



Easter - The Way of Light

The time of darkness has passed. Sorrow has transformed into joy for our Lord Jesus Christ has risen from the dead. This is the season of Easter, of hope and of light. Where just over a week ago, we walked with Jesus through the way of the Cross, now we walk with him in the way of the light.

The way of the light (Via Lucis) is a celebration of one of the most joyful time in the Church liturgical year, beginning from the moment of our Lord's Resurrection, stretching and flowing into the Ascension and the Pentecost. It gives a vision of what God has planned for us - our own immortal lives made so because Jesus triumphed over sin and death,

That being said, we, the Church today, have many concerns that we must understand and pray for as deeply as we can; concerns such as clergy sexual abuse and abortion, to name a couple. In this issue we also remind ourselves that we are a part of the whole global community as shown in Pope Francis' Easter message. We turn our eyes toward our homeland and absorb the words from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines. In our local environment, our method of Piety, Study and Action is truly alive and well. God be praised for He is so good. His mercy and love for us is unending. Decolores!

Sis Annie Villarente

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**Communication
Committee**

Editor: Sis. Annie Villarente
Editorial Staff: Sis Celsa Taraya
Webmaster: Bro. Lino Centeno
Photographer: Sis. Ella Dimapilis
Videographer: Bro. Willie Villarente

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Piety Study Action

By Sis Annie Villarente

Successful Joint Ultreya

The March 23, 2019 Joint Ultreya was successfully held in a new venue and at a different time. It was held at the Santa Maria Parish Hall in Orinda on a Saturday morning instead of the regular evening schedule. There were 80 attendees which in itself is a significant improvement.

There was a Blessed Sacrament/Holy hour held in the Santa Maria Church before the actual Ultreya.

It was a fellowship filled with joy and friendship as all Cursillistas from the east and west regions of our diocese mingled and caught up with each other. Many did express the appreciation of the new time and centralized location. It was a beautiful and blessed beginning to a new day.

We thank the Post Cursillo Committee and to our SA, Dcn. Rey Encarnacion for facilitating the use of the Sta. Maria Parish venue. We look forward to more joint Ultreyas such as this in the future.

New Understudy Rector and Rectora

Discernments were held last February to find the Rector/Rectora understudies for this year. Through the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit and the power of prayer, the new understudies are Sis. Cecille



Cansino, Rectora for Women's Cursillo #101 and Bro. Robert Cansino, Rector of Men's Cursillo #102. It has been a long time since we've had a dynamic couple as rector/

rectora in the same year. This is truly a blessing. Many thanks to Sis. Josie Herrera, Chairperson of the 3-Day Committee, to the vice-rectoras and vice-rectors who joined the discernment, 3-Day Committee members who lent support and to Dcn. Rey Encarnacion for a prayerful and faith-filled discernment.

Walk For Life

The 15th year "Walk For Life West Coast" was held in San Francisco on January 26, 2019. It was a Pro-Life walk and rally that was joined by a few of our FCC friends headed by Dcn. Noe Tuason and our Lay Director, Sis. Cora Tuason. The Walk started from the Civic Center Plaza to head down to Market Street and then towards the Ferry Building which was approximately a seven mile walk.



The crowd in attendance was estimated at 50,000. One of the most memorable moments was when seven pregnant women allowed the Civic Center crowd to listen to the most beautiful sounds of the tiny heartbeats of their babies through the microphones.

For more information on the walk please see their website on: <http://www.walkforlifewc.com/>

The date for next year's Walk for Life is January 25, 2020. It is a fervent hope that many more of our brother and sister Cursillistas will join to lend voice and support to this most important event. Save the Date!

New Group Reunion Team

The Secretariat has approved a motion to open a new group reunion team. This team is officially known as St. Joseph Team of Pinole. There are five initial members of the team namely: Sis. Dorie Nues, Sis. Shirley Viduya, Bro. Paul Viduya, Sis. Elisa Urbano and Sis. Barbara De Dios. The Team Lead is Sis. Dorie Nues. There are more members coming and we will mention them as we feature this team again at a later date. Let us warmly welcome them and pray to our Heavenly Father to bless them as they continue to walk with us as brothers and sisters in Christ.



Piety Study Action - continued



Send our Love through Palanca

The Pre-Cursillo Team in the months that passed, has faithfully and with great perseverance sent out palanca to local, national and international Cursillo Weekends. In March alone, Sis Norma Acaba has sent palancas to 31 Cursillo Weekends.

She then notifies our community through the team reps so everyone can pray for all the Cursillistas having their weekends at the time. We, as a community, need to do our part of supporting them through our prayers for that is the essence of palanca.

We are grateful to the Pre-Cursillo team led by Bro. Rey Dollete, Sis Norma Acaba and the rest of the team for reaching out and sending love from the FCC Diocese of Oakland to our brother and sisters worldwide.

A Challenge from Our Lay Director

Our Lay Director, Sis Cora Tuason has issued a challenge to all group reunion teams of the FCC Diocese of Oakland. The challenge is to faithfully persist in making friends, being friends and bringing a friend to Christ, at least 1 to each of the Cursillo Weekends this year. Let us continue to pray that we reach and touch the hearts and minds of the friends we meet everyday.

Do you want to read a book?

The SOL Committee is recommending the following::

- ◇ Leader's Manual
- ◇ The Thinking of Eduardo Bonnin I
- ◇ The Study of Charism
- ◇ Whom Shall I Send
- ◇ Eduardo Bonnin, An Apprentice Christian
- ◇ Structure of Ideas

The School of Leaders Committee is willing to order them for you. Let them know.

School of Leaders Monthly Presentations

The School of Leaders, with the leadership of Sis Gid Eugenio and the SOL committee, has facilitated inspirational, thought provoking and informative SOL presentations in the past 4 months.

On January, 28, 2019, Dcn. Rey Encarnacion was the doctrinal guest speaker. His talk centered on "Cursillo Leader— a Vocation, a Calling from God." In this we learned how to discover and live our vocation and mission as a Cursillista, and how we discern and answer



God's call.

On February 25, 2019, Sis. Gigi Enriquez was the technical speaker. She presented the History of Cursillo in Christianity Movement and Life of Eduardo Bonnin. We learned how the Cursillo grew and bloomed into an international movement and how Eduardo Bonnin's life experiences shaped and formed him as the founder of the Cursillo Movement.



On March 18, 2019, Dcn. Albert Dizon shared with the SOL The "No More Secrets Ministry", a ministry close to his heart. His talk addressed the What, Why, Where, Who and How of clergy sexual abuse, the ministry's mission to protect children, to support and empower survivors.



On April 15, 2018, Sis. Gid Eugenio was the technical speaker. The topic for the month was "The Mentality. Essence and Purpose of the Cursillo Movement.." We learn that the Mentality of the Cursillo answers the Why of what we do. The Essence pertains to



Jesus +the person + friendship and the purpose is communicating the good news of God's love towards others.

If you are interested to join the SOL Committee, please contact Sis. Gid Eugenio, the Chairperson of the SOL committee or Sis. Gigi Enriquez.

Piety Study Action - continued

Prayer For Life

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the living, to you do we entrust the cause of life: Look down, O Mother, upon the vast number of babies not allowed to be born, of the poor whose lives are made difficult, of men and women who are victims of brutal violence, of the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy, Grant that all who believe in your Son may proclaim the Gospel of life with honesty and love to the people of our time. Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new, the joy of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in order to build, together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen

Pope John Paul II
Evangelium Vitae, 1995

Connections...

We keep our eyes and ears open to happenings in the FCC. We want you to feel the throb and pulse of our dynamic Filipino Cursillo Community. Keep the flow of information going. Let us know of events, ideas and any article you may want to write.

Have you been to the website lately? Check the FCC website for current events and past events as well.

<https://www.fccoakland.net/>

Do you want to serve the FCC in a challenging, creative way and learn at the same time? Then, we need you for the Mariposa editorial staff. Hearken to the call of the Holy Spirit. It's a great way to evangelize. De Colores!

Do you want to see a movie?



We are pleased to announce that the movie, UNPLANNED, will be shown at these local theaters beginning on Thursday, March 28:

Century Pleasant Hill 16
125 Crescent Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA

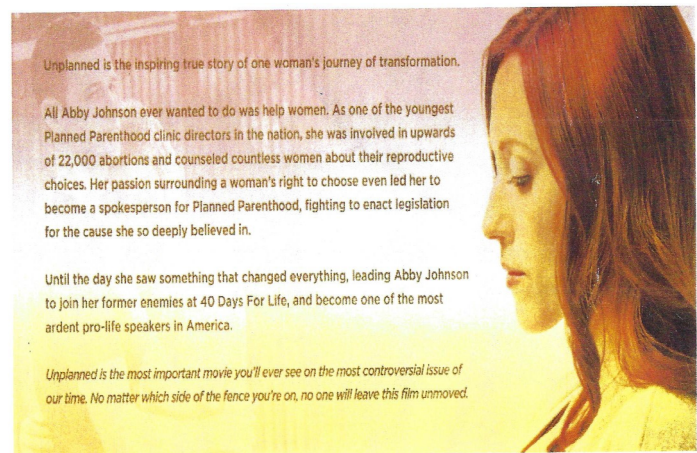
Maya Cinemas Pittsburg 16 (Opens Fri. March 29)
4085 Century Boulevard, Pittsburg, CA

Regal Hacienda Crossings Stadium 20
5000 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, CA

AMC Brentwood 14
2525 Sand Creek Road, Brentwood, CA

Buy your tickets today at <https://unplannedtickets.com/> or on [Fandango.com](https://www.fandango.com)

Invite a friend! Spread the word! This movie is sure to stir the human heart!



**Save The
Dates**

May and June Joint Ultreyas

WHEN: Saturday, May 11, 2019; Saturday, June 22, 2019
9:00AM TO 12:00PM


WHERE: Santa Maria Parish Hall
(NOT Conference Hall)

Meet at 9:00AM at the church for a visit to the Blessed Sacrament.

May School of Leaders

WHEN: Monday, May 20, 2019 at 6:30 PM

WHERE: Cathedral of Christ the Light Parish Hall



The Filipino Cursillo Community
Diocese of Oakland

Invites you to

"A NIGHT TO REMEMBER"
Friendship Dinner & Dance

May 4, 2019, 6pm to 11pm
Double Tree by Hilton Hotel at The Club
7050 Johnson Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588
Live Band: Elements of Time

Hosted by: Mother Teresa of Kolkata and Agape Teams
Attire: Formal Donation: \$60

RSVP: April 4, 2019
Cora Tuason (510) 386-0232 Alma Chew: (510) 501-7859

Region XI Encounter

WHEN: May 3-5, 2019

WHERE: Fresno, CA

June School of Leaders

Sponsors Workshop

WHEN: Monday, June 17, 2019 at 6:30 PM

WHERE: Cathedral of Christ the Light Parish Hall

Region XI Grand Ultreya

WHEN: July 27, 2019

WHERE: Anaheim, CA

For bus and hotel information/reservation please contact
Sis. Evelyn Isidro

Filipino Cursillo Community
Diocese of Oakland

Picnic in the Park

Come & Join the Fun



Eat Play Sing Dance

Barbeque | Dessert | Games
| Music | Laughter

Please bring your own drinks



Saturday, June 15, 2019
Time: 11:00am-6:00pm
Location: Heather Farms
Large Picnic Area
301 N San Carlos Dr,
Walnut Creek, CA 94598



RSVP BY JUNE 1, 2019

***Free Parking and Entrance Fee**

P.S. You are welcome to bring your own picnic chairs, blankets and canopies.

Contact Host Teams

Our Lady of Fatima:
Sis Becky Reyes 707-805-1111
Sis Josie Herrera 415-902-2583

Transfiguration:
Sis Lourdes Barrozo 510-828-6354
Sis Shiela Ulgado 510-962-0433

De Colores!!!

Friends In Christ



A Glimpse of CCT (Corpus Christi Team)

By Sis. Daisy Lopez

What? You have a priest with you every meeting? This is almost the common reaction when people learned that since 2003, our monthly meetings have been “shepherded” by a priest. The group or member’s reaction to this comment or question is usually started with a smile and followed by all sorts of reasons or explanations on why and how this happened. The bottom line is that this happened because God allowed it to happen. On the surface, it is unimaginable how it is possible to have a priest for our monthly group meetings for sixteen years and still continuing. We cannot offer a better explanation of how this came about. We can only attribute this blessing from the Lord who make all things possible.



The team has been blessed with a continuous succession of priests who guided the team through thick and thin, through good times and bad times. It started in 2003 with Father Eric Velandria, followed by Father Antony V. and currently with Father Gerald Pedrera. Today, our latest team picture with Father Gerald shows a group of nine CCT members. CCT used to have a robust membership of over twenty. Some members moved out of the area, left the group, or passed away.

A glimpse of what we do as a group is better shown by examples. To the extent possible, we follow the suggested Cursillo format for meetings. Our team reunion is a long night where we indulge ourselves in prayers, in serious discussions or in playful activities.

The latest “playful activity” happened during our February meeting. A week before this, Sister Isabel and Brother Ernie gave a “Valentine” witness talk during the East Bay Ultreya. CCT gave a unique affirmation with a love song. We all felt good about what we did but Father Gerald did not see that presentation. So, in a childlike-playful moment, we asked him to be our audience, our photographer and our videographer for we reenacted our presentation to him. Nobody objected and on we went for the show with only one audience-Father Gerald. Call it crazy children but we had fun and this group picture was taken after our “repeat performance”.

Gatherings of “playful activity” included out of town weekend retreats where two days are spent in seclusion, discussing and sharing personal thoughts and actions on our religion. The evenings and early morning’s use of the bathrooms were sights to behold. At least one night outing to the nearby casino added color to our weekend. Every retreat and trip was unique. Our first retreat with Father Antony was quickly marked by “punctuality” to schedule when Father Antony did not start but gave us a stern look when some of us did not come on time to our session. (in the garage). Father Gerald was a little bit lenient and more fun. We had two retreats to the mountains with Father Gerald. Each one was a profound experience but fun as well.

Are we having fun yet? Oh no! Our monthly Bible Study with a reading followed by Father’s Homily is “emotion-draining” at times although cracked jokes from our men members easily break the ice. The above glimpses of the CCT gatherings may not do justice to the “faith-building” meetings we had. But for today, as we listen to God’s words, we try to follow the Cursillo Way: Be a friend, make a friend and bring a friend to Christ.

Meet the present members of our team: Jun and Aida Adela, Ed and Jovy Umali, Ernie and Isabel Puruganan, Daisy Lopez and Father Gerald Pedrera. We do hope to bring another friend to our group. De Colores.

2019 Lenten Retreat



Our rich and vibrant Filipino Cursillo Community came together to immerse itself in a Lenten Retreat held on April 6, 2019, at the St. John Vianney Parish Hall in Walnut Creek, CA. There were 118 attendees. Retreat activities circled around 2 inspirational talks by the Retreat Master, Fr. William Rosario.

As part of the scheduled activities, Reconciliation was made available in the morning followed by a Mass in the afternoon. A Stations of the Cross was held at the Church after which refreshments and a short Ultreya followed. The Stations of the Cross and Ultreya were open to all Cursillistas whether they attended the Retreat or not.



To be a Leader is to :

- ♦ *Be persistent, relentless, for God never tires and is relentless*
- ♦ *Become Godly, become Christlike – Deification, Divinization*
- ♦ *Be demanding in love; to seek out others and follow God. He sits at the well waiting for us*
- ♦ *Be a missionary—God sends us out as missionaries*

Spend time at the well—talk to the Lord, spend time with the Lord.

Meet with a person whom you do not like; talk to them; meet your Samaritan woman

Pass through Samaria, through Jericho—go to those on the other side; be open; Choose to disagree with civility



What is prayer?

Much more than words

*Prayer is whatever you do or say
in a state of love, in a state of se-
renity, in a state of communion
with the Father*





*Utter God's name correctly.
God's name is never spoken but
breathed.
Pray constantly, unceasingly -
breathe in, breathe out the
name of God.*





Reconciliation is more than just forgiveness; it allows God to heal and breathe Himself in you.

Pray with faith; pray after forgiving.

It is not for us to judge who is or who is not worthy; our job is to love and forgive



A Message of Thanks from Sis. Clarita Perez, Post-Cursillo Committee Chairperson

Praise the Lord! Job well done. Mission accomplished with a record high of 118 attendees; 121 paid. We are grateful to Fr. William for providing our spiritual nourishment and to the three priest who did the confession... not planned but it happened. Thanks to Sis Rose Encarnacion for spending time and effort to get Fr. Michael and Fr. Rafal on such short notice and to Sis Mila (who in spite of being in hospital graciously helped get another priest (Fr. Jan) for our retreat confession. Bless your heart Sis Mila. Kudos to all PCC members and friends who worked in love and friendship to make this such a joyful spiritual event.

Overall, 37 out of 45 indicated that it was an excellent retreat and 8 said it met expectations. Thanks to FCC musicians for sharing their gift of music; to all Team Reps and alternates for the support as always; to the Joint Ultreya/Stations of the Cross Teams: OLGC and OLM; Refreshments: Corpus Christi and St. Matthew; Clean-up: Verbum Dei & St. Mary. And BTW, the readers of the Stations of the Cross are worthy of praise for reading from their hearts.



PRAY, FAST, REPENT* AND REJOICE



Each year, this Lenten Season, you and I have its special meaning. It is a spiritual journey to one, a reconnection, a reconciliation, a painful memory of the passion of Christ or just Lent to others, kind of “going with the flow”. We walk around on Ash Wednesday with a black mark on our forehead telling everyone who asks that Lent has started. It is forty days to pray, fast, repent, renew and rejoice in the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. People are oblivious to what we just said, either because of ignorance of the holy practice of Catholics or do not care at all. They say “aahh” and walk away.

The act of receiving ashes reminds us of our humility and mortality from Genesis 3:10 “You are dust, and to dust you shall return”. While Christ has died for our sins, we are still human. Lent helps us to reach out, and concentrate on God instead of the worldly things and guilty pleasures that can lead us astray.

We say YES to Jesus when we pray, fast and repent. We deny ourselves and commit to His will. What do we give up as a sacrifice? Many habits and things: gambling, coffee, shopping, arguing, gossiping, meat to name a few. How about almsgiving – donating money, goods or food to the poor? *Alms are a worthy offering, a work of justice and charity that is pleasing to God. Do not hesitate to give alms. Give alms in proportion to what you own*. Give away excesses of your life. Be simple, but be generous.

Lately, we have been encouraged to deepen our knowledge by reading and understanding the scriptures, books on the charism of the Cursillo movement written by our founder, Eduardo Bonnin, and studying the Bible. “ Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. “ Romans 12:2

Soon, the season will come to pass. BUT, *is your lamp lit?* Are you running out of oil while you wait? Are you prepared to meet your Lord and Master? Are you changing your wicked ways and be the man God created in HIS image? Loving and forgiving, are you? Take a good look at the man in the mirror; ponder upon the purpose of why is he here.

Rejoice and be glad! In HIS death and resurrection, WE ARE SAVED.

Submitted by: Sister Celsa Taraya

(*reference: excerpts from St Patrick Church 40 Days of Lent flock note)



Pope Francis' Easter Message 'Urbí et Orbí' 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Easter!

Today the Church renews the proclamation made by the first disciples: "Jesus is risen!" And from mouth to mouth, from heart to heart, there resounds a call to praise: "Alleluia, Alleluia!"



On this morning of Easter, the perennial youth of the Church and of humanity as a whole, I would like to address each of you in the opening words of my recent Apostolic Exhortation devoted especially to young people:

"Christ is alive! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way he brings youth to our world. Everything he touches becomes young, new, full of life. The very first words, then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and he

wants you to be alive! He is in you, he is with you and he never abandons you. However far you may wander, he is always there, the Risen One. He calls you and he waits for you to return to him and start over again. When you feel you are growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear, doubt or failure, he will always be there to restore your strength and your hope" (*Christus Vivit*, 1-2).

Dear brothers and sisters, this message is also addressed to every person in the world. The resurrection of Christ is the principle of new life for every man and every woman, for true renewal always begins from the heart, from the conscience. Yet Easter is also the beginning of the new world, set free from the slavery of sin and death: the world open at last to the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of love, peace and fraternity.

Christ is alive and he remains with us. Risen, he shows us the light of his face, and he does not abandon all those experiencing hardship, pain and sorrow. May he, the Living One, be hope for the beloved Syrian people, victims of an ongoing conflict to which we risk becoming ever more resigned and even indifferent. Now is instead the time for a renewed commitment for a political solution able to respond to people's legitimate hopes for freedom, peace and justice, confront the humanitarian crisis and favour the secure re-entry of the homeless, along with all those who have taken refuge in neighbouring countries, especially Lebanon and Jordan.

Easter makes us keep our eyes fixed on the Middle East, torn by continuing divisions and tensions. May the Christians of the region patiently persevere in their witness to the Risen Lord and to the victory of life over death. I think in particular of the people of Yemen, especially the children, exhausted by hunger and war. May the light of Easter illumine all government leaders and peoples in the Middle East, beginning with Israelis and Palestinians, and spur them to alleviate such great suffering and to pursue a future of peace and stability.

The Pope's Easter Message - continued

May conflict and bloodshed cease in Libya, where defenceless people are once more dying in recent weeks and many families have been forced to abandon their homes. I urge the parties involved to choose dialogue over force and to avoid reopening wounds left by a decade of conflicts and political instability.

May the Living Christ grant his peace to the entire beloved African continent, still rife with social tensions, conflicts and at times violent forms of extremism that leave in their wake insecurity, destruction and death, especially in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Cameroon. I think too of Sudan, presently experiencing a moment of political uncertainty; it is my hope that all voices will be heard, and that everyone will work to enable the country to find the freedom, development and well-being to which it has long aspired.

May the Risen Lord accompany the efforts of the civil and religious authorities of South Sudan, sustained by the fruits of the spiritual retreat held several days ago here in the Vatican. May a new page open in the history of that country, in which all political, social and religious components actively commit themselves to the pursuit of the common good and the reconciliation of the nation.

May this Easter bring comfort to the people of the eastern regions of Ukraine, who suffer from the continuing conflict. May the Lord encourage initiatives of humanitarian aid and those aimed at pursuing a lasting peace.

May the joy of the resurrection fill the hearts of those who on the American continent are experiencing the effects of difficult political and economic situations. I think in particular of the Venezuelan people, of all those who lack the minimal conditions for leading a dignified and secure life due to a crisis that endures and worsens. May the Lord grant that all those with political responsibilities may work to end social injustices, abuses and acts of violence, and take the concrete steps needed to heal divisions and offer the population the help they need.

May the Risen Lord shed his light on the efforts made in Nicaragua to find as rapidly as possible a peaceful negotiated solution for the benefit of the entire Nicaraguan people.

Before the many sufferings of our time, may the Lord of life not find us cold and indifferent. May he make us builders of bridges, not walls. May the One who gives us his peace end the roar of arms, both in areas of conflict and in our cities, and inspire the leaders of nations to work for an end to the arms race and the troubling spread of weaponry, especially in the economically more advanced countries. May the Risen Christ, who flung open the doors of the tomb, open our hearts to the needs of the disadvantaged, the vulnerable, the poor, the unemployed, the marginalized, and all those who knock at our door in search of bread, refuge, and the recognition of their dignity.

Dear brothers and sisters, Christ is alive! He is hope and youth for each of us and for the entire world. May we let ourselves be renewed by him! Happy Easter!

No More Secrets



The monthly presentation in the School of Leaders on April 2019, “No More Secrets Ministry”, gave us a deeper insight into the Diocese of Oakland’s effort to support and empower the victims and survivors of clergy sexual abuse. The subject matter of sexual abuse within the church, being as current and as impacting as it is today, inspires us to share this very informative presentation by Deacon Albert Dizon to any cursillista who was unable to attend the SOL and who will take the step of reading this Mariposa issue.

Dcn Albert has graciously given his consent and shared the slides he used for the presentation. The slides are shown here in their original format for authenticity. Inasmuch as printing this can’t truly capture the visual presentation itself, the link to the video taken are listed below. **It is the hope that the video coupled with the information in the slides will help in the understanding of what the ministry is all about.**

Video 1: <https://youtu.be/9sDujjV3GfY>

Video 2: <https://youtu.be/E2EPMF79I7I>

Video 3: <https://youtu.be/9614mijkD8E>

Filipino Cursillo Community – Diocese of Oakland

School of Leaders
PRAY-LEARN-SHARE
PRESENTS
**“No More Secrets
Ministry**

Speaker: Deacon Albert Dizon



March 18th, 2019 @ 6:30pm
Cathedral of Christ the Light Parish Hall
Oakland, CA

Refreshments: Holy Spirit & Our Lady of Manaoag Setup:
GMPH & OLSC
Cleanup: St. Matthew & St. Patrick

No More Secrets Ministry

Filipino Cursillo Community
Diocese of Oakland
School of Leaders
Cathedral of Christ the Light
Deacon Albert Dizon - St. Catherine of
Siena Parish, Martinez, CA

No More Secrets Ministry

What?
Why?
Where?
Who?
How?

<https://www.oakdiocese.org/offices/safe-environment/Victims%20Assistance/a-support-group-for-survivors-of-clergy-sexual-abuse>

No More Secrets Ministry

What Is Clergy Sexual Abuse?

Clergy sexual abuse occurs when sexual activity of any kind is enacted by a priest (or Deacon), thereby abusing the power and authority of the pastoral role committed to the priest (or Deacon) and violating the rights and dignity of the persons affected by such misconduct.

The fundamental dynamic at the heart of Clergy sexual abuse, is that of an abuse of power.

No More Secrets - continued

No More Secrets Ministry

Who May Be Victimized By Clergy Sexual Abuse?

Anyone may potentially be victimized by clergy sexual abuse. This includes not only minors, but also young adults and adults, both male and female.



No More Secrets Ministry

(DALLAS) CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

✦ The *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* is a comprehensive set of procedures originally established by the USCCB in June 2002 for addressing allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy.

No More Secrets Ministry

CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

✦ The *Charter* also includes guidelines for reconciliation, healing, accountability, and prevention of future acts of abuse. It was revised in 2005, 2011, and 2018.



No More Secrets Ministry

CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The *Charter* directs action in all the following matters:

- ✦ Creating a safe environment for children and young people;
- ✦ Healing and reconciliation of victims and survivors;

No More Secrets Ministry

CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- ✦ Making prompt and effective response to allegations;
- ✦ Cooperating with civil authorities;
- ✦ Disciplining offenders;



No More Secrets Ministry

CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- ✦ Providing for means of accountability for the future to ensure the problem continues to be effectively dealt with through the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection and the National Review Board.

No More Secrets - continued

No More Secrets Ministry

NMS Ministry

Formed in 2002 before the passage of the Charter...

No More Secrets Ministry is a mutual help support group providing an opportunity for personal sharing, prayerful reflection, and spiritual renewal.



No More Secrets Ministry

OUR MISSION:

This Ministry calls the Diocese of Oakland to address with integrity the harsh realities of sexual abuse in pastoral settings.

Survivors of clergy sexual abuse, lay persons and clergy, work together to:

- Support and empower survivors in their healing & promote acceptance of survivors

No More Secrets Ministry

OUR MISSION:

- Educate to transform attitudes and bring community awareness of the issues surrounding clergy sexual abuse
- Create, sustain and insure implementation of policies designed to prevent abuse, and to hold abusers accountable



No More Secrets Ministry

(NMS) Ministry includes survivors of clergy sexual abuse, working together with members of the clergy who are willing to open themselves to the devastating experience of what it means to be sexually abused by a priest or member of the clergy. Together, hand in hand, we work as advocates for victims (survivors) to bring Support, Empowerment and Hope to lives - tragically altered by the debilitating legacy of Clergy sexual abuse.

No More Secrets Ministry

- Diocese of Oakland, through the Outreach Ministry to survivors of clergy sexual abuse, offers support groups to adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.
- No More Secrets Support Group is a mutual help support group providing an opportunity for personal sharing, prayerful reflection, and spiritual renewal.



No More Secrets Ministry

- Every even month (February, April, June, August, October, and December) groups are guided by a therapist with pastoral and clinical expertise.
- Focus is mutual support rather than therapy.
- Confidential meetings are open ended; new participants are welcome at any time.

No More Secrets - continued

No More Secrets Ministry

- Information on community resources for domestic and sexual violence as well as on referrals to local mental health professionals is available.
- Spouses and family members are welcome to participate.

When: First Saturday of even month - unless the day falls on a legal holiday (11am-1pm)

Where: Santa Maria Parish Library (upper tier), 40 Santa Maria Way, Orinda



No More Secrets Ministry

For more information:

Email: survivors@oakdiocese.org

(510) 267-8373

Survivor Advocacy

(510) 267-8334

Mr. Stephen A. Wilcox

Chancellor

Victims Assistance Coordinator

No More Secrets Ministry

MY DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS...
PLEASE SUPPORT & PRAY FOR THE NMS !!!



No More Secrets Ministry

DE COLORES !!!

Q & A / COMMENTS

End of slides

Prayer for Healing for Victims of Abuse

Praise to you, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, source of all consolation and hope.

By your Son's dying and rising He remains our light in every darkness, our strength in every weakness.

Be the refuge and guardian of all who suffer from abuse and violence.

Comfort them and send healing for their wounds of body, soul and spirit.

Rescue them from bitterness and shame and refresh them with your love.

Heal the brokenness in all victims of abuse and revive the spirits of all who lament this sin.

Help us to follow Jesus in drawing good from evil, life from death.

Make us one with you in your love for justice as we deepen our respect for the dignity of every human life.

Giver of peace, make us one in celebrating your praise, both now and forever.

Amen.

Taken from Catholic Online:

+ Bishop John F. Kinney

Bishop of Saint Cloud, MN

FCC 3-Day Cursillo Teams 2019



Women's Cursillo #99

August 29 - September 1, 2019
Camp St. Francis De Sales
Aptos, Ca



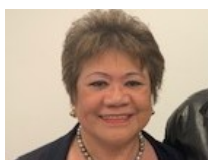
Sis Doris Sunga - Rectora

Spiritual Advisors:

Fr. William Rosario
Deacon Rey Encarnacion
Deacon Steve Budnik
Deacon Noe Tuason



Sis Evelyn Isidro - Vice Rectora Study
Sis Jovy Umali - Vice Rectora Piety
Sis Cristina Arquero - Vice Rectora Action



Sis Cecille Cansino - Understudy



Men's Cursillo #100

September 26 - 29, 2019
Holy Redeemer
Oakland, CA



Bro Ray Arquero - Rector

Spiritual Advisors:

Deacon Rey Encarnacion
Deacon Steve Budnik
Deacon Noe Tuason



Bro. Larry De Monteverde - Vice Rector Action
Bro. Art Salud - Vice Rector Study
Bro. Lino Centeno - Vice Rector Piety



Bro. Robert Cansino - Understudy

FCC 3-Day Cursillo Teams 2019

Joint Orientation

To begin this year's journey of Cursillo Weekend Service for Women's Cursillo #99 and Men's Cursillo #100, a joint Orientation gathering was held on March 31, 2019 at St. Raymond Church Moran Hall



FCC 3-Day Cursillo Teams 2019





From Home

CBCP Pastoral Statement

"Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good." Romans 12:21

Our dear People of God,

Peace be with you. We are aware that many of you have been wondering why your bishops have kept a collective silence over many disturbing issues, about which you may have felt you urgently needed our spiritual and pastoral guidance. Forgive us for the length of time that it took us to find our collective voice. We too needed to be guided properly in prayer and discernment before we could guide you.

Responding with Silence

For the past few months now, we have observed how the culture of violence has gradually prevailed in our land. The recent bombing of the cathedral of Jolo where scores of people were killed and several more were injured is a further evidence to the cycle of hate that is destroying the moral fabric of our country. Lately, we have also been on the receiving end of cruel words that pierce into the soul of the Catholic Church like sharp daggers. From deep within, the body of Christ is crying out in anguish as he did to Saul of Tarsus on his way to Damascus. (Acts 9:4) We have silently noted these painful instances with deep sorrow and prayed over them. We have taken our cue from Pope Francis who tells us that in some instances, "...the best response is silence and prayer."

Faith: Our People's Source of Strength

We respect the freedom of conscience and religion of people of other faiths, including former Catholic Christians who may have already renounced their faith. We also respect the freedom of expression of our fellow citizens in this country, including their personal opinions about faith and religion. But as far as we know, the freedom of expression does not include a license to insult other people's faith, especially our core beliefs. We know that this cuts deeply into the souls of our people—especially the poor, because faith is the only thing they have to hold on to. It gives them hope and strength to continue living and working despite all the odds that come their way. It sustains them when they feel alone and defenseless in foreign lands where they work.

When people do not understand our essential doctrines as Roman Catholic Christians, we have also ourselves to blame. It could also mean we have failed in our preaching. Perhaps we have not been effective enough in our catechesis about the faith? Perhaps we should find better and more appropriate ways of communicating the faith. Our preparation for the celebration of the 500th year of Christianity in the Philippines could serve as a perfect opportunity to embark on a renewed integral evangelization in word and witness.

We thank Dcn Stan Lee for sending this pastoral statement to us cursillistas. When asked for permission to publish it, here Dcn. Stan's reply:

"Peace! The Church is universal because God is. What she expresses in a particular context reveals an aspect of her true identity: caring for all especially those who are suffering. The Philippines mirrors this so that the world might recognize God in the church who cares and never abandons. I believe publishing this pastoral statement is commendable and needs no permission. "

Admitting our Shortcomings

Like the leaders and members of any other human institution, no doubt, we, your bishops and priests have our own share of failures and shortcomings as well. We have already mentioned in our previous statement that “we bow in shame when we hear of abuses committed by some of (us)...”, that “we hold ourselves accountable for their actions, and accept our duty to correct them...”

Not Against Fighting Illegal Drugs

There are people who, perhaps out of concern for us, have warned us about being critical of the government’s fight against illegal drugs. Perhaps we need to make ourselves clear about this issue. We are not against the government’s efforts to fight illegal drugs. We do respect the fact that it is the government’s duty to maintain law and order and to protect its citizens from lawless elements. We have long acknowledged that illegal drugs are a menace to society and that their easier victims are the poor. Like most other Filipinos we had high hopes that the government would truly flex some political will to be able to use the full force of the law in working against this terrible menace. It was when we started hearing of mostly poor people being brutally murdered on mere suspicion of being small-time drug users and peddlers while the big-time smugglers and drug lords went scot-free, that we started wondering about the direction this “drug war” was taking.

As bishops, we have no intention of interfering in the conduct of State affairs. But neither do we intend to abdicate our sacred mandate as shepherds to whom the Lord has entrusted his flock. We have a solemn duty to defend our flock, especially when they are attacked by wolves(!) We do not fight with arms. We fight only with the truth. Therefore, no amount of intimidation or even threat to our lives will make us give up our prophetic role, especially that of giving voice to the voiceless. As Paul once said, “Woe to me if I don’t preach the Gospel!” (1 Cor 9:16)

God’s Image and Likeness

Our faith informs us that no human being in this world deserves to be treated as a “non-human”, not even the mentally ill, or those born with disabilities. This is consistent with our defense of the right to life even of the unborn, because we believe that all human beings are creatures in God’s image and likeness, imbued with an innate dignity. We also must consider the right to life of people who are brutally murdered just because they are suspected of being opponents of government, as well as those who are summarily executed by armed groups. Everyone in the civilized community of nations would agree that even those who may have committed criminal offenses should be treated in a humane way, even as justice demands that they be held accountable for their actions.

Save the Children

There is no way we can call ourselves a civilized society if we hold children in conflict with the law criminally liable. Children who get involved in crimes, such as those who are used as runners by adult drug pushers, do not deserve to be treated as criminals; they are victims that need to be rescued. It is obvious that most children in conflict with the law come from very poor families and were born and raised in an environment of abuse. We beg our country’s legislators to give the bills they are drafting some serious rethinking and consider the greater harm that such a move can cause on the young people of our country. We commend the initiatives to improve the Bahay-Pag-asa shelters for the care of children in conflict with the law.

The Perspective of Mercy

Being civilized is not just about more advanced technology and infrastructure but about being more humane to the poor, the weak, the disadvantaged, the elderly, the children, those with special needs and all those who tend to be left out in society. We are not just creatures endowed with intelligence and guided by the evolutionary instincts of “survival of the fittest”. What makes us more superior as creatures is not our impulse to dominate each other but our innate sensitivity and capacity to love, to respect, to care for one another, to be both just and merciful, to be compassionate, to build community and to be genuinely concerned about the common good. The law of retaliation that demands “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth” (Exodus 21:24) has long been repudiated in Christian tradition. As Christians, we have to learn the way of Jesus who says, “Be merciful, just as [also] your Father is merciful.” (Luke 6:36)

Conquering Evil with Good

More than ever, as members of the Church, we must realize that our strength lies in keeping our communities of faith intact. We must educate the faithful in the application of their conscience to the complex and myriad problems of life — in the choice of leaders, in the exercise of their vocation as citizens, in the raising of families, in their work and chosen professions, in the efforts to care for the environment, etc. Our faith must try to hold these different aspects of life together into an integral whole — letting conscience speak its wisdom consistently in every aspect of our life.

Finally, we reiterate what we said in the previous statement that “the battles that we fight are spiritual.” (Ephesians 6:10-17). In the midst of spiritual warfare, St. Peter admonishes us to “be sober and alert” especially when the enemy attacks “like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.” (1 Peter 5:8) As members of God’s flock, we must learn to be brave, to stick together, and look after one another. Let this moment be a time to pray, to be strong, wise, and committed. Let this be also a teaching moment for us all—a moment for relearning the core beliefs, principles and values of our faith, and what it means to be a Catholic Christian at this time.

For the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines:

+ ROMULO G. VALLES, D.D.

Archbishop of Davao

President, Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines

January 28, 2019

Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge the contribution of the following gracious brothers and sisters. Thank you very much.

Dcn. Albert Dizon for his “No More Secret Ministry “

Dcn. Stanley Lee for the CBCP Pastoral Statement

Sis. Daisy Lopez for her Corpus Christi Team article

Sis. Celsa Taraya for her “Pray, Fast, Repent, Rejoice”

Sis. Clarita Perez for her note of thanks.

Bro. Henry Dy-Liacco for the “tiptoe” picture

***Have a Blessed Easter
Season everyone!***

