

May 2012



DECOLORES

L/A Cursillo News

Blessed Is She Who Believed *Treasuring the Mysteries of Christ with Mary*

“Men may work from sun to sun,” says the old proverb, “but a woman’s work is never done.” Has there ever been a woman who lived out these words more than the Virgin Mary?

She has been working for her family for the past two thousand years-and her work is still unfinished. In fact, she won’t stop or take a day off until she sees her son, Jesus, come in glory and bring all his brothers and sisters home to be with him. Good mother that she is, Mary will take advantage of every opportunity to help us see Jesus more clearly, to overcome our hardships, and to grow in love for one another. And why shouldn’t she? She wants to see her whole family peaceful, united, and happy.

In addition to being our mother, Mary is also our model. God, who is grace, chose to fill this woman with his grace and turn her life into a reflection of his own holiness and love. As a result, Mary has become attractive to every generation, moving countless millions of people to imitate her attitude and approach to life. The purity, love, and obedience that she demonstrated speak deeply to our hearts because they embody the very essence of the holiness that we all long for. Clearly, Mary is held in such honor, not because of her education, her place in society, or her wealth. Mary has been honored for centuries because of the way she carried Christ-both for those nine months in her womb and for a lifetime in her heart.

Treasuring and Pondering. Because she was surrounded by and immersed in God’s wondrous grace, Mary’s pregnancy was unlike any other woman’s in the world. After all, it began in a rather strange way-in a meeting with the archangel Gabriel and an overshadowing by the Holy Spirit. Then Mary saw how God opened the eyes of her fiancé, Joseph, with a dream and convinced him to accept her and her new baby. Later, she heard her cousin Elizabeth proclaim that she was blessed above all women and that her baby, John, had leapt in her womb. Considering all these wondrous happenings, how many times during her pregnancy do you think Mary turned her thoughts inward, reached down with her hands, and felt the baby Jesus moving inside of her?

Throughout her pregnancy-and even more so after Jesus was born-Mary absorbed everything that was happening in her and around her. With her intellect, she was learning more and more about the ways of God. With her imagination she was wondering how this could be possible. She was string up in her memory every unique experience, even as her conscience was telling her that it was all good. And this moved her emotions to love God all the more and to rejoice in his power and love. In all these ways, Mary “treasured and pondered” God’s work in her life (Luke 2:19).

While Mary was pondering with her own human mind, the Holy Spirit, was also at work in her heart, filling her with the secret wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 2:7). Through the Spirit, Mary began to grasp God’s plan on a more profound level than she had previously known. She was lifted up to the presence of God, and her experiences filled her with joy and confidence.

All of this sounds so beautiful, but it would be a mistake to think that Mary’s walk with God was effortless. Mary chose to ponder the things of God because they had touched her deeply. Some of them even perplexed and troubled her (Luke 2:35,48). If Mary had stopped listening to God and pondering his words, she ran the same risk of growing distant from him that we all run when we put aside our relationship with the Lord for a time. Every day, Mary had to turn to God and say, “ I want more of you.”

When Mary was enlightened by the Holy Spirit-as on the day of the Annunciation, or when she and Elizabeth met-she made sure to remember what had happened so that later on she could ponder what she had seen and heard. As Mary stored up these things in her heart, she grew in wisdom and understanding, and as a result, she was able to embrace future events-such as the wedding feast at Cana or even at Calvary-even more deeply.

Blessed Because She Believed. When Mary arrived at her home, Elizabeth explained, “Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord” (Luke 1:45). Mary’s faith allowed her to accept God’s proposal unconditionally. She didn’t have to understand everything or have all of the details spelled out. She simply accepted God and trusted him. Her heart was like a clean tablet, ready for the Spirit to write his plans on it (2 Corinthians 3:3). This is the kind of faith God wants to give to each one of us. This is the posture he wants us to have whenever we come before him in prayer.

The Fathers of the Church loved to Compare Mary’s faithful response to Eve’s lack of faith. Where Eve accepted the serpent’s words and brought disobedience and death into the world, Mary accepted God’s words and gave birth to the holy and obedient Savior of the world. When she was tempted, Eve lost her clarity and her faith. As a result, she chose the path of self-glory and self-gratification. Mary, on the other hand, held fast to the Lord in times of temptation and so resisted the appeal of selfish gain that had ensnared Eve. Mary certainly was tempted, but she didn’t yield. Instead, she abandoned herself to God and Received his strength and encouragement.

Pointing to the countless generations that would come after the first disciples, Jesus once told Thomas, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe” (John 20:29). What is amazing is that these words- which are forever applicable to those of us who have not seen- were initially applicable to Mary. She was the first human being who believed in Jesus before she had seen him.

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 * EDITORS NOTES: Just a friendly reminder about the upcoming women’s weekend and the importance of *
 * palancas and attending the closing. Closing is at 5:00pm on the 3rd of June. *
 * Any news needing attention you can contact me at 576-1981 THANK YOU *
 * GOD BLESS *
 * RAY CLOUTIER *
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Janet Dehetre..... 966-1047

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Ray Cloutier.....784-1719

CURSILLO COMMUNITY CALENDER

COME TO OUR NEXT ULTREYA

May 21, 2012

Witness Speaker
Sister Evette Gosselin

Rosary 6:30 pm in St Peter & Paul room

Next officers meeting
September

We, the board, are here to serve YOU and to help you in your mission to evangelize your environments. We invite everyone who is interested in participating in the process to come to our board meetings on the Tuesday following the Ultreya. Please feel free to contact one of the officers listed above for more information.

Like Jesus, WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU to share the fire of Cursillo with others. We are interested in hearing from all of you for any suggestions to help promote Cursillo, to make the weekend more aware to others, and to help Ultreya grow. We as board members are not here to take all this on alone. WE ARE THE CHURCH so this mission is in all our hands.

Join us in allowing the Glory of Jesus to enter and touch others as it has done for us. Your palancas are deeply appreciated.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE UPCOMING WEEKENDS

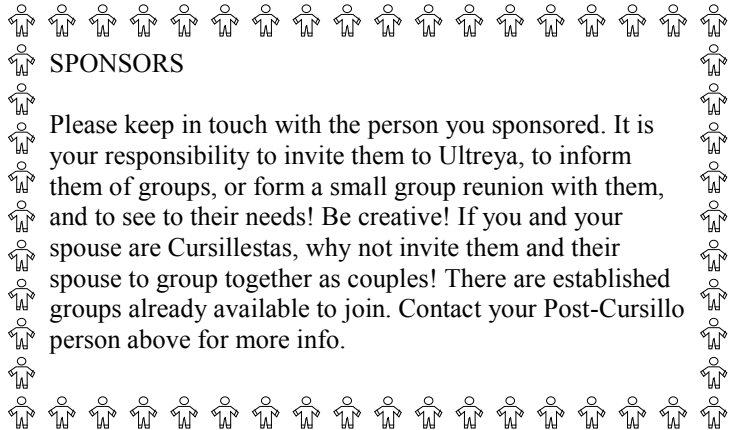
Men's December 6-9

Women's May 31- June 3 Oct 25-27

LEADERS SCHOOL

This month it will be held on June 3rd at camp Mechewana before the closing at 1:30pm
Closing is at the usual time 5:00pm

REMEMBER PALANCA For drop off info contact one of the officers above


SPONSORS
 Please keep in touch with the person you sponsored. It is your responsibility to invite them to Ultreya, to inform them of groups, or form a small group reunion with them, and to see to their needs! Be creative! If you and your spouse are Cursillestas, why not invite them and their spouse to group together as couples! There are established groups already available to join. Contact your Post-Cursillo person above for more info.

Minutes from the board meeting:

New business: We discussed the yearly picnic and we are looking at dates. News to follow. Discussion on promoting Cursillo more and discussed different options. Ideas are always welcomed. There will be no officers meetings for the months of June, July, and August. Will resume in September.

Treasurer report Checking balance 1069.96

DECOLORES

Lewiston-Auburn Ultreya Newsletter
895 College Rd
Lewiston Maine 04240

Return Service Requested

ULTREYA Third Monday of the Month
Upcoming Ultreya May 21 2012

IN GOD WE TRUST