

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ

It is with heavy hearts that we as the Cursillo Movement of the Monterey Bay join with our diocese in mourning the loss of our bishop, Richard Garcia, who passed away on Wednesday morning from complications of Alzheimer's disease, of which he had been diagnosed only three short months ago. Our Cursillo family has lost its local shepherd, a Cursillista himself, called by our Heavenly Father to his fifth day in His celestial home.

Our regional and national teams offer their condolences, share in our loss, and join in our prayers.

In the coming days, weeks and months, we are all invited and strongly encouraged to join and offer up our prayers, especially in the Eucharist, for his eternal repose, for the consolation of his family, and for the whole Monterey Diocese, now left without its bishop. Esteemed Cursillo family, let us come together with devoted hearts committed to prayer and fasting, that these, in Jesus' name, may be offered up as palanca so that our bishop, through the intercessions of our Most Blessed Mother and the communion of saints, may be found worthy of seeing the face of our Heavenly Father.

Scripture reminds us, *"the souls of the righteous are in the hands of God, and no torment will ever touch them"* (Wisdom 3:1). It further directs that *"the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his elect, and he watches over his holy ones"* (3:9). Trusting in the Father's unending love for each of us, we confidently pray:

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May Bishop Richard John Garcia rest in peace. Amen.

In Christ,

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Lay Director