



¡De Colores Cursillista!

March 2013

Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On January 19, 2013, there was an article in the *Idaho Statesman* by Dr. Vincent Kituku. The heading read, **If God interrupts your life, good things can happen.** Dr. Kituku related several biblical passages which illustrated the interruption of someone's life which eventually resulted in beneficial consequences. For example, was Paul's life interrupted? Was the result positive? Were the Apostles lives interrupted by Christ? Did positive consequences occur? I think you would concur that these interruptions by God ultimately were advantageous for both God and man.

Those of us who have lived the Cursillo weekend, was this an interruption of our lives by God? You be the judge, was this a good interruption? Was your spiritual life enriched? Are you more diligent and prudent in your prayer life? Are you more at ease with evangelization? If so, then you are continuing with the PSA tripod, Piety, Study and Action. Is your 4th day reunion a weekly wonder and energizing occasion?

Most of us will most likely answer in the affirmative to the above questions. The Cursillo, "a short course in Christianity", is a gift we really need to share with others. I ask you to take some time and reflect on your own Cursillo and what it has meant to you, your family and your environment.

A very good demonstration of the Action portion of the tripod would be to invite someone to experience a Cursillo this summer. As a talking point, you could have a conversation with someone regarding their life being interrupted for 3 days, which will surely change their lives for the better. Pray to God about inviting someone and then pray for the person whom you plan to invite. The dates, locations, and contact persons are included in this newsletter.

The closing paragraph of Dr. Kituku's article allows for contemplation on what it means for each of us.

God interrupts people to bring hope and reduce suffering for others. HE also provides the means on how to accomplish what he chooses us to do. OBEY!

De Colores

George Weissbeck, School of Leaders, Co-chair

CURSILLO

- Obey the call
- Studying
- The role of a Sponsor
- Conversion

ULTREYA

- Mar 9th - OLR
- Apr 13th - St. Mary's
- May 11th - St. Marks

SOL MEETINGS

7PM - ST MARKS

- March 5th
- April 9th
- May 7th

OBEY THE CALL!



De Colores!!

Last newsletter, I spoke of having a routine within a routine when praying and its importance to our prayer life. This newsletter, I want to talk about another routine that is essential and that is the routine of studying. It is important to schedule time to work on the study leg of your tripod because this leg is where we try to understand Christ better and put on a mind of Christ. If we don't ever study what Jesus did or what he taught then how can we grow in our knowledge or love for Him?

I often hear discouragement because someone only reads 4 or 5 pages a night and they don't feel that they are progressing fast enough in their faith. Reading for 15 minutes a night or an average 5 pages means that you will read over 90 books in a 10-year period. Let's examine this claim. Five pages a night for a year means that you will have read 1,825 pages. For a 10-year period, that means that you have read 18,250 pages. For numbers sake, let's say that your average book is 200 pages, which means that in a 10-year period you have read 91 books which can be life changing if you are reading great Catholic books. Your study does not have to involve reading books though.

Today more than any other time in history, we have more options in ways of formation. We can listen to podcasts, watch Youtube videos, read early Christian writings online along with many other options. Father Justin Brady in a recent reflection mentioned reading Catholic blogs, which presented a new option for study that I had never considered. He specifically mentioned the blogs on www.ncregister.com on the right side of the page. Simcha Fisher blogs on parenting and things Christians can learn from it. Jimmy Akins gives background on different things going on like the history of papal resignations. Edward Pentin breaks down the pope's discourse to the Rome Clergy and this is just some of the good nuggets of study that is currently in the blog section. For Lent, I am trying to set a routine of reading the blogs on that website and am really learning a lot. No matter how you are studying, make sure it is consistent and bringing you closer to Christ.

God Bless,
Mike Schauble
Southern Idaho Lay Director



SPONSOR INFORMATION

Candidate Selection

Those of us who are about to sponsor a candidate for a 3-Day Cursillo should be aware of the task to which we are committing ourselves and of the significance of our action.

Requirements and Guidelines

1. The candidate should have the potential to be a Christian leader and be capable of acting as an evangelical even among family, friends and associates.
2. The candidate must be 18 years of age or older.
3. The candidate should be a Catholic and able to receive the Sacraments.
4. There should be the opportunity for follow-up and support of the new Cursillista by his/her Cursillo Community through group reunion and Ultreya. **(Remember: The PRIMARY DUTIES of the sponsor begin after the candidate has attended the Cursillo weekend.)**
5. The candidate should not be under any unusual stress. (The Cursillo weekend is not intended to be used as a "cure" for marital or emotional problems, substance abuse, etc.)

Candidate Preparation

1. Pray before contacting a potential candidate.
2. There is no need to be secretive. Answer honestly any questions the candidate has about the movement or the weekend.
3. Explain the Cursillo 4th Day to the candidate (Group Reunion and Ultreya). These are in place to support their walk with God for the rest of their/our life.
4. Invite your candidate to attend group reunion and Ultreya before the Cursillo, if possible.
5. If possible, it would be beneficial to explain Cursillo to both husband and wife together.

Sponsor Preparation

1. Submit completed Candidate's Form and Sponsor's Commitment (including pastor's approval) to the Pre-Cursillo Chair.
2. If you cannot personally bring your candidate to the Cursillo weekend, arrange transportation. Candidates should not drive to the Cursillo site alone.
3. Do Palanca for your candidate and write a general and/or personal Palanca note.
4. Provide assistance to your candidate's family as needed throughout the weekend.
5. Attend the Closing and take your candidate home. (Notify candidate and spouse of approximate time of return on Sunday evening.)
6. After the weekend, help your candidate find a permanent group reunion.
7. Encourage your candidate to become a member of the Cursillo community by accompanying him/her to Ultreya and School of Leaders for the first 12 months.



My name is Lucy Rodriguez.

I first read about Cursillo in my church's bulletin but I had no idea what it meant or how it would affect me. From the beginning I knew that it was something that I should participate in. Later, I was encouraged by a woman who had already made her Cursillo. So in January 2010, I signed up and joined a group of women at the Cursillo retreat. After the retreat I began discerning my vocation. This discernment helped me to recall my trip to Tanzania, Africa, in 1997 and to follow through on

my dream to return to Africa as a humanitarian volunteer. My discernment led me to travel to Tanzania for three months in the summer of 2011.

As a result, in November of 2011, I founded Operation Upendo, Inc., an Idaho Corporation (www.operationupendo.org). Operation means "action" and Upendo means "love" in Swahili the native language of the people of Tanzania. Operation Upendo was established to provide various aspects of humanitarian assistance to the poorest of the poor in the remote areas in the Njombe and Ruvuma Regions of Tanzania.

I believe all this came about because I attended the Cursillo retreat, which started a chain of events that may not have otherwise happened. I pray that you will attend the Cursillo retreat and, like me, begin to realize the life that God created you to live.

Lucy Rodriguez
Cursillista - 2010

**If God interrupts your
life, good things can
happen.**
Dr. Kituku

SUMMER 2013 CURSILLO DATES

MEN: June 20-23 @ OLR, Tom Allen - Rector
WOMEN: July 11-14 @ OLR, Melissa Murano - Rectora

CONVERSION IS A JOURNEY

The Feast of the Conversion of St Paul was recently celebrated. It reminded me of my own conversion, which was not nearly as spectacular as St Paul's. It was the event where I recognized Jesus' call to me to be a part of His life and to use my gifts the best I could to bring about His kingdom.

My conversion was not a sudden transformation but ongoing over a number of years. When I was baptized in the Eagle Baptist Church (now the Renaissance Restaurant) I did not realize what that event meant in my life. It was just a thing I did but it did not change the way I lived. One Christmas Eve, a good friend, remarked that he had promised his mother that he would go to Mass and invited the group to go with him. We agreed and so all of us attended midnight Christmas Mass at the St John Cathedral. I was impressed by the music and the mass itself as celebrated by the Bishop and his attendants. This was pre-Vatican Council II which meant a Latin Mass and the deacons and subdeacons were actual priest wearing deacon's and subdeacon's attire. I was impressed but my life did not change.

A few years later I enlisted in the Army. One of my assignments was Fort Lewis Army Post in Washington state. There I begin to attend the Catholic Chapel on post and soon joined the Catholic Church. That changed my life to some degree; at least I felt that I was again worshiping God instead of drifting. From then on I attended mass regularly and even went to a retreat which helped me to understand my adopted religion.

After I was discharged from the Army, I returned to attend the University of Idaho, where I met my future wife and was later married in Our Lady of the Snows in Ketchum, Idaho. That did change my life but not my spiritual life.

I began my career at an engineering office in Boise and became registered as a Civil Engineer. Being an engineer changed my life by making it possible for me to support my family. As we moved around, I soon realized that population growth preceded a need for engineers. I did not grow closer to the Lord but continued to attend Mass.

Some years later a new job moved the family to Phoenix, Arizona. One day a friend at church said he was involved in a new program of study to become a deacon in the Catholic Church. He invited me to attend one of the classes and see if I might be interested. I was and stayed with the program until just before ordination. Then I asked myself if this was something I should do. Another friend had been urging me to make a Cursillo. I accepted the invitation and attended a Cursillo weekend. That event changed my life but did not complete my conversion. I have been told by others that at Mananitas I glowed like there was a halo around me. A quote from the bible during the Cursillo which changed me was where Jesus speaking to his disciples says "You did not choose me; no, I chose you..." (John 15:16)

Someone on my journey made a friend and was a friend, and my Cursillo experience led me to a deeper conversion to Christ. I have been deeply involved with the Cursillo movement for over thirty years.

We never know when our invitations to others will be a step in or result in their conversions to Christ.

Deacon Bill Booth,

Spiritual Director

Southern Idaho Cursillo Movement