

October 2005

Words From the Spiritual Director by *Father Ray Brenner*

Dear Fourth Day Community,

From the witnessing at the closing on Sunday evening, we know it was another beautiful weekend. But as the Scriptures say, "With God on our side, who can be against us?" The weekends prove over and over the power of the Holy Spirit.

I think the coordinator, Don Kaiser, said something really important for all of us of the 4th day community to think about when he said that if there was one thing disappointing about the weekend, it was the fact that there could have been at least eight more candidates there. We still have our work cut out for us to bring more of our friends to Christ.

I am hoping that here at St. Joe's we can get a little more interest in the Cursillo as we prepare for our first Christ Renews His Parish in February and March. I know I can count on all of you for prayers for that.

There is excitement here at St. Joe's as we near the completion of our renovation project. It is at a point where we can see some progress every day on the concrete walks. We are anxious to move in and begin the spiritual renewal of our people.

DeColores,

Father Ray

Fall CEW (Cursillo Evangelization Workshop)

Saturday, November 19, 2005

St. John's Daylight

Registration: 7:45 AM with a continental breakfast
Workshop starts at 8:15 and concludes at 12:00 noon

Coordinator: Ginny Bonenberger

Moderator: Ruth Thompson

Spiritual Director: Father John Silva

Team: Cindy Pepper, Judy Wolf, Tom Anslinger, Dave Gries
No cost, but a free will offering will be taken for food

Spring 2006 Weekends

Men's #65

February 23-26, 2006

Coordinator: Tom Kessens

Asst. Coordinator to be determined

Women's #70

March 30-April 2, 2006

Coordinator: Janet Debes

Asst. Coordinator to be determined

Words From the Lay Director by *Bruce Bonenberger*

"In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus" 1 Thessalonians 5: 18

Our outlook on life can change in a very short time. People living in an area devastated by a natural disaster lose their home and job. A secure lifestyle is gone and fear and anxiety become constant companions. Feelings of helplessness must overwhelm them. How does a victim continue? We know it is easier if you have faith and trust in God.

I have always benefited from good health and was aware of that gift as I visited the elderly on weekly communion calls. I was thankful for my health but most of the time I took it for granted. I knew that most likely my healthy and productive lifestyle would someday change. I recently entered the emergency room after experiencing prolonged and slightly different migraine symptoms. I was concerned that this might be a stroke because they are prevalent in my family's history. Migraine and stroke symptoms mimic each other. The ER Doc thought it was a very slight stroke and kept me overnight believing that a more severe stroke might follow. I was well aware of how a stroke can forever change a person's lifestyle. Fear and anxiety were my constant companions during a sleepless night filled with many negative thoughts of losing my current identity. One part of our identity that never changes is our status as a beloved child of God. I never did ask the question: Why me? Instead the questions were: How can I live within a stroke-damaged body? What would make this crisis turn out all right? What might God teach me about this situation? Thankfully, I was released the next day when another doctor concluded that it was not a stroke. My doctor is sending me to a specialist for the defining opinion.

We accept good things from God but should we not accept illness and the unwanted things that cause us to reach out to God? Yes, if we live the words of Scripture. Gratitude in all things is necessary for each Christian. We all believe that God is deserving of our thanks and praise and giving thanks and praise can be a consoling act.

God sent many trials to Job and his response was: "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord!" (Job 1:21) The tests in our lives give us an opportunity to live our faith and to test our love of God. It is in those difficult times that the Lord is attempting to expand our faith and maybe even accomplishing the work of our sanctification. So much of our life's experiences can teach us about our relationship with God. Each trial can enable us to become the person we were created to be. In the midst of any storm, we find harmony and balance in our lives of Holiness, Formation and Evangelization.

I thank all who prayed for me, sent a card or asked how I was doing. All are expressions of concern and love. These are the ways God communicates His love and presence in our lives. Since I made my Cursillo, I have always been impressed by how the 4th day community supports those in need with prayer, presence and special help. In the Christian Community talk, we learn that God gives us each other and with human actions we feel God's hand on our shoulder. We are not alone. God is with us. Our Christian Community walks beside us. There is support and love all around us. God is present if we only look for Him and feel His embrace in the loving, strong arms of our Christian Community.

Precursillo by Skip and Jackie Dent

In the last newsletter we emphasized the importance of and guidelines for sponsoring couples for making a Cursillo weekend. Let us now turn to the characteristics of those who should make a 3-day weekend:

Those who have strength of character and self-control, who are able to make their own decisions and to be self-motivated, who are mature, free and responsible.

Those who are leaders, self-starters, movers and especially those who want a closer relationship with our Lord.

Those who are concerned about the social conditions of our times both in the world and in their families.

Those who have the ability and desire to live in and for the community.

Always remembering that they must be able:

To understand the message and to commit themselves.

To be leaven of the Gospel within their environment.

To discover their individual charisms and place them at the service of the community.

To receive the Sacraments of the Church. Those who are in a position to receive the Sacraments of the Catholic Church, or could become so, can go.

Keep in mind that the Lord has His ways, and at times individuals who seem average have changed into on-fire Cursillistas once their personalities have been uplifted by His grace.

We are looking forward to Christ filled weekends this fall. We currently have thirty-two women who will be coming to make their commitment to Christ. May the good Lord be with the team and candidates.

School of Leaders

On Oct. 4, Sr. Jolinda Naas from Resurrection Parish presented a talk on "Catechesis Within the Church's Mission of Evangelization".

On Oct. 18, School members started reviewing Cursillo Policies

On Nov. 1, Deacon Dave Rice will speak

On Nov. 15, reviewing Cursillo Policies will continue

On Dec. 6, Deacon Joe Schapker from Resurrection will give the Doctrinal Presentation

Remember on the weekend when the group leader giving the "Leaders Talk" told you that by living your Cursillo you would be a Christian Leader? Maybe you became just a little nervous and did not believe that you could be such a leader. Maybe those thoughts are still present in your mind. The speaker reassured you that he/she was not talking about those who are "highly placed" in society, or have wealth and prominence in society. He/she went on to define a leader as one whom with their person and conduct, influence the thoughts and actions of others. Everyone who has made a Cursillo has the potential to become a Christian leader if they would use their God-given talents to orient, guide, and direct those around them to help bring about the Christian transformation of their environments. Your attendance at the School of Leaders will provide a continual improvement in yourself, in the Cursillo Movement and in the environments in which you find yourself.

In the words of Jesus: "Come and See". Cursillo is a way of life. Experience it fully!

Postcursillo by Nicholas and Judith Wolf

Judy and I are pleased to give you the second in a series of essays on The Ultreya, one of our most important 4th day activities.

Ultreya – Onward!

"Beg the Master of the harvest to send more laborers" Matt. 9:38

While renovating the interior of the Washington Monument, workers found the following words hidden behind a plaster wall: "A greater monument than this, is the one who contributes to the salvation of a single soul."

Being witnesses to the Good News is an awesome task, and the rewards are 'out of this world.' Those in this century who have chosen the Cursillo Movement as their apostolate are doing works no less precious than what was done by the saints we revere from centuries past.

The primary mission of those who support the Ultreya is to provide a community that fosters evangelization. Those who attend Ultreyas should come away from the experience refreshed and recharged. We should feel inspired to roll up our sleeves and go back out into the world, a world we labor to win for Christ.

Who among us would honestly believe that God has no work for us to do...that we have somehow been placed on God's unemployment line. The scriptures give examples of God calling people directly: Abraham, Noah, Jeremiah, the Apostles and others. However, it is much more common for God to call us through those people that He brings into our lives...through our brothers and sisters.

The Ultreya is a natural place for men and women who made a Cursillo to discover their specific call. "*Something from her witness two weeks ago, something from what he shared last night, something said while we were grouping...*" These thoughts and ideas that touch us and stay in our hearts are placed there to help us discern our unique call. We begin to see things in the experiences of others that make us aware of the opportunities for evangelization in our own lives.

Prayer: *Jesus, we thank you for drawing us closer to each other as we draw closer to You. We thank You for shining so brightly through the faces of our brothers and sisters. Please grant us the grace to hear and answer Your call.*

Judy and I ask you to please attend, support and pray for your local Ultreya.

Post-Cursillo Notes

New Cursillistas, Sponsors, Team Members and 4th Day, please plan to attend the upcoming ½ day Cursillo Evangelization Workshop, to be held at St. Johns, Daylight on Nov, 19th, 2005. We will have registration and a light breakfast at 7:45 AM with the workshop beginning at 8:15 AM. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about how to become a 'Laborer for Christ.'

Palanca by Al Debes

"Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it will be opened to you" Matt. 7:7 (NAB)

As we approach another weekend with Thanksgiving and Advent around the corner, I would like to share some on Palanca. A good yardstick of any local Movement is its attitude toward Palanca. Palanca letters are merely a vehicle in which we convey the actual Palanca being done (ie prayers, self-denial, chapel visit). Not only do we need Palanca for spiritual guidance for our weekend, other Cursillo centers need Palanca as well. When I send a Palanca letter to another center for a weekend, I tell them that we---you and I---are doing acts of self-denial and praying for guidance of the Holy Spirit. Palanca offerings should not be limited to the three days but ongoing for all weekends going on around the world. Palanca should be seen as a tool to assist candidates and the Cursillo movement. St. Paul said in Romans 12:1 "*Offer yourself as a living sacrifice dedicated to His service and pleasing to Him*". This is the true worship we should each offer. "Christ is counting on you!"

**“We Are Christ For One Another”
Men’s Cursillo # 64**

Dear 4th Day,

As I write this, I am totally drained physically, but spiritually filled with Christ’s peace and love that was shown through the team and new Cursillistas. Early on, the Spirit scooped us up and placed us on the “mountain-top.” Everyone truly got the message that we are Christ for one another.

Prayer and palanca are the fuel that drives each weekend and our “tank” was overflowing. All those who make snacks, serve a meal, kitchen angels, help with set-up and cleanup, and all the many other services provided by many in the 4th day are truly a blessing to all.

The past several men’s weekends have been way less than full. Christ has no one but us to bring others to Him. Can He really count on us? Let’s show our love for Him by bringing our friends to know the awesome love He has for all of us.

May God bless you and grant you peace and joy.

Your Brother in Christ,
Don Kaiser

Welcome New Cursillistas

Ervin Spahn	Jim Folz	Mike Smith
Dan Horstman	Edward Kiefer	Henry (Hank) Folz
Matthew Alexander	Ray Rush	Jack Martin
Ben Cruce	Ken Mayer	Charlie Gibbs
Ray Bradley	Jim Schaefer	Anthony Scheller
Randy Bauer	Tom Thompson	Ron Obermeier
Andy Hoefling	Scott Stenftenagel	Matt Tretter
Pet McCullough	Bruce Wyatt	Bruce Wyatt

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 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.

“Evangelization is the most powerful and stirring challenge which the Church has been called to face from her very beginning. Indeed, this challenge is posed not so much by the social and cultural milieux which she encounters in the course of history, as by the mandate of the Risen Christ, who defines the very reason for the Church’s existence: “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation”

Mark 16:15

“The Splendor of Truth” (Veritatis Splendor), Encyclical Letter of Pope John Paul II, p. 128

Schedule for Evansville Women’s Cursillo #69

Set-up	Wed., Nov. 2 7:00 PM	Sarto
Sponsor’s Dedic- ation	Thurs, Nov. 3 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Sarto Chapel Celebration Hall
Mass & Candlelight	Sat, Nov. 5 Mass	Mass, then as a community Proceed to Chapel
Closing	Sun, Nov. 6 5:20 PM Please arrive by 5:00 PM	Celebration hall

*****Sponsors Workshop on Nov. 5 has been cancelled.*****

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.

**“My Redeemer Lives”
Women’s Cursillo # 69**

Preliminary List of Candidates

Sarah Jane Kieffer	St. Phillip, Mt. Vernon
Janet Dietrich	St. Benedict
Judith Debes	Holy Redeemer
Mary Reynolds	Nativity
Carol Myers	St. Lawrence, Yorktown
Donna Evans	Nativity
Leeann Effinger	St. Benedict
Datrina Gibbs	St. Matthew, Mt. Vernon
Rosemarie Horstman	St. Phillip, Mt. Vernon
Viola Fleck	Holy Family
Carol Fechtmeister	St. Joe, County
Patty Hoefling	Resurrection
Lou Honnigford	Christ the King
Kay Sandra Cecero	St. Mary, Sullivan
Terri Meeks Channel	St. Joseph, Princeton
Barbara Clinnin	St. John, Newburgh
Tammi Lattner	Holy Rosary
Esther Kelley	St. Joe, County
Cassandra Mayer	Resurrection
Virlee Striegel	Sacred Heart, Schnellville
Mary Lynn Scheller	St. John, Newburgh
Joan Dugan	Holy Rosary
Laura Wyatt	St. Thomas, Vincennes
Lucinda Mayer	Sts. Peter & Paul
Mary Obermeier	St. John, Newburgh
Lola Watzlavik/Wentzel	St. Matthew, Mt. Vernon
Michelle Sailing	Holy Spirit
Cathy Schroering	Holy Family
Mary Beth Humbert	St. Raphael, Dubois
Chris Tucker	St. Simon, Washington
Jo Ann Smith	St. Mark, Tell City
Laurie Baumer	St. John, Newburgh

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

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 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.