

The FOURTH DAY



Volume 28, No. 2

CURSILLO PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD, IL

February 2006

Cursillo #235: March 9-12, 2006

Theme and Song: "Companions on the Journey"

Rector: Rob Casagrande

De Colores Brothers & Sisters,

It is an awesome honor and a humbling experience to become a Rector. The time seems to be flying by. I would like to thank everyone for your prayers and palanca that has been offered up for the success of Cursillo #235. We are very grateful!

Our theme for the weekend is "Companions on the Journey." Our scripture reading comes from I John: 4-21, "The command that Christ gives us is this, whoever loves God must love his brother also."

God has blessed us with an awesome bunch of guys. The team members for Cursillo #235 are: **Spiritual Director:** Fr. John Stack, Clinton, IA (Obstacles to Grace, Sat. 4:15 p.m.); **Assistant Spiritual Directors:** Fr. John Beveridge, Collinsville, IL (Grace, Fri. 11:15 a.m.); Msgr. Mike Kuse, Quincy (Holy Spirit/Divine Aid, Fri. 3:30 p.m.); Fr. George Kramer, Bonnets Mill, MO (Sacraments, Sat. 10:00 a.m.); and Deacon Bill Gray, Hamilton, IL (Christian Life, Sun. 10:00 a.m.).

Assistant Rectors are: Scott Fischer, Staunton, IL (Environment, Sun. 9:00 a.m.); Gerry Smith, Bethalto, IL (Action, Sat. 3:00 p.m.); and Ron Taylor, Wildwood, MO (Piety, Fri. 7 p.m.).

Rollistas are: David Steele, White Hall, IL (Laity, Fri. 1:30 p.m.); Michael Ludvigsen, Jacksonville, IL (Study, Sat. 9:00 a.m.); Mike Carter, (Ideals, Fri. 10 a.m.); Damian McDonald, (CCIA, Sun. 11:30 a.m.); and Mark Wiewel, (Leaders, Sat. 7:00 p.m.) all of Quincy.

Auxiliaries are: Jim Aschemann, Russell Doellman, Eric Peters, and Jim Wiskirchen of Quincy; Mike May and Thomas Meehan IV, Jacksonville, IL; Glenn Crawford, Washington, MO; Scott Gough, Shelbina, MO; and Christopher Menemeyer, Troy, MO.

Musicians are: Bob Carney, Jacksonville, IL and B.J. Menne, Troy, MO. The **Sacristan** is Joe Hedley, Wildwood, MO and **Observer** is Doug Many, Quincy. **Board Rep** is John Peterson, Alexandria, IL.

Service Team: Harold Hall, Monroe City, MO; Bob Street, Whiteside, MO; John Runge, Keokuk, IA; and John Wagner, Davenport, IA. **Food Service Team** are Jerry Eberhardt, Quincy and Thomas Meehan III, Roodhouse, IL. Wendy Casagrande, Foley, MO (A Woman Speaks Her Mind, Sun. 3 p.m.). and **Rector**, Rob Casagrande, St. Peters (Group Reunion, 12:35 p.m.).

Please join us at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 5th for our Buddy Mass. It will be held at Holy Family Church in Hannibal. A carry-in dinner will follow.

Thank you for your love and support,
Rob Casagrande, Rector 235

BOARD MEETING DATE CHANGE

In order to have Fr. Tom Henseler, our Spiritual Director, with us at our Cursillo Board meetings, we need to change the day they are held. Effective with the April meeting they will be held on the 3rd Thursday of the month instead of the 4th Thursday, unless there is an interfering activity such as a holiday or Cursillo weekend. Please watch for the date listed in this newsletter.

Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings and we particularly encourage the Area Reps to attend.



SERVE MEALS

To volunteer to serve meals for Cursillo #235 please call:
Jerry Eberhardt 217-222-5333 or
Tom Meehan 217-589-4673

UPCOMING EVENTS

BUDDY MASS

Men's Cursillo #235

March 5, 2006 at 3 p.m.
Holy Family Parish, Hannibal, MO
Carry-in dinner to follow

Women's Cursillo #236

April 23, 2006 at 2 p.m.
St. Peter's Church, Quincy, IL
Carry-in dinner to follow

MEN'S CURSILLO #235

March 9th (Thursday)

7:30 p.m. Registration
8:30 p.m. Sponsors Hour

March 11th (Saturday)

8:00 p.m. Liturgy and Apostolic Hour

March 12th (Sunday)

5:00 p.m. Closing

FOURTH DAY RENEWAL

March 24-25th

7 p.m. Friday to 7:30 p.m. Saturday
Franciscan Retreat Center

ULTREYAS

Saturday, February 11th

Lincoln/St. Charles County Ultreya
St. Alphonsus Parish, Millwood/Silex, MO
Ultreya follows 6 p.m. Mass

Sunday, February 12th at 7 p.m.

Hannibal Area Ultreya
Holy Family Church, Hannibal, MO

Saturday, February 25th

Collinsville Community Ultreya
Follows 4:30 p.m. Mass
Morris Hall, Sts. Peter & Paul Parish
Call Dr. Jim Hill 618-344-7985
Carry-in and program to follow

Saturday, March 18th

Lincoln/St. Charles County Ultreya
Sacred Heart Parish, Troy, MO
Ultreya follows 5 p.m. Mass

From the Lay Director's Notebook

Last month I quoted from St. Paul's 2nd letter to Timothy in which he states, "I have fought the good fight, I have kept the faith, I have finished the race." Since then I have been noting several things that lead me to wonder if the race is over or if our people have stopped running. Among those things are; the lack of candidates for weekends, the lack of people who are willing to advance into leadership roles, such as a rollista or Rector/Rectora, and the difficulty in filling the palanca chart for the weekends.

Why is it that we have a constant struggle this season ('05/'06) to get enough candidates to fill a weekend? It leads me to wonder if Cursillo in this area has fulfilled its usefulness, is it time to discontinue the weekends, have we run out of people to tap for candidates? Or is it that the easy candidates have all, so to speak, been harvested? Perhaps it is the cost and that could be a reason but not an insurmountable one. Is it that we experienced Cursillistas are not stepping outside of our comfort zones to approach others to attend the weekend? Is it that we have moved away from the Cursillo call to "Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ"?

Perhaps we are being affected by the fact that most of our communities are not growing and we really have gotten all of the available people into Cursillo already.

I think it is worthy to note that last year in January we had some 45 candidates this year it was only 20 and of course this then affects the number for February too. I really don't know the reasons for our decline in numbers but it has also been reflected in the number of people present for candlelight (although the candlelight this January and February was bigger than it has been for several months) and closings.

I ask you all to pray about these matters and let us hear from you. I can't bring myself to believe it is because we have stopped running. Contact a board member or your area representative or me. We need your input on the candidate situation.

I also ask you to pray for those who are eligible to move on to higher leadership roles as we are having trouble finding people who are open to accepting even the possibility of being called to take more responsibility. Perhaps it is time to return to eight weekends per year instead of ten.

Peace, Love and Joy through, with and in Christ.
Jim Nevins

Cursillo #234



Front row, left to right: Giny Baker, Cheryl Wagner, Naomi Egbert, Judy Cobb, Fr. John Stack, Judy Oberman, Ann O'Sullivan, Mary Peterson. **Second row:** Jane Runkles, Cathleen Koch, Katie Korte, Carol Pieper, LaVerne Reich, Cheryl Mihalevich, Amy Hoerr, Donna Campbell, Marcia Steinkamp, Sr. Mary Fran Flynn, SSND. **Third row:** Mary Kempf, Anita Witt, Shirley Walbring, Connie Hoyt, Julie Gunn, Sharon Cain, Vicki Myers, Nicole Larkin, Misti Thomas, Cheryl Lee. **Fourth row:** Janet Langhammer, Tina Schmeling, Becky Esselman, Caroline Nation, Mary Chassaniol, Paula Gough, Cindy Cramer, Kristen Shields, Mary Ruth Schneider. **Fifth row:** Pam Snider, Jessica Lynn Schinstock, Marcia Becker Van Cleave, Shirley Sangster, Corinne Stremming, Orlana Gardner, Sherri Deimeke, Monica Huffman, Jill Hooper.

Thank You From Cursillo #233

Dear Cursillo Family,

Thank you all for the prayers and palanca that was given over the last three months. It showed at the team meetings and especially on the Cursillo weekend. I believe it was an awesome weekend for both the candidates and team members. I think there was much healing over the three-day period and our hearts were filled with God's love.

It was an honor, blessing and privilege for me to have been given the opportunity to lead Cursillo #233. I can say that I really enjoyed it all, because of the help of the Cursillo family, the Holy Spirit and being able to leave it "In His Name."

Thanks again and may God bless you all.

Les Kelch - Rector #233

Candle Challenges

We have received multiple complaints about there not being enough candles available at candlelight. In the last year, we have purchased 100 new candles, but the bulbs in the candles are failing at an alarming rate. After every weekend there are approximately 100 candles that will not work and 90% of the time it is a bulb problem, not batteries. We have purchased more than 200 bulbs in the past 6 months and are about to purchase another 200. One contribution to the failure may be dropping. The bulbs fail once the candle has been dropped. As a point of reference, the cost of a bulb is more than half the cost of the candle

Discovering and Celebrating

Do you like to be surprised? I do - when it is a good surprise, of course. I believe God likes to surprise us, to give us little glimpses of Him in unexpected places. When that happens to me, it makes me pause where I am, to take in with pleasure whatever it is that I feel, see, hear, taste, smell or think that has the essence of God in it.

That happened to me not long ago on a visit to the Quincy Art Center to see an exhibit by Nancy Wiley entitled A Dollmaker's Art. Now don't go running away, you fellows, because I said "dolls"! They are more like sculptures with real clothes that run the gamut from circus performers to Swan Lake ballerinas. But the surprise happened in none of these. It happened when I saw the doll fashioned after a real person, Mary Ann Cord, a black woman who worked for Mark Twain.

The artist, Nancy Wiley, read of Mary Ann in a book by Twain. He told how Mary Ann would sit and listen to his stories in the evenings - "a cheerful hearty soul and it was no more trouble for her to laugh than it is for a bird to sing." He asked her once how she had lived so long without any troubles. She then told him her story.

Born into slavery, Mary Ann's life was turned upside down when her husband and seven children were all sold, her last child torn from her arms, and she was left alone. Years later during the Civil War a troop of black Union soldiers came to the plantation she was working at. One soldier came into the kitchen where she was and as they looked at each other she realized it was her youngest son, Henry, who had been ripped from her arms when he was just a boy. Can you picture the joyous reunion that must have been?

The artist was so touched by the story since her own son was called Henry and she couldn't imagine the pain Mary Ann must have felt. So Nancy created a doll of Mary Ann Cord with a dress made of pieces of material patched back together like her life was after the loss of her family. On the skirt Nancy painted pictures of Mary Ann's children reaching for her.

Reading the story and looking at the work of art brought tears to my eyes - in sadness at the pain people endure and they inflict on each other. It also made me pause in wonder at the strength of the human spirit to go on. The story did not mention the word God or faith but I felt His presence there with me at that moment - one of His surprises I did not expect to find that day in the Art Center.

In a devotional I read, Hope for Each Day, by Billy Graham, Billy writes "Some of the most godly people I've every known were men and women who were called upon to endure great suffering. They could have grown bitter and resentful...yet, because they knew Christ and walked in the joy of His presence every day, God blessed them and turned them into people who reflected Christ."

As it often happens, those moments of Grace open me up to His presence in my life, melt away a hurt or a worry, or give me peace and comfort that He is there in my times of sadness and pain. But there are also times when His "surprises" are just bits of awe that I encounter - in nature, in other people, in music, or in a forgotten memory, that make me laugh, sigh, or revel in it. Like they say, "The more I know, the more I know I don't know." I don't find this daunting but exciting in terms of God for that means I will have a lifetime of "surprises" in store with Him in my life.

Thanks for hanging in there, fellows. Next time I'll talk about cars, or football or woodworking - talk about more for me to learn! Much love, Terri May

Cursillo Board Members 2005-2006

Fr. Tom Henseler, Spiritual Director
Jim Nevins, Lay Director
Dennis Steinkamp, Assistant Lay Director

Mike Baker	Sheryl Geisler
Jane Deters	Renae Jansen
Tom Deters	Vernon Korte
Mary Dodd	John Peterson
Rob Edwards	Marcia Steinkamp

Next Board Meeting
February 23, 2006 at 7 p.m.

CURSILLO DATES

March 9-12, 2006 - Rob Casagrande
April 27-30, 2006 - Katie Korte
June 8-11, 2006 - Doug Many
July 6-9, 2006 - Donna Thompson

Applications are available at:
www.quincycursillo.com

FOURTH DAY RENEWAL

March 24-25, 2006
Vernon Korte, Director

Applications are available at:
www.quincycursillo.com

WALK TO EMMAUS

For information contact
Brenda Wessel 217-323-2553
E-mail: grammab@motion.net

GREAT RIVER TEC

TEC #236 March 4-6, 2006
Lay Directors, Joe & Joan Haubrich

TEC #237 April 22-24, 2006
Lay Director, Colleen O'Brien

For information call
Bob and Bonnie Nytes 217-223-7372
E-mail: bon12_@hotmail.com
Applications are available at:
www.greatrivertec.org

QUEST

#35 May 5-6, 2006

For information call
Donna Siebers 217-222-3627
Kathy Steinbrecher 217-228-1518

Quincy Cursillo

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Quincy, IL 62301

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**4th Day Renewal
March 24-25, 2006**

24-hour experience of personal growth for those who have previously made a Cursillo weekend.

7:00 p.m. Fri. - 7:30 p.m. Sat.
at Franciscan Retreat Center

Total cost is \$35
with a \$10 deposit
Payable to Quincy Cursillo
Send application and
deposit to:
Dennis & Pat Holbrook
Reservation Coordinators
4025 Holiday
Quincy, IL 62301
217-224-3898

*"I give you a new commandment;
love one another.
As I have loved you,
so you also should love one another."*

John 13:34

Fourth Day Renewal Weekend Request for Reservation

Application Date _____

Name _____ Adress: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Male: _____ Female: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: Month _____ Day: _____

Marital Status: Single _____ Married _____ Separated _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____ No. of Children _____

Church: _____ Denomonation: _____

Are you on a special diet? _____ If so, what? _____

Please check: Deaf _____ Hearing Impaired _____

Do you have a health problem or physical disability that might affect your attendance at the Fourth Day Renewal weekend? _____ If so, please specify: _____

Cursillo number made: _____ Are you in a Group Reunion? _____ Do you attend Ultreya's? _____

Are you willing to make a Fourth Day Renewal weekend on short notice due to a cancellation? _____

If yes, how much time would you need? _____

State briefly why you wish to make a Fourth Day Renewal weekend and what you expect to gain from it.