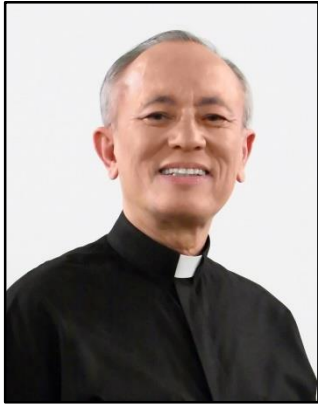




Cursillos in Christianity National Newsletter

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

Fr. Joseph Dao Vu, SVD - Assistant National Spiritual Advisor



The National Secretariat and National Staff extend their congratulations and warm welcome to Fr. Joseph Dao Vu, SVD as Assistant National Spiritual Advisor for the Cursillo Movement in the United States. Fr. Joseph was ordained a priest in 1988 at the Society of the Divine Word (Latin: *Societas Verbi Divini*, abbreviated SVD), popularly called the Divine Word Missionaries. He is currently assigned to Preaching Ministry at St. Augustine Seminary in Bay St. Louis, MS. Fr. Joseph's previous appointments included District Superior of Southern District of St. Arnold, Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish Memphis, Tennessee; Assistant Pastor of St. Rita in Indianapolis, IN; Assistant Principal of St. Jude Catholic School, and Chaplain of Bataan Refugee Camp in the Philippines. Fr. Joseph

lived his 3-Day Cursillo in August 1988 at Marywood Center, Diocese of Orange, Southern CA. He has served on several Cursillo Weekends in Chicago, Charlotte, Atlanta, Orlando, Boston, and Dallas-Ft. Worth, and recently on the Cursillo de Cursillos in Region VIII. He has also served as Region VIII Spiritual Advisor for the Vietnamese language group since 2013. Please join the National Secretariat in congratulating and welcoming Fr. Joseph!

Person, Personage, & Personality

Synthesis of Eduardo Bonnín's writings in the book "Reflections II" (soon to be available in English)

In the Cursillo Movement, the person is the axis of our restlessness. We understand the person as a being created for love. Many feel remote from the Gospel, because as Christians, they have failed to convey, through friendship, that the love they seek, thanks to Christ, is within their reach; within themselves and in the others.

The **Person** is the reflection, the expression, and the brilliance of the concrete intention of God on a human being. To be a person is a reality always open to the possibility of being more and being better. The Cursillo encourages the person to emerge, to be awarded, and to be energized, believing the truth and allowing the good in friendship.

The real revolution of concepts that arise in Cursillo focuses on the person to discover their own value for what it is - by their ability to love and be loved - not by their power, their knowledge or their possessions.

Each person is an individual and permanent source of living values and is open, dynamic and free. The Cursillo Movement acts on the person as leaven that ferments living. It ferments and widens the vision. It establishes and affirms the conviction, motivates and stimulates the

decision, and makes constancy pleasant and attractive. The man is more man by the attitude taken against what he cannot do, than what he can. This person always motivates admiration.

When the person feels he/she is more for being Lay Director, Spiritual Advisor, Rector, Doctor, or Gardener before being a person, he/she systematically confuses his/her personal wealth with his/her physical, cultural or administrative heritage and ends up giving his/her identity as a person.

The **Personage** that one plays in life, at different stages of life, often causes the same envy and admiration to the fools. The personage, if it is not put into perspective and it is not controlled, will consume the person.

The **Person**, the reality of who we are, is worth more than the personage that we are called to represent in the great theatre of the world. As persons, we are always more important than our “role”. That is why in many cases we can see that there is “a lot more person” in the gardener who cares for our garden, than in the CEO of the Bank. The better the person is, the better and more authentic the **Personage** is.

Personality is the ability to realize the importance of being a person before the circumstances that force one to have a personage at any stage of life. Or in addition, the agility with which we stop being that personage. One must always ensure the personage does not dominate or eliminate the person.

We need to maintain our strength, cleverness and usefulness. Strong with a fortitude that is active and passive. Skilled with competence and attitude. Useful to serve others and serve oneself. And always, with a consciousness of uniqueness, originality and creativity. Because to be unique, is not to be singular. Originality and creativity does not mean to be a protagonist. And of course for these elements to exist, it is essential that we recognize our own values and possibilities, as well as those of others.

The person has four inner corners: the Truth, which is what gives meaning to life; Goodness, which is what gives us joy; Friendship, which is what gives us inspiration; and Art, which is the contemplation of life. And the person also has three exterior corners: Love, Work, and Entertainment. What we need to achieve, is for the person to match his/her attitude with his/her aptitude. This is easy, but it needs to be discovered by each person within his/her own freedom.

The Cursillo Movement, through a method of its own and through God’s grace manages to enable the essential realities of Christianity to come to life in the uniqueness, originality and creativity of the person’s life. The person is the most important element in our Movement. If we neglect this aspect, its purpose is distorted and its structures are mutilated.

Therefore, we need to be aware that in each person, there are three dimensions through which we express, translate and make our life transparent: **the person, the personage and the personality**.

The **Person** is what he/she really is. He/she is the reflection, expression, and the brilliance of the specific intent of God over a human being. To be a person is to have conviction, decision and to

know how to affirm them in our life. The person is the “what”, the essence and an absolute value.

The **Personage** is what we are called to represent in normal life or abnormalities that arise. The persona expresses, translates and makes transparent the “how”. When the personage consumes the person, something tragic is brought about to the same man because it kills, manipulates, or distorts its essence, which also results in something amusing for everyone else.

Personality is the ability of a person to never forget that he/she is to be a person, not even when he/she has to exercise a personage. It is the ability to always be yourself, even though the circumstances may be different.

Lastly, just a reminder that you can read the whole rollo in the book **Reflections II** in the National Cursillo Center’s bookstore (soon to be available in English).

De Colores!

2016 National Encounter

The 2016 National Encounter will be held August 4-7, 2016 at Lewis University, which is located in Romeoville near Chicago, IL. Lewis University is a Catholic university sponsored by the De La Salle Christian Brothers. It offers the ideal setting for the National Encounter with a wide array of facilities and services. The Chapel’s seating capacity is 600, the residence halls are air-conditioned and innovative meal menus are available for the encounter. For more details, you can visit <http://www.lewisu.edu/welcome/>. There are only 600 seats available. The registration form will be available on January 15, 2016 and it is expected to be a fully packed National Encounter. See you there – bring a friend!

\$3/YR Campaign and \$5 Million Drive Updates

As of September 20, 2015, the National Cursillo Center has received a total donation of \$77,612. This amount is up 4% from July 2015. The National Cursillo Center has issued 140 vouchers worth \$13,950 to the dioceses that donated \$200 or more towards the campaign.

Thanks to your donations to the campaign, Cursillistas in affiliated Dioceses can enjoy an additional 10% discount for each book order over \$50.00 in 2015. That means Cursillistas can enjoy a total of 20% discount as a benefit of being affiliated with the National Cursillo Movement. The National Cursillo Center also provided bookstore vouchers for 8 dioceses that are in the process of establishing or re-establishing Cursillo in their respective areas.

The \$5 Million Drive’s donation window is now extended from October 1st to November 4th. For more information about the \$5 Million Drive, visit www.natl-cursillo.org/donate/campaign.pdf. This is a fun event and those Diocesan Movements who donate more than \$3,000 will have an opportunity to win the following prizes:

- 1st Prize: Free National Encounter tickets for the Spiritual Advisor, Lay Director and School of Leaders Chairperson for 2016, 2017 and 2018.
- 2nd Prize: Free National Encounter tickets for the Spiritual Advisor, Lay Director and School of Leaders Chairperson for 2016 and 2017.

- 3rd Prize: Free National Encounter tickets for the Spiritual Advisor, Lay Director and School of Leaders Chairperson for 2016.

Continue promoting the \$3/YR Campaign and the \$5 Million Drive by all means of communication such as Friendship Group Reunion, Ultreya, School of Leaders, Regional Encounters, workshops, personal contact, group e-mail, etc.

Subscribe to the Weekly Palanca Reminder List

If you would like to receive a reminder that highlights all events for the upcoming week, [subscribe](#) to obtain our free emailing. This weekly reminder is sent to more than 700 Cursillistas who have also subscribed. The Cursillo Movement is counting on your Palanca!

Remember the National Cursillo in Your Will or Living Trust

Structure your will to provide for your family first. Then include a gift to the charitable organization or movement you love. Consider leaving a legendary gift to the National Cursillo Movement when you make your will or living trust. Contact the National Cursillo Center if you decide to include the National Cursillo Movement in your will or trust so a proper gift acknowledgement can be made. Make a lasting impact through your donation. Thank you very much for your continuous support and generosity.

Cursillo Resource Center

Take time to visit the [Cursillo Resource Center](#) to listen, view, or download copies of the talks presented during the 25th National Encounter. The talks are available in 3 formats; video, MP3, and text. The talks are an excellent resource for personal enrichment and certainly for study in the School of Leaders.

De Colores!

Hoang Tran – National Cursillo Service Administrator
Ceferino Aguillón, Jr. – National English Coordinator
Juan Ruiz – National Hispanic Coordinator
Joachim Le – National Vietnamese Coordinator