



The Cursillo® Movement

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December 2009 (new ADDRESS and PHONES)

To: National Mailing Recipients
Fm: National Cursillo® Center
Re: December National Mailing

“YEAR FOR PRIESTS” JUNE 19, 2009 - JUNE 19, 2010

By Rev. Einer R. Ochoa, National Spiritual Advisor



As news of joy for the Catholic Church and all of us in the Cursillo Movement, the Year for Priests was declared by our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, on June 19, 2009, the occasion of the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It will end on June 19, 2010 in Rome with a gathering of Priests from all over the world. The Holy Father declared St. John Mary Vianney Cure of Ars, the Universal Patron of Priests, on the occasion of the 150th Anniversary of his death on August 4, 2009.

This is a special year for priests to grow in their call to holiness by the renewal of their spirituality and their commitment to the mission Jesus entrusted to them: The proclamation of the Good News of the salvation of all of humanity accomplished by our Lord through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. As Cardinal Claudio Hummes, Prefect for the Congregation of the Clergy said, “It must be in a very special way, a year of prayer by priests, with priests, and for priests.” For the laity it means growing spiritually with their priests in this special occasion by praying and working for them, and with them, as together we are all called to be holy as God is Holy.

It is then fitting to ponder in a special way about: the priesthood of the Old Law, the sacrament of the Holy Orders of priests, Jesus the eternal high priest, the ministerial priesthood and the priesthood of the faithful.

God chose Israel as “a Kingdom of priests and a holy nation.” Ex 19:6. The tribe of Levi was set apart for the liturgical service in the Temple. The priests of the Old Testament were appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for their sins and those of the people. This priesthood nonetheless did not bring salvation even with sacrifices being offered again and again. Only Jesus Christ would accomplish that salvation by his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. The priesthood of the Old Covenant however is the prefiguring of the ordained ministry of the New Testament.

The Priesthood is the sacrament instituted by Christ at the Last Supper. Jesus, the night in which he was betrayed, offered bread and wine to his disciples, told them the bread is his body and the wine is his blood, to eat it and drink it and to do it in his memory. Through his Life, Passion,

Death, and Resurrection, Jesus Christ became the Eternal High Priest who offered his life on the Cross, once and for all, for all of humanity. The Mass is the memorial of his sacrifice. In this Year for Priests it is of paramount importance to ponder about the participation by all of us priests and laity in the Eternal Priesthood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Eternal Priesthood of the Lord is about the salvation he obtained for us by his incarnation, life, Passion, Death, and Resurrection. He incarnated in the womb of the Virgin Mary to take our flesh and become one of us. He proclaimed the Good News of the Kingdom by showing us the love of his Father through his own love for all of us. Jesus humbled himself by becoming a servant of all. “The Son of Man” denied himself becoming obedient to his Father and reconciling us with Him, dying on the Cross for our salvation. He told us he came to serve and not to be served. John 21:17. He taught us the value of suffering and called us to enter into his own rest by carrying our own crosses and telling us that his yoke is easy and his burden light. He made us his friends and took us to his Father. He gave us hope in the Beatitudes. He told us to be united to him to have life and be fruitful. He made us a holy nation, a priestly people, sharing in His eternal priesthood as Scripture testifies “This has been confirmed by an oath. The priests of the old covenant became priests without an oath, unlike Jesus to whom God said: “The Lord has sworn, and he will not repent: You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek.” Hebrews 7:20-21.

The 12 apostles were the first priests of the New Law commanded to perpetuate the memorial of Jesus’ Last Supper at the Mass, and to forgive sins. The Priesthood has two orders, the order of the episcopate, and the order of the presbyterate which is second above the order of the diaconate.

The faithful share in the priesthood of Jesus Christ by the sacrament of their baptism. They offer themselves together with the priest and Jesus Christ the eternal High Priest as a sacrifice to the Eternal Father in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and share in the life of grace in the other sacraments.

This year offers priests and the faithful the opportunity to receive plenary and partial indulgences. What is Plenary Indulgence? It is an indulgence that can remit all the temporal punishment due to forgiven sin provided that all attachment to sin, even venial sin, is absent. Three external conditions are required: sacramental confession that can be celebrated a few days before or after the indulgence day, Eucharistic communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Pope. If these dispositions are not completed, the indulgence will only be partial. Plenary Indulgence can only be gained once a day.

Plenary indulgence was granted on the first day of the Year for Priests, on the 150 anniversary of death of St. John Mary Vianney (August 4th) the first Thursdays of the past 5 months and will be granted on the first Thursdays of each remaining months, and the last day of the Year for Priests June 19, 2010 “to all the faithful who are truly repentant who, in a church or in a chapel, devoutly attend the divine Sacrifice of Mass, receive communion, and offer prayers to Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest, for the priests of the Church, and any other good work which they have done on that day, so that He may sanctify them and form them in accordance with His Heart”, as long as “they have made expiation for their sins through sacramental confession and prayed in accordance with the Supreme Pontiff’s intentions.”

Plenary indulgence will also be granted to the elderly, the sick and homebound who, “with a mind detached from any sin and with the intention of fulfilling as soon as possible the three usual conditions”, recite prayers on the above mentioned days “for the sanctification of priests and confidently offer their illnesses and hardships of their lives to God through Mary Queen of Apostles.”

Partial indulgence is granted to all the faithful every time they devoutly recite five Our Fathers, Hail Marys and Glorias, or another expressly approved prayer “in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, to obtain that priests be preserved in purity and holiness of life.”

Plenary indulgence will be granted to “truly penitent priests”, which can be applied to the priests themselves, or in suffrage to their deceased brethren, when “on any day, devoutly recite at least morning Lauds or Vespers before the Blessed Sacrament, exposed for public adoration or retained in the tabernacle, and who, after the example of St. John Mary Vianney offer themselves with a ready and generous heart for the celebration of the sacraments, especially Confession”. It is also necessary that “in conformity with the current norms, they receive sacramental confession, participate in the Eucharistic banquet and pray for the Supreme Pontiff’s intentions.”

Partial indulgence is granted to priests, who may likewise apply it to their deceased confreres every time that they devoutly recite the prayers duly approved so as to lead a holy life and to carry out in a holy manner the offices entrusted to them.

We thank our Holy Father Benedict XVI for this year for Priests and the special opportunity to pray for them and with them for their sanctification and our own through the plenary and partial indulgences, and our good works. We thank our Lord Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest for giving the Church men chosen from among the faithful to share in his eternal priesthood as ordained priests by making them His special coworkers in the plan of salvation, caretakers of their brothers and sisters. He made them fishers, healers, prophets, and teachers. We venerate priests elevated to the honor of sainthood, among them the Patron of Priests St. John Mary Vianney, St. Augustine, St. John Bosco, St. Alphonsus Liguori, St. Dominic, etc., martyrs, doctors of the church, heroes, missionaries, popes, bishops, humble priests, and so many more. Especially we honor all our present priests who silently and humbly minister in their parishes, monasteries, schools, universities, movements, and other institutions serving the people of God from the womb to the tomb as dispensers of the sacraments and agents of the manifold grace and love of God.

What a beautiful way the Lord shows in the sharing of his eternal priesthood with all of us. It is his love and the love of His Father which made Jesus Christ to incarnate in the womb of Mary through the power of the Holy Spirit and to become one of us. He wanted to save the world and so he chose Mary to become his mother and mother of us all. He came to bring to us the love of his Father through his wonderful love and friendship “I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead I have called you friends, for everything that I have learned from my Father I have made known to you.” John 15:14-16. Being convinced of his love we have made the decision to live fully as Christians and to share that love with our brothers and sisters through friendship to bring them to Jesus. And as He offered to His Father his life on the cross as a sacrifice for our salvation so we take up our crosses to follow Him and to unite our sacrifices to His for our own salvation and the salvation of our brothers and sisters.

This is a Year for Priests, a Priests jubilee. We are invited to live our piety, study, and action in a special way this year by our prayers and works with them and for them as we walk humbly through our fourth day by the hand of the Lord to the house of the Father.

De Colores!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, Pray for us!

St. Paul, Patron of the Cursillos of Christianity, Pray for us!

LEADERSHIP WITHIN THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT

The last two National Mailings included two articles about Leadership. In the August National Mailing there was a general article on, “Leadership within the Cursillo Movement”. In October we looked at “The Call to Leadership - a vocation.” In this article we would like to be more specific as to the different roles and responsibilities of the Cursillo leader within the Cursillo Movement.

A Cursillo Leader

In the Leaders talk it states that: in Christianity, leaders are those who, having heard Christ’s call, throw themselves decisively into apostolic action with the capacity to influence others guiding them to encounter the Lord.

A Cursillo Leader, therefore is a dedicated apostle; a person who puts all of his/her abilities in the service of Christ. As Pope Pius X exclaimed: “They must be mature Catholics, convinced of their faith, solidly instructed in the ways of religion, sincerely devoted to the Church, and in particular to this Supreme Apostolic See, and the Vicar of Christ on earth; persons of genuine piety, of manly virtues, of clean habits, of a life so blameless that they may serve as an effective example to all.” (St. Pius X, The Firm Proposal).

Fr. Frank S. Salmani in the Epilogue of his book, “Whom Shall I Send?” stated, “If we decide our particular calling is to the Cursillo Movement as a Cursillo leader, we must understand that this calling, like any calling from God is a vocation – it is not something we choose. The Lord chooses us. Accepting that call means, making a commitment to God and His work. It involves directing our will to all that God wants. It means that we must be responsible stewards, sharing our time, talent and treasure with the world. If we accept the task of being a Cursillo leader, it also implies that this should be our primary apostolate. Not everyone is called to do everything. We are not called to do everything, but whatever challenge we do accept should be given our undivided attention.”

We need to find ways to maintain our commitments. First of all, we need to constantly work at our progressive conversion, especially when we assume a Cursillo leaders role. Conversion is not something one can say “*I’m already there.*” Sometimes we may forget that our “doing” (Christian things) would be far more effective and realizable when we are conscious of our “being” (Christian) and when our service to others (love) is in “full gear.” The first thing we need is a strong life of prayer and study. Holiness and formation are the “fuels” of evangelization and the apostolate. Without a strong life grounded in the Lord, we will run out of gas very quickly. As long as we take time for prayer and study, we will have the tools we need to continue to transform our society. (Whom Shall I Send, p. 126)

As Cursillo Leaders, one of our responsibilities is to safeguard the integrity and authenticity of the Cursillo Movement by embracing and promoting the Foundational Charism. This is whether we are serving in the School of Leaders, as a member of the Secretariat, or as a member of the Regional Service Team.

School of Leaders & Responsibilities of its Leaders

As leaders, our responsibility within the School of Leaders is to seek to be more centered, more committed and more united, to accelerate the living of what is fundamental for being Christian among ourselves, in the Cursillo Movement and in our daily lives.

We need to get rid of the idea that the School of Leaders is just to plan Cursillos, prepare “rollistas” and teams. The School of Leaders is not a factory to produce rollos, or rollistas or 3-day weekends; it is not a school of catechism or a center of pastoral studies.

The School of Leaders is above all a group. Something which is and exists before, during and after its sessions (meetings). Something that acts inside and out of the "School". It is above all, Christianity in action. It is unity and communion made possible by a climate of dialogue (a group reunion), where all are able and have something to teach and to learn, to ask and to give suggestions. A Climate of sincerity, trust, authenticity, freedom, conformity (rights and duties), pluralism (of vocations and positions), of unity in the diversity, and of humility, as much individual as communitarian.

Leaders seek each day to be:

- More centered to make what is fundamental for being Christian the center or axis of their lives. And the mentality of Cursillos, the center of their action as leaders in the Movement.
- More committed, involved with Christ on behalf of His Kingdom here on earth and united as leaders; one body.
- Active, doing their work of “sounding” and channeling restlessness.
- Understanding of others, knowing each others gifts and talents and working in coordination with others. A leader must be willing to make sacrifices, putting aside personal needs and directing the time, talent and treasure to the Lord’s work. (Whom Shall I Send, p. 124)
- Measuring the pulse or inciting the groups and their reunions. Promoting “friendship.”
- Preparing and perfecting the Ultreya. The School of Leaders is to the Ultreya, what the team of leaders is to the 3-day Cursillo. Behaving at the Ultreya just as we would by being part of “a team” on a weekend.
- Accelerating and perfecting the conversion of persons that makeup the Ultreya.
- Finding and promoting leaders for the Movement. Again, Father Salmani reminds us, “Those who are in the School of Leaders must seek out new leaders who wish to make a commitment to the work of the Movement. We exist only to find replacements, to develop more co-workers to help serve the larger community of Cursillistas, to support them in their work of transforming environments. This is what sets the Cursillo Leader apart from other cursillistas.” (Whom Shall I Send, p. 71)

One essential session of any School of Leaders is the reunion of the different groups or “committees”. The leaders divide into the three sections of the Movement. All the leaders,

headed by the representative on the Secretariat of each phase, will meet in one of sections: Precursillo, Cursillo, and Postcursillo. Some, will meet with the Precursillo committee to work with the different parts which entail the precursillo; others will work with the Cursillo phase, and the larger group will work on matters pertaining to the Postcursillo. The groups will examine the different situations and needs of the community in each of the three phases of the method and work on finding solutions.

The committee of Precursillo, for example, could work on sponsorship and its responsibilities; candidate preparation, follow up, etc; candidate application, deadlines, etc; and other particular situations within the precursillo.

The group of the 3-day could work on the needs and the different situations of the weekend; team selection, preparation and responsibilities; rectors and their responsibilities, etc. Although this group may be the most attractive one, it should be the smallest group among the three.

The third group will meet to dialogue and work with everything dealing with the Postcursillo. That is: Ultreyas, Group Reunions, retreats and workshops, etc.

Let us remember that this is just one session within the time frame of the School of Leaders which divides in groups; there are other sessions in the School of Leaders which will deal in general with any of these phases and their particular situations. Belonging to any of these groups does not take away from performing our normal and personal duties and responsibilities in any of the three phases.

After the session, it would be beneficial to provide a brief reporting of what was discussed and the conclusions of the group. A written report of suggestions could be given to the Secretariat to be examined and prioritized according to the local necessities. It is also important that there be continuity.

The Diocesan Secretariat - Role & Responsibilities

The Diocesan Secretariat is a service group. As an agent of service they are responsible for conserving and strengthening the mentality, purpose and basic methodology which defines and characterizes the Cursillo Movement. It is not a command or control tower giving orders.

Their functions may be compared with those of a traffic police officer. The traffic police officers are there to direct, to orient and to accelerate the traffic; but each person chooses their vehicle. The police officers are not the one who impose it.

It is required from those who form the Secretariat:

- To be affiliated with the National Secretariat (Please see appendix “A” of the Leader’s Manual)
- Support and participation within the Region
- To have Fidelity to the mentality, essence, purpose and strategy of the Movement;
- To Abide by the National Policy of the USA and by the Regional Structure
- To Make use of the official literature of the USA (Please see appendix “A” of the Leader’s Manual)

Every Secretariat should be formed by Leaders who:

- by having criterion, are already orienting;

- by having spirit, are already motivating and propelling “others”;
- by having enthusiasm, are already serving the Movement, from the groups, or from the Ultreya, or from the School.

The Movement is not propelled by the mere fact of belonging to a Secretariat, but rather according to the measure of the integration in the Secretariat of the persons’ criterion, spirit, and enthusiasm.

The service to the Church in the Cursillo Movement, by means of its real and efficient insertion in the pastoral work, asks of the members of the Secretariat:

- a sense of Church;
- intimate, constant and friendly relationship with the Hierarchy;
- intimate and authentic relationship with those responsible for the Pastoral;
- sincere and generous contact with other Movements, apostolic works and Associations of the Church.

Organization of the Secretariat

- It should be organized to oversee the needs of the diocese.
- It is necessary for its members to be replaced every 2 to 3 years.
- For more details, please see Chapter 7 of the Leaders Manual.

The service to the Movement in the Diocese requires:

- To know and to make known the method of Cursillos and its mentality, in order that it be properly applied;
- to orient and to impel the Movement in its three phases;
- to oversee that only the necessary Cursillo weekends are held;
- to seek for the proper operation of the School of Leaders, assuring that it complies with its assignment.

Regional Service Team

The Regional Service Team is a supporting group dedicated to the service and the needs of each diocese within each Region. It is the “working arms” of the National Secretariat within the dioceses in each Region.

Role and Responsibilities

The Regional Service Team is composed of one Regional Coordinator, three Service Team members, and one Spiritual Advisor. The Regional Coordinator is an official member of the National Secretariat “with voice and vote.” All the Regional Coordinators from each Region and all represented Languages form the National Secretariat. They are the ones who establish, develop, endorse, and fully implement the official documents of the Cursillo Movement in their respective Regions:

- Regional Structure Guidelines
- Articles of Operation
- National Policy

The Regional Service Team should make every effort to:

- Contact each Diocesan Secretariat in their region for introduction purposes and thus open the door to a two-way communication.
- Visit all the dioceses within the Region and practice “personal contact”
- Assist (put on) at least one workshop a year in every dioceses within their Region.
- Regularly send out (via e-mail or US mail) a Monthly informative Bulletin of what is going on in their Region and any other pertaining information.

The Regional Service Team meets at least twice a year, in Spring and Fall and makes a commitment to participate at all National events.

De Colores

REVIEW OF FISCAL YEAR 2009 (October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009)

NATIONAL ENCOUNTER

The 19th National Cursillo[®] Encounter at CSUSB (California State University at San Bernardino) started Thursday afternoon, July 30, 2009 as over 650 members of the National Cursillo[®] Movement arrived from as far west as Hawaii, as far north as Canada, and as far east as Miami, Florida. There was much joy as friends from previous Encounters greeted each other. First time Cursillistas attendees also felt the warmth and love that is evident when Cursillistas gather. Highlights of this Encounter are available on our website www.natl-cursillo.org

OMCC IV WORLD ULTREYA

After the small group discussion and reports to the whole group, it was time to board the buses for the hour drive to the Anaheim Convention Center Arena for the IV World Ultreya held by OMCC (World Organization of Cursillos of Christianity). The 1st World Ultreya had been in Rome in 1966, the 2nd in Mexico City in 1970 and the 3rd, again in Rome, in 2000. Now it was happening here in the U.S.!

At the Anaheim Convention Center Arena, we joined over 5000 other brother and sister Cursillistas from around the world. Everyone was filled with enthusiasm and love for God. At the same time, it was so peaceful.

The Keynote speaker was Dr. Guzman Carriquiry Lecour. Dr. Lecour has served on the Pontifical Council of the Laity for thirty-five years, working with Popes Paul VI and John Paul II, and now Pope Benedict XVI. His responsibilities include recognizing the many lay associations, ecclesial communities, and movements in the Church.

A few selected points from Dr. Lecour’s Keynote Address follow:

“ ‘Anyone who has found something true, beautiful and good in his life – the real treasure, the pearl of great price – is to share it everywhere, at home and at work in all areas of their lives.’ This was acknowledged by Pope Benedict XVI in his homily on June 3, 2006. So a few days earlier, in his message of May 22, he urged the movements to bring ‘Christ’s light to all the social and cultural milieus in which you live’ noting that, ‘Missionary zeal is proof of a radical experience of ever renewed fidelity to one’s charism that surpasses any kind of weary or selfish withdrawal.’”

“We must always rediscover the Church as sacrament rooted in the Trinitarian life, which ‘means’ for the whole world the mystery of salvific design, reveals the pilgrim nature of God’s people present in history as the epiphany of the inexhaustible novelty and contemporaneity of the Body of Christ. It is embraced above all as a gift, in all the density and beauty of its mystery, in all its constituent factors. It is not “ours”, it is God’s”

“Ultreya, friends! It seems that this greeting and exclamation mean ‘beyond’. The grace of the Lord takes us beyond our limits, enlightens our intelligence with the ‘beyond’ of faith and leads us beyond our own programs and plans, inviting us to be witnesses and missionaries, always beyond all confines and awaits us beyond history, in its eternal abode. Ultreya, Cursillistas friends!”

A highlight of the amazing Ultreya was the small Group Reunion among the over 5000 attendees. We were told to group with a group of 4-5 persons that would especially include persons you did not know. It was a powerful 30 minutes to share among a few new friends, our faith journey. As we shared, we could look around the arena and see literally thousands of other Cursillistas doing the same!

The music breaks scheduled between the opening talks, the group reunion and the witness talks were filled with enthusiastic singing, people clapping, dancing and waving flags. Our Christian community’s overpoweringly joyful, festive mood showed itself greatly!

Eight (8) witnesses, representing different ages, languages and culture groups, were given. The talks were translated in English and Spanish in the Ultreya program. Each witness reflected a strong evidence of God working in each life, not in dramatic, emotional ways, but very powerful. Perhaps even more powerful since they reflect normal, everyday life walked in touch with God. One witness spoke of the legacy of palanca that we have given and received throughout our lives. She pointed to some empty seats and said that these seats are not empty but are filled with the Cursillistas and people who have prayed for us who have gone before us! Who are with us still!

At 9:00 PM, we boarded the buses back to San Bernardino. Arriving back at CSUSB, it was somewhat sad to realize that the wonderful past few days surrounded by the shining faith, joy and friendship of being with brothers and sisters in Christ would be ending at breakfast on Sunday, as we each would be leaving to head home. But the faith, joy and friendship continues as we journey together through Christ, in Christ and with Christ!

DIOCESAN

Fiscal Year (FY) 2009, 88% of the language groups submitted affiliation fees. There are four newly affiliated groups:

- Region I, Worcester – Spanish
- Region II, Scranton – Spanish
- Region III, Cincinnati – Vietnamese
- Region V, Lansing – Vietnamese

There were several Diocesan workshops and Regional presentations conducted by the National Staff and National Executive Director.

REGIONAL

There were seven Regional Visitations:

- Region V – English (3 dioceses), October 2008
- Region XI – Spanish (11 dioceses), February-March 2009
- Region V – Vietnamese (7 dioceses), March 2009
- Region VI – English (15 dioceses), May 2009
- Region II – Spanish (10 dioceses), May 2009
- Region VII – English (14 dioceses), September 2009
- Region X – Spanish (4 dioceses), September 2009

The National Staff and National Executive Director participated in several English, Spanish, Filipino, and Vietnamese Regional Encounters.

LITERATURE

Completed revision and publication of National Cursillo[®] Movement's books/materials:

- English – “Leaders Prayer”.

In Progress:

- English – “Cursillo de Cursillos” and “Evidencias Olvidadas”.
- Spanish – “Evidencias Olvidadas”.
- Vietnamese – “Cursillo Manual” and “Leader’s Manual”.

Reprinted publications:

- English – “Cursillo Manual”, “Fundamentals of Christianity”, “Pilgrim’s Guide”, “Postcursillo, Group Reunion & Ultreya”, “Sponsor’s Booklet”, “Cursillo, What Is It?”, “Our Fourth Day”, “Leader’s Manual”, “Fundamental Ideas”, “Group Reunion Sheets”, “Carnets”, “Cursillo Brochures”, and “Service Sheets”.
- Spanish – “Echad Vuestras Redes”, “Manual de Dirigentes”, “Guia Del Peregrino”, “Ideas Fundamentales”, “El Libro Del Padrino”, “Cursillo, Que Es?”, “Nuestro Cuarto Dia”, “Hojas de Reunion de Dirigentes”, and “Hojas de Servicio”.
- Vietnamese – “Sponsor’s Booklet” and “Fundamental Ideas”.

New Publications:

- “Ceramic Cross with Cursillo logo”.
- English – “My Spiritual Testament”.
- Spanish – “Mi Testamento Espiritual”, “Temas sobre el Carisma e Ideas Fundacionales”, and “Postcursillo – Finalidad e Instrumentos a la Luz del Carisma Fundacional”.

NATIONAL MAILINGS

There were 6 National Mailings, each in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese language:

- October 2008: article on *The Essential, The Important And The Accidental Elements In The Cursillo Movement By Eduardo Bonnín*.
- December 2008: address by Fr. Einer Ochoa, National Spiritual Advisor, to the Cursillistas, *Discernment To Live What Is Fundamental For Being A Christian*, and an article on *Personal Contact & Authentic Witness*.
- February 2009: article on *New National Episcopal Advisor*, and *Friendship: A Virtue And A Mystery*.

- April 2009: address by Victor Lugo, National Executive Director to the Cursillistas, and an article on *The Communion Of Saints*, and *Friendship Group Reunion (Permanent, Normal, Natural, Etc.)*
- June 2009: address by Fr. Einer Ochoa to the Cursillistas, *Saint Paul, Cursillos Of Christianity, And Our Fourth Day*, and an article on *Ultreya – The Reunion Of Group Reunions*.
- August 2009: address by Fr. Einer Ochoa to the Cursillistas, *A Reflection On St. Paul After His Jubilee Year – “My Grace Is Enough For You”*, and an article on *Leadership In The Cursillo Movement*.

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

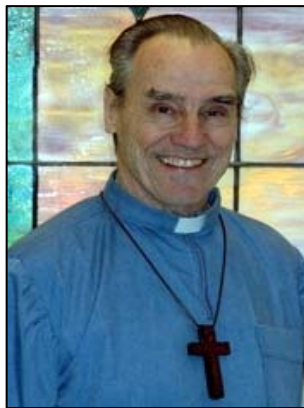
The National Secretariat met in November 2008 and July 2009. In November 2008, two Executive Committee members were selected. Twelve new Regional Coordinators were commissioned to serve on the National Secretariat. The National Secretariat is made of the twelve regions of the United States. The Regional Coordinator from each language group in each region serves on the National Secretariat along with a National Episcopal Advisor and National Spiritual Advisor.

CATHOLIC FAITH ENRICHMENT

The National Cursillo[®] Movement continues the partnership with Lighthouse Catholic Media, a division of Saint Joseph Communications. The details are posted on our website at: www.natl-cursillo.org.

20th NATIONAL CURSILLO[®] ENCOUNTER

Make plans to attend the 20th National Cursillo[®] Encounter, to be held Thursday, July 29 – Sunday, August 1, 2010, at Rockhurst University, Kansas City, Missouri. The keynote speaker will be Fr. David M. Knight.



Fr. David M. Knight

Fr. David M. Knight, born in Dallas, Texas, is a priest of the diocese of Memphis and director of His Way House, a center of spiritual growth, in Memphis, TN. He served as Diocesan Spiritual Director of Cursillos in Memphis, and was the keynote speaker at National Cursillo Encounters in Niagara Falls (1980), Toronto (1992). He has also spoken at; Saddle Lake Indian Reserve Native Conference of Cursillos in North America (1993), the Asia-Pacific Regional Encounter in Saipan (1999) and Seoul, Korea (2003), and at the National Reunion in Leavenworth (1998), and regional gatherings in St. Petersburg (1983), Hawaii (1988), Brisbane, Australia (1989), Palma Mallorca (the “Cursillo de Cursillos” 1998), and given retreats, workshops and talks to Cursillo groups throughout the country.

He wrote the *Spiritual Formation* book for Leaders' School, published by the Cursillo, and his book *His Way* is widely used by Cursillistas and quoted in Cursillo literature.

His Way, a book on the spirituality of the laity, has sold over 140,000 copies and been used in renewal programs in dioceses throughout the country, as a follow-up by the National Cursillo[®] Movement, and as a textbook for senior students at the Louverture Cleary School in Haiti. Fr. Knight has gone to Haiti to give classes to the students there about this book.

For the past thirty years his focus has been on the *Immersed in Christ* Faith-Formation Series, a systematic, integral but simple plan of spiritual formation for the laity that is now being published by Abbey Press at St. Meinrad's Seminary, Indiana. The development of such programs and their integration into parishes and schools is the focus of his ministry.

Publications: To date he has published thirty books, twenty-one booklets and manuals, and over fifty articles in twenty-nine different periodicals. A developed version of *His Way* — entitled *Reaching Jesus – Five Steps to a Fuller Life* (1998) — has been translated into Spanish, French, Arabic, Polish and Indonesian and republished in Indonesia, India, Poland and Peru. *His Way* and *Why Jesus?* are currently being translated into Korean by Fr. Minhyun Cho, spiritual director of the Korean American Cursillo Movement in North America. Other books of his have been published in Canada, the Philippines and Australia.

Education and teaching: He holds a master's degree in philosophy from Gonzaga University (Spokane); a licentiate in theology from Séminaire des Missions (Fourvière), Lyon, France; and a doctorate in theology from Catholic University (Washington, D.C.). He has taught spirituality at Catholic University, at Loyola University in New Orleans, Christian Brothers University in Memphis, and to ministers and seminarians of several denominations at Memphis Theological Seminary (Presbyterian). In 2008 he began teaching theology in the Master of Arts in Catholic Studies program at Christian Brothers University, Memphis.

The Encounter registration fee is \$370, if you register by May 31, 2010. We encourage you to make your plans now to attend the 20th 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. Capacity is 700 persons. Rooms will be 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. **NOTE:** All registrants **must** bring their own bed linens, blanket, and towel. The University **will not** provide these items. There will be transportation to Rockhurst University on Thursday, July 29th, from **Kansas City International Airport (MCI) ONLY**, and back on Sunday, August 1, 2010.

DONATIONS

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

NATIONAL CURSILLO[®] CENTER

The National Cursillo[®] Center will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day. It will re-open on Monday, January 4, 2010, at 9:00 AM (CST). 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 20th National Cursillo[®] Encounter and National Cursillo[®] Movement.

We wish you and your family a blessed Advent season and a Happy New Year.

Your brothers in Christ,

Victor Lugo – National Executive Director

Ceferino Aguillón, Jr. – National English-speaking Coordinator

Jorge Barceló – National Spanish-speaking Coordinator

Joachim Le – National Vietnamese-speaking Coordinator

20th National Cursillo[®] Encounter Registration Form
Rockhurst University, Kansas City, MO
Thursday, July 29 – Sunday, August 1, 2010

Cost for the 20th National Encounter is \$370.00

(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.**

NOTE: All registrants **must** bring their bed linens, blanket, and towel. The University **will not** provide these items.

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 \$370.00 per person and this form must be received by May 31, 2010

Registration cost received June 1 – June 30, 2010 is \$420.00

Unable to guarantee attendance after June 30, 2010

There is a \$40.00 non-refundable fee for all cancellations through May 31, 2010. No refunds after May 31, 2010 – No exceptions! The National Cursillo[®] Center is responsible for the payment to the University regardless of cancellations.

Confirmation # _____ Office Use Only
