

# Cursillo Workshop Introductory Rollos

for the

## Rector's Guide:

A Step-by-Step Guide for the Cursillo Weekend



Cursillos in Christianity

January 25, 2022

## List of Workshop Introductory Rollos

<b><u>Rollo</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Page #</u></b>
1	Initial Introductory Rollo	3
1A	This is the Way, by Eduardo Bonnín (Appendix 16)	6
2	Cursillo Weekend General Overview	8
3	OVERVIEW - Day #1 Thursday/Friday – Encounter with Self	10
4	Thursday Page-by-Page Review: Pages 1-12	11
5	Friday Page-by-Page Review: Pages 13-19	14
6	OVERVIEW - Day #2 Saturday – Encounter with Christ	15
7	Saturday Page-by-Page Review: Pages 20-24	16
8	OVERVIEW - Day #3 Sunday – Encounter with Others	17
9	Sunday Page-by-Page Review: Pages 25-29	19
10	The Job Ahead	20

## Rollo 1 Initial Introductory Rollo

### Introduction

Welcome and thank you for your presence at this workshop on the Rector's Guide: A Step-by-Step Guide for the Cursillo Weekend. This introductory workshop is based upon the Foundational Charism of the Cursillo Movement, that is; its *mentality, essence, purpose, and methodology*, elements of our Charism that are foundational.

The Foundational Charism is a gift inspired and communicated by the Holy Spirit to our Founder, Eduardo Bonnín, who shared it with us. Our Lord called us here because there is a gift to discover. It is not until we unwrap our gifts that we value its contents. So, you are invited to join us in unwrapping the gift of Cursillo together to review its contents and discover its true Charism of friendship with self, Christ, and others.

Many of you have lived the Charism of friendship for many years and have served on numerous Cursillo Weekends. We ask for your continued enthusiasm, dedication and spirit of love to go further into the study of the Foundational Charism. Like a Cursillista on a Cursillo weekend, we ask for your open mind and heart to rediscover our gift of Cursillo and to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us through this workshop, step by step, so together we may encounter Christ more fully.

### Background

The Rector's Guide is authored by Eduardo Bonnín and used in Mallorca. Eduardo shared with the leaders in Mallorca, that this Guide is offered to the World Cursillo Movements to assist them in ensuring that the content of the weekends is simple, clear, and containing all that is necessary, nothing more and nothing less.

The Rector's Guide, and its Appendices, will be published by Mallorca in their next edition of the book, *My Spiritual Testament* by Eduardo Bonnín.

Eduardo writes, "*I sincerely believe that one of the greatest assets that I possess is the knowledge of what the real Cursillo of Christianity consists of, as well as the Movement engendered by them.*" *My Spiritual Testament*, p. 19

Eduardo continued, "*If we compare the Cursillo Movement to a tree, we are happy to see that it has grown, because an evangelical seed sown in many hearts and cultivated with prayer has given its fruit; but it also hurts us to see that in some places, no doubt with the best of intentions, they have taken the tree of the Cursillos for a Christmas tree and have been hanging lights and decorations - their favorite brilliant ideas - and have gradually been spoiling its clear and simple profile.*" *My Spiritual Testament*, p. 43

Though Eduardo's illness prevented him from finishing his *Spiritual Testament*, we as Cursillistas are called to be that conclusion by joyfully living The Foundational Charism of Cursillo. The Rector's Guide is the legacy that Eduardo left us. Together, let us keep it intact!

This workshop was developed to ensure that the Rector's Guide can be understood and experienced in a personal way. The National Secretariat set up 4 language committees made up of English, Filipino, Spanish and Vietnamese leaders to prayerfully review and study the Guide over the course of two years.

This workshop consists of an Introductory Rollo and a page-by-page review of the Rector's Guide so we may delve deeper into the theology and psychology of the Cursillo weekend.

### **Why a new Cursillo Weekend Guide called Step by Step?**

As we mature in living the Cursillo, we can go more deeply into the charism of Cursillo. Just as we mature in our faith and understanding of the Gospel, with the help of the Holy Spirit, so too does the same Holy Spirit help to reveal the Foundational Charism, ever more deeply. As the heart of the liturgy, the Eucharist, remains the same wherever we worship, so too may the heart of Cursillo, the Foundational Charism, remain the same wherever it is lived.

Over the years, our National Secretariat strived to move the United States closer to the Foundational Charism through revisions to its Cursillo Manual and other Cursillo literature. As a Movement in the Catholic Church, these revisions followed a path initiated by our Church such as the Vatican II directive *Decree on the Apostolate of Lay People*.

However, the accuracy of these previous revisions was affected by our lack of access to Eduardo's writings in English, our less than full understanding, and at times less than authentic translations of his writings into English.

### **The Founder and the Foundational Charism**

Where do we go to find The Foundational Charism of Cursillo? According to Saint Pope John Paul II, to find a movement's charism, we go to its FOUNDER.

In 1998, Saint Pope John Paul II invited all ecclesial movements and communities to return to the roots of their movement to know their founder, know their charism, know their history and discern the mentality of their founder. This "call back to our roots" was echoed in 2006 by Pope Benedict XVI and again in 2015 by Pope Francis in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Italian Cursillo Movement.

Members of the National Staff accepted this invitation and traveled to Mallorca to participate in the 1st and 2nd Conversations of Cala Figuera. Through their meetings with Eduardo Bonnín, they discovered that our Cursillo Movement is to be driven by the Foundational Charism and its criteria; not by rules or directives.

Since those "Conversations", the Holy Spirit continues to draw us into a deeper friendship with Mallorca and the Foundation of Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló (FEBA). This friendship has increased our access to the writings of Eduardo Bonnín which have been translated to English, deepened our understanding of the Foundational Charism, and improved our English translations of his writings.

Our close relationship has reinforced our understanding of the importance of Christ, the person, and friendship as the pillars of Eduardo's life and the life of our world-wide Cursillo Movement. Bishop Robert Barron, Founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries, said "*radiating a sense of the joy that comes from friendship with Christ is the key to bringing others to the Lord.*" This joy, as referenced by Pope Francis in his *Joy of the Gospel*, gives the experience of living what is fundamentally Christian in coexistence with friends. While the Foundational Charism is important, joy and friendship are essential.

When joy and friendship are in place, the Foundational Charism will not be ignored; *it will be embraced!*

### **Will there be more changes in the future?**

What some of us may see as change is actually our *rediscovery* of the original vision. Our founder never changed that which was given to him by the Holy Spirit. He always referred to his own inspired notes, and his study, on how Cursillo is to be lived and shared.

To preserve the Foundational Charism after his passing, Eduardo placed his notes into writing - the Rector's Guide - to guide our Movement on how Cursillo should be lived. Eduardo's obedience to the Holy Spirit, gives us trust that any additional notes found beyond these references would only further explain or enhance what Eduardo left us; never tell us anything different.

### **Where do We Go from Here?**

Today, as we unwrap the Rector's Guide, we ask for your joy and friendship to:

- *study* ~ keeping an open mind as we unwrap this gift from the Holy Spirit,
- *receive* ~ keeping an open heart as this gift was given to Eduardo Bonnín for us and has been lived authentically in Mallorca for over 70 years, and,
- *lead* ~ keeping an open will by presenting this workshop as an opportunity for Diocesan Secretariats so they may in turn present it to their School of Leaders for consistency in Cursillo across regions.

Loren Marian, President of the Mallorca Cursillo Movement, reminded us during the World Ultreya in Fatima, in 2017, that *"The words that Pope Francis addresses to each of us today remind us of that message of Pope Pius XII in February 1940 that moved Eduardo and his friends to "do something"*. National Bulletin: Canadian Conference of Catholic Cursillos, *Fully Alive*, #78, <https://cursillocanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Fully-Alive-78.pdf>

Loren was referring to the 1940 address by Pope Pius XII where he noted the great number of people who had moved away from the Christian life. Pope Pius challenged the Church leaders to make every effort possible to bring others back to Christian values. It was this address in 1940 that inspired our Founder to carry out a thorough and deep study of the scenario and resulted in the writing of the first Rollo - THE STUDY OF THE ENVIRONMENT which led to the development of our Cursillos in Christianity Movement today. (Leaders Manual, p. 2). Loren continued, *"It may be that the present circumstances are not the same, but the thirst for transcendence and the soul's need to encounter God is the same, and in our hands lie the possibility that we may fulfill their wishes."* (Canadian Bulletin, *Fully Alive*, #78, noted above.)

As faithful stewards of our gift, may we together *"do something"* as Eduardo and his friends did in 1940. May we live out Eduardo's legacy faithfully in fulfillment of The Foundational Charism and share it in friendship and joy with others.

But, most importantly, may we together *"be something!"*

As in the words of Pope Francis, in His Address at the Third World Congress of Ecclesial Movements November 22, 2014, as he calls us to live the Gospel with JOY: *"You are not simply a small group. No! You are rather a movement, always on the way, always in movement, always open to God's surprises which are in harmony with the first call of the movement, namely the founding charism."*

[https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2014/november/documents/papa-francesco\\_20141122\\_convegno-movimenti-ecclesiali.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2014/november/documents/papa-francesco_20141122_convegno-movimenti-ecclesiali.html)

St. Paul - pray for us.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe - pray for us.**

## **Rollo 1A** **THIS IS THE WAY (Appendix 16)**

### **In the words of our founder Eduardo Bonnín:**

This is the way to conduct the Three Day Cursillo weekend today. This is the way through which, by the grace of God and the prayers of the brothers and sisters, it has been possible to achieve that a great many people over the years have had an encounter with Christ and decided to follow him.

I do not know how the Cursillo weekend will be conducted in the future. We started in a place where there was no electricity, and today we hand out the list of those attending the Cursillo printed by computer.

All I know is that if Cursillo is to remain faithful to the purpose for which it was intended and for which it was prayed and for which we have been grateful, it should not lower its target, and they should serve to give those who attend a "living", simple, clear and true experience of the Christ of the Gospel as best as possible. He, who through his resurrection and by his Grace, is alive, normal and close in each person.

This requires and calls for a personal encounter between Christ and each person. Obviously, the evil of the world is the evil of the human person, and what the person needs most is to encounter himself and then to be able to grasp with joy, and even perplexity, the invitation that Christ gives to him, so that by being connected to Him by Grace, and through that same Grace, he will understand the joy that comes from spreading it to others.

By its very nature, Cursillo has to go deep down into the depths of the person, into his innermost and intimate self, not merely into the specific circumstances surrounding him: whether married or single, practicing or indifferent etc. There has to be nothing that might deflect him from the target at which he aims. The encounter has to be between Christ and the person, face to face, one-on-one, and everything at the weekend Cursillo has to be focused on that one-on-one encounter. The unavoidable reality of magnetism or attraction between the sexes, or the determining presence of a familiar person – such as professional, marital, or family bonds, makes this one-on-one encounter impossible. The reaction has to be personal, radical and authentic.

There should be nothing that prevents or hinders that radicalism, perplexity and enthusiasm, which occurs in the person when he truly and earnestly BELIEVES that Christ loves him. Since at the weekend Cursillo a new dimension of faith is discovered, much deeper than the normal one, things are different when the person is being observed by someone who is watching, awaiting his reaction. For this reason, a Cursillo weekend should not be mixed; nor is it in any way appropriate that father and son, mother and daughter, two brothers or sisters, employers and employees, or a married couple go to the same Cursillo weekend together. If men and women go together to a weekend, no one will behave as they would if they went separately. Christ is looking for the person, not for what surrounds him.

Cursillo makes no assumptions.

The person, who really wants to be a Christian, realizes the distance they have to go to actually become a true Christian. They become aware of the fact that they have to try and lessen that

distance at every moment of their life. The conscious Christian life led by the person who has awakened to the possibility of longing to become a true Christian, impels them to thank God for every good thing that happens in their life. Knowing that Christ has us in mind and cares for us, we also learn to offer Him our bitter moments which we sometimes make even more bitter because we ignore that what Christ wants is to temper us through them ... and make us better Christians.

Provided everything at the Cursillo weekend is done as it should have been, in the end everyone is truthful.

Eduardo Bonnín

## Rollo 2

### Cursillo Weekend General Overview

#### Introduction

This Cursillo Weekend Rollo is presented in four parts. First, this general overview. Then three introductory overviews, one for each day of the Cursillo. These overviews will be given before the Rector's Guide Page-by-Page review for each day.

The Cursillo Weekend is a witness of God's friendship lived by people who, moved by this friendship, pass on to others the fact that Christ is the meaning and purpose of life and that He is the way, the truth, and the life. Cursillo is the living and sharing of what is fundamental to being Christian.

We do not hold Group Reunions and Ultreyas so that Cursillo Weekends are possible. The Cursillo Weekend is organized so that there are groups of people whose members meet together and accept each other as they are. Cursillo helps the Cursillistas discover they can be more and be better. They are encouraged to make the journey from where they are - to where God wants them to be - in the company of others. What is important, is for people to live and share the essentials of Christianity in their daily lives.

The method of the Cursillo is a systematic, timely and orderly implementation of techniques that lead to the achievement of an intended purpose. The method is the result of long and prayerful study by Eduardo Bonnín who was inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Cursillo Weekend did not just happen. Eduardo has said, *"The Cursillo Movement was not born as an answer from the Church to the world, but as one way to communicate to man that God loves him."* Thinking of Eduardo Bonnín, Foundational Charism, p. 97

#### The Technique During the Cursillo Weekend

The technique for the Cursillo Weekend is the application of theology and psychology in an orderly manner.

Theology: Christ and His Grace

Psychology: the person and his freedom.

It is very important for the Rector and the team to understand that all activities and dynamics of the **Rector's Guide** are based on **theology and psychology**. A good understanding of this will help avoid the temptation to modify the Cursillo Weekend to our personal taste.

The technique is the implementation of all human and theological resources:

1. The most important thing is God's Grace.
2. The retreat phase helps to facilitate communication with oneself.
3. The spiritual rollos and meditations communicate the message.
4. The lay rollos give witness to the message through the life of the rollista.
5. The acts of piety facilitate the encounter with Christ.
6. The table groups facilitate communication and interaction between people.
7. The songs, games, and jokes help clear the mind and provide a relaxing atmosphere.
8. The leaders, clergy and laity, are witnesses of the Good News.
9. The corridor work provides a one-to-one communication between a leader and a Cursillista.

10. The Mañanitas are Palanca, a witness by the cursillistas from the Ultreya who have been praying for the candidates. It is a concrete witness of what will be shared in the rollos of the last day of the Cursillo. The Clausura [Closing] is a simple but profound witness, the place where the candidates become part of the Cursillistas from the Ultreya.
11. The proposal of friendship is to ensure each Cursillista experiences the three-fold encounter:
  - a. With oneself
  - b. With Christ
  - c. With others

Everything during the Cursillo Weekend has been designed for facilitating the three encounters.

Eduardo emphasizes the importance of the **Leaders attitude** on a Cursillo Weekend. In the Structure of Ideas, (p.41) he outlines what the Leaders way of behaving needs to be toward the Cursillistas throughout the three days. Each day has a specific focus in line with the progressive atmosphere of the weekend.

**First Day: to get to know them**

The First Day encompasses from the first night and through the first day until after the Piety Rollo, everything is aimed to facilitate the *encounter with oneself*. This is the reason for the silence of the first night which continues until after Mass on the next day. It aims to make room for the truth, for the person's true self to become evident.

**Second Day: to understand them**

The Second Day comprises from the Piety Rollo until after the Leaders' Rollo, the message is aimed to facilitate the *encounter with Christ*.

**Third Day: to respond to them**

The third day includes from the Leaders Rollo to the Closing or Clausura, the message is aimed to facilitate the *encounter with others*.

The atmosphere of the Cursillo Weekend is progressive. It moves from the fearful curiosity of the first day to the friendship and apostolic joy of the third day. The spontaneity of the Cursillistas is encouraged.

The atmosphere of the third day of the Cursillo should be the same as the atmosphere at the Ultreya and at the same time, the atmosphere at the Ultreya should be the same that of the Cursillo, if not, once the Cursillistas attend their first Ultreya they will feel deceived.

The rollos are not a talk, presentation, conference, or a homily. The rollos are a statement of truths which are lived, which we want to live or which we regret not living to the fullest. The rollos are proclaimed in a simple manner, using everyday language understood by the Cursillistas. There is no need for PowerPoint presentations, handouts, flip charts, or technology. The rollista is sharing his life, what he lives . . . nothing else is necessary.

### Rollo 3

## OVERVIEW - Day #1 Thursday/Friday – Encounter with Self

Throughout this first day of the Cursillo it is important that the Leaders get to know the new Cursillistas. The Leaders attitude will influence the conversion process of the cursillistas.

Thursday evening provides the Cursillistas with an opportunity to reflect on their life, to “encounter self”. This encounter is a vital first step to making the other two encounters. If the Cursillistas do not encounter themselves, it will be difficult to initiate the conversion process. Each Cursillista needs to encounter himself as he is so he can encounter Christ as he is.

The Preliminary Rollo, presented by the Rector(a), gives the Cursillistas a thumbnail sketch of the Cursillo and explains its technique. This rollo asks three things of each Cursillista: 1) their enthusiasm, 2) dedication and 3) spirit of charity. These are essential for the Cursillistas to experience the Cursillo.

The Silent Retreat begins after the Preliminary Rollo and ends after Mass the next day. This time allows the Cursillistas time to look “into” themselves. It is a time of transition from the outside world to the inner being of each Cursillista. It is a time to be still and consider the truths to be presented during the meditations. In silence, Cursillistas and team go to the chapel for the first meditation, “Know Yourself”. The meditation is followed by the Stations of the Cross and a brief time to reflect.

In silence, everyone goes for a short break where selected team members read the “Bankruptcy Story”. This is read with varied tone and emphasis in order to demonstrate to the Cursillistas the joy, sadness, irony, lost opportunities, etc. of the situations explained in the story. After this break, everyone returns to the chapel for the second meditation, the “Prodigal Son”.

The Cursillo continues in silence throughout the night until after Mass the next morning. The “Encounter with Self” continues on Friday. The third meditation, “The Three Glances of Christ” is given. The “Hobbies Sheet” are filled out by all; Cursillistas, Team, Rector and Spiritual Advisor. The information can be used as icebreakers to build friendship amongst all on the Cursillo.

The three lay rollos and two spiritual rollos given on the first day are intended to present what is central to being Christian. These include Habitual Grace, Layperson: Christian in the World and Actual Grace. These rollos may disturb the Cursillistas because of perceived weaknesses and limitations based on their personal “Encounter with Self”. The Cursillistas are reminded they have a free will to choose God’s way or their way. Friendships are being developed and nurtured at the table groups, during meals and during “corridor” work (personal contact). These are times for the team leaders to **listen, observe and learn**. The intent is to help the Cursillista do an internal examination.

The Piety rollo is presented followed by the Rector(a) leading all to the chapel for the first visit to the Blessed Sacrament. The Grace of God is required to live our three profound and special calls: to be a person (Ideal), to be a Christian person (Habitual Grace) and be an active Christian in the world (Layperson: A Christian in the World). The Piety rollo completes the “Encounter with Self” and opens the opportunity for the “Encounter with Christ.”

## **Rollo 4**

### **Thursday Page-by-Page Review: Pages 1-12**

#### **Thursday Evening – First Night of the Cursillo**

We are excited about this wonderful gift we've been given, which was spoken about in the Introductory Rollo, and we would like to continue to share that excitement as we go through the **Rector's Guide** and answer any questions you may have.

Hopefully, you enjoyed the reading of: **This is the Way (Appendix 16)** from Eduardo Bonnín where he describes how the Cursillo should be. Eduardo provides a complete schedule for Cursillo. We are going to jump past the Schedule on pages 1-4. We are not going to go into depth on the schedule, because we are going to cover the items on the schedule as we go through the guide page by page. A note of interest: the time allotment for the Rollos, table group dialogue, corridor work, posters, and visits to the Blessed Sacrament should not be compromised and every effort should be made to keep the sequence described.

#### **Page 5**

Let's turn to **page 5** of the Rector's Guide. The top of this page is titled THE THREE DAY CURSILLO. This page deals with "Traveling to the Retreat House". The team, candidates, sponsors, and other Cursillistas meet at a designated place and time.

The team and candidates travel to the Cursillo location together. Meeting and sharing a ride with friends or friends-in-the-making is a welcoming gesture and allows team and candidates the opportunity to get to know one another in an informal setting.

The gathering of candidates, team, and 4th Day community allows the candidates to get a sense of the friendship which the candidates will be experiencing at the Cursillo.

The gathering allows the 4th Day community to see the candidates whom they will be praying for. Some of this prayer may happen as a group right after the team and candidates leave to the Cursillo location.

Upon arrival at the Cursillo location, the team helps the candidates with their luggage and accompany them to where the room assignments will be made.

The team and Spiritual Advisors make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament before the Cursillo begins.

Are there any questions about page 5?      Let's turn to page 6.

**Page 6** is about room assignments. This is when the Rector explains that people acquainted with each other or coming from the same place have been assigned to separate rooms to make it easier for us to get to know everyone.

The team, new Cursillistas, and Spiritual Advisors move to the Rollo room where the Preliminary Rollo is given by the Rector.

Are there any questions about page 6?      Let's move to page 7.

**Page 7** is about the Silent Retreat, the first Meditation, and the Way of the Cross. A copy of the Pilgrim's Guide is given to everyone as they are moving towards the Chapel. The Rector stresses the need to carry the Guide with them at all times.

After the Meditation, the Rector leads the Way of the Cross found in the Pilgrim's Guide.  
Are there any questions about page 7? Let's turn to page 8.

**Page 8** is about the Bankruptcy Story (**See Appendix 2**), the second Meditation, the Examination of Conscience and Night Prayers.

This Bankruptcy Story is one of many anecdotes used in the *Rector's Guide*. Page 102 of the book, *An Apprentice Christian* states, "The Cursillo is filled with simple examples, that we went searching for here and there, that are very pedagogical [educational] and serve to help people delve more deeply. The Cursillo is nothing more than encoded common sense".

The Bankruptcy story is about characters with the desire for money, the pride of beauty, and the wasting of time with themes of repentance, forgiveness, hope and a new life in the way of Christ. It helps the Cursillistas focus on introspection through possible identification with one or more of the characters.

Preceded by the Know Yourself meditation and followed by the meditation of the Prodigal Son helps set the reading and invites the Cursillistas to an encounter with self the first night. The Bankruptcy story may be read by two or three team leaders. The reading also helps the Cursillistas keep silence comfortably and avoid speaking due to politeness, shame, or nerves.

After the second meditation, the Rector leads the Examination of Conscience from the Appendix (**See Appendix 3**) and also leads the Night Prayers from the Pilgrims Guide.  
Are there any questions about page 8? Let's move to page 9.

**Page 9** is about the Rector making announcements about the next day, Cursillistas retiring to bed and the Team Leaders' meeting. The Rector will make it known that a Priest is available for anyone needing to go to confession.

Are there any questions about page 9? Let's turn to page 10.

**Page 10** is about the Team Meeting and the Team fills out the Quadrant Sheet. (a simple assessment of talkative and quiet candidates to assist with forming table groups). Next is the Formation of the Table Groups and the Heads and Secretaries of each Table Group. (**See Appendix 5 for more information**). The Table Heads and Secretaries have been chosen by the Rector and Team at the first meeting on Thursday night.

The main purpose of Table Heads and Secretaries is to have Cursillistas feel involved in the group of the Cursillo Weekend.

The Table Head is someone who, though capable, is not normally in a position of authority... to draw out the leadership qualities that the Team has observed in the Cursillistas.

Are there any questions about page 10? Let's move to page 11.

**Page 11** is about designating Team Leaders for each Table Group, reminder to participate in the corridor work, being present at every rollo, and being attentive to what the Cursillistas may need. The Rector and Spiritual Advisors are **not** part of a Table Group.

Are there any questions about page 11? Let's move to page 12.

**Page 12** is about reminding the Team Leaders to avoid forming cliques or acting important because you are a Team Leader. The Rector designates Team Leaders for the tasks of the following day. Team makes a visit to the Blessed Sacrament.

Are there any questions about page 12?

## **Rollo 5**

### **Friday Page-by-Page Review: Pages 13-19**

#### **Friday – First Day of the Cursillo**

**Page 13** is about the wake-up call with the first and second bell, followed by morning prayers and morning offering (pages 19-23 of PG) in the Chapel and the Meditation: The Three Glances of Christ.

Are there any questions about page 13?     Let's move to page 14.

**Page 14** is about the morning Mass. The Rector [or Deacon] reads the introduction to the Mass on page 33 of the Pilgrims Guide and will also read the **Petitions** from **Appendix 4**.

After Mass, the Rector gives thanks to God using the prayer on page 51 of the Pilgrims' Guide followed by reading the Canticle of the Three Young Men (Book of Daniel Chapter 3-The Fiery Furnace) also on page 51 of the Pilgrims Guide. This marks the end of the silent retreat, and everyone goes to breakfast. The team serves all meals.

Are there any questions about page 14?     Let's move to page 15.

**Page 15** begins with the Cursillistas on break while the rollo room is setup. Please see **Appendix 1 – Materials for the Three Day Cursillo**. Before every rollo, before everyone assembles in the rollo room, the team goes to the chapel to pray for the rollista. The table groups are formed. Make sure you read **Appendix 5 – We Form the Groups** and **Appendix 6 - Professor Cook story**. The first rollo, Ideal is given, and the **Hobbies Sheet** are filled out – See **Appendix 7**.

Are there any questions about page 15?     Let's move to page 16.

**Page 16** is about reminding Cursillistas to organize the summaries and posters. Before the rollo, an explanation is given of the origins of the De Colores song and one or two versus are sung. The first Spiritual Advisor's Rollo – Habitual Grace, is given followed by lunch. Then the preparation for the next rollo "Layperson: Christian in the World"

Are there any questions on page 16?     Let's move to page 17.

**Page 17** the rollo: Layperson: Christian in the World is followed by the Actual Grace rollo. Allow time for working on posters and then everyone goes to dinner. After dinner, the Piety rollo is given followed by the Rector's intervention which includes The Skiing Story. Please see: **Appendix 8 – Rector's Intervention**. Next everyone **visits the Blessed Sacrament** – the Rector will read **Appendix 9**. The **Reunion of the Table Groups** follows. Make sure you read **Appendix 10**. This is the time to present the summaries and posters.

Are there any questions about page 17?     Let's move to page 18.

**Page 18** is about the Examination of Conscience and Night Prayers (page 65 of Pilgrims Guide). This is followed by the Team's Visit with Heads and Secretaries (**encouragement** to take ownership of their tables), and then the Team Leaders have their meeting.

Are there any questions about page 18?     Let's move to page 19.

**Page 19** is about the Team Leaders' meeting to review the status of each table group and a review of the plan and rollos for the next day. End with a visit to the Blessed Sacrament.

Are there any questions about page 19?

## **Rollo 6**

### **OVERVIEW - Day #2 Saturday – Encounter with Christ**

The meditations and rollos of Day #2 provide opportunities for the Cursillistas to encounter Christ. The Holy Spirit helps them realize that God loves them as they are and where they are. This reality must sink into their hearts in order to become a personal conviction. Day #2 focuses on what is fundamental to being Christian, confirming that growing in closer union with Christ can be the solution to all of life's problems.

The Cursillistas are presented with the opportunity for a personal encounter with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Leaders approach to the Cursillistas for Day 2 is one of **understanding them** which helps to assure that with this encounter - no matter where they are in life - the merciful, loving, and forgiving God is always there for them. This encounter facilitates living a life in Christ and his Grace in everyday life. The "Figure of Christ" meditation helps relate to Jesus as both God and Man. Cursillistas begin to develop a deeper relationship with Jesus and realize that He is alive, normal, and near to us. The Cursillistas realize their happiness rests within their friendship with Jesus.

The Study rollo confirms that the Gospel, lived out in a normal everyday life, is the solution to all of mankind's problems. To grow closer to Christ, we must focus our metanoia - "the change of heart and mentality" - to live the truth. Immediately following the Study rollo, the Rector reads "The Story of John", and **explains the general Palanca**. He then **encourages** the table groups to visit the Blessed Sacrament either as a table group or individually. General palanca shows that the living palanca of the entire Cursillo community is **natural and essential**.

Through a general overview, the Sacraments rollo helps the Cursillistas understand how they can experience and live the saving action of Christ through His church. The Sacraments provide the Grace necessary for every Christian to have a personal relationship with Christ. The Action Rollo explains the third leg of the tripod (Piety, Study and Action). Apostolic action is carried out through personal contact with others with the purpose of making them friends of Christ. The command to "Love God and to love your neighbor as yourself" takes on a new meaning and new urgency. The tripod invites each Cursillista to develop and enhance their ability to: - love God (Piety), - know God (Study) and - serve God (Action). Make a friend, be a friend, bring your friend to Christ.

The Obstacles to the Life of Grace Rollo explains our sinful influences that keep us from our Christian Ideal, which is living a life in Grace. The Cursillistas need to be aware of the problems they face within themselves, with others and with society. Emphasis is on how to overcome our tendency to sin, specifically through prayer, reconciliation, spiritual direction, and Christian friendship.

The Leaders Rollo shows the candidate how to be an effective Christian leader in the world. This last rollo explains how we are already leaders and must partner with Christ to be a majority in every aspect of our lives. Evangelization is a challenge when trying to transform our current society but not impossible when we remember that "With God All Things Are Possible". Following the Leaders Rollo all go to the chapel to pray the Rosary.

## **Rollo 7**

### **Saturday Page-by-Page Review: Pages 20-24**

#### **Saturday – Second Day of the Cursillo**

**Page 20** is about the Morning Prayer, Meditation: The Person of Christ, Mass, and breakfast. The Rector reminds the Cursillistas that a Priest is available for those who want to go to confession or seek Spiritual Direction.

Are there any questions about page 20?     Let's move on to page 21.

**Page 21** is about the Study Rollo, the signing of Pilgrims Guides, the **Story of John (See Appendix 12)** and General Palanca (all Palanca on the weekend is "general" palanca). The Rector explains the process to follow for signing the Pilgrim's Guides. After the Rector reads the Story of John, he refers to the **General Palanca** received for the Cursillo. This is the first introduction of Palanca on the weekend. The Palanca is displayed so everyone can read. The Table Groups continue to make visits to the Blessed Sacrament.

Are there any questions about page 21?     Let's move on to page 22.

**Page 22** is about the Sacraments rollo, Lunch, the Action rollo, the Obstacles to the Life of Grace rollo, and the Leaders rollo. After the Sacraments rollo, everyone moves to the Chapel to make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament. The visit is led by the Spiritual Advisor who gave the rollo.

The Sacraments Rollo is given late in the morning just before lunch. The duration is 75 minutes. This rollo is not an in-depth study of the Sacraments but focuses on the Grace associated with each Sacrament. (Spiritual Advisor's Guide)

Are there any questions about page 22?     Let's move on to page 23.

**Page 23** is about the Rosary, the social gathering, the Reunion of the Table Groups, and the Examination of Conscience and Night Prayers. After the Rosary, everyone is asked to approach the Blessed Sacrament for a visit. The Fiesta is clarified as a Social Gathering. It is a part of brightening the atmosphere with simple impromptu jokes, games, songs, and humorous stories for relaxation.

Are there any questions about page 23?     Let's move on to page 24.

**Page 24** is about the Team Leaders Meeting.

Are there any questions on page 24?

## **Rollo 8**

### **OVERVIEW - Day #3 Sunday – Encounter with Others**

The meditations and rollos of Day #3 complete the reality of the person wanting to be fully human and fully alive through the three encounters with self, Christ and others. What happens and what is stated on Day #3 is directly related to the way the Cursillistas will spend the rest of their lives – their 4th Day.

The team prepares each new Cursillista for insertion into the world by being witnesses of Total Security: Group Reunion and Ultreya. As outlined in the Leaders attitude for Day 3, the Leaders **respond to the Cursillistas** by demonstrating through their living witness, the method of perseverance applied during the 4th Day to strengthen their Christian life. The team validates the Cursillistas' concerns and offers encouragement to begin **building the bridge** to the Postcursillo: 4th Day community.

The Mañanitas, if conducted properly, will encourage friendship and help build the bridge to the 4th Day. Mañanitas have been lived in Mallorca over 50 years and are part of the Rector's Guide. In the morning of Day #3, the Ultreya community awakens the Cursillistas with a song or two. This is a visible example of palanca, love and witness. This 4th Day support for the Cursillo Weekend is a tangible sign that people are praying and sacrificing for the Cursillistas. The Mañanitas needs to be kept brief, 5 to 10 minutes - so it does not interfere with all that is presented on this day.

Day #3 continues with the theme of keeping the Cursillo simple and focused on friendship with the Cursillistas. The team emphasizes that all the rollos and meditations are genuine and honest witnesses of what is lived. The team gives witness that it is possible to live what is fundamental to being Christian during the 4th Day.

In the meditation, "Christ's Message to the Cursillista", Jesus addresses the Cursillistas as individual persons and invites them to proclaim the Gospel in their environments (their square meter). This meditation is a challenge to do great things. The Study of the Environment rollo establishes in each person the idea of a living and working Christianity. We cannot take on the whole world, but we can introduce Christ in our parts of the world through our personal witness and ongoing conversion. The purpose is not to judge but to determine how to approach others with the Good News that God loves them. Eduardo Bonnín says that "if we understand the Study of the Environment Rollo, then we understand the whole of Cursillo."

Service sheets are handed out prior to the Life in Grace Rollo so the new cursillistas can make a commitment to continue the conversion process after the Cursillo. Life in Grace is the final spiritual rollo intended to give the Cursillistas a practical program for spiritual growth using the Service Sheet. The emphasis is on prayer (personal, liturgical and group). The Christianity in Action rollo tells about a group of grace-filled Christians who journey together in a way that makes it possible for each to live and spread the Gospel to the world. This lays the foundation for the Total Security Rollo.

The Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo Rollo demonstrates, through a living witness of piety, study, and action, how all of life is a perennial Cursillo. This rollo sums up the Cursillo message and points the way ahead. Total Security covers in detail the way each person can continue what they have experienced on the Cursillo.

The key method by which the conversion process can grow, deepen, and progress for the rest of their lives is through Group Reunion and Ultreya. The team explains the reality that the Cursillistas have already been living Group Reunion and Ultreya during the Cursillo Weekend.

The Clausura [Closing] is simple but profound. It is to communicate through personal witness, that Cursillo can be perennial when we share our Christian lives in Group Reunion and Ultreya. Clausura is a witness confirming that what was heard during the Cursillo is possible during the 4th Day.

## **Rollo 9**

### **Sunday Page-by-Page Review: Pages 25-29**

#### **Sunday – Third Day of the Cursillo**

**Page 25** The beginning of the last day of the Cursillo is about the **Mañanitas, Appendix 13**. The following explanation is derived from a presentation made by Cef Aguillon to the National Secretariat in 2017. The information is from a video of Eduardo Bonnín talking with the National Staff members in Mallorca. Eduardo provides a clarification for inclusion of the Mañanitas [morning serenade] in Cursillo. The Mañanitas have been part of Cursillo in Mallorca for 50 years.

“The Mañanitas is a tangible sign that the Palanca the Cursillistas have been hearing about, really is happening; that people are praying and sacrificing for them. The Cursillistas are impressed that the 4th Day community is concerned about them, so this makes them feel united to them. The Mañanitas is a positive experience and the beginning of friendship between the Cursillistas and the 4th Day Cursillo community.” (Eduardo Bonnín)

The Mañanitas are followed by morning prayer, morning offering (Pilgrims Guide page 19) and the Meditation: Christ's Message to the Cursillistas. After breakfast, a Group Photo is taken. The Study of the Environment rollo follows. There are NO posters today.

Are there any questions about page 25? Let's move on to page 26.

**Page 26** The Life in Grace rollo is given. See **Appendix 14 – Service Sheet**. It includes the story of the **Elderly Man's Last Will**, which is about commitment. Mass is next, followed by lunch. After lunch the Rector explains the cost of the Cursillo, and envelopes are passed out for a voluntary donation (moment of pain talk). The Christianity in Action rollo is next.

Are there any questions about page 26? Let's move on to page 27.

**Page 27** is about the Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo and Total Security rollos. Everyone will be placed into groups to do Group Reunion after Total Security, including team and any visitors. A visitor is invited to this Group Reunion if one of the new Cursillistas is the only one from a remote area on the Cursillo weekend. And the reason is that it is important that this first experience of an actual Group Reunion be with someone who will be available to group with after the weekend and/or someone who will be a friendly face at a distant Ultreya.

Are there any questions about page 27? Let's move on to page 28.

**Page 28** is about the Rector explaining the Clausura.

Are there any questions about page 28? Let's move on to page 29.

**Page 29** This is the time of Clausura per the schedule provided. Make sure you read **Appendix 15 – The Clausura**. Before leaving the weekend, the team gives thanks before the Blessed Sacrament.

Are there any questions about page 29?

## **Rollo 10**

### **The Job Ahead (Rollo #10)**

**Background Information:** This page contains information on 'how' the Rector's Guide: A Step-by-Step Guide for the Cursillo Weekend was introduced in the United States Cursillo Movement.

#### Details of the Rector's Guide Introduction

This is a summary of how the Rector's Guide: A Step-by-Step Guide to the Cursillo Weekend was introduced in the United States Cursillo Movement. The National Secretariat believes that the legacy and gift from our Founder, Eduardo Bonnín to the US Cursillo Movement is very important and deserves all our attention and a thorough study so that Cursillistas understand, live and share its message.

*"I sincerely believe that one of the greatest assets that I possess is the knowledge of what the true Cursillos in Christianity consist of, as well as the Movement generated by them. And I know by proven experience that when each piece that makes up the Precursillo, Three-Day Cursillo and Postcursillo fulfill their purpose, it responds like clockwork precision to its aim, which is nothing more than to try to have the Good News of the Gospel reach as many people as possible, and preferably those furthest away [the faraway]." (My Spiritual Testament, Eduardo Bonnín, p.19)*

#### November 2016

The National Secretariat commissioned Rector's Guide Language Committees represented by English, Filipino, Spanish and Vietnamese to review the Rector's Guide and Appendices **to understand the 'why' of each element**. The committees met on a monthly basis via conference calls and during Regional and National Encounters.

#### November 2016 to July 2018

All Language Committees conducted a thorough study and review of the Rector's Guide and Appendices. Leaders from Mallorca were consulted as needed on certain sections of the Rector's Guide.

#### July 2018

Study and review of the Rector's Guide is complete.

The Rector's Guide Committee members met with 2 Cursillo leaders from Canada - Marg Weber, in July 2017, and Sheila Winston in August 2018 - to listen to their personal experience of using the Rector's Guide on their Cursillo Weekends. The reports were enthusiastic and positive.

#### November 2018

The Rector's Guide Committee members provided a one-day Introductory Rector's Guide workshop in Scranton, PA for all the National Secretariat members, Staff members, and National Spiritual Advisors. This workshop prepared the Regional Coordinators to offer the same workshop at the Regional level.

## **THE JOB AHEAD – going forward with the Rector's Guide**

### January 2019

The National Secretariat sent a Memo to all Diocesan Secretariats and Schools of Leaders regarding the introduction to the Rector's Guide and announcing plans to provide a workshop at the Regional level. The Memo from the National Secretariat clearly stated: "We recognize it will take time to study the Rector's Guide; therefore, it is not expected that dioceses begin using the guide for their Cursillo Weekends until the Cursillo leaders have attended a workshop and feel prepared to implement the Guide in future Cursillo Weekends."

### Spring 2019

All Language Regional Coordinators and Service Teams provided a one-day workshop on the Rector's Guide: A Step by Step Guide to the Cursillo Weekend at the Regional Encounter. All Diocesan Secretariat members and School of Leaders members were encouraged to attend the workshop. Cursillistas were provided with a 'pdf' digital copy of the Rector's Guide and Appendices via email, prior to the workshop. Participants were asked to review the material in preparation for the workshop.

The expectation was for the Diocesan Secretariats to provide a one-day Rector's Guide workshop for the School of Leaders and other Cursillistas who may be interested beginning in June 2019.

### Resource Information

Additional resource information for the Rector's Guide is available to assist in the study such as:

1. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
2. Reference Guide (similar to FAQ, includes book references)
3. Comparison Chart of the Cursillo Manual © 2006 to Rector's Guide (Excel File)

In addition to the above resource materials, The Regional Coordinator, Service Team, and the Rector's Guide workshop team members are available to answer questions that may come up in the future.

### In Conclusion

It was with much prayer, study, and deep reflection that Eduardo Bonnín came up with the structure of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement and set it in motion in 1944. Likewise, we are called to pray, to study, and to reflect on the gift of the Rector's Guide to set it in motion.

Since this has been a workshop to introduce you to the Rector's Guide, further study and dialogue will be necessary so that the Cursillo leaders in your diocese can continue to reflect on all aspects until they feel comfortable and ready to implement the Rector's Guide in their Cursillo Weekends.

### Reflection on the Importance of the Holy Spirit (John 14:21-26)

Jesus said to his Apostles: "I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you."

During his public ministry, Jesus taught his disciples quite a lot about his heavenly Father and about the kind of life he wants us to live. But he didn't expect them to understand it all at once – nor does he expect that we do either. He knows it's a life's work. And that's why the Holy Spirit

is so important. He comes to us to help us remember all that Jesus taught and to guide us into a life that is most pleasing to the Lord.

Remember how long ago you lived your Cursillo Weekend and how much information you heard in 3 days? The Rector(a) and Team did not expect you to understand and remember it all. It was about our openness to Grace and discovery of God's love for us. After your Cursillo Weekend, the Holy Spirit has come to remind you of what you were told. The same applies to this workshop. It is about our openness and desire to go deeper. The Holy Spirit will come to remind you of what you were told in this Rector's Guide workshop! Trust Him!

**De Colores!**