

AUGUST 2020



# Cursillo forward

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Our Mission is to Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership  
Please visit our Cursillo website for more information at [www.sdcursillo.org](http://www.sdcursillo.org)



RESTAURANT AT CHICAGO'S MIDWAY AIRPORT – submitted by RUBEN RODRIGUEZ



## **MESSAGE FROM THE CURSILLO SECRETARIAT PRESIDENT**

Dear Brothers and sisters:

We all are praying, and wishing to be able to go back to normal to see our family, worship with our fellow parishioners, travel, attend events, etc. etc.

Getting out of our comfort zone and reaching out either for help or to help someone. Families have struggled with the adjustments of work, church, school, medical care and even shopping.

We all have suffered some kind of trouble either physical, financial or emotional. However; by the grace of God we are still here faithful and trusting God and His beloved son Jesus Christ. I pray that none of you, your loved ones, or any person that you know has not been affected by this pandemic.

We all have had a very new task....to find the way to stay connected.

Many congregations and committees have been successful using any kind of technological means, as a matter of fact, the Cursillo Secretariat has had Zoom meetings thanks to Craig Noble.

This social media culture had been going for a long time, right now it has been such a wonderful tool to be connected. Personally, I have trouble adjusting to computers and telephone apps, but I am adjusting and fascinated at how much things you can do and accomplish thru technology and staying connected. One of the topics we touched during our July Secretariat Meeting is that we are very optimistic about the Cursillo movement prevailing regarding the situations we have encountered during the pandemic. We are working on innovating our ministries by discerning how to spread the word of God amid this crisis, evaluating our restrictions, and every single aspect that will allow us to continue our Cursillo weekends, Ulreyas, Days of Discerning, Back to the Mountain, etc. etc on a safe and successful way by working on how we can excel on carrying on our ministry and our attending brothers and sisters.

Stay tuned, and please keep on spreading the invitation to everyone to attend Cursillo, and of course please don't miss the opportunity to invite a candidate.

May the peace of the Lord be With You  
Isabel Lynne



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## **A MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN CURSILLO SPIRITUAL ADVISOR**

### **An Empty Hand**

In the Lutheran Formula of Concord there is an insistence that faith is not what saves us, but it is merely “the means and the instrument through which we lay hold of Christ.”

The Lutheran idea that faith is an empty hand that grabs hold of Christ who is our savior is very important. Jesus Christ is God’s gift of salvation for us and for the whole world. Jesus is the one who does the saving. Faith is merely the empty hand that grabs hold of Christ and his salvation.

An interesting question is, “Do we have something in our hand that we are grasping onto that prevents us from taking hold of Christ?” Do we have an empty hand? Do we need to let go of something in order to have an empty hand to reach out and depend upon Christ? What is in your hand? What is it that you are clinging to that is hindering your reaching out to grab hold of Jesus? I hope that you will think about your faith as being an empty hand. Please look inside yourself and honestly think about what you need to let go of in order to open your heart and your hand to Christ.

Your friend in Christ,

Father George

### **FALL CURSILLO WEEKEND #146 UPDATE**

Though Covid-19 has compelled the Secretariat to once again postpone the Cursillo #146 Weekend, Cursillo #146 is alive and will hold its Weekend in the Spring 2021. The tentative dates are March 26 through March 29, 2021!

The Team and the Candidates are at the ready. More Team members and Candidates are being called to the Weekend. The Rectora, Ginny Rodriguez, is eager for the Weekend and is learning more about patience and waiting on the Lord.

The GOOD NEWS is that the Cursillo #146 Weekend will be held in the spring of 2021 in some form REGARDLESS of the health situation. The Team will make adjustments so that it can be held safely, either virtually and/or in-person depending on the circumstances.

MORE GOOD NEWS: We will have a zoom event this fall for the Candidates on Saturday, October 31, 2020! The event will be a foretaste of the Cursillo #146 Weekend yet to come. We will have an actual Meditation that is usually given by a Clergy Team Member during the Weekend. We will have music. We will have sharing given by Team Members, and of course, our Rectora. LOOK FOR YOUR INVITATION AND FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

In the meantime, continuing prayers by name will be given for the Candidates and Team Members of Cursillo #146.

Ultreya!

Ruben Rodriguez, “Ol’ Rec,” Cursillo #146

## **FOURTH DAY ACTIVITIES**

**Virtual Ultreyas Have Become The Norm, for Now**

**Virtual Ultreyas Continue Unabated**

It appears that it will be a while before we can hold a live in-person ultreya again. Meanwhile we have held four virtual ultreyas on Youtube and they continue to reach more people than we have ever reached before. These ultreyas are accessible virtually for ever on the internet.

Since the previous issue of the Forward, we have produced two virtual ultreyas, the one premiering on June 20, 2020, has had a huge impact, as it was cited by the Bishop and was featured on the Diocese's Weekly News cyber magazine. Youtube reports that it has 261 views to date. We recently released the 4<sup>th</sup> virtual ultreya on July 25, 2020. This ultreya demonstrated that we can produce an ultreya with participants located anywhere. The music was provided by our longtime Cursillista, Laurie Mumford, who now lives in Idaho Falls, Idaho, and the Scriptural Response was given by Fr. Paul Gambling, from St. Paul's in Yuma, Arizona.

The next ultreya will be released in about a month and will also expand our reach as a Cursillo Community to share the love of Christ beyond all boundaries between people.

Love and blessings to all,

Ruben Rodriguez



## ***Cursillo events calendar(Subject to postponement)***

|                       |   |  |   |                               |
|-----------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>August 2020</b>    | More Information<br><a href="#">Click Link</a>        | Directions<br><a href="#">Click Link</a> | Click <a href="#">Link</a><br>to e-mail POC | <a href="#">Return to top</a> |
| <b>DATE</b>           | <b>Description</b>                                    | <b>Location</b>                          | <b>POC</b>                                  | <b>Time/Day</b>               |
| <b>Aug-28-20</b>      | <b>Cursillo #146 1<sup>st</sup> Full Team Meeting</b> | <b>TBA</b>                               | <b><u>Ginny Rodriguez</u></b>               | <b>8:30 AM - 12:00 PM</b>     |
| <b>September 2020</b> | More Information<br><a href="#">Click Link</a>        | Directions<br><a href="#">Click Link</a> | Click <a href="#">Link</a><br>to e-mail POC | <a href="#">Return to top</a> |
| <b>DATE</b>           | <b>Description</b>                                    | <b>Location</b>                          | <b>POC</b>                                  | <b>Time/Day</b>               |
| <b>Sep-05-20</b>      | <b><u>Servant Community</u></b>                       | <b><u>St. Dunstan's</u></b>              | <b><u>Larry Salvadori</u></b>               | <b>8:30 AM - 12:00 PM</b>     |
| <b>Sep-05-20</b>      | <b><u>Secretariat</u></b>                             | <b><u>St. Dunstan's</u></b>              | <b><u>Isabel Lynne</u></b>                  | <b>12:30 PM</b>               |
| <b>Sep-19-20</b>      | <b>Cursillo #146 2<sup>nd</sup> Full Team Meeting</b> | <b>TBA</b>                               | <b><u>Ginny Rodriguez</u></b>               | <b>8:30 AM - 12:00 PM</b>     |
| <b>Sep-24-20</b>      | <b>Forward Deadline</b>                               |  | <b><u>News Letter Editor</u></b>            | <b>COB</b>                    |
| <b>Sep-29-20</b>      | <b>Cursillo # 146 Applications Deadline</b>           | <b><u>Cursillo Applications</u></b>      | <b><u>Pre-Cursillo Chair</u></b>            |                               |
| <b>August 2020</b>    | More Information<br><a href="#">Click Link</a>        | Directions<br><a href="#">Click Link</a> | Click <a href="#">Link</a><br>to e-mail POC | <a href="#">Return to top</a> |
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## 2020 SECRETARIAT LAY MEMBERS

| Name            | Email                   | Function   | Term Exp. |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--|-----------|
| Isabel Lynne    | ilynne1700@yahoo.com    | President  | 2020      |
| Ruben Rodriguez | rodriguez_ruben@msn.com | Rector Support Team, Outreach, Ultreyas              | 2021      |
| Susan Miller    | miller.sv@sbcglobal.net | Pre-Cursillo Chair, Assoc. Webmaster President Elect | 2021      |
| Humberto Garcia | ambrsunny2@aol.com      | 4 <sup>th</sup> Day Chair                            | 2020      |
| Mike Jewett     | hdbg90@hotmail.com      | 3 Day Weekend, Chair                                 | 2021      |
| Craig Noble     | craignoble@cox.net      | Palanca, ECM Liaison                                 | 2022      |
| Judy Brown      | Jbrown3944@aol.com      | Treasurer  | 2021      |
| Sunny Landry    | ricanmama13@yahoo.com   | Secretary  | 2022      |
| James Ambasing  | cvista.ja@cox.net       | 4 <sup>th</sup> Day, Vice Chair                      | 2022      |

## 2020 SECRETARIAT CLERGY MEMBERS

| Name                | Email                        | Function                    | Term Exp.     |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Rev. George Calvert | gcalvert@berkeley.edu        | Diocesan Spiritual Advisor  | Bishop Apnt'd |
| Rev. Carlos Garcia  | carlangas1986@cs.com         | Assistant Spiritual Advisor | Bishop Apnt'd |
| Rev. Paul Gambling  | gfrpaul@gmail.com            | Assistant Spiritual Advisor | 2022          |
| OPEN-LOOKING FOR    | VOLUNTEERS? CALL REV. GEORGE |                             |               |
| Rev. Peter Sickles  | psickles@msn.com             | Assistant Spiritual Advisor | 2021          |

## SPECIAL CURSILLO SERVANTS

| Name            | Email                          | Function                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Larry Salvadori | lasalvadori@yahoo.com          | Servant Community Chair/ Forward Editor |
| Rachel Ambasing | rachel.ambasing@gmail.com      | Music, Sponsorship                      |
| Debbie Kistler  | dk.outoflove@cox.net           | Historian, Social Media                 |
| Kit Chevalier   | kmsopsinger@yahoo.com          | Parish Reps, Publicity                  |
| Ed Embick       | sueanded@san.rr.com            | Communications Chair / Webmaster        |
| Shell Pierce    | roaminchristian@mindspring.com | Prayer Chain                            |

***CURSILLO CORNER – LOVE DONATIONS – THE GREEN ROLLO***

The Cursillo community accepts donations year-round, and especially now with ongoing cancellations, uncertainty, and upheavals. These donations allow us to set up “scholarships” to help defray the cost of sponsoring new Cursillistas and workers, paying our bills, supporting our ministries, and donating to the the Episcopal Cursillo Ministry. If you’d like to make a small, medium, or large gift to Cursillo, please sent it now to:

Judy Brown – Treasurer  
51 Viejas Grade Road  
Alpine, Ca. 91901-1605  
Checks made out to: Cursillos in Christianity



## **FROM THE DIOCESE**

### **Public Statement of our Commitment**



The Rev. Brenda Sol, rector of St. Andrew's in Encinitas, and other clergy colleagues in our diocese created a statement of our commitment to our baptismal covenant and Jesus' call to us during this time of twin pandemics of COVID-19 and racial injustice. Any church in our diocese is welcome to use this statement, for instance as a clergy-vestry joint statement, or as an ongoing statement in your bulletin.

*As part of the Jesus Movement and the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego, we pledge to love our neighbors and protect the most vulnerable among us, remembering our baptismal vows to "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being." We live these pledges out by actively engaging in dismantling racism. For many of us, this will mean learning more about our racial identity, listening to those who have experienced racial prejudice, speaking out against racism, and showing up alongside those in our community working to change unjust systems in our society. We also live out this pledge at worship during this pandemic, by wearing face-coverings, respecting distancing guidelines, forego the common cup and refraining from congregational singing.*