

Words From the Spiritual Director by *Father Ray Brenner*

Dear Fourth Day Community,

I am writing this in haste as I prepare to leave for the country of Ireland early in the morning.

They say that life is supposed to slow down after you get to a certain age. I guess I'm still wondering what that age is or that apparently I haven't reached it yet because that doesn't seem to be happening.

I'm sorry I was not able to be there for any part of the women's weekend, but sometimes it seems I'm barely able to keep my head above water with all the activities, confirmation and funerals. We had 76 parishioners die between November 1, 2005 and October 31, 2006. In addition to that we had at least 6 or more funerals of folks who had moved away and chose to be buried here.

All of this reminds us that life here is transitory and that we need to make the best use of the opportunities to grow spiritually. Even nature makes us aware of that by the bare fields, trees and brown grass. Isn't our God a great God?

In the month that we remember those who have gone before us, we also celebrate Thanksgiving Day as a reminder of how good God is to us. We give thanks for persons also in the Cursillo Movement who have given so much but are no longer with us, such as Leo Waninger. May we give our heart and soul to God as he did.

As we head also toward the Advent season, may we open our hearts not only to God but also to one another.

DeColores,

Father Ray

Words From the Lay Director by *Bruce Bonenberger*

“Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant: whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all”.
Mark 10:43-44

In the Christian Life talk given on Sunday of the Cursillo, the spiritual director refers to his or her own practices of piety and study in addition to the many other ways of living a Christian life. There is a special emphasis on the Mass during the Cursillo because it is the life and growth, source and summit of a Christian life. These practices are the tools needed to fully live a Christian life that enables us to “produce much fruit” as servants of the Lord. The talk illustrates how these practices are an integral part of a Christian life, a life in Christ. Living this life creates a desire to serve Christ and His Church.

In September my wife and I went to Hawaii for a major vacation. Remember the credit card commercial, “don't leave home without it”? Why is it then that when some people leave for vacation they pack everything they need for the trip, including their credit card, but leave their faith and the tools needed for a Christian life behind? We carried our tools for a Christian life and used them daily while enjoying the start of a new day or watching the sun disappear beyond the ocean.

Why do some Catholics say, “We don't have to go to Mass because we are traveling and on vacation”? It is estimated that two-thirds of registered Catholics miss Mass on Sunday. “The Church obliges the faithful to take part in the Divine Liturgy on Sundays”. (CCC1389) “Receiving the Eucharist strengthens the bonds of charity between the communicant and Christ; it also reinforces the unity of the Church as the Mystical Body of Christ”. (CCC 1416) We looked for a church prior to Sunday. The celebrant on Sunday was an elderly priest carrying his current cross of advanced age and physical disabilities but still serving God's people. The theme of the Sunday readings was one of service. In his wonderful homily of about 15 minutes, Cursillistas would recognize portions of several Cursillo talks. I wish I could have recorded it or at least taken notes. Starting in 1866 the Hawaiian government banished leprosy sufferers into exile on the island of Molokai. Anyone having the disease or suspected of having the disease was taken to this remote colony. Living conditions were horrible due to severe shortages in basic human needs. Onto the scene came a missionary, Father Damien, who had the desire to serve Christ to the point of giving his life in service to the island's inhabitants. Blessed Father Damien was murdered by one of the inhabitants and may be canonized a saint within a few years. The celebrant, in his youth, had followed in Father Damien's footsteps as pastor of the 3 small parishes on the island. He shared a story from when he served the island's inhabitants. His homily was a credible witness to the fact that we are called to be a servant to our last breath. His very presence before us was a witness to his authentic Ideal of servant-hood. He was walking the talk.

Let your credit card transactions be a reminder for you to use your Christian Life tools on a daily basis. Our Christian life helps us to avoid the lure of worldly desires and allows us to fix our eyes on our final destination, our unseen home in heaven.

School of Leaders

What's happening in the School? On the weeks when we have no doctrinal presentation, School attendees spend time reviewing local Cursillo policies. Recent past speakers were:

June 6, Deacon Jim Woebkenberg: “Lex Ordandi est Lex Credendi” (We pray what we believe)

June 20, Fr. Jason Gries: The gift of Reconciliation as I experience it as a newly ordained priest

No School was held on July 4.

Aug. 1, Fr. Gene Schroeder: “Seeking personal holiness in minimal time”

Sept. 5, Sr. Anna Marie Zacker, LSP: “The history, mission and charisms of The Little Sisters Of the Poor and their life in Evansville”

Oct. 3, Sr. Karlene Sensmeier, OSB: “Conversion as a Process”

We invite all the new Cursillistas as well as older Cursillistas, to come and check out several School of Leaders sessions. Investigate the possibility of becoming a member of the School and the joy of being a member of a Cursillo team. It's an excellent way to grow in your faith. We meet at St. John's Catholic Church in Daylight on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

In the works of Jesus: “Come and see”. Cursillo is a way of life. Experience it fully!

Notice: The December 19th School of Leaders is cancelled. The December Secretariat Meeting will be on the 19th and will be held in Jasper within the St. Joseph Parish Center at an approximate time of 6:45 PM. The gathering starts with mass followed by food and drink and the meeting. As always, anyone is welcome to attend. You do not have to be a member of the Secretariat to join us.

Pre-Cursillo by Joe and Ruth Thompson

“You will know them by what they do. Thorn bushes do not bear grapes and briars do not bear figs”. Matthew 7:16

This Gospel verse from the Evangelization talk tells us of God’s plan for us and our work for Him. The past Men’s #66 and Women’s #71 weekends show that we are not thorn bushes and briars because of the fruit that was gained for God’s kingdom from these two weekends. The hard work of sponsors and the grace of the Holy Spirit were very evident in the witness of these 62 new men and women Cursillistas.

The spring weekends are quickly approaching: Men’s #67 is February 22-25 and Women’s #72 is March 22-25. As we prepare to begin sponsoring for the upcoming weekends we need to remember, **“Make a friend, be a friend, and bring that friend to Christ.”** It is important for sponsors to remember that sponsoring someone for the weekend should be taken seriously. When you sponsor someone you should explain group- ing to them and make sure they get in a group. It is also your responsibility to get them to the weekend and to be at closing on Sunday evening and provide them a way home.

There will be a Sponsor’s Workshop on Saturday evening of both women’s weekends in the spring and fall. We encourage all to attend. This will help you in sponsoring candidates in the future. We encourage you to get your candidate’s application sent in so they are able to make the spring weekends.

God bless all of you!

The leaders of the Cursillo Movement pray that you and your loved ones have a Thanksgiving filled with gratitude to God for all of His blessings. And may you experience His joy and peace as we celebrate the birth of our precious Jesus.

Jesus
Christ
Savior
Master
Son of God Word Priest King Alpha Messiah
Emmanuel Lamb of God Bread of Life
Good Shepherd Prince of Peace
Redeemer
Counselor
Our Hope
Almighty
Yahweh
Prophet
Brother
Omega
Judge
Lord
God

Post Cursillo Notes

CEW (Cursillo Evangelization Workshop)

Sat., Nov. 18, St John’s Daylight

8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Ultreyas & Friendship Groups: weekly & monthly

Post-Cursillo by Nicholas and Judith Wolf

“For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them.” Matthew 18:20

Judy and I couldn’t help but imagine that our Lord was smiling as He came into the presence of the 60 plus Cursillistas who gathered in His name for the Region 4 Fall Encounter held this past Oct. 27-29 in Cincinnati, Ohio. So we thought we would mention a little about the encounter. Like so many of our 4th day resources and activities, it is only through these encounters, gatherings and communities that we are able to persevere in the work that God has called us to do.

Everyone present had a very good weekend as we shared our love of the Lord and our Cursillo commitment with our brothers and sisters from many and varied dioceses. The presentations and discussions ranged from successes and set backs to how important group reunion and Ultreya are in our lives as we live for Christ and in Christ.

We also covered such topics as “how do we conduct ourselves as Cursillistas---do we live what we believe”, “how do we project the Light and the Love of our Lord”, and “how does our friendship group support us in our efforts to build the Kingdom of God”. For Judy and I, what perhaps touched our hearts the most, was “how do we find the time for everything God has asked us to do”. Do we have time for Jesus? We live in a society that tells us we must hurry on to the next thing; that we should concentrate all of our efforts and time on our relationships with spouses, family and friends and that we should pour countless hours into work and leisure. However, when we look at what should be our most important relationship, we often feel as though 45-60 minutes on Sunday morning is sufficient.

We seem to be able to carve out the time in our busy schedules for a ballgame with our buddies, crowd in a “home decorating” or “makeup” party, and shuffle each other around to the “must do” things in our lives, but sometimes we don’t see the necessity to spend time with Christ. Our Cursillo movement and it’s activities give us the opportunity to let our Lord know how much we love Him and how important it is to be in community and spread His Good News. Join a friendship group, attend Ultreya or the School of Leaders, use the gifts you have been given, and keep the smile on our Lord’s face.

Giving yourself to Jesus can sometimes be a sacrifice but remember what God did for you! We must say yes to the Lord! We must be willing to be converted by Him every day of our lives. As Christians and Cursillistas we cannot really say “Been There, Done That”, as if our conversion is a once for all experience. Christ already loves us and all He asks in return is our love and a little of our time.

We hope you will each live the Cursillo method. Make a small sacrifice of your time and get personally involved with the Lord. Let Him know of your faith and your love for Him. Always remember, “Christ is counting you, and you on Him”. Your Cursillo community is here and ready to help you in your efforts to build a closer relationship with our Savior.

Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son, our Heavenly Father sacrificed His Son, and Jesus gave us His life---can we not give our Father another hour in our week or our month? Pray for the grace and presence of Jesus in your journey!

Just a quick note that the recent Men’s weekend, with our Lord’s help, has provided new Cursillistas that are already grouping, attending Ultreyas, and giving witness to their lives in Christ at the School of Leaders. Give thanks to God and help each of them persevere through your prayers. **“Our soul waits for the Lord, who is our help and our shield” Psalm 33:20**

“Jesus I Trust In You, Your Love Lasts Forever”

Evansville Men’s Cursillo # 66

Dear 4th Day Community,

“God is Great and God is Good!” What an awesome weekend experience it was to be the Coordinator for this wonderful weekend--the desire to do His will in team selections and formations and to be God’s messenger of His work for the candidates. It was pleasing to serve God in this manner.

God has certainly blessed this Cursillo movement with His presence within the 4th day community. God sent 30 men to this weekend. It is such a gift to be guided by the Holy Spirit. With palanca and God’s grace, the team taught the candidates the “Method, Purpose and Strategy” of the Cursillo movement. I encourage you to walk with your candidate in the months to come. Pray and help him to find a group or an Ultreya. This is part of your responsibility as a Cursillista and a sponsor.

To the 30 new Cursillistas, you were God’s gift to this team. You taught us humility and love for each other. You reached our hearts with your emotion and humor. You willingly cooperated and participated in the exercises. In the process, we observed your growth in Holiness, Formation and the desire to serve our God. Keep that Cursillo flame burning ever so bright in your heart by grouping and living a life of Holiness and Formation. My palanca continues to pray for you as you start your 4th day walk with the Lord as your Savior.

To Team #66, I have been blessed by your presence in so many ways. What an awesome display of faith, trust, love and humility to serve the Lord. Your commitment to team formation and the weekend was a devotion to the Lord. I will continue to pray for you and I ask that you pray for the Cursillo movement.

Lastly to my special friend, Leo, who has touched my life so many times with happiness and sadness. I will never forget Leo with his outgoing and intelligent personality. Truly, he has blessed this team and candidates so much that he will never be forgotten. Also, Roberta, Leo’s wife has been an influence in our lives with her strength and leadership in her family. Leo, we love you.

Your friend in Christ,
Bob Wiekert

Welcome New Cursillistas

Michael Waninger	Thom Endress	Chuck Dehner
Timothy Wagner	John Feistel	Richard D’Amour
Jeffrey Sickman	Gerald Mattingly	Brian Devine
Audie Wilson	Ralph Boze	Mark Moore
Patrick Wahl	Greg Weinzapfel	Evan Freeman
Brent Weikert	Steven Dunn	Tim Tretter
Philip Durcholz	Joseph Kempf	Pat Rauscher
Mike Goelzhauser	Allen Luebbehusen	Mark Clark
Virgil Tieken	Fred Wallisch	Brad Clark
Patrick Harvey	Richard Smith	John Clark

“Seek Him...The Lord Is His Name”

Evansville Women’s Cursillo #71

Dear Friends in the 4th Day Community,

Our Lord blessed us with a wonderful, Spirit filled weekend. Women’s Cursillo Team and Candidates #71 would like to thank the 4th day for making our weekend such a huge success in every way. We were supported with palanca of all types, with time and effort of so many, with goodies and especially attendance at all our activities before and during the weekend.

We ask that you continue to support the new Cursillistas by helping them find groups, as we all continue to evangelize our environments, and encourage their attendance at the upcoming CEW workshop on November 18 at St. John’s Daylight.

We began to **SEEK HIM** on Thursday evening and all knew **THE LORD IS HIS NAME** shortly thereafter.

God’s blessings and graces to each of you,
Team #71 and Linda Rheinlander

Welcome New Cursillistas

Karen Weinzapfel	Cheri Sanders	Mary Jane Thompson
Kara Tretter	Erica Siegfried	Carolyn Tieken
Carla Luebbehusen	Lorri Lappe	Deb Meyer
Nancy Mills	Jennifer Kempf	Phyllis Alspaugh
Kim Meyer	Judy Boehman	Lois Schenk
Anita Clifford	Anne Buchanan	Kitty Weber
Ann Patterson	Jane Wagner	Patty Harvey
Susan Milligan	Becky Clark	Rose Lee
Sarah Jackson	Jenny Clark	Barbara Rogge
Kristie Alexander	Maria Nelson	Rita Rexing
Steph Freeman	Sarah Kieffer	

Upcoming Weekends

Men’s #67: Feb. 22-25, 2007
Coordinator: Nicholas Wolf
Asst. Coordinator: Tom Folz

Women’s #72: March 22-25, 2007
Coordinator: Mary Ann Wilsbacher
Asst. Coordinator: to be determined

Secretariat Members

Spiritual Director	Fr. Ray Brenner
Lay Director	Bruce Bonenberger
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	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@sigecon.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.