

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thanks so much for your interest in the Cursillo Movement. A Cursillo weekend is the beginning of a spiritual journey, an opportunity to slow down from your busy life and to allow the Holy Spirit to touch you in a deep and meaningful way. However, what happens after the weekend is when the real benefits begin! You will learn how to enhance your spiritual life in ways that bring you closer to our good and gracious Lord, by applying specific methods to bring spiritual renewal to all your environments. This weekend encounter with Christ provides you with a deeper understanding of what it means to be a friend of Christ, and, also, to bring your friends to know him. Experiencing a three-day Cursillo weekend affords you the possibility of profound spiritual change, and it just might transform the way that you live life as a Catholic. Take a step out in faith — come and live the Cursillo weekend. May I extend to you the greeting of our Movement:

De Colores!

Yours in Christ,

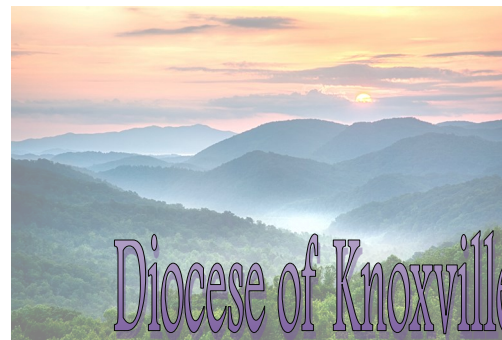
Deacon Bill Jacobs

Knoxville Cursillo Spiritual Advisor

An Invitation

You are cordially invited to attend any of the Cursillo gatherings. Ultreyas are held in each of the geographic regions of the diocese on various nights of the month. We welcome all inquiries. We pray that the Holy Spirit will lead you to a Cursillo member, possibly a three-day weekend and, finally, a lifelong commitment to Christ's service in whatever environment you happen to live.

Christ is counting on you!



Diocese of Knoxville Catholic Cursillo

A Cursillo Weekend, What does it offer?

A method to seek and develop:

Christian Spirituality

Christian Mentality

Christian Community

Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ.

Visit us on the web at: www.knoxvillecursillo.org

Finding Cursillo Members

Cursillo members, also known as Cursillistas, can be found throughout most of the parishes in the Knoxville diocese. Asking your parish priest is a good place to start. Checking the parish bulletins or watching the bulletin board for scheduled Cursillo Group Reunions and Ultreyas are excellent ways to discover the Cursillo Community. The Chancery office will have the Cursillo Diocesan Coordinator contact information as well. The Diocese of Knoxville Catholic Cursillo can be found on the web at www.knoxvillecursillo.org.



What is a Cursillo Weekend?



The weekend begins on Thursday evening and ends on Sunday evening and consists of a series of talks given by laypeople and clergy. Men and women make separate weekends. They are held at the Christ Prince of Peace Retreat Center in Benton. In an atmosphere of friendship and joy, you'll have an opportunity to:

- *Gain a better understanding of yourself. (Encounter with Self)*
- *Experience the presence and love of Jesus. (Encounter with Christ)*
- *See how personal and spiritual growth can be enhanced through a caring Christian community. (Encounter with Others)*

Spiritual topics to be included on the weekend include:

- *The lay person's role as a Christian in the World*
- *Meaning of grace and sacraments*
- *Importance of prayer, study and action*
- *Christian leadership*
- *Our call to bring Christ to others*
- *The importance of supporting one another in our efforts to live an authentic Christian life*

It is important to note that no one is ever refused the opportunity to attend a Cursillo Weekend for lack of funds.

Why not join us at our next Cursillo weekend? If you are interested or would like more information, please contact us at:

laydirector@knoxvillecursillo.org

For more information, please contact:

Name

Contact Information



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On this Feast day of the Lord's "Little Flower," St. Therese of Lisieux, may grace and peace be with you in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ! In my many years of priesthood, it has struck me very often how those most involved in the life of the parishes in roles of ministry and service, have very often been those who have been part of the Cursillo movement.

My own experience of the Cursillo weekend was profoundly moving. To be with other Christians during the course of the weekend and to experience the deep sharing of faith from men all over the diocese left a lasting impression on me. The prayer experiences of the weekend were truly inspiring.

As the Catholic Church is universal, so seems the positive impact of Cursillo weekends and ministries across the country. Learning Cursillo is active in East Tennessee brings joy to my heart! Regardless of where the faithful Christian is in his or her journey, I find that one who attends a Cursillo weekend returns feeling more deeply connected to Christ and His Body, the Church. The lessons are empowering, the prayer, profound. Cursillo's emphasis on ongoing community and relationship lends itself to personal and public spiritual development. As I have heard many times during Cursillo weekends, no Christian can be an "isolated" Christian and survive! In small groups and as a broad network, Cursillo encourages a renewal of your heart, your family, and your parish. As you discern whether now is the time in your life to join Cursillo, be assured of my prayers and the prayers of Catholics around the country, who, through Cursillo, are experiencing God's grace in a unique way.

In the Lord,

+Mark Beckman

Bishop of Knoxville

The Fourth Day

The "after" activity of the Cursillo is known as the "Fourth Day." During this time perseverance is important, just as it is in any method of renewal. Three means of perseverance are encouraged in your Fourth Day. Reunions of small groups of friends are formed in order to encourage one another in spiritual improvement and Christian apostolate. The "Ultreya," a Spanish word meaning "Onward," is a reunion of the larger Cursillo community. Lastly, the School of Leaders is a reunion of Cursillistas that reinforces, enhances and enlarges the learning of the Cursillo weekend. Through all these ways, one is exposed to the spiritual growth, example and leadership of other Cursillistas in the community.