

Words From the Spiritual Director

by Father Ray Brenner

Dear Fourth Day Community,

We are still in the season we call summer and the words of the song "Lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" come to mind. If you are like me, you have very little time to be lazy. The only thing hazy about it is what to do next. I can relate to the crazy part as days are often filled with decisions to make, people to see who have problems and the day-to-day business.

The Liturgical Calendar says we are in Ordinary Time but sometimes the only thing ordinary about it is two funerals on Monday, three weeks in a row!

But then there are the events that are not ordinary, such as Christ Renews His Parish or Cursillo. Each of these movements helps us to move out of our comfort zone and look beyond to the needs of others.

At our recent Presbyterate Day, which we hold quarterly, we had what I consider the most positive study on priests and the morale of the clergy. It was indeed uplifting and provides a lot of incentive for us to keep going on.

There was a great emphasis on the need for prayer, which applies not only to clergy but religious and lay as well. We really need this in the Cursillo Movement if we are to bring many more to Christ.

Make that friend. Be there for that friend. And Bring that friend to Christ.

DeColores, *Father Ray Brenner*

Words From the Lay Director *by Bruce Bonenberger*

*"I came that they might have life and have it more abundantly".
John 10:10*

The world's definition of life could be - a natural search toward happiness by doing whatever I desire and whatever pleases me the most. But as Cursillistas, we should believe it is in Jesus that happiness dwells because in Him we find our fulfillment. A Christian lives a vibrant, principal-oriented way of life that reflects commitment to something greater than the popular trends. In order for a society to be truly human, it must be grounded in the theological and moral virtues.

During a Cursillo Weekend, the proclamations of team members lived experiences of what is fundamental for being a Christian is what brings the attendees to conversion. Living what is fundamental for being a Christian consists of: 1.) a 3 fold love (of God, of neighbor and of self) 2.) living a life in Grace, a living union with God 3.) bringing our brothers and sisters into the same living union with God, and 4.) receiving and living the Sacraments. By living our Baptism, we become Christians, sons and daughters of the Father, brothers and sisters of the Son, temples of the Holy Spirit, empowered to go and take the Good News of God's love to others. Our Baptismal promises are an invitation to participate in God's plan of salvation. Being Christian is essentially a form of life, living a Divine life, to possess Grace in our soul and to enjoy the familiarity of God.

According to the Cursillos in Christianity methodology, we live a life of piety, study and action. That's the tripod that we discovered on our Cursillo. By our acts of piety, we grow in holiness directing our whole life to God. That enables us to love. The meaning of human life is to be holy. To be holy is to imitate Jesus Christ. A life pure and simple was lived by Jesus and then by the saints. "Live Jesus" St. Francis de Sales tells us. We ought to live just as He lived. St. John tells us, "whoever claims to abide in Him ought to live just as he lived" 1 John 2:6. Our moral life is spiritual worship. Our acts of study lead to a knowledge of life, people and God. Who am I, who is Christ and just who are my brothers and sisters and how do we relate to each other. Action involves putting our will into action with an attitude of charity. By the process of discernment, we align our will to God's will so then each of our actions will be apostolic and bear fruit. Our tripod is internal; it is always with us regardless of where we are.

The sense of life is marked by Christ and He gives true meaning to life. Life is a mystery. Much that happens in life cannot be fully explained but if accepted, it can be fully experienced. It's only with a childlike sense of wonder that I can truly take life as it comes, that I can truly follow Jesus. Man left to his own devices cannot achieve his supernatural end. We need to use God's Graces which is the key to a Christian life. We have the tools to begin a happy life on this earth which will have its perfection only in heaven where we shall live forever with the angels and saints.

National News

The 18th National Cursillo Encounter was held July 31st to Aug.3rd. Christ is our Light was the theme. The Encounter was held on the campuses of The Catholic University of America and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at Washington D.C. Highlights of the event is available on the National website www.natl-cursillo.org

The 19th National Encounter will be held at California State University in San Bernardino on July 30th to Aug. 2, 2009.

Regional News

The 2008 fall Regional Meeting will be hosted by the Evansville Diocese at St. Meinrad. Dates are Oct. 31-Nov. 2. Check for a Registration Form on our local website. WWW.evansvillecursillo.com As most of you know, St. Meinrad is a beautiful place and a joy to visit. The Benedictines are noted for their hospitality and they remodeled the sleeping and meeting rooms last year. Sleeping rooms have a private bath. Registration will start around 5 PM on Friday, a light meal at 6 PM and the program will begin at 7 PM. It will end Sunday AM after Mass and breakfast. The theme is "Give Glory to God". Fr. Robert Braun will give the keynote address and there will be 4 talks given by the lay members of the Regional Team. Those talks will be on Humility, Patience, Prayerful and Have a Forgiving Love. We would like to have a good turnout from our diocese. If you have never attended a Cursillo Encounter, this will be a good opportunity to have a "get away" weekend. If you would like to help, meet and be of service to Cursillistas from outside our diocese on the weekend, call a Secretariat Member. Thanks!

Precursillo by Joe and Ruth Thompson

Dear friend in Christ:

As we come upon another set of weekends I keep reading this prayer in the current "Living Faith" and I realize how appropriate this prayer is for the 4th day community. If we all read and live this prayer we will be living the Cursillo method of make a friend, be a friend and bring your friend to Christ.

Lord, send me forth this day to bring your Good News to those poor who hunger for a world of hope; to my neighbor, starving for a friendly gesture; to my co-worker who longs to be accepted.

*Send me out with eyes open wide
To see the loveliness of your creation,
The sight of your face in the face of the stranger;
The insight to know the right words and gestures
to offer a hurting friend.*

*Send me in peace and joy
That I might be an instrument of your liberating love,
your joyful presence, and your redeeming compassion.
Grant that I may bring your presence to a waiting world. Amen*

Men's formations have begun. We have sent out the first set of invitations but are well short of having enough applicants to make a full weekend. There is still time for you to get your friends application in for this fall weekend.

The women's invitations will go out towards the last part of Sept. and we still need to have some more women's applications also. Gods Grace to all the 4th day and for the work you do to build the kingdom of God.

3 Day: By Lloyd and Julie Young

Corinthians Ch 12:4-6; 12 *"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in every-one. As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ."*

As we become more familiar with all that is involved in preparing for the Cursillo weekends, we are blessed to be witnesses to the body of Christ in action. It is truly evident in the coming together of so many to create the experience of the Cursillo weekend. The scripture reminds us that we are all blessed with unique gifts from the Holy Spirit, gifts to sustain and grow, wherever our place on our spiritual journey. We can all recall the gift of prayer and palanca from our weekend experience. Our upcoming weekends will surely feel that same presence with the aid of all our prayers.

As we prepare for the fall weekends please keep in mind someone in your environment who would benefit from Cursillo. The Cursillo method is a great gift to share. Always remember to talk to God about a friend before you talk to a friend about God! If you or your group would be interested in helping with the set up and tear down of the Men and Women's weekends, please contact us at jayoung@roadrunner.com or lloydyoung@a-d-distributors.com. Our home phone is 518-4158.

Post-Cursillo by Nicholas and Judith Wolf

"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity"... "for there the Lord ordained His blessing, life forevermore". Psalms 133:1,3

The psalmist tells us here, that to "live" is to "share". To be united one with another, blessing others as we praise Our God and present ourselves in service. This scripture could very well be a motto for living out our 4th day. As Cursillistas, we should make every effort to love, share with, and come into communion with our kindred spirits.

To see this type of unity, one needed only to attend the recent Grand Ultreya held Aug 9th at St. John's Daylight. At this 4th day activity, Cursillistas from fifteen parishes, five Ultreyas, and many friendship groups came together to share in prayer, reunion, and faith. They gathered as living witnesses to their love for Jesus, to their Catholic faith, and to their Cursillo commitment. All in attendance experienced a wonderful fellowship of "like-minded" brothers and sisters, praying, singing, attending mass and just being Christ to each other.

We also learned through the witness of Dan Fritch, a parishioner of St. Joseph in Jasper, what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, and that true discipleship requires effort on our part. Judy and I strongly encourage everyone to make that effort. Get involved in God's Cursillo movement, reach out to others, and make it a point to share how Christ is working in you at a friendship group, Ultreya, or 4th day activity.

This "joyous work" of a disciple may best be described by this quote from St. Basil the Great. "What could be more delightful than to see all who are separated by such vast distances, bound together by the union of love into one harmony as members in Christ's Body". St. Basil knew the importance of being in community, but we can be sure he never knew of the great distances that we would have to overcome. In today's world, we are separated by the distance of time (there never seems to be enough!), and we are separated by a cyber-culture that almost insists that we have no face to face contact (we use cell phones, texting, e-mail, and the like). To be sure, these are just part of the vast distances that keep us apart, however we should always recognize the need for other people in our lives. When we no longer need personal contact with each other, can our contact with Jesus be far behind?

Recall Psalm 133:3, "for there, the Lord ordained His blessing, life forevermore". This is the reward for a life of discipleship and of sharing the Good News with others. Make some time now to talk one on one with someone, have coffee with someone special, hug someone you love, be a friend and make a friend with someone in need. Just look at how Jesus narrowed the vast distance of separation. His entire life was one of personal contact, from lepers and tax collectors, to the upper room, and He assures us of "life forevermore"!

Judy and I, on behalf of the Cursillo movement would like to extend a note of appreciation to all of the Ultreyas, their leaders, and to all behind the scenes who made the Grand Ultreya a success. With out their hard work and dedication the Cursillo movement would not be able to provide opportunities for a life in community.

Palanca by Al Debes

"Rise, and do not be afraid" Mt 17: 7

"Do not be afraid", Jesus says. The Phrase was one to which the disciples had become accustomed. The Lord would encourage His disciples to keep moving along the path of faith in spite of their own feelings of inadequacy and apprehension. In a reflection according to Daniel J. Mahan

Jesus provides His closest apostles with evidence that his admonitions to take courage are founded upon His divinity. His absolute power over anything that could do to harm them. To wonder about where the Lord is leading is only human. **To remain steadfast along the path of life is to trust in His divine promise**

Is not Jesus asking the same of us, one way is to do Palanca .For your self and the Men and Women who will be making the weekend as well as the Team!

What is palanca? Palanca is - **intercessory prayer, sacrifice, or works of mercy**..That is offered up for the success of the weekend

What is a palanca letter? A palanca letter is one that is sent to the candidates and team, informing them of the prayers and sacrifices that you are offering to God on their behalf. A letter may be sent explaining what type of palanca is being offered, but the letter is NOT the palanca.

Spend some time in **Palanca Chapel** with your best friend, remember **"Do not be Afraid"!** DeColores!

**“Here I Am Lord, I Come To Do Your Will”
Evansville Men’s Cursillo #70
October 9-12, 2008**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

On Sunday August 24th, the team for Men’s Cursillo #70 began formations to prepare for the mission the Lord has called us to. We the team asks all of our fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ for your prayers and palanca as we form a Christian community and assume our roles in bringing the candidates closer to Christ. Your presence at palanca chapel, candlelight, and closing will serve as a powerful witness to the candidates as to the welcoming Christ-like community that awaits them as they enter their 4th day.

If you or your group would like to provide a snack or desert for the weekend, please call our Head Kitchen Staff, Nicholas Wolf at 963-3260. Also if you have an interest in serving a meal or working as a kitchen angel, please contact Norma and Gary Folz at 925-7159.

Team palanca may be sent to Joe Thompson, 1201 Laubscher Rd. Evansville, IN. 47710, or e-mail joe-thompson@insightbb.com

Thank you for all your prayers and palanca and may God bless each and everyone of you. *Your Brother in Christ, Joe Thompson*

**“Behold! I Make All Things New”
Evansville Women’s Cursillo #75
November 6-9, 2008**

As I discerned over the team for Women’s Cursillo #75, I prayed that not my will, but God’s will be done. I have done my best to stay out of His way, and now His team is complete.

God has called team #75 to be a “new” creation, and when we meet for our first formation on September 21, 2008, we will begin molding ourselves into the loving, caring family that the candidates will need to help them in their faith journey.

If you, or your friendship group, would like to provide snacks or desserts for the weekend, please call our head kitchen staff, Anne Martin at 985-7826. If you would like to serve a meal or be a kitchen angel, contact Norma or Gary Folz at 925-7159.

Please send team Palanca to me at 6000 #6 School Road, Evansville, IN 47720, or email me at iiispookie@aol.com.

For a successful weekend, we need the help of the 4th day, and the team asks for your prayers and Palanca. To support the team, we invite you to attend Talk Support on October 25th from 8:00 a.m. to Noon at St. John’s in Newburgh. To support the candidates, please sign up for an hour in a Palanca Chapel in your area, attend candlelight, and come to the Closing to see for yourself how the Holy Spirit can indeed “make all things new.”

Yours In Christ, Judy Wolf

Men's #70 Cursillo Team

Head Spiritual Director	Fr. Ray Brenner
Spiritual Director	Fr. Henry Kuykendall
Spiritual Director	Deacon Vince Bernardin
Coordinator	Joe Thompson
Assistant Coordinator	Al Debes
Head Steward	Lloyd Young
Assistant Steward	Bob Martin
Assistant Steward	Brian Ketzner
Head Song Leader	Paul Breeze
Asst. Song Leader	Pete Hillenbrand
Head Kitchen Staff	Nicholas Wolf
Assistant Kitchen Staff	Audi Wilson
Assistant Kitchen Staff	Chuck Dehner
Assistant Kitchen Staff	Scott Burgess
Assistant Kitchen Staff	Tony Scheller
Ideal	Ray Bradley
The Layperson in the Church	Dave Wathen
Piety	Joe Weber
Study	Sam Tieken
Action	Jim Werner
Leaders	Bruce Bonenberger
Study of the Enviornment	Sam Tenbarge
Christianity in Action	Dennis Seib

Women's #75 Cursillo Team

Head Spiritual Director	Fr. Ralph Schipp
Spiritual Director	Fr. Paul Ferguson
Spiritual Director	Sr. Jolinda Naas
Coordinator	Judy Wolf
Assistant Coordinator	Dianne Klein
Head Stewardess	Kristen Girten
Assistant Stewardess	Suzanne Burgess
Assistant Stewardess	Ginny Bonenberger
Head Song Leader	Jennifer Vangampler
Asst. Song Leader	Patty Schnautz
Head Kitchen Staff	Anne Martin
Kitchen Staff	Delores Schroeder
Kitchen Staff	Carol Fechmeister
Kitchen Staff	Donna Greenwood
Kitchen Staff	Jane Scheller
Ideal	Ruth Thompson
The Layperson in the Church	Sue Tieken
Piety	Alana Goepfrich
Study	Kelly Hale
Action	Paulette Harralson
Leaders	Karen Seib
Study of the Enviornment	Martha Baehl
Christianity in Action	Pat Sauer

Men's #70 Schedule

Talk Support Day	Sat. Sept. 27	8:15 AM	Holy Spirit-Mass 7:30 AM
Set-up	Wed. Oct. 8	6:30-8:00 PM	Sarto
Sponsor's Dedication	Thur. Oct. 9	7:00 PM	Sarto
Mass & Candlelight	Sat. Oct. 11	8:00 PM	Celebration Hall
			Mass Then as Community
			Proceed to Chapel
Closing	Sun. Oct. 12	5:40 PM	Celebration Hall
	Please arrive by 5:20		

School of Leaders by Thomas Anslinger

“Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.” -- John 12:26

If you look in the dictionary to define “serve”, you will find, among other definitions: to work for; to help; to be useful; to promote; to minister to; etc. And looking at the chapter for the School of Leaders in the Leaders Manual of the United States Catholic Cursillo Movement, we see the first paragraph: “A diocese can begin a Cursillo Movement when it has a core group of Cursillo leaders who have chosen to serve within the Movement, as their apostolic vocation. In addition, this group must be a community example of service in all three phases of the Movement. The Cursillo Movement was born of and received its form and drive from such a group.” You, as members of the Fourth Day, are invited to join the School of Leaders and to serve your community and Our Father in heaven. By attending the School of Leaders, you will pray, group, listen to spiritual talks and contribute (serve) by participating in the movement functions’ discussions and planning. Each of the sections of the Cursillo Movement presents its current activities, concerns and plans so that the School of Leader attendees can participate (serve) by questioning and commenting on them. If you go back to the quote above you will see the phrases “chosen to serve” and “community example of service”. Pray about this and think about it. By serving our community of Fourth Day and potential Fourth Day people, we are serving Jesus. And as Jesus said in John 12:26, “Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.” The School of Leaders meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at St. John Church in Daylight at 7:00 PM. All Fourth Day are welcome.

Ultreya	Where	Day	Time
St. Joseph	Jasper	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m.
St. Mary’s	Washington	1st Monday	6:30 p.m.
St. John’s	Newburgh	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	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m.

Post Cursillo Notes
Fall Regional Encounter, Oct. 31st, Nov. 1st - 2nd, St Meinrad Archabbey
Cursillo Reunion (formerly CEW), Sat. Nov. 22nd
Friendship Groups - weekly
Ultreyas - monthly

We ask all of the 4th day to pray and offer Palanca for the upcoming men’s and women’s Cursillo weekends.

DEAR FOURTH DAY, Please remember to notify us if your email address or mailing address has changed. Please send your updated address to dkegen@sigecom.net or mail to return address on this newsletter.