

February 2003

## NATIONAL MAILING

### 13<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL ENCOUNTER – CINCINNATI, OH, JULY 17-19, 2003

by Tom Sarg, National Executive Director

This year's National Encounter will focus on the 10 topics that were presented at the 1<sup>st</sup> Conversations of Cala Figuera. Cala Figuera is a town in the southeast portion of the island of Mallorca off the coast of Spain. In 1944, after years of study, formation and preparation, the founders of the Cursillo in Christianity held the first-ever Cursillo de Cristiandad Weekend. Fifty years later, leaders of the Cursillo Movement from various parts of the globe, gathered in Mallorca to take part in the Anniversary celebration of that First Weekend. During the Anniversary celebration a series of 10 topics were presented by and to the participants. These ten topics reflected the focus of the founders' study as they were unknowingly being formed, by the Holy Spirit, to eventually form the Cursillo Movement. The founders, many of them highly involved in the Youth Catholic Action, had been intensely studying various attributes of humanity. It was this intense study and having a thorough understanding of human nature, along with a steep knowledge of our Roman Catholic faith, that the Holy Spirit was able to guide these men to bringing about such a wonderful instrument. An instrument that would provide all people with the opportunity to have a deeper understanding of their faith, and the responsibilities associated with that faith.

The ten topics that were presented in Mallorca and will be presented at our 13<sup>th</sup> National Encounter are:

1. *Person:* given this year by Monsignor Harold Waldow – former National Spiritual Advisor from Amarillo, TX.
2. *Freedom:* given this year by Joachim Thong Tinh Le – National Vietnamese-speaking Coordinator from Westminster, CA.
3. *Love:* given this year by Monin Gonzalez – Vice Chair of the National Secretariat from Orlando, FL.
4. *Friendship:* given this year by Jorge Barcelo – National Spanish-speaking Coordinator from New Britain, CT.
5. *Conviction:* given this year by Fr. Ramon Pedrosa – Filipino Spiritual Advisor from San Bernardino, CA.
6. *Sincerity:* given this year by Deacon Joseph De Leon from El Cerritos, CA.
7. *Criterion:* given this year by Antonio Martins – National Portuguese-speaking Coordinator from Lowell, MA.
8. *Life:* given this year by Fr. Brando Ibarra – Spiritual Advisor from Paterson, NJ.
9. *Normality:* given this year by Sr. Edna Michel – co-Spiritual Advisor from Toledo, OH
10. *Joy:* given this year by Jesús Valls – President of the Secretariat in Mallorca, Spain. Note: Jesús also gave this presentation in 1994.

**“The Fundamental Ideas of the Cursillo Movement” mentions something called “heterogeneity,” which is being “composed of parts of different kinds having widely dissimilar elements or constituents” (The Random House College Dictionary). The same book, sections 304 – 307, states the following:**

- 304** The Cursillo will always strive for heterogeneity, both in the leadership team and in the group of people making the Cursillo. This heterogeneity is the logical consequence of the immediate purpose of the Movement, which is the living out of what is fundamental for being a Christian – a calling that all people have in common. Everyone is called to become incorporated into the community of the one Church.
- 305** Heterogeneity is *the joining of diversity with plurality*, at the evangelical intersection of our Christian being. What happens is that in the very act of professing human solidarity and Christian fellowship, each Christian experiences something intimately and uniquely personal.
- 306** “There is, therefore, one chosen People of God: ‘one Lord, one faith, one baptism’ (Ephesians 4:5) there is a common dignity of members deriving from their rebirth in Christ, a common grace as sons and daughters, a common vocation to perfection, one salvation, one hope, and undivided charity. In Christ and in the Church there is, then, not inequality arising from race or nationality, social condition or sex, for ‘there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is neither male nor female. For you are “one” in Christ Jesus.’ (Lumen Gentium 32; Galatians 3:28)
- 307** We should not have separate Cursillos for different categories of people, such as teenagers, adults, university professors, soldiers, blue-collar workers, and so forth. The heterogeneity of the Cursillo is a clear manifestation of the unity in plurality of the Church.

**During the 13<sup>th</sup> National Encounter we will utilize the heterogeneity aspect as best we can. Those providing the above mentioned topics will be made up of the clergy (priests and a deacon), vowed religious, laity, men, women, English, Filipino, Portuguese, Spanish and Vietnamese-speaking. In addition, we will have people from various parts of the United States as well as someone from Mallorca.**

**Five of the topics will be presented in English and five will be presented in Spanish. Simultaneous translation will be available throughout the entire Encounter.**

**In addition to the 10 topics from the 1<sup>st</sup> Conversations of Cala Figuera, our new National Episcopal Advisor (Bishop James A. Tamayo – Laredo, TX) will present the keynote address on Thursday evening. Our newly elected National Spiritual Advisor (Fr. Pedro Garcia – Grand Rapids, MI) will oversee our morning and night prayers as well as the Reconciliation Service on Thursday evening. The Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Bishop Moedel, will be with us to celebrate Mass on Friday.**

**National Encounters are open to all who are cursillistas. It does not matter how involved a person is or isn't, in the Cursillo Movement. It does not matter if you attended a Cursillo Weekend within the last six-months or you attended 20-years ago.**

**A National Encounter is an excellent opportunity to meet cursillistas from all over the United States as well as foreign countries. We generally have some of our friends from Canada and other countries and we know that Jesús Valls and his wife Luisa will be present from Mallorca. You will also have the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people from so many varying cultures. It truly is an encounter with the body of Christ.**

**This year's National Encounter will provide a tremendous opportunity for all cursillistas to grow deeper in their spirituality as well as their understanding of themselves and the people with whom they come into contact with on a daily basis.**

**For those who have registered through the National Office they will only need to check in at the registration desk beginning at 2:00pm on Thursday, July 17, 2003. Dinner will be provided for all registrants. The 13<sup>th</sup> National Encounter begins on Thursday evening (July 17, 2003) at 7:30pm and is officially concluded on Saturday night with a wonderful Fiesta. Since most people need to set their departure arrangements for Sunday, we have made provisions for Sunday breakfast.**

**Registering for the 13<sup>th</sup> National Encounter means that all your meals are included from Thursday dinner through Sunday breakfast. Furthermore, all your lodging expenses are included plus your ticket to all the fantastic presentations.**

**This year we are inviting all Spiritual Advisors and Lay Directors to a special session on Thursday, July 17, 2003 from 4:00pm – 5:30pm. All will have the opportunity to meet with Bishop Tamayo and Fr. Pedro as well as members of the National Secretariat, regional leaders and the National Staff. Following an introduction and an Opening Prayer session, Bishop Tamayo and Fr. Pedro will meet separately with the Spiritual Advisors. The Lay Directors will meet separately with the National Secretariat, regional leaders and the National Staff. At the conclusion of these two meetings we will all rejoin for some closing comments by Bishop Tamayo and Fr. Pedro as well as a Closing Prayer.**

**Whether you have ever attended a National Encounter, or not, I urge you to consider attending this one. You will not be disappointed. We will continue to include a Registration Form with each National Mailing until the National Encounter. We urge all regional and diocesan leaders to provide widespread distribution of this information to as many cursillistas as possible for the opportunity to attend. We have included a 13<sup>th</sup> National Encounter Registration Form with this mailing.**

### **NATIONAL STANDARD CURSILLO CANDIDATE APPLICATION FORM**

**For quite some time many dioceses have asked if the National Cursillo Movement could develop a standardized Cursillo Candidate Application Form. The National Secretariat, with the help of Jorge Barcelo, National Spanish-speaking Coordinator, has worked on this**

project for some time in an attempt to near it to perfection. Finally, after an exhaustive effort, we have a National Standard Cursillo Candidate Application Form. The form is included with this mailing.

Some dioceses may elect not to use this form, and that is acceptable. Some dioceses may elect to modify this form, and that is acceptable. Some dioceses may elect to use the form as it is, and that is acceptable. We have merely sought to provide a tool to assist the diocesan Movements, if they so desire that assistance.

Also included is a sheet detailing some Sponsor's Responsibilities. This is also merely an aid to assist you if you so desire.

### **NATIONAL EVANGELIZATION WALK**

Just another reminder of the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> National Evangelization Walk. It will be held on June 7, 2003. Each diocesan Cursillo Movement that is going to participate should start determining the approximate number of people who will need tee shirts for this year's Walk.

Anyone with an idea for the design of this year's tee shirt should submit his or her idea to the National Cursillo Center by April 1, 2003. We will include that person's name at the bottom right of whichever design is selected.

If you have any questions, please contact the National Cursillo Center for further details.

Your Servants in Christ,

#### **The National Staff**

<b>Jorge Barcelo:</b>	<b>National Spanish-speaking Coordinator</b>
<b>Joachim Le:</b>	<b>National Vietnamese-speaking Coordinator</b>
<b>Victor Lugo:</b>	<b>National English-speaking Coordinator</b>
<b>Tom Sarg:</b>	<b>National Executive Director</b>

13<sup>th</sup> National Encounter  
Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH  
July 17-20, 2003

Registration Form

*Cost for the 13<sup>th</sup> National Encounter is \$250.00 if paid in full by May 15, 2003*

(Please use a separate Form for each registrant)

**(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY - THANK YOU \*\* PLEASE FILL IN ALL THE BLANKS)**

**Preferred Language:** \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Complete Name for Name Tag (e.g. Joe Smith):** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work#: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax#: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_

Age group (Circle one): Under 30      30 – 45 46-60      over 60

Health (Circle one):              Excellent      Good      Fair      Poor

Gender (Circle one):      Male      Female

**Spouse's full name, if married and spouse is attending (e.g. Mary Smith):** \_\_\_\_\_

*If you desire to room with a specific individual (spouse, friend, etc) then the other individual's Registration Form must accompany this form. We will not be able to guarantee any particular roommate if the forms do not accompany one another.*

Roommate preference? (Circle One) Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ If Yes, full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs (dietary/handicap/walking or problems with steps/etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Date you attended Cursillo and where: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently involved in music ministry? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

***Send form and payment made payable to:***

National Cursillo Center

P.O. Box 210226

Dallas, TX 75211-0226

Telephone: (214) 339-6321, Fax: (214) 339-6322, e-mail: [tomsarg@verizon.net](mailto:tomsarg@verizon.net)

Full payment of \$250.00 per person and form must be received by May 15, 2003.

Registration cost will be \$300.00 per person from May 16, 2003 – June 15, 2003

Registration cost will be \$325.00 per person from June 16, 2003 – July 10, 2003

Registration cost will be \$350.00 per person after July 10, 2003



## Cursillos in Christianity

Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_

Weekend of: \_\_\_\_\_  Men's  Women's

The Catholic Cursillo is open to baptized Catholics. The person should be physically well, emotionally stable and able to receive the Sacraments of the Church. The Cursillo is a method of giving those, who have a potential for influencing others, a personal encounter with Christ. To further enhance, support and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelization of our environments by Group Reunion and Ultreya

### Applicant

Name			Parish		
Address			Phone (h)		
City	State	Zip	Birth date		
E-Mail			Occupation		
<b>Education Level (Please circle one):</b> 1-6    7-12    13-16    17+					
<b>Marital Status:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Separated <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed					
<b>If Married: Married in Catholic Church?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
Spouse's Name			<b>Is spouse Catholic?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>Why do you wish to make Cursillo?</b> _____					
Are there any situations that would require special attention (Health, Diet, Disabilities, Allergies, problems with stairs, etc...)? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes/Explain _____					
Activities you are currently involved in: (Church, Civic, Professional, Hobbies, etc.) _____					
Emergency Contacts: Day _____			Phone _____		
Night _____			Phone _____		
Do you have any questions about the weekend that your sponsor has not been able to answer?					
Has the Recommended Follow-up Program of Group Reunion and Ultreya been explained to you?					
I have read and understand everything contained in this application. I have provided all the necessary information and answered all the questions honestly and completely.					
Signature			Date:		

**Sponsor Form**

Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_

*Speak to God about man before speaking to man about God.*

To be a Sponsor is a privilege, and as such, carries a serious Christian responsibility. Sponsoring a friend for the Cursillo is not a haphazard circumstance. It should be a deliberate act to bring Jesus Christ into the world. Therefore, you **must know** your candidate **very well** and consider the important items noted below.

<b>Name</b>		<b>Parish</b>
<b>Address</b>		<b>Phone (h)</b>
<b>City</b>	<b>Zip</b>	<b>Phone (w)</b>
<b>E-Mail Address:</b>		<b>Fax</b>
<b>Fourth day group meeting time/place</b>		
<b>Are you active in a:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Group Reunion</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Ultreya</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>School of Leaders</b>		
<b>How long and how well do you know your candidate?</b>		
<b>How long have you been discussing Cursillo with your candidate?</b>		
<b>Is your candidate free to receive the Sacraments</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>		
<b>Has the candidate's spouse made the Cursillo?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No (If no, is he/she interested in the Cursillo?)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No (If no, state the reason why?)</b>		
<b>Has he/she experienced a death of a love one, trauma or severe crisis within the past year?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <b>If yes, please contact your Pre-cursillo representative.</b>		
<b>Are you aware of any physical, psychological, emotional problems he/she may have?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <b>If yes, please contact your Pre-cursillo representative.</b>		
<b>In your own words describe this candidate's personality/nature (i.e. leader, follower, quiet, argumentative, etc.)?</b> _____ _____ _____		
<b>What other information or observation can you provide us with:</b> _____ _____		
<b>Why do you recommend this candidate?</b> _____ _____		
<b>Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>

**Candidate's Pastor**

<b>Name</b>		<b>Parish</b>
<b>Address</b>		<b>E-Mail</b>
<b>City</b>	<b>Zip</b>	<b>Phone</b>
<b>Do you recommend this person for a Cursillo weekend?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>		
<b>Comments:</b>   		
<b>Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>

(SAMPLE)

**Information the Sponsor should be aware of:**

The only requirement for candidates is that they be Roman Catholic and are able to receive the Sacraments of the Church. Sponsors should also consider candidates for strength of character, maturity, an open mind, an ability to listen, friendship, and willingness to change. Candidates should be emotionally healthy and seeking a deeper spiritual life. The Cursillo weekend is *not* designed to be a cure-all for those experiencing personal problems.

Prayer is an important part of sponsorship and sponsors should pray for candidates before, during and after the Cursillo weekend. Sponsors are also expected to:

**Explain the Cursillo weekend**

- Answer ALL questions that your candidate might have. You cannot tell him/her too much.
- Explain what the facility at the Center is like.
- Explain dress for the weekend is casual, with most people dressing up more on Sunday.

**Make sure the weekend application is totally completed**

- Go over the application form with your candidate. Ask him or her to fill out the Applicant section, sign it, and return it to you.
- Ask the candidate's pastor to complete the Pastor section, including his signature. Be prepared to explain the Cursillo weekend to clergymen not familiar with the program.
- Complete the Sponsor section, sign it and attach the sponsor fee (if applicable)<sup>1</sup>. Return the form and fee to the designated Ultreya member. Please do not turn in an incomplete form to "hold a spot." Incomplete forms will be returned to the sponsor.

**Always keep in close contact with your Candidate before the weekend.**

- Make sure he or she has transportation to and from where the Cursillo will be celebrated. If you cannot transport the candidate yourself, try to pair him or her up with another candidate. Please make every effort to make sure the candidate has another person to ride with.
- Try to ease any fears or anxiety that the candidate might have before, especially the week before the weekend and if a spouse has attended shortly before.
- Make certain that a candidate's family is informed and knows the candidate will probably return rather late on Sunday. You may want to contact the candidate's family during the weekend as well.

**Support your candidate during the weekend.**

- Do palanca for your candidate and write a letter. Letters from non-Cursillistas (including family members) are not necessary (or appropriate).
- Attend the Sunday closing. Remember that your candidate will be looking for you at the closing. If you cannot make the closing you might consider finding someone else to sponsor your candidate, or at least designate someone to support the candidate Sunday evening.

**Help your candidate participate in follow-up Cursillo activities**

- Bring your candidate to your next Ultreya.
- Remind him or her to attend the next closing.
- Assist and make sure he or she finds a group.

Your commitment to your candidate does not end when he or she completes the application, or even after the Cursillo weekend. It is your responsibility to make sure your candidate feels welcomed at all Cursillo activities and is supported in his or her apostolic endeavors for at least a year.

Date Rcvd.

\_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>1</sup> Some dioceses require Sponsor to pay a portion of the overall cost for their candidate.