin with Q thru Z)

7:00pm – 7:30pm Gather at Campion Ballroom to share, songs, etc.

7:30pm – 8:15pm 3rd Major Presentation: What is Fundamental for being Christian,
Presenter: Bishop Tamayo, Cursillo National Episcopal Advisor
(This presentation will be given once to all participants – Campion Banquet)

8:30pm –? Regional meetings (each region conducts their own Night Prayers)

Saturday, July 31, 2004

6:30am – 7:50am Breakfast (All participants)

8:00am – 8:30am Morning Prayers & Meditation (together at Campion Banquet)

8:45am – 9:15am 4th Major Presentation: The purpose of the 3-Day Cursillo Weekend
(This presentation will be given separately in English and Spanish)

9:15am – 9:30am Break

There will be (4) Workshop Sessions on Saturday. For the morning sessions, participants will select 2 of the first eight workshops (1-8); and for the afternoon sessions, participants will select 2 from the last seven workshops (9-15) as listed below: *(Workshops given separately in English and Spanish)*

Morning Presentations – (Choose 2)

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Ideal | Presented by a layperson |
| 2. | Habitual Grace | Presented by clergy |
| 3. | Laity in the Church | Presented by a layperson |
| 4. | Actual Grace | Presented by clergy |
| 5. | Piety/Holiness | Presented by a layperson |
| 6. | Study/Formation | Presented by a layperson |
| 7. | Sacraments | Presented by clergy |
| 8. | Action/Evangelization | Presented by a layperson |

Afternoon Presentations – (Choose 2)

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 9. | Obstacles to Grace | Presented by clergy |
| 10. | Leaders | Presented by a layperson |
| 11. | Study of Environments | Presented by a layperson |
| 12. | Christian Life | Presented by clergy |
| 13. | Christianity in Action | Presented by a layperson |
| 14. | Cursillista beyond the Cursillo | Presented by a layperson |
| 15. | Total Security | Presented by a layperson |

9:30am – 10:30am Workshop Session #4 (Select from 1-8 below)
(Twenty-five minute presentation, thirty-five minute question & answer)

10:30am – 10:45am Break

10:45am – 11:45am Workshop Session #5 (Select from 1-8)
(Twenty-five minute presentation, thirty-five minute question & answer)

Noon – 12:30pm Lunch (Those whose last names begin with H thru P)

12:30 – 1:00pm Lunch (Those whose last names begin with Q thru Z)

1:00pm – 1:30pm Lunch (Those whose last names begin with A thru G)

1:30pm – 1:45pm Break

1:45pm – 2:45pm Workshop Session #6 (Select from 9-15)
(Twenty-five minute presentation, thirty-five minute question & answer)

2:45pm – 3:00pm Break

3:00pm – 4:00pm Workshop Session #7 (Select from 9-15)
(Twenty-five minute presentation, thirty-five minute question & answer)

4:00pm – 4:30pm Prepare for Mass (remember to Fast)

- 4:30pm – 5:50pm** **Mass (Sunday anticipatory Mass) – Bishop James Tamayo, National Episcopal Advisor (Campion Banquet)**
- 6:00pm – 6:30pm** **Dinner (Those whose last names begin with H thru P)**
- 6:30pm – 7:00pm** **Dinner (Those whose last names begin with Q thru Z)**
- 7:00pm – 7:30pm** **Dinner (Those whose last names begin with A thru G)**
- 7:30pm – 7:40pm** **Break**
- 7:40pm – 9:00pm** **Ultreya (together)**
- 9:00pm – 9:15pm** **Night Prayers (together)**
- 9:15pm - 11:00pm** **Fiesta**

Sunday, August 1, 2004

- 6:30am – 8:30am** **Breakfast (All participants)**

All participants must check out of their rooms by 9:30 AM

14th National Encounter at Seattle, WA

July 29 - August 1, 2004

Registration Form

Cost for the 14th 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

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