Cursillos in Christianity National Newsletter

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Love

<u>Source</u>: 1st Conversations of Cala Figuera, Foundation Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló (FEBA).¹ The revised translation of this book describes *Days of reflection on the Founding Charism of the Cursillo held in "The Porciúncula" in Palma de Mallorca on the 50th Anniversary of the First Cursillo Weekend held in Cala Figuera in Santanyi, on the Island of Mallorca, Spain in August 1944.*

The following outline is on the 3rd topic, Love. There are 10 topics in the 1st Conversations of Cala Figuera revised translation. Cursillistas are encouraged to read this topic in its entirety at the <u>Cursillo Resource Center</u>. This is a great resource for study in the School of Leaders.

- In the make-up of man, in his being, every person emanates their radical yearning for personal love which, if observed with attentive and intelligent observation, always produces astonishment because it refers us to our own being and to the love of God.
- To love is to see the persons, the events and the things from God's perspective.
- One cannot love with a damaged 'self'.
- Allowing oneself to be loved is more than loving. True love is a response: "He loved us frist".
- Sometimes the clean of heart are not clean of intention and entertain themselves by treating the situation with paternalism. They admonish people without loving them.
- In the experience of loving people with true love, one realizes that this is where "he/she is more of a person" and where "he/she is better". This means that when someone really and truly loves people, one realizes that they are at their best and consequently feel fulfilled.
- Friendship is the way to explicitly express love.
- One can only fully know what one really loves.
- We all need to grow in love, work and recreation.

National Cursillo Center Highlights for Fiscal Year 2017

Administration

- The National Cursillo Movement (NCM) received approval from the IRS to become a standalone 501(c)(3) entity on April 6, 2017.
- The National Cursillo Movement sent 16 delegates from 6 language groups, Diocesan, Regional and National level to attend the Convocation of Catholic Leaders in Orlando, FL from July 1-4, 2017. The NCM sponsored a coffee and water break station at the Convocation. The NCM's attendance and donation was recognized by the USCCB.

¹ http://www.feba.info

- The National Secretariat revised and published the Article of Operation in November 2017. The Articles of Operation can be downloaded at <u>https://www.natl-cursillo.org/forms-reports/</u>. The Secretariat and School of Leaders should have a copy for review and reference.
- The National Secretariat has selected the following servant leaders to serve on the Executive Committee of the North America Caribbean Group (NACG) for 4 years (2018-2021). The committee is comprised of:
 - ✓ Hugo Valverde President
 - ✓ Marisela Rodriguez-Garcia Vice President
 - ✓ Jim Santos Treasurer
 - ✓ Jackie DeMesme-Gray Secretary
 - ✓ Fr. Alex Waraksa Spiritual Advisor

Resource Center (Bookstore)

- The National Cursillo Center (NCC) introduced the USA English version of the 1st Conversation of Cala Figuera, Manifesto in English and Spanish, Reflection II in English.
- The National Cursillo Movement continues inviting all Cursillistas to join them in praying for Eduardo Bonnín's beatification and canonization into the Sainthood of the Church. See <u>Prayer</u> <u>Card</u>.

Donation Center

The National Cursillo Center continued to promote the \$3/YR Campaign and has received a total donation of \$159,645 from April 2013 to November 2017. The NCC has advanced approximately \$160,000 to:

- ✓ support 12 establishing movements in terms of book vouchers, free National Encounter registration fees, workshops etc.: \$5,000
- ✓ provide an additional 10% book discount during FY2015 and 2016: \$70,000
- ✓ reduce National Encounter registration fee in 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017: \$60,000
- ✓ provide 234 National Encounter (NE) vouchers to Lay Directors: \$25,000

Donation toward the \$3/Year Campaign have <u>dropped by 30%</u> compared to the same period last year.

• The National Cursillo Movement has been successfully registered with the <u>Amazon Smile</u> Program as a non-profit organization eligible to receive donations through the Foundation. So far, NCC has received \$644.59 from Smile Amazon thanks to the participation of many Cursillistas!

Event Center

• Planned and implemented the 27th National Encounter and 60th Cursillo Anniversary which was held at Trinity University from July 27-30, 2017. Total attendance was 740 Cursillistas. The encounter was blessed with the presence of all the Cursillistas made up of 7 language groups and especially the presence of Most Rev. Francisco Senra Coelho, OMCC Spiritual Advisor; Most Rev. Michael Boulette and Most Rev. Michael Pfeifer from the Archdiocese of San Antonio; and Most Rev. Eusebio Elizondo from the Archdiocese of Seattle.

• Finance and Operations

The National Cursillo Center had a positive income of \$46,619 for Fiscal Year 2017 (Oct. 2016-Sept. 2017). The \$3/YR Campaign has been used as a buffer for strategic implementation of reducing book prices and National Encounter registration fees, assisting start-up Cursillo movements, etc.

2018 National Encounter

The National Encounter will be held on August 16-19, 2018 at <u>Seattle University</u>. Seattle University is a beautiful Jesuit Catholic University located in Seattle, WA on 50 acres in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood.

The 2018 National Encounter registration fee will be determined based on the <u>\$3/YR Campaign</u> and Amazon Smile donations received by December 31, 2017. Therefore, the more Cursillistas donate, the greater the possibility of lowering the encounter registration fee. The National Encounter registration form will be available on-line on January 15, 2018. There are only 700 seats available. It's expected to be a fully-packed National Encounter at Seattle University. See you there – bring a friend!

60 Years of Cursillo in the USA



As we come to the end of 2017, we are grateful for all the blessings we have received through the gift of Cursillo in the last 60 years. We ask God for a continued pouring of his love and freiendship to all Cursillistas in the years to come and may we continue to generate friends for Christ in the moveable square meter we occupy at this exact moment. Thank You for your service, friendship and leadership!

Remember 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.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

The National Secretariat, National Staff, and the National Cursillo Center personnel wish you and your loved ones a Blessed Advent Season, a Merry Christmas, and a New Year filled with God's love and friendship!

De Colores! Hoang Tran – National Cursillo Service Administrator Ceferino Aguillón, Jr. – National English Coordinator Juan Ruiz – National Hispanic Coordinator Vincent Tin Pham – National Vietnamese Coordinator