



The Cursillo Movement of the Archdiocese of Toronto

The Fourth Day Newsletter

Feb 2014

"Make a friend, Be a friend, Bring that friend into friendship with Christ"

Spiritual Director's Message

Enthusiasm

Remember November 23, 2013? What a celebration of our fiftieth anniversary we experienced! Dennis, Diane and Evie lead us through the nostalgia, the witnessing of changed lives, the impact of Father Marshal Beriault and the fun of life in grace. The room was full of enthusiasm.

That was then, but now back to the future! We are standing on the shoulders of giants who built from ground zero to the momentum we have today. May we be good stewards of the treasure we have been handed to display to our generations for their edification. The charism of our movement that has saved us from mediocrity and from remaining faraways has much more for us and for others than we have already received. As well, our best days as pilgrims living in grace are still ahead of us. The Lord has saved the best wine for the last.

Therefore, our group reunions, ultreyas and school evenings are rallies of enthusiasm. Onward, Christian Soldiers! We are able to break through our former and present limits in piety, study and apostolic action. The Holy Spirit is enabling us to access the abundance of divine grace, of divine life.

May the year 2014, our fifty-first year, be enthusiastic and fruitful!

Father Terry McKenna
Spiritual Director

From the Lay Director

On Immersion in the ordinary

On this the dawn of the 50th Anniversary of the Toronto Cursillo Movement, I thought of all the lay directors of the Movement since my own Weekend of November 2001, whose role I am now settling into. These leaders, and all the tireless veterans in the Toronto Movement, quietly sustained the Cursillo environment of the last 12 years that I ever knew, the environment that was just there, that I had taken for granted, and in which I came to have immersed myself. To them, my heartfelt thanks.

I said ‘immersed’. By that I meant simply ‘stayed connected’. That has been my Post-Cursillo, one dotted with brief stretches of absences here and there to be sure, but always sustained. Still, my Cursillo experience could very well have been just a memorable one-shot weekend outing, rather than the immersion that it turned out to be. For, when contrasted with the exhilaration of the Weekend, my Post-Cursillo has been quite ordinary, or even mundane. But then I never really expected a spiritual home run from every group reunion or Ultreya attendance anyway, any more than I expected an epiphany experience from every Mass I attended. Yet, over time, I learned from this immersion that grace there was just the same. Grace in the ordinary, for the taking.

If grace comes in encountering Jesus Christ, and, as I have come to know, if grace is in the ordinariness of the Post-Cursillo, then I have been encountering Jesus Christ in my Post-Cursillo, through all the ordinariness of the individuals whom I encountered there. Jesus Christ through others, for my sacramental eyes to see.

Eduardo said Cursillo has a single purpose, and it is “that the Spirit of the Lord in Christ meets the freedom of the human person”¹. In all the ordinariness and the seemingly mundane proceedings of the Post-Cursillo, the Spirit of the Lord is just there, for me to freely meet, one on one and as my normal self. For me, understanding this intellectually simply took some theological parsing. Coming to the sensibility of it, however, took immersion.

¹ Eduardo Bonnín, *My Spiritual Testament*, completed shortly before his death in February of 2008.

And so it should be. From The Word becoming and dwelling among ordinary flesh, to immersion in the ordinariness of water in Baptism, to immersion in the ordinariness of persons in the Post-Cursillo, it has always been about immersion in the ordinary. The Spirit of the Lord is there just the same, freely available, for me to freely meet.

So if I find my Post-Cursillo ordinary, I know that it is there for immersion first, a training ground for me to come to the senses of meeting Jesus Christ through others. Immersion takes effort to sustain, effort that I freely undertake, for the grace that is there for the taking.

May we all have a grace-filled immersion in 2014. De Colores!

Manchiu Wong
Lay Director

Pre-cursillo

Pre-Cursillo: What is it?

I am your Precursillo Co-ordinator. I served as Lay Director from 2011 to 2013.

Definition: Precursillo, as the name implies, refers to anyone who has not yet experienced, lived or made a cursillo weekend.

“The Cursillo Movement in each of its three phases - Precursillo, Cursillo and Postcursillo - responds to the purpose that it pursues:

The Precursillo when it facilitates the SEARCH for the LOVE of GOD;

The Cursillo (weekend) when it fosters the ENCOUNTER with the LOVE of GOD,
and the Postcursillo when it CONVERTS to a LIFETIME WITNESS”.

How can I, as a Cursillista (Postcursillo), help to make a person’s search for the love of God easier? How can I bring someone to a Cursillo weekend?

1. Through palanca and prayer, I 'beg' the Holy Spirit for conversion.
2. Through sharing I address the WHY (rather than the HOW) about the Cursillo weekend. For example, Why am I inviting you to a cursillo weekend? Because I want to share with you that I was far away from God until I encountered Jesus on my weekend. During the weekend, I experienced (and felt) His deep love for me, and now I have this joy and burning love for Jesus which I want you (and the rest of the world) to experience.
3. I refrain from trying to describe the “how” of the weekend as this can set up expectations and then possible disappointments. Instead, I allow each individual to have his/her unique experience with the Holy Spirit. Through genuine friendship, I offer my expression of love and seek to build trust.
4. Through a Study of the Environment (discerning where the Precursillo person is in his/her relationship to God - e.g. 'weak' catholic, atheist, etc.), I gather information. In this way, I can avoid pushing my friend away by not assuming I know where he/she is.

5. This, therefore, is the order of my approach: first I try to reach the person's heart, then the mind, then the will, while I myself begin quietly with prayer to the Holy Spirit.
6. Through the Holy Spirit I can help bring my new friend to the best gift ever, the Kingdom of Heaven, the Kingdom of God, eternal life, grace.
7. Through pulpit presentations and personal meetings, etc. with our Parish priests, we have an opportunity to share the rich gifts that we cursillistas can bring to our church community and parish.

Through the grace of God, my Postcursillo life becomes a witness to others, as I share my genuine and deep encounter with Jesus during my weekend. My new joy-filled life becomes the attraction for the precursillo. As cursillistas we have received the charism (a gift not for us but to pass on to others) that is cursillo. We are fully equipped to recognise and encourage Precursillo searchers to take the plunge, as we did, with all to gain, Jesus and His joy and love.

A Precursillo Group has been formed to assist you who are trying to help precursillo individuals in their search for God.

Members are:

Cynthia Rodney (9054289262), Mike Mears (2893567077), Gabriel Ferdinand (6479292771) and Rocco Piccininno (4168888438).

Gabriel Ferdinand
Pre-cursillo Co-ordinator

Palanca

In Memoriam for a Fifth Day:

Please remember in your prayers all our fellow Cursillistas who have been called home by our Lord:

Let us pray for the repose of our friend Larry Glover, who made his Weekend in November 2004, parishioner of Sts Martha and Mary and a past participant in the Mimico Ultreya. Larry entered his Fifth Day in December 2013.

Calendar of Events

Team Formation and Palanca for Weekends	Ongoing prayers and palanca for the weekend rectors, teams, and candidates .
Moonlight Retreat	Monday May 12, 2014 @ 7:30 pm F2 Conference Room at Consolata Missionaries, 2671 Islington Avenue, Toronto
Women's Weekend	May 22-25, 2014 at Scarborough Foreign Mission Society
Men's Weekend	May 15-18, 2014 at Scarborough Foreign Mission Society
Day of Reflection*	Sept 27, 2014 9:00am- 3:00pm at Consolata Missionaries
Commitment Celebration*	September 29, 2014 7:00 pm at Holy Redeemer Church, 796 Eyer Drive, Pickering, Ontario
School of Leaders	Mondays Jan 20/27th, Feb 10/24th, Mar 10/17/24 th , 7:00-9:30 pm F2 Conference Room at Consolata Missionaries

* The Commitment Mass is an annual ceremony for Cursillistas to confirm their commitment to the Cursillo Movement as their prime apostolate for one year, presided over by the Bishop.

*The Day of Reflection with Fr Terry is a day set aside for Cursillistas to discern individually on their primary commitment for the coming year.

Ultreyas

<p><u>Archdiocesan Ultreya</u></p> <p>Rector: Anthony Gill (905) 457-2540</p>	<p>First Monday (except holidays), of every month at 7:00pm at Consolata Missionaries 2nd floor, 2671 Islington Avenue, Toronto.</p>
<p><u>Brampton Ultreya</u></p> <p>Rector : Denis Lafleur (905) 790- 0082</p>	<p>Third Thursday of every month at 7:45 pm at St. Jerome's Church, 8530 Chinguacousy Road, Brampton.</p>
<p><u>Mimico Ultreya</u></p> <p>Rector: Manchiu Wong (416) 277-4685</p>	<p>Every Thursday at 7:30 pm at St. Leo's Church (basement), 277 Royal York Road, Etobicoke.</p> <p>No Mimico Ultreya on the same week when an Archdiocesan Ultreya is scheduled.</p>
<p><u>Toronto East Ultreya</u></p> <p>Rector: Clifford Rachpaul (905) 239-7353</p>	<p>2nd Saturday of every month 10-11:30 am at Holy Redeemer Church, 796 Eyer drive, Pickering.</p>

Links

Toronto Cursillo: www.cursillotoronto.com

Canadian Conference of Catholic Cursillo: www.cursillocanada.org

Online CCCC Newsletter: www.cursillocanada.org/newsletter/index.htm

**THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO**

2014 Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
JAN. 20	7:30 - 9:30 pm	School of Leaders Night 1	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
JAN. 27	7:30 - 9:30 pm	School of Leaders Night 2	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
FEB. 3	7:00 - 9:30 pm	Archdiocesan Ultreya	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
FEB. 10	7:30 - 9:30 pm	School of Leaders Night 3	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
FEB. 24	7:30 - 9:30 pm	School of Leaders Night 4	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
MAR. 3	7:00 - 9:30 pm	Archdiocesan Ultreya	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
MAR. 10	7:30 - 9:30 pm	School of Leaders Night 5	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
MAR. 17	7:30 - 9:30 pm	School of Leaders Night 6	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
MAR. 24	7:30 - 9:30 pm	School of Leaders Night 7	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
MAY 5	7:00 - 9:30 pm	Archdiocesan Ultreya	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
MAY 12	7:30 - 9:30 pm	Moonlight Retreat for Cursillos	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
MAY 15-18	7:00pm - 7:00pm	Men's Cursillo (Closing 4:45pm)	Scarborough Foreign Mission
May 22-25	7:00pm - 7:00pm	Women's Cursillo (Closing 4:45pm)	Scarborough Foreign Mission

JUNE 19-22		CCCC National Conference	Edmonton, Alberta
JULY 7	7:00 - 9:30 pm	Archdiocesan Ultreya	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
SEPT 27	9:00am - 3:00pm	Day of Reflection	Consolata Missionaries (2 nd floor)
SEPT 29	7:00 - 10:00 pm	Mass & Commitment Pledge	Holy Redeemer Church, Pickering

De Colores!