



The Cursillo® Movement

National Cursillo® Center • P.O. Box 799 • Jarrell, TX 76537 • 512-746-2020 • Fax 512-746-2030 • www.natl-cursillo.org

April 2012

To: National Mailing Recipients

Fm: National Cursillo® Center

Re: April National Mailing

NATIONAL SPANISH-LANGUAGE COORDINATOR



The National Cursillo® Center welcomes Juan Ruiz as the new National Spanish Language Coordinator effective February 27, 2012.

Juan lived his Cursillo Weekend on October 13-17, 1977, in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Juan has served in numerous Cursillo-related positions including OMCC President (World Cursillo Body) from 2006-2009.

Juan resides in Whittier, CA in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles with his wife, Concepción (Conchita). He is a member of a friendship group reunion, a member of the School of Leaders, and attends Ultreya regularly.

Congratulations to Juan on his response of “Yes” to serve the National Cursillo® Movement! We extend our support, prayers and palanca to Juan.

EVANGELIZING WITHIN YOUR MOVEABLE SQUARE METER

“Evangelize the environments of the third Christian millennium: this is the challenge to Cursillos in Christianity”. (Pope John Paul II at III World Ultreya, Rome, July 29, 2000)

Cursillo came from the Lay apostolate of bringing the Good News, specifically to the environments in which everyone lives. Cursillo was born, not as a response from the Church to the world, but as a way to communicate to men that God loves them. Cursillo was designed, structured and prayed upon not to evangelize the world, but to evangelize the person.

The Cursillo came in order to awaken a hunger for God in the world and in the context in which Christianity grows and develops in a normal manner. In Cursillo a lay path is designated because the strategy focuses on the individual and the environments, rather than on structures.

On Sunday of the Cursillo Weekend, we are introduced to the rollo that set the foundation for all other rollos in Cursillo – Study of Environments. In this phase of the Cursillo we give attention to the different areas where a person’s activity should develop, so that the person may be the ferment of a better world. The actions of a Christian are always carried out with the circumstances, the time, and place that the person already occupies, that is, where the person finds himself at that precise time and place. The Cursillo, by this time, may usually have infused the new Cursillistas with a climate of overflowing Grace and an admiration for one another, which will keep on growing. The Cursillista is already concerned with how to communicate to the others in their environment what they have discovered, assimilated, and lived.

Each person must undergo a continuous and progressive change of criteria and attitudes, as a person and as a Christian. However, this change (conversion) cannot be limited to: oneself alone, for oneself alone, or within oneself alone. The world, the life of our entire society, must undergo such a conversion. The radical and only solution for the problems of the world is always the same – Jesus Christ and his grace. The laity’s mission is to transform society in Jesus Christ. Cursillo provides a strategy and method to accomplish the mission.

Christianity is community - “Those who sincerely accept the Good News, through the power of this acceptance and of shared faith, therefore gather together in Jesus’ name in order to seek together the Kingdom, build it up and live it. They make up a community which is in its turn evangelizing.” (Evangelii Nuntiandi 13, Pope Paul VI)

People live their lives as an integral part of groupings. In each of these groupings certain ideas and attitudes are accepted, certain types of behaviors are encouraged and certain personalities predominate. The group’s ideal can be the combination of individual ideals affected by circumstances. A certain spirit is generated. Therefore, the *environment* is the sum of ideas, persons, and circumstances which exist when people get together – the spirit of the situation.

The environment has a vital impact on persons. People tend to conform to the spirit being generated. Persons with ideals and drive, structure, change, and influence the environment. The idea is to influence the environment more than it influences us.

In *Study the Environment*, Cursillo shows the way to transform the environment for the better. Before going further, though, we must be clear that when Cursillo speaks of environment, it is referring to *the person and his circumstances within their sphere of influence at this exact moment*. If you recall, in the Ideal Rollo we were told: *we can be more and be better* and in the Layperson in the Church Rollo we were told: *we can do so from where we are*. So what we learned is that we do not have to go anywhere specific to be who we are as Christians and we can influence (evangelize) the person whom God places in our path where we are at the moment, that is, within our moveable square meter. In daily life, we find ourselves *moving* from one environment to the next.

As leaders we are called to study the environment (person) before we can transform it. We must determine its ideal, nature, and circumstances. In each environment a few people extend more influence than the rest. To find them, we must familiarize ourselves with their personalities.

- The followers (those of deference) – satisfied to imitate others’ actions, they lack strong convictions. Adherence through respect or acquiescence before what is proposed to them.
- The impulsive (those of impulse) – waver according to the rhythm of their emotions, their conviction is not constant. Those who at the hour of truth are not capable of upholding their ideas.
- The leaders (those of drive) – use their abilities to achieve what they believe is worthwhile. Since the truth is sought, is found, is lived and shared with the whole soul, those of drive for the best are needed to embody it in the world in a clear, living, convincing, and truthful manner.

Cursillo seeks leaders, natural leaders, who are willing, able, and capable of using their influence to build Christianity in their environments.

By Sunday of the Weekend, the Cursillistas' heads are full of ideas and their hearts filled with eagerness; they feel the call to respond to Christ and to reach out to their surroundings. The Study of Environment rollo invites and encourages them to transform their environments, stressing that they are not to detest and run from the world, but are called to bring a Christian influence to that world.

Study of Environment proposes a practical method to win the environment (person) and bring them to Christ. There are three areas that we are asked to consider in order to be effective evangelizers. The method demands courage and effort in progressive conversion.

- First; *ourselves* - strengthen and convince ourselves that Christ is the answer.
- Second; *others* - acquaintances, associates, casual friends and the process of knowing them, placing them, enlightening them, and accompanying them.
- Third; the *environment* - those who surround us in our moveable square meter.

The first step – *Ourselves* - the effectiveness in the leavening of the environment is based on the depth of relationship each one has with oneself. First is our **will**, we must want to place our will to the highest degree in order to move from “I can” to “I will”. Second is **prayer**, all our apostolic undertakings should have at their core, prayer. Our strength comes from this. Third is our **mind**, it is necessary to use our God given intelligence in our evangelization efforts just as we do for everything else we do. And fourth is the **heart**, our heart must be open to be all things to all people in order to win them for Christ.

The second step – *Others* – the relationships with those who accompany us in life: family, neighbors, and friends. In this step, we basically use the reverse sequence as applied above to ourselves. First, we must win the person's heart, second open their mind, third their will and lastly, introduce them to prayer. If we do not reach and influence the **heart** first, not much will happen. From the heart, open their **mind**. This is not as difficult as it may seem because as Christians, we have the seed of Grace that was planted in us at our Baptism. We must win the person's **will** in order to bring our companions along with us. And lastly, Grace from the Father will lead the person to **prayer**.

The third step – the *Environment* – the relationships with those who surround us with their circumstances in a certain time and place. This step is a natural consequence of beginning the process with ourselves first and the others second. The conscious and progressive conversion of our lives is the effective factor in the environment. The *consequence* of the Cursillistas' response to Christ will be a *natural* reaching out to the person to introduce them to Christ through friendship and a personal witness of *living* what is fundamental for being Christian.

The rest of this article is taken from Study the Charism book published by OMCC. The *dough*, the *site*, the *environment* is the field of work of the purpose of the Cursillo Movement. To leaven the environments, the recesses of everyday life that must be reached refers to the shop, the office, the bar, the sports field, the beach, the school, the college, the taxi, the train, and all the locations each person occupies in their daily lives. The men and women, who, through a Cursillo have had an awakening of the hunger for God, should remain in their places. They should not be removed from the realities in which they find themselves only to be taken to work in a different reality, no matter how good it may be.

Persons, men and women, who have understood the simplicity of the Cursillo message, should remain in their reality, in the same environment, fermenting Christianity by means of friendship with those whom they live and interact with: family, work, and leisure. Places where the priests do not reach because their work has its limits.

The purpose of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement is not directed toward building up of ecclesial structures (Structure of Ideas), but to create a world of friends, by building up Christianity, in natural environments. Pope John Paul II specifically expresses the purpose of Cursillo: “Your movement asks of you *to be leaven in the dough* of the world . . . acting in the world.”

The immediate purpose of Cursillo is to provide knowledge, belief lived, and shared experience of what is fundamental to being Christian, spreading it in the environment, the *dough* of the world where ordinary life is lived. We should reach out to people, giving testimony of friendship so that they might encounter Christ without the intention of removing them from their *place* in order to take them to another. This is the only way that those who are far away can accept us. We are to continue to generate friendship among people that we find in the *movable square meter* in which the Lord has placed us, so that everyone, especially those far away, might know that God loves us.

22nd NATIONAL CURSILLO[®] ENCOUNTER

Make plans to attend the 22nd National Cursillo[®] Encounter, to be held Thursday, July 19 – Sunday, July 22, 2012, at Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Encounter registration fee is \$385, if you register by May 31, 2012. We encourage you to make your plans now to attend the 22nd 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. Rooms are assigned on a first come, first serve basis. The registration fee includes three nights lodging, dinner on Thursday evening, 3 meals on Friday and Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday morning. Shuttle service from **Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG)** will be provided on Thursday, July 19, 2012. Departure shuttle will be Sunday, July 22, 2012.

What to expect? Six hundred Cursillistas coming together to share in the 3rd Conversations of Cala Figuera:

- Meaning of Life: Discover that life has a meaning
- Attitude: The freedom of each person
- Creativity: The personal, original, unique form interpreting the person’s vital role before a reality
- Communication: The field leading us to an encounter
- Confidence: The security that emerges from one’s self without “being on guard”
- Transcendence: Faith incorporates the ultimate reality

The 22nd National Cursillo Encounter also includes:

- Spiritual Advisors Manual – Update of the new manual
- Spiritual Exercises Presentation – Deepening our spiritual growth
- Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Morning/Evening Prayers, Ultreya, and Fiesta, see the attached agenda.

Contest: The diocese with the most registrations by May 31, 2012 receives a FREE registration to the 22nd National Encounter! The next two dioceses with the most registrations receive \$100 worth of Cursillo literature to be awarded at the Encounter. REGISTER TODAY!

DONATIONS & 1st ANNUAL ONE DOLLAR CAMPAIGN

The National Cursillo[®] Movement gratefully welcomes your donations. Your financial support advances the evangelization function of the Movement and as a 501(c) 3 entity, is eligible for tax deduction purposes. Donations are always accepted through the website, www.natl-cursillo.org.

The National Cursillo[®] Center is most appreciative of the donations received from:

- ✚ Office of the Archdiocese of Seattle
- ✚ Diocese of Springfield Cursillo Community - Spanish
- ✚ Archdiocese of Boston Cursillo Community - Spanish
- ✚ Diocese of San Diego Cursillo Community - Filipino
- ✚ Archdiocese of Baltimore Cursillo Community - English
- ✚ Diocese of Worcester Cursillo Community - Spanish
- ✚ Diocese of Rockville Centre Cursillo Community - Spanish
- ✚ Diocese of Camden Cursillo Community - English
- ✚ Mr. Dennis Hupp, Sr, Diocese of Arlington
- ✚ Mary Fleckenstein, Region 3 Coordinator - English
- ✚ Jaime E Collins, Archdiocese of Detroit
- ✚ Richard Steiner, on behalf of Bill and Audrey Steiner, Diocese of Boise
- ✚ Mary and David Casselman, Diocese of Fort Worth, TX
- ✚ Dianne & Neil Manias, Archdiocese of Louisville
- ✚ Diocese of Grand Rapids Cursillo Community – Vietnamese

THANK YOU!

To help meet the needs of this fiscal year, the National Cursillo[®] Center mailed its “**1st Annual One Dollar Campaign**” to all Lay Directors in February 2012. The Campaign seeks the support of all Cursillistas in every diocese to prayerfully consider donating at least one dollar (or more) to support the work of the National Cursillo[®] Center.

We ask Lay Directors to please distribute the flyer (attached) to all Cursillistas in their diocese. In the spirit of community, Cursillistas may give their donation to the Lay Director who will submit the total amount as a single check or money order to the National Cursillo[®] Center, P.O. Box 799, Jarrell, TX 76537 by **April 30, 2012**. As always, Cursillistas are welcomed to donate directly to the National Cursillo[®] Center, if that is their preference.

- ❖ Support for this Campaign commenced with a contribution from Region II. Region II includes the dioceses of Allentown, Arlington, Baltimore, Camden, Harrisburg, Metuchen, Newark, Paterson, Philadelphia, Richmond, Scranton, Trenton, Washington D.C., and Wilmington. Thank you, Region II Cursillistas!!!
- ❖ Heartfelt thanks is expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Richard F Kohl, Diocese of Joliet, for their financial contribution to the campaign!
- ❖ DE COLORES and thanks to Archdiocese of Mobile Cursillo - English for their financial contribution to the campaign

Stay tuned to our next newsletter for the results of the \$1 Campaign. We will publish the names of the dioceses joining the success of this campaign.

NATIONAL CURSILLO® CENTER

The National Cursillo® Center will be closed Holy Thursday and Holy Friday, April 5 – 6, 2012. It will re-open Monday, April 9th. It will also close in observance of Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 2012. It will re-open Tuesday, May 29th. Please plan your book orders accordingly.

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 and NACG Executive Committee

Let's continue to pray and offer palanca for each other, the 22nd National Cursillo® Encounter and National Cursillo® Movement.

We wish you and your family a blessed Lenten season and a joyous Easter season.

Your brothers in Christ,

Victor Lugo – National Executive Director

Ceferino Aguillón, Jr. – National English-speaking Coordinator

Juan Ruiz – National Spanish-speaking Coordinator

Joachim Le – National Vietnamese-speaking Coordinator

22nd National Cursillo[®] Encounter
Xavier University – Cincinnati, OH
July 19-22, 2012

Thursday, July 19, 2012

- 2:00pm – 10:00pm All participants check-in at Fenwick Place
- 5:00pm – 7:00pm Dinner – Hoff Dining Commons
- 7:30pm – 8:00pm Opening of the 22nd National Cursillo[®] Encounter
All participants at Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room
- 8:00pm – 8:45pm Keynote Address
All participants at Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room
- 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 Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room

Friday, July 20, 2012

- 7:00am – 8:30am Breakfast – Hoff Dining Commons
- 8:30am – 9:00am Morning Prayers – All participants at Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room
- 9:00am – 10:00am Presentation: **Meaning of Life**
- Presentation – 30 minutes
 - Group Discussion – 30 minutes
- 10:00am – 10:15am Break
- 10:15am – 11:15am Presentation: **Attitude**
- Presentation – 30 minutes
 - Group Discussion – 30 minutes
- 11:15am – 11:30am Break, Prepare for Mass
- 11:30am – 12:30pm Mass – All participants at Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room
- 12:30pm – 2:00pm Lunch (Two Groups) – Hoff Dining Commons
- 1:30pm – 2:30pm Spiritual Advisors Meeting – Priests, Deacons, and Vowed Religious

- 3:00pm – 4:00pm Presentation: **Creativity**
- Presentation – 30 minutes
 - Group Discussion – 30 minutes
- 4:00pm – 4:15pm Break
- 4:15pm – 5:15pm Presentation: **Communication**
- Presentation – 30 minutes
 - Group Discussion – 30 minutes
- 5:15pm – 5:30pm Break
- 5:30pm – 7:00pm Dinner (Two Groups) – Hoff Dining Commons
- 7:30pm – 9:00pm Ultreya – All participants at Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room
- 9:00pm – 9:15pm Night Prayers – All participants at Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room

Saturday, July 21, 2012

- 7:00am – 8:30am Breakfast – Hoff Dining Commons
- 8:30am – 9:00am Morning Prayers & Saturday Devotion to Mary
All participants at Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room
- 9:00am – 10:00am Presentation: **Confidence**
- Presentation – 30 minutes
 - Group Discussion – 30 minutes
- 10:00am – 10:15am Break
- 10:15am – 11:15am Presentation: **Transcendence**
- Presentation – 30 minutes
 - Group Discussion – 30 minutes
- 11:30pm – 1:00pm Lunch (Two Groups) – Hoff Dining Commons
- 1:15pm – 2:15pm Regional Gathering
- 2:15pm – 2:30pm Break
- 2:30pm – 3:30pm Presentation: **Spiritual Advisor’s Manual**
- 3:30pm – 3:45pm Break
- 3:45pm – 4:45pm Presentation: **Spiritual Exercises**
- 4:45pm – 5:00pm Break – Prepare for Mass
- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Mass – All participants at Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room

6:15pm – 7:45pm Dinner (Two Groups) – Hoff Dining Commons

8:00pm – 10:00pm Fiesta – All participants at Cintas Center – Duff Banquet Room

Sunday, July 22, 2012

6:00am – 8:00am Breakfast – Hoff Dining Commons

6:00am – 10:00am Check – out – Fenwick Place

22nd National Cursillo[®] Encounter Registration Form
Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH
Thursday, July 19 – Sunday, July 22, 2012

Cost for the 22nd National Encounter is \$385.00

(Please use a separate Registration Form for each person)

(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 _____

If you wish to room with a specific person (spouse, friend, relative) **then the other person's Registration Form must accompany this form.**

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

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 799 - Jarrell, TX 76537

Telephone: 512.746.2020, Fax: 512.746.2030, e-mail: nationalcursillo.center@verizon.net

Full payment of \$385.00 per person and this form must be received by May 31, 2012

Registration cost received June 1 – June 30, 2012 is \$435.00

Unable to guarantee attendance after June 30, 2012!

There is a \$40.00 non-refundable fee for all cancellations through May 31, 2012. No refunds after May 31, 2012 – No exceptions! The National Cursillo[®] Center is responsible for the payment to the University regardless of cancellations.

Confirmation # _____ Office Use Only
