



The Cursillo Movement of the Archdiocese of Toronto

The Fourth Day Newsletter

November 2011

“Make a friend, Be a friend, Bring that friend into friendship with Christ”

Spiritual Director’s Message

My Pilgrimage to Medugorje

Invited to accompany a group of pilgrims as spiritual director to the famous town in Croatia, I discerned that I needed the grace. So, I accepted the offer.

Upon arriving in St. James' Parish or Medugorje, one begins to meet other pilgrims who travel to this Catholic community annually to be newly refreshed and motivated by the messages and their effects. 2011 is the thirtieth anniversary of continuing messages from Our Lady of Medugorje to six adolescents who are now adults, some of whom have now emigrated elsewhere, and are married with children.

While Lourdes focuses on the grace of healing and Fatima on Our Lady's peace plan, Medugorje centers on the grace of conversion. Our Lady of Medugorje calls her children to pray and decide for Christ and the way that He has patterned for us.

What is interesting to me is that Our lady does not refer to the thousands of pilgrims who flow to and from the town. Rather, her focus is on the parish of St. James, the home parish of the six visionaries. She challenges them to choose deeper prayer, fasting and conversion as individuals and as a parish in order to become more holy and effective witness to the gospel. The plan is working.

This reminds me of our charism to evangelize others through our own progressive conversion.

De Colores,

Fr. Terry McKenna
Spiritual Director

From Your Lay Director

My memory of Ernest Cuthbert King

I write to share my experience and relationship with Ernie with his family, Cursillo brothers, sisters and friends.

I thank and praise God who blessed us in that we were part of Ernie's life. My fond memories of him, the privilege of knowing him, admiring him and loving him, help us to forgive ourselves for the times, and there were many, when we really irritated him, and he us. Ernie was not shy about letting us know we were not focused enough on Jesus and Mary.

Ernie and I are so different in personality, almost an odd couple that clashes were inevitable and frequent, yet few knew this. Ernie needed to think and consult and I wanted to start now but we were agreed that we were working for the same Lord so there was always deep friendship in Jesus. Thus he would call again to discuss what should be his approach to an apologetics session after praying about it and after discussing it with Janet.

I truly admired his deep conviction when I agreed but when we disagreed I wish I had my dental instruments because that was the only way to extract anything out of Ernie. Most times I settled for cosmetic surgery as I came to realize he was right. I in turn began to consult him on my areas of concern. Vintage Ernie, he was not always a diplomat, but I could rely on him for the truth.

His name could have been Ernest METICULOUS King. The bible study tables and chairs continue to obey the Ernie plating design. His excellent listening skills and minute attention to details drove many to ask me why he was like that. I felt privileged to be asked. I explained that because of this trait as a practicing engineer, bridges do not collapse. This satisfied most.

Ernie and I complimented each in God's work, he a micro planner and I a macro planner. We seldom however paid compliments to each other; rather we concentrated on how the next apologetics session could be better.

Janet and Ernie shared many meals with Shanti and me. Janet would dish out his meal and he would say, 'Jan so much'. Then he added, ' Boy this has pepper', closely followed by profuse sweating on the forehead and hair deprived areas on his head and sound of hissing as he tried to soothe his lips. This routine was soon followed by, 'Jan can you get me some more '. Janet is really an angel. She smiled and refilled.

Carol brought me to bible class and Ernie kept me there. He tolerated my offensive questions when I first joined bible class full of venom, ignorance and fear. His patience and good example helped me to gradually accept the word of God after some years. The first Sunday Shanti and I

attended mass at St Bernadette, Ernie came and introduced himself and Janet and Nicola, Denise, Vanessa and Jessica to us -- what a beautiful holy family. I wanted this.

People will talk. Some said I was Ernie's right hand man. Well what I know is his most precious gift to me was the Cursillo. After four years of loving and very caring friendship grace flowed and I accepted, and my life has been changed forever. My conversion to a life with, for and in Christ began in 2006. Jesus is the glue that held Ernie and I together despite our obvious differences. I never grouped with Ernie until about two years ago. I knew we were so different.

In our Group Reunions I saw the deeper side of Ernie. He exposed his deep love for Janet, his daughters and also for his sons-in-law. Our love for Jesus and his grace brought joy and true deep friendship, and personal sharing. Grace flowed at these group reunions. I was very much a beneficiary of his wisdom and his love for Jesus through Mary, as I experienced in Cursillo. His joy could not be contained when his daughters Nicola and Denise and his brother Dennis experienced a Cursillo weekend. Ernie struggled so much in his last days to pray in his usual morning prayer, 'God help me to help You to bring one soul one step closer to You today'. We, his Group Reunion brothers, Mike, John, Harry and I were given the privilege to comfort our comforter and pray with him especially for his family.

At Ajax hospital his main concern is that he would be strong enough to go to Lourdes. He did not want to just send people to Lourdes, he said, 'his blessed mother wanted him to take them to Lourdes'. His next concern was dying on the plane before he got to Lourdes. Lourdes is where he wanted to be. His last words at Lourdes hospital to Richard was, 'Tell Janet, I am so blessed. Pray for me'.

Since Ernie has gone home, so many good, almost mysterious blessings have been experienced that I heard some say, 'The hound of heaven on earth is now hounding for us in heaven'.

Rest in peace our good and faithful friend, father, brother, husband and teacher. Pray with us. We are praying for and to you.

Je me souviens

Gabriel

Fr. Morosco's Homily at Funeral Mass of Ernest Cuthbert King

"We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope." (1 Thess. 4:13)

Man of hope ...

Bible Study, Cursillo movement, Apologetics. He did more to bring people to Christ, even while suffering from cancer than many do who enjoy abundant resources and sound health.

Born in Granada, of St. Lucian background, and living numerous countries, including Jamaica and England before making Canada his home.

Caught up in Transcendental Meditation, through evangelical Christian he worked with... that he first rediscovered his faith and later was restored to full communion with the Catholic Church.

Three things allowed this: 1. his openness to others; 2. intense pursuit of truth, no matter where it lead him; 3. The grace of the Holy Spirit who guided Ernie home to the body of Christ.

It is a good and Christian thing to "weep with those who weep" (Rom. 12:15), That doesn't mean our hope will allow us to escape from sorrow and pain but we believe that, behind the sorrow and pain we feel, lies the reality that Ernie has achieved life's goal and is in the hands of God who is infinite mercy and love...

Monumental battle with cancer ...

"The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God"... It is a refined Wisdom revealed to believers in Christ. He was tested "like gold in the furnace". In imitation of Jesus He experienced a self-emptying these past 5+ years that crippled him with pain and at times had him longing for the rest and restoration of the Good Shepherd. But he bore it sustained by God's love and indescribable moments of grace which he shared with me on occasion. But he did not suffer alone. The body of Christ accompanied him in prayer. Ernie's daughters lived in their hearts that Marian office of solidarity with those who suffer. But no doubt, you Janet, more than anyone else, shared in his suffering as Mary did in that of her Son. As you watched him robbed of the strength he once possessed and saw him humiliated in the brokenness of his body you had to trust that God would make a way through. "In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but the righteous are at peace." (Wis 3:1-3)

Died in Lourdes where he was determined to return to. He felt our Lady was calling him there. Perhaps it was to once again experience what any pilgrim to one of the world's most famous shrines experiences, a manifestation of the catholicity of the Catholic Church. Of that unity that flows from the one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, where men and women from all over the world, speaking all the languages known to man worship in peace and harmony. It is a foretaste of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

Though a King he returns to the King of Kings, His Lord and God. He has found that pearl of great price and has surrendered everything this world has to offer for it.

It is of no small work of providence that Ernie's funeral is celebrated on the feast of the Holy Rosary and in the month of the holy rosary, that prayer which is a compendium of the Gospel.

This devotion, which focuses the mind on the mysteries of the life of Jesus, was dear to Ernie because he loved the bible which recounts for us the life and mission of Jesus the Christ. Let us take up this prayer as our own so as to internalize the life of Christ and pattern our lives according to His desire to as to be led across the valley of death and enter into the fullness of life in God.

I would like to conclude by sharing with you a prayer that I believe encapsulates the life of our brother Ernie. It did not originate in any book but was composed by Ernie, springing from his heart's profound communion with God. May it now be answered in our hearing:
 "Lord, help me today, to help bring one soul, one step closer to you".

General Information

Secretariat Meetings	Fourth Tuesday of each month @ 7:00pm. All Cursillistas are welcomed to attend. Meetings are conducted over Internet conferencing using Skype. Contact Gabe Ferdinand (gabriel.ferdinand@gmail.com) for meeting logistics.
Team Formation	November 2011. Please pray and do palanca for the weekend rectors and teams.
Moonlight Retreat	Monday November 2011 @ 7:30pm at Consolata in the hall
Women's Weekend	November 17 - November 20, 2011 at Consolata
Men's Weekend	December 1 - December 4, 2011 at Consolata
Day of Reflection*	January 14, 2012 9:30am - 3:00pm at Consolata in the hall
Commitment Celebration*	January 23, 2012 7:30pm - 9:30pm. Location TBA

* The Commitment Celebration is an annual ceremony for Cursillistas to confirm their commitment to the Cursillo Movement as their prime apostolate for one year. The Day of Reflection is a day set aside for Cursillistas to discern on this commitment.

Ultreyas

Archdiocesan Ultreya	First Monday of every month at 7:00 pm (except holidays) at Consolata in the hall. Next Ultreya on Monday February 6, 2012.
Brampton Ultreya	Third Thursday of every month at 7:45 pm at St. Jerome's Church.
Mimico Ultreya	Every Thursday at 7:30 pm at St. Leo's Church (basement)
Toronto East Pickering Ultreya	Second Saturday of every month at 10-11:30 am at Holy Redeemer Church

**For further information, visit our Toronto Cursillo Website
www.cursillotoronto.com.**

School of Leaders

Mondays @ 7:00 pm, except for evenings scheduled for Archdiocesan Ultreya, at Consolata in the basement hall. If you have questions about the School of Leaders or what a school of inquiry is all about, drop by on one of the evenings, or contact the Rector of the School at john.jezioranski@gmail.com.

The last session in 2011 of the School will be held on December 5th. The School will reconvene on January 30, 2012. The focus in the new year will be on the topics of weekend rollos.

While face-to-face participation in the School is encouraged, participation over the Internet using Skype can be arranged. If you are interested in Internet participation, please contact the Rector of the School for further information.

Group Reunion

Are you looking for a permanent group reunion? Group reunion is the foundation of Cursillo. On behalf of the secretariat, Victor Bohus is coordinating a list of people who are currently in group reunions, and those looking for group reunions. Ideally grouping is done in person, face to face. However, if that is impossible, internet grouping may be an alternative for you. If you are looking to join an existing group or to start a new group, call or email Victor at victor_bohus@yahoo.ca or 905-294-0741.

Pre Cursillo Pulpit Presentations

The plan for the next round of pulpit presentations has been laid out for Ajax, Brampton, GTA (Consolata), and Mimico. The Ultreya in each area will reach out to designated parishes as laid out in the plan. Contact the rector of your Ultreya for further details.

Canadian Conference of Catholic Cursillos (CCCC)

Website: <http://www.cursillo-canada.org/about.htm>

Online CCCC Newsletter: <http://www.cursillo-canada.org/newsletter.htm>

De Colores!