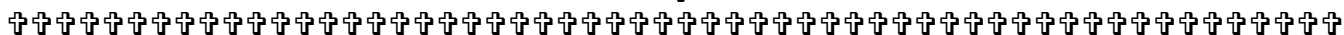


Green Bay Diocese Cursillo Newsletter

March, 2008



“The Five Best” Spiritual Director’s Comments

Here are the five best “Out-of-Office” e-mail replies (not sure who voted):

- 1) Sorry to have missed you, but I am at the doctor’s having my brain and heart removed so I can be promoted to our management team.
- 2) Thank you for your e-mail. Your credit card has been charged \$5.99 for the first ten words and \$1.99 for each additional word after that.
- 3) Thank you for your message, which has been added to a queuing system. You are currently in 352nd place and can expect a reply in approximately 19 weeks.
- 4) I’ve run away to join a different circus.
- 5) I will be out of the office for the next two weeks for medical reasons. When I return, please refer to me as *Loretta* instead of *Bob*.

I should save some of the replies when I ask someone to make a Cursillo, or volunteer for a position on the parish council, or help with the *Advancing the Mission* campaign. We all have clever ways of saying “No!” We all have mastered the art of sweeping our faith under the rug. Holy Week will remind us that even the best disciples had more than a few excuses for not being at the Lord’s side and then Easter will demonstrate those same friends being skeptical that He had risen from the dead.

Cursillo portrays God’s love for us with such force that there is no room for denial; there is no place to hide; there is no doubt that will stand up. And this year, for the first time in a long time, the men’s spring Cursillo will be during Easter week. What a grace! What an added joy! Our liturgies should be more Spirit-filled than ever. Having just journeyed with the Lord to Calvary and the empty tomb, the palanca sacrifices should be even more awesome. Please embrace the joy of Cursillo as you support all those who are involved in #207. To share in the way of the cross and the new life of Easter is the heart of who we are as disciples. May this year’s journey be filled with grateful wonder and awe!

DeColores,
Fr. Dave Pleier



“Survivor” – Cursillo

Most of us are familiar with the popular television show “Survivor”. As we remember Eduardo Bonnín, the founder of Cusillos in Christianity who died on February 6th at age 90, it’s an appropriate time to ask, “How has the Cursillo movement survived since its inception in 1944?”

This same question was the subject of a mailing from the National Cursillo Movement last August after celebrating the milestone 50th anniversary of Cursillo in the United States. The conclusion was as follows:

“The majority of Cursillo leaders, who have been loyal leaders of a diocesan community of service to the Cursillistas, i.e. to serve the Cursillo Community, are certainly convinced that the School of Leaders sustains the Movement since ‘the Cursillo Movement originated within a School, and it was through the constant and coordinated efforts of the leaders of the School that it acquired its form, as well as its drive toward growth and improvement’ (FI #530). The Holy Spirit is obviously the living force that keeps our Movement alive and active thanks to our perennial palancas and prayerful sacrifices offered nationwide and worldwide by all Cursillistas.”

Another way to look at it is that piety, study, and action are essential to sustain not only ourselves, but also to sustain the Cursillo movement. Since the School of Leaders is so vital to the ongoing survival of the Cursillo movement, all Cursillistas are called to take an active role in its success. Here are a few ways to do that:

First, attend the School of Leaders whenever you can. Either St. Bernard’s - Appleton on the first Tuesday of the month or St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Green Bay on the third Tuesday of the month, both beginning at 7:00 pm.

Secondly, you can learn more about the Cursillo movement by reading materials on the National Cursillo® Movement website. There’s a wealth of information on the School of Leaders page which is located at: www.natl-cursillo.org/leaders/

Finally, you can offer palanca for the continued growth and success of the School of Leaders. The National Cursillo has suggested palanca for the following intentions during the week:

- Mondays – National, Regional, and Diocesan Secretariats
- Tuesdays – Schools of Leaders
- Wednesdays – Cursillistas in the United States
- Thursdays – National Cursillo® Movement’s Apostolic Actions
- Fridays – Cursillo Weekends
- Saturdays – Executive Committee – World Body of the Cursillo Movement

With our collective piety, study, and action - - guided by the Holy Spirit - - Cursillos in Christianity will not only be a “survivor”, it will continue to thrive!

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Mullins





Lay Director's Message

The Cursillo community is saddened by the passing of Eduardo Bonnin, the founder of the Cursillo Movement on February 6th. However, some claim that Bishop Hervas was actually the founder and still others claim that it was Manuel Aparici. There is no doubt that each of these men are on the road to sainthood for their contribution to furthering the Word of God.

If there is really any importance to the actual origin of Cursillo, I might suggest that we look a lot further back, close to 2000 years, and trace the origin of the Cursillo Method back to the Apostles and the early fathers of the church. The book of the Acts of the Apostles and the letters to the early Christians are rich in their living the Cursillo method of Piety, Study and Action. Their lives were focused on the encounters of the weekend of self, Christ and community. We somehow know that they must have had gatherings of some sort where they shared ideas & actions similar to our "Group Reunions".

At the Day of Enrichment, Bill Hammond spoke on the importance of Group Reunion. As Cursillistas we need group reunion to focus and share our lives on our personal tripod of Piety, Study and Action. When you listen to a reflection or homily on scripture with an open mind, you might be surprised that you will recognize at least one leg of the Cursillo tripod.

**Ultreya,
Bob Varick, Lay Director**

St. Paul, patron Saint of Cursillo, pray for us!



FOURTH DAY

At the heart of "living" our Cursillo is how we live our 4th day. The Cursillo method encourages regular "Group Reunions" to share our tripod of Piety, Study and Action.

At the recent Day of Enrichment, **Bill Hammond** talked about his experiences with group reunion and as a Cursillista for over **45 years** he has shared or others have shared with him 11,000+ "Moments closest to Christ". Bill also shared some points on the value of group reunions and the causes of why the reunions might fail. We have asked him to share these points with the Cursillo community.

Excerpt from Cursillo talk. Cursillo Enrichment Day, Feb 5, 2008

Why do group reunions work:

- 1. It presents an opportunity to talk with others about important things, spiritual things, which in the course of our week we may not otherwise have the opportunity to do.*
- 2. It presents us with the chance to compare our spiritual progress with others who are like-minded and find new ways to nurture our spiritual growth.*
- 3. It motivates us to follow through with our spiritual*

development because we have to answer to others.

4. Sometimes we give and sometimes we take. What we say may be exactly what someone else needs to hear and other times we really need to hear what someone else has to say. There has to be some humility here. The notion of feeling like you are bragging needs to be replaced with humbly sharing how you are fed.

Reasons group reunions fail:

- 1. The group stops using a format. The reunion order card is the best. The group degenerates into a coffee klatch. Motivation to attend becomes less and less.*
- 2. Meetings are too long. Should not be over an hour long. People are reluctant to give up two or three hours of a day, and attendance dwindles.*
- 3. Need a good time and place to meet. Most times are not convenient. After or before work or Sat. morning are usual. Need to be willing to make a commitment.*
- 4. Everybody needs to have an opportunity to talk. One or two people should not dominate meeting. Should go around the table and everyone have an opportunity to share.*
- 5. There has to be a firm commitment to confidentiality. Nothing leaves the room.*

If you are not presently in a group reunion, it is never too late to start doing a group reunion. Contact a Cursillista that you know. You may be able to join an established group or start a new one. Attending an Ultreya also might be a place to start.

GO FORTH in the FOURTH DAY



A Moment to Remember Friends

December was a sad month for Green Bay Diocese Christians in general and a number of Cursillo families in particular with the passing of two long time Cursillistas.

In mid-December we lost Patt (Dave) Birling. The Birling's were known for their willingness to provide a home and loving environment for foster children. Patt was a Director of Religious Education and continued to care for those in need through her 20 month fight with cancer. She was skilled as a team member, thus sharing her love of her 4th day with many Babe Chicks.

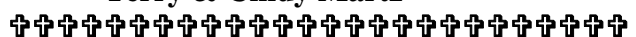
On Christmas Day Joyce (Cal) Martin was killed in a tragic accident. Like Patt, Joyce served in the Commissioned Ministry Program and was also a wonderful musician. We met Joyce through her work in Prison Ministry. Her leadership and music brought REC Weekends (Residents Encounter Christ) together.

What both women shared is their passion for being the face of Christ on earth and although both funerals were sad, they were also celebrations of resurrection for women who did what they were asked to do by their Lord.

The Green Bay Diocese Cursillo Movement will have a Mass said for each of these women at their home parishes. If you know of a Cursillista that has died please contact our Treasurer, Tom Boettcher N9205 Flowage Rd., Crivitz, WI 54114 or fishandstitch1@centurytel.net so they too can be remembered.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry & Cindy Martz





Men's Cursillo #207 – March 27, 28, 29, & 30, 2008
Holy Spirit - Kimberly

TEAM

DAY CHAIRPERSONS

Rector: **Bob Varick**
733-0899

Vice Rector: **Dave Scherer**
982-3213

Spiritual Director: **Fr. Dave Pleier**
328-7020

Asst. Spiritual Director **Dc. Rick Simon**
739-0636

Proctors: **Jeff Brockman** (Kitchen) 788-1821
Terry Van Asten 759-9983
Larry Westenberg 788-9283
Jeff Engel 832-1261

Set Up: March 26 **Vic Vosters**
Wed. – 5:00PM 734-8499

Thursday Night: **Pat Brockman**
788-1821

Friday: **Larry & Mary Artz**
Breakfast 7:45 788-2764
Lunch 12:30
Dinner 6:00

Saturday: **Pete & Mary Arts**
Breakfast 7:00 788-4608
Agape 1:30
Dinner 6:15

Palanca Address: Attn: Cursillo #207 Palanca
Holy Spirit Parish
620 East Kimberly Ave.
Kimberly, WI 54136

Sunday: **Dave/Lynn Vanden Heuvel**
788-7170
Breakfast 7:35
Lunch 12:00
Dinner 5:30

Serenade: 6:00 PM - Look For Signs
Emergency Phones: 920-851-6902

Clean Up: 5:00 **Gino Frassetto**
968-5199

Directions: North or South – Exit Hwy 41 at County Hwy N, Little Chute Exit. Turn South. Stay on N through Little Chute into Kimberly across bridge to Kimberly Ave. Turn right. Holy Spirit Parish is 3 blocks down on the North side of Kimberly Avenue.



<i>Candidates</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Candidates</i>	<i>Parish</i>
-------------------	---------------	-------------------	---------------

CURSILLOS IN CHRISTIANITY
P.O. Box 184
Little Chute, WI 54140-0184

!
!
!

!
!
!

Next Up: Women's Cursillo #208, April 24 – 27, 2008, St. Mary – Menasha
Newsletter Deadline – March 28, 2008

Day of Enrichment

On Saturday February 2, our Heavenly Father blessed us with a beautiful snowy morning for the Second annual Day of Enrichment. A gathering of 138 Cursillistas flooded the Bishop Wycislo center in Green Bay. The morning got off to a beautiful start with prayer by one of our spirit-filled and dedicated Deacons. The Holy Spirit REFRESHED us with three very different and inspiring talks given by fellow Cursillistas. Mass was celebrated by our faithful Spiritual Directors in the beautiful St. Frances Xavier Cathedral. A "chorus of angels" led us in song throughout the Mass, which allowed us to praise and REJOICE in our Creator in a grand way. Nothing but the best for Him! After our souls were fed with food from Heaven, we were off to fill our bellies with food from earth. Our "mistress of ceremonies" i.e. "lady with the bell", kept us on time, did the introductions and made us chuckle as well. What a talented lady!! After lunch, we were called to continue our "fourth day" mission by passionate and encouraging words from one more faithful Spiritual Director. Our Deacon of the day, closed with prayer and motivating words from Scripture to RESPOND to our call. Thank you to all who listened to the whisper of the Holy Spirit to attend. Thank you to the many people who prayed for and planned this event. I believe we made God smile.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandy Scheibe