

October 2008



## The Rooster Crows

### “Christ is Our Light” - The National Cursillo Encounter by Angie Feltz



The 18<sup>th</sup> National Cursillo Encounter began on July 31<sup>st</sup> at Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. We began the encounter at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception with our opening blessing and prayer by Fr. Einer Ochoa, Cursillo Movement National Spiritual Advisor. The opening remarks welcomed 650 participants from the Lay Directors (English / Spanish) of Washington DC.

This year's theme was “Christ Is Our Light” and we heard many good talks related to our theme. Titles of the talks were Mentality of the Cursillo Movement, Total Security, Sponsorship, The Three Encounters, School of Leaders, and the Study of the Environment. A general summary of these talks can be found on the National Cursillo web site: <http://www.cursillo.org/>.

On Thursday evening, we heard a remarkable talk by the Most Reverend Francisco Gonzalez, S.F., Auxiliary Bishop of Washington. He compared our Cursillo experience to that of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. “Silence, the time to look at yourself.” He told us not to make

promises but to be open to the power of the Holy Spirit. “What is God trying to tell me?”

“You are the Light of Christ!” We should look inside ourselves – before we look to the world with our light. As it is said during the Easter Vigil “Dispel the darkness”, we must continue to dispel the darkness in our own hearts and in our lives so that we are able to dispel the darkness in the world and let the “Light of Christ” shine from us for the entire world to see. As we remember the first three meditations; “Know Yourself, The Prodigal Son, and The Three Glances”, we look inside and encounter our selves where we are - in “silence.” We focus on God and His Mercy and Love for us. We were then given the opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction and Reconciliation.

Bishop Gonzalez challenged us to be realistic and to ask for the impossible. As we follow Jesus, we will believe as He did and we will become a Joyful people. We must challenge ourselves to learn more about Jesus Christ and this will result in a “self transformation,” then we can be the “Light of Christ to the World.” We will begin to transform our environments

and help others to become excited about Jesus! So remember, be His witness to the world and to let His Light shine we must be rooted in His SPIRIT and become His disciples in the world. So take time to reflect on His Love and Mercy in your life every chance you have.

If you have ever thought about attending a Regional or National Encounter, pray about it now. Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for applications to the Regional Encounter to be held at St. Meinrad Archabbey in Indiana. It is open to all Cursillista. If you would like more information or an application, contact one of the members of the Secretariat. You will have a wonderful time and see the “Light of Christ” shine in our brother and sisters from our region. As you live your 4<sup>th</sup> day, continue to be the “eyes”, the “hands”, the “ears” and the “feet” of Jesus. And most of all be the ♥ of Jesus and “Love” without measure.



# DE COLORES



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## 2008 Diocese of Knoxville Cursillo Calendar

Oct 4 - Secretariat Meeting St. Thomas the Apostle (**Elections will be held**)  
Oct 31- Nov 2 Region IV Fall Encounter St. Meinrad Archabbey, Indiana  
Nov8 - School of Leaders St. Alphonsus Crossville 10 am-2pm

My Fourth Day! By Charlie Spadaro

It doesn't seem that a whole year has gone by since I lived my Cursillo weekend, #33, last September. There is no way that I could have anticipated how much three days could have profoundly impacted my life. That I could take with me a clearer understanding of my Christian values, and resolve that it is my responsibility to live those values with every person that I encounter!

If you are like me, then every day we rise with the best of intentions, but somewhere along the way we will make wrong choices, bad decisions and stray from our original plan. It is at the conclusion of that day, when we bow before the Lord in prayer and confess our transgressions, the Lord reminds us that we are human and therefore flawed. As he asked Simon Peter, "Do you love me?" He poses the same question to us, and if we can answer, "You know that I do", then He will reply for us to continue to do His work! For truly the sin is not in failing, but never trying!

**Editor's note:** Charlie worked in the kitchen on the Men's weekend #35. Way to go Charlie! He doesn't just 'talk the talk, he walks the walk.'