

**CURSILLO NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE**



**THE EVANGELIZER**



**April 2024**

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

**FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR DEACON WAYNE WEILER**

*He said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature."  
(Mark 16:15)*

De Colores Everybody! I hope for you all that these days of Eastertide have been fruitful times of prayer and reflection on the joys of living in the presence of our Risen Lord!

Our time moves quickly from Easter Sunday through the Glorious Ascension of Jesus to the Coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. And so it is, in just a few short days we will marvel again at Jesus going back to His Father, with the words of the great commission, to go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature - a very simple command. But in our complicated world this command may often seem not so simple. It is clouded by so many distractions the world throws our way. How do we proclaim the gospel to those who could care less, to those who never knew or have forgotten His message of love, to those who think they don't need His message, who feel they have no need for a savior? It is perplexing and downright discouraging to watch the apathy some people have toward our beautiful Catholic faith.

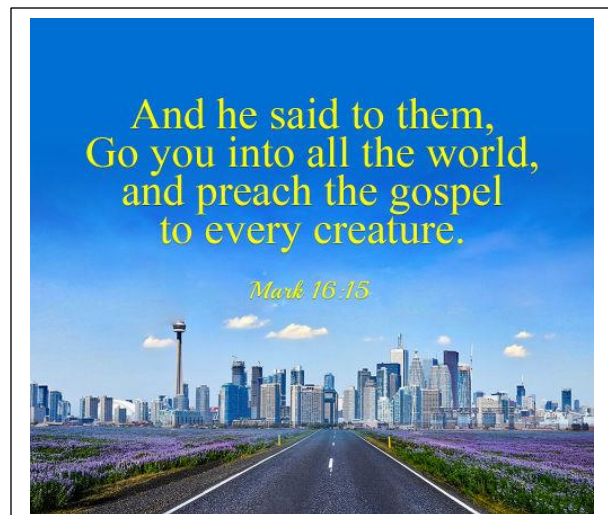
But fear not... these are the friends Christ asks us to encounter, these are the friends to be made. These are the friends we are challenged to bring back to or introduce again to Christ. "Make a friend, be a friend, bring your friend to Christ" are words we all know well. These are not empty words; they are more than just the words of our Cursillo charter. If we study these tried-and-true words more closely, can't we hear Jesus' commission to us as well, to go and announce the gospel wherever we find ourselves? Our words do matter, but our deeds and actions, and above all our witness to Jesus, will shine brighter than anything the world has to offer.

May the Holy Spirit continue to be our help to live by this great and ever enduring commission.

Come Holy Spirit, Come!

Blessed Pentecost Sunday to you all,

Deacon Wayne



**FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR MARGIE REAKA**

A very warm welcome to the 14 men who started their Cursillo journey in February. We are so blessed that you said yes to the call and look forward to sharing your 4<sup>th</sup> Day journey.

And special thanks to the team, to the angels who helped in the background, and to all those who took part in our prayer vigil – 153 Fourth Day kept a continuous 73-hour prayer vigil! As we are told in Ephesians 6:11, “*Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil.*” The devil tried over and over to spoil Men’s Weekend #40, but through our prayers and sacrifices, the Weekend was amazing.

We ask now for prayers for Women’s #45 – for both the team and for the women who are considering a Cursillo Weekend. May all be showered with the gifts of the Holy Spirit during the next few months.

**The Eucharistic Pilgrimage - Emmaus Days**

*“I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.”* John 6:51

In anticipation of the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, four separate pilgrim delegations will begin on Pentecost - one in Connecticut, one in Minnesota, one in Texas, and one in California. All will converge in Indianapolis on July 17 to begin the National Eucharistic Revival. We are delighted that the pilgrimage starting in San Francisco, California (the Junipero Serra Route, shown in red), will make a stop in the Belleville Diocese. Bishop McGovern has declared these will be our **Emmaus Days** and has asked Deacon Corby Valentine to chair this once-in-a-lifetime event that will be held at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows on July 7 and 8.



At our Grand Ultreya/Reunion, held April 20 at St. Teresa in Belleville, Deacon Corby and Nancy Nuernberger shared information about the Eucharistic Pilgrimage. For those who were unable to attend the Grand Ultreya we want to be sure you have the details.

The Eucharistic Celebration will begin at the Shrine on July 7 at 3:00 PM. Enjoy activities at the Visitors Center which includes music by Steve Angrisano, tour the Shrine, visit the Children’s Art Display at the Millennium Spire, and enjoy a picnic lunch you bring or check out the food trucks. There will be reconciliation available throughout the afternoon. Catholics participating in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage can have the opportunity to receive plenary indulgences.

At 5:00 PM we will gather at the Visitor’s Center as we anticipate the arrival of the Eucharistic Pilgrimage Delegation (10 people - priests, seminarians, and lay) who have been with our Eucharistic Lord throughout the entire trip.

At 6:00 PM join the Solemn Eucharist Procession through The Way of the Cross devotional site.

At 7:00 PM an Adoration Service at the amphitheater will be held with music, witness, and quiet prayer time.

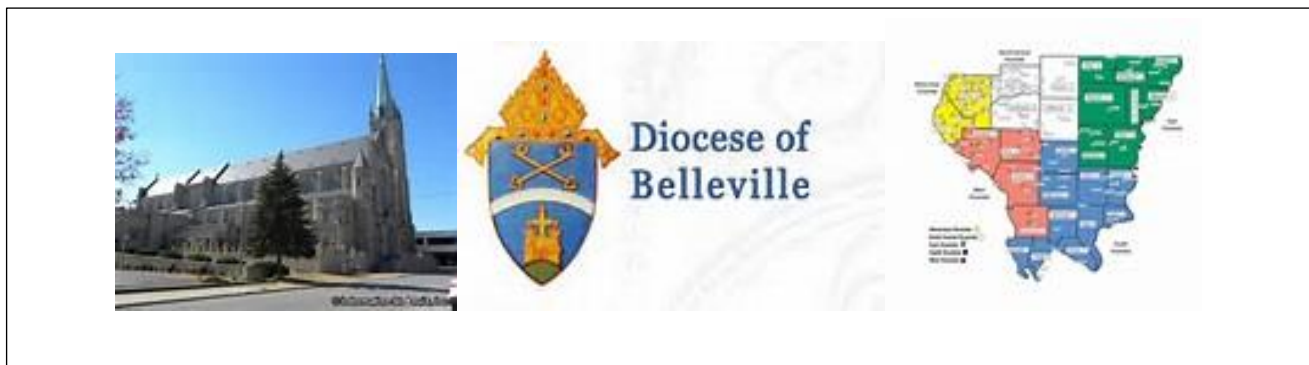
At 8:30 PM we will join the Candlelight Procession. There will be Eucharistic Adoration throughout the night at the Christ the King Chapel.

Because of this extraordinary event, Secretariat agreed that all Cursillistas will be encouraged to attend in lieu of a Spiritual Day of Recollection. Please wear your Cursillo Cross. Come for the day or any part of the day. Bring backpacks, comfortable shoes, umbrellas, picnic lunch, and water bottles, if desired.

There will be many opportunities for the Fourth Day Cursillistas to help during the pilgrimage. While details were not available at the time *The Evangelizer* was published, if you would like to help for a part of the day, please contact me at [laydirector@bellevillecursillo.org](mailto:laydirector@bellevillecursillo.org) or 618-581-7355. I look forward to seeing you there.

Peace, love, and joy,

Margie Reaka  
Lay Director/Diocesan Cursillo Coordinator



**PRECURSILLO DEBBIE BLUME**

*“Make a friend, be a friend, bring your friend to Christ.”* The Cursillo mission!

We completed Men’s Weekend #40 for this year. We are working on dates for Men’s Weekend #41. Please pray for the new men’s team that will be forming as well as potential candidates and sponsors for the next Men’s Weekend.

Women’s Weekend #45 is fast approaching! The Women’s Weekend will be held at King’s House at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. The Weekend will begin August 1 and conclude on August 4, 2024. Deadline for applications will be July 18, 2024.

Please pray for the women's team that is forming now. Pray for the Secretariat and School of Leaders and pray for any potential sponsors and candidates. Pray for all our Fourth day, that they continue to grow in faith.

The Cursillo Sponsor Letter and Candidate Application can be found at [www.bellevillecursillo.org](http://www.bellevillecursillo.org). Please submit completed forms with deposit to the Precursillo Chairperson.

If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Blume, Precursillo Chairperson, at 618-806-6951 or [precursillo@bellevillecursillo.org](mailto:precursillo@bellevillecursillo.org).

St. Paul, Patron of Cursillo, pray for us.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, pray for us.

De Colores!

Debbie Blume



#### **POSTCURSILLO LINDA BAGSBY**

The 2024 Spring Grand Ultreya/Reunion was held on Saturday, April 20, at St. Teresa, Belleville. Nearly 50 Cursillistas attended and gave a warm welcome to our newest Cursillistas from Men's #40. It was a wonderful morning of sharing, friendship, listening to our Fourth Day witness, and learning more about the Eucharistic Pilgrimage stopping at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. A huge thank you to St. Teresa Cursillistas for hosting, to our witness speaker, Steve Schaefer, to Deacon Wayne Weiler for his inspiration on the "Real Presence of the Eucharist," to Deacon Corby Valentine and Nancy Nuernberger for their presentation on the Eucharistic Pilgrimage, and to Nancy Myerscough, our guest facilitator.

In lieu of a Spiritual Retreat/Day of Recollection this summer, we encourage all Cursillistas and their families to participate in the Eucharistic Pilgrimage at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows on July 7.

Our next Grand Ultreya will be held in the early fall. Details will be available in the next Evangelizer and via email.

Please continue to keep the Fourth Day in your prayers, especially those who are struggling with illness and those who are providing care to the sick.

May God bless and protect you all!

Margie Reaka for Linda Bagsby



**SCHOOL OF LEADERS ANNA FEURER**

During the March and April School of Leaders meetings we continued discussing chapters in the Leaders' Manual. We begin with a Leaders Group reunion, where we share our Leaders Piety, Study, and Leaders Action (Apostolic successes and failures) in the areas of Precursillo, Cursillo, Postcursillo, or School of Leaders, along with any plans we may have in these areas.

We then reviewed the chapters on "Understanding the Conversion Process" and "Mass During the Cursillo Weekends."

Regarding the Conversion Process, one of the principles discussed is that Grace respects the nature of the person. God has given us free will, and He does not force His gift of grace upon us. We can accept or reject it. Conversion is not a simple act, and its roots may have begun on the Cursillo Weekend, before the Weekend, or afterwards on our Fourth Day. It is an ongoing journey in faith. Conversion should be understood as a process (a Metanoia) toward a dynamic union with God.

We also discussed having Mass on the Weekend and that it serves as a community builder between the team and the candidates, celebrating the Eucharist as a community. Postcursillo sometimes has special Ultreyas in the diocese. It is acceptable for Mass to be celebrated during a special Ultreya. Mass is not a part of the School of Leaders.

Please join us on the second Tuesday of each month for School of Leaders to share and learn more about the Cursillo Movement. All are welcome.

De Colores!

Anna Feurer



**UPCOMING CURSILLO EVENTS** MARGIE REAKA

**Upcoming Cursillo Events**  
*(Please print this page for quick reference)*



**2024 Belleville Diocesan Cursillo Weekends**

**Women's Weekend #45** (See [Bellevillecursillo.org](http://Bellevillecursillo.org) for applications)  
*August 1 to 4 – King's House at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows*  
Mañanitas – Meet at Visitor Parking lot at 7:00 AM on August 4  
Closing – Meet at the Visitor Parking lot at 4:30 PM on August 4

**Special Events and Ultreyas in the Belleville Diocese**

**Emmaus Days – National Eucharistic Pilgrimage**  
*July 7 starting at 3:00 PM – Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows*  
*July 8 – Mass at 10:00 AM – The Cathedral of St. Peter, Belleville*

**Cathedral Ultreya** (Second Friday of the month at 7:30 PM)  
*May 10, June 14, July 12 – Notre Dame Grade School Cafeteria (at the Cathedral)*

**St. Joseph/St. Agatha Partnership** (Last Monday of the month at 7:00 PM)  
*No Ultreya in May (Memorial Day is the last Monday)*  
*June 24 – St. Joseph Parish Center*  
*July 29 – St. Agatha Parish Center*  
If anyone is interested in starting an Ultreya at your parish or partnership  
contact Margie Reaka at [laydirector@bellevillecursillo.org](mailto:laydirector@bellevillecursillo.org)

**Meetings Belleville Diocese**

**School of Leaders** (Second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM, via Zoom)  
*May 14, June 11, July 9,*  
Link shared via email sent from School of Leaders

**Region IV and National**

**2024 National Encounter**  
*July 25-28 – Hofstra University, Long Island, New York City*  
For more information see [www.natl-cursillo.org](http://www.natl-cursillo.org)

**2024 Fall Encounter** (Diocese of Indianapolis/Lafayette, Indiana)  
*November 15 to 16 – Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, Indianapolis, Indiana*  
For information contact Margie Reaka at [laydirector@bellevillecursillo.org](mailto:laydirector@bellevillecursillo.org)

## **MEN'S WEEKEND RECTOR** KENT JEANNERET

The Diocese of Belleville Cursillo in Christianity welcomed 14 new men Cursillistas in February. We have all received abundant and amazing graces from our most gracious and loving God concerning the men.

The new Cursillistas are : **Mark Horstmann** (Sacred Heart – Du Quoin), **Deacon William Mueller** (St. James - Millstadt), **Patrick Barrett** (St. Mary Immaculate Conception - Mt. Vernon), **David Loyet** (St. Nicholas - O'Fallon), **Rickey Joe Farmer** (Sacred Heart – Du Quoin), **Pete Schumacher** (St. Mary - Trenton), **Kenneth Rehkemper** (St. Mary - Trenton), **Thomas Thompson** (Sacred Heart – Du Quoin), **Mel Gajewski** (St. Mary Immaculate Conception - Mt. Vernon), **Douglas McKinney** (St. Teresa - Belleville), **Joseph Lane** (Sacred Heart – Du Quoin), **Robert Pierpoint** (St. Joseph – Freeburg), **Gregory Crook** (St. Peter Cathedral – Belleville), **Kevin Rademacher** (St. Clare of Assisi – Shiloh).

Men's Weekend #40 was held February 15-18 at King's House Retreat Center at Our Lady of the Snows. The Men's team consisted of Kent Jeanneret, (Rector), Francisco Flores (Rector) John Charlton, (Co-Rector), Spiritual Advisors: Father Carl Schrage, Father Joseph Oganda, Deacon Wayne Weiler, and Deacon Dan Cozzi. Stewards: Marvin Winkeler and Tim Cobin. Team Leaders: John Schaberg, Mike Fietsam, and Garry Range.

The Men's Team thanks the Fourth Day for attending weekly novenas, maintaining the prayer vigil, being sponsors, driving candidates, attending closings, and keeping the team and candidates in their prayers throughout formation and the Weekend. We would also like to thank the King's House Retreat Center for welcoming us and sharing their home and chapel.

Let us give thanks, praise, glory, blessing, and adoration to our almighty God for all the benefits he has given us. We count on the Holy Spirit, which Jesus gives to us. Christ is counting on us, and we are counting on Him.

De Colores,

Kent Jeanneret, Rector  
Francisco (Fez) Flores, Rector  
John Charlton, Co-Rector

Men's Team #40



***Belleville Men's #40 Cursillo Weekend***



Front Row L-R: Rickey Joe Farmer (New Cursillista), Patrick Barrett (New Cursillista), Pete Schumacher (New Cursillista), Douglas McKinney (New Cursillista), Mel Gajewski (New Cursillista), Deacon William Mueller (New Cursillista)

Second Row L-R: Deacon Wayne Weiler (Spiritual Advisor), Thomas Thompson (New Cursillista), Joseph Lane (New Cursillista), David Loyet (New Cursillista), Kevin Rademacher (New Cursillista), Mark Horstman (New Cursillista), Kenneth Rehkemper (New Cursillista), Father Carl Schrage (Spiritual Advisor)

Third Row L-R: Francisco Flores (Rector), Father Joseph Oganda (Spiritual Advisor), Robert Pierpoint (New Cursillista), Mike Fietsam (Team Leader), Marvin Winkeler (Team Leader), John Schaberg (Team Leader), Gregory Cook (New Cursillista), Garry Range (Team Leader), Deacon Dan Cozzi (Spiritual Advisor), Tim Cobin (Steward), John Charlton (Co-Rector)



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

**Men & Women's Friendship Group** / Meets each Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM via Zoom except during week of Ultreya: Contact Kent Jeanneret, (618) 531-8855; jeannerk@charter.net

**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 Janice and David Bassler's house in Swansea at 1:00 PM on the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Contact Janice Bassler, 618-207-0882; jan-bass@hotmail.com

**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

**Mount Vernon Area Friendship Group Reunions**

**Women's Friendship Group:** Meets at St. Mary Immaculate Conception Church, 1500 N. Main St, Mount Vernon at 4:30 PM, Mondays: Contact Susan Cunningham, 618-214-4604

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](mailto:jeannerk@charter.net).

## PRAYER REQUESTS BY EMAIL

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

**[Prayersrequested@bellevillecursillo.org](mailto:Prayersrequested@bellevillecursillo.org)**

[Prayersrequested@bellevillecursillo.org](mailto:Prayersrequested@bellevillecursillo.org) 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. 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. via Zoom (watch for announcement in Prayer Requested emails). Contact Anna Feurer (618) 779-1388.

### Ultreyas

**Belleville Area:** Monthly on the second Friday (unless otherwise noted) at 7:30 p.m. at Notre Dame Academy cafeteria. Contact Lawrence "Rock" Verrochi, (618) 581-7705.

**St. Agatha, New Athens/St. Joseph, Freeburg:** Monthly on the last Monday at 7:00 p.m. August 28th at St. Joseph, September 25th at St. Agatha, October 30th at St. Joseph.

**Sacred Heart Church Du Quoin** Contact Kelly Paxton 618-927-5415 or Marie Schimanski 815-978-9419

### 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](mailto:jeannerk@charter.net) the following information: name of Friendship Group, meeting times, contact information, and location.

## SECRETARIAT MEMBERS

Deacon Wayne Weiler, Spiritual Director  
(618) 277-3824; [wlweiler@gmail.com](mailto:wlweiler@gmail.com)

Margie Reaka, Lay Director  
(618)-581-7355; [margiereaka@gmail.com](mailto:margiereaka@gmail.com)

Anna Feurer, School of Leaders / Prayer Requests  
(618) 779-1388; [annafeurer56@gmail.com](mailto:annafeurer56@gmail.com)

Debie Blume, Precursillo  
(618)-806-6951; [deblu@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deblu@sbcglobal.net)

John Schaberg, Cursillo  
(618) 420-2670; [johnschaberg@gmail.com](mailto:johnschaberg@gmail.com)

Linda Bagsby, Postcursillo  
(618)-960-1023; [lbagsby@gmail.com](mailto:lbagsby@gmail.com)

Michelle Massey, Secretary  
(636)-288-6784; [michelle.caito@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.caito@gmail.com)

Nancy Myerscough, Treasurer  
(618)-830-6322; [mrmrsm64@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrmrsm64@sbcglobal.net)

## SECRETARIAT AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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(618) 234-8010; [tgk1030@yahoo.com](mailto:tgk1030@yahoo.com)

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Kent Jeanneret, Evangelizer Newsletter / Cursillo Roster  
(618) 531-8855; [jeannerk@charter.net](mailto:jeannerk@charter.net)

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62864; (618)-204-0167; [patbutler007@gmail.com](mailto:patbutler007@gmail.com)