



Cursillos in Christianity National Newsletter

National Cursillo Center • P.O. Box 799 • Jarrell, TX 76537 • 512-746-2020 • www.natl-cursillo.org

Two Important Events in the History of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement

Source: Presented by Juan Ruiz, National Hispanic Coordinator as an update regarding a couple of important events happening in Palma de Mallorca, the cradle of Cursillo.

I. January 11, 2015 - The installation of the new Cursillo Plaque at the Monastery of San Honorato in the presence of the Bishop of Mallorca, Most Rev. Javier Salinas, and the President of the Mallorcan Diocesan Secretariat, Loren Marián.



Bishop Salinas and Loren Marián



First Numbered Cursillo Plaque – January 7-10, 1949

First Cursillo – August 19-22, 1944 – Cala Figuera de Santanyí – Mallorca, Spain

The first Cursillo was held in Cala Figuera using the text and outline from “Study of the Environment” written by Eduardo as a basis and some elements from the Cursillo for Advanced Pilgrims Leaders. The duration was three and a half days. The content was adjusted with a different purpose since Cursillo was directed mainly to the Faraway. The Spiritual Director was the Rev. D. Julián Juliá and serving as Rector was Eduardo Bonnín. Jaime Riutort and José Ferragut served as professors (rollistas). There were 14 attendees (candidates) who participated.

No. 1 Cursillo – January 7-10, 1949 – Monastery of San Honorato – Mallorca, Spain

The numbering of the Cursillo (Weekends) began as the No. 1 Cursillo (6th Weekend) is celebrated at the Monastery of San Honorato with the three meditations of the initial retreat and with new outlines. The Spiritual Director was D. Guillermo Payeras and the Rector was Eduardo Bonnín. Serving as professors (rollistas) were Bartolomé Riutort, Andrés Rullán, Guillermo Estarellas and Guillermo Font. D. Juan Capó gave two meditations during the retreat phase (on the first night) with a style so new and with such great theological content, that the meditations were incorporated into the method designed by Eduardo Bonnín. In that same year, 20 more Cursillos were held.

II. February 5, 2015 - First step in the process of Beatification and Canonization of Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló

On February 5, 2015, Don Pep Adrover Vallbona, Chancellor of the Diocese of Mallorca, read the written petition as a first step towards the cause of Beatification of Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló. The announcement took place at the Church of the Capuchins, one day before the 7th anniversary of the death of Eduardo Bonnín and precisely on the day the Women's Cursillo #162 was to take place on February 5-8 at Santa Lucia (Mancor). D. Pep Adrover reminded us that we were living a historic moment. He acted as the Episcopal Notary, attesting the written petition was presented on behalf of the Mallorcan Diocesan Secretariat and was solicited by the National Secretariat of Portugal (which currently chairs the OMCC), the National Secretariat of Italy, and the National Secretariat of El Salvador.

For this occasion, on February 16, the newspaper "El Mundo" of Mallorca published an interview with Loren Marián, President of the Diocesan Secretariat of Mallorca, which is reprinted below:

First step: The beatification of Eduardo Bonnín, Founder of Cursillos in Christianity, a movement that has spread worldwide.



Loren Marián

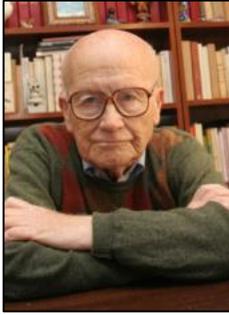
Loren Marián is the President of the Diocesan Secretariat of Cursillos in Christianity Movement in Mallorca.

Following the request from the three National Secretariats, Italy, Portugal, and El Salvador, and with the approval of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Majorca, the Diocesan Secretariat has begun the process of Beatification for Eduardo Bonnín, a man "made of heaven and clay" who founded the movement 70 years ago and one who was always concerned in that people know God.

It was during the 1940's, before the tourist boom, when Bonnín helped Mallorca to become known around the world.

"The Cursillos in Christianity are the living and sharing of three days where one learns that the Gospel is attractive," explains Loren Marián, one of the leaders of the movement in Mallorca. The Lay Movement brings together a diverse profile of people, ranging from young people, 17 years of age to those 80 years or older, "ranging from managers of large hotel chains to unemployed persons". As if touched by the arrows of cupid and St. Valentine, "some will come to discover the experience of God on the way".

Marián explains "these encounters utilize a unique method which is to bring the person closer to Christ through the means of friendship, in total freedom, without anxiety and without imposing".



Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló

Some men, with the help of science and financial support have been able to go from the exterior of man to the surface of the moon. We are trying to achieve something that is immensely more difficult, i.e. to go from the exterior of man to his innermost being, in order to learn to understand ourselves and to move towards other people, so that we may become more aware of the wonder of our life. Bonnín told his friends there were three ways of doing so: Accept who you are, believe you can be better, and make the journey in the company of friends.

“Faith can be lived in a normal manner even when religion is not in fashion”, argues Marián in line with Bonnín, who by the way, was ahead of his time when he “democratized” religion by bringing it to the streets without the pomposity of the Church. In Spain, he was a total spiritual revolutionary in becoming one of the first laypersons in moving the message, “God loves you” outside the pages of the missal. He preached through personal example. He dedicated his 24-hours to whoever needed them, says one person that witnessed his “tireless twinkle of his eyes” when he spoke about the Lord.

“For many years, religion has been carried as a super-heavy backpack and you almost have to be a Saint to believe in God,” says the President of a movement that has demonstrated that in these times, “people are desperately looking for faith”. He adds, “This crisis has reconfigured the scale of our values.” On May 1st, the Cursillistas leave to Rome to celebrate an Ultreya. The word Ultreya was used by pilgrims on the Way to Santiago de Compostela to greet one another and which gives its name to the encounters of the Cursillistas on the occasion of the 50 years of the Movement in Italy. There is a scheduled audience with Pope Francis and it is almost certain that the Bishop of Mallorca, Most. Rev. Javier Salinas, will attend. After the 7th anniversary of Eduardo’s death, “the Movement continues with its same spirit demonstrating that it is something that enriches and not contrary to the daily hustle of modern life,” concludes Loren Marián.

Eduardo’s History

Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló was born in Palma de Mallorca in 1917 in the family residence. In 1944 he founded Cursillos in Christianity, a Movement now spread all over the world.

The process of Beatification for Eduardo is only at the preliminary stages and the process can take years. The cause to beatify Ramon Llull and the canonization of Junípero Serra are more advanced. The cause of beatification for Llull began centuries ago but has been reactivated and delivered to the Vatican.

The Decalogue of the Cursillistas

Friendship - The encounters that are organized every month and a half use its “own method which is to bring the person closer to Christ through friendship, in total freedom”. Since its foundation, in Mallorca alone, they have organized a total of 418 Cursillos for men and 463 for women. The Movement, organized by lay people, has spread all over the world. The Cursillos in Christianity Movement in Mallorca maintains the same philosophy as its founder, Eduardo Bonnín, *God Loves You*, and the same purpose since 1944: *To discover that the person is loved by God*.

\$3/YR Campaign Update & Benefits

As of March 20, 2015, the National Cursillo Center has received a total donation of \$63,450. This amount is up 7% from January 2015. The National Cursillo Center has issued 106 vouchers worth \$11,550 to the dioceses that donated \$200 or more towards the campaign.

Thanks to your donation to the campaign, Cursillistas in affiliated Dioceses can enjoy an additional 10% discount for each book order over \$50.00 as of February 1, 2015. That means Cursillistas can enjoy a total of 20% discount as a benefit of being affiliated with the National Cursillo Movement. The National Cursillo Center also provided bookstore vouchers for 8 dioceses that are establishing Cursillo.

Continue promoting the campaign by all means of communication such as Friendship Group Reunion, Ultreya, School of Leaders, Regional Encounters, workshops, personal contact, group e-mail, etc. For more information about the \$3/YR Campaign, visit <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/donate/>.

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.

2015 National Encounter

The National Encounter will be held at Villanova University in the Philadelphia PA. Following are the workshop sessions scheduled for this encounter:

- Friendship with Christ, Key to Evangelization - Dr. Ralph Martin
- Charity in the 21st Century – Deacon Gary Terrana
- Attitudes and Reactions – Maribel Gomez
- Prayer and Discernment – Rev. John Myers
- Means to Energize Your Fourth Day – Walter Benavidez

The Encounter Flyer, Registration Form and Frequently Ask Questions (FAQ) are now available and can be downloaded at:

<http://www.natl-cursillo.org/> (English)

<http://www.natl-cursillo.org/espanol/> (Spanish)

<http://www.natl-cursillo.org/viet/> (Vietnamese)

Thanks to your donation to the \$3/YR Campaign, the National Encounter registration fee has been reduced to \$325 per person, which is \$60 less than the 2013 National Encounter registration fee. If a language group can register at least 150 Cursillistas by April 30th, they will get simultaneous

translation of the talks during the event. There are only 750 seats available at Villanova University. It is expected to be a fully packed National Encounter. Hope to see you there!

1st Cursillo Episode on EWTN

In case you did not have an opportunity to watch **Cursillo: Its Origins, Mentality and Purpose** that aired on EWTN in March, you can watch it on-line at <http://www.natl-cursillo.org/>.

De Colores!

Hoang Tran – National Cursillo Service Administrator

Ceferino Aguillón, Jr. – National English Coordinator

Juan Ruiz – National Hispanic Coordinator

Joachim Le – National Vietnamese Coordinator



25th National Cursillo[®] Encounter
Villanova University, Villanova, PA
July 23 – 26, 2015

Last Name:

First Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

E-Mail:

Phone:

Diocese:

Region #:

Language Group:

Male or Female:

Select one: Bishop Priest Deacon Vowed Religious Laity

Select one: Spiritual Advisor Assist. Spiritual Advisor Lay Director Other:

If you wish to room with a specific person (spouse, friend, relative) then the other person's registration form must accompany this form.

Do you have a roommate preference? If yes, provide name:

Need assistance - physically challenged? Describe need:

Make checks payable to: National Cursillo Center. Only MasterCard and Visa credit cards are accepted.

Registration Fee is \$325.00 per person. Full payment and this form must be received by June 15, 2015. Registration fee increases to \$400.00 per person beginning June 16, 2015. **Unable to guarantee registration after June 30, 2015.**

Visa or MasterCard:

Card Number:

Name on Credit Card:

Expiration Date:

Voucher # (if any):

Discount:

Amount Submitted:

Please use a separate Registration Form for each person. Type or print legibly and fill in all spaces as applicable.

Send this form and payment to:

National Cursillo[®] Center

P.O. Box 799

Jarrell, TX 76537

512-746-2020

admin@natl-cursillo.org

There is a \$40.00 non-refundable fee for all cancellations through May 31, 2015. No refunds after May 31, 2015.
The National Cursillo[®] Center is responsible for payment to Villanova University regardless of cancellations.

For office use only – Registration Confirmation # _____