

Counting On You

The Official Publication for the Episcopal Cursillo® Movement of the Diocese of Southeast Florida. Published Bi-monthly.

Men's Weekend gave rest to overburdened men

Vasco Coombs was the faithful Rector of EMC #88 held from July 14 to 17, 2011. "Come unto me ye who are weary and overburdened and I will give you rest."



National Cursillo event

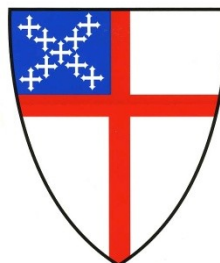
The Diocese of S.E. Florida has been selected to host the January 18-22, 2012 National Episcopal Cursillo Committee, and we will have the opportunity to share our South Florida hospitality with approximately 20 committee members from all over the country. Ginny Foot has been asked to serve as the local coordinator.

Two events have already been scheduled: Friday evening, January 20th, St. Paul's will host the NECC and their host families for dinner. Saturday evening, the 21st, St. Gregory's will host a pot-luck supper and Ultreya for all.

Mission Statement



The Episcopal Cursillo® of Southeast Florida, holds weekends that support the diocese in realizing its mission, by raising up leaders for the parishes, missions, diocese and the Wider Church.



It's Hurricane Season...



One of the realities of living in South Florida is that sooner or later we have to experience a hurricane coming our way. Recently Hurricane Irene moved further to the east, sparing our

area—but of course that meant that someone else was bound to receive the impact of strong wind and rain.

Some of my readers probably experienced Hurricane Andrew. In my case, while I was a missionary in Central America I lived through the horrible destruction of Hurricane Mitch, which had such a devastating impact throughout Honduras. That was one of the darkest moments of my life.

I pray we will be spared the force of a hurricane this year in South Florida, but there are no guarantees for that. Living in South Florida means that we will experience hurricanes, like it or not. One thing that we can do is to prepare ourselves, to make sure we've taken the necessary precautions to withstand that destructive force of nature coming our way, as well as to provide for our basic needs in the immediate aftermath of a storm. That's the wise, responsible way, but unfortunately not everybody is so prudent.

The same applies to the "hurricanes of life" that are bound to take place in our lives. Unfortunately the hurricane season for that kind of turmoil is year-round; these storms can arrive when we least expect them. As a clergyman, I have witnessed many times the sadness and

grief caused by these hurricanes of life.

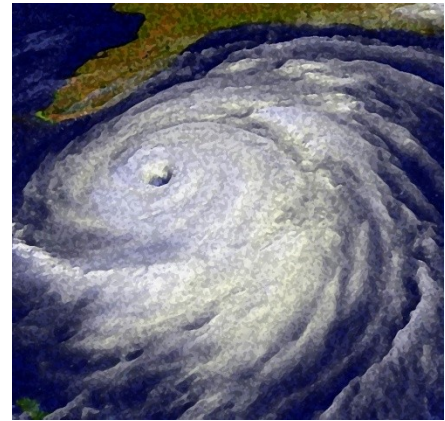
What's so amazing is that many of us who might be well prepared for each year's tropical cyclones still tend to be unprepared for life's other hurricanes. We seem to expect that life will always be full of blessings, with only positive things happening, health and fortune coming our way at all times. But we know it is unreasonable, even foolish to expect that. The older we are, the more we know we will experience those dark days of life.

I invite you as Christians and Cursillistas to be prepared for whatever may come our way. "We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us," but to be prepared and to help others prepare is the order of the day—that is our Apostolic Action. We need to be ready to face not only the hurricanes of nature, but also the hurricanes of life. Christ will indeed be there with us when the hard times come—but don't wait to start looking for the Lord's help till after those hurricanes come your way! I can guarantee you that you will fare much better if you're prepared—not just with water, canned goods and batteries, but with the "whole armor of God"—to face any "valleys of the shadow of death" that may come.

Be prepared and help others prepare; hurricane season is here.

+Leo Frade

Bishop of Southeast Florida
Men's Cursillo 7



From the Diocesan Spiritual Director



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

September is always a special month for me because it is the anniversary of my Cursillo weekend. I went to Cursillo the last weekend in September,

1978. It has been 33 years this year and I still remember it like it was yesterday. One of the reasons that is true is because it was one of the most rewarding things I have ever done in my life. But, another reason this is true is because most of those 33 years I have been in a reunion group.

When I first came back from Cursillo one of the experienced Cursillistas from my parish took me under his wing and shepherded me. We began to group the week after I went to Cursillo and we continued for the next 20 years. The group fluctuated over the years. Sometimes there were as many as five of us and sometimes it was just the two of us, but we were always faithful to the program. When time finally took its toll on that group I found another group and then another.

Honestly, there have been some periods when I was out of a group for a while, but during those times I always knew that something was missing from my spiritual life. Then I would begin to pray and God would lead me to a new group.

Three years ago I was grouping with another fellow, but I wasn't getting much out of it. He was a great guy and a strong Christian, but all he wanted to do was

share, he wasn't interested in using the reunion card. I knew from experience that was not giving me the accountability I needed. For me, a successful group has to use the card. EMC #85 was that year and I had two candidates that I had sponsored. As I was praying about findings these brothers a group, the Lord spoke to me clearly and said: "Why don't you group with them?" So that's what I did.

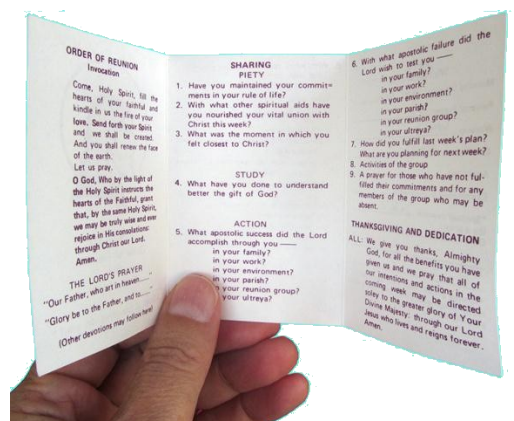
When we had been grouping about a year, another man from our church was called to be on a team, but he wasn't grouping. He called me and asked, "Are you guys still grouping on Thursday night?" I told him we were. He said, "Alright, I'll be there." And he was. The team has long since come and gone, but he is still a faithful member of our group.

I meet with these brothers every Thursday afternoon at 5:30 p.m. and it has to be something really important for me to miss it. My reunion group is an important part of my spiritual life. It gives me the opportunity to be accountable for my piety, study, and action. It is a safe environment where I can share my joys and triumphs as well as my sorrows and defeats. I need the strength and encouragement I draw from my brothers in Christ.

Cursillo is a great experience, but the only way to keep it going and to make it the truly life-changing experience that it can be is to faithfully live out the Group Reunion part of the program.

Jesus loves you and so do I . . .

Deacon Bob Sullivan



From the Desk of our Lay Director



I am writing this to you on Labor Day—a day when we prepare for the start of all of our fall activities. I pray that you have had a refreshing and blessed summer with time to spend with family and friends and are now ready for all the start up activities that come with the fall.

The Secretariat and their committees and volunteers have been very busy. In July we had Men's EMC #88 Weekend with Vasco Coombs as the Rector which was a very spiritual weekend and a great success. More recently, the focus has been on the preparation for the EHLWC #106 (Episcopal Hispanic Latino Women's Cursillo) which is scheduled for this month. Fr. Addison, Pam Anderson, Brenda McGintis and Sherry Fleming have been working with Noelis Rodriguez (Rector) and Myriam Colon (Observing Rector) in the planning and coordinating to make this a reality. Thank you to all involved for the commitment and perseverance to help to realize this dream.

During the Labor Day weekend, firefighters were out collecting money for their chosen charity—MD. During these difficult times, many groups are relying heavily on charitable gifts to keep their organizations afloat. The Cursillo Secretariat is very grateful to our Diocese for their annual contribution and support of our activities. We are also grateful to the Duncan Center which continues to support our Weekends with rates and sponsorship that assist us to control costs. The costs of the weekends do exceed the

money received from Pilgrims and Team. We have recently been examining each of our costs in order to control expenses. Despite all of that, we are seriously in need of your support for our Cursillo Movement. During each weekend, we ask for green Palanca and we thank each person who has contributed. For anyone who donates by check for \$25 or more, we will be sending you a letter which can be used for a tax deduction acknowledging your donation.

So my plea today is to ask you to contribute as you are able during weekends or by mailing a check to Valerie Belben, Treasurer (address follows). Each donation, no matter the size will be gratefully received. If each Cursillista donated even a small amount, our problem would be resolved. Since all cannot, I ask those who are able, to support the Cursillo Movement at this crucial time and I thank you in advance for your continued support.

I feel we are very blessed in our Diocese to have such an active Cursillo Movement and I thank you for your assistance to help us to nurture the Spiritual growth of new pilgrims and grow Christian Leaders.

Barbara MacKenzie

“The costs of the weekends do exceed the money received from Pilgrims and Team . . . we are seriously in need of your support.”

Cursillo Calendar 2011

Sept. 15 - 18	EWC #106 Spanish	Duncan Center – Noelis Rodriguez, Rector
Sept. 18	Secretariat Meeting	2 pm – Stahl Bldg, Duncan Center
Oct. 29	Diocesan Ultreya	South Sector
Oct. 27 - 30	NECC Conference	Phoenix, Arizona
Nov. 5	Secretariat Meeting	10 am

2012 Dates

January 18-20	National Episcopal Cursillo Conference	
May 3 - 6	EWC #107	
May 17 - 20	EMC #89	
Sept. 28 - 30	Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop	Duncan Center

Northern Ultreya

October 8, 2011

Holy Spirit, West Palm Beach.
Starts with a potluck at 6 p.m.



Grand Ultreya

Save the date!

October 22, 2011

Holy Sacrament Episcopal Church
2801 University Drive,
Pembroke Pines,
12 noon to 3:30 pm



Upcoming Women's Cursillo Weekend!



Episcopal Hispanic Latino
Women's Cursillo #106
September 15-18, 2011

Noelis Rodriguez
Rectora

Weekend information is provided on the following pages. Check the website for Pilgrim list and weekend logo: www.sef-cursillo.org



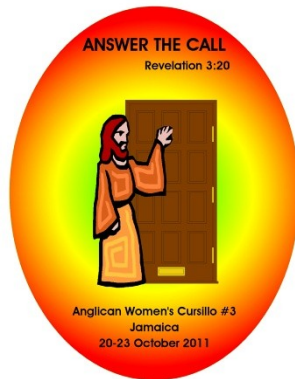
Cursillo #106

Jamaican Cursillo Weekends!

Anglican Women's Weekend #3:
October 20-23, 2011
Theme: "Answer the Call" (based on Revelation 3:20)
Rectora Sonia Reid

Palanca coordinators are Sonia M. Reid and Melrose Wiggan.

Palanca can be emailed to smreid@cwjamaica.com or mel.wiggan@hotmail.com



Anglican Men's Weekend #2
October 27 - 30, 2011
Theme: "Brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might."
Rector Deryke Smith.



Jamaican weekend logos available at www.sef-cursillo.org

Send Jamaican Cursillo Palanca packages to this address:

Rev. Michael Elliott, Anglican Cursillo Movement
Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands
Church House 2, Caledonia Ave., Kingston 5
Jamaica West Indies

Episcopal Hispanic Latino Women's Cursillo #106: Palanca Opportunities

A Request from **EHLWC #106** team members **Xiomara Roznak (General Palanca)** and **Susie Zapata (Food Palanca)** We are indeed blessed to be a part of this Team, and know the weekend will be something special with God's help! We would be very appreciative if you would keep the candidates and team in your prayers as part of your Palanca. We also encourage you to start thinking of the Palanca that your Cursillo community would like to provide for the weekend. We take this opportunity to provide a list of things we are hopeful to receive. Sincerely hope your imaginations and creativity will take over and accomplish something beautiful for your sisters.

GENERAL PALANCA

- (90) Friday night Scripture Placemats with different scripture readings for each mat
- (90) Saturday night placemats **(committed)**
- (60) Pilgrim Guide covers
- (45) Lanyard Prayer Chains **(committed)**
- (90) Book marks
- (7) Flower Bouquets

Number of Items:

- 90 - Dining room
- 42- Candidates Pillow Palanca
- 90 - Candidate / Team Pillow Palanca
- 60 -Rollo Room

Please remember to include a 3" x 5" index card with a description of the Palanca at the top, how many, whether for pillow Palanca, dining room, etc. Any message to be read and the name of the Church Reunion Group/person giving the Palanca. The logo for the weekend is available on the website at <http://www.sef-cursillo.org> and can be downloaded.



FOOD PALANCA

Snacks to serve outside during breaks:

- Apples / Cheese Sticks /
- Grapes / Ripe Bananas
- Dried Fruit /Trail Mix etc.

SNACKS FOR THE ROLLO ROOM

- 100 Calorie Snack
- Packs
- Granola bars
- Pretzels
- Nuts
- Mints
- Mini candy bars
- Candies - individually packaged if possible
- Chewing gum

DESSERTS

Parish Rep. or particular parish provide dessert for a specific meal.

Friday – lunch and dinner

Saturday – lunch and dinner (we would greatly appreciate the delicious rainbow jello for Saturday night's dinner)

Sunday - lunch

DRINKS

Gallon jugs of water and 2-liter bottles of soda. We would appreciate no individual bottles/cans so as to be better stewards of the environment. Thanks!

Wine for Saturday night dinner—red and white. Sparkling water for those who do not drink alcohol.

Thank you so much (in advance) for all your help! Please e-mail us when you know what donations your Parish family or reunion groups will be offering for the weekend.

General Palanca:

Xiomara J. Roznak
786-271-0223
croznak@hotmail.com

Food Palanca:

Susie Zapata
305-494-2756
Luli0825@hotmail.com

PRAYER FOR OUR CURSILLO MOVEMENT

Dear heavenly Father, we come before you seeking guidance and wisdom as we strive to strengthen our Cursillo Movement. We ask you to bless our diversity, to bind us together by your love in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to guide our hearts in our Fourth Day and to empower us to be faithful to this ministry of servanthood.

Guide our thoughts, inhabit our hearts, give us discernment, and open our eyes to your presence Lord. We pray that in a rainbow of unity, we can use our gifts to your honor and glory. We give you thanks for all our blessings and the opportunity given to us to share in your name with love and joy. Amen.

ADDRESS CORRECTION NOTIFICATION

Let us know if someone you know has an address or name change.
This database is kept current for mailing.

Send corrections to: vascovac@bellsouth.net

Last Name _____ Old Last Name _____

First Name _____ Spouse _____

Old Address _____

New Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____



