



**Filipino Cursillo
Community
Diocese of Oakland**



Issue 2 Volume IV Year 2022

EDITORIAL by *Sis Celsa Taraya*

As we forge the peaks and valleys of Normality, I am proud to say that the Filipino Cursillo Community (FCC) is spearheading the movement.

We've done the 50th anniversary, Ultreya, Group Reunion, the Three-Day weekend using the Step-by-Step (SBS) format successfully, our Memorial weekend, the Friendship Dinner Dance (FDD), and Christmas all face-to-face or in-person environment.

Others will follow suit soon.

Of course, being vaccinated as a requirement to attend is kept.

The energy, the joy in so doing manifest the Charism of the Cursillo.

The success of any Three-Day weekend whether using the current SBS or the previous method, is measured by how the new candidates move onward in their 4th Day.

I am pleased to say that half of our nine candidates are participating in the events set up by the Post Cursillo Committee (PCC), the School of Leaders (SOL), Three-Day, PreCursillo, the Communications Admin (CA), and/or the Secretariat to nurture their new found love for Jesus.

Job well done, beautiful gifts of God.

Your leadership is stellar.

De Colores

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CHRISTMAS 2022 MESSAGE

SIS CORA TUASON, LAY DIRECTOR

When the Covid pandemic hit almost three years ago, my Christmas messages then talked about “the virus stealing our Christmas” and that “it certainly has been a difficult and bumpy year.” On a positive note, I also said that we should not allow that pesky virus to defeat us, to hang in there, and that this pandemic would pass with God’s grace and we would again have a festive celebration of Christmas, a celebration of friendship and songs. We would celebrate a new birth and we would thank God for His love. Well, my dear brothers and sisters, that time is here! Though the virus is not gone completely, we no longer live in fear. We are now again able to hug each other, able to see the smile on each other’s faces, able to hand in person our gifts, and more importantly, able to physically receive Christ in the Holy Eucharist!

Don’t you feel God’s goodness more now, after we have passed through those dark years of controlled celebration? He certainly saw us through those gloomy times, albeit some of us have experienced true sadness due to the loss of loved ones to this pandemic. Yes, God never left us. That, my dear brothers and sisters is the message of Christmas. Christ is here with us and stays with us, in good or in bad times. So, let us not waste His presence in our lives. Let us open a warm heart by loving and serving others with God’s loving care. Let us smile at a brother and offer him our hand; and as a writer once said, “Let us offer to our enemy, forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, heart; to someone in need, service; to a child, a good example; to ourselves, respect; and to all, charity.”

I wish you all a blessed and merry Christmas. May this festive season be filled with the sweet sound of the laughter of loved ones in your home.

*De Colores,
Sis. Cora Tuason*

MARIPOSA FEATURE

4th DAY....MY FAITH FORMATION

(Not a story of my life but a story of God in my life)

By Sis Lisa Urbano

I am your Sister Lisa Urbano. I lived my Cursillo on May 10 to 12, 1996 in the Holy Redeemer Retreat Center in Oakland, with the FCC Diocese of San Francisco. Cursillo No. 738. My table group is St. Therese.

I was born to poor parents who valued education, honesty and hard work. My parents lived up to their belief that honesty and hard work, with God's grace, would make the impossible possible. My mother was the religious icon in the family. She guided us spiritually.

With little that they had, my parents were generous. They shared whatever they could to others in need.

My Cursillo sponsor, Sister Cynthia Bautista, did not give up on me for five years until I said "YES" to God's call, with no expectations. When I said "YES", it was more like, enough calls, Sis Cynthia! I did not know God was opening a new door for me.

In the Cursillo venue, I knew I was in the right place to rest my tired body and spirit as I went through the motion. Early wake up calls, lines in the bathroom, being served meals, long hours during the day were all new to me. I had instant camaraderie with others. The Rollos made me look at myself closer. It was during those times that I felt God's presence.

Alone with Him in the Blessed Sacrament, I encountered my God. I was weighed down with guilt that my spirit reached out for forgiveness. The tears that flowed from my eyes cleansed my soul.

After the weekend, the world I came back to did not change. My family and friends did not change either. The transformation was in me. I was more kind, peaceful, joyful, and smiling more. My husband wondered if I was served with my favorite food during the weekend (fried chicken) when I hugged and kissed him (anong nakain mo?)...he mused. My kids tightly embraced me with my overflowing love for them. My priority then was to make a better life for my two young children with the help of my husband. That was where my heart was, that was where my treasure was.

At work, my officemates and friends wondered what happened as they noticed the glow in my being. I looked at them with a twinkle in my eyes and answered; "You have to experience what I experienced to know."

My 4th day with Cursillo was put on hold. God had a different plan for me. I was destined to serve God in the healing ministry and evangelization in the workplace.

Earlier in 1994, I received the gift of healing. I was just a practicing Catholic then, routinely going to mass on Sundays and holidays, praying rosaries, going to confessions at least 3 times a year, and receiving Holy Communion. I did not read the Bible, but depended on homilies of the Priest during Mass to learn about the readings.

The Holy Spirit led me to the healing ministry of Robert Canton, an anointed Filipino healer from Stockton. It was in Bob's ministry that I learned

how Jesus heals through His disciples. For ten years, my late husband and I attended and ministered many healing services conducted by our group locally and in the Philippines. Truly, God provides. God's grace and love took care of our daily needs.

My late husband Fernando was the first friend I brought to Christ. He joined the Cursillo in 2011. He supported me physically, financially and spiritually.

It was during these years of ministering to the sick that my God showed me how to live my life by following Jesus. I learned to become a friend to so many who needed healing, and sought God's presence in their lives.

I learned the true meaning of following Jesus carrying my own cross. It was not easy. It was burdensome, taking a lot of sacrifices, and testing my faith. I also realized the true meaning and value of God's blessings in whatever form they are granted and whenever time they came.

I was grateful.

I learned to embrace everybody as my friends, and see the face of Jesus in each of their faces. I am still struggling to learn to like the unlikable, to love the unlovable and to forgive the unforgivable. I seek God's grace to do all these.

My brothers and sisters, I am still a work-in-progress learning the commandments and trying to live it. I am still in the Piety and Study phases of the tripod and praying daily for God's grace to put what I learned into action.

In 2012, Sis Cely Lorenzo invited me to join the St. Patrick team "to fill up my time", she said. I became active in Cursillo. God gave me back the strength to spread my wings and soar up high to continue my flight.

I started attending the St. Patrick monthly team reunions and actively participated in their monthly feeding of homeless shelter residents in San Pablo, bringing groceries to indigent school children in Rodeo and other outreach activities to the needy. I was attending the monthly SOL, Ultreyas, Reunion meetings, the annual 3-day Cursillo weekend and other Cursillo spiritual nourishments. My 4th Day was not on hold any longer.

I served numerous ways in the FCC. I wrote articles for the Mariposa Newsletter to publish.

God turns messes of the world into miracles. There is no big or little thing in serving God. One is never early or late in God's perfect timing.

I proudly belong to the Pilgrims team of 3 who believe that when God is with you, you can have the strength of thousands. Together with Sis Jhenie, Sis Penny and I with the helping hands of Sis Shirley, we will continue our journey in search of the finest wheat for as long as God will lead us. When we walk or run in our journey by ourselves, it is called race. But when we walk or run with God, it is called Grace.

ULTREYA!

I am still on my 4th day and have yet to complete my journey according to God's plan, no matter how long or how short the time it may take. I am so grateful and humbled that my loving God is holding on to my hands ever so tightly, lifting me up every time I fall and guiding me back every day to the path that is best for me.

And that path, my brothers and sisters, is God's Way.....called the Cursillo Way.

DE COLORES !

No One Can Stop the Sun from Shining

By Sis Celsa Taraya

We, the people, react to crisis in finance, health, and relationships in the best way we can.

That is our day-to-day struggle on how to balance windfall and bankruptcy, wellness and being sick, weddings and divorces, life and death, all with one goal in mind – to achieve happiness in the presence of the Lord.

This daily struggle was intensified during the COVID pandemic.

With jobs lost, borders closed, a food supply shortage, church services halted, and deep sorrow from home isolation, many of us demanded answers and wanted someone to blame.

We asked questions born from our feelings of hopelessness: Why did God let this happen? Why are we punished? Why are we abandoned? What did we do wrong to deserve all these? Can we make up for it?

Our American institutions responded to our growing despair reminding us of the guiding principle our economy was built upon, so much so, we printed it on our money: “In God We Trust.”

Our state and federal governments helped ease the pain. They offered mortgage assistance to keep homes, gave thousands of dollars to individuals and families for temporary relief, deferred loan interest, and provided free COVID testing, vaccines, and more.

Yes. For two years, we coped.

And our borders reopened jobs regained, services restored, health protocols lightened, and Missions moved ahead.

The land of the living is here again.

The wheels of the annual Medical Mission to the Philippines began to turn again after being deterred by COVID.

Preparations ensued with the procurement of supplies and sending them off ahead of our travel.

We reconnected with our local support to recruit much needed volunteers and generous donors.

“Please donate (1) sack of rice to the victims of Typhoon Odette in Bohol” was my pitch. Twenty (26) beautiful people responded. Our gratefulness to God was immense.

All went well until I broke my left ankle five days before our flight.

Pain and panic set in. Are we postponing? Are we cancelling?

I didn’t want to see a doctor. I really didn’t want to hear what he was going to say.

Regardless, the Mission had to happen against all odds.

After two days of fear, I finally visited my doctor.

The orthopedist did x-rays, scheduled me for therapy and a follow-up visit in two weeks. I told him about my impending travel. He was concerned but most considerate and provided me with a walking boot to stabilize my left leg and a matching elevated shoe for my right to even it up.

He then advised me to see a doctor in Davao when I arrived.

Yes, Doc. I will. He gave me clearance and medical certificate to take.

Traveling disabled was not bad at all. The airline was most accommodating. Wheeled me in first to my seat with an aisle chair, and when a jet bridge was not available, hoisted me up to the plane using the food elevator, seated first class. My party had priority boarding, and was first in customs.

I made it. But still wished I was healthy regardless.

We did two missions in different places, Davao and Bohol.

Davao is easy. We do it each year. Distribute relief clothes, canned goods, shoes, 2,000 pairs of eyeglasses to 600 persons, 200 food bags to families, and fed 300 children, giving toys and chocolate for dessert.

This time crowd control failed. We were swarmed.

Nonetheless we didn't mind. We were there to serve.

One child, about 7, was on a wheelchair and did not mill with the others for goodies. We called her and her mother over and asked why she did not fall in line. She said she knew I would notice her because I was disabled too.

Wow! Gave her a doll, chocolate, a sling bag and a P1000. The mom was teary-eyed, hugged and wished me well. Who cares about distancing? None of us did.

After a week, Bohol here we come!

Hauling supplies to another province over the ocean was daunting and expensive. We rented a van to take along volunteers also. We travelled six hours from Davao to Cagayan de Oro (CDO), rode a RoRo – a ferry boat which takes vehicles and cargo trucks to Tagbilaran, Bohol for another eight, and drove an hour to our house.

Heat, exhaustion, and pain were no match to the joy of 530 families lining up for the food bags containing two kilos of rice, six sardines and six noodles.

The Barangay Captain, Ms. Daisy, made sure that everyone followed the directions given. No crowding here.

We gave a father P2000 to repair his roof blown off by typhoon Odette when he came to our house after.

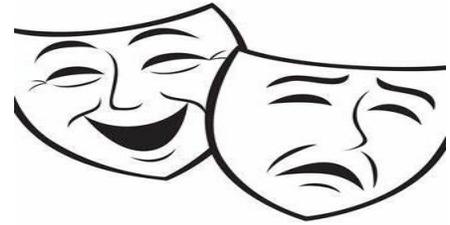
Even though the national and local governments promise subsidy to repair homes, many families are still waiting.

I was very sad that we had limited funds and could not provide financial relief to more families.

I asked the father who was repairing his roof to not tell anyone of the aid we gave him because I could not bear having to say “No” to another family in need.

The greatest burden of charity is not the giving of time, energy, and resources for others, for Jesus, for the greater good, but the constant feeling that no matter what you do, it never feels like it is enough. De Colores!

The funnyside of things



Humorous Quotes to live by in Tagalog

“Pag binato ka ng BATO, batuhin mo ng bulaklak para SWEET, pero isama mo yong paso para may impact” – pinoytv.com

Nagpost ng throwback picture tapos and caption: “Ang pangit ko pa diyan”

Sagot: “Bakit maganda ka na bangayon?” unknown

“Pagsingkit na maputi, Chinito Pagsingkit na maitim, Prinito” – unknown

Bakit ang mga Pinoy hindi tama sumagot maski maayos ang tanong?

Tanong: Kumain ka na ba?

Sagot: Busog pa ako

Tanong: Nandiyan ang Nanay mo?

Sagot: Bakit po?

Tanong: Anong oras na?

Sagot: Maaga pa

Tanong: Paano mo ginawa ‘yan?

Sagot: Madali lang

Tanong: Saan ka na?

Sagot: Malapit na ako! Wait lang!

POST CURSILLO



An Ultreya Witness...

by Sis Vangie Dizon

I am your sister Vangie Dizon. I lived my Cursillo in Camp St. Frances, Aptos, California in 2012. Cursillo #85, table group of Santa Monica!

First and foremost, let me tell you a bit about my life. I am a retired mother of three, and a grandma to three more children. I was raised spiritually by motivated parents. Through hard work and perseverance, they were able to send us to a Catholic school. I was an obedient and diligent daughter, but I got off track. I stumbled, lost my confidence, but somehow survived the challenge.

Why is it that when we have tribulations, we get closer to Jesus? The tribulations in my life strengthened my connection to Jesus. I learned to pray for courage and strength to face them each time.

I motivated myself to make changes to seek a better life, and be happy doing it.

I have my own drama in my life, but I fought and sought guidance from Jesus to make the right decision in whatever I pursue.

As a practicing Catholic, I attended mass every Sunday, prayed the novenas for Mother of Perpetual Help in Baclaran, or St. Jude in Mendiola. I was a standard Catholic, doing the least to keep my faith. I struggled every day to be better than I was. Prayers carried me through.

In 1978, I migrated to the USA, and met a nice, wonderful man. We were so in love. In 1982, we got married. After 13 years, my married life went from sweet to sour.

Being together in such a state was too much to bear, so we decided to divorce. Then he left. It wasn't just me he left behind. He also left three young boys. I devoted my life to them and thank God I had a good-paying job which allowed me to support them financially. I did my best to be their mother and father which brought me closer to God. But again, I drifted many times as challenges came my way. The mandated obligations weighed me down to exhaustion. There were so many things to be done with so little time.

Deep inside me, I asked the Lord if this is my destiny. Help me get through it. Help me, I asked God.

Good friends do come a long way. I am surrounded by them, and together we raised our children. What people say is true that people of the same feather flock together. Thank God for them. He answered my cry for help.

In early 2012, Sis Letty Lucilla invited me to attend the Cursillo weekend. My sister, Beth, attended Cursillo in the Philippines. I didn't. The invite from Sis Letty made me curious. Without thinking, I said, "Yes."

It turned out to be a new adventure for me. I have found a new love in the Cursillo Movement. During my weekend, I had an encounter with Jesus while on a face-to-face confession with Father Arong. I poured my heart out and confessed whatever I hid in my closet. In tears with my head down, Father Arong lifted my head up and looked at me eye to eye. With that alone, I felt as if I was face to face with Jesus who said, "Vangie, I am with you".

In the course of those three days, I realized that the Charism of Cursillo changed my life. Slowly, I discovered myself and learned to make more friends. Being around these people changed me. Now, I am continuously moving forward. The Cursillo clarified my perception of faith. It has been nine years since my weekend. I have served five times since then. I love serving the Action team. Each weekend is a mind-blowing experience. I am a cup, full and overflowing, ready to share my energy. My soul is full of joy.

Immediately after my weekend, I was invited by the Fremont Team to join them. I feel their warm welcome to the day. The members are very dedicated, passionate and diligent. Solidarity among them is greatly manifested in attendance at Group Reunions, SOL, FCC events and Ultreya. Being part of the Fremont Team reminds me of the Rollo on Christianity in Action where members remain faithful friends, supporting and praying for each other. Yes, we are one family. Fremont is celebrating 49 years this year, still going strong, and the bond is indestructible.

In 2017, I took a break from Cursillo for a while to take care of my Mother, my Nanay. She was a joy to care for even in her worst moments. She had dementia. She left me with lots of good memories. Probably if I can bring her back, I would always say "I love you" to her every hour and create more memories. I was so lucky that I was able to take care of her. I am grateful to my Cursillo family for all the prayers and support during this most trying time.

In 2019, I joined the Transfiguration Team. It is a small group of seven Cursillistas and three future Cursillistas - who have been attending our Group Reunion for two years without attending the Weekend yet.

Everyone is very comfortable with each other. The pandemic did not stop us from meeting in person. I sincerely thank my sister Madam Sheila, our leader and my friend for hosting all the meetings. From time to time, we go out of town for group reunions. It enhanced our bonding time. Transfiguration celebrated our five-year anniversary in Da Boccery in Livermore. It doesn't matter where and when, you could feel the overflowing friendship and dedication to the movement.

I am honored and yet humbled to join the Post Cursillo Committee in 2020.

Being a member of PCC is a different experience. This is the "All for Jesus" team.

Here's what PCC means to me: Work and support each other to attain one good cause. Learn and adjust to the movement's standard. Everyone is involved. And I am happy and excited to belong.

Last year, Transfiguration and Fremont Teams hosted the Friendship dance. The Fremont team was assigned for raffle fundraising. Sis Norma asked me to assist and coordinate the raffle schedule. Sister Norma is one of my idols and constructive critics. I said, "Yes", for Jesus. The raffle was a success.

The Transfiguration team was assigned in decoration and manning the whole event. When the Transfiguration team works and collaborates as a team, we triumph. The team inspires me. They brought me out of my shell. The group is all-willing, energetic and dedicated to making things happen.

On the 50th Anniversary of FCC, I volunteered to make the centerpiece, my masterpiece. It showed my passion, creativity and productivity. Not to mention the fun while putting it together and the feeling of

fulfillment when it was done. It also gave me time to see myself just like my succulents. I plant a cutting, let it mature, when it roots, it grows knowing the boundaries and restrictions within the flowerpot.

That's me nowadays. As I root in the Friendship of Cursillo, I learn to understand and accept my boundaries and restrictions.

For my Study, I attended the LA Religious Education Congress in Anaheim last March 2022. I thanked Sister Penny for inviting me. It was a great experience. We attended a couple of workshops, sharing and outpouring knowledge about different cultures. The highlight of the event was my face-to-face confession. The priest gave me penance to read a verse in the Bible. That encounter answered all my questions.

I registered to attend the National Encounter on July 23-24, 2022, in Anaheim. I am looking forward to this event with old and new friends as we walk with Jesus this weekend.

For my Piety, before and after the pandemic, I prayed often and even found myself praying for others. In 2020, I joined the consecration of St. Joseph and read books about him. I would pray the rosary with the four mysteries while biking or hiking. I feel my love and faith have grown even deeper, and now it's not an obligation or a chore anymore, but a habit. It is a good habit that the Cursillo instilled in me. To learn more about my faith and putting it into practice is now my normality in life.

For my Action, after my weekend, I couldn't contain myself to share what I have experienced. I invited and sponsored a few of my friends to attend Cursillo

weekends. Some are still active. I serve also at All Saints Church in Hayward as a Eucharistic minister and altar server.

By the way, I love to travel. Cruises are my favorite. I don't have to buy a Balikbayan box and cans of corned beef to travel. It's all inclusive. Dinner is like a fellowship for a group reunion done late at night.

Even when I'm traveling, the Cursillo teaches me about faith. For example, our group was challenged during our last trip because of the onset of a pandemic. Some members of our group had to stay behind; they tested positive for Covid. One of them went ballistic and turned almost crazy. He asked why? Why him? He did all the precautions. He was very upset. I gave him moral and spiritual support. I told him to surrender it to Jesus and have Mama Mary intervene by praying the rosary.

He said, "I don't have a rosary!"

I found a rosary plus a bible for him to read. Some of us Cursillistas went into the chapel and prayed. Later, he told me he was praying the rosary with his wife on Zoom and sometimes he even led the prayer.

I was so happy hearing that. Another soul finds comfort through prayers.

Starting this month, I will represent Transfiguration as Team Rep with the help of Bro Reggie Padilla as my alternate.

I will be part of this year's Women's Cursillo #101. I plan to be more active. Cursillo, thank you for being part of my life. I am a friend; therefore, I will bring a friend to Jesus. There is no doubt in my mind that I will be doing more for the movement in the future.

De Colores!

ULTREYA

– is a Spanish word for “onward” or “persevere”. It is the reunion or the group reunion teams; a gathering where each one shares what one has lived and it is where the work of building the community takes place, where friendships are developed and nurtured, where each one comes for the pure joy of being friends

August 2022 Ultreya

Ultreya Host – Pilgrims
(Sis. Penny, Sis. Jhennie, Sis. Elisa & Sis Shirley V)



Witness Speaker (Sis Lisa)

September 2022 Ultreya

Ultreya Host – Fremont Team
Santa Maria Church, Orinda



Birthday Celebrants



Graduates WC #101



Witness Speaker – Sis Shirley



October 2022 Ultreya

Ultreya Host – Chosen Flock



Witness Speaker – Sis Carmie



Welcome to Bro Totie – Men's Cursillo #102

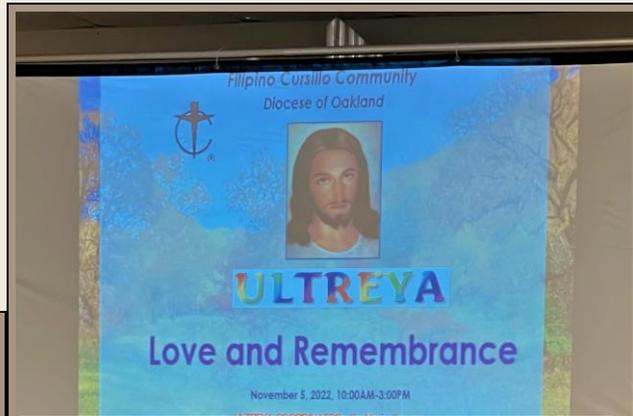


October Birthdays



November 2022 Ultreya & Memorial Celebration

Ultreya Host – Mother Teresa of Kolkota
Ultreya Co-host: Our Lady of Fatima



Remembering Fr. Joe Arong



Witness Speaker – Sis Josie



FRIENDSHIP DANCE 2022

FRIENDSHIP DANCE 2022

October 29, 2022
Double Tree by Hilton

It was another memorable night with friends at the FCC Friendship Dance 2022. It was hosted by **Antioch and Divine Mercy Teams** at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel. What a night! It was filled with good food, dancing, raffle prizes and entertainment by Charlotte & Friend.

Filipino Cursillo Community- Diocese of Oakland
Annual Friendship Dinner & Dance
"Fall in Love"
Saturday - October 29, 2022
6:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M. (Dinner at 7:00 P.M.)

Double Tree by Hilton
7050 Johnson Dr.
Pleasanton, CA 94588

Donation: \$65 per person
Attire: Semi-Formal

Music: Charlotte & Friend

Host Teams: Antioch & Divine Mercy

Contact: Sis Cecille Cansino 925-437-0182
Sis Marie Centenio 925-285-2425



ADVENT RETREAT 2022

Our Lady of Good Counsel

11-19-22

The Filipino Cursillo Community-Diocese of Oakland
cordially invites you to our Annual Advent Retreat
**"Preparing for the coming of Christ with
 utmost humility"**

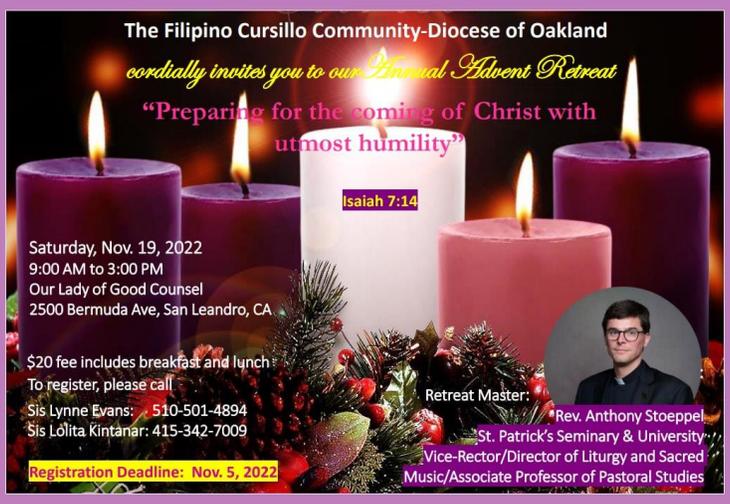
Isaiah 7:14

Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022
 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
 Our Lady of Good Counsel
 2500 Bermuda Ave, San Leandro, CA

\$20 fee includes breakfast and lunch
 To register, please call
 Sis Lynne Evans: 510-501-4894
 Sis Lolita Kintanar: 415-342-7009

Registration Deadline: Nov. 5, 2022

Retreat Master: 
 Rev. Anthony Stoepel
 St. Patrick's Seminary & University
 Vice-Rector/Director of Liturgy and Sacred
 Music/Associate Professor of Pastoral Studies




CHRISTMAS PARTY 2022

St. Raymond Church

Filipino Cursillo Community, Diocese of Oakland

Melo Kalikimaka!

A Hawaiian Christmas Party

Come join us, celebrate and share in the glory, wonder, and miracle of this Holy Season.

St. Raymond Moran Hall
11555 Shannon Ave
Dublin, CA

Matthew 1:23

December 10, 2022
9:00AM-3:00PM
(Mass at 10:00AM)

Donation: \$25

Host Teams:
Holy Spirit and Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Team Reps: please give expected number of attendees before Nov. 21st to:
Sis Vangie Dizon: (510) 881-8459
Sis Cora Pediglorio: (925) 997-3158
Sis Lolita Kintanar: (415) 342-7009

*All attendees must be fully-vaccinated for the safety of everyone



SCHOOL OF LEADERS

The 32nd National Cursillo Encounter July 2022 - Chapman University by Sis. Gigi Enriquez

The 32nd National Cursillo Encounter was held at the Chapman University on July 21-24, 2022. This is the 1st in person National Encounter in two years since the pandemic. Approximately 500 Cursillistas, laity, clergy and religious attended this wonderful gathering including 15 of us from the Filipino Cursillo Community of the Diocese of Oakland namely: Sisters Gid, Edith, Doris, Sheila, Cecilia D., Belle, Gigi, Lynne, Nenette, Rose E., Penny, Vangie D. and Brothers Ananda, Art and Deacon Rey E.



The moment we arrived at the National Encounter, we felt the camaraderie and friendliness of Cursillistas. There was “organized chaos” in getting our name tags and finding our assigned rooms which added to the excitement. We met Cursillistas from different parts of the US and from different language groups. It was a fun-filled, enlightening and spiritual experience for all of us. We had morning prayers, Holy Mass, group sharing, keynote address, workshops and entertainment/fiesta! There were a lot of activities and plenty of walking to the different buildings where the activities were held, but it was all worth it!



Thanks to our SOL and Three-Day Cursillo Chair persons, the topics discussed at the Encounter workshops were items we are familiar with and have discussed during our own SOL. It was wonderful to share about these topics with Cursillistas from different parts of the US!

Sis Gid and Sis Doris shared their experiences during the National Encounter:

“It was my 1st time attending the National Encounter and I had a wonderful experience. The fear of COVID was still around, yet the event was well attended by 500+ Cursillistas from different dioceses and different languages. Everyone was so friendly and joyful. We learned so much from some of the talks that we attended. We savored every moment that we met Cursillistas from different groups. In the group sharing that I joined, I met Cursillistas from Rochester, Sacramento, San Bernardino and San Diego. We still text each other from time to time. We enjoyed the Ultreya, especially all the presentations.

Our sisters (Shiela, Edith, Belle, Cecilia D, and Vangie) together with 2 Cursillistas from other Filipino dioceses presented a wonderful Filipino dance. Our beautiful couple Dcn Rey and Sis Rose joined the Reyna Elena parade. Sis Gid did an excellent job of leading the choir for daily masses and Sis Penny did a great job serving as one of the medical team. Before retiring and going to bed on Saturday and Sunday nights, the Oakland diocese attendees gathered together and had fellowship, time that we let ourselves just enjoy each other's company. We just relaxed, shared stories, experiences, and jokes. It was so much fun. We felt that we were blessed from above to be together and experience this encounter. I had so much fun that I named this group NE Gang (National Encounter - God's Army Never Give-up) God is so good!" *Sis Doris, Three-Day Chair*

"Attending my first National Encounter (in person) was an eye opener and a heartwarming experience: it opened my eyes to the many opportunities of making friends with different dioceses/regions and sharing our closest moments with our loving God among each other...the heartwarming because the encounter reassured and encouraged me that the Holy Spirit is inspiring and guiding this movement towards God's divine plan. Eduardo Bonnin, intercede for us!" *Sis Gid, SOL Chair*

For most of us, this was our very first National Encounter. We unanimously agreed that we each had a wonderful and worthwhile experience! Majority of us said we will attend the next year's National Encounter and we encourage our fellow FCC members to join us! De Colores!

Please visit the National Cursillo Website Newsletter section at [National Newsletter - National Cursillo \(natl-cursillo.org\)](http://National Newsletter - National Cursillo (natl-cursillo.org)) to see more details on the 32nd National Encounter

For more images from the 32nd National Encounter – please visit

[NATIONAL ENCOUNTER - FILIPINO CURSILLO COMMUNITY DIOCESE OF OAKLAND \(fccoakland.com\)](http://NATIONAL ENCOUNTER - FILIPINO CURSILLO COMMUNITY DIOCESE OF OAKLAND (fccoakland.com))

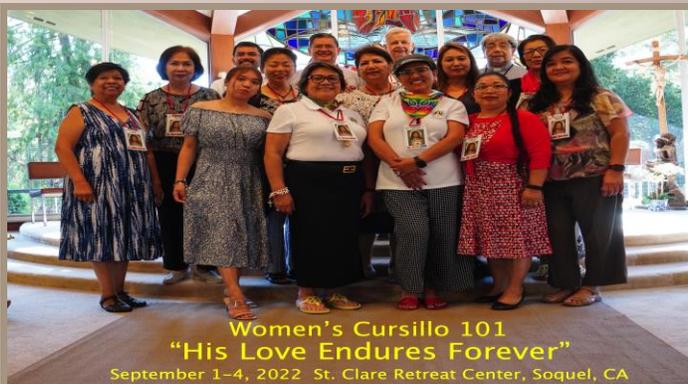


THREE-DAY CURSILLO

FCC IMPLEMENTS THE RECTORS GUIDE

The founder of the Cursillo, Eduardo Bonnin has given us the guide to conduct Three-Day weekend as it was given to him by the Holy Spirit. We are grateful to be given this gift. For two years, members of our Three-Day Committee have studied and discussed the Step by Step Rector's Guide. It began with the SBS Workshop on February 29, 2020 at St. Raymond Parish Hall. Afterwards, we conducted our own workshop with our community to help everyone understand and see the beauty of the original way the Three-Day weekend was conducted as it was in the very first Cursillo in 1944.

Finally, after two years, **SBS or Rector's Guide** was implemented this year at the **Women's Cursillo #101** headed by **Sis. Cecille Cansino** as the **Rectora** and at **Men's Cursillo #102** with **Bro. Robert Cansino** as the **Rector**. We are very joyful and thankful to God to have 9 graduates of Women's Cursillo #101 and 3 graduates of Men's Cursillo #102! Our community will continue to study and understand the Rector's guide through upcoming workshops and meetings. We are thankful to the Three-Day Committee, headed by the chairperson, Sis Doris Sunga for all their hard work and dedication.



Women's Cursillo 101
"His Love Endures Forever"
September 1-4, 2022 St. Clare Retreat Center, Soquel, CA



Women's Cursillo #101
Rectora – Sis Cecille Cansino



Men's Cursillo #102
Rector – Bro Robert Cansino

The Chronicles of Joy...

Cathedral of St. Matthew, the Apostle

By Sis Joy Inocencio

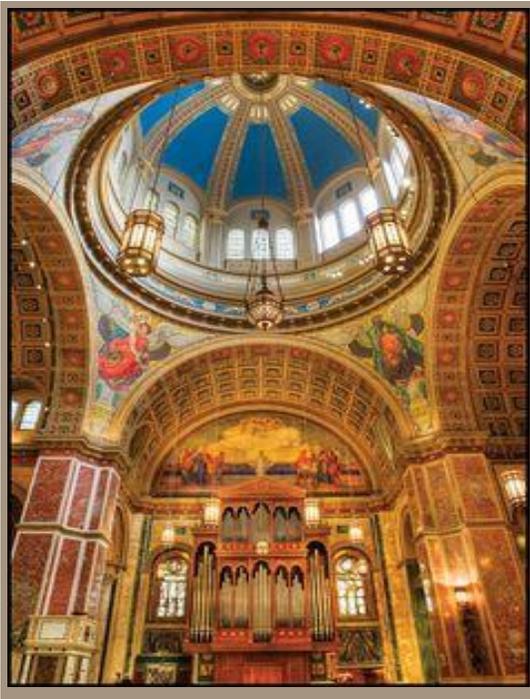


Sis Joy Inocencio

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Team

Exploring and experiencing life itself is one of the greatest gifts God bestowed upon us. In appreciation, I am sharing some of these stories with you – Sis Joy

One afternoon, I came across this enormous façade building in an upscale neighborhood in Washington, DC, while having a coffee break during our road trip. My eyes lit-up when I saw it seemed to be a Catholic church! I rushed to cross the street and made it up to about 20 steps to the main entrance. . I was lost inside the church and found some exciting historical stories that I would love to share with you.



The Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington, D.C, is the seat of the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington. As St. Matthew's Cathedral and Rectory, it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974. St. Matthew's is dedicated to the Apostle Matthew, who among other things is patron saint of civil servants, having himself been a tax collector.

It was established in 1840 by pastor Father William Matthews and parochial vicar Father John Philip Donelan.^{[4][5]} The church was dedicated on November 1, 1840, though the structure had not yet been entirely completed.^[4]

Originally located at 15th and H Streets,^[6] construction of the current church began in 1893, with the first [Mass](#) being celebrated June 2, 1895. Construction continued until 1913 the church was dedicated. In 1939 it became the cathedral for the newly established Archdiocese of Washington.

The first notable funeral Mass offered at St. Matthew's was for [Manuel L. Quezon](#), the [president of the Philippines](#), who died August 1, 1944,^[8] and was interred at [Arlington National Cemetery](#) until the end of [World War II](#). In 1957, a [Solemn Requiem Mass](#) was offered at the cathedral for the funeral of Senator [Joseph McCarthy](#); the liturgy was attended by 70 senators and hundreds of clergymen and it was filled to capacity.^[9]

Reference: Wikipedia

Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle

Address: 1725 Rhode Island Ave NW,
Washington, D.C.20036

Website: www.stmatthewscathedral.org

Telephone: (202) 347-3215

Opened: 1913

Capacity: 1,200

Area: 30,490 ft²

Added to NRHP: January 24, 1974

The cathedral drew worldwide attention following the [assassination of United States President John F. Kennedy](#) on Friday, November 22, 1963, in [Dallas, Texas](#). [Richard, Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston](#) and a [Kennedy family](#) friend, offered a recited (not sung) Pontifical Requiem [Low Mass](#) during the [state funeral](#) on Monday, November 25, 1963, which was followed by the procession to [Arlington National Cemetery](#) in [Virginia](#) for the [burial](#).



Commemoration of where President John F. Kennedy's Casket was placed for his Requiem Mass



QUOTES TO LIVE BY (Tagalog)

Ang mabuting ugali, masaganang buhay ang sukli
Ang kaginhawaan ay nasa kasiyahan at wala sa kasaganaan

**Walang umani ng tuwa na
hindi sa hirap nagmula**

**Walang mahirap na gawa
kapag dinaan sa tiyaga**

**Ang tunay na karangalan
ay nagsimula sa paggalang
sa magulang**

Kung ayaw mong maghirap,
ikaw ay magsikap

Ang kayamanan na
galing sa kasamaan,
ang maidudulot ay
kapahamakan

**Ang tunay na kaibigan
sa ligaya at
kalungkutan, ikaw ay
sasamahan**

**Pag may
tiyaga, may
nilaga**

Kapag may
isinusoksok, may
madudukot

Kung ano ang itinanim ay siyang aanihin

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Jan 14, 2023 - ULTREYA, Santa Maria Parish Hall, Orinda
- Jan 23, 2023 – SOL Virtual Zoom
- Mar 25, 2023 - Station of the Cross @ Santa Maria Church, Orinda
- Mar 4 -5, 2023 – Leader’s Workshop

REMINDER:

- Secretariat Meeting – every 1st Tuesday of the month
7 pm Via ZOOM Meeting ID: 846 5195 3571 Passcode: SECRETARIAT
- SOL Book Club – every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month
7 pm Via ZOOM Meeting ID: 836 7743 6577 Passcode: BOOKCLUB
- SOL / Team Rep Meeting – every 3rd Monday of the month
7 pm Via ZOOM Meeting ID: 882 9453 2558 Passcode: SOL
- PCC Meeting – every 2nd Saturday of the Month

For more information, check the FCC Website <https://www.fccoakland.com/>

For information regarding the three phases of FCC Movement please contact

PRE CURSILLO – Sis. Josie Herrera
herrerajmj@hotmail.com

THREE-DAY CURSILLO - Sis. Doris Sunga
dorissunga12895@gmail.com

POST CURSILLO – Sis. Clarita Perez
claritaperez46@gmail.com

School of Leaders – Sis Gid Eugenio
email4gid@yahoo.com

Mariposa

Editor – Sis. Celsa Taraya

Editorial Staff

Sis. Doris Sunga
Sis. Gigi Enriquez

Mariposa Contributors

Sis. Joy Inocencio
Sis. Elisa Urbano
Sis. Vangie Dizon