



National Cursillo® Movement

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Dear Friends in Christ,

The National Staff of Cursillo would like to offer some historical background information on the Pilgrim's Guide the US Cursillo has been using so that we can better understand 'why' the newly published Pilgrim's Guide content was returned to its original layout.

History

In the past, the US Cursillo took the liberty of providing additional prayers in the Pilgrim's Guide. These prayers included a short version of the Liturgy of the Hours, the Canticle of Zechariah, Canticle of Mary, Canticle of Simeon, Prayer of the Cursillista, Consecration of Cursillo to Mary, Star of Evangelization, etc. These prayers were added to the Pilgrim's Guide, probably with good intentions, and eventually became the norm. But, what happened to the basic features and prayers of the original Pilgrim's Guide? Well, it got lost and/or removed when the additional prayers were added.

The Faraway

For those of us who already have an established personal prayer life, the additional prayers in the previous version of the Pilgrim's Guide are welcome; however, the person who is considered a "faraway" may be overwhelmed or not comprehend these prayers. If the US Cursillo truly believes that the message of the 3-Day Cursillo is preferentially, but not exclusively, for the "faraway", then it stands to reason that the Pilgrim's Guide original intent and content is to provide only the basics of prayer that is understandable and encourages participation. The 3-Day Cursillo does not dictate a particular prayer life the candidate must follow, but creates a hunger in the candidate to come to their own realization that they need to establish a *personal prayer life* to continue their relationship with self, with Christ, and with others.

Back to the Origins

The Church has also taken us back to the roots of the liturgical prayers on several occasions so that we may enjoy its original intent. As comfortable as we were with the previous version of the liturgy, we were encouraged to make the transition to the new version anyway. The National Secretariat has been studying the Charism of the Cursillo Movement since 2003. In this study, we are going back to the origins of the movement – the foundational ideas that were given to our founder. Through this study, we have discovered that the Pilgrim's Guide needs to be more basic for the "faraway". The National Secretariat is not trying to inconvenience anyone by publishing a new Pilgrim's Guide. They ask that you *prayerfully* work with the Cursillo community in your respective area to make the transition after the Pilgrim's Guide has been reviewed by the Secretariat and School of Leaders.

Transition Period

Due to the feedback received from the English and Spanish Cursillo communities, the National Cursillo Center (NCC) has ordered a small quantity of the previous version of the Pilgrim's Guide for those dioceses that have 3-Day Weekends scheduled in March and April and may not be ready to fully implement the new Pilgrim's Guide during this time frame. Please contact the NCC at 512-746-2020 as soon as possible if you are in need of the previous version of the Pilgrim's Guide.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this important matter.

De Colores!

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