



December 2013/January 2014 Special Edition

Fourth Day News

Washington Cursillo Movement

Informing, Enlightening, and Building Community

Secretariat Corner



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Greetings Sister And Brother Cursillistas,

The Secretariat is pleased to welcome Ginger Caldwell as a Co-Chair of the 4th Day Committee and new member of the Secretariat. Ginger will serve with Judy Kelly as we bid farewell to James Brightful. We would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to James who recently completed his term as 4th Day Co-Chair.

Please join us on "Fat Tuesday" for our first "**FundRaiser**" for 2014. We will be traveling to Harrington Casino in Harrington, Delaware, on March 4, 2014. The fee for this trip is \$35.00, which includes a \$10.00 Casino Rebate and Free Buffet. The bus will depart from Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 1600 Morris Road, S.E., Washington, DC at 9:30 a.m., and we will return at 6:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining us or if you have any questions regarding this trip, please contact Paul Washington at 202-678-2630 or Vincent Jordon at 301-702-0012.

We welcome any suggestions that you may have for "**FundRaisers**". Please email your suggestions to Vincent at Finance@WashDC-Cursillo.org.

The Spring Region 2 Encounter will be held April 25-27, 2014 at the John Paul II Retreat Center in Vineland, NJ. Please note that the Region 2 Encounter is open to **all Cursillistas** and we encourage you to attend. Cef Aguilloñ, National English Coordinator, who is a member of the National Secretariat will be attending the Spring Encounter and will be making key presentations. The fee to attend is \$125.00. This fee covers your room, dinner on Friday evening, 3 meals on Saturday and 2 meals on Sunday. The registration form is posted on our website, or you may submit your registration form on-line by going to the Region 2 Website at: <http://www.cursilloregion2.org>. If you are planning to attend, please submit your registration form and payment as soon as possible in order to secure a room at the Retreat House and avoid being assigned to a room in the overflow hotel.

Our community has been honored to receive an invitation to serve as the Host Diocese for the upcoming Region 2 Multi-Cultural Golf and Soccer Family Weekend, May 3-4, 2014.

This event will be held at Andrews Air Force Base and is open to all Cursillistas, family members and friends. An awards dinner will be held on Saturday evening. The cost to attend the dinner is \$25.00. You will find more detailed information regarding this event and registration information in the article from Region 2 Coordinator, Jackie DeMesme-Gray. Please note that the Diocese in Region 2 that brings in the most money for this event, will receive one free registration to the upcoming National Encounter. We will be contacting you in the near future seeking your assistance with this event.

The 24th National Cursillo Encounter will be held at Chapman University, in Orange, California, July 31-August 3, 2014. The registration fee is \$335.00, if received by May 31, 2014 and will increase to \$385.00 on June 1, 2014. You may register on-line at <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/encounter>, or if you prefer you may download the registration form and mail it to the National Cursillo Center, the address is listed on the form.

You will be abundantly blessed at the National Encounter; Miguel Sureda, longtime friend, and group reunion member of our founder Eduardo Bonnín, who is directly involved with the Mallorcan Diocesan Secretariat and FEBA (Eduardo Bonnín Aguilo Foundation), will present the topic and slideshow, “*Journeys with Eduardo*,” at the National Encounter. Miguel is the Cursillista with whom Jackie DeMesme-Gray, Region 2 Coordinator, met in Mallorca and who we all saw in her DVD that was shared with each of our Ultreyas on her pilgrimage.

Please continue to offer prayers for our Spiritual Director, Father Pete Alliata, who is recovering from a fall.

De Colores
LaVerne Atiba & Paul Washington
Co-Lay Directors

“Let’s Go To The Hop”



***Calling All Cursillistas, Babe Chicks,
Cluck Hens and Roosters***

If your Ultreya wants to be a “**Hop Host**”, please contact Paul Washington or LaVerne Atiba: at LayDirector@washdc-cursillo.org or Paul Washington on 202-302-3518; LaVerne Atiba on 202-494-0060.

***Happy New Year from the
Pre-Cursillo Team!!! We
are renewing our call to all
Sponsors and Ultreya
Leaders!!!***

As we get closer to the 212th Women’s Cursillo weekend scheduled for February 13-16, 2014, we have ten (10) women already signed up and we are praying for another six (6) to join them.

Brothers and sisters, therefore, we are again renewing our plea to ALL Cursillistas to remember that it is incumbent upon all of us to help Pre-Cursillo - the first of three stages of the Cursillo movement to rely on evangelization to achieve its purpose – whose focus is to assist with bringing candidates into the Cursillo.

Remember, as a part of our mission, we are charged with:

- Studying and selecting environments in need of evangelization. This is done both collectively as a movement, as well as individually.
- Searching out, selecting, and preparing candidates to have maximum evangelical effectiveness.
- Preparing for the Cursillo by preparing and processing applications for a Cursillo, keeping the team and Secretariat informed about the candidate applications, and support sponsors by helping them understand their role and connecting them to that information.
- Making plans with the sponsors to accompany new Cursillistas into the Post-Cursillo and to help them mature in their faith, deepen their Christian commitment, and take their apostolic place in the world.

Again, what then is being asked of you? Kelli Baxter (212th), the coordinator for the upcoming weekend needs your assistance to make the approaching weekend be one of consistent sponsoring. **The deadlines for the 212th weekend will be upon us before we know it – February 1, 2014.** Let's work very hard to get the remaining 6 women to fill this weekend.



Please take some time to prepare yourselves and new candidates. Please use this time to pray, identify a leader, make a friend, be a friend, and bring that friend to Christ.

In order for our brothers and sisters to enjoy in the fruits of Cursillo, you the Ultreya leaders and sponsors are asked to really begin work NOW to seek and prepare new Cursillistas to ready themselves for the upcoming weekends.

Weekend applications are posted to our website at <http://www.washdc-cursillo.org>. ***Please note that we have added a couple of new fields and we ask that the entire application be filled in.*** Please help grow the Cursillo Movement by supporting its mission of a Cursillo Leader:

“Make a friend, be a Friend, and Bring your Friend to Christ!”

Charles and Nancy Smallwood
Co-Chairs
Pre-Cursillo Committee



“HERE I AM TO WORSHIP”

212TH Women’s Cursillo Weekend

Each member, handpicked by God, came together to worship. When I asked, they all said YES and now we have come together from all points North, South, East and West, from Maryland and the District of Columbia all in the name of our Lord and Savior....our Brother Jesus. For *“where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” Matt 18:20*. The team of the 212th Women’s Weekend – Here we are to bring our new sisters of the 212th to a closer relationship with Christ.

We will begin Thursday evening with veteran but first time “Beacon Deacon” Assistant Spiritual Advisor, Deacon Jim Caldwell as he presents the “Know Yourself” meditation, followed by Assistant Spiritual Advisor and Musician, Sue Numrich with the “Prodigal Son” meditation. Friday morning our Head Musician, Linda Pohland will lead the day by presenting the “Three Glances of Christ” meditation.

First time Table Leader, Ethel Butler will kick start the morning off with the Ideal Rollo, and followed by Sue Numrich with the Habitual Grace Rollo. On Friday afternoon, first time Table Leader, Leanne Stivers will give the

Laity Rollo, while Deacon Jim Caldwell will present the Actual Grace Rollo, followed by the Piety Rollo delivered by Assistant Angel Bernadette White.

Saturday morning, Head Angel Jennifer Tilghman will deliver the “Figure of Christ” Meditation, followed by Table Leader, Lethia Kelly presenting the Study Rollo, and our Head Spiritual Director Fr. Patrick Smith will present the Sacraments Rollo. Saturday afternoon we will continue our talks with Table Leader, Sheronne Wilson as she gives the Action Rollo while Sue Numrich presents the Obstacles of Grace Rollo, and we will conclude the day of talks with Table Leader Anne Marie Abresch delivering the Leaders Rollo.

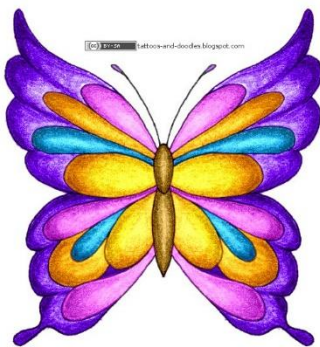
Sunday morning as we *“Rise and Shine and give God the Glory Glory!”* Assistant Angel Mary Boivin will give the “Christ’s Message to the Cursillistas” Meditation followed by Table Leader Erin Wiley, as she presents the Study of Environments Rollo. Deacon Jim Caldwell will then present the Life of Grace Rollo followed by Table Leader, Cheryl Kerwin with the Christianity in Action Rollo and Assistant Coordinator, Pat Wells presenting the Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo Rollo.

The final Rollo, Total Security, will be presented by the 212th Coordinator, Kelli Baxter. Our faithful servant Liaison is our very own Co-Lay Director, LaVerne Atiba who stands as a pillar of support for us all.

We have lifted our new Babe Chicks to come in prayer as a team each week leading to the weekend, and we ask the community to join us in claiming those faith-filled women He has handpicked and called to this weekend to experience the love and presence of the sweet Holy Spirit.

As taken from a Homily from a Mass celebrated with the Ecclesial Movement - Pentecost, May 19, 2013: "The Holy Spirit has shown us that the newness which God brings into our life is something that actually brings fulfillment that gives true joy, true serenity, because God loves us and desires only our good. Ah, but we have to trust God to really let Him wash His newness over our lives. As the team of the 212th, we remain constant in our prayers as we are led by the Holy Spirit in all that we say and do. We have no fear of God's Newness! The team and new sisters of the 212th request the continued prayers and support of the Community as we sing God's praises....."***Here I am to Worship***".

De Colores!
Kelli Baxter, Coordinator



IN THE SPIRIT ***Spiritual Advisor Corner***

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION ***GO TO THE WELL, TAKE TIME FOR*** ***THE BETTER PART &*** ***GET A CLEAN HEART***

I was asked to talk about Spiritual Direction, a mandate for candidates for ordination, and an essential for any serious witness to the faith. When asked I immediately thought about my best friend, the late Father Levester Jones. Years before either of us was ordained, we were in group reunion. After Levester's ordination, our conversations had greater depth; the only person that I spoke to more often was my wife, Jennifer. Levester and I shared a special relationship – two things cemented the relationship we shared – love and confrontation. His constant message to me – "Your faith is strong; your witness is powerful. Do not limit the use of your gifts."

What about Spiritual Direction? Thomas Merton, in his book, **SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AND MEDITATION**, captured the essence of this special relationship when he said, ***"... no amount of theological study can give a man spiritual discernment if he lacks the sense of respect for souls and their uniqueness."*** Spiritual Direction includes friendship, love and confrontation – directors are masters of the loving confrontation, just as Jesus confronted the Apostles and disciples. The loving confrontation demonstrates love and invites the one confronted to look at his or her gifts before witnessing to how encountering Christ was an integral part of discovering and using the gifts.

When asked to witness about Spiritual Direction at a recent closing, I recalled the Sunday talks and the introduction to Spiritual Directors, those coaches that coordinators talk about at closings. Perhaps you spoke to a Spiritual Director during your weekend. Spiritual Direction is just like the weekend; if you only do it during the three days, there will not be much to your fourth day. I have two favorite pictures of Spiritual Direction – the Samaritan Woman at the Well in John’s Gospel. Jesus meets the woman where she is – her place, her time and her terms and then listens intently to her story. Jesus directs her to do nothing, but asks her questions about her life. The woman walks away and witnesses; everyone she confronted sought out the Master Teacher and witnessed to their faith in the One who the woman witnessed about.

So what about the other picture? It is Luke’s story about Mary and Martha. I am convinced that Luke was writing about two guys who just completed a 3 Day Cursillo. He used women in the illustration because guys are too embarrassed to engage in the “touchy – feely” stuff. Martha had a great weekend – claps at the closings, packs palanca in pretty packages and brings the sweetest snacks to closings. Martha complains about Mary, who is not as concerned about the “stuff” as Martha is. As you know, from the story according to Luke, Jesus said that Mary got the better part. While Martha did the best “stuff” Mary made a habit of sitting at the feet of Jesus and feasting on the living Word of God. Spiritual Direction is the better part – finding a director who is a friend with ***the sense of respect for souls and their uniqueness***, especially your soul. When you find this director, sit at his or her feet, and see how the Holy Spirit speaks to you.

I recall approaching a pastor for guidance when I was stuck in the “stuff” and he reminded me to look in the mirror. He watched me for a while (I didn’t know he was watching) and changed the subject in our conversation. He reminded me of relationships I had with seminarians, noting that Levester and several other seminarians were my good friends. Then he suggested that I visit the Vocation Director for the Permanent Diaconate. I thought he was crazy and now I am ordained. Interestingly, this priest was one of Levester’s Spiritual Directors during his priest formation. After lots of loving confrontations, I was ordained – Levester and this Spiritual Director that we shared were integral parts of my life and consulted routinely. There was tension, much like it was for the Samaritan woman. You must endure the tension before you can be the witness.

There is another opportunity for Spiritual Direction, and of course, there is a Bible story to match. There is another perfect picture of you to write in your hearts. Recall the story of the adulterous woman (John 8), who the men were ready to stone; they were not going to stone the man who had to be part of the activity. Jesus appears, hears the story from the adulterous woman before confronting the men. After the confrontation, the woman asks Jesus if he would condemn her. Jesus reassures her that he is not in the business of throwing stones, invites her to get the “stuff” out of her life and witness to the power of meeting the living Christ. This third story is Reconciliation, the Sacrament of the Saints. This Sacrament is not confessing your sins to the priest – it is a chance to get direction from the same Christ who was present to the Samaritan woman at the well. This Sacrament is another opportunity to meet Christ; make the meeting part of your routine.

Some will read and remember the lesson of this note. Spiritual Direction is the better part, and the objective is to live the lesson. Find the Spiritual Director; go to the well and drink the living water – get the better part at the feet of Jesus – when facing condemnation seek out Jesus to get the clean heart. Do this and you will be that witness who is walking and witnessing on the road to Emmaus, and inviting others to the walk by the example of your life. ULTREYA!

Deacon Timothy Tilghman
Spiritual Advisor



Here's a thought, have your talk and then
have a great new year...2014!!!

Man: God, can I ask You a question?

God: Sure

Man: Promise You won't get mad ...

God: I promise

Man: Why did You let so much stuff happen to me today?

God: What do u mean?

Man: Well, I woke up late

God: Yes

Man: My car took forever to start

God: Okay

Man: at lunch they made my sandwich wrong & I had to wait

God: Huummm

Man: On the way home, my phone went DEAD, just as I picked up a call

God: All right

Man: And on top of it all, when I got home I just wanted to soak my feet in my new foot massager & relax. BUT it wouldn't work!!! Nothing went right today! Why did You do that?

God: Let me see, the death angel was at your bed this morning & I had to send one of My Angels to battle him for your life. I let you sleep through that

Man (humbled): OH

God: I didn't let your car start because there was a drunk driver on your route that would have hit you if you were on the road.

Man: (ashamed)

God: The first person who made your sandwich today was sick & I didn't want you to catch what they have, I knew you couldn't afford to miss work.

Man (embarrassed): Okay

God: Your phone went dead bcuz the person that was calling was going to give false witness about what you said on that call, I didn't even let you talk to them so you would be covered.

Man (softly): I see God

God: Oh and that foot massager, it had a shortage that was going to throw out all of the power in your house tonight. I didn't think you wanted to be in the dark.

Man: I'm Sorry God

God: Don't be sorry, just learn to Trust Me.... in All things , the Good & the bad.

Man: I will trust You.

God: And don't doubt that My plan for your day is Always Better than your plan.

Man: I won't God. And let me just tell you God,
Thank You for Everything today.

God: You're welcome child. It was just another day being your God and looking after My Children...

I'm sorry to disturb you! **My name is God.**
You hardly have time for me. I love you and always bless you. I am always with you. I need you to spend 30 minutes of your time with Me today. Don't pray. Just chat.

Love, God

Region 2 Message to the Cursillistas



**Join in a Spirit-filled Family
Multicultural Cursillo Weekend
Fun, Faith, Friendship and Food**

De Colores, my dear sister and brother Cursillistas,

I greet you as your Region 2 Coordinator and most recently selected to be a member of the Executive Committee of our National Secretariat for Cursillo. But, most importantly, I greet you as friend and a proud Cursillista of this beautiful Diocese of Washington Cursillo community. Mark your calendar!

Join in our Region 2 "First Cursillo Multicultural Golf and Soccer Family Weekend" on May 3-4 at Andrews Air Force Base (AAFB) in Camp Springs, Maryland. All proceeds go to our Region 2 budget to defray costs for Cursillo in Region 2 (Washington, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania and NJ).

On Saturday, May 3, join our Region 2 Golf or Soccer Tournaments, as a player or observer, and participate at our Region 2 Awards Dinner. All activities will be held at AAFB and are open to all -- Cursillistas and non-Cursillistas, golfers and non-golfers, soccer players and non-soccer players.

On Sunday, May 4, 2:00 pm, participate at our Multicultural Mass hosted by our Vietnamese Cursillo brothers and sisters at Our Lady of Vietnam Catholic Church - faith, food and fellowship.

Support our Hospitality Committee, led by our Lay Directors, LaVerne and Paul, to welcome our guests and make money for our Diocese. See Ann Batiste about buying event golf and soccer polo shirts, T-shirts, caps and tote bags...our very own Brother Richard drew our logos. Contact LaMont and Kelli Baxter to sign up for golf. Go to Region 2 website at: <http://www.cursilloregion2.org> for information and registration.

How can you support your Diocese during this family fun weekend?

- ✚ Play golf or soccer and encourage others to play or attend as observer
- ✚ Participate at the Region 2 Golf Awards Dinner on Saturday night
- ✚ Seek sponsorships and donations for event activities from businesses for our Diocese
- ✚ Donate gift items for golf, soccer and Cursillo and seek donations from others
- ✚ Buy weekend related merchandise and wear as an Ultreya at our events
- ✚ Pray that our regional Cursillo multicultural weekend event is a blessing and success.
- ✚ How can my support help defray costs for our Washington Diocese?

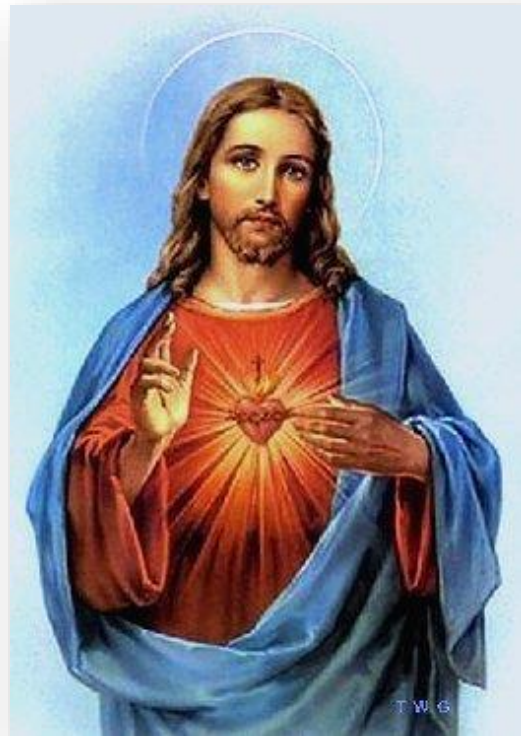
Diocesan scholarships to "National and Regional Encounters" awarded to dioceses with:

- ✚ Largest number of attendees and participants at weekend events
- ✚ Selling the most Event Gear such as T-shirts, tote bags, hats, polo shirts etc. (Spanish and English)
- ✚ Bringing the largest amount of monies from sponsorships and donations

By the Grace of the Holy Spirit we are richly blessed to have a community of Cursillistas actively engaged in spreading God's love. We must "bloom where we are planted" and bring the fruits of our faith into the ordinary moments of our everyday lives. Join our Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese and Korean sisters and brothers, and share your gifts, grow our Movement and have fun at our event.

Let's Make a friend, Be a friend, and Bring that friend to Christ!

Ultreya,
Jackie DeMesme-Gray, Region 2
Coordinator



“Jesus is Calling”

I SPEAK TO YOU from the depths of eternity. *Before the world was formed, I AM!*

You hear Me in the depths of your being,
where I have taken up residence. *I am Christ
in you, the hope of Glory.*

I, your Lord and Savior, am alive within you.
Learn to tune in to My living Presence by
seeking Me in silence.

As you celebrate the wonder of My birth in
Bethlehem, celebrate also your rebirth into
eternal life. This everlasting gift was the sole
purpose of My entering your sin-stained
world. Receive My gift with awe and humility.
Take time to explore the vast dimensions of
My Love. Allow thankfulness to flow freely
from your heart in response to My glorious
gift. *Let My Peace rule in your heart, and be
thankful.*

*Before the mountains were brought forth or
ever You had formed and given birth to the
earth and the world, even from everlasting to
everlasting You are Go.*

—PSALM 90:2 AMP

*To them God has chosen to make known
among the Gentiles the glorious riches of
this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope
of glory.*

—COLOSSIANS 1:27

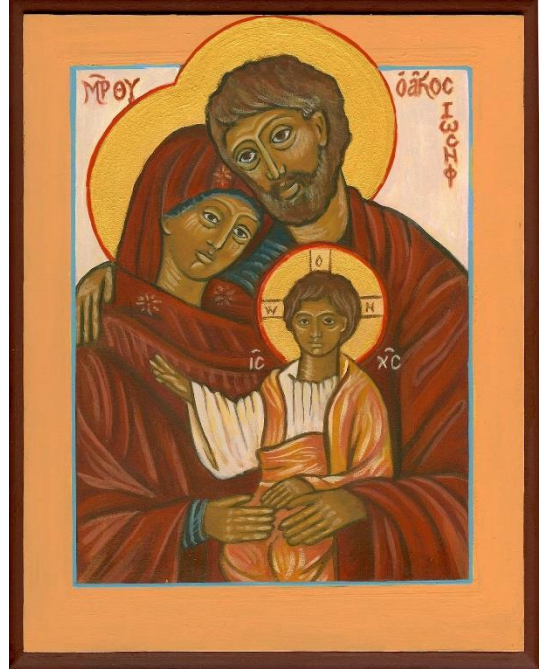
“A REFLECTION ON THE “HOLY FAMILY”

In grammar... an adjective is a “describing”
word. Adjectives give more information
about the object.

There are many adjectives that we can use
in describing family:

- Traditional family
- Military family (OO RAH!)
- Large family

- Broken family
- Close family
- Happy family



Our Feast Day on the first Sunday after
Christmas is that of the Holy Family. On that
day the Church calls our attention not simply
to the importance of family...but the
necessity that our families be holy.
But what is it that makes a family holy?
It is to be without sin?
Well, let's look at the Holy Family that the
Church gives us --- Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
--- and see what we can discern.

Let's look at Joseph first:

Joseph stands in a long line of “dreamers” in
the Bible:

- His Old Testament namesake...
Joseph from the Book of Genesis....
was an interpreter of dreams.
- Daniel told King Nebuchadnezzar
what his dreams meant.
- Jacob had a famous dream of angels
ascending and descending on a great
ladder.
- Abraham fell asleep and experienced
a startling vision of God.

The biblical authors often saw dreams as a method of Divine communication. This explains why a Psalmist (16) said of God: *“even at night, you direct my heart.”* Joseph didn’t follow his own projects... his own plans... but the projects and plans of God....revealed to him from above in dreams. Joseph was willing to set his own plans aside in favor of what God was asking him to do. I think this is a clue as to what constitutes holiness.....

Now, consider Mary: Like any young woman of 1st century Palestine, she had her hopes....Mary had her own expectations. But then she received a startling revelation of God’s will: she received a visit from an angel --- a heavenly messenger who laid out for her an extraordinary plan. And yet she recognizes this as the desire of God.....and so she reordered her life accordingly:

“Behold, I am the maidservant of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to thy word.”

At that moment, a teenaged girl surrendered her autonomy...”and the Word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us.”

Mary gave up her plans and projects. She gave herself over to a higher power. *“My life is not about me.”* That’s what Joseph understood....that’s what Mary understood.

And now consider Jesus himself: In Luke’s Gospel story of the Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple (when he was 12 years old), Jesus says *“Why were you looking for me? Did you not know I must be in my Father’s house?”* Jesus undoubtedly loved Joseph and Mary very much. But his life was not about them....or their desires. It was about the desires of his Father in heaven.

Jesus followed not his own plan.... nor the plans of his remarkably holy parents..... but directed his life to do the will of God. And so **THIS** is what it means to be holy: it is to realize that your life is not about you. It means to place yourself dramatically in the hands of God....to be about God’s business above all. That is why Mary, Joseph, and Jesus constitute the Holy Family.

So now here’s the challenge to all of us: We must make our families places where the will of God is discerned and heeded. But how do we know the will of God....absent a dream or a visit from an angel?

Let me proffer this hint:

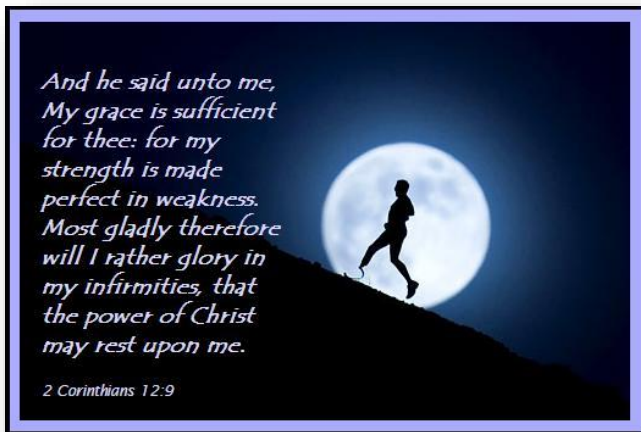
Whatever is prompting you to greatest **love**, to greatest **justice**, to greatest **truth**, to greatest **integrity**; to greatest **self-gift**.....**THAT** is the voice of God in you. Is it easy? Almost by definition --- NO. If you are looking at 2 contrasting decisions..... the harder one is likely the will of God.

Which decision is calling for a greater self-gift? That is probably the will of God. When you are willing to say *“that’s going to be the center of my life ”*....then you have found holiness. And when all the members of a family follow that call together --- then **THEY** are a Holy Family as well.



An Unexpected Grace

I worked a men's weekend not too long ago where during one of the Grace talks Brother Gerald used an acronym for Grace: God's Radical Action Calling Everyone. Now we all know that we sometimes do not respond to God's grace all the time just as we should, but I want to share something with the greater Cursillo Community of Washington that I think will lift you up. If Cursillo accomplished only one thing this year this would be it. I believe, and I think you will agree, that this one thing is so pleasing to God that many more graces will come to us because of it than almost any other thing that we could do.



On December 15th Cursillo held its Advent Day of Reflection. One aspect of the reflections that were shared on this day spoke about the method and how truly living the method is incarnational in that it is a living way that aligns one's heart, by helping each of us to say yes to God, and our yes allows Christ, in an ongoing way, to transform us into little christs. To truly become a little christ, we must sincerely include in our efforts to live piously an active purification process that in an ongoing way helps us discover our faults and sins and takes action to decrease in these so that

Christ may increase. One focus of living piety incarnationally than is our purification and enfolded into our use of the Cursillo method a process that helps us hold ourselves accountable for acknowledging our sins, purifying them from our lives and making consistent use of the sacrament of reconciliation.

As one of the presenters of the Advent Day of Reflection, I developed what was presented after much prayer and in the hope that the Holy Spirit would fill me with the words that He wanted me to speak to the people He called to come to the event. When you prepare these things you always hope they will speak to at least one person, but for the most part you never really know if this truly happened, for while you can see sometimes evidence that some enjoyed the day and maybe some did not enjoy it so much, and you can get positive comments sometimes, you never really see whether folks put the things emphasized to use. This is both natural and expected because we can act as the sower of the seeds the Spirit wants sown, but we often do not see the resultant growth. Yesterday's Advent Day of Reflection was different in at least one significant way.

After it was all over and most people had departed for home, one of the folks who had come to the Day of Reflection and who had participated in the discussions about our need to examine our efforts at purification and the need to use the sacrament of reconciliation as a part of the purifying process, decided that he would go to confession. He told me this after he had pulled a priest aside at Trinity Missions to have his confession heard.

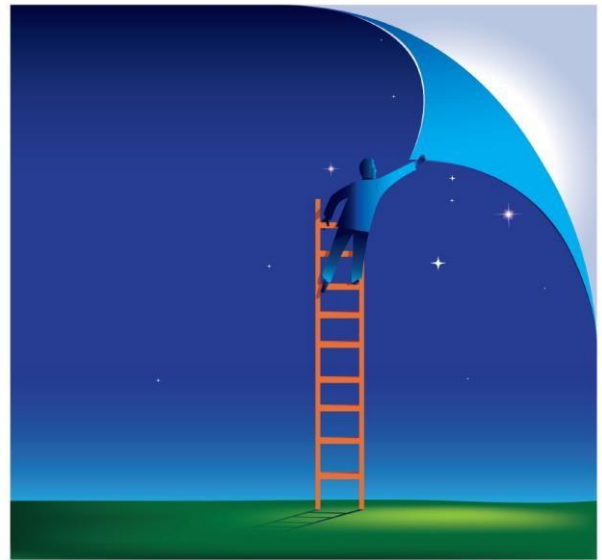
The amazing thing is that this was the first confession he has made since he was 14 years old and it was his first confession in over 50 years. In speaking with him, he said that his confession had lifted a great burden from his soul and that he felt light of being – he felt FREE! It was a wonderful grace to hear the joy in his voice and to see the joy in his eyes and as it played across his face.

The sacrament of reconciliation is a key tool for purifying one's heart, mind, and soul for the presence of God. Our hope is that you will use it this Advent as you prepare for Christ's coming at Christmas. Thank you fellow Cursillistas for being such a living example of God's love! Thank you for allowing me to preside at the Advent Day of Reflection. As St. Catherine of Siena once said, "All the way to heaven is heaven, because Jesus is the way."

Merry Christmas!
Deacon Jim Caldwell – Men's 160th – Table
of L.I.F.E (Living in Faithful Expectancy)



If you have prayer requests or want to be added to the mailing list to receive prayer requests, please submit your e-mail information to MaryAnne Upright at MAUpright@aol.com.



Our fifth day corner is to honor all of our Cursillistas who go on to their heavenly rest, living out their fifth day with our Brother Jesus.

***"Rejoice in the Lord always. I say it again: Rejoice!"
Philippians 4: 4***

Remembering my Brother and Friend Gilbert J. Fenwick

Revelation 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."

In the nearly 7 years I have been a member of the St Martin of Tours Parish in Washington, I have come to know many friends and church family, but none have been such an inspiration as Mr. Fenwick or the "Old Man" as I affectionately called him. He is one of those persons who may touch your life for a short time but the impression they leave in your heart lasts forever.

The day I discovered he was a Cursillista and had been isolated from the Community for decades was the day I was inspired to start the Group Reunion at our church and this April we celebrate our 4th anniversary as a family, yet we must mark that anniversary without our “patriarch”, our “mentor”, our friend”. Yes Mr. Fenwick was all of these and so much more.

During his near 90 year life he was faithfully married to his wife Martha; he was a proud father, grandfather and great grandfather. He served his country during WWII; was a member of St Martin’s for nearly 60 years where he faithfully served in the Traditional Choir for decades and was a Eucharistic Minister. Only his last illness kept him from fulfilling his duties these past few months before his death. He was also a member of Shrine Council in the Knights of Columbus.

I first discovered he was a Cursillista when he wore his “cookie” to Mass. When I recognized it and asked him about it, he said it was a palanca he had received many years ago on a retreat. Once we started meeting as a Group Reunion he could not recall when he made his weekend but was thrilled when he remembered that he grouped at the table of St Jerome and made certain I would remember it in case he would forget.

One of the things which will remain with me besides his dedication to God, his church and his family, was his brilliant sense of humor and his knack for spinning a yarn. During Group he would often relate how God came to have conversations with him. He would keep us entertained and inspired with his tales of WWII, his early life growing up in the country or his many years working for the Government Printing Office.

You never knew what to expect from him, but whatever it was you knew it would be outrageous. I recall a few years ago when we were able to bring him to a meet and greet for one of the Men’s weekends. As he entered the door, he said with the straightest of faces, “is this where they are having the AA meeting tonight?”. He was truly priceless! Everyone who knew him in the choir knew there was one song he would refuse to sing and that was “Soon and Very Soon”, his reasoning was that he was not ready to go. Well now I know the Heavenly Choir now has a new tenor who so jubilantly sings, “I Have Gone To See The King”.

John 4:13-14 Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

I have included this scripture because when last I saw Mr. Fenwick at the hospital a few weeks before his death unable to eat or drink his last words to me were to ask me to get him a drink. He no longer thirsts for now his thirst has been quenched in the spring of eternal life. My brother, my friend I’ll miss you, we’ll miss you. From this moment whenever our Group Reunion meets we will leave an empty seat for you our new “Guardian Angel”. De Colores.

James Brightful
Ultreya Leader, NE/SE Ultreya

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

UPCOMING WEEKENDS

JOSEPHITE CENTER WASHINGTON, DC

FEBRUARY 13-16, 2014

212th Women's Cursillo Weekend
Kelli C. Baxter, Coordinator

OCTOBER 9-12, 2014

213th Women's Cursillo Weekend
Judy Kelly, Coordinator

NOVEMBER 6-9, 2014

214th Men's Cursillo Weekend
Joe O'Leary, Coordinator

Washington Cursillo FundRaiser March 4th

2014 "Fat Tuesday FundRaiser"
Harrington Casino in Harrington, Delaware

CURSILLO SCHOOL OF LEADERS

ST. JOSEPH'S, LARGO

2020 Saint Joseph's Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD
7:00pm

2014 Schedule

Saturday, March 15th

8:30am – 1:30pm

"What it means to work a weekend."

St. Mary of the Assumption
Family Life Room
Upper Marlboro, MD

Wednesday, April 23rd

7:00pm

"How to plan and deliver a meditation."

Msgr. Ray East (scheduled)
St. Joseph's, Largo

Saturday, May 17th

Ultreya Leaders Workshop

Wednesday, May 28th

7:00pm

"Sing and Play with Cursillo."

St. Joseph's, Largo

June 13-14, 2014

"Relax and Reflect"

Holy Trinity Spiritual Center

8400 Park Heights Ave.

Baltimore, MD 21208

Registration Deadline: May 20, 2014

Please go to the Cursillo website at:

<http://www.washdc-cursillo.org> and

download the registration form.

Wednesday, June 18th

OPEN FORUM

St. Joseph's Largo

REGION 2 UPCOMING EVENTS

April 25-27, 2014

Spring Encounter

John Paul II Retreat Center, Vineland, NJ.

For registration information please go to the

Region 2 website at:

<http://www.cursilloregion2.org>.

May 3-4, 2014

**Region 2 first "Cursillo Multicultural Golf
and Soccer Family Weekend"**

Andrews Air Force Base (AAFB), Camp
Springs, Maryland

2014 - PRODUCTION SCHEDULE



1ST QUARTER ISSUE

Jan-Mar – 2014

Submission Deadline
March 1, 2014

2ND QUARTER ISSUE

April – June 2014

Submission Deadline
June 1, 2014

3RD QUARTER ISSUE

July – Sept., 2014

Submission Deadline
Sept. 1, 2014

4TH QUARTER ISSUE

Oct. – Dec. 2014

Submission Deadline
Dec. 1, 2014



Editors Corner

Beginning with the March 2014 issue, our Fourth Day Newsletter will be moving to a quarterly publication. To supplement the issue, we will be using “**Hot Topics**” in between publications to disseminate important information to the community. We are doing this to improve the quality and content of our publication. We also want to communicate with the community more frequently using our electronic mediums established in 2013. Cursillistas now can sign up for Palanca online for weekends and receive “Hot Topics” to announce important events and get up to the minute Cursillo news! We hope you like these changes. Let us hear from you.

Are you a writer? Do you have thoughts, poems, prayers, or reflections to share? The Washington Cursillo® Community wants to hear from you!! Ultreya Leaders, please send us your sharing — it would be great to hear from each leader at least once a year! Babe Chicks your articles are the most important ones. Let us hear from you. **Articles should be submitted in Arial 11 Font Size no later than **March 1st**, for the 1st quarter issue.** Please see the “Production Schedule” for story deadlines for each issue this year. Remember to sign your articles with your name, weekend, and Ultreya.

**Submit articles at any time to Lethia
Kelly or Denise Wilson at
communication@washdc-cursillo.org**
Website News!!

Jack McFadden and Tom Arnold
(Web managers)

**The Washington Cursillo® Movement
website is**

<http://www.washdc-cursillo.org>

LIST OF ULTREYAS

Assumption

12:30 pm, 2nd Sunday
Assumption Church

TBD

Bowie-Lanham

7:00pm, 2nd Friday
St. Edward's, Bowie

Judy Kelly

301-249-7197

Marguerite

Dobrosielski

Calvert County

7:30pm, 2nd Monday
St. John Vianney
Church Basement

Rita Leclerc

410-326-2078

Gisela Victoria

Linda Pixton

Toni Abresch

Central PG County

7:30 – 3rd Friday
St. Joseph's, Largo

TBD

East of the River

7:30pm, 4th Friday
OLPH
1st Portable Bldg.

Pearl Baylor

301-894-8405

Rita Robinson

301-297-7769

St. John the Evangelist

7:00pm, 2nd Sunday
St. John's Church Hall
Forestville, MD

MaryAnne Upright

Acting Ultreya
Leader

MAUpright@aol.com

Montgomery County

7:30pm, 1st Saturday
Missionaries of the
Most Holy Trinity Home
1733 Metzerott Road
Adelphi MD

Sonia Melendez

inishlyn@verizon.net

pfcjai@msn.com

And...

7:30 pm 3rd Friday

Steve & Rosemary Reeves

Cursillo_st.paul@verizon.net

St. Paul's Church Hall

301-391-6580
9240 Damascus Rd.
Damascus, MD 20872

NE/SE

7:30pm, 1st Friday
St. Anthony's Cafeteria

James Brightful

202-269-4606

Bernadette White

202-269-0710

Our Lady Queen of Peace

After 10:30 am Mass,
3rd Sunday

TBD

Room 1 Our Lady Queen of Peace

St. Teresa of Avila

7:30pm, 2nd Monday
St. Teresa's Church
Msgr. Clark Hall (MCH)

Jennifer Ferguson

alypsofergie@gmail.com

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