



Filipino Cursillo Community Diocese of Oakland



Issue 3 Volume IV Year 2023

EDITORIAL by *Sis Celsa Taraya*

Lenten season is a bundle of three disciplines in a 40-day period of penitential preparation before Easter: Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer.

I hear this over and over again from time immemorial; my parents, my teachers, co-workers, and colleagues at Church.

What do they really mean to me? Do I fast to get rid of my unhealthy ways, or sacrifice to have a much deeper relationship with God? Do I give alms for show, or a sincere and heartfelt desire to ease the needs of others? Do I pray to ask for more favors from God, or accept my brokenness because of sin, and seek God's guidance to be lifted and healed from it?

Lent has started with Ash Wednesday. The journey of reflections, penitence and repentance begins.

It started with ash on my forehead for people to see. For people who do not know, baffled by it, and snickering silently of what they see, God bless them. For those who ask, I try to explain the best I can.

"Ahh! You're Catholic, I am not" they say and walk away.

Jesus Christ was doubted, unbelieved, spat on, scourged, nailed to the cross and died. He neither gave up nor abandoned the task given by His Father.

Why should I? Neither should you.

De Colores

IN THIS ISSUE

Pg 1	Editorial
Pgs 2 - 4	Mariposa Feature: Homily on the Woman at the Well
Pgs 5 - 6	Poets in our Midst
Pg 7	The ULTREYA Report A Movement-Onward
Pgs 8 - 10	Ultreya (Jan to Mar 2023)
Pgs 11-12	School of Leaders: CDC Report
Pg 13	Reflections on Cursillo Weekend
Pgs 14-15	Inspiring Stories
Pg 16	Funny Side of Things
Pgs 17-18	Community Events
Pg 19	Upcoming Events & Reminders
Last Page	Letter from Cef Aguillon

MARIPOSA FEATURE

Homily on the Woman at the Well ***By: Deacon Noe Tuason***

(NOTE: This is a concise version of my Homily at Mass celebrated on the third Sunday of Lent (March 19, 2017). The Gospel was about the Samaritan woman (Jn 4:5-42). It was published in the Martinez Tribune on March 24, 2017, and in The Catholic Voice on April 3, 2017. The issue is still relevant today given the plight of undocumented immigrants and refugees in the U.S.)

The Gospel is not only about a woman, who was treated as lower in rank than the men during the time of Jesus, but also a sinner. But, more so than a woman and a sinner, she was a Samaritan. She represented those who were treated as strangers or foreigners, marginalized, despised, and discriminated against in Jewish society.

Today, the woman at the well represents those who are treated as strangers and foreigners in our country — marginalized, discriminated against, despised, and forced to live in the shadows. They are undocumented immigrants in our midst. They are the new Samaritans.

The issue that I am addressing is not a political one but a moral issue, a social justice issue. These new Samaritans live in fear. They face the “go back to your country” slurs. They don’t call the police when there’s a break-in. They think twice before they bring a sick child to the emergency room. They work in menial jobs that few people want: dishwashers, waiting on tables in small restaurants or on farms. While the majority were born in Mexico, almost half are from other countries: China, India, the Philippines, and Central and South American countries. A relatively smaller percentage is white.

There is a growing sense of fear in their communities due to the increasing number of raids by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, or ICE. Because of fear, many are having mental health issues, including children. The Catholic Charities of the East Bay reported that in one community, more than half the children were afraid to go to school. Those children are especially vulnerable. Those who were born here are U.S. citizens. If their parents are deported, who would care for them? And some of the older children and adults were brought here very young. They know of no other country except the U.S. If deported, they would be forced to live in a country foreign to them.

Certainly, undocumented immigrants have violated immigration laws. But most have been driven here by severe poverty in their own country where earning a living wage for survival is impossible. Is it a crime to be poor? Is it a crime to want to better the lives of their family? Coming to America is fraught with danger. Many never make it. Some are murdered. Young women are raped. But the lure of a better life for their family is very strong.

Outside of violating immigration laws, most undocumented immigrants are law-abiding people. They pay their taxes. They are not a drain on society. They make contributions to Social Security through their employer, and yet, they cannot expect any benefit when they are too old to work. I have a friend who has been here for over 30 years. She ran away from an abusive husband. She came here to try to help her children back in the Philippines. She is old and diabetic. But, she cannot stop working. There is no retirement for her. If she stops working, she will not have any money for herself and her children. I suspect she will continue working until she drops dead.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) says that in Catholic Catechism, the government has two duties. The first duty is to welcome the foreigner out of charity and respect for the human person. Persons have the right to immigrate and thus government must accommodate this right to the greatest extent possible, especially in financially blessed nations. The second duty is to secure one's border and enforce the law for the sake of the common good. (Catholic Catechism, 2241)

Just so we are clear, the Catholic Church is not advocating an open border. It is making a plea for social justice. Indeed we must secure our borders and enforce our laws, but we are, first and foremost, people of faith. We must understand and respect the rights of people who try to come to the U.S. We must understand and respect the rights of undocumented immigrants. They should not be treated like criminals. They have the right to remain silent when interrogated, a right to an attorney and a right not to be searched without a search warrant, and a right to be treated with dignity. A Hispanic priest in our diocese said that among Latinos, to be called and treated like a criminal is a stigma, a mark of disgrace. A criminal is one who has committed a crime like stealing or breaking in; assault, rape, or murder.

What can we do as people of God? First, educate ourselves about the Catholic Church's position on immigration reform. Go to the USCCB website and read "The Catholic Position On Immigration Reform." Two, go to the Diocese of Oakland website and check the links on Justice for Immigrants, Immigration Legal Advice and Services, and other related information

including Bishop Barber's statement on immigration reform. I would like to quote a portion of it: "The Catholic Church' ... stands with the immigrant, refugee, and migrant community. We oppose actions that promote fear and hostility towards people of all faiths and nationalities. We remain committed to our mission of welcoming the stranger through legal services, refugee resettlement, education, and community outreach. ...Our country has welcomed people fleeing religious or political persecution, war, poverty, or violence since its founding. The spirit and tenacity of our shared immigrant ancestry have shaped and defined our nation. As a faith community, the Catholic Church is an immigrant church with a long history of embracing newcomers and caring for migrants. We know the stories of persecution, violence, and oppression that drive people – including children – from their homelands to seek safe haven in the United States. Despite the rhetoric of fear, we believe that people of goodwill and conscience understand that for many this is a life or death situation, and (we) choose to be on the side of life."

As Jesus reached out to the Samaritan woman, we should reach out to undocumented immigrants. As you leave the church after Mass, please remember what Jesus said. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. If you ask "When did we welcome you, Lord?" Jesus answers, "Whatsoever you did to the least of my people, you did unto me."

God bless you all.



Bro Deacon Noe Tuason is serving the FCC of the Diocese of Oakland.

Poets in Our Midst

Shadows

By: Sis Daisy Lopez

Shadows, do we have one?
Just like this goose by the pond?
Indeed, shadows may disappear
But the sight could still linger.

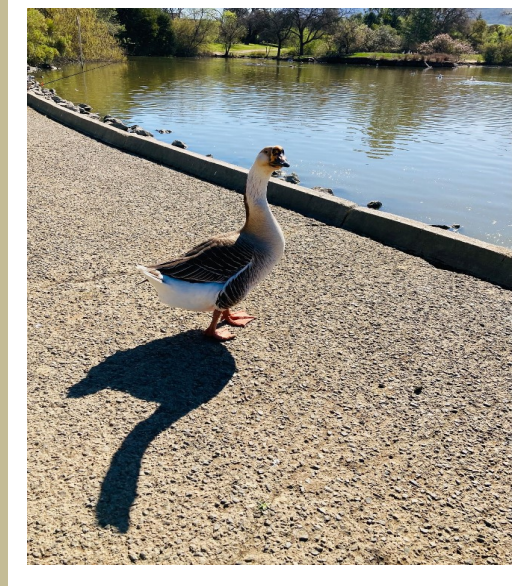
Hi-tech surveillance put shadows to good use
Shadows: photometric phenomena that occurs
When an object blocks a direct light source.
Shadows are technical tools after all.

Our past may be compared to shadows
Remembered, forgotten, gone or lost
Shadows come in different shades of darkness
Or like our past; in different shades of happiness.

Should we minimize or avoid our shadows?
Should we always face or look for the light?
Should we always follow the source of light?
Should we always be concerned on our shadows?

As humans, eager to pursue avenues
To prosper, to move on or to grow
We look for a guide, a star or a leading Light
For when you face the LIGHT, you've the least shadow.

(Friends, could this LIGHT be our GOD? I leave it up to you. Manage your shadow.)



The sky
a tree
and man
will survive
if man
understands
the tree

Calligraphy by Graham Yocum



Shared by: Sis Edith Guevarra

Trees

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

Joyce Kilmer 1919

Calligraphy by Graham

The Ultreya Report

A Movement.....Onward

The St. Patrick Cursillo Team

Rodeo and Hercules, CA

By: Sis Letty Ramolete

When impossible became possible. It is best exemplified by the St. Patrick Cursillo Group Reunion Team.

St. Pats, coined named for the team, had been demonstrating a sense of unity, concern and care for each other. Most members are reaching the point of not able to drive or walk by themselves. Someone stronger is needed to assist.

The Team Leader – Bro Jun Lorenzo organizes rides for members whenever occasions arise and their presence is most appreciated like Ultreya, FCC Christmas party, Friendship dance and more. They are enthusiastic, motivated, cooperative, and getting the job done.

The members like to know and get updated on what's new in the movement, which enhances communications, a much closer relationship, and great camaraderie among them. It is for the betterment of the group.

Obviously, the team loves the Cursillo Movement. Their love is best shown in the most numbers in attendance between 12-14 members each time.

De Colores!



St. Patrick Cursillo Team of Rodeo & Hercules

Team Rep: Sis Dorie Nues



January Ultreya

Host - Corpus Christi Team

January 14, 2023
Santa Maria Parish Church - Orinda



**Sis Isabel Puruganan
Witness Speaker**



**Deacon Rey Encarnacion
Spiritual Summation**



Sis Gid Eugenio - Affirmation

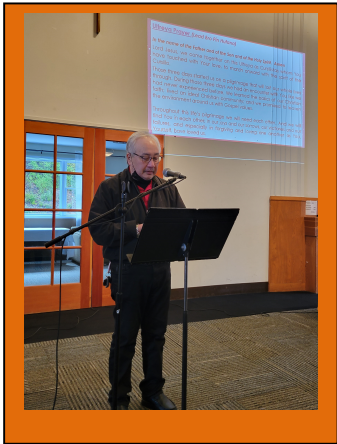


Sis Edna Mar - Ultreya Coordinator



February 2023 Ultreya

Host – St Mary's Team
February 11, 2023
Santa Maria Parish Church – Orinda



Sis Elma Flores - Affirmation



Bro Noli Manaois – Witness Speaker



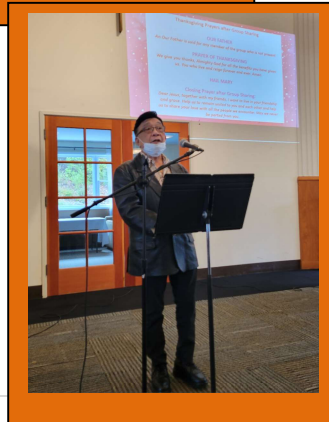
February Birthday Celebrants



Sis Marie – Ultreya Coordinator



Deacon Tony Reyes – Spiritual Summation



**Volunteer
 Witness Speakers**



March 2023 Ultreya

Host - Holy Family Team

March 11, 2023

Santa Maria Parish Church - Orinda



Sis Josephine - Witness



Sis Marly - Affirmation



Sis Evelyn S. - Affirmation



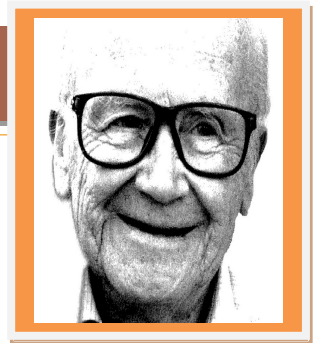
Deacon Noe - Spiritual Summation



The Cursillo School of Leaders

The Cursillo de Cursillos: A School of Leaders Workshop

By: Sis Sabina Gotuaco



Eduardo Bonnin-Aguillo

The San Francisco Cursillistas joined the Oakland Cursillistas in their Cursillo de Cursillos (CDC) event on March 4-5, 2023 at the Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish. 15 Cursillistas from the Diocese of San Francisco joined the two-day course on the Foundational Charism of Cursillo.

The Sessions were new lessons and refreshers for Cursillistas. It was a fun-filled, educational, and happy friendship weekend among us.

I learned that true piety is life in grace, Cursillistas are not just disciples but apostles of Christ sent by Jesus to bring good news to others, and the three fundamental principles Cursillistas live by are (1) Love of God, (2) Person, (2) and Friendship.

The essence and purpose of Cursillistas include conviction, decision and constancy; living, sharing, and witnessing Christ in us. "God loves us" is fundamental to being a Christian.

There are dangers in Cursillo which were made clear to me, and taught me how to eliminate them: (1) Follow up and accompany the new Cursillistas (vs. inflation) (2) Cursillo is open for everyone (vs. specialization) (3) Cursillo is a movement and we encourage and do not force (vs. organization) (4) Cursillo is one of the many movements (vs. Cursillonism) (5) Bloom where you are planted (vs. Parochialism) (6) Keep roles distinct and complimentary (vs. clericalism) (7) Laity and Clergy work together on the roles and responsibilities guidelines (vs. clericalism) (8) Being humble and believing in the truth of the gospel (vs. Angelism)

(9) Do things following God's teachings and living like Christ (vs. Temporalism) (10) Continue to learn and study (vs. Stagnation)

Furthermore, the essence of Precursillo is Make a friend, Be a friend, and Bring your friend to Christ which is the Cursillo method, and one of the three phases.

- The Proper Weekend or Cursillo weekend is an opportunity for men and women to encounter themselves, God and others. We encounter Christ through the Eucharist, gospel, prayers and relationships.
- Post Cursillo is the third phase whereby the Group Reunion is essential to the leavening and growth of Cursillistas after the weekend in their 4h Day. It is accomplished through friendship and sharing each other's lives. The ideal setup is to have three to seven Cursillistas meeting regularly. Everyone is equal in the group, bearing in mind the four essential elements namely: regularity, seriousness, confidentiality and sincerity. The Ultreya is a gathering of group reunion teams to go "onward," "forward," and "beyond". The purpose is to support the pillars of Christ, Person and Friendship. Faith, Hope and Love are supernatural virtues lived in absolute normality.
- The Spiritual Advisor provides spiritual and theological guidance. It should be a priest, deacon or a vowed religious. He or she

participates in all the phases of Cursillo.

- The Secretariat exists to simplify services, facilitate and enable what it means to be a Christian. The Diocesan secretariat serves others through friendship. The National secretariat carries things out by consensus. Power is abandoned in favor of love. True leaders are honest, humble of heart, and able to dialogue and speak the truth with love.

The School of Leaders (SOL) is a school of reflection. SOL is a place where all opinions are valued. There is a unity of purpose and understanding of Cursillo and its Charism.

Being a Cursillo leader is a vocation. The calling is from God, and the Cursillistas are to discern this calling. The SOL members are the keepers of the flame of Eduardo Bonnin's vision for all those whose paths are illuminated by the light of Christ.

**A complete recordings of CDC talks are available in the FCC Website, see following link: [WORKSHOPS - FILIPINO CURSILLO COMMUNITY DIOCESE OF OAKLAND \(www.fccoakland.com\)](http://www.fccoakland.com)



Cursillo de Cursillos Workshop
Filipino Cursillo Community – Diocese of Oakland and
The San Francisco Cursillo



REFLECTIONS...

The Cursillo Weekend

By Sis Unjoo Chang in collaboration with Sis. Alrose Divinagracia



I am your Sister Unjoo Chang. I lived my cursillo #101 on Sept 1st~4th, 2022 at St. Clare Retreat Center in Soquel, CA. My table group is Immaculate Conception. I am honored to write a reflection of our experience of a 3-Day Cursillo Weekend on behalf of our Sisters.

Looking back, it was all providential how God called each one of us in unique ways fitting to our own situations. In my case, I prayed to God and He found me a sub the evening before the retreat. Sis Tess and Sis Alrose are neighbors. Sis Andrea invited Sis Edith to Cursillo when they first met as strangers, but instantly became friends. Sis Amy came all the way from Texas to renew her faith. Sis Mila and Sis Rose had overcome personal challenges to attend the retreat. Our youngest Sis Syrene, who recently came from the Philippines as a college student, was led by her aunt to join us that weekend.

The first day, one by one arrived at the dining table and struck up a conversation to become acquainted. Naturally, we worked through our awkwardness by sharing our stories. I was impressed by the openness and the honesty of my Sisters that we felt closer by the end of the evening. Sis Alrose shared that we made her feel right at home, the very thing she has been longing for since she moved to the United States. Before bed, I meditated on 1 Chronicles 17:16-27 David's Thanksgiving "Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my family, which you should have brought me as far as I have come?" God gifted us with these beautiful women in faith, whose kindness and smiles warmed our hearts.

The 3rd day was quite intense, filled with many workshops. We studied that Faith equals action by bringing Christ to others; Piety is to be strong, and Action is to help others. Cursillistas motto "Be a friend—make a friend—bring a friend to Christ". Getting to know God deeper means, as Sis Alrose put it, knowing that "Sisters and brothers are gifts from God. In them, I see Jesus and His love."

Living the 4th day is like coming down from the mountain. I wish we can remain there, but we have a mission to fulfill: Bring Christ to others. Sometimes we may go astray but the most important thing is that we know God leads the way. My prayer: "Help us not to be afraid to say "Yes" to Your calling, Lord. You know us best. Lead us to where You want us to go. Help us to listen to You through prayers, events, and people. Thank you for this experience."

Sis Alrose said, "I gained eight beautiful souls during the weekend that became like my real sisters and instant best friends." Our gracious God called nine women from all walks of life to be connected by the same experience and to be reborn in the Sacred Heart of Christ as Sisters and as gifts to each other. De Colores!

Sis Unjoo Chang is a member of Our Mother of Perpetual Help Team

Sis Alrose Divinagracia is a member of the Transfiguration Team

INSPIRING STORIES

Shared By: Sis Vangie Dizon
Author - Unknown

A man, who regularly attended meetings with his friends, suddenly without any notice stopped participating.

After a few weeks, one very cold night the leader of that group decided to visit him.

He found the man at home, alone, sitting in front of a fireplace where a bright and cozy fire burned. The man welcomed the leader. There was a great silence.

The two men only watched the dancing flames around the logs that crackled in the fireplace.

After a few minutes the leader, without saying a word, examined the embers that formed and selected one of them, glowing most brightly of all, removing it to the side with a pair of tongs. Then he sat down again.

The host was paying attention to everything, fascinated. Before long, the lone ember flame subsided, until there was only a momentary glow & the fire soon went out.

In a short time what was previously bright light and heat had become nothing more than a black and dead piece of coal.

Very few words had been spoken since the greeting.

Before preparing to leave, the leader with the tongs picked up the useless coal and placed it again in the middle of the fire. Immediately, the ember was rekindled, fueled by the light and heat of the burning coals around him.

When the leader reached the door to leave, the host said: Thank you for your visit and for your beautiful lesson. I'll return to the group soon.

Why is the group extinguished? *Not enthused? Members become inactive?**

Very simple: Because each member that withdraws takes fire and heat from the rest.

It is worth reminding group members that they are a part of the flame.

It is also good to remind us that we are all responsible for keeping each other's flame burning and we must promote the union among us so that the fire is really strong, effective and lasting.

THE*GROUP*IS*ALSO*A*FAMILY It doesn't matter if sometimes we are bothered by so many messages that reach the chat. What matters is to be connected. We are here to meet, learn, exchange ideas or simply to know that we are not alone.*

The Comma Story

By: Sis. Celsa Taraya

Punctuations, ah! A great deal of our lives are directed by the punctuations we use. May it be a period (.), parentheses (), a question mark (?), a comma (,) or ellipsis (.....).

I watched a movie, “The Dream Seller.” It touched me so much that I cried.

It made me reflect on my own life and the lives of many.

Sometime ago, a young mother approached me telling her story. One asks, “Why would she do that?” I live in a home that has a “revolving door”; as one goes in, someone comes out, almost open 24/7. A place of shelter to those who have none. Solace for those perturbed. Everyone is welcome to tell me a story.

She started with ending it all.

She had a husband, two daughters, not even 10 years of age and a mother. She worked as an after-hours sitter for a Catholic school where my son went. She did not earn much.

Like many mothers migrating from the Philippines petitioned by their children, Nanay as she called her, was one of them. She did household chores to help out the family; babysat the kids during the day and into the night with no expectations. Somehow her presence was not welcomed by the husband. He found “wrongs” in everything she did, treated her like a maid, and verbally abused her. Of course, the daughter would defend her, which ended in a big fight between them. The yelling, the banging on walls, the chairs displaced were impacting the kids and Nanay. So one day, Nanay said that it was better for her to go and be gone forever.

The daughter’s heart was broken. She was so scared that Nanay might do something drastic and life ending. She begged her not to leave. She could not go with her because of the two children. She could not afford to raise them by herself with Nanay to boot. She was praying hard for her husband to have a change of heart and Nanay to endure.

Then it happened. The husband made her choose between him and the family, and Nanay. She knelt down before him to consider, to no avail.

In the end, she conceded to send her Nanay away.

Who can help her? Where can she go? Who can she ask?

As I was picking up my son from school, she told me her dilemma.

Where there was despair, there was hope.

Love with the greatest compassion was given to them when I invited Nanay to stay with me until whenever. She broke into tears. She was thankful that Nanay found a home where she was safe, and yet with so much regret that she had to let her go in the care of someone else instead.

The daughter had a “comma” to continue her journey in peace and harmony with her family.

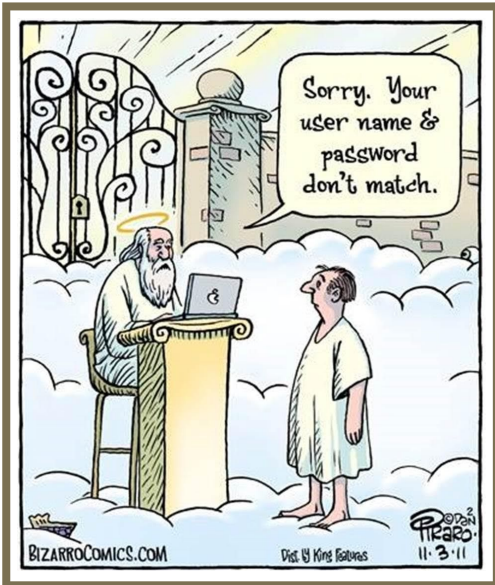
And Nanay had a “comma” to continue living her life and not ending it.

Helping others in their utmost need is my comma and ellipsis.

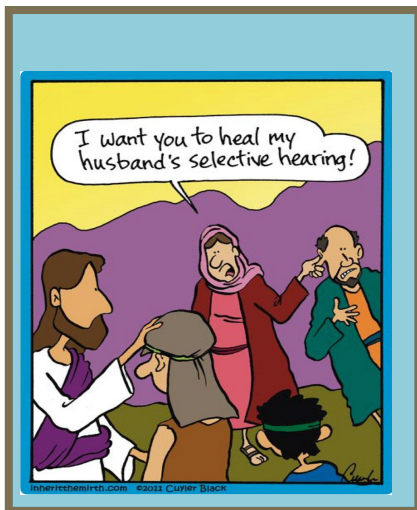
Those can be yours too.

By: Sis Celsa Taraya

The funny side of things



One Sunday morning, a priest saw a little boy staring intently at the large plaque on the church wall. The plaque was covered with names, and flags hung on either side of it. "Father," asked the boy, "what's this?" He replied, "It's a memorial to all the men and women who died in the service." They stood together in silence for a moment. Finally, the boy asked with genuine concern: "Was it at the 8 AM or 10 AM Mass?"



One day an inebriated Catholic ice fisherman drilled a hole in the ice and peered into it when a loud voice rang out from above, "There are no fish there." The man walked several yards and drilled another hole. Again, the voice boomed out, "There are no fish there." Then the man stumbled 50 yards away and drilled another hole. For the third time, the voice yelled, "I told you, there are no fish there." Finally, the fisherman looked up into the sky and asked, "God, is that you?" "No, you idiot," the voice said, "I'm the skating rink manager."

A priest and rabbi met at the annual July 4th picnic. They were old friends and loved to tease one another. "This baked ham is really good," said the priest. "You really ought to break down and try some." "I will, I will," replies the rabbi, smiling, "at your wedding."



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Discernment for Secretariat Nominees

January 7, 2023

Santa Maria Parish

Dcn Rey led the discernment process. Secretariat open positions are the Chairs for SOL, Post Cursillo, 3-Day, Pre-Cursillo, Treasurer, and Secretary. The incumbent members showed up along with the nominees. The nominees are:

Sis Gid - SOL
Sis Marie - PCC
Sis Doris - 3Day
Sis Corrie - PreC
Sis Lynne - Treas

The Secretary position is still open to date. All nominees affirmed their nomination by signing the document presented.

A little celebratory lunch was provided. All is well that ends well.



The Nominees



Discernment Ad hoc Committee



The Filipino Cursillo Community-Diocese of Oakland
invites you to our annual

Lent Retreat & Stations of the Cross
Icons: "Windows to Heaven"

Take time to simply gaze at the icon. Allow yourself to just "be" with God and ask Him to speak to your heart through the icon.

Saturday, March 25, 2023
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Santa Maria Parish Hall
40 Santa Maria Way, Orinda, CA

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

Colossians 1:15 *The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.*

\$20 fee includes breakfast & lunch
Registration now open, please contact
Sis Lynne Evans: 510-501-4894
Sis Lolita Kintanar: 415-342-7009
Sis Vangie Dizon: 510-881-8459

Registration Deadline: March 11, 2023

- 9:00AM - Registration/Breakfast
- 9:45AM - Lent Retreat
- 2:30PM - Stations of the Cross

Lenten Retreat

3/25/23

Santa Maria Parish



Within our hearts

(A Lenten Retreat Takeaway)

By: Sis Gid Eugenio

It is such a wonderful thing to know that we can seek and approach God in so many different ways. In our Lenten retreat this year entitled "Icons: Windows to Heaven", we were introduced by our retreat master - Fr. Anthony Stoeppel to praying through the Eastern rite icon – as a "window to heaven". Fr. Anthony opened our minds and hearts through the meaning and purpose of the icon and the rules for icon painters (writers). According to Fr. Anthony, "Like Liturgy, writing an icon is a process which begins with the most interior and brings about transformation." It is amazing to learn that icon painter/writer is not allowed or forbidden to sign his/her name on the icon made. The icon painter is simply an instrument, a channel of revealing the invisible holy image to the gazer of the icon through prayers. This reminds me of the humility of Eduardo Bonnin, our Cursillo founder, when he simply stated himself as an "apprentice Christian" in revealing to us the love of God through the method of friendship in the Cursillo. What a wonderful experience this lent has gifted us through this retreat! Let us allow ourselves to take time to gaze at the icon and just "be" with God and listen as He speaks to us with love.

Please visit the FCC Website for the Lenten Retreat 2023 talk and pictures

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 6, 2023 – Friendship Dance
- July 20 - 23, 2023 – National Encounter
- Aug 31- Sept 3, 2023 – Women's Cursillo #103
- Sept 21- 24, 2023 – Men's Cursillo #104

Please visit our website for more details on upcoming events – www.fccoakland.com



Filipino Cursillo Community - Diocese of Oakland

Annual Friendship Dance
Let's Groove to 70's & 80's

Saturday - May 6, 2023
10:30 am - 3:30 pm (Lunch at 11:30 am)

Hilton Concord
1970 Diamond Blvd.
Concord, CA 94520

Donation: \$55 per person
Attire: your 70's or 80's Groove

Music: Charlotte & Friend

Host Teams: Our Lady of Fatima and Verbum Dei
Contacts: Sis Josie Herrera (415) 902-2583
Sis Evelyn Isidro (925) 308-3408



2023 CURSILLO WEEKENDS

Women's Cursillo 103	Men's Cursillo 104
Aug 31 - Sept 3, 2023 Camp St Francis	Sept 21 - Sept 24, 2023 Camp St Francis
 Sis Alma Chew (Agape Team) Rectora	 Bro Lino Centeno (Antioch Team) Rector
 Sis Edna Marr (Chosen Flock Team) Assistant Rectora	 Bro Art Salud (Our Mother of Perpetual Help) Assistant Rector

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 – www.fccoakland.com ***



National Cursillo Movement

National Cursillo® Center • P.O. Box 799 • Jarrell, TX 76537 • 512-746-2020 • Fax 512-746-2030 • www.natl-cursillo.org

March 8, 2023

Cursillos de Cristiandad
Filipino Cursillo Community
Diocese of Oakland

Dear Disciples of Christ,

Thank you for attending the Cursillo de Cursillos leadership development workshop. I sincerely appreciate your warm welcome, hospitality, and friendship.

God has 'chosen' each of us to be his disciples, bear fruit, love one another, and communicate His love to others. Cursillo helps us become disciples and/or deepen our discipleship. Discipleship is an apprenticeship. *"No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher"* (Lk 6:40). One of my favorite scripture quotes is the 'Great Commission' from Matthew 28:18-20. *"All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."* Not all disciples are called to be Cursillistas; however, all Cursillistas are called to be disciples!

The essence of Cursillo is clearly manifested in Christ, the person, and friendship. We should be eager to be friends with Christ and the person because what generates the most joy in our lives is the *joy of friendship!*

I wish you and your family a Blessed Lenten Season. Our hope is in the Resurrection. Your enthusiasm and smiles are infectious. Keep smiling? De Colores!

Your brother in Christ,

Ceferino Aguillon, Jr.
National Cursillo English Coordinator



Cursillo de Cursillos ♦ Diocese of Oakland ♦ March 4-5, 2023