

Central Indiana Cursillo Center

P.O. Box 2065

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www.cursillo.org/indy

(Address Service Requested)



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

Palanca - continued from Page 3

home. Gifts received during the weekend will be sent home with Candidates at the end of the weekend.

• Teams cannot promise that Palanca received after Saturday morning will be distributed during the weekend. Late Palanca will be given to the candidate in their packets.

If you have served on a team recently, you realize what a huge job sorting Palanca can be. Chas look at Palanca for notations indicating it comes from family or sponsor. They sort by candidate, and they try to even out the amount of Palanca for candidates for delivery at the specified times.

My own weekend was truly blessed by my Palanca. My life had been missing a sense of community. By receiving Palanca from my sponsor, husband, children, my priest, and fellow parishioners, I knew I had found what I was seeking. So, I know how important Palanca is to the candidates. But it should not be "the" weekend.

Sandy Neidigh – Cursillo 73

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Voice

CENTRAL INDIANA
CURSILLO CENTER

Make a Friend

Be a friend

Bring a friend to Christ

Winter 2005

From

The Lay Director

At the Fall Encounter of 2003, the Lay directors of our region, Region IV, were assigned to different committees. The committee I was assigned to was to draw up a Regional IV Pastoral Plan and present it at the spring meeting. At the same time I was given a box of Cursillo literature of past history, Leaders Manuals, Structure of Ideas, and other assorted pamphlets from a past Secretariat member.

In reading some of the literature from the beginning and through the years of the Movement and working with other Lay Directors to draw up a Pastoral Plan, I became very aware of our human need for clarity.

From the moment God gave Moses the Ten Commandments, we have tried to clarify how to obey these simple commands. In the Book of Leviticus, Moses gave more detail and clarity, and by the time Jesus started preaching, the Jewish leaders had handed down so many regulations of how to obey that it was impossible to do them all.

In His teachings Jesus simplified what is required to follow his ways. He gave us only two commandments that were necessary: Love God with your whole being, and love your neighbor as yourself.

The same is true for the Cursillo Movement. The original leaders drew up the ideal structure

Our Spiritual Advisor

We have been blessed with many new Cursillistas. Thanks be to God! We should rejoice and be thankful to God for his work. Fall colors remind us again of the beauty and wonder of nature. Our God is a God of wonder, of awe and of beauty. Our Cursillistas are gifts of wonder and awe.

As nature changes and adapts, Cursillistas change and adapt to new challenges. Sometimes the challenges are wonderful and beautiful, others are difficult and painful, but they are God-inspired challenges.

These changes are a constant reminder and a challenge to bring Good News to all. We respond to God's love and God's invitation throughout our present lives.

We are never alone, we are always with Jesus and with our Cursillo Community. There is excitement in our challenges. As we reflect and enjoy the changes of nature, may we also reflect and enjoy the changes our Cursillistas have made to our community. God Bless All.

Father Glenn

Secretariat Members

Spiritual Advisor, Indpls - Fr. Glenn O'Connor	(317) 244-9002
Spiritual Advisor, Lafayette - Fr. Mike Kettron	(317) 984-5117
Lay Director - Helen Otto	(317) 293-8758
Treasurer - Rick Neidigh	(812) 379-4568
Secretary - Mary Kendall	(317) 638-5167

Section Leaders & Subcommittees

Pre-Cursillo - Dave Roesinger	(317) 770-6498
Palanca - Sandy Neidigh	(812) 379-4568
Palanca - Sue Campbell	(812) 333-5313
Parish Coordinators	
Cursillo - Steve Wetli	(765) 477-0788
Weekend Supplies	(317) 846-6242
Music Coordinator - Tony Avellana	(765) 966-5164
Closing MC - Men - Tom Kitchin	(317) 924-4090
Closing M.C - Women - Jane Maher	(812) 372-9152
Post-Cursillo - Jerry Stahl	(317) 896-9223
Campout Coordinator - Bruce Carlstedt	(812) 279-6265
Web Site - Dale Platteter	(317) 577-9813
CICC Prayer Network - Steve Fruecht	(317) 873-5550
Voice Editor - Ward Degler	(317) 844-2588
School of Leaders - Peggy Philhower	(317) 257-4595
Special Training Events - Ken Corbett	(317) 415-0148

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Pre-Cursillo

Thoughts before the weekend

What did my last article have to do with Pre-Cursillo? Directly, nothing; indirectly, everything. If there had been no Pre-Cursillo in 1995, I would not have made the weekend, learned the tripod, served on the Secretariat, and written the article.

It was praying and contemplating the third Luminous mystery of the Rosary that allowed the Holy Spirit to move me to write that article.

This brings me to the need to find someone to take my place on the Secretariat, as my term is coming to an end. Please, contact me at droesinger@earthlink.net or call me at 317-770-6498 if you think you might be interested. *Dave Roesinger*

Lay Director - Continued from Page 1

for the movement, but through the years different things have filtered in just as they did with the Jewish people. By the time Jesus came, they had a difficult time with His simple rules and the idea of a suffering Messiah.

The Cursillo weekend is a pilgrimage not a retreat: Thursday evening is the only part that is a retreat, Friday – First day of our pilgrimage, Saturday – Second day of our pilgrimage, Sunday – Third day of our pilgrimage. Our Fourth day is the rest of our pilgrimage to heaven, walking with our Friendship group, and all other Cursillistas at Ultreyas, and inviting the rest of the world to come with us.

In the Leader's Manual, Palanca was and should always be, prayer, sacrifice, and alms (works of mercy). Nothing more. Very simple, but over the years we have added other things. As with the progression of talks on the weekend, there is an article about Palanca on another page of this Voice that will clarify how and why we need to keep it simple.

De Colores

Helen Otto

CURSILLO

The Three Days

“May He make us an everlasting Gift to you.”

Every time I hear this part of the Second Eucharistic prayer of the Mass after Jesus is Present in body, blood, soul and divinity, it makes me think, “Am I letting Jesus make me an everlasting gift?”

During this Advent and Christmas season let us get wrapped up in Jesus and by Jesus. Let us recognize the Greatest Gift is also the Greatest Gift Giver.

Cursillo is a great catalyst as we continue to journey in faith and discover more of the gifts Jesus has for us.

DeColores -- Steve Wetli

Spring Weekends

Men's #93 - March 3-6 - Dave Rokosz, coordinator

Women's # 82 - March 17-20 - Leslie Miskowiec, coordinator



School of Leaders Starts in January

The School of Leaders will begin monthly meetings on Tuesday, January 13, 2005. Sessions will begin at 7 pm at the Catholic Center. Dates for the remainder of the program are February 10, March 9, April 13 and May 11.

Leaders School is an in-depth study of the Cursillo movement. If you have never attended Leaders School or Pilgrim School and wish to serve on a team, this is your opportunity. Everyone is welcome.

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.

Pilgrim School

Twenty-four Cursillistas attended Pilgrim's School November 9th and 16th at the Catholic Center in Indianapolis. Each evening's session included prayer, grouping, and four talks. Father Glenn O'Connor gave the talk on "The Laity and the Church Today". Father Michael Kettron, Spiritual Director for the spring women's team, spoke on "The Call of the Church to Holiness and the Scriptures". Father Rick Ginther, the men's team Spiritual Director, talked about "The Cursillo Leader and Evangelization in the Catholic Church".

Peggy Philhower, Georgi Fiorelli, Monty Mountcastle, Leslie Miskowiec, and Jerry Stahl were the lay speakers.

Many of the participants commented that the talks were "all good", and one stated "I like this format as is". Another person agreed, and said "No change", when asked what they would add or delete. One person suggested making the sessions 30 minutes longer in order to expand the time for grouping, but most of the surveys returned indicated they felt the two-hour format was sufficient, especially since some participants have to travel an hour or more in order to attend. Both Leslie Miskowiec and Dave Rokosz, the two spring Coordinators, were present to encourage their teams, especially those members who have never served on a team before. *Peggy Philhower*

Post-Cursillo the fourth day

I want to welcome all the new Cursillistas to the community. I was privileged to be on the Cursillo #92 team, and it was a spirit-filled weekend. The witness speakers at both the men's and women's closing were exceptional.

I encourage all new Cursillistas to get into a Friendship Group as soon as possible. Ask your sponsors to help. Being active in a group is a vital part of your fourth day.

Our Cursillo community is sponsoring a New Year's Eve Mass at St. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. I hope each of you will plan to join us for this celebration - what a beautiful way to welcome the new year. See the separate article in this newsletter for more information. Or call me at (812) 372-9152. God Bless you and your families in 2005.

DeColores,

Jerry Stahl

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Come, celebrate the blessings of the past year and seek the Lord's blessings for 2005. Join us the Catholic Cursillo way, in a Eucharistic celebration.



New Year's Eve Mass at the Cathedral



"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

II Chronicles 7:14

Do something new for the new year. Bring your family and friends and attend Mass on New Year's Eve at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral. The Cathedral is at 1347 N. Meridian Street in Indianapolis.

Songs of worship will begin at 11:00 PM, followed by Mass at 11:30 PM. The celebrant will be Fr. Rick Ginther.

Parking will be available behind the Cathedral and at the Catholic Center parking lot across the street from the Cathedral. Security guards will be on duty before, during and after the services.

This special Mass is being sponsored by the Central Indiana Cursillo Center, Edelweiss House, the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and several other groups that serve the Church.

This annual Mass will offer a Catholic alternative to the world's way of celebrating the end of one year and the beginning of another. Please, join us, we guarantee you will be blessed.

The Voice

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Palanca - what it is, what it isn't

Palanca is an important part of the Cursillo experience. But, it also can be one of the most misunderstood. Here are a few guidelines to help you understand what Palanca is - and isn't.

What Palanca isn't:

Palanca is **not** 'love notes'. It's not telling the candidate how wonderful he or she is, although the individual very well may be wonderful. And, Palanca is not gifts.

What Palanca is:

Palanca is prayer and sacrifice offered to God for the intention of the candidates, team, and the weekend in general. It's the sacrifice of time to say a Rosary or attend extra Masses. It is the willingness to spend extra time in prayer, and to fast and offer other sacrifices. It is also affirmation of the candidate for taking this next step in their faith journey.

The Cursillo movement asks us to concentrate on general Palanca - Palanca received for the weekend from entire Cursillo communities or even from other Christ-centered movements such as Walk to Emmaus, Great Banquet, and Tres Dias.

To know that entire communities from as far away as Australia are praying for you is a true blessing. Recent weekends have received more than 175 pieces of general Palanca. The Spirit of God is working for and through us. Here are a few guidelines from the Central Indiana Cursillo Community:

- Concentrate on general Palanca
- Distribute Palanca during the weekend primarily from sponsors and family members (mark your Palanca accordingly)
- Do not send gifts as Palanca. Instead, present them on the way home or after they return

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Our Newest Cursillistas

Men's 92

Paul Scofield - St. Simon
 Rich Deering - St. Simon
 Vince Braun - Annunciation(Brazil)
 Tom Nicholson - St. Simon
 Brian Dean - OLMC
 Ed Isakson - St. Monica
 Marty Flaherty - Holy Spirit at Geist
 Joe Lazzara - OLMC
 Allen Cintas - OLMC
 Kenneth Michael - St. Lawrence
 Jim Alvarez - St. Maria Goretti
 Ken Thompson - St. Lawrence
 Mike Barrientos - St. Maria Goretti
 Jim Greffet - OLMC
 John Steenhoven - St. Lawrence
 Gary Sampson - OLMC
 Chris Wrobel - OLMC
 Ron Chamberlain - St. Maria Goretti
 Angelo Peduto - St. Simon
 Harold Uhl - St. Simon
 Kevin Kiser - OLMC
 Steve Funkhouser - St. Mary Richmond
 Dale Knight - St. Simon
 Brian Settle - OLMC
 Nick Shea - OLMC
 Rick Kolic - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
 Dave Hall - St. Maria Goretti

Women's 81

Carol Alvarez - St. Maria Goretti
 Nancy Barron - St. Louis DeMontfort
 Ann Marie Brennan - St. Louis DeMontfort
 Kristen K. Corbett - St. Simon
 Susan Dean - OLMC
 Jill Ann Garvey - St. Luke
 Jenifer Grantkowski - Holy Family
 Tami Kaufman - OLMC
 Mary Ann Keiner - Our Lady of Grace
 Cheryl Mahon - St. Maria Goretti
 Mara Lynn McKinney - Our Lady of Grace
 Lisa Meiners - OLMC
 Judy Mpistolarides - St. Simon
 Beth Newell - St. Maria Goretti
 Barbara O'Connell - St. Maria Goretti
 Brenda Oeff - St. Simon
 Lynn Pangbum - OLMC
 Cathy Penno - OLMC
 Mary Lyn Plocica - OLMC
 Barb Recker - St. Monica
 Deborah Riley - St. Maria Goretti
 Judy Roush - St. Maria Goretti
 Teri Russell - Our Lady of Grace
 Mary Kay Rust - St. Pius
 Julie L. Stankovsky - St. Maria Goretti
 Felicia Scofield - St. Simon
 Kay Scoville - St. Simon
 Bonnie Shininger - St. Bernard
 Alice Winslow - Holy Spirit at Geist
 Anita Wojda - St. Maria Goretti

Fourth Day Action Rennovates Halfway House

By
Brenna Kaelin

By the end of my Cursillo weekend, I felt like I was on a mission and wanted to get started on my Fourth Day.

Our weekend spiritual director Fr. Glenn O'Connor kept mentioning this halfway house for women called Seeds of Hope. He said the facility was 60 years old and, in his words, "probably could use a little paint."

So, one of my Cursillo sisters and I visited the house to see what needed painting. What we saw was overwhelming. What the house really needed was a complete renovation. The worst of it was the kitchen which was a sad collection of 1960s cabinets which looked like they were about to fall off the wall, ancient appliances, peeling countertops, and absolutely no storage. There was also a wall between the narrow kitchen space and the dining room which made it extremely difficult for the 13 residents that lived there.

After we left, the two of us went to lunch and banged our heads with our hands trying to figure out what we could do. Before we knew it, we were planning a luncheon as a fund raiser to make money for kitchen repairs. It was like a tornado had struck us at lunch. We were on a mission and were not going to give up until the mission was accomplished.

"Before we knew it, we were planning a luncheon as a fund raiser to make kitchen repairs."

In rapid fire we set a date for the luncheon, got the whole thing sponsored, including the Indianapolis Yacht Club where it was held, sent out 350 invitations and collected all kinds of items for a silent auction.

During this time our weekend had its reunion at St. Joseph's Church where I announced to everyone what we were doing, hopefully to promote interest in the luncheon. Before I could blink my eyes, this guy hands me his business card and tells me he owns a construction company and would like to donate all the labor for the kitchen project. As if that weren't enough, a friend of his said he

would like to contribute all the electrical work. Then my neighbor who is a builder made arrangements to get new cabinets from Drexel at no cost.



In a matter of 10 days we had arranged for a luncheon for 350 people, and got all the construction labor, electrical and cabinets for the new kitchen for no cost.

The luncheon was a success. We raised \$13,000 for Seeds of Hope. And since so much was donated, we were able to give almost \$10,000 of that money to the facility for day-to-day operating expenses.

Altogether, the old kitchen was completely gutted and the wall between the kitchen and dining room torn down, a new laminated wood flooring was installed in both the kitchen and dining room, all new appliances, which we bought from H.H. Gregg at half price, went in along with the new cabinets and counter tops plus a new sink and faucets.

The whole project was rounded out with a new sideboard in the dining room along with two new lamps and some needed storage room, a set of bar stools that I refinished myself, plus a smattering of other accessories.

Besides all of this, of course, numerous people contributed money, food, encouragement and lots of prayers.

After the project was complete, the residents of Seeds of Hope were so ecstatic, they declared the new kitchen was too beautiful to use for cooking. To prove otherwise, the Cursillistas got together and cooked the first meal in the new kitchen for the women of Seeds of Hope.

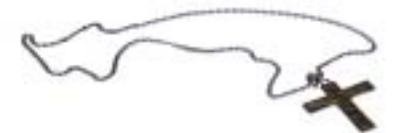
This entire project was a gift from God not only to the Seeds of Hope, but to the Cursillistas themselves. And it was a special gift for me.

When I went on my Cursillo weekend, I was angry, shallow and self-centered. I felt I was living in a shoe box and was suffocating in a world that I had gotten caught up in.

I had always had a strong faith and believed I was a better person when I helped others. Since childhood I had wanted to be a nurse and have been a critical care nurse for the past 13 years. I loved my work, but in the fall of 2003, I decided to stay at home with my children until the youngest started school.

Suddenly, I was out of my environment, and I became lost, angry and depressed. As it turns out, God knew my needs and got me to the Cursillo weekend. And then he laid out the Seeds of Hope project to get me into my Fourth Day.

This was by no means a one-person project. Dozens of people contributed. In truth, it was God's project, and some women from Cursillo 80 were able to help.



New floor, new cabinets and new appliances grace the new kitchen at Seeds of Hope. Below, Seeds of Hope executive director Janet Daniels knocks out the old kitchen wall.



When the women of Cursillo 80 decided to do a little "fixing up" at Seeds of Hope halfway house for women, they had no idea what God really had in mind.