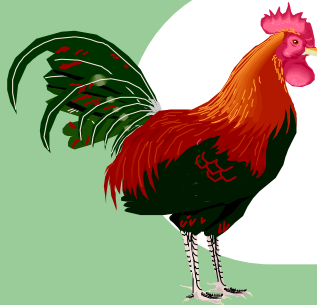


August 2009



The Rooster Crows

CHARITY By Kay Sheldon

**Our kids
are back in
school!**



Good luck

Charity should be the governing factor in our lives, guiding and shaping everything we do. Without charity we are nothing. But while we all know that charity should be central to our lives, we are not always clear as to the precise nature of charity and the burden that it lays upon us. We are often confused between charitable and “nice.”

The two, however, are essentially quite different.

Being nice is not necessarily bad, but it is not the most admirable and valuable of human achievements. Being “nice” is being consistently and impeccably inoffensive in everything we say and do. While this seems good on the surface, problems arise. A nice person is universally and indiscriminately tolerant. He is comprehensively nonjudgmental, a subscriber to moral relativism. He is supersensitive and fluent in the language of political correctness.

But the nice person is ineffective. Sometimes it is necessary to be offensive, for the sake of truth and goodness. Charitable people are able to be

offensive when there is a need. They understand that sometimes it is necessary to offend others. Yes, sometimes the truth hurts. A nice person could never be a true friend. The truest friend is a charitable person.

Charity is a theological virtue, a totally gratuitous gift of God. It is sanctifying grace, a sharing of, a co-living of the very life of God. Charity enables a person to act according to its dictates. To be charitable is to have an authentic love for others, to will what is really good for them, the Supreme Good of God Himself.

Like a conscientious physician, a charitable person knows that it is

sometimes necessary to hurt in order to heal. We have all been offended and then found that it was a blessing, for it awoke us from our moral stupor, made us aware of the disastrous path we were following, and made us take the necessary steps to straighten out our crooked ways.

As in everything else, our Lord is our role model and guide. A great many people found Jesus’ teaching on the Eucharist offensive. The scribes and Pharisees were offended by almost everything that Jesus said. But our Lord never modified his message. He never deviated from the truth. We should not either.

DE COLORES



THE 1ST DIOCESAN CURSILLO ENCOUNTER

Will be held at
Sacred Heart Cathedral
 711 Northshore Drive,
 SW, Knoxville
 On Saturday, August 8,
 2009

From 10 am to 3 pm
 Beginning with Mass in
 the Church
 Followed by a Grand
 Ultreya
 and Fiesta (weather
 permitting
 in the Pavilion)

Theme:

“Love the Lord Your God
 With All Your Heart”

This is one day we can
 “all” gather together
 to pray, share and have
 fellowship
 Please bring a dish to
 share
 and a lawn chair



Members of the Secretariat

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2009 Diocese of Knoxville Cursillo Calendar

August 8, 1st Diocesan Cursillo Encounter, SACRED HEART, KNOXVILLE
 August 20-23, Men’s Spanish #5, Apison Center
 September 10-13, Men’s # 37, Eagle Rock
 October 1-4, Women’s #38, Apison Center
 October 17, SEC MT, SACRED HEART, KNOXVILLE
 October 30-Nov 1, Regional Encounter, Mount St. Joseph, Owensboro, KY
 November 21, SOL, SACRED HEART, KNOXVILLE

Two Vacancies on the Secretariat will be open for your consideration later this year. Post Cursillo position and English School of Leaders. We will talk more about them in the next issue. And, we are still looking for a few good people to fill vacancies for a Parish Rep Coordinator, Palanca Coordinator, and Editor of the Rooster Crows. These positions can mostly be done from home, if you have a working knowledge of the computer. Contact Jim Heath, 931-788-2569 to let him know you’re interested in helping the community.