Volume 3 1st issue
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Communication Committee

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Message From the Editor

I am your sister Annie Villarente and I lived my Cursillo on April of 2004, Cursillo #70, at St Anthony Claret, Decuria of St Perpetua.

First I would like to greet everyone with a very Happy Thanksgiving. I pray for a joyful one in the presence of your loved ones. We offer our praises and thanksgiving to our God who is truly magnificent!

God, in His infinite wisdom and perfect knowledge of our hearts, our minds, our past, present and future saw fit to place me in this position as the Communication Administrator and Newsletter Editor as well, until such time that someone else will hearken to His call to fill the position of Editor. No, I have never published any written thing in my life nor done editing on a scale that would qualify a person to be an editor. God knows best. And it humbles me. It is through Discernment that made me try.

Discernment really works, brother and sisters. The Holy Spirit knows and guides, blanketing our thoughts with a gentle reminder that nothing is impossible when He wills it to be so. He soothes our fears, gifting us with the grace of Trust, first and foremost in God, then in oneself and lastly in others.

I would like to offer congratulations to Bro Vic Ramos and Sis Temi for doing an amazing job for the Mariposa. It would be very hard to fill their shoes. The Mariposa looked so professionally done when they were at the helm. We won’t see that for a while yet but there is always hope. We are finally publishing the Mariposa. I am at the stage of trying a few things. Hopefully it would appeal to you. If not, know that any format right now will be temporary.

Soon a survey will be done so you can help us determine what kind of features should be carried in the Newsletter versus the website. In the next issue, I will introduce the members of the Communication Committee, and the Secretariat.

Thank you all for the care and support you have given to Bro Willie and me. all these years. Know that we will try to do our best with God’s grace. Pray unceasingly.

Peace and Blessings. De Colores!
Save The Dates

**Women’s Cursillo #101 and Men’s Cursillo #102**

Rector/Rectora Discernment

When: Saturday, January 12, 2019, 10 AM - 2 PM
Where: Cathedral of Christ the Light Parish Hall, Oakland, CA
Contact: Sis Josie Herrera

WEST ULTREYA

When: Saturday, January 12, 2019
Where: Cathedral of Christ the Light Parish Hall, Oakland, CA

EAST ULTREYA

When: Saturday, January 26, 2019
Where: Queen Of All Saints, Concord CA

SCHOOL OF LEADERS

When: Monday, January 28, 2019
Where: Cathedral of Christ the Light Parish Hall, Oakland, CA

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**FCC Annual Christmas Party**

Saturday, December 15, 2018 – 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM
St. Raymond Church Moran Parish Hall
1155 Shannon Ave, Dublin, CA 94568

5:30 PM - A Tribute to Fr. Jose Arong, OMI

Donation: $10 per person (12 years old and under are free). Parents, please bring wrapped gifts for your children.

For Warm Hearts Project: Kindly bring new or unused items such as scarves, socks, mittens, bonnets, and toiletries to give to the needy. There will be a donation card box bin at the Moran Hall.

Team Reps: Please give name of attendees by Nov 18, 2018 to Ultreya Coordinators:
- Sis. Edna Marr: marr.mariaedna@gmail.com
- Sis. Evelyn Isidro: evelyn.isidro@dignityhealth.org
- Sis. Belle Caronongan: bsc3027@comcast.net

Host Teams: St. Patrick & Transfiguration

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“For a child is born to us, a son is given to us upon his shoulder dwelling rested. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6
Friends In Christ

Sis. Cora Tuason

Lay Director of the FCC, Diocese of Oakland

Editor's note: In this section, we feature our Cursillo friends, who we journey together as we live a life that is fundamentally Christian. First is our Lay Director who just begun her term on August, 2018. Future issues will feature anyone in our group reunion teams who would want to share a little of themselves, a message or a peek into what moves them. It does not matter if it is a full article or just a short paragraph, the Mariposa is for you.

I lived my Cursillo in 1995, Cursillo No. 52, at St Anthony Claret in Clayton, CA. My decuria is St Therese. It has been a most challenging and gratifying 23 years of Cursillo life.

Dcn Noe and I have three adult children, all with their own families. We have three grandchildren, the youngest is three months old, our only granddaughter.

I love traveling, singing; hanging out with friends to movies, restaurants and casinos. I used to love reading but eye problems won’t let me do that anymore. Among my dislikes are shopping, doing housework and cooking.

I went back to work after 10 years of living “a life of leisure.” I am working with St. Joseph Notre Dame Catholic High School in Alameda, responsible for monitoring their tuition receivables and for accounting of all donations and grants received by the school. I am also involved in recommending families who should receive tuition assistance, I find this role fulfilling as I feel that I am able to help students get a good education despite financial challenges. I enjoy my work and the people I work with and the people we serve in that school.

I never wanted to be a deacon’s wife because people had expectations and I was fearful that I couldn’t live up to them. However, I felt it was God’s plan for Dcn Noe to be ordained, and who am I to go against His plans. So, my prayer was always, “Let it be done, Lord, according to Your will.” And so, he was ordained. I support him by putting aside my own need for his time and attention, for the parish’s need for his time and attention.

Dcn Noe was my Cursillo sponsor. I was hesitant at first, but he said that he would be the only Cursillista in our team that would be without a spouse. So, I gave my consent. It definitely was not a good reason to join the Cursillo, but hey, it got me, right? My weekend was not life changing. To be honest, I felt that it was just like a review of my religion classes throughout my school years. However, I was touched by the joy and the friendship shared by the servers at that weekend. It was enviable.
Through the years after that weekend, Cursillo changed my life: through the witness talks of the sisters and brothers during ultreyas, through the sharing during group reunions, through serving during weekends, through listening to doctrinal talks and reflections of School of Leaders’ guest speakers. Finally, through the friendship lived by Cursillistas, I slowly began to understand what Cursillo has been saying all along about our mission in this world: to share the Good News of Christ’s love for us, to bring our neighbors closer to Christ, and to live a life of grace all in friendship.

I joined the Corpus Christi team right after my weekend. However, Deacon Stan Lee asked Noe and I to guide four new sisters (who all belonged to the Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) Parish) he sponsored, and make sure they belonged to a team. So, we decided to start a new Team, the OLGC team, and stayed with this team, since we also belonged to the OLGC Parish then. Later on, we became very close to some brothers and sisters in the Cursillo choir. We decided to form another team, the Mother Teresa of Kolkata Team. We now belong to those two teams.

I was a Rectora of Cursillo No. 68 in 2003, at the Holy Redeemer Church. I have served in the Secretariat in the following positions: Treasurer, SOL Chairperson, Lay Director.

To be honest, becoming a Lay Director was never in my plan; so, in a way, I had no vision in place. However, I believed that God had a plan for me. He may have invited me to serve the FCC as a Lay Director through the voices of many brothers and sisters. I responded. Now that I am the Lay Director, my personal goal is to help create an environment where every Cursillista is happy and joyful to be a missionary disciple of Christ in concert with the members of the Secretariat and team reps. I say this, because that is what I aim for myself as well. When I see everyone in our community happy and joyful and united during our events—be it during Ultreyas, or SOLs or Grand Ultreyas, etc. and always staying friends with each other, I sense that I am fulfilling what God has invited me to do for the community.

In conclusion I would like to say to my Cursillista friends that ever since I became your Lay Director, I have always felt the love and support of the community. For this, I am very grateful. It makes my fear of not being able to handle the demands of this job dissipate. I, in turn, promise to reciprocate your love and support with a promise to do the best I can in every task that comes my way, not for personal exultation, but for the glory of God and for love of the Cursillo family. Another thing that is important is for any Cursillista to feel free to share with me and the Secretariat any thought and concern that would make us serve the community better. Lastly, please pray for me that I may have the wisdom to know what God wants of me and the courage to carry it out, and that any decision and action that I take with and through the Secretariat, begins and ends with love. Some decisions and actions may be challenging, but, by listening to the promptings of the Spirit, nothing is impossible. Thank you and God bless FCC.
WOMEN’S Cursillo #98

SIS EDITH GUEVARRA (RECTORA)

I am your Sis. Edith Guevarra. I lived my Cursillo in May 1984, Cursillo #33, at Mount Mary Immaculate, Lafayette, CA. My Decuria is St. Monica.

Here I am Lord! You called me to be the Rectora for the Filipino Cursillo Community’s Women’s Cursillo #97. I was blessed to have three wonderful Vice Rectoras who walked with me to form the FCC WC#97 Service Team. Sis. Nilda Flores, VR for Piety, led her group of prayer-filled sisters as prayer warriors. Sis. Becky Custodio, Study Vice-Rectora inspired our Rollistas to deliver rollos that provided inspiration, knowledge, and eye-opening talks to our new sisters. Sis. Edna Marr, Action Vice-Rectora and her group provided us with never-ending supply of physical sustenance the whole weekend.

Our Spiritual Advisors: Dcn. Noe Tuason, Dcn. Steve Budnik, Dcn. Rey Encarnacion, and Fr. William Rosario graced us with their presence and availability for spiritual guidance and counselling. We also had two fantastic mentors who have been our guide. They are Sis. Cora Tuason and Sis. Josie Herrera. Sis. Doris Sunga, our Understudy also played a vital role. She really is ready to be our next Rectora!

Our core meetings and formation meetings were all faith-filled as we allowed the Spirit to lead us. (A special thank you to my better half who provided sustenance at all our core group meetings.) I am very grateful to all our Sister Cursillistas who diligently attended our formation meetings. Our formation meetings proved to deepen our relationship with one another and our commitment to Christ. It was also a preparation for our own retreat, not just our new sisters’ retreat.

As the Rectora, I prayed hard for wisdom and a lot of patience and understanding. I prepared myself for whatever will come during the weekend. I prayed for all the members of the Service Team. God answered my call. The Service Team members were all cooperative and diligently performed their respective roles and responsibilities. The weekend was filled with the spirit of faith that moved us to service, self-surrender, and sacrifice. I felt that there was a connection with one another, a unity amongst all. Our Service Team gave witness to the candidates by their loving care, their music, their smile. You can see that all 60 of us loved and worked productively for God’s glory.

FCC WC#97 was blessed with 14 wonderful new sisters, and we all journeyed together to meet Christ and to know Him better. I felt that the Holy Spirit was always present as shown by our new sisters’ eagerness to be there for that weekend. They were all very receptive and anxious to ask questions and to talk to our Spiritual Advisors. We all felt that Christ was beside us, behind us, before us, and within us, never to part.

FCC WC#97 weekend is over, but our journey did not end that weekend. Every Cursillo weekend is always a beginning of a new journey. It is on-going and lasts forever, a journey to knowing, serving and loving our Lord. De Colores!

Christ be beside me

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart,
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ be on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife,
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my heart.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
The Graduates

Sis. Cristina Marcelino-Ahlstrand
Sis. Josie Monteverde
Sis. Cecilia Donaldson
Sis. Cecilia Inocencio
Sis. Rosalie Trance
Sis. Irma M. Mangino
Sis. Linda Aguirre
Sis. Susan Abao
Sis. Mary Ann Ortiz
Sis. Preeti D’Souza
Sis. Aixa Caraballo
Sis. Mia Inocencio
Sis. Rishni Fernandes
Sis. Stella Imosowho
God is good, all the time. When I became the rector of Men’s Cursillo #98, I knew I was called. I was happy being myself, to help whenever I can and support whoever is in-charge. But God had another plan, He used sister-wife Clarita. Her words still echo, “When are you going to do it, when you cannot anymore?”

Still, I played it cool as under-study but kept in mind that I am next and should start preparing for a successful weekend, in our human eyes and intelligence. Learning from the Cursillos de Cursillo (CDC) retreat I was picky choosing the rollistas and their mentors. I agreed with the National Secretariat philosophy that next to God’s grace, the rollitos are critical to the weekend and our metanoia.

The responsibility made me pray harder, knowing I cannot do it alone. I needed to condition myself not only mind and heart but physically. I offered it to God and nightly prayers with family gave me confidence. I love the formation meetings. The fellowship and sharing inspired brother servers. Everybody enjoyed each other’s company and rekindled friendships that developed and grew as time went on.

Men’s candidates are always a challenge. I asked God for a certain number but promised to do my best to serve whomever He sent. He gave us the “Magnificent 7”. Monsignor Pompei said, “You have a perfect number”.

It was a blessed weekend, a beautiful one,. I could not ask for more. Through the palancas, (prayers and sacrifices), God gave everyone the strength to persevere. With the help of the dedicated and committed spiritual advisors and servers, most of whom did an extra mile, I was at peace, no worries and just enjoyed the weekend.

The fruits of our labor cannot be measured, as always, it is different for everyone. The living experience of being part of an ideal Christian community, even for a few days, lifted us spiritually, servers and new brothers alike. It triggered an internal religious process that is etched in our hearts. The “Magnificent 7” shared that experience and now in God’s hand with better knowhow, strong faith and determined free will. We will continue to guide them, as we should. Meanwhile, I continue to pray for them. De Colores!!!

Seek The Lord
Refrain:
Seek the Lord while He may be found
Call to Him while He is still near

I
Today is the day and now the proper hour
To forsake our sinful lives and turn to the Lord.
(refrain)

II
As high as the sky above the earth,
So high above our ways, the ways of the Lord
(refrain)

III
Finding the Lord, let us cling to Him
His words, His Ways, lead us to Life.
(refrain)

Seek the Lord...(end)
Mens' Cursillo #98 - GRADUATES

ABAO, LUKE
BALAJADIA, ERNIE
CROSETTI, VICTOR
HERRERA, PHILIP Jr.
LAKE, ALAN
MARTINEZ, RAYMOND

McLOUGHLIN, TIM
**Memorial Mass**

November 3, 2018 6:30 PM  
Our Lady of Good Counsel Church  
Mass Celebrant: Fr. William Rosario

“For if we have grown into union with him through a death like His, we shall also be united with Him in the resurrection.”  
*Romans 6:5*
Acknowledgements:

Hosts: Mother Teresa of Kolkata
Refreshments: Fremont and OLGC

Setup: OMPH, Divine Mercy
Cleanup: Agape, OLHR
Music: Sis Gid Eugenio, Bro. Noli Manaos
REDISCOVERING CURSILLO WORKSHOP
November 17-18, 2018
St Raymond Church, Dublin CA

Team of Speakers

**Bro Cef Aguilon**
National English Coordinator
Topics:
The Foundational Charism
Essence and Purpose
Dangers In Cursillo

**Sis Linda Buhay**
Region XI Filipino Coordinator
Topics:
Mentality
School of Leaders

**Sis Rosalinda Pascual**
RST Member Spring 2018
LA Archdiocese
Topics:
Precursillo
Secretariat

**Sis Helen Dris**
Immediate Past Lay Director of Sacramento Diocese
Topic:
3-Day Cursillo

**Bro Mario Camorongan**
Immediate Past Lay Director
Diocese of Oakland
Topic:
Leaders

**Bro Mario Santos**
Interim Lay Director of San Francisco
Topic:
Post Cursillo

Links to the talks will soon be posted in the FCC Website on the School of Leaders page.
The Essence of Cursillo is:

Jesus Christ + The Person + Friendship

When one is aware that God exists, one realizes that God insists and that God assists.

(Bonnin)

3 Characteristics must be present for True Friendship to thrive:

Reciprocity, Fidelity, And Freedom
The purpose of the Cursillo: to communicate and direct the Good News of God’s love towards the person.

The purpose of the Cursillo is achieved by a unique method based on the joyful proclamation of living what is fundamental to being Christian.
Biography of Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló, Founder of the Cursillos in Christianity

Source: Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló Foundation, Mallorca, December 18, 2013

Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló was born in Palma de Mallorca on May 4, 1917 in his residential home where Bar Niza now stands. He was born to a catholic family, who was dedicated to the trade and export of grains and dried fruit in the semi-wholesale market.

He was the second of 10 children, born from the marriage between D. Fernando Bonnín Piña and Dª Mercedes Aguiló Forteza.

His first studies were at the school “Escuela Francesa” in LaSalle College, and his intellectual formation was with the Augustinian Priests, and especially with professors his parents hired to teach him at home. However, Eduardo stated that the first professor in his life was his grandfather Jorge, who taught him the love of reading. Eduardo was convinced that “nothing influenced me more than my obstinate and always growing interest for reading”.

In 1936, he had a determinant experience in his life: the obligatory military service far away from home. Simultaneously two sources of conflicting knowledge entered into his life: “reality” from direct contact with the profane people of the battalion and “idealism” from his books.

By pure providence, a text from an address given by Pope Pius XII to the parochial pastors and “cuaresmeros” in Rome, on February 6, 1940, fell into Eduardo’s hands. The Holy Father looked for “new roads”, different from what was usual in order for all, but especially that the far away know the love of God.

Three principles become the basic guidelines of Eduardo’s Mentality: the Love of God, Friendship, and the Person; especially the far away.

In 1943, at the Lluch Sanctuary, he participated in the second “Cursillo for Advanced Pilgrims Leaders”, because they convinced him. He saw that the message was good, the servants of the message seemed quite boring to him, and he said those needed to be refreshed. It was not only necessary to prepare leaders to go to Santiago, but for life itself as well.
The crucial moment in the genesis of the Cursillos in Christianity was the phase that immediately followed that Holy Week of 1943, in which Eduardo relates what was lived at the “Cursillo for Advanced Pilgrims Leaders” with his personal and profound restlessness and his catalyzing experience of the de-Christianized environments. He came to the conclusion that something, though similar and different from that “Cursillo for Advanced Pilgrims Leaders”, could in fact bring about the dynamics of Christianity; not just in an isolated predetermined event like the Pilgrimage to Santiago, but also in the daily and normal lives of real and concrete environments.

The text and outlines of “The Study of the Environments”, which Eduardo presented in public for the first time at the Diocesan Seminary of Mallorca, surged from this restlessness in 1943.

In this climate and projecting into reality the outlines of The Study of the Environments, Eduardo thought and elaborated from that experience of the “Cursillo for Advanced Pilgrims Leaders” – an entire method that would serve as Christian fermentation of the “far away” people and their environments and also as a profound revitalization of the environments already close to the Church.

Perhaps the point of inflection in attitude would be marked by the intervention that Eduardo had by the invitation of Gaya, in 1944, at the “School of Propagandists” that Gaya directed, and at which Eduardo presented the outlines that he had prepared as his final topic of “his” method, which would later be integrated as the Rollo “The Cursillista beyond the Cursillo”.

The first Cursillo, according to the outlines of Eduardo, was celebrated in a chalet of Cala Figuera de Santanyí in Mallorca from August 20th through the 23rd of 1944. The Spiritual Director of that first Cursillo in Christianity in history was Reverend D. Juan Julia, acting as Rector was Eduardo Bonnín, and as “professors” were Jaime Riutord and Jose Ferragut.

That meeting had already included the essential elements of a Cursillo in Christianity, with the exception of the first and last topics, which do not become part of the method until the 1950’s.

Eduardo has affirmed many times that since that Cursillo in Cala Figuera, and the rest of the Cursillos, he had continued to use the same outlines; the same writings, and by this wanting to prove that this was entirely an authentic Cursillo.

The second Cursillo in Christianity (which in those times was simply called Cursillo), was held at the Sanctuary of San Salvador, in Felanitx, also on the south side of the island, was celebrated in September of 1946, acting again as Spiritual Director D. Juan Julia; as “rector”, the same Eduardo Bonnín; and as professors, Antonio Ruiz and Guillermo Estarellas, two youth leaders from Catholic Action.

The Diocesan Chaplain Sr. Dameto attended the Clausura of the Cursillo of 1946, in what constituted, without a doubt, the first boost that the Diocesan church, as such, did for the new system.

The third Cursillo in history was celebrated in 1947, from the 16th to the 20th of April, led spiritually by D. Jose Estelrich, with Eduardo Bonnin as rector and one professor, Jose Segui.

In 1948 there were two Cursillos which were delivered with the new methodology, and very close in time frame. The first one was done on Holy Week, and the spiritual retreat was led by Father Amengual and the spiritual direction was done by Father Bartolomé Nicolau, while as rector was Jose Ferragut with a team of professors which included Eduardo Bonnin, Bartolome Riutort and Juan Mir.

The next Cursillo was held in the month of April, also in 1948, under the spiritual direction shared by D. Jose Estelrich and D. Miquel Sastre, and again, with Eduardo Bonnin as rector and Onofre Arbona and Antonio Salva as professors.
The Cursillo in Christianity started in August of 1944 and were officiated and enumerated starting with the one on the 7th of January of 1949. The Spiritual Director for “Cursillo #1” was D. Guillermo Payeras and the Rector was Eduardo Bonnin.

When history accelerated itself in 1949, it forced Eduardo to again reflect in depth, so that the affluence and quantity of the cursillistas would not interfere with the sedimentation of those friendship group reunions which, since 1944 were considered the most essential component of the Postcursillo. From this reflection, the methodology and design of the “group reunion” surged, almost immediately.

The annual assembly of November 1949 included a presentation about the Groups, which resolved the issue; which incorporated the weekly Group Reunion as a specific and essential element of the methodology. The seed of Cursillo has expanded all over the world and Eduardo has gone after it, fertilizing and leavening those environments in which it has been called to grow. “I do not have a kilometer counter on my feet” was one of Eduardo’s sayings; in order to avoid reviewing the international itinerary of his life to slip away from the importance it gave him to have proclaimed the Gospel. Eduardo was in China three times. In 1966 he travelled to Brazil, New York and Peru; in 1967 he was in Bolivia, Costa Rica, Miami and participated in the 3rd National Gathering of Leaders in Guadalajara. On May 4, 1968, he attended the Ultreya of Fati ma…. In 1998, after a decade, he returned to Chile and went to Tuvulu, Santiago, Valparaiso and Termuco. That year, he also travelled to Bolivia, Guatemala, Mexico and was in Ravena and Padua…

There is consistency of the leavening that was produced by that seed across the five continents.

As he would say, after an entire life dedicated to love of God and of people, he was always content, but not satisfied.

On February 6, 2008, Eduardo Bonnin passed away. He was buried in the atrium of the Capuchin church and his tombstone states the words he always said of himself: “An Apprentice Christian”.

Eduardo Bonnin Aguiló Foundation, Mallorca, December 18, 2013

A sampling of books by or about Eduardo Bonin from National Cursillo Website
THANKFULNESS AND GRATITUDE

Notable quotations from Pope Francis, Shepherd of Truth

THANKSGIVING IS IMPORTANT

To be able to offer thanks, to be able to praise the Lord for what He has done for us: this is important!

ASK YOURSELF

... We can ask ourselves: Are we capable of saying "Thank you"? How many times do we say "Thank you" in our family, our community, and in the Church? How many times do we say "Thank you" to those who help us, to those close to us, to those who accompany us through life?

TAKING GOD FOR GRANTED

Often we take everything for granted! This also happens with God. It is easy to approach the Lord to ask for something, but to return and give thanks... This is why Jesus so emphasizes the failure of the nine ungrateful lepers: "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" (Lk 17:17-18).

MARY, OUR MODEL

... We are given a model, indeed the model, to whom we can look: Mary, our Mother. After hearing the message of the Angel, she lifted up her heart in a song of praise and thanksgiving to God.

"THE FULLNESS OF JOY"

Let us ask our Lady to help us recognize that everything is God's gift, and to be able to say "Thank you". Then I assure you our joy will be complete. Only those who know how to say "Thank you", will experience the fullness of joy.

"A HUMBLE HEART"

It also takes humility to be able to give thanks... The heart of Mary, more than any other, is a humble heart, capable of accepting God's gifts... Let us ask ourselves — it will do us good— if we are prepared to accept God's gifts, or prefer instead to shut ourselves up within our forms of material security, intellectual security, the security of our plans.

LEARNING FROM THE SCORNED

Significantly, Naaman and the Samaritans were two foreigners. How many foreigners, including people of other religions, give us an example of values that we sometimes forget or put aside! Those living beside us, who may be scorned and sidelined because they are foreigners, can instead teach us how to walk on the path that the Lord wishes.

FAITH OVERCOMES DIFFICULTIES

The Mother of God, together with Joseph her spouse, knew what it was to live far from home. She too was long a foreigner in Egypt, far from her relatives and friends. Yet her faith was able to overcome the difficulties. Let us cling to this simple faith of the Holy Mother of God; let us ask her that we may always come back to Jesus and express our thanks for the many benefits we have received from His mercy.

(Source: Homily, Marian Jubilee, October 9, 2016)
What Am I Thankful For?

From Deacon Stan Lee

Thanking God for the gift of being a permanent deacon, called to serve especially those most in need, not as a servant but as a friend of Christ.

From Sis Evelyn Isidro

I am thankful for each day that I wake up healthy and able to do my daily chores. I am grateful when I see my husband when I come home from work and we enjoy dinner together and watch our favorite TV program. I am most grateful for my family and their good health, for the gift of friends and for their love and care. Most of all, I am thankful for God’s goodness and mercy.

From Bro. Ray Dollete

For me, "Thanksgiving day" celebration equates to having a family reunion to give thanks to our Lord God through His son Jesus Christ. We should all be thankful during thanksgiving day for having a beautiful and loving family that is Christ centered which surrounds us at the table of plenty during our celebration.

We should all be thankful, count and enjoy our blessings: like our good health, “magandang buhay” and God-loving children and grandchildren, loved ones, family and friends. Lastly, sharing our thoughts and prayers to one another during the family gathering around the table of plenty and saying to Jesus that we are truly grateful for all the grace and blessings coming from our Lord God through His Son Christ Jesus Our Lord. Glory be to God forever & ever. Amen...
From Sis Marly Dy-Liacco

I am thankful for my family who lives nearby. They are so thoughtful, caring and attentive to our needs. They all come home every Friday which is joy like no other!

I am feeling blessed with my friends. It is rare when quality and quantity are one. There is nothing like true friendship. We take care of each other in a very special way. Yes, life is better with friends!
I am really grateful to say that even in my worst moments I’ve always had the good sense to know that however bad things were, they wouldn’t remain so. Thank you, Lord!

From Sis Cora Pediglorio

There is so much to thank for! First, the gift of faith. Thanks be to God that He is my first priority in my existence, the source of everything I have. Each day is a gift of life. I will never take this life for granted, knowing that He loves me and in His Plan, gave me a second chance to enjoy the life that I have now.

Secondly, I am thankful for Victor, my husband of 42 years, for having loved me, supported me and stood by me in all my hopes and dreams. Then, there is my family: my parents, siblings and their families. Whether far or near, we stayed connected through Face Book, texts, and telephone calls, letting them know how much we care for one another and that the family keeps us together, no matter what.

To be living in America, my third country, is something that I am grateful for. Besides giving us a comfortable life, a pleasant environment, a circle of wonderful friends, old and new, it is here where I learned more about my faith. I came to know that I can have a personal relationship with our God when I joined the Cursillo weekend retreat in 1994. Over the years, our Filipino Cursillo Community has blessed me and Vic with wonderful and loving Sisters and Brothers. And I like to mention that our Chosen Flock family has been my joy and support, as we all walk together in our faith journey. Indeed, the Cursillo weekend retreat was the instrument for me to be closer to God - to know Him and always give glory to Him, my Creator and Savior. Happy Thanksgiving to all!
Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Hebrews 12:28-29 - Therefore, we who are receiving the unshakable kingdom should have gratitude, with which we should offer worship pleasing to God in reverence and awe. For our God is a consuming fire.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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De Colores!