

March 2005

**Words From the Spiritual Director** by *Father Ray Brenner*

Dear Fourth Day Community,

Most of the time it's only the editor of the newsletter who knows I am usually late in getting this letter written. But in a way it may be providential that I am writing it after the closing of the Men's weekend.

After hearing the usual powerful witness of the 23 new Cursillistas, I can't but think of how great it would have been if eight or nine more could have been so moved. It really puts a burden on our heart to get out there and do the Lord's work in getting the word out to others. One of the candidates emphasized that his plan was definitely to go out and make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend to Christ. The witnesses also gave a powerful testimony to the positive future of the Church. This is not just their task but ours as well.

During Lent there is a lot of emphasis on the cross. A few weeks ago when the temptation story was read from the Gospels I emphasized how important it is, not only in our daily tasks but in our spiritual life as well, to stay focused. If we keep our focus on Christ we will be able to carry our crosses.

May our Lent be lived in such a way that we will be able to truly rejoice at Easter when we sing the "A" word again.

DeColores,

Father Ray

**Words From the Lay Director** by *Bruce Bonenberger*

**"Faith is confident assurance concerning what we hope for and conviction about things we do not see" Heb 11:1**

On January 22, the Regional Team gave the local Cursillo community a workshop on the 3-day weekend. The morning meditation was given by Father Robert Braun from Belleville, IL. He opened the meditation by speaking about the Mass. This is the year of the Eucharist as proclaimed by Pope John Paul II. Every Cursillista should believe that the Eucharist is a very vital part of our faith. The Cursillo Movement has always maintained that the Mass is the center of our lives. The Eucharistic celebration forms the source and summit of Catholic life and liturgy.

Understanding the meaning of some events within our lives is a very difficult task. In our struggle to understand, we are in good company. The twelve also struggled. The Gospels indicate that their minds were closed to the meaning of events that they witnessed. It was only when Jesus transformed their minds and hearts with love that they could see with the eyes of faith. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, "Jesus left his body as food and his blood as drink for the faithful to consume in the form of bread and wine. It was to impress the vastness of his love more firmly upon the hearts of the faithful."

Meditation is part of our weekly group reunion and the Mass and reception of Holy Communion are inexhaustible subjects for meditation. We believe the evidence collected by our senses, so those present at the Passover meal must have looked in a puzzled way at the bread and wine, then to each other and finally to the radiant face of Jesus for an explanation. It is easy to envision the confusion that must have been present. What else happened during that meal? When the apostles and Mary received the Body and Blood of Jesus, at the first mass and throughout their lives, imagine what was that intimacy like? What human emotions did each experience with the eyes of faith?

For most of us the great danger in our lives is that our minds are so distracted and preoccupied during Mass that we tend to settle for a lesser intimate union with Jesus. The Mass serves as a community builder between the gathered members of the Church and when we are more focused at Mass we experience a greater sense of unity and love with those gathered. Many say that the singing is better and there is a greater sense of unity at Masses within the Cursillo community. Is it because we are more focused at Cursillo Masses?

In the Laity talk we hear that Jesus has no hands but our hands. When we fully live our Cursillo, we can work to resolve the problems in our environments. We are the solution to the world's problems if we bring God into our environments and others to God. This work will always be an ongoing struggle undertaken for our love of God. Being faithful to our calling, we become more fully human as we discover our own true inner self. Fully living our Cursillo and attending the Holy Mass will bring about the inner peace and fulfillment that we desire.

Jesus' greatest miracle unfolds before us at every Mass. We place our gifts and lives of service on the altar in our worship. It is the mystery of Christ fully present in bread and wine and in his gathered church. The Eucharist is a mystery made real as we live all the Cursillo talks.

**Pope John Paul II's intentions for March 2005**

**General:** *That governments of every nation take account of the poor, marginalized and oppressed.*

**Mission:** *That each Church be aware of the great urgency of preparing holy Christians, capable of confronting challenges to the new evangelization.*

The following article is from the *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy) solemnly promulgated by his holiness, Pope Paul VI, on December 4, 1963.

"Christ is always present in His Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of His minister, (the same now offering, through the ministry of priests, who formerly offered himself on the cross), but especially under the eucharistic species. By His power He is present in the sacraments, so that when a man baptizes it is really Christ Himself who baptizes. He is present in His word, since it is He Himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the Church. He is present, lastly, when the Church prays and sings, for He promised: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matt. 18:20)

Christ indeed always associates the Church with Himself in this great work wherein God is perfectly glorified and men are sanctified. The Church is His beloved Bride who calls to her Lord, and through Him offers worship to the Eternal Father.

Rightly, then, the liturgy is considered as an exercise of the priestly office of Jesus Christ. In the liturgy the sanctification of the man is signified by signs perceptible to the senses, and is effected in a way which corresponds with each of these signs; in the liturgy the whole public worship is performed by the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ, that is, by the Head and His members.

From this it follows that every liturgical celebration, because it is an action of Christ the priest and of His Body which is the Church, is a sacred action surpassing all others; no other action of the Church can equal its efficacy by the same title and to the same degree."

**“When the crowds heard about it, they followed Him. He welcomed them, spoke to them about the Kingdom of God, and healed those who needed it.” Luke 9:11**

Judy and I wish to extend a joyful welcome to all the new Cursillistas from Men’s Weekend #63, and to also thank you for saying “Here I Am Lord.” As new members of the Cursillo community, it has been our prayer that your weekend experience with Jesus has enabled you to better understand what He has called each of us to do. In Luke’s words we hear about God’s love and His providential care: *the crowds heard, they followed, Jesus welcomed and spoke about the Kingdom, and then He healed.* That seems to describe the 3-day weekend experience. Now, with this gift from God, you enter your 4<sup>th</sup> day charged with making His love part of your life and bringing it to others.

Recently, in response to this question, “Where are you now on your Spiritual Journey?” a friend replied, “I really cannot tell how far I am, because I don’t know how far I have to travel.” This simple and humble response sums up our Cursillo commitment. We are to bring the “Good News” to everyone we can through our authentic Christian lives and example. Our commitment is to help our families, friends, co-workers and those in other environments persevere in their journey. To help them understand that the journey does have an end, and that it is possible, to know how far we have to travel.

In the 4<sup>th</sup> day we set out to accomplish this task through Cursillo reunions. Specifically: friendship group reunions, Ultreyas, School of Leaders and environmental group reunion. These reunions are wonderful methods designed to help us share, plan, come into account and sustain each other as we set about changing the world for Christ.

Judy and I ask all of our brothers and sisters, both new and veteran Cursillistas alike, to become involved in these 4<sup>th</sup> day activities. We should encourage each other to find friendship groups, to bring someone or ourselves to an Ultreya, attend School of Leaders, and always work hard for Jesus in our environments. We can also pray for and sustain our community by attending the various workshops, candlelight services, weekend closings and of course, Palanca Chapel. We should all understand that everyone’s time is precious and we simply cannot do everything. However, through reflection, especially during this Lenten season, let us acknowledge that Our Lord had precious little time to answer the call of the Father, to die for us.

**“A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle”, however we do gain something...more light! OK 4<sup>th</sup> day, let’s go light some candles!**

*Christ’s Peace Be With You. ULTREYA!*

### Post-Cursillo Notes

The Spring CEW (Cursillo Evangelization Workshop) will be held on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at St. John’s Daylight. Registration begins at 7:45 am; workshop begins at 8:20 and ends at 12 noon. *This workshop is a great way to enter into a study and understanding of our environments.* Plan to join new and fellow Cursillistas, team members, and sponsors in a morning of prayer, sharing and continuing formation. (Donuts, coffee and juice will be provided during fellowship before we begin.)

Check out the website, [www.evansvillecursillo.com](http://www.evansvillecursillo.com) for dates and places of upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> day activities.

If anyone has questions, ideas or concerns about the 4<sup>th</sup> day (Post-Cursillo) please give us a call or e-mail us. We would love to talk with you.

Judy or Nick Wolf: 963-3260 or 449-9513; e-mail: [wolfworks3@aol.com](mailto:wolfworks3@aol.com)

### Upcoming Weekends

Mens #64: October 13-16, 2005  
Coordinator: Don Kaiser  
Asst. Coordinator to be determined

Women’s #69: November 3-6, 2005  
Coordinator: Donna Schroering  
Asst. Coordinator to be determined

### Cursillo Sponsors Workshop

When: Saturday, April 2, 2005 (Women’s Cursillo # 68)  
Time: 7:00 PM  
(Just prior to Mass at 8:00 PM & candlelight at 9:00 PM)  
Where: Catholic Center Celebration Hall  
Come and learn the proper way to sponsor.

*It’s the life behind the words and actions  
that makes your testimony effective.*

*Serving others is a way of thanking God.*

### Website

Did you know that you can register your group on the website? Make that small effort to register your group by logging on to [www.evansvillecursillo.com](http://www.evansvillecursillo.com) and follow the instructions. It will be a valuable resource for someone looking to find a group. Also check the site for past newsletter articles, who is serving on the upcoming team and candidates coming to the weekend. There is a lot of info about the Cursillo Movement in the Evansville Diocese. Check it out.

**Do Not Be Afraid, I Am With You**  
**Evansville Men's Cursillo # 63**

Dear Cursillo Community,

Wow! It is Monday morning, February 28<sup>th</sup>, and that is the best word I can think of to sum up the past weekend. It is an understatement though. There is no word I can think of that is a great enough exclamation for the "mountain-top" experience we have just completed.

From the moment each of us entered the door of Sarto on Thursday—the Holy Spirit grabbed the hearts, minds, and souls of 23 team members and 23 new Cursillistas, and just kept heaping grace and blessings all over us throughout the entire weekend.

The palanca of prayers, service, snacks, and all the behind-the-scenes support was tremendous. I'd like to recognize some efforts that you may not think about very often. Special thanks to those of you who donate the rosaries, prepare the directory, set up Celebration Hall, publish the newsletter, keep the website information posted, mentor the speakers, and especially for the assistance provided by the Secretariat members who work tirelessly throughout the year in service to Christ and the 4<sup>th</sup> Day.

Most of all, we thank the Lord for allowing us this opportunity to walk closer with Him!!

As I asked at closing—please begin right now to make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend to the next weekend. Let's fill every room at Sarto during those next opportunities for others to share our experience of getting to know Jesus as a friend and brother! Christ is counting on you.

May God bless all of you abundantly,  
 Jim Wilsbacher

<b>Welcome New Cursillistas</b>		
Mark Samila	Dan Niemeier	Bernard Mayer, Jr.
Jeff Whittinghill	Scott Schulte	Dan Peters
Bill Groves	Steve Hoover	Joe Hardesty
Eric Bassler	Greg Baumer	Ryan Oberhausen
Tom Tucker	Bradley Schaefer	Rick Blankenberger
John Wible	Dennis Straub	Leonard Wentzel
Tom Anslinger	Howard Dotterweich	Carl Breeze
Jim Fechtmeister	Rodney Fortwendel	

**"We, Though Many, Are One Body In Christ"**  
**Evansville Women's Cursillo #68**  
**March 31-April 3, 2005**

Dear Friends in Christ,

On Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, the team of Women's Cursillo #68 started their formations. What a blessing to be called to serve our Lord! We continue to form our own Christian community and prepare to bring the candidates closer to Christ.

If you would like to provide a snack or dessert for the weekend, please call the head of our kitchen staff, Mary Lou Bradley at 479-1874. If you would like to serve a meal, or be a kitchen angel, please contact Norma and Gary Folz at 925-7159. If you have Team Palanca, mail it to Julie Young, 5812 Twickingham Court, Evansville, IN 47711, or email it to me at [jyoung@sigecom.net](mailto:jyoung@sigecom.net).

I ask for your continued prayer for the success of the weekend. Please do palanca for the team and candidates. You may also sign up for Palanca Chapel at your local Ultreya. We hope you can attend candlelight and support the candidates at the closing, when they will witness how Christ worked in their lives during the weekend.

"For as in one body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individual parts of one another." Romans 12: 4-5. We are each blessed with different gifts to build up the body of Christ. May our Lord continue to bless all our efforts.

Your sister in Christ,  
 Julie Young

<b>Men's Cursillo Team # 68</b>			
Spiritual Director	Fr. Henry Kuykendall	Kitchen Staff	Karri Hillenbrand
Spiritual Director	Fr. Ray Brenner	Kitchen Staff	Liz Hirsch
Spiritual Director	Dr. Beata Mehling	Kitchen Staff	Pat Krack
Coordinator	Julie Young	Ideals	Suzanne Burgess
Asst. Coordinator	Donna Schroering	Laity	Velvet Wathen
Song Leader	Dianne Klein	Holiness	Mary Seibert
Asst. Song Leader	Kelly Wilson	Formation	Brenda Wheatley
Head Stewardess	Roberta Waninger	Evangelization	Ruth Tompson
Asst. Stewardess	Janet Debes	Leaders	Cyndi Pepper
Asst. Stewardess	Jessica Fehrenbacher	Environments	Lynn Scheu
Head Kitchen Staff	Mary Lou Bradley	Christian Community	Carol Neihaus
Kitchen Staff	Trina Gerling		

**Schedule for Evansville Women's Cursillo #68**

<b>Talk Support Day</b>	Sat., Mar. 19	8:00 AM	St. John's Newburgh
<b>Set-up</b>	Wed., Mar. 30	7:00 PM	Sarto
<b>Sponsor's Dedication</b>	Thurs, Mar. 31	7:00 PM	Sarto Chapel
<b>Sponsor's Workshop</b>	Sat, April 2	7:00 PM	Celebration Hall
<b>Mass &amp; Candlelight</b>	Sat, April 2	8:00 PM	Mass Celebration Hall Mass, then as a community Proceed to Chapel
<b>Closing</b>	Sun, April 3	5:20 PM	Celebration hall Please arrive by 5:00 PM

*To serve a meal, please call Gary and Norma Folz at 925-7159.*

**Please remember to park in designated parking spaces only.**

**NO PARKING along the sides of the parking lot.**

**The front doors will be open as well as the back and side doors.**

**Thank you for your cooperation.**

**Preliminary List of Candidates**

<b>Susan Wilson</b>	<b>Holy Angels</b>	<b>Mary (Tricia) Samila</b>	<b>Holy Rosary</b>
<b>Carol Hammond</b>	<b>St. Mary's, Sullivan</b>	<b>Rhonda Hoover</b>	<b>St. John, Newburgh</b>
<b>Judith Debes</b>	<b>Holy Redeemer</b>	<b>Karen Blankenburger</b>	<b>St. Wendel</b>
<b>Penny Fortwendel</b>	<b>Precious Blood</b>	<b>Yvette Turnbaugh</b>	<b>Holy Spirit</b>
<b>Brenda Anslinger</b>	<b>Resurrection</b>	<b>Susie Head</b>	<b>St. Joseph, Evansville</b>
<b>Sheri Barron</b>	<b>Holy Spirit</b>	<b>Sara Jane Kieffer</b>	<b>St. Phillip, Mt. Vernon</b>
<b>Charlotte Miller</b>	<b>St. John, Newburgh</b>	<b>Cassie Quinn</b>	<b>Corpus Christi</b>
<b>Laura Niemier</b>	<b>Resurrection</b>	<b>Linda Naas</b>	<b>Good Shepherd</b>
<b>Amelia Mouzin</b>	<b>St. Thomas, Vincennes</b>	<b>Julie Bassler</b>	<b>St. Mary, Washington</b>
<b>Anna Mae Seib</b>	<b>Sts. Peter &amp; Paul</b>		

<u>Secretariat Members</u>	
Spiritual Director	Fr. Ray Brenner
Lay Director	Bruce Bonenberger
Secretary	Bill Cox
Treasurer	Joe Thompson
Pre-Cursillo	Skip & Jackie Dent
3-Day	Dan Zimmer
Post-Cursillo	Nick & Judy Wolf
Palanca	Al Debes
Procurement	Elaine Morris
School of Leaders	Bob Weikert

Ultreya	Where	Day	Time
Holy Rosary	Evansville	1st Monday	6:00 p.m
St. Joseph	Jasper	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m.
Holy Cross	Ft. Branch	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
St. Simon's	Washington	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m.
St. John's	Newburgh	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Good Shepherd	Evansville	4th Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Resurrection	Evansville	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m.
St. Paul's	Tell City	1st Saturday	7:00 p.m.

**School of Leaders**  
**When: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each Month**  
**Where: St. John's, Daylight**  
**Time: 7:00 PM CST/CDT**

**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](mailto:dkegen@sigecom.net) or mail to return address on this newsletter. Some email addresses have changed or are inactive and some mailing addresses were returned as undeliverable. Thank-you.**