

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

**THE EVANGELIZER****July-August 2024****Website: www.BellevilleCursillo.org****FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR DEACON WAYNE WEILER**

“Behold, I make all things new.” (Revelation 21:5)

De Colores Everybody! I hope that these hot days of summer and Ordinary Time are times of prayer and reflection, but also a time for some relaxation and enjoyment with family and friends. We should all be excited for our new Cursillistas from the Women’s Weekend #45 and the Men’s Weekend #40, earlier this year. This is indeed new life for the Cursillo Movement in our diocese. We are proud of them all and the teams who sacrificed so much of their time to make the Weekends happen.

Can we not hear these words of scripture from the Book of Revelation as a call for optimism, a call for hope, and as a sign of assurance that God is with us in all things, at all times? He makes all things new!

From time to time, we may all be subject to the tendency and the temptation to be drawn into the negativity of our time and space - such is our fallen nature. These are the times when our faith is tested, and our beliefs are challenged.

But think, for a moment, of the “newness” that comes with every encounter with Christ. In His sacraments, in His Word shared, in our charity and works of mercy, and in our prayers, by God’s grace we see our faith, and the world around us, through new eyes. These encounters with Christ ought to enable a fresh start, a new look at ourselves, toward others, and toward His Church. He makes all things new!

By their own heartfelt witness, the women and men of these recent Cursillo Weekends are seeing their faith through a new lens. And all of us, as the Fourth Day Community, are encouraged by and excited for their renewed walk with Christ. With each Cursillo Weekend we experience, we have the opportunity to understand more fully how God calls us to refresh ourselves in His Son’s compassion and rest in His loving embrace. In that embrace we are again made new!

Continued Blessings!

Deacon Wayne Weiler

Spiritual Advisor, Diocese of Belleville



FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR MARGIE REAKA

A very warm welcome to the 16 women who started their Cursillo journey in August. We are blessed that you said “yes” to the call and look forward to sharing your Fourth Day journey. And special thanks to the sponsors, the team, to the angels who helped in the background, and to all those who took part in our prayer vigil - there were 278 hours of prayers by our Fourth Day, an average of four people praying each hour, keeping a continuous 72-hour prayer vigil!

We are so blessed to have such an active Fourth Day in our Belleville Cursillo Community that help make our Weekends successful. Many of you may not realize that, in addition to the team, typically made up of 10 lay people and three religious, nearly 50 other volunteers are involved. This includes our Secretariat, the sponsors, two Thursday dinner angels, 20+ angels who make calls to fill the prayer vigil, two angels and two musicians for Mañanitas, and at least 10 angels who set up/clean up the Closing Dinner. Reflecting on 1Peter 4:10, *As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.* Our Cursillo Community has “good stewards” of God’s grace!

We are already beginning to prepare for the 2025 Cursillo Weekends. The Men’s Weekend will be held at the King’s House at Our Lady of the Snows, February 13 - 16, 2025. The date for the Women’s Weekend is still being finalized as of this printing. Please check BellevilleCursillo.org for the latest information.

A special thank you to Linda Bagsby, who served the past three years as Postcursillo Chairperson. And a warm welcome to Karen Davidson, who will serve the next three years.

The Secretariat also welcomes Francisco (Fez) Flores, who will share responsibilities of the Cursillo Chairperson while he mentors with John Schaberg. Thank you, John, for extending your term.

Thank you, John, Karen, Fez, the teams, sponsors, and all of the angels for your willingness to accept the call to serve!

Peace, love, and joy,

Margie Reaka

Lay Director/Diocesan Cursillo Coordinator



PRECURSILLO DEBBIE BLUME

The women just completed their Weekend, #45, which was held August 1 - 4, 2024, at King's House at Our Lady of the Snows.

The team met every other weekend beginning in May to prepare for the Cursillo Weekend. Novenas were held at: St. Mary's - Mt Vernon, St. Peter's Cathedral - Belleville, Sacred Heart - DuQuoin, and St. Ann's - Nashville. The team dedication was also held at St. Ann's on July 27.

We would like to thank all those who came to pray for the team and new candidates!

Sixteen women made the Cursillo Weekend:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Town</u>
Barbara Williamson	St. Frances Xavier	Carbondale
Theresa Golden	Our Lady of Mt Carmel	Herrin
Doris Roach	St. Teresa	Belleville
Sharon Utterback	St. Teresa	Belleville
Sandy Ferrante	St. Teresa	Belleville
Tammy Grime	St. Teresa	Belleville
Vicky Dunn	St. Teresa	Belleville
Susan Evers	St. Luke	Belleville
Anna Eichhorn	Sacred Heart	DuQuoin
Cyrilla Prusacki	Sacred Heart	DuQuoin
Pamela Loiacono	Sacred Heart	DuQuoin
Sandy Ferrero	St. Bruno	Pinckneyville
Jean Reinneck	St. Joseph	Freeburg
Amy Mueth	St. Joseph	Freeburg
Christine Reyling	St. John	Smithton
Diane Sciuto	St. John	Smithton

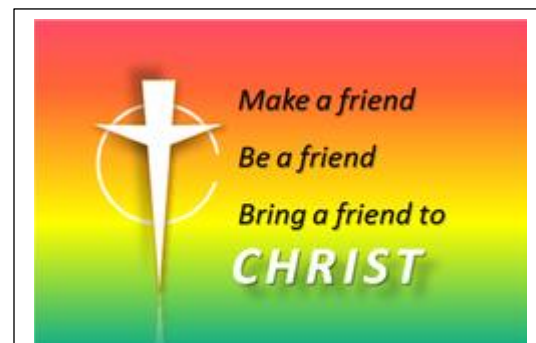
Thank you to the sponsors and the candidates. You all truly live by the Cursillo motto, "Make a friend, Be a friend, Bring a friend to Christ!"

The next Men's Cursillo Weekend will be held at King's House at Our Lady of the Snows on February 13-16, 2025. The next Women's Weekend will be announced soon.

You can find the applications on the Belleville Cursillo website at bellevillecursillo.org or contact me at precursillo@bellevillecursillo.org.

De Colores!

Debbie Blume
Precursillo



CURSILLO COMMITTEE JOHN SCHABERG / FEZ FRANCISCO

Dear Fourth Day Community:

The Women's Weekend at King's House at Our Lady of the Snows was awesome, and this Committee owes a huge THANK YOU to all the angels who organized and helped with the Prayer Calls, Thursday evening, Mañanitas, Closing, and Potluck supper! I understand that the Fourth Day Cursillistas prayed every hour (approximately four per hour during the 72 hours) for the success of the Weekend.

We are looking forward to the Men's Weekend on February 13 - 16, 2025, at King's House at Our Lady of the Snows. The team is forming, and we are praying for new Cursillistas to join us in our journey.

We always ask about our moment closest to Christ, or when we were most aware of Him working in our lives. I had a close moment just this morning! I was reading The Magnificat's daily "Saint Who?" about Saint Roseline. Once, when she was a novice, she was so wrapped up in prayer that she forgot to prepare the meal for her companions at the monastery. *"When they arrived, she begged forgiveness, and angels appeared to set the table and bring the meal."* At that moment, reading that passage, I felt really, really close to Christ and the Holy Spirit, who inspired me with the topic for this article. I mean, it feels like that sentence was written for the Cursillo Committee!

If YOU would like to be an angel to "set the table and bring the meal," here is your opportunity to earn your wings! We are trying to line up a standing sub-committee of angels to make the Prayer phone calls for upcoming Weekends. It would be a true joy to have a "standing" (or hovering?) group of angels ready to go for the Weekends, instead of having to recruit them for each and every Weekend down the road. Each angel would make a few phone calls or emails to the Fourth Day in their parish or community, with a script and sign-up details for the Palanca, and find out who is planning to attend the Mañanitas and Closing. We will also need angels to actually "set the table" for Thursday evenings and Sundays after Closing.

If you are feeling a call to serve in any of those roles (vocations?), please let us know. Of course, this is not a contractual obligation and has no permanent term of service, it's just as long as you feel the calling, or whenever you are available. It will save a lot of time and anxiety, however, to know that angels are standing by, ready to hit the phones when needed.

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
Chair, Cursillo Committee



POSTCURSILLO KAREN DAVIDSON

Greetings Fourth Day!

In July of 2024 I accepted the position as Postcursillo Chair. I am very excited to serve on this Committee so that we can keep the Cursillo Movement alive and growing.

The first event I'm planning is the Women's #45 Reunion/Grand Ultreya to be held on Saturday, September 28. This event will take place at St. Agatha's Parish Center in New Athens and will begin at 10:00 a.m. We will begin with friendship grouping, then a Fourth Day speaker will give their witness (witness speaker TBA), and we will end with lunch. It will probably conclude around 1:00 p.m. More details will be sent through the Prayer Request.

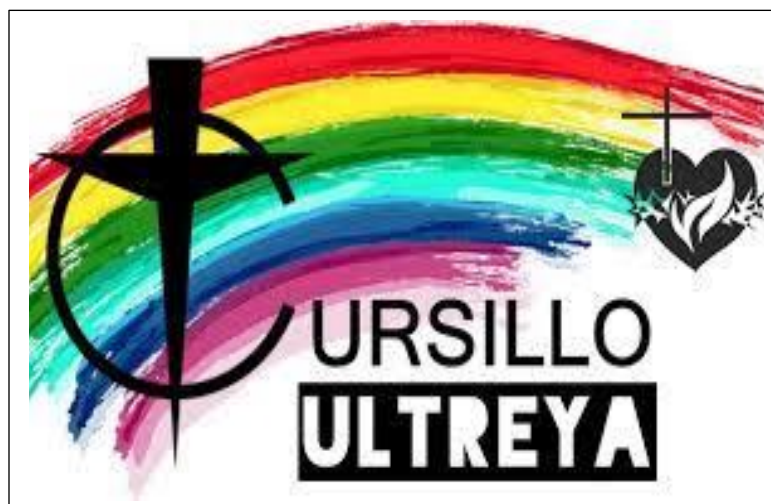
Come and meet the sixteen wonderful women who attended the Women's #45 Weekend on August 1 - 4, 2024. It was an amazing Weekend, and I know these women grew in their relationship with Our Lord. It always fills my heart with so much joy to meet our new Fourth Day members and to gather with all those who have made their Cursillo Weekend to see how they are doing on their journey. Hope to see you all on September 28.

Please keep me in your prayers so I can serve on this Postcursillo Committee to the best of my ability. I'm sure I'll be reaching out to some of you to help me make this Reunion/Grand Ultreya a huge success.

Love, Joy, Peace,

Karen Davidson

Postcursillo



SCHOOL OF LEADERS ANNA FEURER

At our monthly School of Leaders meeting, we are discussing the Leader's Prayer that we pray at all our meetings and formations. We decided to take each paragraph and dig deeper into the meaning of this beautiful and important prayer for the Cursillo Movement.

The first paragraph begins:

“Lord, grant that we may understand the necessity for depth in our movement, rather than surface glory. Convince us of the truth that colorful programs do not constitute success.”

In our discussion, we felt that the prayer was asking the Holy Spirit to grant us wisdom and the charism for the Cursillo Movement; to grant us individual growth and humility for all areas of the Cursillo Movement; and asking his guidance and help to be “Christ” centered and not just “me” centered in our faith.

The Leader's prayer is asking for the truth, so that we understand that we do not need ornaments that may look beautiful to evangelize for Christ. We will continue with discussion on this prayer with the second paragraph at the next School of Leaders meeting.

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

De Colores!

Anna Feurer

School of Leaders Chair



School of Leaders

• Make a Friend. Be a Friend. Bring a Friend to Christ.

UPCOMING CURSILLO EVENTS MARGIE REAKA

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



2025 Belleville Diocesan Cursillo Weekends

Men's Weekend #41 (Application will be available in October)

February 13-16 – King's House at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows

Women's Weekend #46 (Application will be available in October)

Date and location tbd

Ultreyas in the Belleville Diocese

Grand Ultreya/Reunion for Women's #45

September 28 – St. Agatha Parish Center, New Athens (10am)

St. Joseph/St. Agatha Partnership (Last Monday of the month at 7:00pm)

August 26 – St. Joseph Parish Center

September 30 – St. Agatha Parish Center

October 29 – St. Joseph Parish Center

Cathedral Ultreya

Postponed, please watch for updates

If anyone is interested in starting an Ultreya at your parish or partnership contact Margie Reaka at laydirector@bellevillecursillo.org

Meetings Belleville Diocese

School of Leaders (2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm, via Zoom)

September 19, October 8

Zoom Link shared via email sent from Schoolofleaders@bellevillecursillo.org

Region IV and National

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

WOMEN'S WEEKEND Rectora MICHELLE MASSEY

The Diocese of Belleville's Women's Cursillo Weekend #45 took place August 1 - 4, 2024, at King's House at Our Lady of the Snows. Sixteen women spent three days encountering themselves, Christ, and others, making many new friends along the way. The Holy Spirit was truly present in our discussions, learning, and laughter.

The new Cursillistas are: **Vicky Dunn** (St. Teresa-Belleville), **Anna Eichhorn** (Sacred Heart-DuQuoin), **Susan Evers** (St. Luke-Belleville), **Sandy Ferrante** (St. Teresa- Belleville), **Sandy Ferrero** (St. Bruno-Pinckneyville), **Teresa Golden** (Our Lady of Mt. Carmel-Herrin), **Tammy Grime** (St. Teresa-Belleville), **Pamela Loiacono** (Sacred Heart-DuQuoin), **Amy Mueth** (St. Joseph-Freeburg), **Cyrilla Prusacki** (Sacred Heart-DuQuoin), **Jean Reinneck** (St. Joseph-Freeburg), **Christine Reyling** (St. John-Smithton), **Doris Roach** (St. Teresa-Belleville), **Diane Sciuto** (St. John-Smithton), **Sharon Utterback** (St. Teresa-Belleville), and **Barbara Williamson** (St. Francis Xavier-Carbondale).

The team consisted of Michelle Massey (Rectora), Jamie Schrader (Assistant Rectora); Spiritual Advisors: Fr. Joseph Oganda, Deacon Jim Law, and Deacon Corby Valentine; Stewards: Karen Davidson, Marlene Rodriguez, and Beth Schrader; Table Leaders: Anna Feurer, Kim Cooper, Cheryl Rajski, Nancy Myerscough, Beth Thompson, and Debbie Blume.

We would like to thank the Fourth Day for attending holy hours in preparation for the Weekend, and those who prayed from Thursday through Sunday for our new Cursillistas. Sponsors, thank you for guiding these new Cursillistas to the Weekend and thanks to those who drove them to the Cathedral on Thursday. The fellowship that begins there is instrumental to the tone of the Weekend. Thank you also to our angels for their help with Thursday dinner, Mañanitas, and the Closing. The outpouring of love from the Fourth Day at the Closing is always so impactful for our new Cursillistas. Thank you for being there! We also would like to thank our hosts at King's House at Our Lady of the Snows; their facilities and hospitality were truly wonderful.

Fourth Day, our job is not over! We pray that you continue to guide these new sisters in Christ to Group Reunion and Ultreya to remain in the friendship of this wonderful Community and in the friendship of Christ. Christ is counting on us!

De Colores!

Michelle Massey

Women's #45 Rectora

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COLORES!



WELCOME
NEW
CURSILLISTAS!

LOOKING FOR A FRIENDSHIP GROUP REUNION?

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 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 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.

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

NOTE: Prayersrequested@bellevillecursillo.org is read late each day. All prayer requests from this email address are gathered into one email and sent via Cursilloroster <cursilloroster-bounces@bellevillecursillo.org>. We are allowed one mass distribution email per day. (Note that any prayer requests sent to any other address 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 dates 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: Postponed, please watch for updates

St. Agatha, New Athens/St. Joseph, Freeburg: Monthly on the last Monday at 7 p.m. August 26th at St. Joseph, September 30th at St. Agatha, October 28th 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 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

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

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

Debbie Blume, Precursillo
(618) 806-6951; deblu@sbcglobal.net

John Schaberg, Co-Cursillo Chair
(618) 420-2670; johnschaberg@gmail.com

Francisco "Fez" Flores, Co-Cursillo Chair
(843) 553-7077; faflores1@hotmail.com

Karen Davidson, Post Cursillo
(618) 670-8383; kraul16@yahoo.com

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

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

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Amy Mannino, Prayer Requests
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Pat Butler, Prayer Requests
62864; (618)-204-0167; patbutler007@gmail.com