

# ***Green Bay Diocese Cursillo Newsletter***

## ***March, 2010***



### ***“I’m Here to Fix the Leaky Pipe”*** ***Spiritual Director’s Comments***

A lady answered her front door to find a plumber standing there. “I’m here to fix a leaky pipe,” he announced. “I didn’t call a plumber,” she said. “What?” huffed the plumber? “Aren’t you Mrs. McElroy?” “No,” she said. “The McElroy’s moved a year ago.” “How do you like that!” grunted the plumber. “They call you up and tell you it’s an emergency and then they move!”

My invitation to both men and women to make a Cursillo often has tones of “it’s an emergency” in it. Especially on those weekends where I am the spiritual director, I feel an urgency and a responsibility to find candidates. Not always trusting that grace works on God’s schedule rather than my own, I sometimes even become rather testy when people say they can’t make it. I start pleading and cajoling and bargaining with God by fasting and almsgiving in the hopes that God will determine that it is the right time for His grace to work.

I hope that this may all sound familiar, for I don’t want to be the only one who thinks like this. Yes, to find a balance between being prayerfully persuasive and annoyingly overbearing is the fine line of living the Fourth Day. Our lives should be transformed sufficiently that we rarely even have to invite. Others should seek us out because of the joy that they have seen in us. Mother Theresa often told her sisters that they should not have to talk about Jesus or preach about him to others; rather, they should *be* Jesus. And when that happens, their neighbors who are Hindus and Muslims will want to meet Him.

As we enter into the spirit of Palanca for those who will be experiencing the Cursillo this March, may our lives be consistently open to the grace of prayer and sacrifice and may our every day be filled with such joy that even those who know us well will wonder what we’re up to. Blessings on all of you who live your Fourth Day in such depth that I am inspired to be the best person I can be! And thanks for all you will be doing to ensure that I don’t get in the way of God’s Spirit on Cursillo #215!

***DeColores,***  
***Fr. Dave Pleier***

### ***“Joy Sharing”*** ***Lay Director’s Comments***

I recently *Googled* for news concerning the Roman Catholic Church and came across a website where an individual asked others to “Share their JOY on being Catholic”. I was intrigued to read further and came across several posts. But this one really got me. The following is from a faith-filled woman of Albany, Georgia:

*“I have been a devout Catholic for most of my life. Last week a good friend of my son passed away. His name was Lenny. My son, my husband and I attended his funeral. Lenny was a former Catholic that attended a Baptist Church in town. Lenny was a black man that was full of life and a good friend to all he met. I had never been to a Baptist Church, especially one filled with a predominantly black congregation. But I felt their love and their sadness and also felt the acceptance of our being white within a black church and that it did not matter to them. The Holy Spirit was moving in that church. I could feel it.*

*As I looked around though I began to notice there was no altar, no statues, no priest, no candles, no Tabernacle with my Jesus in there ... nothing to remind me of why I would attend church. And despite the comforting words of that faith, I missed everything Catholic. There was only a pulpit with a cross above. The minister talked about being born again in a way that was very foreign to me. I knew to be born again is to be born of water and spirit ... Baptism. I love my Catholic Church for all the things that make it Catholic inside my Church and my Jesus in the Holy Eucharist where He waits for me and you to visit Him in the Tabernacle. That's why I am a Catholic and that's what gives me JOY ... Jesus in the Eucharist to receive at Mass and so much more.”*

Here are a few simple words that say so much. When we lived our Cursillo, we “shared our joy.” We shared it throughout the Cursillo with our table mates, other candidates, the team, the spiritual advisors, the kitchen crew, with just about everyone! We shared it the next day, and the next, and the next. How are we doing now? Are we still “sharing our joy” with our family, within our small group reunion, at an Ultreya, within our parish, within our workplace, with our neighbors and friends? Cursillo has given us the JOY. We need only continue to share it during our Fourth Day.

***DeColores, Bobbi Hoff***



***Memorial to Dr. Ed Weisse***  
**July 7, 1926 - January 12, 2010**

A long time, good friend to Cursillo in the Green Bay Diocese, Dr. Ed Weisse went to meet the Lord this past January 12, 2010. Ed and his devoted wife, Janet, were active Cursillistas for many years, each of them having worked on many Cursillos in various capacities from proctor to rollo presenter, vice-rector and rector from the 1960's to the 1990's. They also served on the secretariat for a number of years and were co-editors of the newsletter for a time. Ed had also developed a program for the Leaders School which he administered and taught in the 70's. When they weren't working directly on a Cursillo they could be found working in the kitchen or doing palanca in the chapel. Ed also wrote a weekly prayer meditation for the Compass Diocesan paper for many years.

Ed and Janet made their Cursillos in the Gary, Indiana Diocese in 1964 and 65. He and Janet moved to Oshkosh in 1966 where Ed took a position at UW Oshkosh teaching in the Education Department. He immediately inquired about Cursillo in this area and became actively involved in promoting it in the Oshkosh area and becoming involved with the secretariat. I had the good fortune to meet Ed in 1967 having moved to the area at the same time. Being that we were both transplanted Cursillistas, we began a group reunion together in 1967 and met weekly throughout the years with a variety of different men. Due to poor health, Ed had to discontinue coming a year ago but the group is still meeting weekly. Throughout his entire life, even as a young man, Ed was a devout and prayerful man who deeply loved the Lord. He was constantly reading in an effort to improve himself and learn more about his faith which he shared willingly. He lived what he preached.

A good testimony to Ed's life can be gleaned from a letter that he wrote to Janet before they were to be married. *"Before you make up your mind I should tell you a little about myself, huh? I want more than anything in the world to do God's will. I want as many children as God sees fit to give, and I want to serve God by giving myself to my wife and children. I want a home where the rosary is said daily and where all the members of the home receive God in Holy Communion very often and daily if possible."*

Ed and Janet raised 14 children together; one son died at age 3 due to cancer. Ed was a wonderful example of living out his faith which he loved. He was a daily communicant throughout his life. We

here in Oshkosh miss him but know he is enjoying fullness with the Lord.

***Respectfully Submitted,***  
***Bill Hammond***



***School of Leaders is for You!***

The School of Leaders is off and running for another "school" year. At each session we will discuss a chapter in the book **"Essentials of the Faith-A Guide to the Catechism of the Catholic Church"** by Fr. Alfred McBride. Whether you have read the book or not, you are always welcome to attend. Books can be purchased on Amazon.

The School of Leaders is held the third Tuesday of the month at St. Nicholas parish in Freedom. The format for this year is: 1) after an opening prayer, there will be discussion of a chapter in the book, 2) a short presentation by a member(s) of the Secretariat discussing their role on the Secretariat, and, 3) group reunion and closing prayer.

School of Leaders is a great way to carry out your 4<sup>th</sup> day. It is a way to educate yourself about the Cursillo movement and grow in your faith. Being at School of Leaders does not guarantee that you will be asked to serve on a team, nor does it force you to be on a team, but if the possibility of serving on a team intrigues you, it's a great place to start!

Please prayerfully consider attending School of Leaders. We are so blessed to have such a vibrant Cursillo movement in our diocese, but the only way that can continue, is to have a well-attended School of Leaders.

***Respectfully,***  
***Joan Van Eperen***



**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES!**

**Women's Cursillo Weekend #216**

April 8 - 11, 2010 @ St. Mary's in Menasha

**Diocese Day of Renewal (See Page 4) May 22**





**Men's Cursillo #215 – March 11,12,13, &14, 2010**

**Holy Rosary Parish-Kewaunee, WI**

**TEAM**

**Rector:** **Mike Giffin**  
739-8334  
**Vice Rector:** **Tom Mullins**  
734-0124  
  
**Spiritual Director:** **Fr. Dave Pleier**  
328-7020

**Proctors:** **Kevin Weber** 738-9455  
**Jeff Brockman** 788-1821  
**Dan Besch** 731-3727  
**Pete Tilleman** 339-0166 (Kitchen)

**Palanca Address:** **Attn: Cursillo #215 Palanca**  
P.O. Box 184  
Little Chute, WI 54140

**Serenade:** **6:00 PM - Look For Signs**  
**Emergency Phones:** 920-737-0630 Pete Tilleman-Cell

**DAY CHAIRPERSONS**

**Set Up:** **Vic Vosters**  
**Wed – 6:00 PM** 734-1249 or  
734-8499  
**Thursday Night:** **Ellen Tilleman**  
339-0166

**Friday:** **Mary Ellen Konop**  
388-2476  
Breakfast 7:45  
Lunch 12:30  
Dinner 6:00

**Saturday:** **Cathy & Greg McLean**  
819-2530  
Breakfast 7:00  
Agape 1:30  
Dinner 6:15

**Sunday:** **Michael Frohna**  
983-8145  
Breakfast 8:30  
Lunch 12:00  
Dinner 5:30

**Clean Up:** **Vic Vosters** 4:30  
734-1249

**Directions:** Holy Rosary Parish-Follow WI-29 east to Kewaunee, WI. Parish is visible on the right side on top of hill one block before WI-29 ends. Go right here onto Dodge St. Go one block take right onto Kilbourn St go one block to Juneau St take right to parish.



For more information on Cursillo and the Green Bay Diocese Movement go to: [www.cursillo.org/Greenbay](http://www.cursillo.org/Greenbay)  
To See an Updated List of Candidates Right Up to Cursillo E-Mail Bob Varick @ [bvarick@new.rr.com](mailto:bvarick@new.rr.com) or Phone: 920-733-0899

**More Important Notes and Reminders!**

- **Palanca** is distributed on **Friday afternoon**. Please make sure it is mailed in time.
- Palanca can also be dropped off at the Cursillo location in the Mail Box located on the Cursillo trailer.
- Help us stay current with the mailing list! Let us know if you move or if you know of someone who has moved or passed away.
- Want to get more involved in Cursillo? Forms are always available in the back of church at closings.

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

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### *A Message from Tom Gritton & the Public Relations Committee*

I recently accepted the role of Diocesan Public Relations Committee Chair for the Green Bay Cursillo movement. I am hoping to establish a committee in the next couple of months to address the many publicity needs of the Green Bay Cursillo community. My hope is to have a grass roots effort to make Cursillo a widespread household name in the Green Bay Diocese. How often have we heard at a closing, “Cursillo is the best kept secret of the Catholic church.”? My goal is to have this committee change that perception. I will need as many people as are willing to help in this endeavor. There will be more to come at the next two closings in March and April. Please think about getting involved and give me a call at (920) 585-9620 or an e-mail at [lgritton@new.rr.com](mailto:lgritton@new.rr.com) if you have questions or are interested in helping with this committee.

**First announcement of the new Public Relations Committee.** Bishop Ricken has invited all members of the Green Bay Diocese to participate in the first Diocesan wide day of renewal. Below is an open letter from Bishop Ricken. Cursillo members are helping plan this day of renewal. If you have an interest please let me know.

***Respectfully Submitted, Tom Gritton***

*Peace to You in Christ Jesus,*

*After much prayer and consideration, I am very excited to announce that on Pentecost Saturday there will be a Diocesan wide day of renewal held at the Cathedral in Green Bay. The theme for the day will focus on being renewed in the Holy Spirit with emphasis on “A Call to Holiness.” Our guest Speaker will be Ralph Martin who I greatly respect and is well known for his ministry in Evangelization and profound gift of spiritual wisdom. Ralph has preached the gospel message of Jesus Christ throughout the continent. His message centers on being converted in Jesus Christ in and through the power of the power of the Holy Spirit of which he follows up with teachings (based on the church’s wisdom, the saints and sacred scriptures) which give insights and inspiration in growing deeper in holiness through prayer in and through the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the foundation from which one is then ready to go forth and spread the good news with the passion and love of Jesus Christ to all.*

*Ralph will provide three talks on Pentecost Saturday, one on the call to Holiness, another on Evangelization, and a third on the Holy Spirit in the Heart of Mary. As Shepherd of the Green Bay Diocese, I am strongly encouraging everyone to participate in this day event of prayer and inspired teaching. This can truly be a day where the Holy Spirit can light it’s fire within your hearts (a renewed personal Pentecost experience.)*

***Truly in Christ, Bishop David Rickens †***