

# The FOURTH DAY



Volume 41, No. 4

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October 2020

## Status of Quincy Cursillo in light of COVID-19

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Cursillo Board met Tuesday September 29 to discuss the status of our Cursillo program in light of Covid-19. Father John informed us of the following:

1. Because of the need to social distance and Quincy University's lack of large classrooms, they have taken over the retreat space. They are using the dining room, conference room and chapel for classrooms. In addition, they are using the bedrooms for those students who require quarantine whether they have Covid or have just been exposed.
2. Given the present re-opening plan and phase program in Illinois, there is no expectation that this will change during next semester. Consequently, the University will not be releasing the Retreat Center for resumed retreats during the next semester.
3. Given the uncertainty of the pandemic, the rise in cases and the unknowns about availability and efficacy of a vaccine, Father, as a representative of the University, could make no predictions about whether we might be able to resume in the Fall of 2021. We may know more in May.

In light of Father John's report, it was the decision of the Board to continue our hiatus indefinitely until we are more accurately able to know the availability of space and our ability to guarantee the safety of both team and candidates.

In addition, because we could not get together for our annual meeting, nor are there weekends where family members can vote, the Board has passed a resolution to change the bylaws extending the terms of the present Board members and Lay Director for an additional year. This requires a vote of the family members. You will find a ballot in this newsletter. You can vote electronically if you receive your Fourth Day in that manner. Instructions will be included. If you receive your Fourth Day by mail, you can cut out the ballot and return it in the mail. If we have not been able to resume gathering, we will have to find a different way to vote in 2021, should you approve these extensions.

The Board also filled the open board position left vacant when I became Lay Director this past January. Patty Marshall will fill that position until the time that my term would have ended. The board felt that they wanted a full slate of board members considering the decisions that we will need to make in the coming months.

Finally, the Retreat Advisory Board which is made up of representatives of Cursillo, TEC, Quest and Emmaus is asking that you set aside noon on the 19th of each month to pray for our programs and for the families of all.

I know that everyone was hoping for better news. In the meantime, we need to fellowship with our prayer groups in whatever fashion is safe. Some ultreyas are meeting and any that are comfortable could attend those.

The Board will meet again in January and I will update you at that time.

In Christ Who Gives Us Strength and Hope,

Diane Lagoski,

Quincy Cursillo Lay Director

### Facebook Followers

In addition to our Quincy Cursillo Public Facebook page, we also have a Private Group page called "Cursillo Family Prayers and Praise" that you can join. Anyone can post prayer requests or praise reports in this group. Only those that are members can see the posts so it provides a level of privacy.

We may not be having Cursillo weekends currently but we can always:

**Make a Friend,  
Be a Friend,  
Bring That Friend  
to Christ.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ULTREYAS

#### Pike County Area Ultreya

Saturday, November 7, 2020 at 6 pm  
St. Clement KC Hall, Hwy 161  
Bowling Green, MO  
Chili & Soup supper & Ultreya

#### Fairfield, Iowa Ultreya

Saturday, November 14, 2020  
After 5:30 Mass  
New location:  
Urbanville with Social Distancing

### Name Tags

If you ordered a name tag and would like to get it, contact Billie Huebotter to make arrangements. She can be contacted at 217-430-4406 or email: mhuebotter22@hotmail.com

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### LAY DIRECTOR

Diane Lagoski 217-257-9827  
dlagoski@hotmail.com

### ASSISTANT LAY DIRECTOR

Ed Holthaus 217-430-9536  
elholthaus@adams.net

### SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Fr. John Doctor, OFM

### BOARD MEMBERS

Ron Clark 217-653-0177  
clarkmr9@comcast.net

Tim Gilbert 573-795-4751  
timr221992@yahoo.com

Mike Grant 217-617-0879  
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Greg Wittland 217-43908001  
gwittland@encompasslifeandwealth.com

*We were abruptly halted after Cursillo #348, but we didn't want to overlook the Thank You note sent by Rectora Doris Reid.*

### **Thank You From Cursillo #348**

Dear Cursillo Family,

Happy Fourth Day! It is hard to describe just how thankful we are for all the, prayers, palanca, sacrifice, and support from our Cursillo family. From the moment the team came together we could feel the prayers being offered for us.

As we welcomed the 20 candidates on Thursday evening, we called on the Holy Spirit to lift us up and equip us for the journey. The Servant song became our prayer. What do you want of me Lord? How do you want me to serve you? Where can I sing your praises? I am your song. We could definitely feel the Spirit moving in that beautiful holy place.

It was a real joy to watch the Candidates and team bond as they shared the love of Jesus with each other.

Thank you for being the oil that makes Cursillo machine run so smoothly.

Forever Grateful for all you do,  
Doris Reid Rectora #348

### **Book of Remembrance**

As a way to remember those who have passed from this life to be with Christ, we want to remind you of Quincy Cursillo's "Book of Remembrance". This book includes the names of our deceased Cursillistas and is presented at each Cursillo weekend Mass so that they may benefit from our prayers of intercession.

If you would like to have a loved one's name placed in our Book of Remembrance, we need three pieces of information:

1. Name of the deceased;
2. Cursillo number (if known);
3. Date of death.

Please e-mail this information to Mike Holbrook at: holbrook6@gmail.com or call Mike at 217-653-5555.

If your deceased family member was also involved with TEC, provide their name to Jerry Eberhardt by e-mailing: jae12@comcast.net or call 217-222-5333.

### **Perseverance**

One of the key themes of the Group Reunion and Ultreya Rollo, the last talk on Sunday given by the Rector/a, is Perseverance.

Emphasis is placed on Perseverance in building relationships through group reunions and Ultreya's; perseverance in accepting God's call to a new life in Him and allowing His presence to change us through Piety; perseverance in knowing Jesus better through Study; perseverance to change our corner of the world through Action.

During these trying times we may find ourselves separated from family, friends and our Cursillo community, and we need to find new ways to persevere in our walk with Jesus.

But always remember that God is for us, is in charge and has a plan. We Cursillo friends stand together, though separated, hearts bound in piety, study and action. United through God's holy love and mercy, we remain faithful and hopeful through this time of pandemic. Let's just keep doing the next right thing in Jesus' name.

From the words to a song by John Angotti: "Faith gives you hope, hope gives you strength, Strength gives you courage to go on each day. When you're praying for answers to things you can't change, When it's out of your hands hold on to faith."

### **Message from Fr. John Doctor**

Dear Cursillistas,  
De Colores!

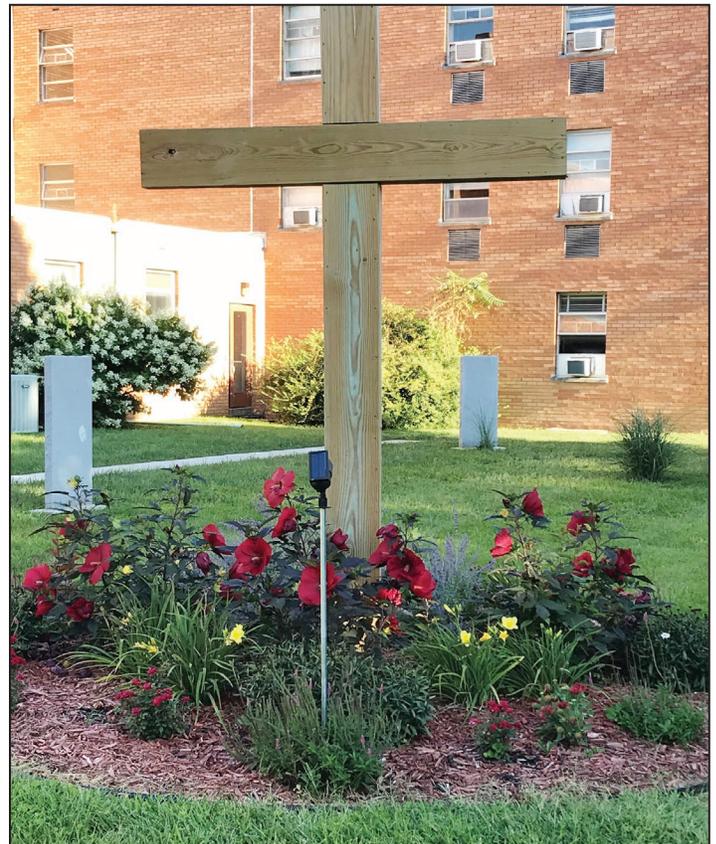
COVID-19 has radically changed our lives locally, nationally and globally. In fact, we are in total solidarity with our sisters and brothers worldwide. No one on this planet is excluded from this pandemic. It is awakening us to the importance of our priorities, family, friends and faith community, especially our Cursillo Family. We need each other's ongoing support as we journey together into an unknown coronavirus future.

The Cursillo Board and I want to make sure that you do not stop grouping at this time. If you cannot do it face to face with appropriate social distancing, use our modern technology to do it (e.g., ZOOM, GO TO MEET, etc.). If you are not a member of a group, please search one out for your own self-care. Your regional representative can always assist you in finding a group.

We know from our experience that being a member of a Group enables us to persevere in becoming a disciple and apostle of Jesus Christ within our family, our faith community, our work environment. We realize that the dynamic of the Group is there to support, affirm, encourage, challenge, and hold each other accountable in becoming and proclaiming the gospels in our environments. How important all this is in the midst of COVID-19. We need to be there for each other, especially at this time. We need to be grouping.

As the Cursillo family, we need to be praying, studying and discerning how each of us is called to make Christ visible by our life, especially in the midst of this pandemic.

May you possess the inner peace and joy of Christ.  
Fr. John



Upgrades to the courtyard at the Retreat Center continues as revealed by the beautiful flowers at the foot of the lighted cross. If you are in Quincy, stop by for some quiet reflection and prayer at the Stations of the Cross.

TO: Cursillistas ("Members")

FROM: Quincy Cursillo, NFP ("Cursillo") Board of Directors ("Board")

RE: Annual Meeting

As you know, each summer we provide notice of our annual meeting to you as we prepare to elect new directors to the Board and other matters. Last spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the related health and safety guidelines, the Board decided to cancel and re-schedule the 2020/2021 retreat weekends. As we review the current status of the pandemic, the Board finds it necessary to cancel and delay the annual meeting of both the Members and the Board and to delay the election of new Directors and Officers for approximately one year. In conjunction with this delay, the terms of each current Director and the Lay Director would also be extended for one year.

The current Board has approved and is proposing a vote by the Members:

1. To extend the current terms of the existing Board and Lay Director for one year;
2. To delay the Board Elections;
3. Delay and re-schedule annual meetings of the Board and Members.

The Board recommends that each Member vote to approve all of these actions. The Board requests that you submit your vote by mail using the ballot provided below or follow the instructions for submitting an electronic vote by e-mail.

YOUR BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31, 2020. Ballots received after this date will not be counted.

### Cursillo Voting Ballot

To cast a vote by postal mail, check the Yes or No box associated with the resolution. If there are two members in a household, boxes are provided for each. Use this ballot to vote; do not copy it.

1. I approve extending the terms of the existing Board of Directors for one year and to delay the Cursillo Board Election to August 2021.  
First Voter    Yes    No                      Second Voter    Yes    No
2. I approve extending the term of the Lay Director for one year and the appointment of the succeeding Lay Director by the Board in 2022, who will then take office in January 2023.  
First Voter    Yes    No                      Second Voter    Yes    No
3. I approve that the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Cursillo Board and Members be delayed, and re-scheduled for dates in 2021 to be chosen by the Board.  
First Voter    Yes    No                      Second Voter    Yes    No

Please sign and date the ballot to cast your vote and mail to Quincy Cursillo, P.O. Box 3153, Quincy, IL 62305-3153.

First Voter Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Voter Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Submit electronic vote by email as follows:

- Enter "Cursillo Vote 2020" in the Subject line.
- Your message should state "Agree" or "Disagree" for each numbered resolution (1, 2 and 3) and provide your full name.
- Please forward the email to quincycursillonfp@gmail.com.

YOUR BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31, 2020. Ballots received after this date will not be counted.

**Cursillo in Christianity**  
70 Trout Drive  
Highland, IL 62249-1765

NON-PROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID QUINCY, IL 62301 PERMIT NO. 5
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

For updates on Cursillo news  
check the website at:  
[www.quincycursillo.com](http://www.quincycursillo.com)  
and "Like Us" on Facebook.

## **DISCOVERING AND CELEBRATING**

by Terri May

It is the last day of September, and fall is in the air, the trees are starting to turn the rich, warm colors of red, orange and yellow. Today the day is breezy and sunny, my favorite time of year with the briskness that gives you the desire to gather nuts, so to speak, to accomplish something. It puts me in mind of the spiders that diligently weave their webs and lay their eggs for the next year. I know a lot of people don't like spiders and I am not a fan of them crawling on me or in my house but outside I find them fascinating and very helpful for getting rid of bugs. Probably a lot of you have heard of the book *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White about a Spider, Charlotte, who saves the life of a pig, Wilbur, by writing messages in her web, an extraordinary spider, to be sure.

Esther Lombardi writes this in a review of the book in her article, *The Circle of Life*, Updated September 15, 2019. "Death and destiny are both themes that the book explores. While Charlotte is willing to help Wilbur dodge a destiny that's being imposed on him by outside forces beyond his control, she also understands that some fates are inevitable: All living creatures are born, have a life cycle, and die. Charlotte accepts her role in this natural circle without remorse. Charlotte helps Wilbur realize that immortality is not about living forever, but rather, ensuring that new generations will follow. She also helps him understand that love and friendship are not finite in quantity. While we may lose a friend, new friendships can come along, not as replacements for what we've lost, but as blessings to build on what we've learned."

As you can see it is not a simple story and has many undertones. It fits the Fall season with the nostalgic feelings that it evokes for me of raking leaves, pumpkin carving and Halloween fun with the kids, and memories of past gatherings of family at Thanksgiving with those who are no longer with us. Even now my children are taking over the plans for baking the Thanksgiving bird and organizing the feast which is actually okay by me, but has me realizing that there is a "Natural Circle" to life that we are all a part of. Spiders don't last as long as we humans, I realize, so I hope I'm around a bit longer to see more tasks being taken over by our children. The letting go is a good thing for us to do though, to ensure that the next generation has the opportunity to grow as we did and follow in our footsteps, in faith as well as baking the turkey.

Here is a Morning Prayer by Steve Givens from my *Living Faith Devotional*. I think this is a prayer that Charlotte the spider would write in her web if she were able. "Giver of Life and Maker of Days, my day is spread before me. I do not get to choose what happens to me. I have little or no choice about who comes into my life and what obstacles I face. I don't know the blessings that will come my way. But today, I choose to look for you in every moment. May I grasp this day like the gift that it is. Amen."

Many autumn blessings to you, and much love,  
Terri May