



***DE COLORES
MAGAZINE***

BRISBANE ARCHDIOCESE

CURSILLO MOVEMENT

EASTER EDITION 2026

"If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world." – C.S. Lewis



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Wishing you all the blessings of this Easter Season.

In the few weeks since Palm Sunday we have commemorated the death of Christ, the waiting and the jubilant resurrection which followed. Easter is such a special time in our Liturgical Year and now we are still celebrating in the lead up to Pentecost. We have recently remembered members of our Armed Forces, those who served in the past, those who are currently serving and those who have lost their lives.

As I write this, we are observing Good Shepherd Sunday – a time for praying that people will commit to priesthood and religious life. Of course, this prayer is also for lay leaders who will take up ministries in our Parishes and spaces to where God is calling us to spread the Kingdom. For us as Cursillistas, that is in our environments, both religious and secular. In a few weeks we will be celebrating again with the feast of Mary, Help of Christians.

In January we held a very successful live-out Cursillo 3 days and thankfully all of the new Cursillistas are either grouping or staying in touch. This is a real blessing. Our intention is to focus on people who have completed the RCIA programme and invite them along to our next weekend. It is vital that they can share the ongoing support and growth in faith that they received during their 3 days. As usual, anyone invited will be able to attend however the value of targeting a focus group is the potential for forming groups locally without the need for travelling distances.

School of Leaders (SOL) is an arm of the Movement that imparts knowledge about Cursillo and deals with the practical details of running and maintaining such a Movement. This meeting happens once a month before our Ultreya. SOL usually begins at 12 noon then Ultreya follows at 2pm. These are held on the third Saturday of each month. If you wish to attend as a visitor that is fine, but we would really appreciate it if a couple of you could make this a regular commitment.

I hope you each enjoy these special celebrations I have mentioned and no doubt there will be others happening in our faith lives, our family lives and our respective environments. Be joy-filled Christians and like the apostles on the road to Emmaus, remain open to Christ, so that you recognise and give thanks to God in all seasons and all places.

Once again, remember Friday is Palanca day. Let's all make a concerted effort to pray for our Movement locally, nationally and internationally. God is still counting on you, and me, and each of us to live the Gospel and build God's Kingdom in our world.

DE COLORES,
Rosemary Haydock



PRAYER

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.*

A Reflection from Michael Golden

The Passion of Jesus is not only something we remember during Holy Week—it is something we are invited to live, in our own way, every day. In the story of Christ’s suffering, death, and resurrection, we see the deepest expression of love: a love that gives everything, holds nothing back, and trusts completely in the Father.

For us on the Cursillo journey, the Passion is not distant history. It is a living pathway that helps us understand our own walk with Christ.

When we look at the Agony in the Garden, we see Jesus facing fear, uncertainty, and suffering. He does not run from it. Instead, He brings it to His Father in prayer. How often do we find ourselves in that same place—facing challenges, worries, or decisions? Like Jesus, we are invited to pause, to pray, and to say, “Your will be done.” In Cursillo, our piety is not about perfection—it is about relationship. It is about turning to God honestly, just as Jesus did.

As Jesus carries His cross, we see a powerful image of perseverance. He falls, He struggles, yet He continues. Along the way, others step in—Simon helps carry the cross, Veronica offers compassion. This reflects our own Cursillo community. We are never meant to walk alone. Through our Group Reunions and Ultreyas, we support one another, helping to carry each other’s burdens. At times we are the ones in need; at other times, we are called to step in and help.

At the foot of the Cross, we witness what seems like failure, loss, and darkness. Yet this is not the end. The Cross becomes the place of transformation. In our own lives, there are moments when things don’t go as planned, when we feel lost or discouraged. The Passion reminds us that God is still at work, even in those moments. What appears to be an ending may, in fact, be the beginning of something new.

And then comes the Resurrection—the promise that love is stronger than death, that hope is never lost. This is at the heart of our Cursillo message. We are people of the Resurrection, called to bring Christ’s light into our environments. Our Fourth Day is about living this reality—carrying the joy, hope, and love of Christ into our families, workplaces, and communities.

The Passion teaches us that the Christian journey is not always easy, but it is always meaningful. It calls us to trust, to persevere, and to love generously. In Cursillo, we are reminded that we do not walk this path alone. Christ walks with us, and we walk with one another.

As we reflect on the Passion, we might ask ourselves:

Where is God inviting me to trust Him more?

Who is helping me carry my cross—and who might I be called to help?

How can I bring the hope of the Resurrection into my everyday life?

The answer to these questions is not something we find all at once. It unfolds slowly, through prayer, friendship, and community. That is the beauty of the Cursillo journey—it helps us to see that our lives, with all their joys and struggles, are part of a much greater story: the story of Christ’s love lived out in us.

De Colores.

What prayers are heard by God?

There is often a temptation to pray in a particular way for our prayers to be heard by God. This can cause us to put more effort into our time of worship, looking for the right words, the right actions and the right intention if it is to be "successful". The aim is simple: I need to receive from God the effort I put in. Yet often our prayers focus on who we think we should be rather than who we are. God listens to the heartfelt prayer that simply meets us in our poverty, neediness and dependence.

This is evident in the parable about the Pharisee and the publican. This is not just by an exterior display of piety but an inward conversion of heart. This involves a surrender of our whole self to God, recognising our deepest longing and our utter dependence on God. We see it too in the reading from Ecclesiasticus, where it is in allowing our story to be heard that our hearts may be read. This listening heart of God is like an arrow that pierces the clouds with a pure intent. God listens to what is most heartfelt.

This is the race we are called to be part of, seeking God daily. This is a perseverance that sees our effort in prayer as an encounter with God standing by us in power. This is not just focusing on myself, but seeking God who runs with us in the race of life. Stay in the race and pray as you can.

¡DE COLORES!

Fr. John Armstrong

National Cursillo Spiritual Advisor

Psalm 23 – David’s Prayer for Comfort, Peace, and Trust

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (verses 4–6)

Paul’s Prayer for a Deeper Experience of the Gospel

I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might. (verses 16–19)

Thoughts from Fr Adrian Farrelly

The 8th Day

Michael Golden invited us to the April Ultreya by reminding us that Ultreya is a special time for us to come together, share our journeys, and support one another in living out our Fourth Day. These gatherings gently remind us that we are not walking this path alone – our community is a true source of strength, encouragement, and joy.

While Cursillistas embrace the 4th day, the early Christians spoke of living the 8th day. It was the 8th day after the resurrection that Jesus again appeared to the disciples but this time with Thomas present who made the first profound recognition of who Jesus was declaring him “my Lord and my God”.

Sunday is the 1st day of the week and adopted by the followers of the way as the day to gather, enjoy each other’s company, pray and break bread. The day of Jesus resurrection was indeed the 1st day, the day of creation. Now, the divine reality was present in a new way.

The 8th day was the 1st day of the next week and so the followers of Jesus’ way would live each following day alive to the presence of the risen one loving God, neighbour and self with all their heart, soul and mind.

Our piety, study and action are the three supports that keep our commitment to the great commandment alive and active.

Fr Adrian

De Colores



Loving Father, bless our families with peace today. Bless them not just with worldly favour in all they seek to accomplish but with hearts and minds filled with your loving kindness. Protect them and guide them in all decisions they make.

Grow in awareness

We live in a world that is hungry for signs, scientific proof and black-and-white certainty. Like those who sought after Jesus, we often ask to be ‘shown something certain’, but Jesus gently reminds us that the sign has already been given. Just as Elijah discovered in his encounter on Mount Sinai, God’s signs are not in the wind, earthquake or fire, but in the quiet mystery of his presence among us. It’s easy to be distracted with scanning the sky for miracles and miss the sacred right in front of us; a kind word, a moment of silence or resilience in times of adversity. We are called to awaken to a greater mystery that is deeper and more enduring than our own limited understanding. The invitation is to grow in awareness, not chase signs, because God is here, now.

Pope Leo XIV (born Robert Francis Prevost, 14 September, 1955)



He is the head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of Vatican City since May 2025. He is the first pope to have been born in the United States, the first to hold U.S. and Peruvian Citizenship, the first from the Order of Saint Augustine, and the second (after his immediate predecessor) Pope Francis from the Americas.

He was born in Chicago and raised in the neighbouring town of Dolton, Illinois. He became a friar in the Order of Saint Augustine in 1977 and was ordained as a priest in 1982. He earned a Doctor of Canon Law (JCD) degree in 1987 from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. His service includes extensive missionary work in Peru in the 1980s and 1990s, during which he worked as a parish priest, diocesan official, seminary teacher, and administrator. Elected prior general of the Order of Saint Augustine, he was based in Rome from 2001 to 2013, and travelled extensively as part of this work, including to the order's many provinces and missions around the world. He then returned to Peru as Bishop of Chiclayo from 2015 to 2023. In 2023, Pope Francis appointed him prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops in Rome, and president of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America. Upon his return to Rome, he was made a cardinal.

As Cardinal, Prevost emphasized synodality, missionary dialogue, and engagement with social and technological challenges. He has also addressed issues such as climate change, international migration, church governance, and human rights, and expressed alignment with the reforms of the Second Vatican Council and the direction set for the Church by Francis. Prevost's election in the 2025 conclave was unexpected by observers; he was a dark horse candidate, with Vatican insiders believing the prospect of a pope from the United States to be unrealistic given its status as a superpower. In honour of Pope Leo XIII, who developed modern Catholic social teaching amid the tumult of the Second Industrial Revolution, Prevost chose the papal name Leo XIV—both to echo Leo XIII's concern for workers and fairness, and as a response to the challenges of a new industrial revolution and artificial intelligence.

As pope, Leo has consistently opposed armed conflict and nationalism while advocating for the rights of immigrants. He has introduced new warnings about the use of artificial intelligence technology. Leo has affirmed the teachings of his predecessors, including social teachings and the climate policy of Pope Francis. He has consistently pointed to the teachings of the Second Vatican Council as the "guiding star" of the Church

Prayer is spiritual communication between man and God, a two-way relationship in which man should not only talk to God but also listen to Him. Prayer to God is like a child's conversation with his father. It is natural for a child to ask his father for the things he needs.

There are many promises in God's Word to encourage us to pray, such as: "He shall call upon me and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him" (Psalm 91:15); "And it shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear" (Isaiah 65:24); "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7). The Scriptures tell us that we are to pray for one another and also assure us that God hears and answers prayer.

Thoughts from Margaret Morris

At the National Cursillo Encounter late 2025, I was privileged to give the opening talk following Bishop Brian Mascord's inspirational homily in which he said *'It is our task: to be proclaimers of the Good News, not just in words but in the witness of our lives. The Cursillo movement equips laypeople to do exactly this—to live their faith actively and joyfully, to be salt and light in the world.'*



My talk was on Eduardo Bonnin and the Foundational Charism, and I spoke of how I got to know Eduardo, a layman and his thinking, from the very many books of his I had read.

In the small book, **Keeping it Simple**, which every new Cursillistas is given to take home with them following their three days, it gives some idea of how and why the Cursillo Movement began.

Eduardo's concern was he wanted to find paths that were outside of the ordinary apostolic Church structure to bring the Good News of God's love to all.

He realized the only method that could cause a hunger for God was through friendship, through the unique and continuing method of supporting those who had been attracted to Christ (Group Reunion & Ultreya) to help people grow in their conversion where they live, in the normality of their lives, their home, family and friends, work place and their social clubs.

This evangelisation method of Friendship is unique and is the Charism of Cursillo. It is up to us to *'pay it forward.'*

As someone who had gone on my three days in 1976 with not the best of attitudes, I can say I was not receptive to the message being given. However, the Lord began stirrings in me and within a very short time I was Grouping and attending Ultreya, and I have done ever since.

The more I learned about the Cursillo Movement, the more I was determined to keep learning and keep *paying it forward*, so that this Movement in its uniqueness, would continue to go forward, and so that many others like me, a convert and a farmer's wife, would have the opportunity to understand how to live the Gospel, which is what Eduardo's writings are all about.

In 2016 the Bishop of Mallorca declared Eduardo a Servant of God, and his cause for sainthood began. FEBA, (Federation Eduardo Bonnin Aguila) in Mallorca Spain, has the task of digitizing Eduardo's many handwritten documents, cards and letters which must all be scrutinized by the 'Devil's Advocate', appointed by the Vatican in Rome, to search every document for any discrepancies, trying to prove that Eduardo didn't live a life of holiness in every part of his life, all of his life.

I am contacted regularly by FEBA with short extracts from some of Eduardo's writings and from this Easter issue of De Colores they will be include to encourage your reflection on the movement.

Our School of Leaders is another place we gather, to continue to study the Movement through the writings of Eduardo and others, so that together we can listen to what the Lord is asking of us and 'pay it forward'. We encourage you to join us

De Colores! Marg Morris

The Cursillo Movement was not born as an answer from the Church to the world, but as one way to communicate to the person that God loves them.

LEADERS, in the broadest sense, they are not the ones who give talks at Cursillos; they are not those who lead the Cursillos Movement; they are those who lead themselves by placing Christ at the center of their lives, those who make Christ the reference point for their attitudes; those who choose Christ based on the criterion of love, understood as a self-giving that sets us free.

Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló."

De Colores!

#FEBA

DATES FOR OUR LEADERS SCHOOL MEETIG FOR THR RESTOF THE YEAR – 2026

ALL CURSILLASTAS ARE WELCOME

Date	SOL	Ultreya venue
16-May	SOL in person on 16/5/26 at Woody Point from noon	2pm Woody Point
15-Jun	Zoom SOL Monday 15/6/26 - 7:00 pm	
18-Jul	in person SOL on 18/7/26 at Stafford from noon	2pm Stafford
15-Aug	SOL in person at Woody Point from noon	2pm Woody Point
14-Sep	Zoom SOL Monday 14/9/26 - 7:00 pm	
17-Oct	in person SOL on 17/10/26 at Stafford from noon	2pm Stafford
21-Nov	in person SOL on 21/11/26 at Woody Point from noon	2pm Woody Point
? December	? Annual Mass	TBA

MAY – ULTREYA

You are invited to our **Cursillo Ultreya**:

**It will be held on Saturday, 16TH May 2026
commencing at 2.00pm.**

at

Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church

Cnr King St & Victoria Ave Woody Point

This will be an **Ultreya** where we'll celebrate the joy of our faith and show that
fun is all part of our Cursillo Journey!

Come along for an afternoon filled with **friendship, music, and laughter**

don't forget

bring a friend!

They'll be made most welcome

Everyone is very welcome and we look forward to seeing you there

School of Leaders:

*The next School of Leaders meeting will be held on Saturday, 16th May 2026 commencing
at 12.00noon, at Mary Queen of Peace Church, Cnr King St & Victoria Ave,
Woody Point.*

All Cursillistas are most welcome

PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR RECOVERING

Please continue to pray for all those people who are sick or recovering. We also pray for our own family and friends suffering illness and difficulties in life at this time.

PRAYERS ARE ALSO ASKED FOR THE DECEASED

Please pray for those Cursillistas who have died since our last newsletter. Also, please pray for their families.

In God we trust



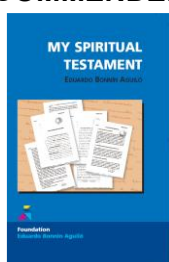
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC CURSILLO MOVEMENT

BOOKS & OTHER RESOURCES

This will be an on-going feature available for readers of the De Colores Magazine/Newsletter. It will provide information to all Cursillistas about what resources are available about the Cursillo Movement and some other items that are available which relate to Cursillo.

In this Edition: - Below are some of the Books about the history of Cursillo available for Purchase:

RECOMMENDED READING



MY SPIRITUAL TESTAMENT by Eduardo Bonnín

(Published by Feba - Australian edition)

- Living water that flows from the Charism
- Easy reading
- Encouraging & inspiring

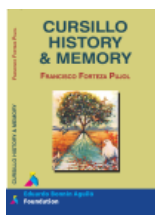
Price: \$10.00



THE CHARISM

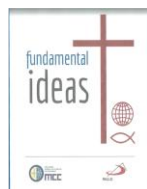
A Study of the Founder Eduardo Bonnín's writings
(Australian Edition)

Price: \$5.00



CURSILLO HISTORY & MEMORY (American edition) depicts one of the most unique and yet most unknown events in our recent history: The development of the Cursillo in Christianity Movement. Written by Francisco Forteza who co-authored Structure of Ideas, The Manifesto, and others with Eduardo. This is a 'must read'.

Price: \$14.00



FUNDAMENTAL IDEAS OF THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT

(2017 Australian edition) Eight years in the making, this book seeks to capture what identifies and unites Cursillistas in a unique Movement in the world.

To purchase one of the books shown click on the link below. It will take you to the National Cursillo Website where you can place an order

<http://cursillo.asn.au/resources/>
