

Spring 2006

Lay Director: Kathy Glowski

"Take care and be earnestly on your guard not to forget the things which your own eyes have seen, nor let them slip from your memory as long as you live." (Deuteronomy, 4:9) .

That quote is from one of the readings at a weekday Mass that was used during the third week of Lent. I was touched by the reading and it led me to reflect on my very special Cursillo experience of this past year. How blessed I have been to be the Lay Director for this amazing, faith-filled Cursillo community. What my eyes have seen is the selfless, caring work of many people who proclaim the good news of our Lord.

Lorraine Clark, Ken Bransfield, Winnie Bozzomo, and Pat Ferrara, together with their spiritual teams, service teams, and support teams, held glorious weekends when they and the candidates realized the enormous love of the Lord for us. That unconditional love further inspires us to evangelize our environments. Thank you candidates and teams for carrying the work of Jesus forward. My eyes have also witnessed the tireless effort of the Post-Cursillo section of the School of Leaders. Judy Cenar, Ed Durfee and John Tronolone have planned and provided us with the blessed experience of Ultreyas in July, September, November, January, March and one more for May 19th. These evenings have been glorious celebrations of the presence of God in our lives.

Memories that will forever be stored in my heart are the evenings that I have spent with outstanding disciples of Jesus at our School of Leaders and Secretariat meetings. What a privilege and pleasure it is to be with these Cursillistas!! They embody all that is beautiful and wondrous about this movement. Every month each one of them shows me more clearly and lovingly how to walk in the footsteps of our Lord.

My eyes have recorded the dedication to his Heavenly Father of our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Tom Lipnicki. That dedication is reflected in Father Tom's devotion to our Lord's people.

I have seen with my own eyes the wonderful work of the committee for the Day of Renewal. The co-chairs of the committee, Anne Geffert and Valerie Messina, along with committee members, Ed Durfee, Patty Landon and Carolyn Messina, have put together a day of celebration and camaraderie that will be a gift to each of us. Thank you for the gift of each of you. My eyes watched as Carolyn Messina developed a database of the entire Cursillo community. Carolyn did this task willingly without being asked because she knew how helpful it could be to our Diocesan movement. Carolyn spent an enormous amount of time on this job and we are grateful.

I look forward to spending the day with everyone at our Day of Renewal on April 29th. I can't wait to be with you. My eyes have seen so much. My memories are many. And I will never be the same.

In Prayerful Gratitude,

Kathy

Spiritual Director: Reverend Thomas Paul Lipnicki

One Day at a Time, Sweet Jesus

A few weeks ago I had the good fortune to be part of a Healing Mass for people in Recovery. Thirty-eight priests were there to celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick with the recovering alcoholics who filled Saint Paul's Church in Ramsey to capacity. Prior to the Mass various people were cited for their sobriety which ranged anywhere from six weeks to thirty five years. People stood and acknowledged the applause of their proud peers. It was heartening to witness such support among brothers and sisters who all carried the same cross.

During the Mass, the Responsorial Psalm was replaced by a song: *One Day at a Time*. I thought this was a rather curious choice as I had only heard that song sung by Irish Bands surrounded by drinking patrons in bars. "One day at a time, sweet Jesus, one day at a time." Initially it seemed strange for people in recovery to be singing what I considered to be a drinking song.

The singing was thunderous in Saint Paul's that Saturday afternoon. Hundreds of people singing full-throatedly "one day at a time, sweet Jesus, one day at a time." I heard their song to be a prayer: 'one day at a time, sweet Jesus. Just give me the grace to get through one more day.'

And as I listened I was struck by the woundedness of the people singing. People admitting that they were imperfect, that they had a need and that they would only reach perfection and find the fulfillment of their needs in Jesus. The wounded Church praying and singing to Jesus.

This group of Alcoholics is a microcosm of the Church itself. We are a Church of wounded people. Each time we gather for the celebration of the Eucharist, we come as a people who are in need, a people who are not complete in ourselves, a people who seek healing in a whole variety of ways.

On Holy Thursday, we remembered when the Lord Jesus took bread in his hands, blessed it, broke it and gave it to his disciples. On Good Friday we listened to the Passion according to Saint John and we walked with Jesus as his body was broken for us and for our salvation. On Easter we celebrated Christ's Resurrection from the dead - he who was broken was made whole.

Each time we gather as Church, each time we celebrate the Eucharist, let us be certain to present our brokenness, our woundedness, our imperfections, our doubts, all our needs before the Lord knowing that in his mercy and love, he will make us whole. During this Easter Season, we rejoice because the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead, will raise us also from the many little deaths we experience in our lives and grace us to live our faith the very best we can "one day at a time."

RESERVE THE DATE: WONDERFUL HAPPENING IN THE FUTURE

Saturday, April 29th, will be a **Day of Renewal** for all Cursillistas.

This special day will take place at St. Anastasia's in Teaneck, NJ. It will be from 9:30 AM until 3:30 PM. We hope that all Cursillistas will be there. **WHAT A REUNION!!!!**

Assistant Lay Director: Joseph Clark

During the season of Lent we celebrated the feast of St. Joseph the husband of Mary, the Mother of the Lord. He is one of the most familiar and cherished figures of our faith. In most churches he has a prominent place. In the gospels themselves, it must be admitted, Joseph is not an especially prominent figure, but he did play a key role in the events, which surround the birth of our Savior.

Joseph's role in safeguarding Mary and Jesus in these crucial time shows his importance in the Gospel story, but also his deep humanity. St. Joseph is a kind of bridge between the Old Testament and the New: he is a man of justice, but also of compassion, wishing to spare Mary her potential shame. We may never be faced with the immense challenge, which confronted Joseph, but we are called upon by God to do His will, and to do His work in the world around us.

Like St. Joseph let us pray that we learn to do justice in life but also be loving, forgiving and compassionate since our father in heaven is compassionate and forgiving. May we be open to offer others the very forgiveness God offers us without limitations or conditions. May the humility of St. Joseph help us to understand the call to conversion during these days of Easter. We entrust ourselves to the intercession of St. Joseph that we may listen attentively to the Word of the God and do his will as he did.

DeColores!!!!!!

Post Cursillo Coordinator: Judy Cenar and John Tronolone

We have had four very successful Ultreyas so far this year. We are looking forward to our next Ultreya which will be hosted by the Men's 168th Cursillo Weekend and is scheduled for **May 19, 2006**. Please consider joining us at the Youth Center in the John Paul II below the cafeteria for an evening of prayer, sharing, song and of course a wonderful 4th Day Witness Talk.

Our future Ultreya dates are as follows: **July 21, 2006: September 15, 2006: November 17, 2006**

We are also looking for groups to host our upcoming Ultreyas. We need hosts groups for July, September and November Ultreyas. Perhaps, your Parish, Group Reunion or Cursillo Team would consider hosting one of these Ultreyas. It is not very difficult to do, please contact John Tronolone at 201-488-0145 or via "E" Mail at johngodislove.johnt@verizon.net or Judy Cenar at 908-464-0540 or via "E" Mail at Judith51@verizon.net. Or Edward Durfee at 201-575-6923 or via "E" mail edurfee@optonline.net

~~A Cursillo Community Mass is being planned for Sunday afternoon June 4, 2006 at the church at the Youth Center.~~ Additional information will follow shortly.

The Post Cursillo Section is looking for people help with the work of the section. So if you can spare the second Tuesday evening of the month to attend our School of Leaders and join us on the Post Cursillo Section you would be warmly welcomed.

De Colores

Please remember the candidates, team and service team in your prayers and palanca.

Don't forget about School of Leaders, every 2nd Tuesday of the month. It is a great place to share your ideas and assist in this wonderful movement that has touched so many people and with your help we can continue to spread the greatness of Cursillo. Team lists are posted on the website at www.mycursillo.com and information about being on team is there also. Maybe you would consider your parish for service team. Don't forget that we are always looking for sponsors for our Ultreyas too!

2006 Calendar

April 29th Day of Renewal

May 9 School of Leaders

May 19 Ultreya

~~June 4 Cursillo Mass at Youth Center~~

June 13 School of Leaders

July 11 School of Leaders

July 21 Ultreya

School of Leaders meets at 7:30 – 9:30 PM in the Youth Center St. Gregory Room

Closings are at the Youth Center at 4:30 PM.

Ultreyas are 7:30 – 9:30 PM at the Youth Center in John Paul II Room located UNDER the Cafeteria

Check our web site for updates and all information about rectors and teams at WWW.MYCURSILLO.COM

The Following witness was reprinted from The National Cursillo "E-Ultreya" Magazine

WWW.CURSILLO.ORG/ULTREYA :

Group Reunion Reinforces Cursillo Method Adam Rewa, of Ionia MI

I made my Cursillo in December of 1997 in the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky, and was blessed in the years that followed to be able to reunion with two wise and experienced Cursillistas. They helped ground me in the Cursillo method and when I moved to Michigan in 2000, I missed the camaraderie and encouragement. Fortunately, I was able to connect with a new group in Michigan and I found what it thought I had lost. The accountability we hold each other to is a wonderful support and a powerful motivator. As an example of how the method works in my life, I recently had a difficult encounter with a man about the upcoming baptism of his children. I was leading a baptism preparation session and he was attempting to clarify the Church's teaching on this sacrament. I found him to be frustrating and obstinate and it was hard to stay focused on the issue at hand. In sharing this story later in the week with my group, I was able with their help to explore the experience through the lenses of piety, study and action. Was I aware of Christ's presence in the interaction with the man? Can I use the experience to become more Christian in my mentality? Did I take the opportunity to evangelize, and how could I have handled it better? These are excellent questions to ask but I would have had a hard time doing I without the support of my group.

There are many things that pull us away from our commitment to group reunion – work, family recreation, etc. – but I make the effort because I know that the method affects all of these other areas in a good and beneficial way. The method is truly a gift to me to stay on the path.

Do YOU have a Cursillo or 4th Day witness you would like to share with your fellow Cursillistas? If so please email to Linda@armonaitis.com or mail to Cursillo c/o Armonaitis, 504 River Renaissance, East Rutherford, NJ 07073