

Central Indiana Cursillo Center

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www.cursillo.org/indy

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Voice

CENTRAL INDIANA
CURSILLO CENTER

Make a Friend

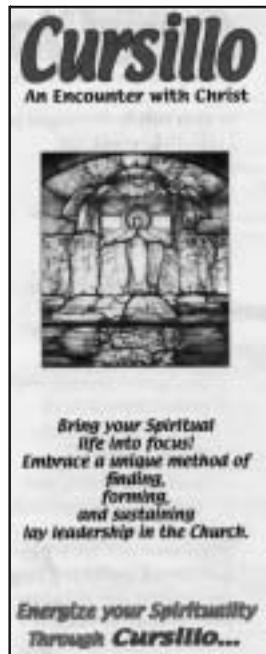
Be a friend

Bring a friend to Christ

Fall 2004



Make a Friend ♦ Be a Friend ♦ Bring a Friend to Christ



St. Luke's parish in Indianapolis recently produced their own Cursillo brochure. This attractive publication is both beautiful and informative about the movement. It offers a concise background of the movement along with the dates of the upcoming weekends. Several other area parishes are planning to develop similar brochures.

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From

The Lay Director

The Cursillo method is to prepare, give, and support. Here again is the threefold strength of the tripod.

In the parable of the sower, Matthew 13:3-9, we are told that some seeds fell on rocky ground where they had little soil and withered for lack of roots, some fell among the thorns and were choked of life, but some fell on rich soil and produced 30, 60, and even 100 fold.

It is our desire that the seeds of a Cursillo weekend be sowed in rich soil in order to produce the changes in our environments to become more Christian.

The first step is to PREPARE yourself with the tripod of Holiness, Formation, and Evangelization, then study the soil, *environment*; analyze what it needs, *meet a friend*; then work with the soil, *be a friend*. This is not an overnight job, but may take weeks, months, or even years.

Next GIVE, when the soil, *your friend*, is fully prepared to receive the seed of the weekend message, invite him to go on a weekend, *bring your friend to Christ*.

Your job doesn't end there; in fact, this might be the hardest part, SUPPORT. We are called to serve where God has planted us. Inviting a friend to the weekend is just the beginning. You need to be vigilant about weeding, *praying, staying in touch*; watering, *get your friend in a group*; and fertilizing, *bring them to Ultreyas*.

By living the Cursillo method, we will reap what we have sown, and the harvest master may say, "Well done good and faithful servants." Matthew 25:21

DeColores
Helen Otto

Our Spiritual Advisor

I have been privileged to participate in many Cursillo weekends, all different and all different results. Sometimes, like seeds planted, it may be a while before results are seen. The women of Cursillo #80 have not only planted seeds, but have yielded a wonderful harvest.

Under the leadership of several incredible people, mountains have been moved and lives have truly been touched. Seeds of Hope is a halfway house for women recovering from drugs and alcohol. It is a private facility located in the old convent at St. Joe's, and is now in its fifth year of operation. Several women from the weekend made it their mission to provide Seeds of Hope with a new kitchen. They were joined by men, also from Cursillo. Together, they put on a very successful fund-raising luncheon, and volunteers from our Cursillo Community donated hours, materials and expertise in making this kitchen a true work of love. The end result is a new modern kitchen complete with appliances and decorations.

That effort touched many lives. In a true Cursillo fashion, the project ended with a group of Cursillistas cooking, serving and sharing a meal with the women of Seeds of Hope. True service, witness and evangelizaion all in one meal. These Cursillistas have made a profound impression. God Bless all of them for saying yes to God.

De Colores, Father Glenn

Pre-Cursillo

Thoughts before the weekend

The Kingdom of God

Love
begets
Mercy
embraces
Justice
propagates
Peace

The Kingdom of Man Your Choice

The Kingdom of Satan

Hate
begets
Vengeance
embraces
Injustice
propagates
Violence

The Voice

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CURSILLO The Three Days

Opportunity is NO WHERE. What do we see when we look at the above words. Look very closely and it should look like this: Opportunity is Now Here.

St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians said: "Watch carefully how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity, because the days are Evil. Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord. And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to Lord in your hearts, giving thanks always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father."

The word Opportunity is a great word because we have it every day. I was driving to work the other day, praising and thanking God that I have a job and am able to serve him through my work.

As I was praying I felt an overwhelming amount of joy in the simple fact I had the opportunity not only to do my job but become better at it every day. As Christians we have this daily opportunity to grow closer to Our Lord through prayer, scripture, daily mass, fellowship or just taking a moment to look in awe on God's creation and how He works in all our lives everyday.

In this hustle bustle world it is easy to become loaded down and blinded to the opportunities God is giving us at every moment to serve Him, even if it's only smiling to brighten someone's day.

Let's continue to look for opportunities to share the gift of our faith and Cursillo. May this movement continue to grow through Him, with Him and in Him. Let's continue to make the most of the Cursillo opportunity.

DeColores
Steven Wetli

Area Ultreyas

Bloomington/Bedford - The fourth Friday of each month at 7 pm at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Bloomington. Call Vince and Kim Holly at (812) 824-7329 for more information.

Indianapolis City-Wide ultreya - visits a different parish each month. If you would like to host this event at your parish for one month, call Jim Pfennig at (317) 243-3648

Noblesville - Third Friday each month in chapel of Our Lady of Grace parish, 191st St. & SR 37. 7:30 pm. Refreshments. Call Ron and Veronica Anderson (317) 773-1107.

Columbus - Monthly Ultreya starts with pitch-in dinner in basement of St. Batholomew Church. Time and Saturday date listed on Web Site. Call Jerry and Paula Stahl at (812) 372-9152 for more information.

Lafayette - Fourth Friday each month, 7 pm in the John Bosco room at Blessed Sacrament parish. Call Jeff Jarboe at (765) 567-2216 for more information.

Richmond Catholic Community - Last Saturday each month, 7:30 am at Richmond Catholic Education Center, 233 S. 5th St., Richmond. Call Tom and Cheryl Kitchin at (765) 966-5164.

Holy Spirit Geist - Quarterly ultreyas. Call Rob Mountcastle at (765) 534-3135 for schedule.

WEEKEND DATES

Men's Weekend # 92 - Sep. 30 - Oct. 3

Roger Kraft - Coordinator

Women's Weekend #82 - Oct. 14-17

Sandy Neidigh - Coordinator

Post-Cursillo the fourth day

A reminder to all Cursillista: The Third annual Grand Ultreya will be held September 10th. This will be a special Ultreya because we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Cursillo movement in Central Indiana. If you know Cursillistas from that era, please invite them to come with you to this special Grand Ultreya.

The evening will be a great time to renew old friendships with men or women you have served on teams with, or perhaps those you made your weekend with.

Our first two Grand Ultreyas were enjoyable indeed, and this one should be even more fun.

Please bring a snack or a 2-liter drink to share. Festivities will start at 7 p.m. Please read the insert in this issue of the Voice for more details.

DeColores
Jerry Stahl

Pilgrim School

Pilgrim School for the fall Cursillo teams was held Tuesday, July 27th and Tuesday, August 3rd, from 7-9 p.m., in the Benedictine Room of the Catholic Center. Speakers for the two sessions included Father Rick Ginther, Father Todd Riebe, Sue Kern, George Kitchie, Paula Stahl, Sharon Bahler, Sandy Neidigh, and Jerry Stahl. Both sessions began with the Leader's Prayer and allowed time for Grouping, followed by four talks each evening.

Peggy Philhower
Leaders School

INDIANAPOLIS

Cursillo

40 Years



by
Dale Platteter

Since that first Cursillo weekend 40 years ago this fall, Indianapolis has put on 92 men's weekends and 81 women's weekends. Today more than 5,000 Cursillistas have made a Cursillo in Indianapolis, and we are adding about 120 new names each year.

Although most of those who made those early weekends have long since gone on to other pursuits, I was able to contact a couple and get comments from them.

Charley Morrow, who is no longer with us, but who was a candidate on Cursillo No. 1, told me a few years ago that he remembered his weekend clearly. He said that the team and candidates all called their wives at 1 a.m. on Sunday.

Much has changed since then, of course. Today we collect all cell phones before the beginning of the weekend.

Steve Clark

Steven B. Clark is regional coordinator of The Sword and the Spirit, an international community of Christians, and is the author of many books, including "Catholics and the Eucharist," "Desarollo," and others.

"I remember the weekend well...along with a couple of the closings. I actually worked on team for the first two Cursillos in Indianapolis in 1964.

"Forty years is a long time, and 92 men's and 81 women's Cursillos is a lot. You have something to celebrate, and I am glad I was part of the beginnings. I remember going to Alverna and working on the Cursillos.

"I believe it was my first 'missionary journey' for the Cursillos - off to the wilds of southern Indiana from South Bend. I remember that we were very pleased that 'it worked.'

"I am doing something of the same sort these days. I work with an international community of communities called The Sword of the Spirit. We learned a great deal from the Cursillos, and I have always found my Cursillo experience very valuable. Many of those with us (a large percentage of the older ones) have come through Cursillos in many parts of the world, and some still work in their Cursillo movements.

"I still haven't realized my desire to go to Mallorca, but I know some of the leaders in Vitoria, Spain who go back to the beginnings.

"May you continue to thrive. Given the state of society, I believe we need the Cursillo and movements like it more than we did then."



Ralph Martin

It is hard to imagine that 40 years have passed since Ralph Martin served on the team for the first Indianapolis Cursillo, held at Alverna Retreat House, August 6-9, 1964. Today, Ralph is a well-known Christian author, evangelist, and host of *The Choices We Face*, one of the longest running and most widely viewed weekly Catholic television programs in the world. He sent us an e-mail stating, "Cursillo has certainly made an important contribution to my life."

You can find out what he has been up to by visiting the web site for Renewal Ministries at www.renewalministries.net.

Here is an excerpt from Ralph's book, *Hungry for God*:

"I made Cursillo during my senior year at Notre Dame. A few days before it began, I decided I could not possibly go - graduation was only a few months away and I had a great deal of work to do.

By God's grace, at the end of my Cursillo, I was given enough courage to admit the truth of my condition, the reality of the Lordship of Jesus, to kneel down and confess my sin, renounce it, and turn over my life to Him. I experienced God's power within me and came to know Him in an incredibly full way - with a bursting heart and tears of love and joy.

I Was Beginning Again

It has been many years since that Cursillo weekend in February 1964 when I was able to acknowledge Jesus in all magnificence and holiness and purity and presence, and ask Him to take over my life. It was a new beginning, but just a beginning. It wasn't that I wasn't a Christian before that, I was for many years. But it was a beginning again; and it has continued.

The details of these past years are not relevant at the moment. Suffice to say that by God's grace I preserved in the simple means of growth, daily prayer, and Christian community. It has allowed Him to deepen His hold on me and purify me, although not without suffering and pain, and not without subsequent discoveries, that I will expect to continue to happen, of further levels of my being that need to be more deeply yielded to Him.

For some, this process of conversion to Jesus and receiving the Spirit is suddenly dramatic, as it was in my case. For others it is gradual, taking place, sometimes in what seems to be imperceptible stages, over a period of time, even years. But it is the same Lord, doing the same work in what fundamentally are the same fearful, resistant hearts."

Who Do You Remember

from 40 years ago

20 years ago

10 years ago

last year?

No matter how long ago you made your weekend, there is someone you remember, someone you would like to see again. Perhaps a member of the team, your table leader, or someone who sat with you at your table. Someone you got to know, to love, and have since lost track of.

Here's your chance to see them all once again.

Come, Help us Celebrate!

40
Years
Of Cursillo



at the
Third Annual
Ultreya
el Grande

When: September 10 at 7 p.m.

Where: St. Joseph' Parish in Indianapolis

What to bring: Snacks & soft drinks

How to get there: See map below

