

GO 4th

Issue 3 Volume 2
Aug - Sept 2021

THE SAN JOSE FILIPINO

CURSILLO MOVEMENT NEWSLETTER



SJF Cursillo News Bits

- Save the date for the SJFCM Summer family picnic on Sept. 11. Details coming to your email inbox in the next few weeks.
- Join the virtual Region XI Filipino Cursillo Grand Ultreya on Aug. 28 for prayer, sharing and fellowship. Zoom meeting invitation will follow in next coming weeks.
- Get renewed through a virtual group reunion at the Ultreya, every first week of the month. Watch out for the monthly Zoom meeting email invitation.
- Don't miss the School of Leaders, every 3rd Friday of the month. Watch out for the Zoom meeting invite and Facebook announcements.
- Let's pray for your intentions at the Call to Pray the (Cursillo Family) Rosary every Monday at 7:30pm via WebEx. Use the same meeting ID and passcode for all WebEx meetings.
- Offer prayer palancas for the 3-Day Cursillo committee, as they prepare to implement the Step By Step for the 3-Day Weekends in 2022.
- Support the National Cursillo Movement. Pledge donation to the \$3/Yr. campaign and/or register at Amazon Smile to donate a percentage of your purchases in Amazon. Visit the National Cursillo website for more details. www.natl-cursillo.org

From the Spiritual Director's Desk

Understanding Pope Francis' guidelines for the celebration of traditional Latin Mass

By Fr. Francis Kalaw

Last July 16 the Holy Father Pope Francis issued the Motu Proprio (a papal document personally signed by the Pope) entitled "Traditionis Custodes," concerning guidelines for the celebration of the traditional Latin Mass, also known as the Extraordinary Form.

Pope Francis has returned the responsibility to the local diocesan bishop for when and where the pre-Vatican II liturgy according to the 1962 Missal may be celebrated, reversing an earlier Motu Proprio from Pope Benedict XVI which loosened the restriction for priests to celebrate the Latin Mass anytime and anywhere they wish.

When this document came out, immediately, there have been very strong responses from Catholics attached to the Extraordinary Form of the liturgy according to the allowances made by Pope Benedict almost 12 years ago. I do not claim to be an expert on the matter and I have to admit that I need to carefully study the document further. These are just my initial thoughts and reflections in order to help our fellow Cursillistas understand the issue at hand.

Firstly, the main purpose of the document that I found so clear is towards ecclesial communion. We have to remember that Pope Francis does not act alone but this document came about after consultation with Bishops from all around the world.

Secondly, Pope Francis does not ban the use of the 1962 Roman Missal, rather grants each individual Bishop the ability to regulate its use. The Pope is not taking away the Latin Mass. The document reads: "Therefore, it is a bishop's exclusive competence to authorize the use of the 1962 Roman Missal in his diocese, according to the guidelines of the Apostolic See."

We can see how the Holy Father genuinely desires unity within the church by requiring the following steps: each Bishop is to appoint a delegate, or chaplain, for the pastoral care of the faithful who attend the Mass celebrated according to the 1962 Missal.

Continued on Page 2



From the Spiritual Director's Desk (cont'd)

This priest must be knowledgeable of the liturgy and the use of Latin. He must also be “animated by pastoral charity and ecclesial communion.” This priest must also be in charge of the pastoral and spiritual care of the faithful.

Likewise, the Latin Mass should be celebrated in a chapel or oratory with a priest who has exclusive care of the community. In our Diocese of San Jose, Canon Ueda from the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest continues to celebrate this Mass ever since our former bishop, Bp. McGrath established the Immaculate Heart of Mary Oratory at Five Wounds Portuguese National Church to serve as the center of the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Latin Rite. In October of 2020, the Oratory has moved to a rented commercial space in Cambrian Park Plaza, 14442 Union Ave, San José. Even in light of this new document, Bishop Cantu gave his blessing to Canon Ueda to continue with this Mass



The document wants to be clear though that the priest and the faithful of this community cannot argue that the Liturgical Reform of Vatican II is invalid, in other words, that the Ordinary Form of the Mass is no good. Unfortunately, there are individuals or groups who advance this incorrect position. In addition, the document does restrict Bishops in that they cannot authorize new groups to celebrate the 1962 liturgy. Whatever is currently happening in a Diocese may continue without further expansion similar to what Bp. Cantu upholds in our diocese.

To clarify, Bishops may allow priests currently celebrating the 1962 Mass to continue to do so. Those ordained afterwards must request permission from the Bishop, who must consult with Rome. This is not a ban on the celebration of the Extraordinary Form but a granting of its regulation to Bishops.

As a background, Pope Benedict's *Motu Proprio Summorum Pontificum* in 2007, which loosened restrictions on the celebration of the 1962 Mass, wished for there to be greater unity among the faithful. In my experience in the seminary and as a priest for a few years, most of the faithful who attend the Extraordinary Form love it for its beauty and reverence. Unfortunately, there are some who tend to go to the extreme denying the validity of the Ordinary Form or *Novus Ordo* Mass, which defeats Pope Benedict's dream that the Ordinary and Extraordinary Forms would enrich each other. Therefore, Pope Benedict's *Summorum Pontificum* took away a Bishop's ability to regulate the celebration of the Extraordinary Form. Now, granting it has to come from Rome.

Now, with Pope Francis' new order, the bishops will be able to exercise their office as chief liturgists of their Diocese when it comes to the 1962 Missal.

In summary, this new *Motu Propio*, *Traditionis Custodes* invites each of us faithful and clergy to celebrate the Eucharist, whether it is the Extraordinary Form (Latin Mass) or the Ordinary Form (*Novus Ordo*), reverently and beautifully in a manner that draws us into the mystery of God. Again, it has to be clear: Pope Francis has not banned the Latin Mass. It is important for each one of us to read carefully and prayerfully the document in order to foster unity and dialogue among the growingly divided faithful especially here in the United States. It is worth reading: https://www.vatican.va/content/-francesco/en/motu_proprio/documents/20210716-motu-proprio-traditionis-custodes.html

De Colores!

A few words from our sponsors

'Inviting somebody to the Weekend is a privilege and a responsibility'

As told to Sis. Maria de Quinto by Sis. Marcy Reyes



Sis. Marcy Reyes

"The charism of the Cursillo is to make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend to Christ, taking into consideration you cannot invite anybody to the Movement without making them friends.

"Making friends with family members is even more challenging because of the familiarity. I would say the most difficult to invite to the Weekend or even evangelize as 'far away' are family members. It is even more difficult to evangelize your own family member when he questions the faith.

"I have yet to convince this family member. I could inadvertently push her away further away from the faith. The problem with evangelizing family members is that you care so much that you tend to lay it on too thick or you can easily get angry or hurt because you are emotionally attached to this person who is not a stranger.

"It took me years to befriend this person and at the same time, mind that we are family. You'd think that being a family member is enough to bring that person in. They haven't journeyed through the encounter with Christ in the Weekend. They don't realize the wealth of experience you're offering to them. So, before they experience it, their reflex is to say "no" to the invitation.

"I would say, there is no candidate that is easy to invite to the Weekend. It would be easier to invite anybody to a retreat without the added burden of befriending that person first.

"To a true Cursillista, inviting somebody to the Weekend is both a privilege and a responsibility. But the invited person won't know that until the Clausura.

"That is why I believe in starting with family when thinking of bringing anyone to Christ.

"My grandmother always told me the way to a man's heart is through his stomach.

"So, to me, Sunday brunch after Mass is the perfect venue for the invite. After prayers and with the bountiful grace of food in front of us, even the young ones will hear what you have to say.

"I always go for the soft pitch. So, I listen more than talk. This way, I find talking points to persuade a prospect to the Weekend.

"I try to be myself and not preach. Knowing that our methodology asks us to preach the good news joyfully – not sternly, not stiffly. Not in an authoritative manner. If you relay the message that the Weekend is going to be fun, not a classroom-style workshop, you will get a more receptive prospect. Nobody really wants to go back to school.

"Still, as many sponsors have learned, you'll need to navigate through a lot of obstacles to capture the flag. I've worked around some alibis like these:

Block: "My boss/work won't permit me to take a vacation."

Continued on Page 4

'Building friendship is not easy but it can be when you are honest'

As told to Sis. Maria de Quinto by Sis. Mercy Sacman



Sis. Mercy Sacman

"It's my own experience that those who serve in church and who are busy doing apostolic service in their own environment or profession could be the most difficult to invite in the Weekend and could take a while to convince.

"Since (husband) Art was finally convinced and joined the Cursillo in 1980, I have gone with him to all his Cursillo functions. Cursillistas kept urging me to join the Weekend.

At first, I was not convinced since I have been active in church activities even before I joined him in US in 1970.

"I taught Catechism not only in church but also to our neighborhood kids. I was also a member of a church movement since my teens.

"On the other hand, those who are curious and just want to see what it is all about can be easily invited to the Weekend, when it's a retreat. I would say personal contact would be the best way to invite a candidate.

"Friendship is really important and as the saying goes, 'no man is an island'. However, building one is not an easy task. But if you are honest and be yourself it becomes easy. Accept them for who they are. See things from their point of view.

"I can easily see through 'alibis' because if we always see each other in the church community I get to know them really well. I don't want arguments so I stop when they mention another group. I totally respect their opinions.

"When we want to invite someone to the Weekend, my husband and I pray for that person unceasingly to have an open mind as we wait for the right time for the Holy Spirit to do its work. As Bro. Art told me, talk to God before you talk to your candidate."



'Inviting somebody to the Weekend...' cont'd

Parry: "Why not promise to do overtime and do whatever's necessary to make up. My treat after you get out of work. I'll even babysit for you."

Block: "I'm not interested/I don't go to church anymore."

Action: Desist. In this case, there may be underlying causes that consequently bars this person from receiving the sacraments.

Block: "Isn't that the group that figured in a scandal/force their members to read the Bible every day? I don't want anything to do with you."

Parry: "We are the Cursillo Movement and we do not force anyone to read the Bible because we understand that we Christians are the only Bible that some will read. So, we try to live according to the Bible. You obviously have a mind of your own. Why not come to the Weekend, see for yourself and form your own opinion about the Cursillo?"

Block: "I already go to church every Sunday and pray Novenas and rosaries. I don't need to do that anymore."

Parry: "Great job in doing what you were baptized to do. If you want to do a complete job, come to the Weekend to understand why you need to do more. I was like you until I went to the Cursillo."

Block: "I already give donations to the church/give money to the poor/charity."

Parry: "You do this because you know you can't top God's generosity. You'll also find out how time and talent, aside from treasure, can be of value not only to those in need but also to yourself. Come to the Weekend."

Block: "I heard about (name of group). Aren't you the same?"

Parry: "They are a different group but we may be doing the same work for Christ. You've obviously given some thought about doing the good work. Why not come to our Weekend to see how fellowship and friendship go hand-in-hand with the good work?"

"When you perceive you've scored with your pitch, throw in the sweetener: 'You get to enjoy a weekend with meals and accommodations at our expense. We'll even bus you and baby sit your kids. We're not going to ask you to sell anything. All we ask is for you to have an open mind.'"

Cursillo Manual vs Step by Step Comparison Saturday- Second Day

CURSILLO MANUAL		STEP BY STEP RECTOR'S GUIDE	
6:40 AM	Arise	7:00 AM	Arise
7:100 AM	Morning Prayer & Sabatina (Optional) Appendix 3	7:30 AM	4th Meditation "The Person of Christ"
7:30 AM	4th Meditation "The Person of Christ"	8:00 AM	Mass
8:00 AM	Breakfast	8:30 AM	Breakfast
8:45 AM	Study Rollo		Appendix 12: The Story of John Rector Refers to Palanca Received
9:45 AM	Free time	10:45 AM	Sacraments Rollo
10:00 AM	Sacraments Rollo Part 1		
10:50 AM	Free time	12:30 PM	Lunch
11:00 AM	:	2:30 PM	Action Rollo
12:00 PM	Free Time, Prepare for Mass	4:00 PM	Obstacles to the Life of Grace Rollo
12:15 PM	Mass	6:00 PM	Dinner
1:00 PM	Lunch and free time	7:30 PM	Leaders Rollo
2:00 PM	Discussion & Summary of Sacraments Rollo	8:15 PM	Rosary
2:45 PM	Action Rollo	9:00 PM	Fiesta Social Gathering Songs, Fellowship, Games
3:45 PM	Free time	10:00 PM	Present Summaries & Poster
4:00 PM	Obstacles to the Life of Grace Rollo		
5:10 PM	Free time	11:00 PM	Examination of Conscience / Night Prayer Retire
5:25 PM	Leaders Rollo	11:30 PM	Team Leaders Meeting
6:30 PM	Dinner and free time		
7:30 PM	Summary and poster of the day		
8:00 PM	Rosary		
8:30 PM	Present Summaries & Poster		
9:15 PM	Sharing (Songs & Fellowship)		
10:00 PM	Examination of Conscience / Night Prayer Retire		
10:10 PM	Visit with Heads and Secretaries		
10:30 PM	Team Meeting		



Vocation on my vacation

Mary's 2 churches in her own street, San Antonio, Texas



To cap off our experience at the National Encounter in San Antonio, Texas in July 2017, we headed for the mall, of course. But we got into a street called North St. Mary's street and, indeed, St. Mary's Catholic church and Our Lady of Sorrows were situated there.

We, meaning: Sis. Helen Songco, Sis. Elena and Bro. Sam Sebastian, Sis. Robin Barkin and myself were in search of a Tex-Mex feast after the Alamo.

St. Mary's church was famous as "a spiritual oasis on the Riverwalk" shortly before you hit the Riverwalk where a ferry boat took you around the mall.

What was memorable at St. Mary's church was the sculpture of a man shrouded with a blanket, sleeping on a park bench.

Sculptor Timothy Schmalz called it "The Homeless Jesus" and an inscribed plate told the story: "In truth I tell you in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine you did it to me."

The passage from Matthew 25:40 dated the sculpture from 2015 and was bequeathed by the Speed family to the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate and the parishioners of the church. The family members have been parishioners for 100 years.

Nearby is Our Lady of Sorrows, "Resilient in service and faith." In this church, we found the influences of both Latino and Polish faithful. Another testimony to the Blessed Virgin's familial presence in an unfamiliar place. (Bro. Harvey Barkin)

Cursillistas in Community



Retirement despedida for Fr. Joe Galang. Fr. Francis Kalaw (12th from left, standing) toasted mentor Fr. Joe (center, standing) while Bro. Chito de Quinto (9th from left, standing) roasted the veteran priest who trained in the Marines, lived in London and Germany, served ministries in three continents, and declared Master of the Chicken Dance. Travel companion Sis. Helen Songco (1st from left, sitting) revealed a couple of ladies were quite taken by Fr. Joe in their cruises. The buffet celebration happened at World Gourmet in Fremont last June 12.



Cursillista wins prize in Miss Universe Philippines event. Sis. Beth Cayabyab (center) won the grand prize at the reception event for Miss Philippines contestant to the 2020 Miss Universe Rabiya Mateo (right) at World Gourmet in Fremont last June 5. Bro. Mario de Leon and wife were also there. Sis. Robin and Bro. Harvey Barkin covered the event with other press members. (Photo by Sis. Robin Barkin)

A priest walks into a bar...

Parting shots from Fr. Joe Galang

For once, a knock-off artist is trying to come clean with a cop. The cop picks up a hand bag. "GQ, so this bag is authentic?" The con artist replies, "Sir, no. The logo means Galing sa Quiapo." The cop picks another bag, "How about this DKNY?" The con man says, "No, sir. The logo says it came from Divisoria Kanto Ng Ilaya." The cop asks about another leather bag, "This is a real YSL?" The con man replies, "Sir, that's Yari sa Laguna." The cop changes tactics and picks up a shirt with a crocodile brand, "This should be real, right?" The con man says, "Hindi, po, sir. That's for Congress."



A snooty balikbayan came from Mass at Baclaran. He asks, "How much for the pyuto?" Unimpressed the vendor replies, "Which one, pyula or pyuti?"

One day, a nurse was processing in a burn victim at the ER. "Can you tell me what happened?" The victim said, "I was pressing clothes when the phone rang and I held the iron to my ear." The nurse asked, "So, why do you have burns on both sides of your face?" The victim replied, "He called back."

"There's a knock on the Pearly Gates. St. Peter looks out and sees a man waiting to come in. St. Peter goes out and is about to begin his interview when the man disappears. A short time later, there's another knock. Again, St. Peter gets the door, sees the man, opens his mouth to speak, and the man disappears. St. Peter has just gone back inside when there's another knock. Sure enough, the man is back standing at the Gates. "Are you playing games?" says St. Peter. "No," says the man. "They're trying to resuscitate me." (from **Man Walks into a Bar** by Stephen Arnott and Mike Haskins)

A man dies and goes to heaven, He stands before God and sees Jesus at his right hand. However, he's surprised to see a janitor with a mop sitting at God's left hand. "Who are you?" asks the man. "I'm Cleanliness," replies the janitor. (from **Man Walks into a Bar** by Stephen Arnott and Mike Haskins)



Make a friend. Be a friend. And bring your friend to Christ.

*Fr. Francis Kalaw
Sis. Emma Forlanda
Sis. Desi Lucas
Sis. Maria De Quinto
Bro. Sam Sebastian
Sis. Marcy Reyes
Bro. Marlon De Leon
Sis. Melinda Collins
Sis. Robin & Bro. Harvey Barkin*

*Send us your suggestions for topics, questions and photos. **De Colores!***