

Words From the Spiritual Director...

By Father Ray Brenner



As I write this article, I am preparing to leave for Italy in a few days, returning November 14. We have an election day so all the campaign slanders will hopefully be over by then. Then maybe come regrets. But there is plenty of room for prayer.

Unfortunately in many local as well as national campaigns, the Christian element seems to be lacking, love of Christ and love of one another. A Protestant minister once told me about the Protestant movement, "Maybe sometimes we protest to the point of where we forget what we are protesting." In all our ventures it seems the positive gets us further than the negative. St. Paul reminds us, "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

In the Cursillo movement we put our focus on Jesus Christ. If we can keep him before our eyes and our sights fixed on Jesus, we can't go wrong.

Welcome to the new Cursillistas from both the Men's and Women's weekends. May the fire of Christ's love be kept burning brightly and may you help spread it by inviting others to make a weekend.

De Colores, Fr. Ray

Looking ahead ...

The fall weekends are behind us, and it is already time to be thinking about the spring weekends coming up. We will be sending out invitations for the men's weekend the first week of January. At present we have 14 men's applications and 33 women's. Cursillo is in need of your prayers and your evangelization. Don't wait to the last minute to send in your friend's application.

God bless all the 4th day for all the work you do for Jesus!
Joe & Ruth Thompson, Pre-Cursillo Chairpersons

Spring Weekends

Men's # 71: Feb. 19 - 22, 2009

Coordinator: Al Debes
Asst. Coordinator: Joe Wellman

Women's # 76: March 19 - 22, 2009

Coordinator: Dianne Klein
Asst. Coordinator: To be determined

Words From the Lay Director...

By Bruce Bonenberger

"I came to you in weakness and fear and much trembling" 1 Cor. 2:3

The above words are those of St. Paul. Those words described me when I was asked to be Lay Director 6 years ago. It was my weakness that caused me to experience fear. If I was going to be pleasing to God in my role as Lay Director, I needed to live the Cursillo tripod of piety, study and action. I needed to be truly open to God's will at all times through prayer and discernment and to seek the mind of Christ and His Church. It was through discernment that I knew God was calling me. I had no choice except to say yes. "To recognize what God wants of us and yet not do it is a great offense against the majesty of God" wrote St. Faustina. I heard a homily some time ago where the priest said: "Tell everybody your magnificat and your witness to that yes." So I will humbly proclaim it while giving the glory to God.

With a heart seeking the will of Christ for the Evansville Cursillo Movement, I believe the Movement has advanced. I have used the official Cursillo literature, the teachings of the Regional and National leaders, and knowledge gained from attendance at Regional and National Encounters. These times of study formed me as a Cursillo Leader and along with the Secretariat we have designed our Cursillo Weekends to be more in line with an authentic Weekend as defined by the founder of Cursillo, Eduardo Bonnín.

He who is mighty has done great things for me and for others through me. This has happened by meeting people where they were in their lives and then pointing them to our Cursillo literature and Jesus. I promoted a spirit of unity, not only among the Secretariat and the School of Leaders but throughout the whole Diocesan Cursillo Movement. I always tried to come as a servant because it was always a lot easier to not be offended or upset when events did not go the way they were planned. I would remind myself that I was just the servant and God was in charge. God gave me the grace to persevere and serve the Cursillo Movement while living a life of stewardship of time, talent and treasure.

I am always a servant, always on a mission, known or unknown. I don't know what my next mission will be but when I hear the call, I will humbly pray as I did 6 years ago: "Hear I am Lord I come to do your will".

I leave the Secretariat with more than 10 years of service.

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They were good years and I will always be blessed by the memories. I have grown spiritually, discovered my hidden gifts and talents, sharpened my Christian leadership skills and experienced the joy of working with people. We hear in the Layperson in the Church talk, that we are responsible to work together joyfully and by our actions bring joy to the world. Secretariat members have chosen one from within our ranks to lead the Movement forward. He is a friend, he loves Jesus and Cursillo and he is well qualified to lead the Movement forward. I urge you to join me in supporting and doing palanca for the next Lay Director, Nick Wolf. May God's blessings flow upon each of you and the Cursillo Movement. De Colores! *Bruce Bonenberger*

Palanca - Al Debes

"Then he went out to the mountain to Pray, spending the night in communion with God." Luke 6: 12

The Author Vicki Bahr wrote an article on Prayer. She stated, some people will say that prayer is talking to God and others say that it's listening to God. Luke's words tell us that Jesus prayed by spending the night "in communion with God"

Communion is defined as intimate conversation. Conversation requires both listening and speaking. When we are praying at our very fullest, we should be open both to what we need to hear to hear from God and what we needed to say to God. If we skipped one of those steps, we've not having a real conversation. Spend some time in the Palanca Chapel and have a real CONVERSATION with GOD.

Regional News

The 2008 fall Encounter was recently held at St. Meinrad and hosted by the Evansville Cursillo Movement. A total of 92 Cursillistas were registered for the entire weekend of which 19 represented our diocese. Others were present as day attendees. The theme was "Give Glory to God".

Masses were held in the beautiful St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel in the School of Theology. Musicians and the choir provided many pleasing and joyful sounds as we gave praise to God. Talks were given by the Regional Team members and were titled: The Glory of God, Humility, Patience, Prayer and Having a Forgiving Love. Talks were followed by discussion and sharing with the whole assembly. There was an Ultreya on Saturday evening followed by a fiesta.

It was a wonderful spiritual weekend with lots of songs and fellowship. Truly, Jesus was present with us throughout the weekend. To read and hear the very favorable comments provided by the attendees were "close moments".

Make a friend

Be a friend

Bring a friend to Christ

How much was my Cursillo worth to me?

It would be most difficult if not impossible to place a value on one's Cursillo. You would have to start by looking at your life before Cursillo and comparing your life after Cursillo with an eye on where you will spend eternity. The Church and the Cursillo Movement is a realization on earth of God's kingdom, the final fulfillment of which is in eternity. "To Zacchaeus, the kingdom of God was worth half his goods; to Peter and Andrew it was worth the nets and the boat they gave up; to the widow it was worth two small coins." (Saint Gregory the Great). As you consider your year end donations, the Cursillo Secretariat humbly request that you place Cursillo in your thoughts and include a donation to our local Movement. Please send your check (payable to Evansville Cursillo) to:

**Cursillo in Christianity
P.O. Box 3253
Evansville, Indiana 47731**

Thank you. The leaders of the Cursillo Movement pray that you and your loved ones have a wonderful Thanksgiving and a joyous Christmas.

Post Cursillo by Judith and Nicholas Wolf

"Give to the Lord, the Glory due his name; bring an offering, And, come before Him in the splendor of worship".

(1 Chronicles 16:29)

This scripture verse echoes the theme of the Fall Regional Cursillo Encounter, "Give Glory to God", held at St Meinrad Archabbey this past Oct. 31 thru Nov 2. And we did indeed glorify our God. Ninety five Cursillistas, from six different states, gathered to pray, share and listen about how we can pay homage to our Glorious God. We learned through the talks, given by the Region IV Service Team, how we can grow closer to God through our patience, humility, prayer, and by having a forgiving love. This was an awesome and inspiring weekend, full of the Glory of God!

We would like to thank the regional team, and all of the 4th day, that made this encounter a priority in their work to change the world for Christ. Also, special appreciation goes to members of the Evansville Cursillo, who gave of their time, talents and treasure to make this weekend a wonderful success. The backbone of our entire Cursillo is the 4th day community, and we both ask that you keep all of the "behind the scenes" Cursillistas, leaders, and each other, in your daily prayers.

We would also like to take this opportunity to make an open appeal to all of the Evansville Dioscean Cursillistas; in December, Judy and I will be stepping down from the Post Cursillo position. We are in prayer now that this position will not go vacant. If anyone has thought about how they might become more involved, do a little more for Jesus, or help others persevere in spreading the good news, then we ask you to contact us for more info. Taking a leadership role in Cursillo requires a "servant's heart", but it does come with countless blessings, and the joy of working for Christ. If you are feeling a nudge from the Holy Spirit to give a little more, then we prayerfully request that you listen carefully. *(Psalm 46:10)* **The Cursillo Movement needs your help, and God may be calling YOU.** Incredibly, the men of Cursillo #71 will begin formations in about seven weeks, please keep them in your prayers and Palanca. Right now is a great time to invite your friend to make a weekend and help reclaim the world for our Lord. Jesus is counting on us.

Men's Cursillo #70 October 9–12, 2008

Dear 4th Day Community,

Through the combined efforts of 23 team members who served as instruments of our friend and Savior, Jesus Christ, and countless others who gave of their time and talents to serve us when Jesus called, 19 men answered the call to follow Him. Thank you for all the prayers and palanca, snacks and giving of your time to serve us this weekend. Very special thanks to Father Ray, Father Henry and Deacon Vince--what a blessing you were to all of us, both candidates and team.

We ask that you continue to pray for the new Cursillistas and assist them in any way you can. Encourage and help them to join a Friendship Group, and if at all possible bring them to an Ultreya. Please continue to pray for all the Friendship Groups and Ultreyas in the diocese that we will grow stronger and be able to answer "Hear I am Lord; I come to do Your Will" when He calls each of us, and we can come to Him, and on our way, bring a new friend with us.

God's Blessing on all of you. Joe Thompson

Welcome New Cursillistas—Men's #70

James Schroeder	Fr. Claude Burns
Bill Blanke	Matt Parmer
John Schroeder	Robert Goebel
Brad Wenderoth	Dan Masterson
Thomas Hajewski	Keith Blackgrove
Bob Rybski	David Lutz
Frank Shanley	Tom Rusche
Russell Hawkins	David Benston
Don Werner	Michael Vogel
Robert Bardley	



"Behold! I Make All Things New"

Evansville Women's Cursillo #75 November 6-9, 2008

Dear Brother & Sisters in Christ:

When you do the Lord's work, you always receive more than you give, and this weekend was no exception. The team was given 30 beautiful souls searching for a closer relationship with Jesus, and with the Lord's help, they all left the weekend feeling His love. They were 'fired up' and ready to be His apostles and take His message to the world.

With the 4th day community working tirelessly in the background, the team was able to devote our time and energies to serving the candidates, and it was through your prayers and Palanca that the weekend was filled with Christ's love, peace, and joy.

You can help the new Cursillistas make a smooth transition into the 4th day community by encouraging them to find a group and accompanying them to your local Ultreya. And, we ask that you continue to keep them in your prayers. The team and the candidates felt the power of the Holy Spirit throughout the weekend, and we all left Celebration Hall knowing that "Jesus makes all things new."

Yours in Christ, Judy Wolfe and Team #75

Welcome New Cursillistas—Women's Cursillo #75

Catty Ash	Judy Kissel	Leann Sander
Becky Attebury	Jo Kostka	Tammy Schroeder
Paula Benston	Jennifer Kuhn	Rebecca Sherer
Shirley Clemons	Mary Rose Mangin	Sandy Sitzman
Barbara Compton	Susan Martin	Lea Ann Taylor
Kathleen French	Susan Mills	Maggie Tieken
Ellen Hegeman	Deborah Neufelder	Lisbeth Vogel
Susan Helmer	Edna O'Daniel	Sharon Werner
Tricia Hollander Henning	Waynette Pankey	Renee Werner
Nancy Jones	Amy Parmer	Dolores Ziliak

<u>Secretariat Members</u>	
Spiritual Director	Fr. Ray Brenner
Lay Director	Nick Wolf
Secretary	Pat Krack
Treasurer	Dennis Seib
Pre-Cursillo	Joe & Ruth Thompson
3-Day	Dan Zimmer
Post-Cursillo	Nick & Judy Wolf
Palanca	Al Debes
Procurement	Tom & Delores Folz
School of Leaders	Thomas Anslinger

DEAR FOURTH DAY, Please remember to notify us if your email address or mailing address has changed. Please send your updated address to dkegen@sigecom.net or mail to return address on this newsletter.

Ultreya	Where	Day	Time
Our Lady of Hope	Washington	1st Monday	6:30 pm
St. Joseph	Jasper	2nd Monday	7:00 pm
Sts. Peter & Paul	Haubstadt	3rd Monday	After 6:30 Mass
St. John's	Newburgh	2nd Thursday	7:00 pm
Good Shepherd	Evansville	4th Thursday	7:00 pm
Resurrection	Evansville	Last Thursday	7:00 pm
St. Paul's	Tell City	2nd Thursday	7:00 pm

School of Leaders

When: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each Month

Where: St. John's, Daylight

Time: 7:00 PM CST/CDT

<http://www.evansvillecursillo.com>