



Christ is counting on US!

What is a 4th Day Event?

When one has attended a 3 Day Weekend, the rest of your life is known as the 4th Day. A 4th Day Event is a weekend designed for 4th Day leaders to spend time with Jesus, be reminded of our common mission, and be strengthened in the Holy Spirit to work with others. We intend, by God's grace to see our personal and corporate environments transformed. We will "spur one another on" (Hebrews 10:24) to 4th-Day living and review the core principles by which the 4th Day disciplines assists us.

Preface

The 4th Day Disciplines, as taught by Eduardo Bonnin Aguilo of Spain (1917-2008), have shaped a powerful movement within the Church of Jesus Christ. People have found themselves empowered to become the leaders that our Lord desires they be. The simple disciplines and the universal human appeal have moved powerfully around the world and across denominational lines. The truths which Jesus taught his disciples are expressed in practical ways that prompt both the hearts and minds of the church universal.

4th Day Living includes built-in renewal disciplines (reunion, ultreya and spiritual direction) which enable a participant to be reminded, refocused and reenergized in the disciplines. Since first introduced in the 1940's thousands of thousands have appreciated what the disciplines have meant for the church. Because mankind is sinful (Ephesians 2:1, Romans 3:23) and discipline seems painful (Hebrews 12:11), after an initial excitement some people have fallen away from practicing the disciplines. It may be because their focus has moved elsewhere; it may be that they never fully grasped the importance of each of the disciplines. Of course, the 4th Day disciplines do not appeal to everyone, it may be that these specific disciplines do not fit for their personal Christian walk.

This handout was prepared to assist those who are planning a 4th Day Event. Their time together will support all who are so inclined to nourish their 4th Day Life. Whether they have been faithful to the disciplines for many years or they have drifted away, the event will help them to revisit, rekindle, and renew their understanding of 4th Day Living. With honest discipline, a spirit of idealism, a spirit of cooperation, and a spirit of charity; the minds through which Christ thinks, the hearts through which Christ loves, and the hands through which Christ serves will be renewed!

We pray that your love for Christ will be your motivation to work for the transformation of your environments!

Intent

The 3 Day Weekend of Cursillo® is a carefully constructed series of activities originally designed for the transformation of environments where Christians live. Through the years the Weekend has come to be used for many other things. For too many people it has devolved to a feel-good experience! The focus has switched to the Weekend and even more toward the cathartic experience a person often feels as a result of attending a Weekend. While the emotion is a valuable dimension of the overall experience, focusing on it undermines and short circuits the purpose for which Christ gave this gift to the Church.

As mentioned, the 3 Day Weekend is primarily designed to help a Christian transform their many environments for Christ. The study and evangelization of environments is the definitive Rollo of the Weekend. The “post-weekend” activities are to help strengthen the individual for the “pre-weekend” mission. Of course, there are many other side benefits which flow out of the abundance produced by an authentic 3 Day Weekend, but experience has shown that when the primary mission is blurred, all the secondary benefits slowly disappear.

Those who have participated in a Weekend know how carefully planned it is. The message conveyed is one message broken into 15 individual presentations. People are placed in small table groups; time is allotted for discussion and then a poster is produced to assist in visualizing concepts. A review is conducted each evening to reemphasize the growth of each day. A secluded environment is maintained in order to, so much as possible, reduce distractions. Team and community commit to bringing the truth of the message to life; they become living examples of what is being taught in the presentation. Undergirding everything is prayer. Gifts of love and other special favors are extended to communicate the unique value of every individual. We are each part of, and together form, the Body of Christ. People are challenged to help every person know Jesus Christ as their truest Friend. The core value of 4th Day living is friendship – friendship with Jesus and friendship with all people whom Jesus loves.

The Weekend, when properly experienced, trains each participant in disciplines that help them live friendship (John 15:15) just as Jesus would have them live it. The vibrant enthusiasm of the 3 days can lead to a personal commitment for living the disciplines in the 4th Day. Using piety, study, and apostolic action, people make friends, be friends, and live friendship in Christ. The participants avail themselves of a reunion group, ultreya, and spiritual direction.

A further essential involves a clear understanding that **Cursillo® is not a church, a parachurch, or anything organized to contend with church!** 4th Day living demands a commitment to a local congregation where the individual is nourished by Word and Sacrament. Any 4th Day movement must honor the local congregation and not compete with its theology or ministries. One's 4th Day disciplines should complement and be an extension of one's own congregation's ministry. The time commitment for weekends, or secretariat activities must not detract from effective 4th Day Living at home and one should feel a clear call before participating within any 3 Day Weekend. Congregational leadership should be able to applaud the positive results accomplished for the Kingdom of God through their members living out their 4th Day.

The 4th Day Event will consist of at least 48 hours; offer plenty of personal time for thought and reflection; and 7 rollos with discussion. The presenters ought to be living examples of their rollo. Like a weekend, the presentations should be more intellectual in the morning, more heart revealing in the afternoon. Like the weekend singing should engage the whole person with the words resonating the overall message. There should be 4th Day speakers who will use an Ultreya style presentation. Spiritual Directors should participate both for their personal edification and to be available to provide spiritual direction when requested. Other activities should be added carefully to enhance the message. Remember, it is tempting to complicate the simple, merely because it is simple. Keep it simple!

The 7 Weekend Rollos

1. Perspective – Review the Cursillo history with emphasis on the charism given to Eduardo Bonin in response to the Spanish church’s prayers. Explain the purpose and method of Cursillo, and how it broke out into the entire Church. Emphasize the need for this gift in today’s environments.
2. Grace Rekindled – A clergy talk designed to rekindle in us a theologically sound understanding of Grace in our personal and professional lives. We reflect particularly on the instruction presented during the Grace in Action Rollo as well as Life in Grace Rollo from the Weekend. We remember the spiritual disciplines that make the ideal of living the rest of our lives in Grace feasible.
3. Friendship – A time rekindling the power within apostolic action: Make a friend. Be a friend. Live your friendship in Christ. The emphasis here is on person to person, face to face contact. 4th Day Living requires authentic friendships and personal encounters. Clarify our tendency to seek easy ways out – newsletters, web pages, email, & blogs; certainly, any of these may be useful but IT MUST ALWAYS BE PERSON TO PERSON first, last, and always.
4. Obstacles – A Discussion of the many things that hinder and depress our 4th Day living; how many things call for our attention and divert us from obeying the Jesus directive “you shall be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8).
5. Repentance – A recognition that we personally are responsible for our part in failure (however failure is defined). Offer a call to repent of the pride that holds us to perfectionism, the jealousy we feel of another’s “successes”, our tendency to be judges of other people. Review Romans 14:4 clarifying how it applies to the church. Finally, a reminder of how we have forgotten our “first love!”

6. We Can Do This – A clear look at all the features of 4th Day living including discussion of how they connect and interact. The value of the Pilgrims Guide, all the disciplines of the “service sheet” (your personal piety, study, and especially Apostolic Action -- both personal and group), Reunion Group, Ultreya, and Spiritual Direction, Pre and Post Weekend work, a reminder here that your 4th Day community is not your Church.

7. Now What—A discussion of commitment. Rededication to 4th Day living and casting a vision of what Jesus will do in and through us. Encourage grouping within work environments including people from other 4th Day movements; Emmaus Walk, Kairos, Tres Dias, DeColores, etc. Give some examples of how others have impacted their environments for Christ.

God loves you and so do we!

What are Care Cards?

Like Palanca, Care Cards are intended to let others know you are thinking of them and praying for them. A Care Card is a short positive encouraging note of affirmation. For example, “You smile, and I feel the love of God shine out from you.” Please don’t feel the need to make it long, but the more personal and specific the better it is. “When we were sharing at the table your story really touched me!” Again, the notes must be positive and

To better understand we will practice writing Care Cards at your tables. You are to write a note to each person seated with you. Now place it in their envelope. When everyone has completed the task

Once you’ve written and signed your Care Card, find the persons envelope on the Care Card Rack and place it inside. No one will be able to read their cards till after the event on Sunday (no cheating 😊).

Good News Via de Cristo Fall Event

Oct. 4 – 6, 2019

FRIDAY

GRACE REVISITED

- 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm Registration
- 7:00 p.m. Welcome & Opening
- 8:00 p.m. **Grace Revisited: Perspective ROLLO**
Discussion
- 9:00 p.m. **Vespers**
- 9:15 p.m. Fellowship w/ Hearty Snacks
Care Cards

SATURDAY

GRACE REKINDLED

- 7:00 a.m. **Worship “Come Holy Spirit”**
- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast Buffet
Care Cards
- 9:00 a.m. **Sin in a Box**
Discussion
- 9:20 a.m. **Grace Rekindled ROLLO**
Discussion
- 10:20 a.m. BREAK
- 10 :40 a.m. **Friendship ROLLO**
Discussion
- 11:40 a.m. **“Share a Prayer” (Weekend Leader)**
Care Cards
- Noon Boxed Lunch

SATURDAY

GRACE REKINDLED CONTINUED

1:00 p.m.

Obstacles ROLLO

Discussion

4th Day Sharing

Discussion

Amazing Grace My Chains Are Gone: VIDEO

2:45 p.m.

“Share a Prayer”

Care Cards

3:15 p.m.

FREE TIME – Grab ‘n Go Snacks

5:00 p.m.

Dinner

6:15 p.m.

Repentance ROLLO

Discussion

Examination of Conscience

“Share a Prayer” (Rice Paper)

7:30 p.m.

Worship: “Unity in Our Mission”

8:30 p.m.

Fireside Fellowship – Grab ‘n Go Snacks

Care Cards

Singing

SUNDAY

4TH DAY LIVING RENEWED

7:00 a.m.

Worship: Renewal, “You Are Not Alone”

8:15 a.m.

Breakfast

Care Cards

SUNDAY

4TH DAY LIVING RENEWED CONTINUED

9:15 a.m.

“We Can Do This!” ROLLO

Discussion

10:10 a.m.

BREAK – Grab ‘n Go Snacks

10:20 a.m.

“Now What?” Realign and Renew ROLLO

Discussion

11:15 a.m.

Closing w/ Sharing / Anointing

Evaluations

12:00 p.m.

Lunch

11:45 a.m.

Pack for Home

Pick up your Care Cards