

Cursillo *Notes*

Upcoming Cursillo Weekends: *Teams in Formation*

Please keep these Cursillistas in your prayers as they form the teams who will touch the lives of others in the name of Jesus Christ.

Also pray that a Spiritual Director will be called forward for the Women's weekend.

	Open Wide the Doors to Christ (Men's Weekend)	Christ Be Our Light (Women's Weekend)
Coordinator	Mike Kachuba	Diane Bourdeau
Assistant Coordinator	Joe DeLucia	Gina Donnarummo
Spiritual Director	Fr. Martin DeMayo	Fr. Nick Pavia
Spiritual Director	Deacon Jim Brown	Sr. Lorraine Quinn
Resource/Palanca	Peter Baumgartner	Jan Glennan
Music	Wayne Leiss	Ginny Gorman
Chapel	Ray Bourdeau	Maureen Ciardiello
Head Cha	Mike Cranston	Gail Palermo
Cha	Mike Swain	Carol Twiggs
Cha	Brian Platz	Mary Beth Rauser
Cha	Joe Kotulich	Edwina Cardozo
Cha	Tony Camacho	Ginny Rogers
Ideal	Bill Sullivan	Pat Kelly
Layperson in the Church	Joe Koletar	Sheila Marcinauskis
Piety	Vin Pizzo	Cindy Cessna
Study	Phil Palermo	Juleen Flannigan
Action	Don Babiyon	Donna Prutting
Leaders	Bob Glennan	Anne Marie Romano
Study of Environments	Jim Brezinski	Marianne Smythe
Christianity in Action	George Little	Maria Pavia

We're sorry!

Please keep Ellen Ademski in your prayers. This new Cursillista who attended the last Women's Weekend was left off our list in the last newsletter. Bless you, Ellen!

Dates for Upcoming Weekends

Men's Spring Weekend Rescheduled

For years you've been wanting to ask your brother or father or husband or best friend to experience a Men's Cursillo Weekend. Ask now! Invite them *now* to the next Men's Weekend: **Sept. 18-21, 2008**. Orientation takes place on September 3, 2008.

Women's Spring Weekend

"Christ Be Our Light" Women's Weekend takes place May 15-18. Applications are still being accepted at presstime.

2009 Weekends:

Men's Weekend:

March 19-22, 2008. Orientation will take place on March 4, 2009.

Women's Weekend:

April 23-26, 2009. (Easter is on April 12 next year.) The orientation will be Wednesday, April 8 (the Wednesday of Holy week).

A note from the *The Directors*

PLEASE JOIN US!

The 18th National Cursillo Encounter is being held in Washington, DC at Catholic University of America; Thursday July 31–Sunday August 3, 2008. The theme for the weekend is “Christ Is Our Light.”

Don’t pass up this chance to celebrate the Sacraments, Adoration, and Benediction in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. This experience will enhance all three legs of your tripod as you meet, pray and study with Cursillistas from all over the United States, representing many cultures and ethnic groups.

The Encounter’s Fiesta, on Saturday night, will feature many of these communities in song and dance. Come with us and live your faith in a new way with your brothers and sisters from the Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Pilippine, Korean and English speaking communities. Group travel arrangements are a possibility either by train or carpools. We encourage you to prayerfully consider this spirit filled opportunity.

Registration forms and agenda for the encounter can be found on the National Cursillo web site. www.natl-cursillo.org

De Colores,
Fr. Paul Merry & Cindy Bruno

A note about the *4th Day Committee*

Our mission is to provide Cursillistas with the necessary structure and support to persevere in their commitments to live the basics of being a Christian and to effectively evangelize their environments. **4th Day Committee Objectives:**

- To assist in forming and maintaining healthy Group Reunions
- To maintain and foster the vitality and authenticity of Ultreyas and participation in them
- Presentation of annual Day of Reflection and annual picnic for the Cursillo community

Our movement is committed to the continuing development and encouragement of the Cursillistas of the Diocese. Through the our Friendship groups, Ultreyas, annual picnic, Day of Reflection and other means, this Movement becomes closer, stronger, more committed and more effective in accomplishing the Lord’s work.

Committee members:

Peter Baumgartner, Chair: pjbaumgart@yahoo.com

Annette Bonomo, Bridgeport Ultreya, Day of Reflection: mbonomo200@earthlink.net

Phil & Gail Palermo, Bethel-area Ultreya: phil@palermonet.com or commommy@palermonet.com

Jim Bruno, Bethel-area Ultreya: bruno355@sbcglobal.net

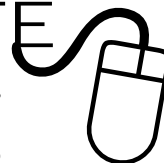
Peg Foster, Grouping Co-ordination: pforster@customvault.com

Eileen Masaryk, Grouping Coordination

Tom Restivo, Picnic: thomasrestivo@aol.com

NEWSLETTER MAILING UPDATE

Help us save on printing and postage costs: Consider receiving the newsletter by e-mail.



How would you like to receive the Cursillo Newsletter?

Name: _____

Please check ONE and mail to Dolores Pace, 87 Toddy Hill Rd., Sandy Hook, CT 06482:

E-Mail: Current **e-mail** address: _____

OR, send your e-mail address to Dolores Pace at dodofloss@earthlink.net; *we will do our best to keep your e mail address restricted to Cursillo business only.*

Regular mail: Current **street** address: _____

Our web site has been updated!

www.natl-cursillo.org/bridgeport

- Calendar and contacts have been updated.
- Cursillo applications are available on the web site.
- Watch for additional updates and changes.



www.natl-cursillo.org

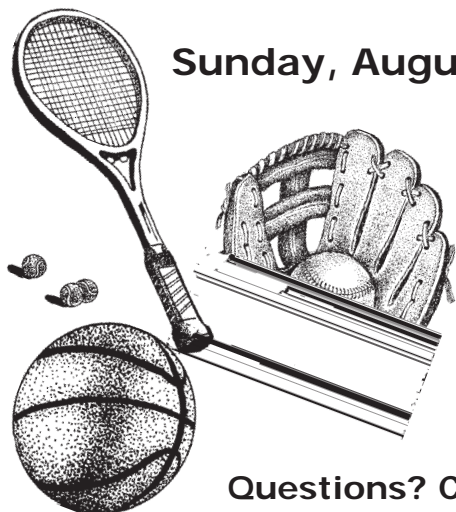
On the National web site you will find:

Information and registration for the National Encounter
Cursillo Literature • National News Letters
School of Leaders Articles • Cursillo Gift Shop
Link to Lighthouse Catholic Media
USA Cursillo links to local web sites

Diocese of Bridgeport *Annual*

Cursillo Picnic

Sunday, August 10 • Wolfe Park, Monroe • 1-5 pm



You bring a dish or salad to share,
plus food to barbeque for your family.
We'll provide paper goods, utensils,
ice and beverages *as well as* grills,
swimming pool,
tennis courts, playing fields
and games!

**Questions? Call Tom Restivo, (203) 268-8409
or (203) 381-4819**

Cursillo *Calendar*

April-December 2008

Bethel-Area Ultreya

*at St. Mary Parish Center, Bethel at 7:30pm,
third Thursday of the month*

April 17, 2008
May 8, 2008 (second Thursday)
July 17, 2008
August 21, 2008
October 16, 2008
November 20, 2008

Bridgeport Ultreya

*at the Catholic Center, Bridgeport at 7:30pm,
first Tuesday of the month*

April 1, 2008
May 6, 2008
July 1, 2008
August 5, 2008
October 7, 2008
November 4, 2008

Central Ultreya

*at Our Lady of Fatima, Wilton, at 7:30pm,
first Tuesday of March, June, Sept., Dec.*

March 4, 2008
June 3, 2008
September 2, 2008
December 2, 2008

Upcoming Weekends

at Seton-Neumann, Danbury

Women's: May 15-18, 2008
Men's: September 18-21, 2008
Men's: March 19-22, 2009
Women's: April 23-26, 2009

School of Leaders

*at the Holy Family of Nazareth, Monroe
9-11:30am*

April 12, 2008
May 10, 2008
June 14, 2008

Why wait to join us?

Do you want to enhance your 4th day? Do you want to do more than grouping and Ultreya? Are you ready to increase your piety, study, and action?

School of Leaders is the answer!

School of Leaders is a structured, spiritual program which helps all Cursillistas on our fourth day journey. It also helps us learn more about our Cursillo movement. We are all called to be Christian leaders in our everyday environments. School of Leaders is open to *all* Cursillistas, so when you come, invite a friend.

Attending is a way to deepen your **piety** through song, prayer, and grouping; you can increase your **study** through learning and discussing the lay talks from the Cursillo weekend; and perform **apostolic action** by bringing your friends closer to Christ.

We meet once a month on Saturdays at Nazareth Spiritual Life Center, Route 111, Monroe beginning at 9 a.m. If you would like more information, please call Gina at 922-9963. Refreshments are served.

Don't anticipate, participate!

A Note About *Precursillo*

What is Precursillo?

Precursillo is the study of environments and the looking for influential persons within those environments. Precursillo is also the preparation of those who will attend the 3-day Cursillo weekend, with a view toward a continuous living of the Cursillo method in the Postcursillo (4th Day).

Why Precursillo?

The end purpose of the Cursillo Movement is the leavening of environments with the Gospel. We seek to do this not by means of direct and global action on all Christians, but by choosing from among them ***those who seem to have the potential to encourage human communities and bring them to Christ.*** The mentality of the Cursillo is to transform the person so that they can Christianize **their** world – “bloom where they are planted.”

How do we prepare candidates for the Cursillo?

Preparation is usually accomplished by one individual who sponsors the candidate through the action method of: “making a friend, being a friend and bringing that friend to Christ” or to a better

Precursillo is the preparation of those who will attend the 3-day Cursillo weekend.

relationship with Christ. Sponsors pray for direction from the Holy Spirit, give authentic witness of their Christian life, provide the candidate with as much information as possible (provide them with the booklet: *The Cursillo Movement – What is It?*) and take responsibility for introducing the candidate to the

Cursillo community. They also support their candidate until the new Cursillista is fully incorporated into his/her own Christian community. Sponsors are encouraged to have their group reunion assist them in preparation, particularly in prayer. (*From Cursillo Leaders' Manual*, pp. 83-95.)

How do I sponsor a candidate for the Cursillo?

Sponsors must read the Sponsor Guidelines and/or the Sponsor booklet and be familiar with the responsibilities of sponsorship. Application forms may be obtained at Ultreyas or may be downloaded from our website, www.cursillo.org/bridgeport. All 3 parts of the completed application are then sent to the Precursillo chairperson (Ginny Gorman). You will be contacted when a weekend is scheduled and given specific weekend information to share with your candidate and his/her family.

How can I help?

The Precursillo Committee needs help from the community! In addition to sponsoring, we ask you to prayerfully consider assisting us as a member of the Precursillo Committee or as a “Cha” for one or more of the Orientation Nights held before each weekend. If you feel that you can help in any capacity, please contact Ginny Gorman (203) 270-7143 or at gormanfamily1@msn.com. Thank you and may God bless you in your efforts to spread His good news and bloom where YOU are planted!!

Founder of Cursillo Eduardo Bonnin dies at age 90

Eduardo Bonnin, founder of the Cursillo movement, died February 6. Exactly 68 years earlier Bonnin read a speech that Pope Pius XII had given to parish priests and parishioners of Rome. The Holy Father called on the faithful to seek new ways to let everyone know the love of God, especially those in distant lands and “faraway” from God.

Bonnin took those words and created his basic Cursillo principles: The love of God, friendship and the person. His life was dedicated to developing the union of these principles and in 1944 he organized the first Cursillo Weekend.

Bonnin is already in heaven having Group Reunion with the Father, sending the joy of the Resurrection to all Cursillistas of the world!

Join the Cursillo Music Ministry

Brian Cavanaugh invites you to share your gift of musicianship and with the Cursillo Music Ministry. Musicians with instruments are needed. Contact Brian at: bcavanaugh@sikorsky.com



Palanca needed for Women's Weekend

We're asking the Cursillo community to pray and do palanca for the upcoming "Christ Be Our Light" Women's Weekend, May 15-18, 2008. Please call if you'd like more information or have any questions, contact Jan Glennan (203) 438-5130 or jglennan@sbcglobal.net.

De Colores!



RED is the color of righteousness.

We are washed clean by the blood of the Lamb and returned to a right relationship with our God. Pray for an ever-increasing relationship with God.

ORANGE is the color of the new morning sun.

Born again in Christ, we are new creations. Pray for new insights as you recommit your life to Christ daily.

YELLOW is for the light of Christ.

Pray that the light of Christ will always guide your path and warm your heart.

GREEN is the color of the season of growth.

Pray for continual growth in the knowledge of Christ and who you are as a child of God.

BLUE is for the waters of life.

Pray for the nourishment that can only come from the Living Water as you continue your faith journey.

PURPLE is the color of passion.

Pray that the talents and gifts that God has granted you may be shared with the passion God deserves.