

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE



# THE EVANGELIZER



December 2019

New Website: [www.BellevilleCursillo.org](http://www.BellevilleCursillo.org)

**FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR** DEACON WAYNE WEILER

“Let them grow together until harvest....” Matthew 13:30

This passage reminds us of our Christian faith’s more challenging demand - being patient with one another. As we are often painfully aware, we walk with and share lives with both those who live by faith and share our Christian values as well as with those who do not. A challenge to be sure, but yet an opportunity at the same time. These are opportunities to live out our baptismal call, to grow in faith, and to introduce others, by our words and actions, to the joys we have found in Jesus.

We recognize the need for patience through the study of our environments, we grow in holiness by exercising it, and we show others the way of Christ by embracing it. Our piety is on full display in our struggle for patience. Our unsettled world needs us to embrace the struggle. From patience grows humility, compassion, and peace.

We may think of patience as a passive effort, but, as we all know, being patient with others, and the disappointments we face is often not easy - it’s hard work. We ask for God’s grace to help us to be patient, to live in harmony with all, loving and charitably helping those in need of His care and mercy.

The Christmas Season and the holiday festivities are now behind us. But the Joy of a fresh awareness of God with us in the Nativity, in the Magi’s journey, and in our Lord’s own baptism lives on - **May they remain through the New Year.**

As Cursillistas filled with renewed spirit, let us enter this new decade of 2020 with hope for a more patient, peaceful, and just world.

De Colores!

Deacon Wayne



**FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR ROBERT MCCORMACK**

Welcome to our newest Cursillistas from Belleville Women's Cursillo #42, and a big thank you to the Cursillo Team led by Cheryl Rajski! Women's Cursillo #42 was the first Cursillo to be held at the King's House Retreat Center in recent memory. Weekend #42 was also our first Cursillo under the new Step-by-Step Guide. Despite the new format, all reports from both the candidates and team members indicated that the Cursillo was a huge success demonstrating that we can deliver high-quality Cursillos at the King's House. I believe that we are the first diocese in Region IV to hold a Cursillo using the new Step-by-Step Guide.

A final decision has not been made on whether to continue using the King's House for Cursillo weekends or return to Ruma in the Fall of 2020. We have reservations at both places for 2020 but we are still working through the details.

I am pleased to announce that Bernadette Charlton has been selected to join the Region IV Service Team....an excellent choice. She will be a big asset to the Cursillo Movement in Region IV. Bernadette welcomes your insights, comments, and suggestions on any Cursillo topic. She will carry your input to both Regional and National Encounters and return with appropriate feedback.

Love, Joy, Peace, and De Colores!

Bob McCormack

**PALANCA BOBBI SCHAEFER**

I recently watched a video on the Royal Family in England, specifically on their rather chaotic at times "pecking order." There seems to be a lot of speculation as to who is to be king, who's in favor, who's out of line, etc. They always have to be careful not to misstep...being out of favor or banishment seems to lurk on the horizon at all times. (At least they've done away with "the tower" or losing your head!) What a stressful life they've created for themselves!

We are indeed blessed that we do not live under this kind of pressure from our King! He plays no favorites, has no "pecking order," and treats us all the same because He loves us all equally. We are, each one of us, "special" to Him because of who we are...His children. His capacity for forgiveness is endless, and He is always available to everyone. He allows US to choose if we want to be part of His

family...or not. And, He grieves for those who choose “not.” All He desires is that we believe in Him, love Him totally, and follow His commandments. He guides us to eternal life with Him, and picks us up when we fall. He is fair and just, and hears every prayer request we bring to Him. We don’t need to make an appointment...He is always with us!

One of my favorite prayers touches the bases: “I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You; I beg forgiveness for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love You.”

We ARE royalty! God has blessed us with this precious gift. Always hold it close to your heart, thank Him for this, and for WHO He is!!

De Colores, and Happy New Year!

Bobbi S.



**PRECURSILLO LAURA VEACH**

Christmas 2019 has come and gone and we are busy packing away the creche, the tree, and other decorations. That has always been a sad task for me, so I have adopted the practice of leaving a bit of Christmas out to remind me of the love and hope this Season brings. I hope your holidays were blessed with faith, family, friends, and fun. May the New Year bring you continued blessings and joy!

Congratulations to the newest group of women Cursillistas who began their Cursillo Journey with Christ the weekend of October 24-27, 2019, at King’s House Retreat Center in Belleville. Thank you to the ministry team, the sponsors, and the Fourth Day who supported these women through prayer and mananitas, attending the Closing, and walking the journey with these ladies. We joyfully welcome all to Fourth Day and look forward to seeing you at many events throughout the year. Sponsors, remember to keep in contact with your friends, assist them in finding a sharing group and invite them to join you at Cursillo events scheduled throughout the year.

Dates and venues for the upcoming Men's and Women's Weekends will be announced very soon. In the meantime, do continue to make friends and encourage them to begin a Cursillo Journey with Christ.

As a reminder, all paperwork and the registration deposit are to be submitted as a package to the Precursillo Chairperson by the sponsor; it should not come from the candidate. The Sponsor Commitment Form is essential to the candidate's confirmation.

Once the dates and venues have been determined, updated Applications and Sponsor Commitment Forms will be available online at [www.bellevillecursillo.org](http://www.bellevillecursillo.org), or by contacting the Precursillo Chairperson. If you have questions, you may contact me, Laura Veach, via email at [laura.sings.4@gmail.com](mailto:laura.sings.4@gmail.com), or by phone at 618-233-3062 (H) or 618-972-3062 (C).

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patron of the Americas, Pray for us.  
St. Paul, Patron of Cursillo, Pray for us.

De Colores! Peace, Love, and Joy in the New Year!

Laura Veach

An encounter with God,  
An encounter with Yourself,  
An encounter with Others

#### POSTCURSILLO JOHN AND BERNADETTE CHARLTON

Happy New Year to our Fourth Day Community! A new decade commences. Have you made appropriate resolutions yet? Personally, I am dedicating 2020 to "A Return to Basics."

The basics of Cursillo are Group Reunion and Ultreya. We are called to Cursillo to make Group Reunions and Ultreyas. Eduardo Bonin often reminds us that "... reunions are not held so that there may be people to attend Cursillo, but Cursillos are held so that there may be people to attend Group Reunions." The core mission of Cursillo is to evangelize Jesus Christ, bringing HIM into our various daily environments: family, work, social, etc. Remember the burning passion to know and love Christ that we all felt as our Weekend closed? How long did that fire last? A few days? Maybe a couple of weeks .... perhaps one month? And then the world slowly sucked us back into our routines. I'm willing to wager that those babe chicks who joined/formed a Group Reunion immediately after their Weekend carried that burn much longer. In fact, some of you who have grouped for years (and still group regularly) maintain this passion to spread the love of Christ to this day. The Group Reunion and Ultreya are the tools Cursillo gives us to nurture our Christian lives ensuring that our life in Christ remains conscious and growing, resulting in more effective apostolic actions.

How many Cursillistas reading this no longer belong to Group Reunions, or never joined/formed a Group Reunion after your Weekend? If Group Reunions get mechanical and formal – if we are no longer

getting anything out of them – it is a sure sign that we are not putting appropriate effort into them. If your Group Reunion is getting tiresome and seems of marginal benefit, perhaps you need to work at it harder, believe in it more, and so love our brothers and sisters more. Christ said, “Where two or more are gathered together for my sake, there am I in the midst of them.” Christ is present at our Group Reunions, and we should conduct them prayerfully with a dedication to Him that we may know, love, and serve Him better.

An Ultreya is a monthly gathering of local Group Reunions. In the past, Belleville, New Athens, Murphysboro, and others convened monthly Ultreyas. Belleville is still active (second Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Saint Peter’s Cathedral in the undercroft), and Du Quoin is presently forming an Ultreya. It would be great if more local Ultreyas were formed across the diocese.

To emphasize our focus on bringing new Cursillistas to Group Reunion and Ultreya, we are shifting our Postcursillo format. We will no longer have a reunion following each Weekend. Rather, sponsors are responsible for bringing their new Cursillistas to a Group Reunion and Ultreya as soon as possible after their Weekend. We welcome our new Cursillistas at the Ultreyas. Diocesan Ultreyas will now consist of two Grand Ultreyas and one Day of Recollection each year.

Our next Grand Ultreya will be at St Joseph’s in Freeburg on Sunday, February 23, 2020. Details are elsewhere in this Evangelizer. Sponsors, please reach out to our new Cursillistas and personally invite them to this gathering. These gatherings are the essential parts of living our Fourth Day with others. Modifying our Cursillo slogan a bit, bring an OLD friend BACK to Christ. There are dozens of inactive Cursillistas in our diocese and communities; reach out to them and invite them to join us next month. Hope to see many of you there!

De Colores!







**De Colores to the Fourth Day Community!**

As we welcome a new year, we will gather our Fourth Day Community for our annual Grand Ultreya and Potluck. This year's Grand Ultreya will be on **February 23, 2020**, from 12 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at **St. Joseph's Catholic Church in the Parish Center** located at 6 North Alton Street in Freeburg. Reserve this date on your calendars, and please spread the word to all Cursillistas. If you know someone who does not communicate via e-mail, please share this information. Thank you!

Following is a guideline for what to bring for the potluck according to the first letter of your last name. However, if you have a favorite dish you would like to share, please do!

**A-G: Desserts/Cheeses/Bread**

**H-L: Fruits/Vegetables/Dip**

**M-R: Salads/Pasta Dishes**

**S-Z: Casseroles/Meat Dishes**

Please R.S.V.P. no later than Sunday, February 16, 2020, if you are planning to attend. You may e-mail me at [charltonje@gmail.com](mailto:charltonje@gmail.com) or call or text (703) 868.6419.

I strongly encourage all previous sponsors, rectors, rectoras and table leaders to reach out to all our Cursillistas ... the new and the old. The more the merrier for Christ. He is counting on all of us! Looking forward to seeing everyone!

**Blessings from your Post-Cursillo Chair**

John Charlton

**SCHOOL OF LEADERS** JOHN SCHABERG

It is a New Year! But more significant, this **Christmas Season** has brought us a **new child**, one who was actually born some 2,020 years ago to a young, faithful, sinless woman, and a baby who was a foretold surprise to a strong, willing, silent, and hard-working stepfather! Well, just as our **Blessed Mother Mary** and **St. Joseph** realized how the **Christ Child changed their lives forever**, Christmas is really a **new opportunity to welcome that child** - into our hearts, into our homes, **into our Moveable Square Yard**, into **our friend's heart**. Events, holidays, gifts, surprises, parties – they can all disappoint the unpredictable, spiritual, but self-centered human heart. The gift of Christmas, however, is **not a one-day event**, and it's not just the birth of a new baby. Christmas is an **annual invitation to begin our new lives with Christ, His Church, and the Communion of Saints!**

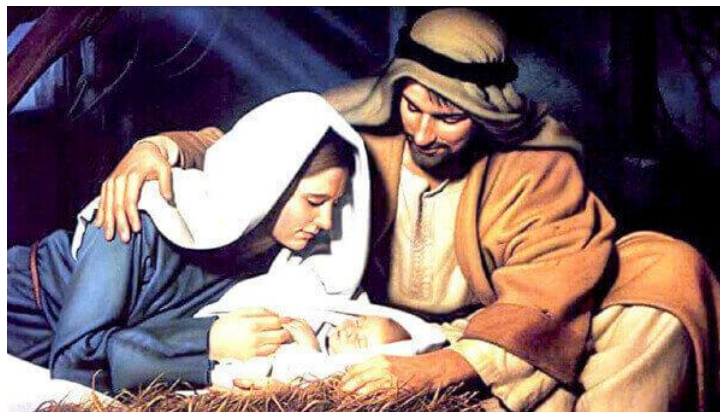
Have you thought about how **Saints are our Leaders**? Have you realized we can't learn holiness by ourselves, we need Jesus and his Saints to teach us and lead us into the paths of righteousness? Has it occurred to you that **Leaders may be Saints**? **In the School of Leaders, you may be sitting next to a Saint!! Blessed Christmas – and Blessed New Year!!!**

Our **School of Leaders** will meet on **February 11, March 10, and April 14, 2020**, at **7 p.m.** at **St. Joseph's Parish in Freeburg, IL**. Please join your fellow Leaders in faith!

**Romans 1: 12:** *"What I mean is that both you and I will be helped at the same time, you by my faith and I by yours."*

De Colores and Peace!

John I Schaberg

**WELCOME OUR NEWEST CURSILLISTAS** RECTORA MESSAGE

The Belleville Diocesan Cursillo in Christianity welcomed 15 new Cursillistas in October. We thank God for His presence and the many gifts showered on the Belleville Women's Cursillo #42, held October 24<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>, 2019. This was our second women's weekend in 2019 and our first weekend at King's House Retreat Center.

Our new Cursillistas are **Anton Payne**, Sacred Heart – DuQuoin; **Betty Eastman**, Sacred Heart – DuQuoin; **Cyndi Hasenstaub**, St. Mary – Belleville; **Michelle Massey**, St. Stephen – Belleville; **Deborah Chastain**, Sacred Heart – DuQuoin; **Elaine Foppe**, St. Joseph – Freeburg; **Jennifer Markfort**, Cathedral – Belleville; **Renee Cobin**, Sacred Heart – DuQuoin; **Diana Majewski**, Immaculate Conception – Tamaroa; **Mitchelle Calderon**, Sacred Heart – DuQuoin; **Nicole Worthington**, Sacred Heart – DuQuoin; **Debbie Hamilton**, St. Augustine – Belleville, **Janet Harris**, Immaculate Conception – Tamaroa; **Lisa Mohr**, Sacred Heart – DuQuoin; **Paulette Templin**, St. Bernard – Albers.

Team members for Belleville Women's #42 were Cheryl Rajski/Rectora, Linda Bagsby/Assistant Rectora, Spiritual Advisors - Fr. Ken York, Dcn. Corby Valentine, Sr. Genarose Buechler, Musician: Carol Schlitt, Stewards: Sharon Gugliotta, Amy Love, Table Leaders and Assistants - Anna Feurer, Carol Schlitt, Bernadette Charlton, Desiree Rollyson, Karen Davidson, Margie Reaka,.

Belleville Cursillo is blessed with such a grace-filled community. God called each of us in a special way for Cursillo #42 and I am grateful for your many generous gifts of prayers, novenas, palanca and letters, experience and talents, time, food, supplies and more. So many contributed in so many ways, each living their passion for bringing the love of Christ to others. Remembering your beautiful voices and faces at mañanitas and closing still fills me with joy. We also thank King's House for their warm welcome, prayers and support throughout the weekend.

It is with a very grateful heart that I thank God and you all. May God bless and inspire us as we continue on our journey to know Him better and love Him more.

De Colores,

Cheryl Rajski – Rectora #42





**LOOKING FOR A FRIENDSHIP GROUP REUNION?**

**Men & Women's Friendship Group** / Meets each Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM at member's house: Contact Bob McCormack, (618) 277-3709; McCormack3000@gmail.com

**Women's Friendship Group** / Meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 8:30-10:00 AM in the Parish Center at St John's - Smithton: Contact Julie Weber, (618)-444-2894; weber-julie@sbcglobal.net or Linda Bagsby, (618)-960-1023; lbagsby@gmail.com

**Men's Friendship Group** / Meets each Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM at member's house: Contact Garry Range, (618)-401-9677; g.range@charter.net

**Men & Women's Friendship Group** / Meets at St. Augustine of Canterbury rectory in Belleville after the Tuesday 6:30 PM Novena Mass on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday: Contact Paula Sobol (484)-574-3272; psobol07@aol.com

**Women's Friendship Group** / Meets at Coffee with Christ Cafe, 6 Wade Square, at Lebanon Ave and Sherman in Belleville at 9:15 AM on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday: Contact Phyllis Lange, 618-213-6391

**Women's Friendship Group** / Meets at the "Sisterless House" (old convent) at St. Joseph's Parish in Freeburg at 7:00 PM, Tuesday evenings: Contact Bernadette Charlton, 402-578-5198; charltonba23@gmail.com

**Men's Friendship Group** / Meets at Frank Lill's house, 905 Meadow Brook Drive, Freeburg at 1:00 PM Thursday afternoons: Contact John Charlton, 703-868-6419; charltonje23@gmail.com

**Murphysboro Friendship Group** / Meets at Antoinette "Toni" Martie's house, 200 Marlyn Lane, Murphysboro at 4:30 PM, Thursdays: Contact Toni Martie, 618-319-0212

**NOTE:** Additional Friendship Group's points of contact will be posted in future Evangelizers as information is received. Please send your Friendship Group's points of contacts' information, including meeting day of week and type of group (men or women or both) to Kent Jeanneret; jeannerk@charter.net.

**PRAYER REQUESTS BY EMAIL**

Note that prayer requests are distributed, once per day, by one email address, ([PrayersRequested@BellevilleCursillo.org](mailto:PrayersRequested@BellevilleCursillo.org)). A different email address is used to request prayers.

To request prayers that will be distributed via email to all Belleville Diocesan Cursillistas, please send to the following email address:

**[CursilloRequestedPrayers@gmail.com](mailto:CursilloRequestedPrayers@gmail.com)**

[CursilloRequestedPrayers@gmail.com](mailto:CursilloRequestedPrayers@gmail.com) is read late each day. All prayer requests from this email address are gathered into one email and sent via [PrayersRequested@BellevilleCursillo.org](mailto:PrayersRequested@BellevilleCursillo.org). We are allowed one mass distribution email per day. (Note that any prayer requests sent to [PrayersRequested@BellevilleCursillo.org](mailto:PrayersRequested@BellevilleCursillo.org) may be missed or not sent in a timely fashion.)



## **Make a friend. Be a friend. Bring that friend to Christ!**

Check out the Cursillo Diocese of Belleville Website: [www.BellevilleCursillo.org](http://www.BellevilleCursillo.org)

### **Secretariat Meetings**

Watch the Website calendar for meeting times which begin at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph Parish, Freeburg, IL, on the last Tuesday of May, July, September, November, January, and March.

### **School of Leaders**

The School of Leaders is on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph's in Freeburg. Contact John Schaberg (618) 420-2670.

### **Ultreyas**

**Belleville Area:** Monthly on the second Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Undercroft at St. Peter's Cathedral. (Entrance on W. Garfield St.) Contact Jerry Palmisano, (618) 581-7705.

**New Athens Area:** Monthly on the third Sunday at 11:15 a.m. at St. Agatha's Parish Center in New Athens. This is immediately after the 10 am Mass. Contact Ann Haubrich (618) 475-2006.

### **Friendship Groupings**

Belleville Cursillo has begun an activity to create a list of all the Friendship Groupings in our diocese to make available to Cursillistas. If you are part of a Friendship Group, please send to Kent Jeanneret at [jeannerk@charter.net](mailto:jeannerk@charter.net) the following information: name of Friendship Group, meeting times, and location.

**NEWSLETTERS ARE DELIVERED AT NO COST VIA EMAIL. PLEASE SEND YOUR CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS TO KENT JEANNERET AT JEANNERK@CHARTER.NET**

**TO RECEIVE ONE MAILED PRINT COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER, SEND \$5 WITH POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO KENT JEANNERET, 117 JOAN DR., NEW BADEN, IL 62265.**



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