

HAPPY OCTOBER!



DID YOU KNOW?

Last month, the Cursillo movement of the of Knoxville celebrated the 15th Anniversary of the first Cursillo Weekends held in our diocese.

The first men's weekend was held at the old Knoxville Catholic High on September 25-28, 1997.

The first women's weekend was held at Sacred Heart School on October 16-19, 1997.

We just finished Women's Cursillo #43! Our movement has come a long way in the past 15 years. We look forward to the next 15 years and beyond, as the Holy Spirit guides our movement into the future.

We're so glad that you're a part of the journey!

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.—-Henry Ford

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The Director's Chair

Building on a Firm Foundation by Lois Schering, Lay Director

We welcome 10 new Cursillistas who made the Women's Cursillo Weekend on Sept 13-16, 2012. I thank the team for their time and commitment.

I am pleased to announce that *Omar Carmona* has become the Coordinator of the Spanish Post Cursillo. He will work with Dick Shriver, the English Post Cursillo Director to develop Spanish Ultreyas and Group Reunions and provide Spanish articles for *The Rooster Crows*. He can be reached at (865) 313-7883.

I am also pleased to announce that *Deacon Bill Jacobs* has become the Editor of *The Rooster Crows*. He succeeds *Carol Rummel* who was the "interim" Editor for many years. Thank you, Deacon Bill, for taking on this position.

The date of the Regional Encounter has been changed from the 1st week in October to Nov 2-4, 2012 to be held in Cincinnati, OH. Details later. All Cursillistas are invited and encouraged to attend.

A subcommittee was formed this year to scope out possible sites to hold Cursillos in the Knoxville area. The subcommittee, consisting of Debbie Ferreri, Dick Shriver and Lois Schering, visited three retreat centers thus far and hope to visit others this fall. If you have attended a retreat/conference center that you think could hold Cursillos, please contact one of the committee members.

At the November Secretariat meeting, we will vote to amend the Pastoral Plan to include under Post-Cursillo's Long Term objectives the goal of finding a retreat center to hold Cursillo weekends in the Knoxville area.

Nine Cursillistas attended the National Encounter at Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH on July 19-22 from our diocese. The topic was True Friendship. The keynote address with given by Dr. John Cuddeback entitled "Being Present With Those We Love, The Joy and the Challenge." The hope and the love communicated through his principle of "presence" with persons as the heart of friendship and of encounter with self, God, and others, rang true with the Charism of the Cursillo Movement, that God loves us! Subsequent talks by lay persons and clergy focused on The 3rd Conversations of Cala Figuera, that is, Meaning of Life, Attitude, Creativity, Communication, Confidence, and Transcendence. We were also introduced, or re-introduced as the case may be, to Spiritual Exercises based on St. Ignatius. I also networked with other Lay Directors and Cursillistas across the U.S. One idea I brought home was to have a library of Cursillo books so that they would be available for Secretariat members to read.



Members of our Knoxville Cursillo community that attended the National Encounter (L to R): Debbie Ferreri, Lisa Campbell, Maria Leon, Fr Alex Waraksa, Maria Barron, Lois Schering, Maria Zavala, David Campbell, Angela Feltz, Mary Williams



Knoxville Movement Brings Cursillo to Nigeria

By Lois Schering

A recent headline in the *Vatican Information Service* on Sept 8, 2012 was entitled, "Irreplaceable Role of the Lay Faithful in Making Africa the Continent of Hope." I bring this to your attention because Cursillistas in the diocese of Knoxville have the unique opportunity to reach out to our sisters in the Ekiti Catholic Diocese, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria, Africa—and take Cursillo to *them* in July 2013!

This is not an overnight decision. It has been many years in the making. Msgr. Ed Ogidan (affectionately known as "Fr. Ed") has visited my parish, Our Lady of Fatima in Alcoa, annually since 2002. He is a friend of Carmine and the late Sarah Sesa, who helped bring Cursillo to Knoxville in 1997. Fr. Ed made his Cursillo in New York. We have talked over the years about taking Cursillo to Nigeria.

In 2009, his Bishop Felix Femi Ajakaye visited our parish. Bishop Felix is interested in evangelization. Carol Bolton and I talked with him that day about Cursillo, and he was very interested.

When Fr. Ed visited this year, he asked that we send two of our women Cursillistas to Nigeria for a July 18-21, 2013 English Women's Weekend. (Yes, the Nigerians speak English.) The women will be giving all of the lay talks (Fr. Ed and another African Cursillista priest will be giving the Spiritual Advisors talks).

It would be financially difficult for these two women to pay airfare. Therefore, I am asking you, my dear Cursillista friends, to help fund their trip by donating towards the airfare. (Round-trip airfare via Delta in September, 2012 was \$1,713.00 per person and will probably be more next year.)

I am setting up a special savings account for this purpose. If you wish to donate, please send your check payable to the Diocese of Knoxville Cursillo and write "Africa" on the Memo line so it can be put in the correct account. Please mail your check to Lois Schering at 1505 Cavalier Dr., Maryville, TN 37803.

Help us to help make Africa the "Continent of Hope!"

Lay Faithful have an irreplaceable role to play. Today all of Africa awaits the "ambassadors" of the Good News—Let us be among those ambassadors and take Cursillo to Nigeria!

Please mark your calendars!



The 4th Annual Diocesan Encounter



will be held on
December 1, 2012, starting at 9:30 AM
at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
1580 St. Thomas Way, Lenoir City, TN

The Encounter will begin with Holy Mass, followed by a Grand Ultreya, and then Fiesta!

The celebrant for the Mass, and our Keynote Speaker, will be

Cardinal Justin Rigali
Archbishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Our 15th Anniversary as Cursillo in the Diocese of Knoxville will also be celebrated at the Fiesta.

Please bring a dish to share.

DON'Y MISS IV!!



THE ORIGIN OF DeCOLORES (slightly elaborated)

The story goes something like this...

A group of Spanish Pilgrims was returning from one of the first Cursillos when, far from home, their old bus broke down. This particular spring evening was especially cold and stormy. Luckily, they were near a crossroad. A small Inn nearby was able to put them up while a few from their group stayed with the bus and tried to repair it. Unfortunately, the Inn was attached to a cantina (saloon) and most of the other travelers staying at the Inn that night were not as intent on sleeping as were the Pilgrims.

It was a long and somewhat sleepless night, between the storm outside and the noise inside. Near dawn, those Pilgrims that had managed to fall asleep as the din around them subsided were awakened by calls from their friends to get up and come to the windows. There in the early dawn light of a brilliant blue morning, illuminated with candles and a small fire, was their bus—repaired and ready to continue the journey home. Their friends, who had been up all night fixing the bus, were preparing breakfast and the wonderful aroma reminded them of the homes where they would soon be. A great rainbow stretched over the rapidly clearing sky and the sound of crowing roosters and other animals from a nearby farm filled the fresh warm morning air. There were beautiful flowers of all colors about in gardens planted by the Inn proprietors that no one had noticed in the hurry for cover the previous night.

Well, Spaniards being Spaniards, they were so inspired that they composed a song then and there which expressed their joy at the beauty of the morning, the events of their Cursillo and, of course, the quick repairs of the bus. They borrowed the tune from one of those endlessly repeated rounds heard from the cantina during the night and put their own words to it.

Since then DeColores (meaning "Of the Colors") has been sung on Cursillos and used as a blessing to remember and recapture the joy that those original Cursillistas felt that fine spring morning.

Inspiration Corner

by Fr. Alex Waraksa, Spiritual Director

CHRIST THE KING

Christ is counting on you. Have you ever had a king depend on you or need you? Well, Christ the king does; He counts on all the Cursillistas. Yet He also offers us help in the work He entrusts to us. He entrusts us with this work at the closing of our 3 day weekend, as we see these words on our apostolic commitment service sheet:

We proclaim Him as Savior and Lord and ask Him to "make us apostles of Your Kingdom, conscious and growing members of your Holy Church." We are given the spiritual tools to live this out by being introduced to the three areas to keep our spiritual life in balance: Piety, Study and Action.

We come before Him in the Blessed Sacrament and offer a Litany of Forgiveness for ourselves, and as instruments of His Divine Mercy in the world. We offer praise, and thanksgiving, and then Prayers of Petition. Among our petitions are the words, "Bless all lay apostles who labor to extend the Kingdom of Christ in the world. Let them be the salt of the earth."

During our Consecration to Christ our Lord, we pray, "we realize that you have chosen us to be apostles of Your Kingdom."

In our Piety we should continue to hear the call of Christ that began anew on the Cursillo weekend. We hopefully discovered more of Christ's love and mercy for us. We prayed before our meditations, "Your servant is listening; speak Lord, to my soul." Are we continuing the practice of listening in prayer to the call of Christ the King?

By our Study, we learn more of what it means to call Christ our King. This might have been highlighted in the *Obstacles to Grace* Rollo, when we were challenged to look at those things, people, or activities that we might put before Christ or God's will in our lives. Our study can help us learn about the Christ whom we are called to love with our whole heart, mind, soul and strength. Am I committed to learning about Him so that I will commit myself to a greater love of Christ the King?

Our Action is how we answer the call to serve our Christ the King. Our King is responsible for every soul in the world. These souls are in our environments as we cross their paths each day of our lives. Some we are called to pray for, some to listen to, some to share the truth of God's love and mercy. Others are called to serve by one of the spiritual works of mercy: to instruct the ignorant; to counsel the doubtful; to admonish sinners; to bear wrongs patiently; to forgive offenses willingly; to comfort the afflicted; to pray for the living and the dead. There are also corporal works of mercy: to feed the hungry; to give drink to the thirsty; to clothe the naked; to shelter the homeless; to visit the sick; to visit the imprisoned; to bury the dead.

Let us believe, accept and proclaim Christ as our King and serve Him with our Piety and Study and Action.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Fr. Joe Brando on the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the sacred priesthood.

Celebrated at

St. Mary's Church, Gatlinburg, on September 22, 2012.



Niece Megan Mahoney, Brother Peter Brando, Sister Mary Mahoney and Fr. Brando

The Deacon's Two Cents



Spring forward, FALL BACK... in Cursillo

By Deacon Bill Jacobs

It is now October, and we will soon have to change our clock from Daylight Savings Time to Standard Time. Am I the only one who has trouble remembering which day to do this? (This year we change the clocks on Sunday, November 4. I looked it up.)

We all remember the phrase, "Spring forward, Fall back." This helps

us to remember the time Let us take this time to fall back into But maybe this some good Cursillo habits, by getting change. can also October, remember to "fall back" in Cursillo. Let us take this

time to fall back into some good Cursillo habits, by getting "back" to the basics of the Method—the tripod of piety, study and action.

Many of us made commitments to improve our personal piety when we heard the Piety rollo on our weekends. Human nature being what it is, we may have grown slack in those piety commitments. It's easy to make up an excuse to not attend an extra mass every week. We keep meaning to pray more, but by the time we are finished watching TV at night, we're too tired. We keep meaning to get to reconciliation, but we keep forgetting. If we are honest with ourselves, none of these reasons are good enough to stop us from deepening our personal relationship to our loving God in our piety.

Getting back to the basics of study is not as hard as we might think, and is more

important than we might admit. Pope Benedict XVI has called the universal Church to a Year of Faith, starting this month. He suggests that we all commit to some act of study to help us to renew our faith. Two study suggestions the Holy Father has for us are (1) to read the Catechism of the Catholic Church, a little at a time

> each day, and (2) to commit again to reading the Holy Scriptures more regularly. All of us should commit, in some way, to strengthening

this leg of our tripod, to come to know God and His Church better each day.

In our Christian action, we must all "fall back" to those commitments we made on our Cursillo weekend—make a friend, be a friend, and bring that friend to Christ. When did we last make a new friend? Or do we have all the same friends that we have always had (of course, they are a blessing), without trying to bring new people (in our neighborhood, our workplace, or our world) to come to know the Savior that we all know and love so well? This kind of evangelization is hard, but it is necessary if we are to transform the world for Christ.

It is always a good idea to get "back to the basics" of the Cursillo method. which has made such a big difference in our lives. When we change our clocks this year, let us also remember to "fall back" to our risen Lord, who never changes, and who loves us always.

"back" to the basics of the Method-

the tripod of piety, study and action.

Women's Cursillo Weekend #43









Table of St. Therese L to R: Paty, Toní, Víckí, Barb, Kasía



Table of Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows: Giannine, Susan, Carol, Ann, Mirtha



Table of St. Catherine of Siena:
Debbie, Rose, Nancy,
Kathy, Barbara,
Marilyn



Rectora's Table: Mary, Martha, Fr. Alex, Angie, Micheline



2012 Cursillo Calendar

Secretariat Meeting	Oct 13 (Sat) 10 am-2 pm at St. Thomas (Lenoir City)	Lois Schering
English Men's Weekend	Oct 25-28 (Thurs-Sun) At Apison—Cancelled	
Fall Regional Encounter	Nov 2-4 at Jesuit Retreat Center, Milford, OH Topic: PreCursillo	Lois Schering
Secretariat Meeting	Nov 10 10 am-2 pm St. Thomas, Lenoir City	Lois Schering
4 th Diocesan Encounter and Reunion	Dec 1 (Sat) 9:30 am-3 pm at St. Thomas (Lenoir City) Celebrant and Keynote Speaker Cardinal Justin Rigali Mass followed by Grand Ultreya and Fiesta	Lois Schering Dick Shriver





Christ is Counting On You!

We are on the web at http://www.knoxvillecursillo.org/

Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe.—Saint Augustine

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