



Green Bay Diocese Cursillo

Spring 2020 Newsletter

Spring Cursillos Cancelled Lay Director's Comments

On Tuesday March 10th the Cursillo Secretariat held our regular monthly meeting and discussed the Corona Virus and whether we should move forward with the Men's Cursillo as scheduled (March 26th - March 28th) or cancel the weekend. After lengthy discussion we decided to go ahead as scheduled. But as the week progressed, with the World Health Organization officially naming this a Pandemic and the governor and president declaring State and National Emergency's, we have decided the best course of action is to cancel both the Men's and the Women's Spring Cursillos.

Considering the highly infectious nature of this virus and the vulnerability to the elderly and people with other lung health issues, like asthma and COPD cancelling the Cursillo weekends is the only responsible course of action.

As the dates for the Fall Cursillos have not yet been determined, it is our hope that the current Men's and Women's team members schedules will allow the team to reconnect in the fall and continue their team formation and preparation to lead the candidates in the fall. We also hope the sponsors will continue to support their candidates and be sure to get their candidates to the fall weekends.

Finally we ask for your prayers and palanca for all of those affected by this virus and for the Cursillo Movement itself.

De Colores

Jim Spierings

Spiritual Director Reflection

I have recently asked myself, "Am I doing my part to bring people to Christ?" Then I came across this story. Don't know if it is a true story or not. I think it really points out that even a young child knows we need to bring people to Christ.

Every Sunday afternoon, after the morning service at the church, the Pastor and his eleven-year-old son would go out into their town and hand out Gospel passages. This particular Sunday afternoon, as it came time for the Pastor and his son to go to the streets with their passages, it was very cold outside, as well as pouring rain. The boy bundled up in his warmest and driest clothes and said, "OK, dad, I'm ready." His Pastor dad asked, 'Ready for what? Dad, it's time we gather our passages together and go out.

Dad responds, 'Son, it's very cold outside and it's pouring rain.' The boy gives his dad a surprised look, asking, 'But Dad, aren't people still going to Hell, even though it's raining?' Dad answers, 'Son, I am not going out in this weather.' Despondently, the boy asks, 'Dad, can I go? Please?' His father hesitated for a moment then said, 'Son, you can go. Here are the passages, be careful son.' 'Thanks Dad!'

And with that, he was off and out into the rain. This eleven-year-old boy walked the streets of the town going door to door and handing everybody he met in the street a Gospel Passage. After two hours of walking in the rain, he was soaking, bone-chilled wet and down to his VERY LAST PASSAGE. He stopped on a corner and looked for someone to hand a passage to, but the streets were totally deserted.

Then he turned toward the first home he saw and started up the sidewalk to the front door and rang the doorbell. He rang the bell, but nobody answered. He rang it again and again, but still no one answered. He waited but still no answer.

Finally, this eleven-year-old trooper turned to leave, but something stopped him. Again, he turned to the door and rang the bell and knocked loudly on the door with his fist. He waited, something holding him there on the front porch! He rang again and this time the door slowly opened.

Standing in the doorway was a very sad-looking elderly lady. She softly asked, 'What can I do for you, son?' With radiant eyes and a smile that lit up her world, this little boy said, 'Ma'am, I'm sorry if I disturbed you, but I just want to tell you that JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU and I came to give you my very last Gospel Passage which will tell you all about JESUS and His great LOVE.'

With that, he handed her his last passage and turned to leave. She called to him as he departed. 'Thank you, son! And God Bless You!' (This is not the whole story). If you want the "Rest of this Story", please send me an email at deacontomgritton@gmail.com and I will forward it to you.

Cursillo is the beginning of many people's lives of getting to really know our Lord. So now is the time to invite that friend. Remember, Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ.

God Bless,

Deacon Tom Gritton

DAY OF ENRICHMENT REPORT

On February 1, 2020 One hundred fifteen Cursillistas gathered for the 14th Annual Day of Enrichment at St. John Nepomucene Parish in Little Chute. We began the day with Fr. Ted Hendricks celebrating Mass, with Deacon Mike Eash assisting and Doug Hietpas leading us in song. Following Mass, Karen Stumpf, Larry Heacock and Ernie Scheld each shared their inspiring stories of how Cursillo has impacted their lives. Our emcee, Bill Meo, did a great job introducing each of the speakers and keeping the day running smoothly. Much like a Cursillo weekend, everyone attending had the opportunity to reflect on the witness talks and participate in small group discussions. Deacon Eash ended the day with his reflection, "Where Do We Go From Here?"

Once again, the steering committee of Jim and Sue Spierings and Sally and Mark Gruber wishes to thank St. John Nepomucene Parish for their hospitality, as well as the many people who helped to make the 14th Annual Day of Enrichment a wonderful event through their offers of prayers, time and talent. We are blessed to have many people so committed to spreading the good news of Jesus Christ to the world.

Submitted by Sally Gruber

A Note From The Newsletter And Membership Database Editor

I want to thank Julie Huss and Sally Gruber for helping me begin my tenure as the Cursillo community of Green Bay Diocese's newsletter and membership database editor. 2020 is my first year of retirement so this will give me something to do.

Please keep me in prayer as I learn what needs to be done, when it is due and who I need to contact to get it.

Anne Shelley, Member since 2000.