

Green Bay Diocese Cursillo Newsletter ***October, 2008***



“Those Darn Women Drivers!!!” ***Spiritual Director’s Comments***

This morning on the highway I looked to my left and there was a woman in a brand new Cadillac doing 75 mph with her face up next to her rear view mirror putting on her eyeliner. I looked away for a couple of seconds and when I glanced back, she was half over in my lane still working on that makeup. Now, as a man, I don't generally scare that easily but she so frightened me that I dropped my electric shaver which knocked the donut out of my hand. In all the confusion of trying to straighten out the car using my knees against the steering wheel, my cell phone got pulled away from my ear which fell into the coffee between my legs. It splashed all over my lap with burning pain, ruined the phone, soaked my pants and disconnected a very important call. Those darned women drivers!!!

Isn't that the way it is? It's always someone else's fault. The blame game is such an easy trap to fall into and at a time when there's an election in a couple of weeks, the economy is spiraling downward out of control, and the Packers are nearly abysmal, there is enough blaming going on to start a war. Sadly, the ease with which we blame others for our own failures extends into our spiritual lives. "He talked me out of going to church; she talked me into one more drink; my parents created a dysfunctional family; the priests are too lax; the media enticed me into thinking everybody's doing it," and on and on and on.

Cursillo, in a way only the Holy Spirit could dream up, so floods our lives with the love and mercy of God that we end up becoming so much more responsible for the choices that we make. On the weekend, we aren't yelled at or reprimanded; we're not even challenged, really; we're just so loved that we step up to the plate and change our lives in order to say "thank you" to a God who is so in love with us that Jesus died

for us. We stop blaming others for who we are and what we have become and, as we surround ourselves with fellow Cursillistas who become a positive influence in our lives, we start crediting them (actually the Spirit working through them) with making us the new persons we have become.

What a grace-filled transformation. We let go of the bitterness toward others and replace it with admiration; we bury our negativity and allow hopefulness to surge within; we admit our sinfulness and are humbled before the mercy of our God; we resist the urge to be self-centered and do palanca instead. And now we will have new babe-chicks to welcome into our community and send them forth with inflamed hearts and a passion for sharing the Good News of God's grace. Praise the Lord for changing my life!

DeColores, Fr. Dave Pleier

School of Leaders Notes

The School of Leaders resumed meeting in September with a great presentation by Fr Dave Pleier about the Sacraments Rollo. Thanks Fr Dave for all your time that you give to Cursillo.

We will go back to having 2 sessions every month starting in October. The first one will still be on the first Tuesday of each month, but now it will be held at St. John's in Little Chute in Room 11. For the Little Chute sessions in room 11, park on Pine St and use that entrance. The one in Green Bay will continue to be on the third Tuesday at St Elizabeth Anne Seton parish. They both start at 7pm.

This year, we will continue to have group reunion and to study the Rollos from the revised manual. We will also be studying the book, *Reaching Jesus, Five Steps to a Fuller Life*, by Fr David Knight. It is a great book and an 'easy read' which will help us "to experience our union with Christ and to live out our baptism with clear and conscious awareness."

We will have copies of the book available at closing and at sessions of School of Leaders. Thanks to Ann Hocking from *On This Rock* Book Shop in Oshkosh, we are only charging \$7.00 per copy. They are also available at Barnes and Noble for \$7.95.

Respectfully Submitted, Jane Varick





Lay Director's Message(s)

Help Wanted with Ultreyas: Some Ultreyas have folded, some are in trouble and some are in sort of a Limbo. What can we do???? Attendance: It is never too late to start or return to attendance. Remember that the 4th day is the rest of our lives. Also as sponsors we have a responsibility to bring the new Cursillistas to Ultreyas.

Offer to do the Scripture Reading and Reflection. Offer to do a witness. Everyone has a story. Offer to share your story with the community. This witness does not need to be a "Mountaintop Experience". It merely should be how the Cursillo method has affected your life.

Some of the benefits that I have discovered at Ultreyas are the many friends that I have acquired. Ultreyas have helped me to explore new ways to improve my Spiritual life. If you have any questions or can find it in your heart to help, contact me: Bob Varick – 920-733-0899 bvarick@new.rr.com

Sharing of Books: At the Green Bay Ultreya I was asked if there was a way that Cursillistas could share good books, etc with other Cursillistas. I know at the Kaukauna Ultreya books are brought in to share. Again, if anyone has any ideas on a method to expand this sharing, please contact me. I remember thinking at the library of John Quincy Adams in Boston, there are so many books here but no one is able to read them.

Financial: Lastly, we need help with the financial portion of Cursillo. Our only sources of income are at the weekends and through some generous donations from Cursillistas. Our expenses begin at the weekends with food, supplies, and donation for the facility. Expenses also include National and Regional dues. We also run into special expenses such as the ad in the Compass to welcome the new bishop. Our biggest expense continues to be the Newsletter. Using the Internet has helped. We have gone to the less expensive postcard format for the summer and winter mailing and this also has helped.

The next article by Julie Huss addresses possible ways to keep our heads above water.

Other suggestions include a free will donation jar available at the closings or to have some sort of annual subscription donation. If anyone has

additional suggestions, please contact Julie or me. Please continue to pray for the Cursillo every day.

**Ultreya,
Bob Varick, Lay Director**



Will You Help Sponsor the Newsletter?

As you all know, the costs of printing and mailing our treasured newsletter are ever mounting. We had tried e-mailing to cut costs, but unfortunately we found that fewer people were reading this vital communication from our Cursillo Community. The cost of the weekend has gone up as well (due to food, supplies, etc.) and we want to try to keep the Cursillo experience as economical as possible. So how can you help? How about sponsoring the newsletter? It costs us about **\$5000 per year** to mail the 4 newsletters and 2 post cards each year. If we had just **20 generous sponsors** come forward to make a tax deductible donation of **\$250** we would be OK. You could even place a company logo or message to share in the Newsletter! We think this could be a wonderful way to help support Cursillo in general and the Newsletter specifically.

Please prayerfully consider if you could help us out with this and contact Julie Huss at 920-788-8847 or ajatjhuss@new.rr.com.

DeColores! Julie Huss



Impulse Buy!

While shopping at St. Patrick's bookstore in Appleton, the book "Walking on a Rolling Deck: Life on the Ark" by Kathy Berken was on the counter. We did an impulse buy.

I ordinarily don't read many books but I found the book riveting, couldn't put it down and completed in a matter of hours. Needless to say it was great.

Kathy is a Cursillista from Green Bay, been on Cursillo teams in the past and worked as a High School teacher and for the Green Bay Compass. The book is sort of a diary of her experience in moving from Green Bay to a ministry to work with the L'Arche community in Iowa. Kathy is scheduled to do a book review at the Janssen Forum at Mt Tabor in Menasha on May 14, 2009.

Bob Varick



Men's Cursillo #209 – October 30, 31, November 1 & 2, 2008
St. John The Baptist – Howard

TEAM

DAY CHAIRPERSONS

Rector: Mike Steers
730-9398

Vice Rector: Mike Giffin
739-8334

Spiritual Director: Fr. Willie Van de Loo
338-1113

Asst. Spiritual Director: Dc. Dave De Young
757-6555

Proctors: Peter Tilleman (Kitchen) 339-0166
Matt Steinkopf 662-0224
Andy Pichette 406-6053
Nick Williams 494-5105

Set Up: Oct. 30
Thurs. – 3:30PM

Thursday Night:

Friday:

Breakfast 7:45 338-8253
Lunch 12:30
Dinner 6:00

Saturday:

Breakfast 7:00 336-7077
Agape 1:30
Dinner 6:15

Vic Vosters
734-8499

Gino Frassetto
968-5199

Ellen Tilleman
339-0166

Renee Weber
7:45 338-8253

Pat & Gerry Mikulsky
7:00 336-7077
1:30
6:15

Steve Schuh
788-4600

Breakfast 8:30
Lunch 12:00
Dinner 5:30

Clean Up: 5:00

Gino Frassetto
968-5199

Palanca Address: Attn: Cursillo #209 Palanca
St. John The Baptist
2597 Glendale Ave
Green Bay, WI 54313-6821

Serenade: 6:00 PM - Look For Signs

Emergency Phones: 920-737-0630 or 737-9789

Directions: From the South: Take Hwy 41 North to exit 170-Velp Ave. Turn left on Velp Ave, continue 0.8 miles to Glendale Ave. Turn left on Glendale Ave and go 0.60 miles to Church on the left. From the North: Hwy 41 South to Velp Ave-Exit #170. Turn right on Velp. Continue as noted above.



Sponsors... Please make sure Candidates accepted after this date receive Palanca

For more information on Cursillo and the Green Bay Diocese Movement go to: www.cursillo.org/Greenbay

✿ To See an Updated List of Candidates Right Up to Cursillo E-Mail Bob Varick @ bvarick@new.rr.com ✿