

THE POSTER

December 2018

Christmas Blessings

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I pray that you are having a blessed Advent season; preparing your environment through Piety, Study and Action for the coming of Our Savior Jesus!

As we approach the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus, share the gift of friendship to those who need it most, the far away. Help them to see through your spirit, the greatest gift of all; The Love God has for all us.

A love made real in the person of Jesus Christ, the Lord.

We welcomed new Cursillistas into our community back in October. Please extend your friendship to them and help fulfil the promise of Total Security by encouraging them to attend Ultreya and School of Leaders. Help them to form or join a group reunion.

2019 will be an eventful year for the Cursillo movements in our regions:

There will be a One day **Regional workshop** on **April 6th** in **Wilmington, DE**. The topic is to introduce the New 'Step

by Step' manual for the 3 day weekend. This will be a valuable experience for all those who want to learn how the Cursillo weekend is intended to unfold.

The **National Encounter** will be held in **Scranton, PA on July 18-21**. Save the dates and plan on attending.

I wish you a joyous Christmas and may God bless you in the New Year.

De Colores!!!!

Woody



Notes from the Assistant Spiritual Director



Advent 2018

Keep Watching And Waiting

Yes, it is that time again to be watching and waiting, to be looking and listening, to be alert and sober, to be discerning about God's whereabouts, and to be preparing to welcome Jesus in our lives once again.

Yes, it is Advent, that time of year where we celebrate the fact that God is about to intervene in history, about to take on our flesh, about to change things, about to heal our brokenness, about to bestow hope upon the hopeless, about to reveal the Father's infinite and unconditional love. And it is at this time of year where the Church encourages all the faithful to prepare spiritually for the Lord's coming. But as Cursillistas, we must also prepare his way in the year ahead in all of our environments that we encounter by making Jesus alive and real in the lives of all the people that we touch—we must re-commit ourselves to evangelization—to re-commit ourselves to spread the "Good News" about his presence among us and share the Gospel message with all that we meet by "making friends, and being friends, and introducing those friends to Jesus."

When one really gets down to it, we should all be awaiting the coming back of our Lord every day of our lives. And Advent should serve as a real good reminder that our watching and waiting must be a constant theme in our lives as we go about working out our lives. In fact, Jesus himself has told us to "Be watchful, be alert, for you do not know the time when I will come" (Mark 13:33). And he has warned us to stay alert and keep focused at many other places in the Gospels as well. And that is good advice.

But Jesus is always calling us to do things for him and to be watchful for his presence in our lives. And in being watchful for the Lord and in discerning just what God is calling us to do, we must all listen intently, for that call can come from any quarter, and be as subtle as a whisper. When I think about being watchful for the Lord, I am reminded of the story of Elijah in the 1st Book of Kings (19:9-13). This is one of my very favorite scripture passages, and I've used so often in talks and reflections. As the story goes Elijah was taking shelter in a cave and was told to "Go outside and stand on the mountain, for the Lord will be passing by. A strong and heavy wind was rending the mountain and crushing rocks—but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake—but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake there was fire---but the Lord was not in the fire. After the fire, there was a **tiny, whispering sound**. When he heard this, Elijah hid his face in his cloak and went and stood at the entrance of the cave," for he knew that God's presence was in his midst.

Some of you may have heard that **tiny, whispering sound**. And some of you, perhaps, have not. But keep listening and watching and waiting intently, for that **tiny, whispering sound** is the breath of love.

Happy Advent. Keep watching and waiting.

And rejoice, for God's saving Son is on His way!

Deacon Bill Hassler



“The Best Weekend Ever”

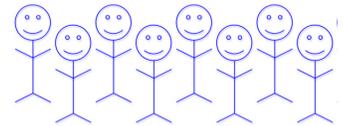
Greetings! Children of God!!

It has been over 2 months by now, since the last weekend. We have celebrated Thanksgiving, and now preparing for the coming of Our Christ Child, Jesus. Are you prepared yet?

As for me, I’m NOT!! It does take some time to get ready, but hopefully, we are all ready spiritually for our Lord at Christmas.

In reflecting on the past men’s weekend, I marvel at how time passes by so fast. It has only been since Oct 14th that new babe-chicks (men) came down from the Cursillo weekend sharing what they had learned. The team has certainly learned a lot and with humility, served these 11 men of God.

While we were doing our team formation, we were met with difficult challenges and even lost a member, so the remaining team had to carry some “extra load”. Isn’t that what Christianity is all about? When one falls, we help each other carry our loads to keep going. This weekend was not different. Not only did I sense the team’s willingness to do “extra”, but I saw that they did their best to make our new men of Cursillo feel at home and experience a worthwhile weekend. The fruits of the seeds planted in this weekend are yet to be seen. Only God can tell, but it is also exciting to see men grow in faith. The weekend is designed to “see” men (& women) feel God’s presence in their lives all this time and realize He had always been there all along. We just play a role in bringing out this realization and then we have to step aside. God does the rest. Like I said at the closing, we must decrease, as God now will increase. Most of us (if not all), recall how it was in our own weekend, that’s why we keep going to these closings. It serves as a strong reminder of our own experience.



Thursday was an “uncertain” night for the team, but most especially for the candidates. Imagine being asked with that weird question in a dark room? I don’t know about you, but that was the weirdest moment for me, even when I was the one asking the questions.

Thank God, that was a short day for everyone, on we go to Friday. Ah! morning came and on we go – talks, listening, reflecting, laughing, listening again, what poster? who

can draw? what, I did not say that! laughter, and more laughs. Then Agape – love feast, sharing bread, wow!

Saturday is Mother Mary's day. Legion of Mary prayers, the rosary, all day is a day of prayer as we complete the whole rosary until night time. Group photo, and of course dinner and the party. Men, let's have our meeting now... we can join them later. 2 AM, what? They're still having a party? I'm sleeping now.

I can't believe it's Sunday already! – let's go to mass, eat, more talks. What? No more posters? I'm disappointed, someone says. This day went too fast for me. I can't believe we were already at the chapel doing Holy Hour. Where's Fr. John? Oh, he'll catch up with us later. Let's listen to our impromptu choir headed by our assistant rector. And then, I had to lead them to the gym!

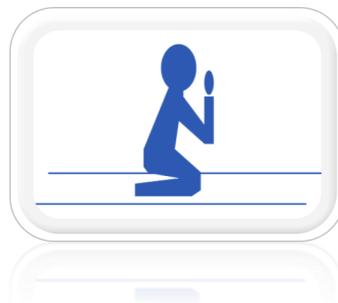
Bitter-sweet was the ending of this beautiful weekend. I had led some very good, beautiful, faithful men! Led? Did I say "led them"?... No, I meant to say, served them. If you ask all our team membership, we SERVED these men and it was all worth it. It was not hard to serve them since they were already there, close to God all along. Even several of us in the team learned from this weekend experience. You see, these weekends are not just for the candidates, but for us team members as well in case we had forgotten how it was back when. I know I will never be the same since the 89th Cursillo weekend.

May God continue to draw us closer to Himself as we serve other in our many ministries throughout our lives.

God loves you, and I love you as well, my brothers and sisters in Christ.

De Colores!

Jake Gonzales
Rector of 89th Men's English Cursillo



MEET THE NEW CURSILLISTAS . . .

Susan Artz
Anthony Borelli
Michael Connelly
Rosemarie Cusumano
Tony Cusumano
Sal Espinosa
Marie Nicole Etienne
Frances Gbow
William Gower
Mimi Kloiber
Ann LaFata
Sharon McGill
Wilfred Melendez (Freddie)
Corinne Pishock (Corky)
Dennis Psota
Rev John Rother
Kathy Sagl
Bill Scheible
Dana Seisler
Joan Sellari (Joanie)
Richard Vogrin
Alfred Worrall, Jr. (Al)

St John Baptist, Shillington
Holy Rosary, Reading
Assumption BVM, Colesville
St Ann, Emmaus
St Ann, Emmaus
St Thomas More, Allentown
St Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring
St Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring
St Anne, Bethlehem
St Catharine of Siena, Allentown
St Peter, Reading
St Columbkil, Boyertown
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Bethlehem
St Columbkil, Boyertown
St Columbkil, Boyertown
St. Catharine of Siena, Reading
St Catharine of Siena, Allentown
St. Ann of Emmaus
St Ambrose, Schuylkill Haven
St John Baptist, Shillington
St Ignatius Loyola, Sinking Spring
St Catharine of Siena, Reading



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!

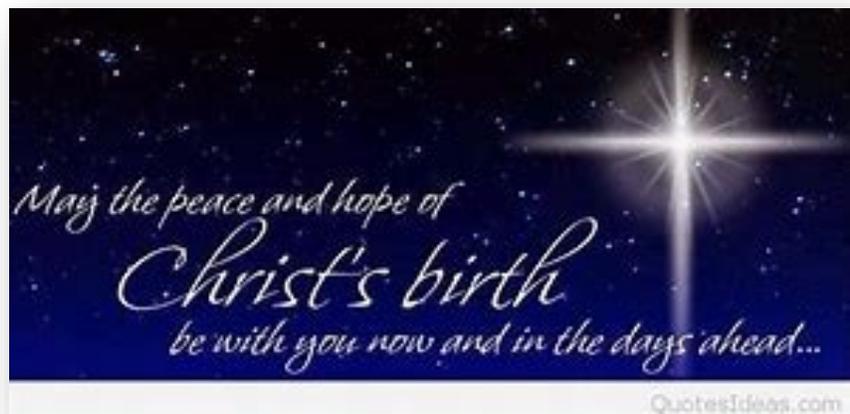
De Colores!

Hoang Tran – National Cursillo Service Administrator

Ceferino Aguillón, Jr. – National English Coordinator

Juan Ruiz – National Hispanic Coordinator

Vincent Tin Pham – National Vietnamese Coordinator



Donations to Cursillo In memory of Rev. Robert J. Reed

Send to:
Theresa Racek, Treasurer
605 N. 13th Street
Allentown, PA 18102

Checks should be made payable to:
Allentown
Cursillo Movement

Please mark your calendars now for the **29th National Encounter**

July 18-21, 2019
Scranton University in Scranton, PA

Registration online available January 15, 2019

Winter 2018-2019 Calendar of Events

JANUARY		2019	
Mon., Jan. 14	Allentown Ultreya	Cathedral, Allentown, Parish Activities Ctr.	7:00 PM
Mon., Jan 21	Reading Ultreya	St. Catharine of Siena, Reading	7:30 PM
Sat., Jan. 26	School of Leaders	St. Mary, Kutztown	8:30 AM
Mon., Jan 28	Allentown Ultreya	Cathedral, Allentown, Parish Activities Ctr.	7:00 PM
FEBRUARY		2019	
Mon., Feb. 11	Allentown Ultreya	Cathedral, Allentown, Parish Activities Ctr.	7:00 PM
Mon., Feb. 18	Reading Ultreya	St. Catharine of Siena, Reading	7:30 PM
Mon., Feb. 25	Allentown Ultreya	Cathedral, Allentown, Parish Activities Ctr.	7:00 PM
MARCH		2019	
Mon., Mar. 11	Allentown Ultreya	Cathedral, Allentown, Parish Activities Ctr.	7:00 PM
Mon., Mar. 18	Reading, Ultreya	St. Catharine of Siena, Reading	7:30 PM
Mon., Mar. 25	Allentown Ultreya	Cathedral, Allentown, Parish Activities Ctr.	7:00 PM



The Poster
Cursillo Movement
Diocese of Allentown
St. Columbkil RC Church
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Boyertown, PA 19512

Secretariat 2017

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Cursillo	Matt and Sandi Lloyd
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