

JUBILEE 2025

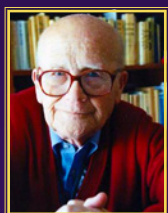
PILGRIMS OF HOPE



CURSILLOS

in CHRISTIANITY

National Newsletter



Servant of God

Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló

Founder of

Cursillos in Christianity

1917 – 2008

December 2024

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To celebrate 80 years of the 1st Cursillo in 1944 at Cala Figuera, the 5th Conversations of Cala Figuera was held on October 24–27, 2024 in Mallorca, Spain.

First presentation: Humanity by Vicente Esplugues

Presenting a general view of humanity, emphasizing the radical changes we are experiencing and will continue to experience. Making it clear that we are immersed in an extraordinary technological revolution that is already changing our way of life. Changes that will go beyond economic and social (work, leisure, political and social organization) to reach the very essence of the human being (genetic and physiological modifications). Without yet knowing what moral limits they will have, if any. Changes that will accelerate in the coming years.

All this is to make the audience reflect on their own situation in this new world, on the possibilities and limitations it offers us, and on what a Christian's attitude should be towards this reality. Once the general situation has been presented, the lecture should focus on the spiritual aspect of humanity, not on the technological, social, or ecological aspects, to cite some possible approaches. Although they may be mentioned as they affect the spiritual and Christian topic at hand.

In this ideological-emotional-social maelstrom: atheism, agnosticism, the resurgence of magic and superstitions, scientism or science lived as a religious dogma, transhumanism, virtual worlds, etc. In this reality: What role do old religions play, especially ours? Will the individual, and not the group, remain the central human axis of the world? Will the sabbath remain for man? What is the state of faith, and of the Christian religion, where are we headed or where are we being led? What will we need to preserve our humanity?

“When God has completely disappeared from human beings, they will experience their absolute and horrible poverty. And then they will discover the small community of believers as something totally new.” Joseph Ratzinger (Benedict XVI) in 1968, in a radio lecture titled “In what form will the Church appear in the year 2000?” (Published in Spanish in 1971, in *Faith and Future*)

Second presentation: Consciousness by Manuel Fernández

Alpha and omega of our vital journey in the world. Becoming aware of our need to answer the eternal questions about the meaning of existence and the need to do so in the face of the new humanity. Encouraging individual reflection on our level of individual consciousness. And, in this changing world, seeing whether or not we continue to share the same Christian vision of life. On this will depend, to a large extent, the future of our religion and whether we end up believing in anything.

Reflecting the fact that becoming aware of oneself, in a deep and not superficial or deceptive way, is a vital effort that we must never consider finished.

Reflecting on what we will need to achieve it:

- Knowing one's own society, our immediate environment, while also seeing the place it occupies in the world in general.
- Understanding the human need to find answers to the mysteries of existence: life, death, hope... A need that no technology will be able to satisfy, as long as we remain human. Knowing how to argue, as Christians, the importance of these issues, which are a link between all human beings, of any belief.
- No matter how much we think we know and understand ourselves, there will always be more road to travel. This can be seen from a positive point of view: we can always achieve greater peace, as the Kingdom never stops growing if we make the effort.

- Avoiding self-deception, the real danger of any spiritual process (individual or collective).

Demonstrating that all of the above requires curiosity and awakening. And that, to avoid satisfying human curiosity with trivialities and superficial ideas, whether innocent or not, we must awaken and distinguish the true from the false in the grand theater of the world.

Third presentation: Word by Carmen Enseñat

Contrast the word of God with that of the world.

The word we develop, the identity of who we are, the meaning of who we are.

We are used to hearing — not always understanding — that the word of the Gospel is radical, profound, and demanding. However, we are not used to thinking about the word of the World: of power and society.

Learn to recognize one and the other, for while the Gospels are clear, the word of the world is not, as it often tries to pass itself off as divine, disguising itself as truth and goodness.

The word of the world is not only pronounced from political or economic power, which we all know, but also in family conversations or among friends, something many of us overlook. It is not radical, but relativistic; it is not profound, but superficial and, seemingly, not demanding, although in reality it demands our lives, but not to elevate it as Christ does.

The world can be complacent in order to sell, subdue, or manipulate, or it can be cruel if it gains too much power or fails to achieve its goals, but it will never be demanding in the way Jesus is. The world demands only for its own benefit and comforts us by blaming “the power.” Thus, it manages to make everyone end up listening to what pleases them and attacking everyone else, even if they don’t know them. We cannot stand facing opposing opinions.

The word of Jesus is broad, and his paths are diverse, but his message is unique: love. Jesus invites us to be ourselves and to be Christians by our own will. Aware of our yearning for love and truth, we realize that we need help, help that Christians find in the Gospel.

The goal is not to speak of the written Gospel, but of the living Gospel that each one of us could become. Discovering that we can find the word of God not only in the Gospel but also scattered in the world itself, like wheat among the tares. Even the word of the world (which includes ours and that of those around us) can sometimes speak of just and necessary interests.

God can use our words and our lives, if we are willing. This is the wonder: we, through our lives, our hands, and our voices, can also be the word of God.

How do I transmit the Word?

Fourth presentation: Response by Teodoro Suau

We are not talking about a specific response that each of us could give to God, nor the one Christ gave to all humanity, but the response that God gives us through what happens in our lives.

After observing reality, delving into self-awareness, and discovering the word among that of the world, it is time to correctly interpret the response that God gives us through our own lives, for our entire life, with its successes and mistakes, is the complete response we give to God.

It is not always the right response, but we have no other. It is about not deceiving ourselves, in order to know whether we do good or evil.

The response that God gives us through life is more difficult to understand than the Gospel itself; in fact, the Good News was given to us to help us understand life and to see God in it. And we must share it, make everyone know that God loves us.

The presentation should help us reflect on what is and is not a response from God. Some will say that even a speck of dust is a response, and others that it is not; some that it is only a response if it resonates with our soul, and others that it is not; that the response comes unexpectedly, others by waiting for it or that it comes by asking for it.

Let the speaker give us their vision of what is and is not a response from God, the one given to each of us individually, and the one given to us as a community through the life we share.

Capturing the voice of God in Creation requires a demand. It does not matter where we capture it: in light, laughter, or tears, in luck, misfortune, or in the existence of a friend. It requires gratitude, action, forgiveness, hope...

The responses God offers us through life are continuous, an infinity of small and large responses to each of us.

Let us be aware that as we respond to life, life responds to us. Let us have expectations without frustration. Let us surrender and be grateful for what we live as life gives it to us. Let us be grateful for what we give, what we do, and how we are.

And let us help others discover God in their lives. The responses from God, similar in appearance, are unique to each person.

There is only one universal response, the first and last response: Love.

Fifth presentation: Cross by Guillermo Dezcallar

The cross as the transcendence of pain and failure. Let us reason about this transcendence. What is the Cross? What is transcendence?

Is it possible for an agonizing and painful death to transcend in the lives of those who knew and loved that person, even in the lives of those who did not know them? That was the death of Jesus, death on a cross of wood and loneliness, of the denial and abandonment of his friends, of failure... and resurrection.

Can we, by accepting our Cross, transcend in the lives of others? How? What does it mean to accept the Cross? The presentation should be an enlightening reflection on the mystery of the Cross.

The cross as the transcendence of pain and failure. The cross we feel is the reverse side of life, the negative of life, which supports our face, the face of who we truly are, the indication of where we grow.

To delve into the mystery of the Cross, we must make an effort of introspection, memory, and faith.

Introspection. Knowing oneself better, to be able to unravel our Cross, separate one pain from another, the real from the imaginary... Knowing what my Cross truly is, which is made up of all the pain I cannot avoid. Distinguishing it from the unnecessary pain that I create myself. If we are not able to discover our false crosses, the avoidable burdens we nurture, like resentment, we will not be able to accept the true Cross.

Resentment, self-pity, fear—these are faces of evil; they hurt, but they should not be part of our Cross. In the end, they are inconsequential. No one still hates Herod, yet many love Christ.

False crosses waste life; our true Cross elevates it. False crosses are created by the ego and the world, vanity, money, and power...

The true crosses can be illness, weaknesses, the consequences of our mistakes, fear, and death. Death is both a cross and a liberation.

Resentment, pride... Are they weaknesses or consequences of them? Of fear, perhaps? Let each person reflect on the truth of their life and discover their own Cross.

For this, it is necessary to contemplate the crosses of the world to understand and assume our own. And to understand the crucial question: why is the Cross necessary? Why did Jesus have to die?

It is not possible to accept the cross or transcend it if we do not understand its necessity. Old age and illness prepare us for death; our weaknesses combat, or should combat, our pride...

Let us contemplate the incomprehensible, let us intuit the necessity of the Cross. Let us extract from it: humility before God, gratitude for the help we receive, overcoming through my gifts, understanding others' pain, hope, love, faith.

The Cross serves, if we live it like Jesus, to discover our essence as children of God.

Sixth presentation: Truth by Susana Castelló

The only truth we know for certain is the Love that springs from our being and gives meaning to life. We know it from experience or from the lack of it, since the void of love also speaks to us of Truth.

We know it because we have all loved unreservedly, even if only for an instant. We have all been loved, even if we were not aware of it at the time. We know the sadness and fear in the absence of love. We have healed by discovering it, by receiving it, and above all, by giving it.

What is truth? Who will dare to answer? One day, a good priest said: "Two plus two is four, that is true, but not the Truth, for seven minus three... is also four."

It would be worth reflecting on the multitude of messages we receive through all media, each asserting with certainty their own truth. Political truths, ecological, spiritual... commercial. Altruistic or self-serving messages, deep or superficial, well-meaning and politically correct or not. Some may contain some truth, but even so, they only show us part of a greater truth.

Any person, from atheists to Christians, will agree that love is a reality, but not everyone will think that it is the great truth, the only and absolute reality. Is it? Are fear and hatred also real?

For us, from our needy faith, we would like to know how to see and convey with solid arguments that Love is the alpha and omega of all things. One of these arguments could be the forgetting of evil; we forget the wrong done to us or at least blur its memory over time. However, we do not forget the love we have received from those we love, because we have faith that they truly loved us.

This truth, this love, is what we strive for, the frequency at which we live, and in which joy is consciously possible.

As Christians, the truth that interests us is God, but since we cannot reach God with our human capacities, Christ was incarnated, died, and resurrected so that we would know that God is Love.

Seventh presentation: Resurrection by Mons. Eusebio Elizondo

"Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die" (John 11:26)

Resurrection involves the notion of eternity, the ultimate end for all who live in the love of God. Eternity is superhuman, while resurrection, though it may seem the same, has a real and everyday aspect. The presentation can address both: the superhuman, which will happen to us at the end of times, and the everyday, which allows us to follow Christ.

"Jesus answered him:

—Truly, truly, I tell you, no one can see the Kingdom of God unless they are born again.

Nicodemus asked him:

—How can someone be born when they are old? Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!

Jesus answered:

—Truly, truly, I tell you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit." (John 3:4-6)

In his response to Nicodemus, Jesus not only speaks to us of resurrection in eternity but challenges us to resurrect in life. Would he have spoken to Nicodemus in this way if he did not know that the Kingdom of God is possible in life, and therefore that it is possible to be born again in the Spirit? Here, Jesus urges us to the miracle.

Let us reflect. Not on the resurrection of the Lord, but on our own, that of each one of us. Let us unite our daily resurrections with the continuous resurrection of the Kingdom of God in the world.

We are born again in the Spirit every time we believe in God, every time we wake up in the morning and give thanks. We are resurrected when we remember a forgotten friend, when we laugh, when we take communion, when we celebrate Christmas and believe in Easter. We are resurrected when we forgive.

Life is a continuous and everyday resurrection in pursuit of eternity. If we know how to see it, we will live in gratitude to the Lord and be able to be born again in the Spirit. If we do not know how to see it, we may be dead in life.

Eternity in faith, love, and hope may be our destiny, or they may only be virtues necessary to follow Christ. In any case, they are the best proof that we can be born again in the Spirit, and indeed we are.

When we become aware of who we are, of God and the world, the incomprehensible Truth of God constantly resurrects our love, faith, and hope. And it resurrects us in life.

Who knows if, in the next life, we will not continue to be resurrected eternally.

And if this is true for each of us, why should it not be so for every group of two or more who believe in Christ, for the whole world?

History of the Conversations:

Ist Conversations at Cala Figuera - August 19-21, 1994 at the "Portiuncula" of Palma de Mallorca on the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the first Cursillo

II Conversaciones de Cala Figuera - April 2002, Mallorca

III Conversaciones de Cala Figuera - May 5-8, 2011, Mallorca

IV Conversaciones de Cala Figuera - May 5-8, 2016

V Conversations of Cala Figuera - October 24-27, 2024, Jose Janer, Rector



“KILO-METER 0”

Marquitos Beorlegui

*Inside a suitcase, they kept all of their dreams,
They bid farewell to their families, and began to walk.
From all over the world, with a Love that overflows,
They arrived in Mallorca to embrace Friendship.*

*They are fellow students, pilgrims, walkers,
People who search incessantly, to see Christ in others.
Of different colors, and a cross as a flag,
They dream in Cala Figuera to return to your home.*

*The love that summons us, the same one that precedes us,
That love that exceeds us and defines our being,
That love has provoked and move many hearts,
And that a single reason is the reason of our Faith.*

*Today they are here, sharing by our side,
Here, the joy of living,
Here, where one day Eduardo dreamt, the person being happy.
Here, they fit all or none,
Here, Holy Spirit of God,
Here, the world in motion, simply for Love.*

*Here, no matter how you arrived,
Here, no matter your identity,
Here, 1+1 is 1, at km 0, what matters is your friendship.
Our beloved movement, carries the good news,
That God in Christ loves us, through Friendship.*

*And in this same truth, the choice of being a person,
It makes enough sense of why we are here.
They are fellow students, pilgrims, walkers,
People who search incessantly, to see Christ in others.*

*Of different colors, and a cross as a flag,
They dream in Cala Figuera to return to your home.*

*The love that summons us, the same one that precedes us,
That love that exceeds us and defines our being,
That love has caused many hearts to move,
And that a single reason is the reason of our Faith.*

*Today they are here, sharing by our side,
Here, the joy of living,
Here, where one day Eduardo dreamed, the man being happy.
Here, they fit all or none,
Here, Holy Spirit of God,
Here, the world in motion, simply for Love.*

*Here, no matter how you arrived,
Here, no matter your identity,
Here, 1+1 is 1, at km 0, what matters is your friendship.*



This beautiful work by Mariano Mayol is inspired by an old map from 1786, created by brigadier Don Vicente Tofino of the Royal Navy. The artist has donated it to the Eduardo Bonnin Foundation to celebrate the Fifth Conversations of Cala Figuera in Mallorca in October 2024.

Another cove in Mallorca, also named Cala Figuera de Santany, was the site of the first Cursillo in Christianity, which took place in the summer of 1944 and was led by Eduardo Bonnin Aguilo.

In his book “My Spiritual Testament”, Eduardo wrote: “I urge those who come after me to remember that the knowledge of the

Cursillo in Christianity Movement is the most valuable thing I have. When I pasas on, the best thing I can leave is a clear explanation of what this Movement is, what its purpose is, and what goals it should achieve.”

Because of this, Mallorca wants to keep the spirit alive that began in 1944, so that anyone curious about the Cursillo in Christianity Movement can find a place to learn about it and discover the lighthouse of this Movement, which aims to reflect the light of Christ, our eternal guide that illuminates our live.

De Colores



The National Cursillo Movement Secretariat and Staff sincerely thank Deacon Lupe Treviño for his service, leadership, and friendship while he served as the Assistant National Spiritual Advisor for the past three years. He should be commended for his witness of living and sharing the Foundational Charism with others through friendship. His consistent dedication to Cursillos in Christianity has been a faithful witness to his love for Christ and his Church. The National Secretariat is blessed to have had Deacon Lupe serve with them.

Thank you!



The National Cursillo Movement Secretariat welcomes and congratulates Deacon Michael Martini for accepting the invitation to serve as the Assistant National Spiritual Advisor for the Cursillo Movement in the United States.

Deacon Mike married Christina on August 15, Feast of the Assumption, in Chicago, IL, and have felt the Blessed Mother throughout their journey. They currently live in Greensboro, NC. They have one son. Deacon Mike was ordained a Permanent Deacon for the Diocese of Charlotte on January 29, 2011. He recently retired from Ball Corporation after 36 years in Human Resources this past June and now works at the parish three days a week and volunteers in the local Cancer Center one day a week. He lived his Cursillo weekend in February 2006 in the Diocese of Charlotte. Deacon Mike has served as the Spiritual Advisor of the Charlotte Diocese and Region VII. He has served on many men's and women's Cursillo weekends and Cursillo de Cursillos and attended many Regional and National encounters.

Presentation of FEBA and the cause for the beatification of Eduardo Bonnin.

Seminario Nuevo de Palma

The postulator of the cause of Eduardo Bonnin spoke at the Ultreya in Palma, Mallorca on October 26, 2024. Eduardo Bonnin had many writings that are now being reviewed to ensure that his beliefs and documentaries are aligned with the teachings of the Catholic magisterium. This is a lengthy process and requires funding. Please submit testimonies on how Eduardo Bonnin touched our lives and drew us closer to God. Please submit your testimony to D. Gabriel Ramis, Casa de la Iglesia, Delegacion Causa de los Santos, Calle Seminario No 4, 07001 – Palma de Mallorca, Baleares, Spain.

Happy and smiling Cursillistas at Cala Figuera!



Two hundred eighty Cursillistas converged in Mallorca; 100 from Mallorca, 180 came from 12 countries: Australia, Canada, Chile, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, USA; 5th Conversations of Cala Figuera. October 24 - 27, 2024.



Photos from the 5th Conversations of Cala Figuera to celebratethe 80th anniversary of the 1st Cursillo in Cala Figuera



Bishop Sebastia Taltavull Anglada led the celebration of the Eucharist in the Cathedral of Palma de Mallorca for the 80th anniversary of the 1st Cursillo short course. Monseñor Sebastia Taltavull Anglada dirigió la celebración de la Eucaristía en la Catedral de Palma de Mallorca con motivo del 80 aniversario del 1er Cursillo de Cristiandad.



October 28, 2024, Ultreya de Palma. Group meetings and testimonial 'Rollo'. Seminario Nuevo de Palma

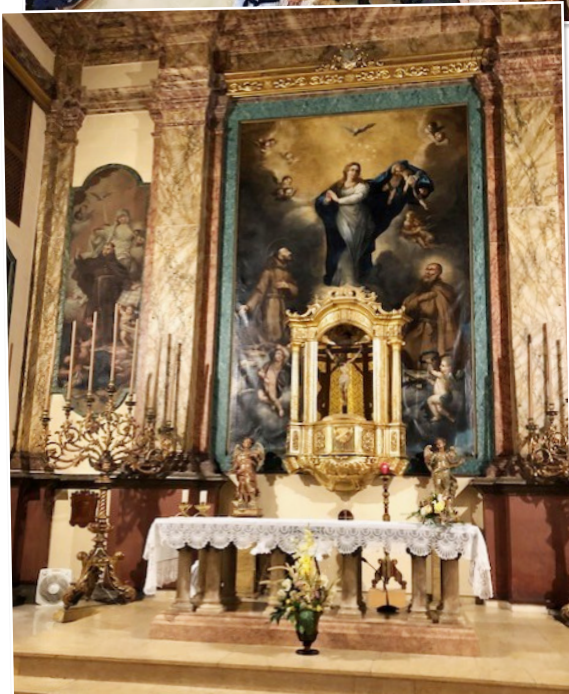


Here at the Chalet in Cala Figuera, Eduardo Bonnin led the 1st Cursillo short course on August 19-23, 1944. Aquí en el Chalet de Cala Figuera, Eduardo Bonnin dirigió el 1er Cursillos del 19 al 23 de agosto de 1944.



Marker on the road in front of the chalet in Cala Figuera! Una placa en la carretera frente al chalet de Cala Figuera.

October 23, 2024, the Cursillistas visited the tomb of Eduardo Bonnin at the Caputxins Church in Mallorca. El 23 de octubre de 2024, los Cursillistas visitaron la tumba de Eduardo Bonnin en la Iglesia de Caputxins en Mallorca.



October 24, 2024, the Cursillistas celebrated the Eucharist at the Parish Church of Cala Figuera before the visit to the chalet where the 1st Cursillo began. 24 de octubre de 2024, los Cursillistas celebraron la Eucaristía en la Iglesia Parroquial de Cala Figuera antes de la visita al chalet donde se celebró el 1er Cursillo.



Visit to the Blessed Sacrament at Garden Cala Millor.