

NASHVILLE CURSILLO CENTER
2011 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37203

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WITNESS

Nashville Cursillo Newsletter

MISSION STATEMENT: The Diocese of Nashville Cursillo Movement is intended to help all Catholics develop a thorough understanding of what it means to fully live a Christian life in all their everyday situations. It provides a method to transform all aspects of society through prayer and the development of small Christian communities.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:

Nashville Cursillo Center 2011 West End Avenue Nashville, TN 37203 cursillotn@bellsouth.net May 2006

WELCOME NEW CURSILLISTAS!

ON YOUR WAY THROUGH CYBERSPACE...check it out! If you haven't visited www.nashvillecursillo.org recently, then you're in for a surprise! Among other upgrades, the "News" section offers information concerning the current month's Ultreya schedulings for dates, times, and occurrences of the School of Leaders meetings. Who will the witness speaker lineup include for the month? Check this category to make sure it's not you! Space here is also available for prayer requests. Contact Amy Staples to ensure that your request is uploaded onto the site for publication.

The Bell Ringer of Cursillo #68
Lynette Pinell,
Cursillo #66, St. Matthew's Parish



Divided by extremes,
Some folks don't comprehend
This deep obsession with our bells
And what a lifelong bond it spells.

Surprising as it seems,
Just try to tell a friend;
Unless they've held a bell in hand
They're never going to understand

And even if they've tried
To ring for love of you
They later might confide
They just don't have a clue;

They fill their lives with other things
While we adore whatever rings!

Making a Cursillo Weekend..... Priceless
Knowing the Love of GodPriceless
Being the Bell Ringer.....PENANCE!!!

Dedicated to Amy Staples.

A DAY ON THE BEND

It was a beautiful, almost balmy morning in very early spring when Cursillistas from across the Diocese of Nashville came together last March 18th at the Sisters of Mercy Convent on Pennington Bend Road for a special Lenten treat. The first Cursillo Lenten Retreat, coordinated and presented by fellow cursillistas Father Joe McMahon, Nancy Hoots, and Joe Williams, boasted the perfect setting and weather for this special program. The Lord Himself blessed us with His pleasure in the scene below by bringing us to the perfect hostesses, the Sisters of Mercy, and the perfect location for growing closer to Him in their beautiful and peaceful convent house--all on a perfect day.

Some 30 to 35 men and women from parishes that included St. Joseph, St. Ignatius Catholic Community, St. Henry, St. Matthew, and St. Stephen Catholic Community, among others, brought along their brown bag lunches and gathered together around them at meal time to share fellowship with one another. The personal journeys through the Lenten season for all in attendance were greatly enriched by the talks, meditations, and exercises presented by Father Joe and Nancy.

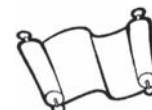
Our appreciation and deep sense of gratitude go to Father Joe, Nancy, Joe Williams, and the reverend Sisters of Mercy for providing this opportunity for introspection and spirituality--critical elements to our Lenten experience.



TO RECEIVE YOUR COPY OF THE *WITNESS*
ONLINE, PLEASE SEND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS
TO:
JOHNALANNORFLEET@BELLSOUTH.NET
OR
LINDANORFLEET@BELLSOUTH.NET

WOMEN'S CURSILLO #69

Jane Bach - St. Henry
Sharon Bolyard - St. Rose
Rafina Bush - St. Edward
Verda Copeland - St. Henry
Stephanie D'Arcey - St. Paul
Sharron Doyle - Christ the King
Rene Fitzpatrick-Melchior - St. Anthony
Margy Galassini - St. Henry
Donna Goodale - St. Anthony
Renate Plasencia-Journigan - St. Stephen
Mariam Kohl - St. Henry
Ann Lang - St. Ignatius
Betty Micol - St. Stephen
Catherine Mortensen - Our Lady of the Lake
Getrude Murphy - St. Elizabeth Seton
Angelle Rosata - St. Henry
MaryAnne Whitley - St. Matthew
Tracy Whitlock - St. Henry
Sarah Wiggins - St. Stephen
Patricia Wozniak - St. Ignatius



MEN'S CURSILLO #85

Doug Blake - Our Lady of the Lake
John Galassini - St. Henry
Kurt Hostettler - Holy Rosary
(Indianapolis, IN)
Dwane Hunter - Our Lady of the Lake
Bertram Mau - St. Anthony
Jim Opalek - St. John Vianney
John Rosata - St. Henry
Mark Sharp - St. Edward
John Whitlock - St. Henry
Tom Wiel - St. Stephen
Bill Wood - St. Henry



DIOCESE OF NASHVILLE

Office of the Bishop

Dear Cursillistas:

It was a great blessing to be able to celebrate the Eucharist at the last two Cursillo weekends. It was especially meaningful since both weekends fell so close to our celebration of Easter.

One of the great graces that the Lord bestows on us during the Easter season is the reminder of how much the faith means to us. In the same way, the Cursillo weekend asks us to re-examine our love for the faith and the way we live it at home and out in our community.

Like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, we travel with the Lord asking him to teach us through the scriptures and to renew us in the "breaking of the bread."

We ask the Lord for the grace to be witnesses to His glory.

De colores!

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. David R. Choby
Bishop of Nashville

2400 Twenty-first Avenue, South • Nashville, TN 37212-5387 • 615/383-6393 • Fax 615/292-8411

BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR *ULTREYA*
EACH THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.,
CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, 3001 BELMONT BLVD.,
NASHVILLE, TN.
ALSO ON THE FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAYS FOR
SCHOOL OF LEADERS FROM 7:30 - 8:30 P.M.,
AFTER THE *ULTREYA*.

DIRECTIONS TO CHRIST THE KING:
Going west on I-440, exit 21st Ave So; proceed to first street on right (Sweetbriar); continue on Sweetbriar till it dead ends into Belmont Blvd, then turn right. Drive another 4 blocks on Belmont, turn right on Primrose and left into parking lot at back of church. Ultreya meeting room in Cafeteria building behind the church.

LAY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Amy Staples, Cursillo #--66, St. Ignatius Catholic Community

I had the honor of teaching the 8th grade Confirmation class at St. Ignatius Catholic Community this past year. We focused on the gifts of the Holy Spirit received during Confirmation, and lately I've been particularly focused on the "Awe and Fear of the Lord." I remember acutely feeling this gift when I worked my first Cursillo weekend team. I had received so much from God during my weekend that I wanted to be certain that I didn't do anything to harm or hinder that process for the next group of Cursillistas.



I've again been blessed with that gift of the Holy Spirit since accepting the position as Lay Director of the Diocese of Nashville Cursillo movement. I know that God has great plans for our movement as long as we're humble and listen for the direction of the Holy Spirit. I am in awe of this movement and the way in which God has worked in so many lives through it. As I try to humbly fill the shoes of Margie Heiar, I am counting on your prayers, suggestions, and goodwill as well as the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Several weeks ago I attended my first Regional Encounter for Lay Directors and Spiritual Advisors. I had the opportunity to be commissioned by the Bishop of Memphis and to be blessed by all the dedicated folks working throughout the regional movement. The theme of this encounter was friendship, reminding us that one of the bases of our movement is friendship with one another.

So as I take on this new role, I look forward to making new friends and to hearing from you about how God is working in your life through Cursillo. If you live in Clarksville, Fayetteville, or Murfreesboro, I'll expect to see you at your Ultreyas in the next month or so. In the meantime, you can catch me every Thursday at 6:30 at the Nashville Ultreya at Christ the King. I'm looking forward to meeting both new and old friends. De colores!

+ + + + +

My Dear Friends in Christ,

I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for allowing me to serve you as the Lay Director of the Nashville Diocese Cursillo Movement. I have made many new friends, not only across this diocese but also across our 4 state region. Through all of you I have grown in the Love of Christ and broadened my knowledge of the Cursillo Movement. I thank you for your loyal support and your many prayers.

It is my pleasure to pass this privilege on to Amy Staples, your new Lay Director. I know you will continue to support Amy with your prayers and palanca.

DeColores, Margie Heiar

*** GRAND ULTREYA ***

Thursday, August 24th
Christ the King Parish

Mark your calendars to join us for a **Grand Ultreya** on August 24, 2006, at Christ the King Parish.

Bishop David Choby will be commissioning new members of the Diocesan Secretariat and the School of Leaders.

Please plan to attend to greet our new Bishop and support our diocesan Cursillo leadership.

We will begin with Mass at 6:00 pm, followed by the commissioning service and the Grand Ultreya.

If you are able to bring a snack or beverage for the Grand Ultreya, be sure to contact Margot Deschenes in advance at margotdesch@aol.com, or 352-2473 and leave a message. Sign up sheets will be available at Ultreyas during the summer.

Check our website for further information as the date approaches.

WITH APPRECIATION

We wish to thank Richard and Linda Palladino for their hard work and support on behalf of the Cursillo Movement and the Ultreya in St. Anthony's Parish in Fayetteville, Tennessee. Dan and Faye Lear are stepping in to take up the reins and continue their wonderful work. Our deep appreciation to the Lears, for their willingness to help continue growing the Movement in Fayetteville.

Sincere thanks also go to Mike Todd, who is moving out of the state. Mike has worked hard in the Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarksville, Tennessee, revitalizing the Ultreya and Cursillo Movement in that area. Our prayers and deep appreciation go with Mike as he leaves to make his new home.



CURSILLO FUND CAMPAIGN

Jay Hoover, Cursillo #82
St. Stephen Catholic Community

The Secretariat is building a Cursillo fund which will allow the Nashville Cursillo Movement to be financially sound for approximately five years. Members of the Secretariat have contacted Cursillistas who have generously contributed to the Nashville Cursillo movement in the past. We are humbled and eternally grateful for the financial response we received.

We haven't reached our goal and need your financial support to continue to offer Cursillo Weekends to all, regardless of an individual's ability to pay. We ask that you prayerfully consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Nashville Cursillo Movement. Our continued ministry is dependant upon your generosity. Thank you for all your support and as always, please keep the movement in your prayers.



MESSAGE FROM THE SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Deacon Marty Deschenes

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

With two more wonderful Cursillo Weekends behind us, what a joy it is to welcome 31 new Cursillistas into our movement. The passion with which all of them spoke at the closing renewed the spirit of all of us "old" Cursillistas.

As always, the Weekends were filled with love, laughter, tears, and miracles, the greatest being the presence of Christ among us, the second greatest being the forming of a community of friends in just three days time. However, this three-day course in Christianity is just a reminder for us that, to be authentic and effective Christians, we must have God as the center of our lives and we must be a loving community. "See how they love one another." The acts of kindness that we did for each other on the Weekend must continue into our fourth day and must be extended to all the people around us. A simple smile, a hug, a kind word, a word of encouragement can turn a person's day around...maybe even their life. Do not underestimate the power of these simple acts.

The people we tend to forget or take for granted are the people who are closest to us. Our spouses, our children and grandchildren, our mother and father, our brothers and sisters are the most important people in our lives. Our primary environment is our home, our family. That's where we need to begin to spread the love of Jesus. It is so easy for us to neglect our families, as we get involved in other ministries.

Having said this, I would like to invite you to commit to one Ultreya a month, or every two months. Make it a night out with your Group or the Cursillistas who made the Weekend with you. Plan to go eat together after the Ultreya. Husband and wives, if you cannot come together, take turns baby-sitting.

We also need for some of you to attend the School of Leaders. This is one way you can give back what Cursillo has done for you. Finally, consider sponsoring someone for the next weekend. The Men's Weekend is Sept. 14-17 and the Women's is Sept. 21-24. I would like to challenge everyone to pre-cursillo at least 4 people in order to get at least one on the next Weekend. Don't wait too long. Get their applications in early, even if they are not sure to make it this coming Weekend.

God bless you and "De colores."

**"You have not chosen me. I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures."
(John: 15:16)**

FALL 2006 CURSILLO DATES:

Men's Weekend: September 14-17
Women's Weekend: September 21-24

SPRING 2007 CURSILLO DATES:

Men's Weekend: March 1-4
Women's Weekend: March 15-18

**NEW AND IMPROVED APPLICATIONS
ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE
CURSILLO WEB SITE.**

MY FOURTH DAY

Tina Pooser, Cursillo #67
St. Stephen Catholic Community

As I sit and reflect on this most glorious and awesome holy season of Easter, I can't help but be filled with the pure love that was Jesus dying on the cross for me over 2000 years ago. Prior to making my Cursillo a year ago, I often wondered if I had been alive at the time of Jesus' death and resurrection whether or not I would have recognized Him and His great love for me and all of humanity. Would I have been a doubting Thomas, or maybe a Saul who had to be knocked off his high horse, or maybe one of those individuals who walked with Him on the road to Emmaus or, most sadly, someone who never recognized Him at all? But I wasn't alive 2000 years ago, so that question can never truly be answered.

However, the question that can be answered, and one that has been a tremendously great aid for me on my 4th day, is the question I'm called to answer every week while attending my group reunions: When was I most aware of Christ's presence--and why?

At first this was a harder thing for me to answer because I was looking for the BIG, GRAND presence of Jesus. But over the last year, I've learned to recognize Jesus in the small, unassuming times of my life, the times I used to take completely for granted, like my nieces and nephews just saying a simple "I love you, Aunt Tina". Or the sun shining gloriously on my way home from work when I would normally be complaining about traffic.

Prior to grouping, when I thought of nature, I thought of nothing but being miserable because of my allergies, as I'm allergic to everything on God's green earth. But I was sent individuals in my groups who recognize Jesus' presence in nature to allow me to begin to do the same.

I know as long as I continue to keep myself open to recognizing the ways Jesus is present to me in the daily routine of my life, I will continue to grow in His great love for me and my love for Him.

De Colores!