

Piety—Study—Action

THE TRIPOD

Newsletter of the Seattle Archdiocese Cursillo Movement
August 2004

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CURSILLO PICNIC

by Earl Ducote

De Colores! We have had a beautiful summer, great weather and we got to host the National Cursillo Encounter. Now we look forward to our annual Cursillo Picnic, August 28, 2004. Again, the Tacoma area Ultreya is hosting it on the grounds of St. John of the Woods Parish. This is a chance to renew old friendships, eat good food, play games, sing songs, with cursillistas from throughout the Archdiocese.

Festivities begin at 11:30AM, and continue till 4 PM. We hope to have Mass at noon, member priests who would like to help with that, please contact me.

WHAT TO BRING

1. Yourself, family, and those special people you've wanted to sponsor for a Cursillo.
2. Either a salad, side dish, or dessert for 10 people. As a guide, last names beginning with: "A" through "G", bring a side dish; "H" through "P", a salad; "Q" through "Z", a dessert.
3. A donation to help cover costs, if possible.
4. Your singing voice and an instrument you can play.
5. Your picnic personality and a desire for fun.

WHO TO TELL

We need to have an idea of how many people will be coming to plan for food and entertainment. Quantify those 12 and over and those under 12.

PLEASE LET US KNOW BY AUGUST 21!

WHO TO CONTACT

1. Any member of the Secretariat. See page 4.
2. Earl Ducote', (253) 845-0112, e-mail, earlofno@juno.com

DIRECTIONS TO ST. JOHN OF THE WOODS PARISH

9903 24th Ave. E., near Tacoma

1. From the north take I-5 South to Tacoma's Portland Ave. exit. Turn down Portland Ave. (Left off of freeway) to 99th St. E. (traffic light) turn left on 99th and go about 3 blocks to 24th Ave. E. The church will be in front of you, turn right to the hall.
2. From the south take I-5 north to State Route 512 (Puyallup Freeway), turn on to freeway to the east (right), and go to Portland Ave exit. Take this exit and turn north (left) on Portland Ave. to 104th St. E. (traffic light). Turn right on 104th St. E. to 24th Ave. E., then turn left. Go about 1/4 mile to church hall.
3. Coming from the north down the Valley Freeway, connect to SR 512 in Puyallup, and travel west to Portland Ave. exit, then turn right (north) on Portland Ave. to 104th St. E. (traffic light). Turn right on 104th St. E. to 24th Ave. E., and then turn left. Go about 1/4 mile to church hall.

www.seattlecursillo.org

Check our website at www.seattlecursillo.org and register for an electronic version of the TRIPOD instead of a printed one. This would save us mailing and printing expenses.

From the Lay Director

by Pete Jancola

We did it! We hosted a National Encounter here in Seattle! Over the years, the possibility of our doing that was discussed and thought about several times. From my perspective, noticing Ultreyas that had sometimes high/sometimes low attendance, and Leaders' Schools that did better but needed more members, I questioned the availability of commitment required for such a huge undertaking. I'd attended many National Encounters, and had at least a glimpse of the work involved.

But this time we had a strong Secretariat that, after prayer and discernment, was willing to have a go at it, uniting ourselves with the power of the Holy Spirit, and placing all confidence in God. Slowly, leaders were found to head the various committees, and as each position was filled it was obvious to us that it was the right person for that task: Michele Raymond (registration), Noreen Millbauer (hospitality), Pat Lund (music), Ray Grothe (transportation), Bill Shawver (liturgy), Tanguy Martin (recording), Ron Fernandes (book sales), Harriet Hamerly (fiesta), and Natalie Vieira as over-all coordinator. Strong assistance was provided by many others, but most obvious to me were Dave Hallek (music), Tom Connors (transportation), Francois Martin (recording), Libby Meyer (hospitality), Sam Affronte (book sales), Deacons Ans Pardo and Loren Lane (liturgy), and John George (fiesta).

In spite of the fact that decisions at the National level caused our tasks to grow in the last few weeks, no one quit. I was continually amazed at the skills demonstrated by the team, and by the number of supporting cursillistas that came on board. I saw people I hadn't seen for years! And Natalie treated me to a demonstration of coordinating skills like I'd never seen before! She interfaced with Seattle University staff, National Cursillo staff, each member of the team, and probably other people I'm not aware of. On top of that, she brought an element of fun to our many team meetings. Then, in the last month or so, when our National Executive Director asked her to serve as emcee during the Encounter, Natalie accepted! God's power was shown to me overwhelmingly in the amount and quality of work done by each person.

Our Seattle Cursillo Movement is indeed alive and well, far beyond the visibility of even the Lay Director. And the Encounter gave us something back. New insights, new friendships, and renewed appreciation for Archbishop Brunett who presided at Mass and spoke words of encouragement and challenge to the entire Cursillo community. It feels like we are on a roll, led by the Holy Spirit, toward new experiences of relationship, with God and with each other. I want to thank Natalie, and each member of the Encounter team, and each supporting person for all the selfless and quality work

you put into this XIV National Encounter. God is indeed with you. I knew it all along!

National Encounter 2004

by Randy Srnsky

This was my first National Encounter. I was fascinated from the moment I walked into Seattle University. The pure logistics of manipulating 650 people into one organism was interesting to observe. The opening ceremony on Thursday night reminded me that the weekend would feature cursillistas from all over the U. S. Many of the speeches were presented in both Spanish and English. Even the music was a blend—English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Filipino.

Meal time was a very important time to compare Cursillo experiences. I don't recall hearing stories of Jesus going out to lunch at a Jerusalem deli, a Nazareth restaurant or a Bethany snack bar. Surely he would have eaten with his friends and he would have shared ideas with them as we did. It was nice to meet new people from North Dakota, New Jersey, Maryland, and South Carolina. It was like a Thanksgiving gathering and it felt good to meet with recent friends from regional meetings in Lewiston and Moses Lake.

I was impressed with the ceremonies that we had. The stage was set when Bishop Charles Grahmann gave the keynote address on the opening night. I was also impressed to see so many priests, deacons and bishops participating. Having mass as part of each day was foundational to the weekend's success. Everyone from Seattle was especially proud of Archbishop Brunett's message of support of the Cursillo Movement. Many appreciated his enthusiasm and hoped to share it with their bishops back home.

The speakers painted linguistic pictures for us. The images had varying degrees of value to each of us. One image I remember had to do with a story that compared the commitment of a chicken to a pig. *A pig and a chicken were walking on their way to breakfast. The chicken was running ahead of the pig who wasn't too anxious to get their destination because he would have to give his life for the breakfast while the chicken would make only a small contribution—the breakfast was bacon and eggs.* So I asked, which am I? The chicken? The pig? Am I willing to give my whole life or only a small part to my Lord? I'd like to ask others this question.

Most presentations were given in the Pigott building. They were informative and the discussions afterwards were just as valuable when people from different regions shared. Even the walks between buildings were opportunities for meeting and talking to people.

I felt a sense of chaos before each session which led to mishaps. Running late, I accidentally walked into the

middle of a regular university class; everyone stared at me. Was it the yellow Cursillo T-shirt? The brightly colored lei? The Kazoo attached to my name badge?

I saw only the surface of the preparations that made this encounter a success. Many worked hard to make everything happen on time and our national guests feel welcome. I believe Natalie Vieira did an awesome job as did Susan Holliday who serenaded her with a song she wrote to the tune of Cookie Cookie:

*Natalie, Natalie,
Listen while we sing to you.
You're a big part of the Encounter, too.
Anyone can give a speech,
anyone can talk,
but you're the only one
that can do the lobster walk.
Natalie, Natalie
a very special thanks to you.*

All good things must end including our beautiful evening of celebration in the Seattle University Quad. Our singing, dancing and eating went on well past dark.

YANKEE INGENUITY

They walked in tandem, each of the ninety-three students filing into the already crowded auditorium. With rich maroon gowns flowing and the traditional caps, they looked almost as grown up as they felt. Dads swallowed hard behind broad smiles, and moms freely brushed away tears.

This class would not pray during commencement—not by choice but by a recent court ruling prohibiting it. The principal and several students were careful to stay within the guidelines allowed by the ruling. They gave inspirational and challenging speeches, but no one mentioned divine guidance and no one asked for blessings on the graduates or their families.

The speeches were nice, but routine until the final speech. It received a standing ovation. A student walked proudly to the microphone. He stood still and silent for just a moment, and then, it happened.

The remaining 92 students, every single one of them, suddenly SNEEZED!!!! The student on stage simply looked at the audience and said, "GOD BLESS YOU, each and every one of you!" and walked off stage. The audience exploded into applause. The graduating class had found a unique way to invoke God's blessing on their future despite the court's ruling!

A GLIMPSE AT DEACON BILL SHAWVER

by Bill Shawver

De Colores my Brothers and Sisters in Christ: About a month and a half ago, Peter Jancola, the lay leader of the Cursillo Movement in our Archdiocese, asked me to write an article for the TRIPOD and so here I am at this late date, trying to say something meaningful.

Let me first tell you something about myself. I made my Cursillo thirty years ago at St. Mary's Parish in Kelso. Fr. Maat was the spiritual director for the weekend and thus another very loving friendship began. I don't know about you but I will never forget "my" weekend! The loving men who gave and prayed so much for all of us that were there. What a blessing for me to discover that God loved me for who I was, that He created me and gave me the gifts and talents that he did in order for me to have a deeper more spiritual life. My Cursillo changed my life! My life changed in ways that I don't think I can fully explain.

My wife Carol and I began our involvement in the movement by first joining a group reunion and we have each continued to group weekly.

I have had some severe health problems over the years and we have had friends and families that stood beside us and supported us in very special ways. There were times when the walls in my hospital room were covered with posters of palanca from different ultreyas (often from people we didn't know) that were real witnesses of the power and strength of Christian love in the community.

The Cursillo movement has helped us to grow spiritually. I studied to become a deacon and I am proud to say that I was ordained last September. I serve as a deacon in my parish, in KAIROS (an inter faith prison ministry) and several months ago began serving as the spiritual advisor for the Cursillo Movement in the Seattle Archdiocese. It has been a real joy and blessing for me.

Last week the Cursillo Movement held its 14th National Encounter at Seattle University. What love, joy, peace and happiness! I had the privilege of helping with the local team and serving over 600 participants. There were three bishops (including Archbishop Brunett), 25 priests and eight deacons present to share liturgy and lessons with the rest of us. How wonderful! It was the first Cursillo National Encounter I had attended and it was a very meaningful time and a wonderful opportunity to meet old friends.

I met Larry Rubalcaba, an ex groupie of mine. Larry moved from this area more than three years ago. I met a close brother, Art Paleleio, and we spent a lot of time remembering all the "special spiritual times" we shared

in the past. Then there were other times when I laughed and shared memories with local special friends---Melinda and Sam Affronte, Ron Fernandes and of course with my good brother and sister Pete Jancola and Natalie Vieira. Of course I can't forget to mention John and Darleen George. We have spent many hours working for and worshipping the Lord together and with our families.

I was excited to hear of the love of God, working in our own individual environments and remembering to "Bloom Where We Are planted".

This may not make a lot of sense and it bounces around. However the Lord has been good to me, my family and my friends. It has not always been easy but we have grown closer to God because of the Cursillo Movement. While we have maintained our friendships with many, we also have the opportunity to make new friends as we reach out to the world, as we try to bring Christ to the World. We are called to tell the world about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I can't think of a better way of doing that as we try to live out our baptism.

Thank you God our Father for all of your blessings you have given to us. Help us each day to Make a Friend, Be a Friend and Bring that Friend to Christ! Wishing you all of God's many Blessings. Your servant in Christ, Deacon Bill Shawver

COMING EVENTS

Cursillo Weekends:

Fall 2004 Weekends at Camp Don Bosco

Men's – Oct. 14-17

Women's – Oct. 21-24

Spring 2005 Weekends at The Palisades

Men's – Apr. 7-10

Women's – Apr. 14-17 Cursillo Weekends '05

LIST OF INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS

Seattle and Poulsbo Schools of Leaders listed the books they recommend highly for all cursillistas. Many books can be read, however this list was of the most treasured and spiritually moving for the Leaders. With so many books available we thought making a list would be a guiding light to Weekend Team Coordinators and others.

His Way; His Word; Why Jesus; Reaching Jesus,
David Knight

Holy Longing, Ronald Rollheiser

Purpose Driven Life, Rick Warren

Why Do Catholics Do That, Kevin O. Johnson

Fundamentals of Christianity, Rev. Frank Salamani

Five People You Meet in Heaven, Mitch Albom

Crossing the Threshold of Hope, John Paul II

Shattered Lantern, Ronald Rollheiser

Words to Live; No Greater Love, Mother Teresa

In the Name of Jesus; Life of the Beloved,
Henri Nouwen

Silent Hope; Raw Faith; God Hunger, John Kirvin

Near Occasions of Grace; Wild Man's Journey,
Richard Rohr

The God Who Won't Go, Peter Van Breeman

Winter Grace; Reclaiming the Connections,
Kathleen Fischer

The Lamb's Supper; Father Who Keeps Promise;
Rome Sweet Rome, Scott Hahn

Somebodies and Nobodies, Robert Fuller

Mere Christianity; Great Divorce, C. S. Lewis

Armchair Mystic, Mark Thiboudeaux

When the Well Runs Dry, Thomas Green

Sharing Wisdom, Mary Benet McKinney

Spiritual Quest, Joseph Girzone

Why am I Afraid To tell You Who I Am,
John Powell

God Delights in You, John T. Catoin

No Apology for the New Apologists;
12 Painless Ways to Evangelize, Karl Keating

Holy Sweat, Tim Hansen

Taking Flight, Anthony DeMello

Looking for Peace Try Confession, Mary Ann Budnik

Guerillas of Grace, Ted Loder

Starlight, John Shea

The Everlasting Now , George Maloney

Healing the Culture, Robert Spitzer

While You Were Gone, William Bausch

Awaking to Prayer, Augustine Okmura

Creating Communities of Good News,
Mary LaCourie Mauren

The Inspirational Bible, Max Lucado

Share this list with those searching for truths.

Attend Your Local Ultreya!

You will meet great people, learn about what's happening in Cursillo, and receive new insights capable of transforming your relationship with Christ!

EVANGELIZATION: Bloom Where You Are Planted

by Dave Heiar—Nashville, Tennessee
(Taken from *Ultreya Magazine*, June/July, 2003)

Did you ever notice that in order to Bloom Where You Are Planted, sometimes you have to wait through a barren winter before the blossoms show? My wife Margie and I have had long-term plans for evangelizing our children, three of whom have spent several years away from the church. Our planned evangelization efforts have always included praying for them along with assorted sermons, bribes and grandparental coercion. Let me share some examples.

First, Sermons—That's the method of choice for most parents, I think. We try to share our parental wisdom—the lessons it took us a lifetime to learn. Whenever crises arise with our children and they come to us for assistance, the assistance is almost always accompanied by a dose of evangelization. "You know, you might find this easier to deal with if you took time to pray and ask God for His help". They wanted assistance—not advice so they roll their eyes and mumble their thanks, but they don't return to church.

Second, Bribery—Any family gathering, whether for holidays or other celebrations, is almost always planned around Church services. We exchange Christmas gifts right before midnight Mass. Most family dinners start shortly after Sunday Mass. They're asked and encouraged to join us for Mass, most of the time they do. They'll do anything for a free meal but they still didn't return to church on a regular basis.

Third, Grandparental Coercion—We've actually resorted to using our grandchildren as innocent coconspirators against their parents. When babysitting on the weekend, we take the grandbabies to Mass and gather the children. They really like that, so then we tell them they should ask Mom and Dad to take them next week. Nothing seemed to work. "Work as if everything depends upon you. And pray as if everything depends upon God."

Maybe we were relying too much on our efforts and not enough on God. Our best laid plans didn't seem to be working, so we decided to put more of our effort into prayer. Our children know what we believe. They've

seen how we live our lives. We need to just pray and be present to them without trying to manipulate the results.

A few weeks ago I was in the middle of the Communion song in the choir at St. Ignatius when I saw our youngest daughter and two grandbabies coming down the aisle. Needless to say, I missed a couple of verses before I found my voice again.

Last Easter, our oldest daughter finally had her three children baptized. Two of them also received their first Holy Communion. Recently our son called to say that he and his new wife had started attending their local Catholic Church.

Sometimes our best laid plans don't show results when we expect. We just need to continue to pray and perhaps wait through the winter until spring. Only then will the new growth and blossoms appear.

A CALL FOR PARISH COORDINATORS

Here's a concept that was in use several years ago, and then gradually faded away but being talked about again. Maybe its demise is being felt. The concept calls for a cursillista in each parish to maintain a list of cursillistas in that parish, in order to facilitate communication between the Schools of Leaders, the Ultreyas, and the Cursillo community. If any of you feel called to serve in such a capacity, please contact Tom Connors (Post-Cursillo Chairperson on the Secretariat). We will give you a list of cursillistas in your parish who are on the TRIPOD mailing list.

Secretariat Members

- Pete Jancola, Lay Director, 206-780-5813, pjjancola@worldnet.att.net
- Dave Hallek, Seattle School of Leaders Facilitator, 425-865-0257, davehallek@aol.com
- Jerry Hyde, Poulsbo School of Leaders Facilitator, 360-377-9335, jnhyde@earthlink.net
- Cam-Tu Nguyen, Vietnamese School of Leaders Facilitator, 425-861-0306, nguyencamtu@hotmail.com
- Dick Hassell, Precursillo, 360-698-7396, richardhassell@aol.com
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- Susan Holliday, Treasurer, 425-228-4555, pineconeinc@yahoo.com
- Bill Shawver, Spiritual Advisor, 360-956-7131, cb86bill@aol.com

Ultreyas

- **Bothell:** "Northend" St. Brendan, 2nd Saturday 8:00PM.
Contact: Sam Affronte, 425-481-5296
- **Bremerton:** Holy Trinity, 4th Thursday, 7:00PM.
Contact: Jerry Hyde, 360-377-9335
- **Des Moines:** St. Philomena, 3rd Tuesday, 7:00PM.
Contact: Marilyn Soderquist, 206-248-2063
- **Lacey:** Sacred Heart, 3rd Sunday, 1:30PM.
Contact: Tom Connors, 360-491-7401
- **Montesano** St. John's Mission, 2nd Sunday, 2:00PM.
Contact: Helen Pellegrino, 360-249-5535
- **Poulsbo** St. Olaf. 3rd Monday, 7:00PM
Contact: Noreen Millbauer, 360-437-7649
- **Tacoma** St. John of the Woods, 1st Wednesday 7:00PM.
Contact: Earl Ducote, 253-845-0112

Feedback

Your Feedback, Please:

What kind of information and articles would you like to read? We want your ideas on how we can make the TRIPOD more interesting and useful. Also, would you consider writing an article for the TRIPOD? Have you read a book lately that you would like to recommend? Do you have a witness story you'd like to share? Have you had a close moment that was especially inspiring? Do you know of some coming events that other Cursillistas might be interested in? Please take the time to send us your comments and recommendations.

Send comments to:

Ron Fernandes
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Kirkland, WA 98034,
call 425-821-3599
or send email: Ferpl@AOL.com

Cursillo = Short Course, Long Commitment