

Central Indiana Cursillo Center

P.O. Box 20770

Indianapolis, IN 46220-0770

www.cursillo.org/indy

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

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Voice

CENTRAL INDIANA
CURSILLO CENTER

Make a Friend

Be a friend

Bring a friend to Christ

SPRING 2009

From *The Lay Director*

To our new Cursillistas, "Welcome!". What a blessing you are to us all. I hope your Fourth Day is going well and that you are actively taking part in Group Reunion. I have been grouping since my week in October of 1990. If you are not yet in a Group Reunion, please visit our web page (www.cursillo.org/indy) and contact your parish coordinator so that they can assist you in finding an active group in your parish or local community. If that route doesn't work, start recruiting friends to make a Cursillo so you can start your own Group Reunion. Grouping, along with attendance at Ultreyas and the Closings, is the key to keeping your Fourth Day vibrant.

For the past four years Marshall Kern has been director of Leaders school. Although his term ended last June he stayed on until we could find a replacement. Bill Demaree has now offered to take over the position. Welcome Bill and thanks to Marshall for his time and effort these past four years.

Thanks to all of you for your contributions to our year-end fund drive. The drive was very successful and we received more than \$5,000 dollars. We are so blessed by your giving.

We have two special days planned in the near future that I would like you to pencil in on your calendars. The first is our Leaders School the

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Our Spiritual Advisor

As we reflect on the great message of hope that Easter brings to all of us, we should find ourselves with a feeling of true gratitude. What a wonderful time to be Catholic and to realize what that really means. What a perfect time to be reminded of and to embrace God's unconditional love.

I recently attended a "Rachel's Vineyard" retreat at Fatima for those who have been a part of an abortion – and who were seeking forgiveness and healing. For some, the search for this healing had been going on for many years. It was an absolute privilege to watch God's grace in action – and to see those most in need of compassion and mercy receive it. I was especially touched by the honesty and frankness of the participants, and how truly appreciative they were of God's mercy and love -- mercy and love that is always there for us -- but it was through this retreat that those who were there finally claimed and accepted it. What a patient and awesome God!

Truly, Cursillo is a vehicle of God's grace, and we are all instruments of that love. What a privilege to be called as an instrument of God's love. What a humbling realization that should be to all of us. Easter is that time of the year when we renew our commitment to that love. It is a time to be comforted and energized by the Risen Christ, who has always been there for us – just waiting to be embraced. *Father Glenn*

Men's 101

Our Newest Cursillistas

Women's 90

Marty Austerman - St. Andrews, Richmond
Sean Belby - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Michael Bowen - All Sants, Logansport
Ned Boyd - All Saints, Logansport
David Calisto - All Saints, Logansport
Jason Cole - St. Lawrence, Lafayette
Daniel Duff - St. Lawrence, Lafayette
Jimmy Duke - St. Joseph, Lebanon
Michael Fisher - St. Matthew, Indianapolis
Ryan Gastineau - St. Lawrence, Lafayette
Jeff Golc - Sts. Francis and Clare, Greenwood
Scott Goley - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Albert Hodgen - St. Joseph, Lebanon
Brian Jackson - St. Vincent dePaul, Shelbyville
Christopher Janak - St. Alphonsus Liguori
James Knight - St. Mary, Richmond
Michael McCord - All Saints, Logansport
Christopher Neukam - St. Gabriel, Indianapolis
Edward Olberding - St. Alphonsus Liguori
Mark Probasco - St. Charles, West Lafayette
Andy Romens - St. Louis deMontfort
Kenneth Rulon - Sacred Heart of Jesus, Cicero
Ben Russell - St. Maria Goretti
Stephan Sanders - St. Monica
Paul Sifuentes - St. Simon
Terry Spartz - St. Alphonsus Liguori
Bruce Timberman - St. Simon
Frederick Velana - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Matthew Valli - St. Alphonsus Liguori
Chris Watson - St. Boniface, Lafayette

Ginny Cooke - All Saints, Logansport
Teresa Duke - St. Joseph, Lebanon
Ann Hayward - St. Joseph, Indianapolis
Shirley Muller - St. Patrick, Oxford
Ellen Sanders - St. Monica
Carolyn Bennett - St. Ann, Lafayette
Marene Heintzelman - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Kathi Rohr - St. Monica
Beth Slusser - All Saints, Logansport
Lynn Spartz - St. Alphonsus Liguori
Jane Lee - St. Luke
Dana Smith - St. Philip Neri
Angie Tragesser - St. Simon
Jodie Tully - All Saints, Logansport
Amy Vaiana - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Cristin Cole - St. Lawrence, Lafayette
Elizabeth Kalil - St. John Vianney
Holly Maxson - All Saints, Logansport
Laraine Schilling - St. Ann, Lafayette
Mary Ann Williamson - All Saints, Logansport
Ann Albaugh - St. Joseph, Lebanon
Patty Keen - Holy Spirit, Indianapolis
Pam Kocher - All Saints, Logansport
Julie Lyday - St. Simon
Monica Torres - St. Thomas Aquines, West Lafayette
NOTE - The following name was omitted from Cursillo 88
Sandy Garrett - St. Jude

PRE-CURSILLO

They will know we are Christians by our love...

As I watched the men's and the women's weekend closings, one thing embedded itself into my mind and heart: the love of God and the love of one another within the Cursillo Community. As Fr. Rick Ginther said at the women's closing, the women came as they were, and we loved them, and now we send them back into the community.

This is the essence of PreCursillo. As we are called to make a friend, be a friend, and to bring that friend to Christ, we are also called to love God and others. We use Piety, Study and Action as the foundation of the movement to do this. First we pray for strength, guidance and discernment to reach out to others. Then we study and share with those in our environments. And then we are able to reach out with love to bring others into the movement. It is not "just to fill the weekends". The weekend is only the beginning. We are called to be a sponsor, not just for a three-day weekend, but to walk with them on their path to God, and to allow them to walk with us on that same path.

As we celebrate Easter and all the wonders of God's love for us, may we reach out and show others that love.

Mark & Becky Scheller

Secretariat Members

Spiritual Advisor, Indpls ... Fr. Glenn O'Connor	(317) 244-9002
Spiritual Advisor, Lafayette ... Fr. Mike McKinney	(574) 722-4080
Lay Director ... Rob Reuzenaar	(765) 448-1343
Treasurer ... Frank Roberts	(765) 935-1337
Secretary ... Kathy Kaler	(317) 784-7843

Section Leaders & Subcommittees

Pre-Cursillo ... Mark & Becky Scheller	(317) 733-4184
Palanca and Communications	
Mark and Maureen Tolleben	(317) 254-1784
Parish Coordinators ... Tom Kitchin	(765) 966-5164
Cursillo ... Paul & Jennifer Burger	(317) 823-3743
Music Coordinator ... Tony Avellana	(317) 846-6242
Closing MC - Men ... Tom LaBarbera	(812) 378-0836
Closing M.C - Women ... Anjie Reuzenaar	(765) 448-1343
Post-Cursillo ... Bill Halsema	(317) 255-5325
Website ... Dale Platteter	(812) 279-6265
CICC Prayer Network ... Steve Fruecht	(317) 577-9813
Voice Editor ... Ward Degler	(317) 873-5550
School of Leaders ... Bill Demaree	(317) 997-4281

The Three Days ...

When I think of the 3-day Cursillo, I think of the Holy Spirit. The weekends, just like all of us, are always unique and special. This isn't by design, but rather by Devine – intervention. When the team and candidates "Let Go and Let God", we allow the Holy Spirit to take over. This is exactly how it should be. God has a special plan for everyone on the weekend. Our main job during the three-day Cursillo weekend is to listen to God's call and follow His every word.

Paul and Jennifer Burger

Leaders School Planned

Cef Aguillon from our National Cursillo Secretariat visited with us over a year ago and made some suggestions about strengthening our local Cursillo movement. He encouraged us to get new Cursillistas involved right after their weekends. He said it was important to educate Cursillistas that want to get involved in Cursillo. As a result, your local CICC Secretariat is trying something new this year. We are offering a Leaders School the afternoon of the Reunion Ultreya on April 18th. The School will be held at St. Joseph parish, 1375 South Mickley Avenue. The School will begin with Mass at 11:30am. A free lunch will be provided. Talks and discussion will include the history, strategy, and method, holiness and scriptures, personal contact, pre and post Cursillo, evangelization and the impact of laity in our Church. Come and join us to learn more about your Cursillo movement, meet new people and begin sharing this special Cursillo journey. A second Leaders School will be held November 14th. Please RSVP Rob and Anjie Reuzenaar if you can attend at: ruznersr1withGOD@comcast.net or call 765-448-1343.

Area Ultreyas

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 Bill Halsema at (317) 255-5325 or e-mail at indyxrover@msn.com to get on the list. Bill will help with music, support, witnesses and other necessities.

Noblesville - Third Saturday each month after 5 pm Mass (except June, July and August) in chapel of Our Lady of Grace parish, 191st St. & SR 37. at 7:30 pm. Refreshments. Call Ron and Veronica Anderson (317) 773-1107.

Columbus - We meet in the basement of St. Bartholomew Church after 5 pm Mass. Pitch-in

dinner followed by Ultreya. Watch the CICC web site and the local Columbus newsletter for dates and times. Call Jerry and Paula Stahl at (812) 372-9152 for more information.

Lafayette - The Cursillo community of Lafayette holds Ultreya at St. Lawrence parish hall, 7 p.m., fourth Saturday of each month. 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.

Come, Join Us

Saturday, June 20, St. Monica Parish, Indianapolis

9am - 4pm RSVP indyxrover@msn.com

"The Summons ... Our Cursillo Calling"

Celebrate the Mass with fellow Cursillistas; Hear five powerful talks on Our Call to Live the Cursillo, given by members of the CICC; Enter into Praise and Worship with our very own talented musician, Tony Avellana ; Enjoy a Free Lunch;

Come Join Us for all, or any part, of the day.

9:00 am Mass, Celebrated by Fr. Glenn O'Connor

Continental Breakfast

10:30 am "Will You Come And Follow Me?"... Personal Conversion

11:30 am "Will You Leave Yourself Behind?" ... Risking Persecution

Complimentary Lunch

1:00 pm "Will You Let The Blinded See?" ... A Life of Ministry

2:15 pm "Will You Love The "You" You Hide" ... Leadership

3:30 pm "Lord Your Summons Echoes True" ... Christian Community

A day of renewal you won't want to miss

Thanks for the Help

A very genuine "Thank you" to everyone who contributed to the Fall fund drive. Because of your response, we raised more than \$5,000. We all know the power of Cursillo and what it has done for each of us. Because of it, when you were asked,

you generously stepped up to the plate to demonstrate your commitment to the movement.

On behalf of the entire Secretariat, may God bless you for your generosity.

Frank Roberts, Treasurer



**An open letter from Archbishop Joseph Kurtz
... Archdiocese of Louisville**
Cursillo -- "One of the Best-Kept Secrets"

I made my Cursillo weekend in 1980. Like most good things that I have done in my life, I did not say yes the first time I was asked. In fact it took eight years of encouragement for me to clear the calendar and go on the three-plus day retreat called the "Little Course in Christianity" or, in Spanish, Cursillo.

Recently the experience came back to me on a Saturday morning when I was asked to greet women from throughout the archdiocese who were making their weekend. It was a joy.

Back in 1996 when I became a pastor of a parish in Bethlehem, Pa., Notre Dame of Bethlehem, I became convinced that the surest way to engage parishioners in the life of the parish and the Church was to urge them to go to this weekend retreat. I became convinced of this because of the formation that is provided by spiritual renewal experiences like Cursillo.

I spent nine years in seminary, preparing for the life and ministry of a priest. That time of formation established a solid base for a lifelong commitment. Sadly so many Catholics live such hectic lives that their only formation is Sunday Mass itself. Without some additional foundation, the Sunday celebration of the Holy Eucharist — called by Vatican Council II Fathers "the source and summit of Christian life" — can be reduced to an obligation. Cursillo is a way to deepen that commitment.

You might ask why I needed Cursillo when I had already nine years of formation under my belt. As I look back at the experience, I identify two very concrete realities. First, it was my entrance to sharing a spiritual journey with laity. I had already served lay men and women for eight years as a priest, but with Cursillo I was walking the journey of faith with them. This experience added a new dimension to my life and revealed the importance of mutual support in faith.

Secondly, it was an encounter with Christ that was so refreshing. We need sparks like this if we are to nourish our encounter with Christ that begins with our baptism.

Our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI has said so often that our faith is about a person, the person of Jesus Christ and our encounter with him in a life changing way. He has spoken of the need for firsthand experiences of Christ in our lives.

While secondhand clothes can be economical and even fun, we cannot go through life as a person of faith with only a secondhand experience of faith. We can begin to be a person of faith at the encouragement of a parent or to please a spouse, but a sustained and fruitful life of faith requires and deserves a firsthand experience of the Lord Jesus.

The eight years that it took for me to say yes to Cursillo reminds me of something I learned in the seminary: Christ invites but never imposes. The winning invitation today is usually given by one whose life shows evidence of conversion.

So often with evangelization, we seek first to be welcomed into the lives of those we are called to serve. As the formula made famous by the Cursillo Movement states, "make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ." Every step of that sequence is important and cannot be skipped if we are to be apostles of the Lord. Even with members of our own family, we must first seek to make a friend before we can hope to bring a person to Christ.

The women's Cursillo was not large — less than a dozen candidates and about the same number on the team. However, most good things have that personal aspect. I would list Cursillo among that list of best kept secrets.



**Planning Session
Strikes a Positive Note**

Music was big on the agenda during the annual CICC planning meeting held January 17. According to Secretariat Music Coordinator Tony Avellana, music isn't free. Even singing songs at closings such as "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" involves copyright issues.

Copyright licensing would allow the Secretariat to produce song sheets for specific events, but they would need to be destroyed after each use. Tony pointed out that copyright covers each song individually and could get expensive.

The cost of producing song books would be an even greater expense. As a solution, he suggested adding a sponsorship page to the books to cover the costs of both printing and licensing. That way, he said, he would hope to have books ready for the spring weekends. Included in the mix would be music books for the music chas, he said.

During the brainstorming session of the planning meeting Rob Reuzenaar asked Secretariat members to look for ways to improve grouping for new Cursillistas. Many don't remain active because they don't get into a group, he said.

Mark Scheller suggested the solution could start with Pre-Cursillo. It should be a time of prayer, he said, about making a friend, being a friend and bringing that friend to Christ. He pointed out that it could take two to three years to go through the Pre-Cursillo process.

Another suggestion was to try to increase information about Cursillo within the parish by adding it to the church bulletins and by having Cursillo Information dinners, booths at parish ministry fairs, and to share Cursillo information with the chancery office.

Lay Director - continued from page 1

afternoon of April 18th. We are also having a day of reflection on June 20th. We are calling it, "The Summons," a series of talks and fellowship based on the popular hymn of the same name. See the special article in this issue of the Voice for more information. Both days will be worth your time .

I had the opportunity this spring to be part of Cursillo 101. I sat at the table of St. Anthony. What a blessing it was for me to get to know the other team members and spend time in prayer and sacrifice for the spring weekend. On Friday of Cursillo 101 Fr. Glenn O'Conner gave the Habitual Grace talk then Fr. Mike McKinney gave the Actual Grace talk. How blessed we all were to have our two Spiritual Advisors from both dioceses kick off our weekend by sharing with us about God's gift of Grace. I truly felt the Grace of God permeating everything throughout the weekend. I know people who attended the closing had that same grace-filled moment as they entered St. Bernadette Church. God is good.

In the Love and Service of Christ,
Rob Reuzenaar, Lay Director, CICC

Note: New weekend registration forms are available to download from the Website: www.cursillo.org/indy/weekend. Mail all registration forms to:
Central Indiana Cursillo Center, 6510 Wilshire Place, Zionsville, IN 46077

Fall Weekends

Men's #102 -Oct. 1-4 - John Ameis, Rector

Women's # 91 - Oct. 16-19 -Anjie Reuzenaar, Rectora

2010 Spring Weekends

Men's #103- March 4-7

Women's #92 March 18-21

National Encounter

July 30- Aug. 2 California State University
San Bernadino, California

Weekend Reflections ...



*The theme for our weekend was
“Because of Your Love...”*



I stressed the significance of the “dots” in our theme title to the team during formation and the candidates on Thursday evening as an invitation to

experience the Love of God and to enter into relationship with Christ in our journey. In this that God wants for us. This invitation was willingly embraced by both the team and candidates on this weekend: The team in their openness to serve; and the candidates in their openness to receive.

I cannot speak for each candidate as to how the Love of God touched her – it was evident however that Jesus Christ intimately dwelled among us for those three days, and lives were touched and forever changed. There was not a single moment when this occurred - simply a calm, peaceful, accepting presence that grew throughout the weekend as we listened to talks, shared meals and our lives of piety, study and action, and grew together as Sisters in Christ in Christian Community.

It was a beautiful weekend in every way possible – only by the Grace of God and through the palanca of



sponsors, friends, and the entire Cursillo Community was this possible! Many thanks to all of you for your prayers and sacrifices for this weekend.

Please continue to pray for our 25 new Cursillistas as they enter their Fourth Day – may they continue to follow the dots...the path of Christ...may His Love continue to dwell and grow in them, as they carry out their plans to bring that same love to others...and may each find a Group Reunion that will support her in her life of Piety, Study and Action -- her Life in Grace.

“In the Beginning...”

“In the Beginning...”

The Men’s Cursillo Team #101 was privileged to witness to a “full weekend” of 30 Candidates. What a joy it was for me to serve as Rector.

Cursillo is known as the “Short Course in Christianity.” What better way to get started than with an entry level class numbered 101. That number also fit perfectly with a team of 26 members. Interestingly enough, there are 26 “prime numbers” within the number 101 and each team member brought their own unique gifts to the weekend.

Our theme was “In the Beginning....” With the hope of bringing to the candidates, the fundamentals of living a “Life in Christ.” The words “In the Beginning...” are also the very first words in both Genesis (verse 1:01) and John’s Gospel (verse 1:01). Our focus was to bring to the candidates an understanding that God loves each of us immeasurably. As it says in 1 John: *“In this is love, not that we have loved God, but that He loved us...”*

Our team formation began in January. We used the “Prayer to the Apostle Paul” as our team prayer. And what a gift it was to have the “Patron Saint of Cursillo” intercede for us. There were some obstacles, including having to cancel two meetings due to weather, but the team came together very quickly. I can’t remember a team united in such true, heartfelt love and compassion for one another. The “Peace of Christ” was with us throughout. There were also nine men working their first Cursillo team. Their joy and enthusiasm was a major factor in the weekend.

The Weekend came together beautifully, despite the loss of an hour due to the arrival of Daylight Savings Time (*Oh, and that other lost hour due to the Rector waking up the team an hour early on Saturday morning.*)

Our prayer was sincere, the talks were wonderful, the table discussions lively, the support from the Cursillo Community unbelievable and the food from the kitchen was as good as the entertainment. But most importantly, the Lord was with us every step of the way, culminating with the Gospel reading from the Transfiguration on the Sunday to begin our Fourth Day.

For me, the Lord was not in the wind, or the earthquake, or the fire, but in that “tiny whispering sound.” And I pray that the Lord will grant me the grace to hold on to the “beginning of that reality,” as well as continue to bless and keep all of the Men of Cursillo #101 near and dear to His heart.

Stew Baxter