



Cursillo Courier

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Fall, 2012

Archdiocese of
Newark, NJ
Cursillo Movement

A Fall of Discontent

By Jean Kalembe, Lay Director

Inside this issue:

Ultreya News	2
Pix of Women 165th	3
Pat Ferrara	3
Day of Renewal	4
School of Leaders	5

Dates to Remember in 2012:

- ◆ Oct 18-21 Men's W/E
- ◆ Oct 19 School of Leaders
- ◆ Nov 8-11 Women's W/E
- ◆ Nov 16 Ultreya
- ◆ Dec 11 Christmas Gathering

I write this on a stormy September evening, severe winds are predicted, including a tornado watch. I knew we should have never walked on that moon! But tonight there is another type of chaos spreading throughout the world, seemingly based on a movie that desecrates Islam and the Prophet Mohammad. So much pain and death because one man decides to inflame rather than soothe, bring riots rather than peace.

And here in America the politics of the moment seems to be one that also attempts to divide, divide the rich from the poor, the haves and the have-nots. Do we enable or do we support? Are we saints or sinners when we provide for the underserved, the marginal? The debates between the candidates are about to begin - but in my small world they have already begun - among my family, among my friends, in my Church. The words are harsh, the tempers short; some of us have resorted to a no-discussion policy. You can talk about anything except politics and religion -- which doesn't leave much of meaningful topics other than who will be victorious on *Dancing with the Stars*? Speaking of church and politics - Nuns on a Bus? Love it or not, they made the Bill Moyers show on PBS, quite articulate those ladies are. Then we have the Religious women of the United States and the Vatican - working for the same Boss, drinking from the same cup - experiencing different worlds.

Sometimes it looks like our world is

just not going to make it. One could lose hope, become despondent, depressed. One could, but we won't.

How blessed we are, we Cursillistas. We are truly a De Colores community, not only all the colors, but many views. We come from one of the most diverse archdioceses - rich, poor, white, black, brown, yellow, and any shade of the above. Some lean to the left, while others to the right. We work in government, in healthcare, in law enforcement, in factories and some in cubicles glued to computers. We feed the hungry, cloth the naked, visit the imprisoned and care for the sick and dying; but we do more than that. We spread the Good News.

We travel to Friday night Ultreyas despite end of week exhaustion. We are drawn to Jersey City despite the merciless traffic, to Newark despite headlines that cause fear. We drive to Bergen County where none of the roadways make any sense, praying that our GPS has the latest map updates. We'll go to Oakland in "snuggies" and boots and Union County via the Garden State parking lot. We go for that which binds us as one - we go to support each other on the journey - we are drawn by that which makes brothers and sisters in Christ.

We are living our Cursillo, our fourth day. In doing so we are following the commandments that Jesus called the greatest of all commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest

Jean Kalembe, cont'd

commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.' Matthew 22: 38-40

We cannot calm the winds or divert the tornados but we can bring aid to those who have suffered disaster. Terror threats and riots may have become part of our post 9/11 world but we can still bloom where we are planted, bringing the Good News through tolerance and charity.

Politicians give us platitudes; Jesus gives us the Beatitudes. (Matthew 5:1-12) So as the water gets a little muddy this fall, we know where to look for clarity.

We are the Church and because of that, Church has not yet reached perfection. So we question and we search but in the end we pray. "For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened for we believe if we knock it will be opened, if we ask we will receive." Luke 10:11

And as Peter Simon responded when Jesus asks if he were going to leave, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). For it is Jesus who turns our discontent into hope, and joy and everlasting peace.

De Colores

September Ultreya in Newark

The Cursillo spirit was soaring at the Archdiocese of Newark Ultreya at Blessed Sacrament-St. Charles Borromeo R.C. Church in Newark on Friday, September 21, 2012. The gathering was hosted by the 181st Men's Cursillo, whose weekend theme was *Men of God Soaring Like an Eagle*. By the end of the evening of inspiring talks and small group sharing, spirits certainly were soaring among the Cursillistas who filled the gathering room at the church.

Rector Donovan Green gave the welcome and introduced the speakers. The opening prayer was given by Ebere Clement Ofor. Richard Marino gave the witness talk, and the lay summation was by Robert Weingartner. The spiritual summation was given by Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu. Closing prayer was by Emmanuel Oguh.

Many thanks to the 181st Men's Cursillo and the Cursillo community at Blessed Sacrament-St. Charles Borromeo Church for hosting a wonderful Ultreya.

By Kate Cheski

More photos at
mycursillo.com

Ultreya News...Ultreya News



This year, Ultreyas are held at various locations throughout the Archdiocese. Next up:

Friday, November 16, 2012
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
25 Purdue Avenue
Oakland, NJ 07436

Sharing the Gift

Do you remember the awesome feeling you had when you came home from your Cursillo weekend? I know some of us, like me, were on the mountaintop and others although not there, were on their way. That feeling encouraged and empowered us to spring into action in our own environments to spread the love and joy in our new found relationship with Jesus Christ and ‘bloom where we are planted.’

What better action is there than to share this love and joy with others? Why do we hesitate sharing this gift of the Lord with others as we would share any other gift? What better way is there than to sponsor a family member or friend

for their own personal Cursillo experience?

Jesus has called us through Cursillo to be people of action. We are called to be not afraid, to shine Christ’s light all the time for everyone. Let us not be like the wealthy young man who loved God and followed all the commandments but was just not ready to give up his personal wealth to follow Christ. We are asked to make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend to Christ, how much is that worth? As Christ’s disciples we need to be ready to either cast our nets or sow the seed of the kingdom of God all day and every day.

Please think about all you’ve gained since your Cursillo weekend

By Pat Ferrara

and consider sharing the gifts with those you know and love by inviting them on an upcoming Cursillo weekend either this fall or in the future.

Christ is counting on you and me.

De Colores!



Photos from May 2012 Ultreya...



Day of Renewal - Always a Highlight on the Cursillo Calendar

By Pat Carr

While Archdiocese of Newark Lay Director Jean Kalembe has already covered the Day of Renewal that took place this past spring at Corpus Christi, Hasbrouck Heights, in a previous edition of Cursillo Courier, I recently shared the photos that I was privileged and honored to have taken at this event. And I was asked to give a little synopsis of the event to accompany the photos that are featured (or linked to) in this edition of Cursillo Courier.



The day is pure spiritual bliss from beginning to end. In some ways this annual event is like being on a Cursillo Weekend. Grace flows freely and The Spirit is raging. God is in the house.

But the day doesn't come together by itself. There's a lot of planning that takes place, to say the least. Meetings are scheduled and held, chores are divvied up, a theme is determined. A date and venue for the event is set.



Presenters are lined up. A priest is recruited to speak and to lead us in Mass. Publicity and registration commences. A schedule for the day is developed. A program handout



takes shape. Let's not forget the food!

Musicians and singers meet to practice the songs that will be performed. I personally feel so blessed to be a part of this ministry. As a guitarist, I thoroughly enjoy helping to lead others to Christ with our Praise and Worship communal singing. We are truly blessed to have so many talented performers that volunteer each year to make our Day of Renewal such a memorable experience.



Before you know it the day is here and we're once again back together enjoying the fruits of so many Cursillistas diligent planning. The breakfast is a great kick-off as attendees settle in for the day's events.

Our presenters always have a worthwhile Cursillo-related lesson as they share their personal stories. Before you know it the morning is over, we're at lunch and preparing our table songs or "I Believe" statements; sharing in groups, as we do so well in true Cursillo-fashion.

There's a certain mood or presence or feeling that palpably transcends "good time." We get the sense that this is where we're supposed to be, that we're doing what we all feel is nourishing us spiritually. And what's

great is that it's all with this wonderful feeling of joy. New Christ-based friendships are made. Smiles rule the day.

Before you know it, our keynote priest presenter is wrapping up his inspirational message and we're off to Mass to share in the Eucharist, the perfect ending to an always-perfect day.

Next spring means another Day of Renewal will take place. There will be a call for volunteers to help out. While it's human nature to feel "They don't need me", know that you are needed and you are wanted. This is our day to do what we do best. Shine for Christ through one

another. Be a part of it in as big a way as you can. At a minimum, be sure to clear the date on your calendar to get to this event. Cursillo is not a Weekend.

It's a movement and a lifestyle. Embrace it, live it, love it and keep praying for our continued success.



Cursillo School of Leaders 2012

By Lorraine and Joe Clark

Father John Gordon will present the first program for our School of Leaders to be held on Friday, October 19, 2012 at Holy Family Parish/St. Joseph Hall, 28 Brookline Avenue, Nutley, NJ 07110.

If you are wondering whether School of Leaders is for you, the answer is **yes!** Remember that **ALL** cursillistas are called to be leaders. This is the place to find out more about our Faith, and more about the essential principles of Cursillo .

Our Holy Father declared that **The Year of Faith** begins in October, 2012. Father John Gordon will present the first of a series of talks beginning with a presentation on Faith, and how Cursillo, through the intense experience of Christian Community leads us to encounter a deeper relationship with the Lord.

Father John will also be showing us how the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) and Vatican II helps us with our faith. If you have your own Catechism (CCC) please remember to bring it with you.

We are so blessed for the special opportunity to have Father John Gordon present this to us.

The format for the School of Leaders is very simple.

7PM to 7:30PM. Coffee, refreshments and hospitality will be available.

7:30 Welcome and Leaders Group Reunion

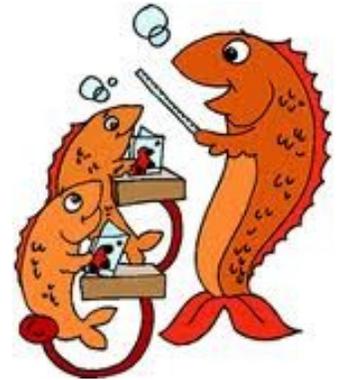
Lay talk "Leaders within the Cursillo Movement" will be given by Joe & Lorraine Clark

Presentation by Father John Gordon

Chapel Visit praying before the Blessed Sacrament

Ending at 9:30 PM

Looking forward to seeing **EVERYONE** at the School of Leaders.



Heartfelt Letter from One Cursillista

Dear Brothers and sisters,

I am very grateful to you all for your prayers, love and support during my immigration ordeal. Your prayers surely lifted me up. Some of you might have heard last year that the Administrative Appeal Office in Washington DC reopened my case, sustained my appeal and ordered my green card to be issued. But the story did not end there. it was one nightmare after another.

Finally, in July after many discouraging days, our God completed His work. God who work in a mysterious way did His mighty work. Two

days after another article was published, I received calls from immigration field office in Missouri and Senator Lautenberg's office that my green card has been approved and that I should receive it within two weeks. Glory be to God, I received it within a week.

I am very grateful to you all and many others who supported me throughout this time. God bless you all. God bless the Cursillo movement and God bless America.

De colores

Cecilia B. Ojoawo

Donations

The Cursillo Movement gratefully welcomes your donations. They help potential Babe Chicks attend when they otherwise could not afford it. Send donations to our treasurer,

Bill Dougherty, 26 Division Ave., Belleville, NJ 07109.

What's Your e-mail?

Please advise us if you have a new e-mail ID. Send notification to Joanne Rinkus, Secretary:

decolores7@optonline.net