



**Marie
Trombley**
Lay Director

Dearest Cursillistas:

It happened in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, on a Saturday evening last summer. The setting was just beautiful, a lovely hotel with a courtyard ideal setting for a wedding. The rows of chairs were perfectly straight; lovely, large, white tulle bows donned the end of every-other row along with tiny white flowers. A sweetly decorated arch was placed prominently at the end of the main aisle where soon a minister and the bridal party would be standing.

Soon, the courtyard would be full with the loving family and friends of Chris and Lindsey who would exchange vows and become husband and wife, one body, a little family for the rest of their lives. Once everyone is seated, the music begins. I look forward and see the groom and his best man enter to the right ~ Chris, the groom, (he is my nephew; his dad, my baby brother, passed away four years ago) and Brian, the best man, my son. I am in awe as I look at them! How handsome! How could they have grown up so fast!?! I turn slightly and look up the aisle and OH!, there she is, my niece Kimmy, the maid of honor, she takes my breath away in her blue gown! How

lovely she is as she seems to float toward me! I see her dad's (my brother) beautiful blue eyes and his dimple too. God! I miss him! Then, I hear "Here Comes The Bride" and Lindsay appears with an armful of flowers and a beautiful smile ~ she gazes at Chris as she glides toward him ~ the ceremony begins and so does their life together. .

It was a beautiful evening. So much fun with family, I guess this wedding inspired me to write to you in this manner. I have been missing my brother so much! He was such a good dad, and Kim and Chris and his wife Rita miss him terribly! It was hard not to have him there in person with us. We all could feel his presence, and we all knew that he would have had an amazing time at this celebration! As time passes and we all grow older, we will all begin to lose family members. I know about loss – and have come to realize the importance of family. God has blessed me with a wonderful, loving family, my blood family AND my Cursillo family. For these, I am very thankful! Without my family (s) it would be difficult to function as me. My family(s) nurture me and lift me up when I am down. My family (s) call on me for help when needed and I know that I can call on any one of them (you) if I am in need. Family is life, life is family! I would

like to thank you all for being my Cursillo family! God is good, all the time! De Colores!!!

In the JOY! Of Jesus,
Marie Trombley



**Sr. Betsy
Van Deusen**
Spiritual Director

Greetings and a
Happy Easter to
you!

I am humbled by the call of our God and this community to serve for this time as the Spiritual Director for the Albany Diocesan Cursillo Community. I made Albany Weekend #24, BC - before community. I am a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet presently in ministry with young people at St. Helen's Parish in Schenectady.

As the Easter journey unfolds we are asked to consider how it is that Our God is calling us to Conversion, to metanoia (change of heart), how we are being lead to a deeper and more life changing experience with Jesus the Christ. In these weeks we hear of Jesus' temptation in the desert, the Transfiguration, about the Samaritan woman at the well, the man born blind, the raising of Lazarus, Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem and his death and resurrection. We might reflect on what tempts us? How are we being transfigured? For what do we thirst or what do we long to see? Do we have the faith of Mary

THE LITTLE LIGHT PUBLICATION OF THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT OF THE ALBANY

and Martha and are we willing and able in our daily lives to walk with Jesus?

The Cursillo Community in Albany has been undergoing many shifts and changes in the last many years and the Secretariat hopes to do some talking with you about what has changed for you in your relationship to Cursillo, to grouping and to Ultreya. We live in a world that needs the love of Christ more than ever. We work and live in environments that are so desperate for the message of Jesus. We personally need to continue to grow so that the faith that has been entrusted to us by a God, who loves us like crazy, will not be left languishing.

May these most holy of days be a blessing to you as you are challenged to walk the steps of Jesus during these Easter days?

De Colores!
Sr. Betsy Van Deusen, CSJ

School of Leaders

Pat Johnson

Greetings from the School of Leaders,

As we begin to prepare for the holy season of Lent, we are reminded how quickly time flies. It just seems like yesterday we were preparing for Advent and the joyful season of Christmas. Our winter has not been as cold or snowy as it could have been, and the sun is with us a little longer each day! God is so good, all the time!!

Many of the Ultreyas I have been in touch with either have ended

reviewing the talks for the weekend or are ending them in the near future. The School has been very busy praying and discerning what we will tackle next. There are various topics that we have discussed that look at our Cursillo Community. We are very concerned at the School in regards to the low turnout at our Ultreyas, as well as not being able to have enough candidates for a weekend. As we continue to discern these issues, we will need the communities help. Please pray for the School so that we may go in the direction that is in the best interest of the Cursillo Community. Also pray for each other, people who we see regularly at our Ultreya, as well as those who have been absent. We all have encountered the same weekend, and the same Cursillo method. Hopefully, for the majority of people, it was a positive, life-changing weekend.

Also, please remember that everyone is invited to attend the School of Leaders at your Ultreya. I have heard from some people that they thought that the School was a special meeting that you needed to be invited to. This is not so. Everyone who has made a Cursillo weekend is encouraged to attend the School of Leaders at Ultreya.

We are always looking for people, who are living the Cursillo method, to join us at the School of Leaders. We meet the second Monday of each month at St. Gabriel's in Rotterdam. If you are interested

in joining us please give me a call at 518-377-1425. There is much work ahead of us, and we welcome any input that you may have.

God Bless and De Colores,
Pat Johnson

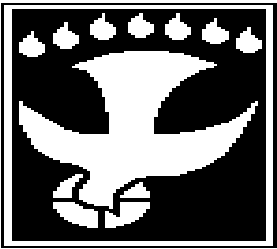
Hello Everyone!

It has been a while since I wrote something for OUR letter. I seem uncertain as what to write to you now, but Prayer leads me in strange directions: so here we go.

Sooo.... How is YOUR prayer life?? I must admit that I am feeling pretty good about my "mandatory" prayer time. It seems the world remains full of things to do that want to interfere, but it takes discipline to make some things work.

Many of you know I am not an avid reader and I struggle to read a book each year so that I have one for the "book exchange" during the Christmas Season. This year is different! I have already completed one book and will begin another shortly. (Thanks Hugh for the recommend) First I will have to be content by extending my prayer time to allow reading and meditating on a daily devotional known as "THE LIVING FAITH". Our dear and sweet Granny Grace convinced me to try out "THE WORD AMONG US" (thanks Grace) and Father Vince has me reading and meditation on a Lenten Publication, and

there are a few more things like "THE EVANGELIST".... Well.... You get the picture. Not bad for someone who doesn't read much. I must admit it is GREAT **formation** material. Lent is a great time to discover once again how good God is to us. I know I must be true to myself and to God, because he has been such an influence in my life since CURSILLO happened to me.



When I last wrote to you, I was moving out of the Pre-Cursillo Chair, and into the

School of Leaders. Well, I have made a few meetings, and I am looking forward to making a difference in some way.... That is to the movement. **I am not** the chairperson of the school and **I AM NOT** taking over. What I propose to do is to join everyone as we offer our time and our abilities to foster growth in the Cursillo Movement. Our Leaders Prayer says it all when we pray to help maintain a meaningful, supernatural and mutual charity among ourselves, so that all our spirits, united in a common purpose, will have one single spirit, that of Jesus Christ. Have you continued to search your environments for that special "someone" who deserves to know Jesus just a little bit better?

You can look forward to hearing from me and others from the SCHOOL OF LEADERS as we try to recharge the people and align the puzzle pieces so our movement can feel refreshed. Look for a questionnaire in the near future and **do your part**. Fill it out and

return it. You are always welcome to come to the school meetings where your input is important and **does** count. I will be in touch with you again. Meanwhile, have a great EASTER. Enjoy your 4th day by nurturing your Prayer, study and action.

De Colores,
Wil Trombley

CURSILLO OF ALBANY CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2005

May-2005

5/8
Mother's Day

5/15 To be Rescheduled
4th Annual Service Auction, St. Ambrose, Latham

June-2005

6/4
4th Annual Evangelization Walk, Christian Brother's Academy, Albany, NY at 1:00 pm on the track

6/6 thru 6/9
Spring Enrichment

6/19
Father's Day

July-2005

Enjoy the summer sunshine
Planning a Diocesan Ultreya for 9/05

August-2005

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September-2005

9/23-25
Region I Encounter
Mount Marie, Holyoke, MA
for details, ask Secretariat

October-2005

10/28
Evening of Music with Bill & Maureen Hayes @ 7:30pm
Corpus Christi parish, Ushers

10/30
Eastern Standard time begins

November-2005

11/24
Thanksgiving

December 2995

12/25
Christmas

De Colores!

Do you want to receive emails on coming events, news and things? Do you want to be able to receive the Little Light emailed to you?

Well you can, but you need to let me know. Send me you email address requesting future Cursillo Information emails. Send your request to: kurtlaw@nycap.rr.com

Kurt Lawrence
Pre-Cursillo

Greetings,

Easter Season is here, and yet I still want to play Christmas Carols, yes, I have been known to be behind the times!

I need to ask the community to be pro-active in evangelizing to our parish brethren. The success or failure of the

by personal invitation do not be afraid to ask, just think if someone did not invite you.

I am in the process of building an email broadcast group for Cursillo. If you wish to become a member of this group and want to receive announcements and bulletins email me at kurtlaw@nycap.rr.com

Happy Easter Season!

Please pray for the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI

Pray that our Holy Father will guide Christ's Church and bring unity among all Christians.

Let us pray with the Holy Father for Peace in our World. In our life time.

JESUS CHRIST THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Cursillo Movement in the Albany Diocese depends on the entire community, not just one or several people, but all of the community. *"But you, be self-possessed in all circumstances; put up with hardship; perform the work of an evangelist; fulfill your ministry (2nd Timothy 4:5)"*. You and I are called by our baptism to open our hearts and our souls to our brother and sisters of this planet...God's planet!

Ask you Pastor to put a little insert in your bulletin. I have been successful in doing this at St. Clement's. Just a little insert with a contact helps to get the message out. With that said, however, it is still proven the best way to bring people to the community is



Let us pray to the newest intercessors in heaven. His legacy has not ended!

Please continue to pray, pray and search your environments for a candidate to sponsor. Remember, when we have 15 candidates, we will reschedule our weekends. If you are holding on to applications, please don't! Please send them on to the pre-Cursillo chairperson, Kurt Lawrence, 16 Terrell Way, Gansevoort, NY 12831. kurt-law@nycap.rr.com

Let us Pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created,
And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Apostolic Blessing "Urbi et Orbi" (April 19, 2005)



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

After the great Pope John Paul II, the Cardinals have elected me, a simple and humble laborer in the vineyard of the Lord. The fact that the Lord knows how to work and to act even with inadequate instruments comforts me, and above all I entrust myself to your prayers.

Let us move forward in the joy of the Risen Lord, confident of his unflinching help. The Lord will help us and Mary, his Most Holy Mother, will be on our side.

Thank you.
Pope Benedict XVI

**Need news from
Cursillo National?**

**Do you have a
computer?**

If you answered yes to these questions, here is the link:

www.natlcursillo.org

The site is full of all types information. Try it out!

Kit Lawrence **Post-Cursillo**

It's hard to believe we are in spring. It is my favorite time of year. The time for rebirth and renewal. A time to clean out the detritus of winter and open up to the rebirth of the Easter season. It is a time to review my spiritual garden and see what needs pruning, shaping and replanting. How is your spiritual garden? Have you visited it recently? Could it use a little refreshing? Some new planting? A little trimming?

Ultreya is a wonderful way to spruce up your garden. Your community is there to give you some new ideas, to help you refresh your spiritual garden. We are there to help each other in Christ replenish ourselves, and to go into the world and to let the gospel grow.

As a community what can we do to encourage our sisters and brothers to attend an Ultreya offered through out the Diocese. Not sure when and where they are...look for the schedule.

I would like to share with you a statement that appears on the National Cursillo Website, and it is this: *"We, as laity in the Church, can no longer take our role lightly. The future of our society is in our hands. We must realize that we, as individuals, can have a great impact on our society. More importantly, we can have an even greater impact when we find other individuals that are ready and able to accept the challenge"*

Ultreya Locations & Contacts

2nd Friday of the Month

Ravena, NY
Scotia-Glenville
Troy, NY

Contact

Fr. Vince Ciotoli
Harilyn Beehner
Chuck & Rosalie Adams

Phone

756-3145
581-0742
273-9017

3rd Friday of the Month

Glens Falls, NY
Latham, NY

Wil & Marie TrOmbley
Sharon Thouin

793-3901
233-7119

3rd Friday of the Month

Ilion, New York

Lucile Kenny

315-894-8385

Miscellaneous Ultreya Information

Albany Contact Maureen Cavanaugh for time and place.
Northville Contact Freddie Hoffert for time and place.

446-9347
863-4780

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Gansevoort, NY 12831



Send us your thoughts , your idea's, your stories. If you have a story you wish to share please forward it, so we may share it with Your Community!