



The Cursillo[®] Movement

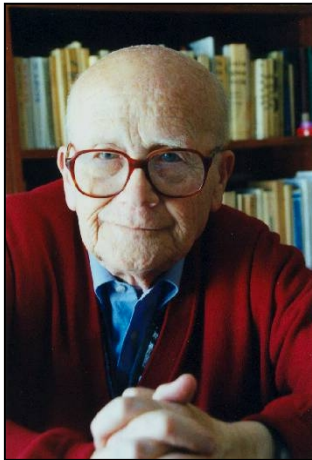
National Cursillo[®] Center • P.O. Box 210226 • Dallas, TX 75221 • 214-339-6321 • Fax 214-339-6322 • www.natl-cursillo.org

April 2008

To: National Mailing Recipients
Fm: National Cursillo[®] Center
Re: April National Mailing

In memory of our dear friend Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló, we are including a small Biography on the founder of the Cursillos in Christianity. This article was originally published on the National Cursillo[®] website and is reprinted here.

Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló, Founder of the Cursillos in Christianity



On February 6, 2008 at 4:00 p.m., at the age of 90, Eduardo Bonnín died after a brief illness. The date of February 6 is providential for several reasons. It is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, marking the road toward true freedom and the 68th anniversary of a historic event in Eduardo's life.

The National Secretariat, upon expressing its condolence for the loss of this distinguished cornerstone in the Movement, would like to outline the life and personality of the founder of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement with some fragments of a biographical sketch.

Eduardo was born in Palma de Mallorca on May 4, 1917, in the family residence, where today is located the Bar Niza. He was the second of 10 children of his parents, Dⁿ Fernando Bonnín Piña and D^a Mercedes Aguiló Forteza, and called "Grand" by his father. From his early childhood, his mother and grandfather, Jorge (a person who impacted his life), instilled in him the basic Christian fundamentals: Love of God and the importance of "walking the road" in the company of others. This became the principal cornerstone in his life.

Eduardo reached his youth, filled not only with a "Christian Spirit", but also with a non-conforming restlessness. He was concerned that the message of Christ was being presented in a soulless form. He tried to learn the thoughts of all the writers who were on the cutting edge in spiritual matters, emphasizing the knowing of oneself and personal friendship.

At the age of 18, due to the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War, Eduardo enlisted in active duty. The coincidence of this event with the start of World War II forced him to stay in the military for almost nine years. There Eduardo met many young men who bragged about "other" very different values from the ones he had seen among the friends of his youth. This period marked a second milestone in his life and work.

Providentially, Eduardo obtained the text of a speech that Pope Pius XII had given to parish priests and parishioners of Rome. This was on February 6, 1940, exactly 68 years ago today. The Holy Father called on the faithful to seek new ways to let everyone know the love of God, especially those distant, the “faraway.” In the thoughts of Eduardo, these principles became his basic guidelines: The love of God, friendship and the person, especially those who are “faraway.”

Since then, he dedicated his entire life to developing the union of these principles, expressing them in a work which eventually became a rollo entitled “The Study of the Environment.” The “Study of the Environment” gave birth to what would be known as the Cursillos in Christianity Movement.

After attending the 2nd Short Course (Cursillo) for Advanced Pilgrims at Lluc (in Mallorca), during Holy Week of 1943, to prepare for a pilgrimage to Santiago in 1948, Eduardo considered this structure, with some substantial changes, could be useful to give life to the principles contemplated in the "Study of the Environment".



With these concepts, and with support from the Center for “Catholic Action” in Felanitx, he organized the FIRST CURSILLO in history on August 20, 1944, held in a chalet, “Mar i Pins”, in Cala Figuera (Santanyi). Eduardo was the Rector, supported by José Ferragut and Jaime Riutort as leaders.

And thus, with the Grace of the Holy Spirit, the Cursillo Movement was born.

With the same outlines, lessons, and rollos used in Cala Figuera (with minimum changes), four more Cursillos were given between 1945 and 1948, paving the way for all the Cursillos which have been celebrated to date. This includes a Cursillo weekend held in San Honorato on January 7, 1949, which (after the “elation” of the pilgrimage to Santiago) was officially numbered as Cursillo #1.

Eduardo is already in heaven having Group Reunion with the Father, sending the joy of the Resurrection to all Cursillistas of the world, and prompting the apostolate, so that all persons may know, especially “the faraway”, that God loves us.

De Colores!



**EDUARDO BONNÍN AGUILÓ
MAY 4, 1917 – FEBRUARY 6, 2008
FOUNDER OF THE
CURSILLOS IN CHRISTIANITY
WHO SAID HE WAS A
“CHRISTIAN APPRENTICE”**

THE SERVICE SHEET

The Cursillista will persevere when he/she has been prepared to seek Christ in the Precursillo and to follow Him in the Postcursillo. The Cursillista can accomplish this by what he/she discovered in the Cursillo: to live what is essentially Christian in friendship with self, Christ and others.

“The prime and fundamental call that the Father assigns to each of us in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit is the call to holiness; that is, the perfection of charity. Holiness is the greatest testimony of the dignity conferred on a disciple of Christ.” (John Paul II, *On the Vocation and the Mission of the Lay Faithful in the Church and in the World*) Being a saint is a process not of arriving at, but rather becoming. Therefore, the Cursillista should always continue to strive to be greater and better in his individual sanctity through the living of what is fundamental for being a Christian. The Cursillo Movement provides the means of Piety, Study and Action to attain this end.

It is the Cursillo leader’s responsibility to see to it that the Cursillista is placed where his talents will bear the best fruits. That is, to have the Cursillista reach the precise disposition and the exact position; which is their environment. Spirit and criterion will indicate this goal and this road. Spirit – the Cursillista wants to live his new found ideal in a more conscious and ever-growing Grace. Criterion - the Cursillista’s focus will always be to keep his spirit in rhythm with the Spirit of God, in other words, to keep his will in alignment with the Will of God. Doing so, the Cursillista will possess, exercise and project through action: faith – self-surrender; hope – idealism; and love – spirit of charity.

The Cursillo Movement provides three important tools to assist the Cursillista in living their Fourth Day; the Leader’s Group Reunion Sheet, the Friendship Group Reunion Sheet and the Service Sheet. These tools are available through the National Cursillo Movement website at <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/orderl.html>.

For Your Information

The Ultreya Group Reunion Sheet is no longer used or available. The reunion at the Ultreya, the floating group reunion, is not the same as the Friendship Group Reunion. The Friendship Group Reunion should be shared separate from the Ultreya. The floating group reunion is between those in attendance at Ultreya utilizing the Group Reunion method and the Service Sheet as a base for sharing their tripod of Piety, Study and Action.

Leader’s Group Reunion Sheet

The Cursillista who attends the School of Leaders utilizes the Leader’s Group Reunion Sheet during the first part of the School as they break up into small groups to share their Piety, Study and Action. This style of grouping is different from the Friendship Group Reunion in that it deliberately challenges the individual to evaluate or examine their everyday activities, and how those activities apply to the advancement of the Cursillo Movement and the evangelization of environments. The Leader’s Group Reunion is one of six essential elements which must be constant in the School of Leaders.

Friendship Group Reunion Sheet

The Friendship Group Reunion Sheet is intended for use by all Cursillistas during their Fourth Day. This particular sheet is used by a group of individuals who are friends because they are

Christians; and who wish to become better friends to become better Christians. “Everything that is lived as a Christian should be lived together. The Group Reunion is only a means for living together the Christianity that each one lives or seeks to live. The deepest form of living together is friendship. Therefore, the Group Reunion is friendship raised to the level of the Transcendental; friendship converted into permanent actual Grace.” (Structure of Ideas, p. 79)

Service Sheet

This article will focus on the Service Sheet. “Through constant encounter with our brothers and sisters, our attitude toward the Lord becomes crystallized into a commitment of honor to Him, a promise that according to the potential, the vocation, and the gifts each of us has, we will use specific means to make into a reality, day by day, the joyful ideal of our being Christian.” (FICM #343)

The Service Sheet is a means to an end. Our commitment of honor to Christ centers precisely on the abilities - authentic and possible - of each one in the Body of Christ, on each of the three streams on which our sanctity is fulfilled: Piety (heart), Study (mind) and Action (will) – our internal Tripod.

By the time the candidates receive it on the Cursillo weekend, they will have experienced the encounter with self, Christ, and be well on their way in the encounter with others. The Service Sheet provides an opportunity for the candidate to begin looking beyond the weekend. It provides the Cursillistas with an opportunity to make a personal commitment to continue their conversion after the weekend. The Service Sheet functions in the Fourth Day as a reminder of the commitments made. It will be something that the Cursillista examines and modifies as his Fourth Day is lived and his conversion progresses.

The Service Sheet is provided for every Cursillista during their Cursillo weekend and is distributed during the Life in Grace rollo on Sunday. The team should have the Service Sheets ready to distribute when instructed by the Spiritual Advisor presenting the rollo. The candidates are asked to make some kind of commitment in terms of their intentions regarding prayer, attendance at mass, visit to the Blessed Sacrament, etc. They should be given the opportunity, if they wish, to speak to the Spiritual Advisor or team members about what they feel they want to commit to in their Fourth Day. At this stage of the weekend, the candidate may be so enthused that they want to go to heaven right now! Discussing it with someone whose feet are firmly planted ‘on the ground’ will help them be more realistic in what they plan to do in their Fourth Day to continue and deepen their conversion process, their relationship with self, Christ and others through the living of what is fundamental for being a Christian. The Rector or Rectora ensures that all the Service Sheets are collected and that the candidate’s name is written on it. The Service Sheet is placed inside the Carnet. The Carnet is a wallet size card for documenting the Cursillista’s name, Cursillo date, place and number, etc. The Service Sheet and Carnet along with a Crucifix is presented to each candidate by the Spiritual Advisor at the Closing after the Apostolic Commitment Service.

The Service Sheet is designed to help the Cursillista stay focused on the commitments they have made. This also eliminates the need for reciting a list of pious acts during their Group Reunion. Going to mass every day is fine but in sharing at the Group Reunion the person wants to tell how going to mass every day helps them grow in their relationship with God. Remember, reciting a list of pious acts can be very overwhelming to someone who is new and it may intimidate them or make them think that this is what is required of them. It is the daily examination of our own

commitments that prepares us for sharing with our friends on a level that draws us deeper into our relationship with Christ and each other.

All three elements: Piety, Study, and Action of the Service Sheet must be operating in order to be effective. Piety alone is simply spiritualism. We get a nice warm and fuzzy feeling. Study alone leads to intellectualism. Knowledge without action is no knowledge at all. Action without Piety and Study is reduced to humanism. We are performing good human acts that anyone can do whether or not they even believe in God. All three elements of the Service Sheet must reflect our metanoia.

Authentic and true spiritual guidance would be, then, that which at every moment, at each new crossroad guarantees the perfect adjustment of the Service Sheet to life, thus operating on fertile soil, opening up new horizons, or closing the door against dangerous deviations, acting upon the vital points of the soul, by which it is made more keen, efficient and individual, without the danger of reducing it to a ritual and periodical review of a piety which severed from life and without zeal, becomes mechanical, and without action, bogs down.

The Group Reunion maintains and safeguards the spirit necessary to fulfill the promises on the Service Sheet. The group provides support by the decisive efficacy of those who, in Grace, meet together in the name of the Lord. Therefore, the three safeguards that assure not only permanence in life but the constant growth of the whole spirit of a Cursillo are the Service Sheet which is the practical means to achieve an end, the Spiritual Director, who lead us spiritually and center us doctrinally, and the Group Reunion where we make possible for each one that which is necessary for all; the normal, lasting, and joyful living together of our lives as Christians.

The Service Sheet is in short, the practical means for helping us be in a vanguard position as Christian Catholic Cursillistas, in line with all those who, from the Vicar of Christ to the least of all Christians, make their life a continuous pilgrimage toward the Father, encouraging and bringing all their brothers and sisters along with them.

Not keeping the Service Sheet up to date or failing to fulfill its promises is to fall back automatically, leaving open a breach through which so many open or hidden attacks of the enemy can infiltrate and place in serious danger the stability of the Kingdom of God in the person.

In order to sustain our life in Christ and persevere for life we need to use the effective means provided by the Cursillo in the Service Sheet in order to nourish us and help us continue to grow. Those who have understood the essence of Cursillo and put into action the means for making it a reality in their life soon find out the important role the Service Sheet provides.

18th NATIONAL ENCOUNTER

The 18th National Cursillo[®] Encounter will be held at the Catholic University of America, CUA, in Washington, D.C. on July 31 – August 3, 2008. The theme for the 2008 Encounter is: “Christ Is Our Light”. The Encounter will commence on Thursday, July 31, 2008, with the Keynote Address by Most Reverend Francisco González, S.F., and immediately followed by Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, and Benediction in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is within walking distance and we will hold our masses there during the Encounter.

The Encounter's Fiesta will include time for one brief performance (song or dance) from the different cultures and ethnic groups in the National Cursillo® Movement. Dioceses wishing to be included in this program must contact Phyllis Winston at 202-723-6756 by May 31, 2008. The timeline for the Fiesta is limited, but we hope to accommodate each of the different cultural groups.

The registration cost is \$325.00 if you register by May 31, 2008. We strongly encourage you to make your plans now to attend the 18th National Cursillo® Encounter by sending the attached registration form to the National Cursillo® Center. You may also register on-line at www.natl-cursillo.org. Lodging capacity is 600 persons. Rooms will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Two persons per room. Two rooms share a center bathroom. No single rooms. There are 3 - 4 floors for each hall, with stairs only, no elevators. Limited number of first floor rooms. Limited number of wheelchair accessible rooms. The Registration Fee includes transportation to/from Reagan National Airport (DCA) only, three nights lodging, dinner until 7:00 PM on Thursday evening, 3 meals on Friday and Saturday, and breakfast until 8:30 AM on Sunday morning. Catholic University of America, CUA, is approximately 40 minutes from Reagan National Airport (DCA). A tentative agenda is attached to this mailing. We invite you to go online at <http://visitors.cua.edu/CUAmap.pdf>, to view a layout of CUA campus.

Please send Palanca for the 18th National Encounter to Sandra Coles-Bell at 7304 Carroll Avenue, #139, Takoma Park, MD 20912. The fax number is 301-891-0741 or you can e-mail your Palanca to Palanca2008Encounter@mac.com

CURSILLO LITERATURE

Revised "Cursillo, What Is It?", Vietnamese #801, is now available for \$1.50 effective April 1, 2008.

CATHOLIC FAITH ENRICHMENT

The National Cursillo® Movement in partnership with Lighthouse Catholic Media, a division of Saint Joseph Communications continues to provide talks on sound Catholic teaching. The CD's contain talks by renowned speakers such as Archbishop Fulton Sheen, Fr. John Corapi, Dr. Scott Hahn, and others. The talks are one way to enrich your life and your Catholic faith. Please visit the "Enrich Your Faith" link on the www.natl-cursillo.org site.

NATIONAL CURSILLO GIFT SHOP

The National Cursillo® Gift Shop website, www.nationalcursillogiftshop.com, and the sale of Cursillo related items, are managed by the Center. Please visit the National Cursillo® Gift Shop and browse through the Specials. Your financial support advances the evangelization function of the Movement.

DONATIONS

The National Cursillo® Movement gratefully welcomes your donations. Your financial support advances the evangelization function of the Movement and is eligible for tax deductions purposes.

PALANCA INTENTIONS

Mondays – National, Regional, and Diocesan Secretariats

Tuesdays – Schools of Leaders

Wednesdays – Cursillistas in the United States

Thursdays – National Cursillo® Movement's Apostolic Actions

Fridays – Cursillo Weekends

Saturdays – OMCC Executive Committee

Let's continue to pray and offer Palanca for each other, the 18th National Encounter and the National Cursillo® Movement.

Your Humble Servants,

Victor Lugo – National Executive Director

Ceferino Aguillón, Jr. – National English-speaking Coordinator

Jorge Barceló – National Spanish-speaking Coordinator

Joachim Le – National Vietnamese-speaking Coordinator

18th National Cursillo® Encounter
The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
July 31 – August 3, 2008

“Christ Is Our Light”

Thursday, July 31, 2008

2:00pm – 6:30pm

All participants check – in at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Dinner – All participants at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center

7:30pm – 8:00pm

Opening of the 18th National Cursillo® Encounter

All participants at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

- Opening Blessing: National Episcopal Advisor
- Prayer: National Spiritual Advisor
- Welcome: Lay Director of the Archdiocese of Washington

8:00pm – 8:45pm

Keynote Address – “Christ Is Our Light” – Most Reverend Francisco González, S.F.

All participants at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

8:45pm – 9:00pm Break

9:00pm – 10:00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Reconciliation

All participants at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Friday, August 1, 2008

6:30am – 8:00am

Breakfast – All participants at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center

8:00am – 8:15am Break

8:15am – 9:00am

Morning Prayers & Meditation

All participants at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center – Great Room

9:00am – 9:15am Break

9:15am – 11:15am

Major Presentation: Mentality of the Cursillo Movement – Victor Lugo

Workshop Session

- Presentation – 30 minutes (presented separately by language)
- Group Discussion – 45 minutes
- Group Report – 45 minutes

11:15 – 11:30am

Prepare for Mass – Remember to Fast

11:30am – 12:30pm

Mass – Most Reverend Francisco González, S.F. and Most Reverend Martin D. Holley

All participants at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

12:30pm – 2:30pm

Lunch – Groups are color-coded at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center

2:30pm – 3:00pm Break

3:00pm – 5:00pm

Workshop Session: A. Total Security B. Sponsorship – What is It?
Steve Krause

- Presentation – 30 minutes (presented separately by language)
- Group Discussion – 45 minutes
- Group Report – 45 minutes

Workshop Session for all Spiritual Advisors

Role of the Spiritual Advisor
Rev. David Smith

5:00pm – 5:15pm Break

5:15pm – 7:15pm

Dinner – Groups are color-coded at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center

7:15pm – 7:30pm Break

7:30pm – 9:00pm

Ultreya – All participants at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center – Great Room

9:00pm – 9:30pm

Night Prayers – All participants at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center – Great Room

Saturday, August 2, 2008

6:30am – 8:00am

Breakfast – All participants at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center

8:00am – 8:15am Break

8:15am – 9:00am Morning Prayers & Saturday Devotion to Mary

All participants at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center – Great Room

9:00am – 9:15am Break

9:15am – 11:15am

Major Presentation: The Three Encounters – Ceferino Aguillón

Workshop Session

- Presentation – 30 minutes (presented separately by language)
- Group Discussion – 45 minutes
- Group Report – 45 minutes

11:15am – 11:30am Break

11:30am – 1:30pm

Lunch – Groups are color-coded at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center

1:30pm – 1:45pm Break

1:45pm – 3:15pm

Workshop Session

A. School of Leaders – Why?

B. Study of the Environment

Gail Terrana

- Presentation – 30 minutes (presented separately by language)
- Group Discussion – 45 minutes
- Group Report – 45 minutes

3:15pm – 3:30pm Break

3:30pm – 4:30pm Regional Gathering

4:30pm – 4:45pm Break and prepare for Mass

4:45pm – 5:45pm

Mass – All participants at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Dinner – Groups are color-coded at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center

8:00pm – 8:30pm Break

8:30pm – 10:00pm

Fiesta – All participants at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center – Great Room

Sunday, August 3, 2008

6:30am – 8:30am

Breakfast – All participants at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center

10:00am

All participants need to check out at this time.

18th National Cursillo[®] Encounter Registration Form
Catholic University of America – Washington, D. C.
Thursday, July 31 – Sunday, August 3, 2008

Cost for the 18th National Encounter is \$325.00
(Please use a separate Registration Form for each registrant)

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

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Work: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Preferred Language: _____

Diocese: _____ Region: _____

Gender (Circle one): Male Female Specify: Bishop, Priest, Deacon, or Religious _____

Lodging is assigned on the first come, first served basis. Two persons per room. Two rooms share a center bathroom. No single rooms. There are 3 - 4 floors for each hall, with stairs only, no elevators. Limited number of first floor rooms. Limited number of wheelchair accessible rooms.

If you wish to room with a specific person (spouse, friend, relative) then the other person's Registration Form must accompany this form. We will not guarantee your roommate if the forms do not accompany one another.

Roommate preference? (Circle One): Yes No If Yes, Name: _____

Special needs (Wheelchair/physically challenged): _____

Do you wish to participate with the Encounter Choir? (Circle one): Yes No

Make checks payable to: National Cursillo[®] Center

Credit Card payment: _____ Circle one: MasterCard or Visa (No Discover or American Express)

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

Send this form and payment to:

National Cursillo[®] Center
P.O. Box 210226 - Dallas, TX 75211-0226
Telephone: (214) 339-6321, Fax: (214) 339-6322, e-mail: nationalcursillo.center@verizon.net

Full payment of \$325.00 per person and this form must be received by May 31, 2008
Registration cost received June 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008 is \$375.00
Registration cost received July 1, 2008 – July 11, 2008 is \$425.00
Unable to guarantee lodging after July 11, 2008!

There is a \$40.00 non-refundable fee for all cancellations up until May 31, 2008. No refunds after May 31, 2008 – No exceptions! The National Cursillo[®] Center is responsible for the payment to the University even when you cancel.

Confirmation # _____ Office Use Only
