

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE



THE EVANGELIZER



June 2020

New Website: www.BellevilleCursillo.org

FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR DEACON WAYNE WEILER

“Let us then pursue what leads to peace and to building up one another.” Romans 14:19

Good and Faithful Women and Men of the Fourth Day,

I hope all is well! As I look back over the past few months, I cannot help but ponder the fragile world in which we live. In mere weeks and months, we’ve seen the effects of uncertainty around COVID-19, the outcry over the death of George Floyd and the violence that ensued, continued senseless killings on city streets and in broken neighborhoods. So many lives tragically and needlessly stopped - the consequence of dire hopelessness.

These are indeed difficult times for our country and the images we see are troubling and hard to watch. But watch we must and pray for an answer to this strife that continues to plague our country. Prayer is certainly necessary, but there surely must be more to do! We have some tools at hand that are proven remedies for the chaos taking place in our country. Our works of Piety, Study, and Action are each one a building block toward guiding our feet to the way of peace.

We will not change the serious influence of social sins overnight or on our own, but individually we can be an instrument of peace. The prayer of Saint Francis is a reminder of our call to peace. It is good to study the words of this simple yet profound prayer. May we pray and sing it often.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled as to console,

To be understood as to understand,

To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

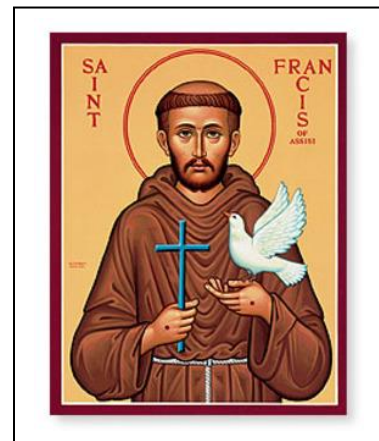
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

We can all do this!

De Colores!

Deacon Wayne



FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR ROBERT MCCORMACK

As we mentioned in the March edition of the Evangelizer, our next Cursillo Weekend for both men and women is scheduled for October 22 - 25, 2020, at the King's House. However, as we are all aware, the COVID-19 Pandemic is having an adverse effect on our Cursillo Movement. Not only is the Cursillo Weekend in question, but it is also affecting how we meet in our Friendship Groups, as well as our regularly scheduled meetings. We have great examples of using Zoom to hold virtual meetings. We have been able to successfully hold the School of Leaders and the Secretariat meetings on Zoom and many of our Friendship Groups are also using Zoom. We have not tried to hold Ultreyas on Zoom because they are a larger gathering and don't lend themselves as well to Zoom. However, the meetings we have held on Zoom have been successful and productive, even fun. And, you don't have to travel to or from the meetings - other than moving to where your computer is located.

I have received a number of questions about whether we will be able to hold the Men's and Women's Cursillos in October. The honest answer is that we do not know. Many of the factors which will determine whether or not we have the Cursillos in October are not under our control. At the July 28 Secretariat Meeting we will review the status of the Pandemic, the social distancing requirements, and all other relative factors, including when the King's House will reopen, and make a decision at that time. That is not to say that the decision, once made, cannot be changed. However, the Cursillo planning window starts to rapidly close after that meeting, so any change to hold the Cursillos will have to be made very soon following that meeting.

De Colores!

Bob McCormack



PRECURSILLO CHERYL RAJSKI

Dear Friends,

My thoughts and prayers are with you. I hope you are all well. What odd times these are. I am so grateful for Cursillo's lessons on drawing closer to Christ. What a treasure these practices are in these times of COVID-19!

Please consider whether you know someone who could benefit from Cursillo. Speak to God about the person and await the Holy Spirit's guidance. All is in God's hands. Let me know if you would like to have a Sponsor's Booklet and/or a booklet for candidates. I will get the information to you through the mail.

The most frequent question I hear revolves around the impact that the current COVID-19 outbreak might have on the Weekend. We continue to prepare for the 2020 Men's and Women's Weekend scheduled for October 22 - 25 at King's House. At the same time, we continue to assess the potential impact of the virus on the safety of a Weekend. Please know we are very concerned about the spiritual and physical wellbeing of candidates and team members of all ages and health conditions.

Belleville Cursillo will refund any deposits made if the Weekend is cancelled.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at cedete@charter.net or call 618-334-0135.

God bless you and keep you safe!

Cheryl Rajski

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

POSTCURSILLO JOHN CHARLTON

De Colores! I just love those two Spanish words! Isn't it wonderful to be *in grace* with one another?

In the Spring Evangelizer I reviewed our February Grand Ultreya and previewed our summer Day of Recollection and the Du Quoin and Belleville Ultreyas. Obviously, COVID-19 put the whammy on those events, so there isn't much to discuss presently in the Postcursillo world. Therefore, let's take this opportunity to review and refresh our Postcursillo mission.

Our Cursillo literature describes Postcursillo as the “perseverance” part of the Cursillo Movement, called the Fourth Day. Our Movement offers two tools, Group Reunion and Ultreya, to aid us in our growth and support of Cursillo after our Weekend. Group Reunion is a small group of friends who meet on a regular basis to share their Christian lives and apostolic action to help us to continue growing in our friendship and in our Christianity. Ultreya is a periodic gathering of several reunion groups consisting of a reunion and a witness talk. It bonds us together so that we can be seen as a visible Cursillo community.

COVID-19, with shelter-in-place, social distancing, and group gathering prohibitions, can almost be seen as the anti-group-reunion disease. Satan is a pretty crafty adversary. It is definitely challenging to continue meeting with our groups in these times. But it CAN be done! Personally, about half of my Friendship Group has continued meeting weekly observing social distancing. My wife has continued with her Friendship Group via Zoom (meeting electronically on phones and/or computers). Perseverance and persistence are definitely called for in these times. I encourage all of you to be creative and proactive in maintaining your regular group reunions. Unfortunately, Ultreyas are on hold until we get more clarity on the progress of this virus.

Speaking of virtual gatherings, registration is now open for the First Virtual National Cursillo Encounter! Live Masses, fiestas, and work sessions will all be online! Everyone can join from the comfort of their own home on Friday, July 24 (starting at 5:30 p.m. Central Time) and ending on July 25. Please register now at <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/encounter2020/...> The fee is only \$50 until July 5 (\$70 after that date). Last day to register is July 18. Please email your Palanca letters to cursillo.ncc.palanca@gmail.com.

As your Postcursillo representative, I am here to serve you. If you are in need of joining or starting a group reunion, your sponsor should be able to assist you. I, too, am available and can be reached at charltonje23@gmail.com or (703) 868-6419.

**GROUP
REUNION**



SCHOOL OF LEADERS MARGIE REAKA

A big thank you to John Schaberg for his dedication and leadership the last three years as School of Leaders Chairperson. John helped us to grow through scripture and sharing ideas. In turn we are closer to Christ and continue to bring others closer to Him through Cursillo.

I'm Margie Reaka, and as the new chairperson I'm *grabbing* this opportunity to tell you a little about how I became involved in School of Leaders ("SoL"), and what is planned for the next few meetings.

I began my Cursillo Journey in 2012, Women's #34. Towards the end of my Weekend, a friend who was on the team told me to "go to School of Leaders, you will never be sorry." So, along with grouping and Ultreya, I attended SoL. Honestly, that first year I had to push myself; I was working, I barely knew the others, and I just wasn't sure I belonged there. But I persevered, and toward the end of my first year I felt a strong community spirit of friendship and sharing, which helped me get more involved in the Belleville Cursillo Movement, and I've never been sorry, but I have been blessed.

Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Because of COVID-19, the April and May meetings were cancelled, but in June we resumed meeting virtually, via Zoom. SoL will continue to meet via Zoom for the foreseeable future as a trouble-free approach for those who would travel a distance, or those who are continuing to shelter at home. Zoom offers attendees two options, join online or join by phone. Please watch for an email through Prayer Requests around July 7 with meeting information and Zoom details.

In June, a new meeting segment was introduced, *Cursillo Technique Presentation and Discussion*. For this segment, one of our Fourth Day presents a Cursillo technique. Then the group discusses and asks questions to learn and understand more about it. As the Belleville Diocesan Cursillo is preparing for the October Weekends, the technique presentations for June through September are focused on Weekend practices from the recently introduced *Step by Step Guide*.

June 9 – *Corridor Work* presented by Kent Jeanneret

July 14 – *Weekend music; Prayers before rollos* presented by Carol Schlitt

August 11 – *Contacting candidates prior to the weekend* presented by Michelle Massey

September 8 – *The table leader, table head, and table secretary* presented by John Charlton

So, if you were never asked to be part of the Belleville School of Leaders, as your friend I'm telling you, "go to School of Leaders, you will never be sorry."

Peace, love, and joy,

Margie Reaka

School of Leaders Chairperson

School of

L – Live for Christ

E – Evangelize for Christ

A – Adore Christ

D – Disciples of Christ

E – Eucharistic love of Christ

R – Receivers of Christ

S – Students of Christ

<p><u>LOOKING FOR A FRIENDSHIP GROUP REUNION?</u></p>
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Belleville Area Friendship Group Reunions

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 1st and 3rd 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

DuQuoin Area Friendship Group Reunions

Men's Friendship Group / Tree of Life / Meets at Haeffner Hall Du Quoin at 8:00 AM on the last Saturday of the month: Contact David Martin (618) 318-3183

Men's Friendship Group / Halom / Meets at Haeffner Hall Du Quoin at 8:00 AM on the last Saturday of the month: Contact Tony Kellerman (618) 318-0094

Women's Friendship Group / JOY (Jesus, Others, You) / Meets at Sacred Heart School Du Quoin at 6:00 PM on the 2nd Tuesday of the month: Contact Kathy Krisfaluzny (618) 318-0128

Women's Friendship Group / Mother Theresa / Meets at Haeffner Hall Du Quoin at 12:15 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of the month: Contact Kay Baker (618) 571-0515

Women's Friendship Group / Saint Elizabeth Anne Seton / Meets monthly at 1:00 PM at member's homes: Contact Marie Schimanski (815) 978-9419 for date and place

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). 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

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. We are allowed one mass distribution email per day. (Note that any prayer requests sent to 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

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 Margie Reaka (618) 581-7355.

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 Lawrence "Rock" Verrochi, (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 a.m. Mass. Contact Ann Haubrich (618) 475-2006.

Friendship Groupings

Belleville Cursillo creates a list of all the Friendship Groupings in our diocese to make available to Cursillistas and the sponsors of new Cursillistas. If you are part of a Friendship Group, please send to Kent Jeanneret at jeannerk@charter.net the following information: name of Friendship Group, meeting times, contact information, and location.

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS

Deacon Wayne Weiler, Spiritual Director

206 Papillon Dr., Swansea, IL 62226; (618) 277-3824; wlweiler@gmail.com

Deacon Ron Tiberi, Assistant Spiritual Director

1201 Lebanon Ave., Belleville, IL 62221; (618) 233-3500; rjtiberi@gmail.com

Robert McCormack, Lay Director

3000 Lebanon Ave., Belleville, IL 62221; (618) 277-3709; McCormack3000@gmail.com

Margie Reaka, School of Leaders / Prayer Requests

308 Lake Pointe Court, Freeburg, IL 62243; (618) 581-7355; margiereaka@gmail.com

Cheryl Rajski, Precursillo

305 E. Meadow Brook Dr., Freeburg, IL 62243; (618) 334-0135; cedete@charter.net

Terry Kostel, Cursillo

2607 Lebanon Ave., Belleville, IL (618) 234-8010; kostel_t@charter.net

John Charlton, Postcursillo

3291 Sugar Lake Drive, Freeburg, IL 62243; (402) 578-5198; charltonba23@gmail.com

Nancy Myerscough, Secretary

4501 Elk Meadows Lane, Smithton, IL (618) 235-6309; mrmrsm64@sbcglobal.net

Anna Feurer, Treasurer

1200 Cinnamon, Freeburg, IL 62243; (618) 779-1388; annafeurer56@gmail.com

SECRETARIAT AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Gail Kostel, Publicity

2607 Lebanon Ave., Belleville, IL (618) 234-8010; tgk1030@yahoo.com

Karen Davidson, Palanca

5447 Robert Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109; (618) 670-8383; kraul16@yahoo.com

Kent Jeanneret, Newsletter / Cursillo Roster

117 Joan Dr., New Baden, IL 62265; (618) 531-8855; jeannerk@charter.net

Garry Range, Website

4013 Sassafras Lane, Belleville, IL 62221; (618) 401-9677; g.range@charter.net

Sean Nolan, Prayer Requests

219 Kristina Ct., Mascoutah, IL 62258; (618) 972-5063; sean.nolan@yahoo.com

Paula Sobol, Prayer Requests

1433 Christina Dr., Belleville, IL 62226; (484) 574-3272; psobol07@aol.com