

Words From the Spiritual Director by *Father Ray Brenner*

Dear Fourth Day Community,

It seems that over the years more and more people have become realistic about New Years' resolutions. We find that since we don't stick with them very long we quit making them.

One resolution we should never let go of is to do what we can to grow closer to Christ, especially through mass and the Sacraments and other opportunities. It had been a few years since I had helped with a CEW. But last November I was invited to be part of the team. I love the format and the length of the day seems to fit well. The enthusiasm of those attending always gives me greater hope for the future of the Church. It is also great to see new faces along with those who have been Cursillistas for years. I hope many will continue to get involved.

It seems that when there are openings for positions on the Secretariat that we get a little anxious when no one steps forward immediately.

That must be God's way to force us to get down on our knees and pray a little harder because someone always comes through.

Perhaps that is what God is trying to do to all of us as we worry about having a sufficient number of candidates for the weekends. But God expects us to do a little more than just pray. We also need to suggest the Cursillo movement to others as well as INVITE them to make a weekend.

As we prepare for the coming men's and women's weekends let us ask God to touch our hearts to invite someone as well as touch their hearts to say YES.

DeColores,

Father Ray

Words From the Lay Director by *Bruce Bonenberger*

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the Good News" Romans 10: 14-15

In August of 1874, 5 Ursuline Sisters of Louisville boarded a flatboat and journeyed down the Ohio River to Owensboro.

They were bringing the Good News to an area in need of formal education and God's word. Some of the Ursulines at Mount Saint Joseph in Maple Mount, Ky. reenacted that journey this past year as they celebrated their history. While at the Regional Encounter this past fall, I went aboard the flatboat they used in the reenactment and spent some time meditating about all the past sacrifices that were involved in bringing me the Good News. Rarely does the Good News come to us without some suffering, struggles and endless hours of service. The people who taught me were service-oriented people who died to self so that my life might be enriched.

In the Laity talk, we learn that by our baptism and confirmation we must be bearers and messengers of the Good News. That is an essential part of the Christian life. We "preach" the Good News by words and actions and we are evangelizing when that is done as an expression of our desire to share God's love. In the Evangelization talk, we learn that when our motivations are elevated and empowered by grace for the spreading of God's kingdom, our efforts become apostolic. Any apostolic action is both an expression and a consequence of our love for God. All of our efforts are directed by God and fit perfectly into His plan of salvation. True love requires sacrifice because it fulfills the "Call of the Cross". It is the total giving of self to another for the love of God. Whoever has succeeded in bringing others closer to God by their sacrifices not only increases God's Glory but also increases the glory of the good and faithful servant. In a line from the movie, "The 5 People You Meet in Heaven" one of the 5 stated that "sacrifice is not losing anything, you are just passing it on". As we sacrifice for others, we advance the Kingdom of God and become more fully human in the process. We grow to become the person God created us to be and our Cursillo bears good fruit.

After our Cursillo weekend, we return to our environments and become so preoccupied and fearful at times that it keeps us from being open to what God is presenting. Do we consider our mission field as every person and situation we encounter? A mind set on worldly things and a fear of being a courageous witness of the Good News in every situation paralyzes us from living our Cursillo.

Spend some time giving thanks for those who have passed on the Gospel proclamation to you and reflect on the sacrifices you need to make to be a joyful carrier of God's word and love.

Upcoming Weekends

Men's #63: February 24-27, 2005

Coordinator: Jim Wilsbacher

Asst. Coordinator: Don Kaiser

Women's #68: March 31-April 3, 2005

Coordinator: Julie Young

Asst. Coordinator: Donna Schroering

Three Day by *JoAnn Schlachter and Hank Tenbarge*

As we finish our time as 3-Day chairpersons, we want to thank all those who have been so supportive, and those who have worked with us to set up and clean up the Celebration Hall and conference room, especially Dave and Velvet Wathen and Jim and Lynn Greene. Also, thanks to Joe and Ruth Thompson who just seemed to "show up" every 3-day weekend to help us. Thanks also for your prayers.

A special thanks to Lori Tenbarge for putting up with our constant requests for more typing changes. And to Michele Klipsch for her excellent computer work in keeping the discernment book information updated.

We have had the privilege of working closely with many coordinators these past three years. Each one has been a blessing to us. We have learned much and loved much. Thank you 4th Day and thank you, God, for allowing us to serve you. We pray that Dan Zimmer's term in this position will be equally blessed with volunteers, prayers, and support from the 4th Day.

Dan, we offer you our prayers and special palanca as you begin your time of serving God and the 4th Day as 3-day chair.

Precursillo by Skip and Jackie Dent

Just as we spent weeks anticipating the birth of Christ during advent, it is now time to turn our prayers and anticipation to our commitment to the Cursillo movement. Precursillo is the initial step in bringing others to Christ. There are three stages we need to focus on. First, to study the environments we live in that are in need of evangelizing. Second, search out and select candidates who have a view toward living the life of holiness. Third, to prepare our candidates for what elements they will need to grow deeper in their Christian faith.

Remember the most important element is prayer, prayer and prayer... our primary goal is to make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend to Christ.

The men's weekend formations have begun with twenty-three men anxious to bring your candidates to Christ. At this writing we have fifteen eligible men to invite to the weekend in February. We need your help to fill the thirty-two places we have available for the weekend.

As you think about sponsoring a candidate let me list some important objectives to share with your candidates: a.) The weekend is a lived experience oriented toward living a real Christian life. b.) To ignite a desire for Christ, and c.) To awaken a desire to find fulfillment as a person and as a Christian.

Christ be with each and every one of you as you begin the New Year. In closing, the following prayer comes to mind:

Spice Me Up, Lord

*Lord, I want to be where I can make a difference,
where I can spice up another's life by bringing him or her
the good news of your love and justice.*

*Help me discover all the gifts you have graced me with so
that I can turn this world around—starting with my own life!*

*Show me how to keep fresh in my
commitment to serve you each day. Amen*

Palanca by Al Debes

“Whoever wishes to be first among you will be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.” Mark 10: 44-45

This is how Jesus lived His life as a servant for us, so that we may enjoy heaven with Him. On your weekend, you were commissioned with a cross, and the words “Christ is Counting on You”!!! Christ also wants you to be a servant—a servant to mankind. This is done in your parish, family, workplace, and community. Christ is also counting on you to be a servant on Cursillo weekends by spending time with Our Lord, one-on-one in Palanca Chapel. What a joyful, peaceful and spiritual time this can be.

You can sign up for Palanca Chapel at your local Ultreya. When you agree to spend time in chapel, PLEASE DO SO, or let the person in charge of that chapel know that you won't be there so other arrangements can be made. For those of you who did call, THANK YOU!! We, you and I, must make sure that someone is in the chapel at all times. We are there as a guest. The parish is providing a service for our movement. Remember the Candidates, the team, the movement, and most of all Christ is still counting on you!

Palanca Chapels in the Evansville Diocese, times and contacts are shown below:

Thursday 7:00 PM to Friday 11:00 AM: Jasper & Ferdinand, Stella Bennett
Friday 11:00 AM to 12:00 Midnight: Resurrection, Al Debes
Saturday 12:00 AM to 1:00 PM: St. John Newburgh, Jack & Emily Thompson
Saturday 1:00 PM to Sunday 2:00 AM: Christ the King, Tony & Jessica Fehrenbacher
Saturday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM: St. Mary Washington, Roger & Connie Gray
Sunday 2:00 AM to 2:00 PM: Holy Cross, Fort Branch, Jim Hirsch

Postcursillo by Nicholas and Judith Wolf

“Welcome one another then, as Christ welcomed you, for the Glory of God” Romans 15:7

As we enter this hope-filled New Year, we encourage the 4th Day to think of Paul's words of welcoming in his letter to the Romans. With the Spring men's and women's weekends quickly approaching, we will very shortly have new Cursillistas depending on our love and encouragement, and on our welcome. Through our single focus on Jesus Christ, what He has called us to do and through our Cursillo experience, we have been given the means that enables us to reach out to each other and to our new Cursillo brothers and sisters. We are the 4th Day—the sole reason that Cursillo weekends are held, and we have the responsibility to sustain each other as we go about changing the world for Christ and furthering the Kingdom of God.

“Each should please his neighbor so as to do him good by building up his spirit” Romans 15:2. Let our hand of welcome lead new Cursillistas into friendship groups, Ultreyas and personal and lasting relationships. Let us also extend that same welcome to all of our brothers and sisters, that their spirit may be built up through involvement in 4th Day activities which encourage and strengthen us to live our Cursillo commitment. In so doing, we will deepen our love for Christ and that which He has called us to do.

Christ is Counting on You!

Post-Cursillo Notes

The Spring CEW (Cursillo Evangelization Workshop) will be held on April 16th at St. John's Daylight. Registration begins at 7:45, workshop begins at 8:20. Sam Eversman will be the coordinator for the workshop.

Due to the amount of Cursillo activities surrounding the Fall and Spring weekends, the Grand Ultreya, normally held on the 1st Saturday in February, is being moved to a date in late summer. It is our hope that by moving it to a less 'activity packed' time, we might foster even more participation than in the past. A tentative date of August 6th, 2005 has been set. More information on the above and future 4th Day activities in upcoming newsletters and on the website.

Leaders School by Bob Weikert

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a great time with their families over the holidays. As we start a new year, I hope it will be happy and prosperous one for all.

You may have noticed on our website, (evansvillecursillo.com) that **we have changed our School of Leaders meeting place to St. John Daylight and the starting time is still 7:00 PM CST.**

Father Schroering has volunteered his time to give the Doctrinal talk every first Tuesday of each month. In September 2002, we decided to move the School of Leaders to Oakland City from St. Mary's Evansville to attract more people from other areas other than Evansville, but our experimentation did not fare too well so we will be moving back to Evansville. Come visit with us and see God at work with our fellow Cursillistas.

**“Lead Me Lord”
Evansville Women’s Cursillo # 67**

Dear Fourth Day,

What a wonderful journey God led team #67 on as we joined together in meals, shared our lives, prayed together and planned for our special weekend during formations. Jesus filled our hearts with so much love, joy and peace and these fruits of the Spirit were felt by all throughout the entire weekend!

God blessed us with 28 wonderful women! Their openness to share their lives and pray together gave real witness to the power of the Holy Spirit. The joy of witnessing many women find a deeper relationship with Our Lord was an overwhelming experience for all of us.

The love and caring of the Fourth Day was a bright candle on the weekend! Thanks to all those who served meals, baked goodies, sent palanca letters, prayed in the palanca chapel, set up and cleaned up, and came to candlelight and closing. Through the powerful prayers and special sacrifices of all of you, we received many blessings.

Please continue to pray for each of our new Cursillistas as they continue on their Fourth Day.

May God bless each one of you for your love and support of the Cursillo movement.

Your sister in Christ,
Mimi Scheessele

Welcome New Cursillistas		
Dana Krodol	Roxann Coleman (Moore)	Melissa Schaefer
Mary Pat Unfried	Jen Schwenk	Barbara Lodato
Margaret Angermeier	Mindy Leonard	Michelle Kirk
Delores M. Schroeder	Michelle O’Connor	Jan Hermann
Dottie McCarty	Mary Seufert	Jennifer Mayer
Mary Gail Moschner	Linda Schmitt	Donna Blythe
Sylvia Seng	Andrea Mann	Chris Schapker
Deb Stenftenagel	Sherry Goebel	Ashley Niehaus
Ingrid Goodman	Shirley Burkhart	Connie Goelzhauser
Minnie Baumhoer		

Schedule for Evansville Men’s Cursillo #63

<u>Talk Support Day</u>	Sat., Feb. 12	8:00 AM– 12:00 PM	St. John’s Newburgh
<u>Set-up</u>	Wed., Feb. 23	7:00 PM	Sarto
<u>Sponsor’s Dedication</u>	Thurs, Feb. 24	7:00 PM	Sarto Chapel
<u>Mass & Candlelight</u>	Sat, Feb. 26	8:00 PM	Mass Celebration Hall Mass, then as a community Proceed to Chapel
<u>Closing</u>	Sun, Feb. 27	5:20 PM	Celebration hall Please arrive by 5:00 PM

To serve a meal, please call Gary and Norma Folz at 925-7159.

Please remember to park in designated parking spaces only.

NO PARKING along the sides of the parking lot.

The front doors will be open as well as the back and side doors.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**“Do Not Be Afraid, I Am With You”
Evansville Men’s Cursillo # 63
February 24-27, 2005**

Dear Cursillo Friends,

I’m sure that each of you remembers the peace and love of Christ that we found during and after our Cursillo weekends. As you all know, with Him we need not fear anything, for He will be with us all the way... especially in our efforts to evangelize others. The team for Men’s Cursillo #63 began formations on January 9, and we will continue the formation process to become His assistants in bringing the candidates of Cursillo #63 closer to Christ. We have truly been blessed to be chosen for His team!

We ask for your help in this endeavor. First, please continue praying for the team to become the best formed that it can be for the candidates. We really need your prayers and help in evangelizing and sponsoring more candidates. As of early January, there are 15 invitations extended, and our list of applicants has been exhausted. We have room for 32 candidates at Sarto. I’m certain many of you have made a friend and been a friend to someone whom you can now bring closer to Christ with a Cursillo weekend. If you can progress in the sponsorship process to that point—please contact them, provide an(other) application form, and nudge them (again) to attend the February 24-27 weekend. Do not be afraid, He is with you!

If you are able, we invite you to support the weekend in other ways. If you would like to provide snacks or desserts for the weekend, please call the head of our kitchen staff, Al Debes, at 963-5113. If you would like to serve a meal, or be a kitchen angel, please contact Norma and Gary Folz at 925-7159. If you have Team Palanca, mail it to Jim Wilsbacher, 119 W. Jennings St., Newburgh, IN 47630, or email it to me at wilsbacher1@aol.com.

We really hope you can attend candlelight and closing, and do palanca for the team and candidates. Most importantly, pray for the success of the weekend! In addition to your individual prayers and palanca—consider signing up for Palanca Chapel at your local Ultreya.

I know Christ and the team can count on you!

Your brother in Christ,
Jim Wilsbacher

Men’s Cursillo Team # 63			
Spiritual Director	Fr. Jim Endress	Kitchen Staff	Allen Koester
Spiritual Director	Fr. Joe Ziliak	Kitchen Staff	Fred Schwenk
Spiritual Director	Deacon Bob Hayden	Kitchen Staff	Dave Wathen
Coordinator	Jim Wilsbacher	Ideals	Eldon Hopkins
Asst. Coordinator	Don Kaiser	Laity	Joe Wellman
Song Leader	Paul Breeze	Holiness	Tom Kessens
Asst. Song Leader	Ken Schoering	Formation	Jerry Wheatley
Head Steward	Mark Steckler	Evangelization	Damien Scheessele
Asst. Steward	Dave Loehrlein	Leaders	Scott Burgess
Asst. Steward	Dave Trout	Environments	Joe Dickinson
Head Kitchen Staff	Al Debes	Christian Community	Ron Balbach
Kitchen Staff	Paul Halter		

Preliminary List of Candidates

Thomas Anslinger-Resurrection
Howard Dotterweich-St. Mary’s-Huntingburg

Check www.evansvillecursillo.com and local Ultreya for complete list of candidates

<u>Secretariat Members</u>	
Spiritual Director	Fr. Ray Brenner
Lay Director	Bruce Bonenberger
Secretary	Bill Cox
Treasurer	Joe Thompson
Pre-Cursillo	Skip & Jackie Dent
3-Day	Dan Zimmer
Post-Cursillo	Nick & Judy Wolf
Palanca	Al Debes
Procurement	Elaine Morris
School of Leaders	Bob Weikert

Ultreya	Where	Day	Time
Holy Rosary	Evansville	1st Monday	6:00 p.m
St. Joseph	Jasper	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m.
Holy Cross	Ft. Branch	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
St. Simon's	Washington	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m.
St. John's	Newburgh	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
St. Ferdinand	Ferdinand	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Good Shepherd	Evansville	4th Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Resurrection	Evansville	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m.
St. Paul's	Tell City	1st Saturday	7:00 p.m.

School of Leaders
When: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each Month
Where: St. John's, Daylight
Time: 7:00 PM CST/CDT

DEAR FOURTH DAY,
Please remember to notify us if your email address or mailing address has changed. Please send your updated address to dkegen@sigecon.net or mail to return address on this newsletter. Some email addresses have changed or are inactive and some mailing addresses were returned as undeliverable. Thank-you.