

# The FOURTH DAY

Volume 42, No. 1

CURSILLO PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD, IL

June 2021

## Cursillo Program Returning To Our Mission

### Lay Director Message Regarding Status

Hello everyone and De Colores!

I have so much to share with you so let's begin.

1. We are finally going to be able to gather face to face for Mass. On June 27, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. at St. Francis Solanus Church in Quincy, Illinois we will be having a Mass for our Cursillo family. Everyone is invited. St. Francis is a very large church and the pews on the side are still roped so there is the opportunity for social distancing for those who wish. Masks will not be required but are optional for those who would like to wear them. I know everyone has missed seeing each other.

2. We have tentatively set January 2022 to start Cursillo weekends again. This is tentative on Quincy University releasing the facility back for us to use as a Retreat Center and the State of Illinois fully opening and staying open. Father John updates the Board regularly about the status of our ability to use the retreat center. Quincy University will be making their decision in early July. When that happens, they should begin moving desks, furniture, etc. out during the summer so that by early fall, we can start having our board meetings open to everyone. Until that time, the Board will continue meeting in executive session.

3. Our annual member meeting is scheduled for August. The plan, at this point, is to have a Mass where the newly elected board members will be sworn in. We will update all in attendance about the progress we are making in restarting our weekends. Dates and times will be announced when we are closer.

4. It is time to elect new board members. There are two vacancies for women and we have four excellent candidates. There is one vacancy for men and three terrific candidates. Voting will be available electronically by email or by mail-in ballot. All the information is available on page three of this newsletter. I ask you to prayerfully consider the candidates, remembering that this is an important time in the future of our program.

5. Area representatives and upcoming rector/rectoras - at our last meeting, we talked about the possibility of moving the board meeting time to 6:30 pm. For those of you who plan to attend the meetings after August/September, we were hoping for some input. Let me know what you think. Please see my contact information elsewhere in this newsletter.

6. I'm certain you can all imagine that the Board is dealing with "the big question". Will we be able to return with everything the same as it was pre-covid? At this point, we are just beginning the process of doing the necessary research. We have two committees: Sanitation, both food service and general, and Liturgy - Palanca chapel, Agape meal, Stations, Candlelight, etc.

Before the pandemic, the Board had begun talking about some sanitation concerns. We discussed whether the Food Service team needed to have some special training. We talked about whether there should be individuals - not on the team - who would be willing to be trained and be at each meal to supervise but remain in the kitchen. If there are any individuals with a food service background who might be interested in being trained to provide this service, please contact Pat Holbrook at 217-257-2570 or email [dennispat717@gmail.com](mailto:dennispat717@gmail.com).

As for general sanitation, again, will the Service Team need training to know what extra cleaning is required? We all know about weekends where at the end, everyone went home sick. We need to look at how we can do a better job.

While January seems like a long time from now, it will be upon us way too soon. Be assured that the Board is working hard to make sure all t's are crossed and i's are dotted. In the meantime, please continue to pray for guidance for us.

I hope to see all of you at our Cursillo Mass on June 27.

In Christ's love,  
Diane Lajoski  
Lay Director

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Cursillo Community Mass

Sunday, June 27, 2021

2:00 pm

St. Francis Solanus Church  
1721 College Avenue, Quincy, IL  
**Mass is Open to Everyone**

### Hannibal Area Ultreya

Saturday July 17, 2021

Holy Family Parish, Hannibal, Mo.  
St. Michael's Hall  
Follows 5:30 pm Mass

### Upcoming Cursillo Dates And Rector/as

January 20-23, 2022 - Damian McDonald

February 17-20, 2022 - Teresa Bennett

March 24-27, 2022 - Dave Ferrill

April 21-24, 2022 - Beth Shade

June 23-26, 2022 - Dan Brink

July 21-24, 2022 - Linda Keller

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### LAY DIRECTOR

Diane Lajoski 217-257-9827  
[dlajoski@hotmail.com](mailto:dlajoski@hotmail.com)

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### SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Fr. John Doctor, OFM

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## Piety, Study and Action During COVID Restrictions

*The following is a condensed version of a witness shared by Margaret Little at the April 2021 live-streamed Cursillo Mass.*

Hello, my name is Margaret Little and I made Cursillo #151. My husband John and I live in Jacksonville, Illinois. We are retired and attend Our Saviour Church. We have 2 kids and 3 grandchildren. I am scheduled to be a Rectora once we can have Cursillo Weekends again. I want to thank Fr. John Doctor and the Cursillo Board for allowing me to witness today.

Fr. John Doctor asked me to think about these questions:

**How is your faith helping you through these of COVID restrictions?** Even though this past year has been difficult for all of us, I cannot even imagine the pain and suffering many people have experienced. But for me the answer is thankful and appreciative. I am thankful for my faith in God. There have been hard days and I know HE had been right by my side. I am thankful that my family have been COVID free. I feel appreciative of my parents and how I was raised to believe in God and learn to trust in Him, during hard times. I have had time to sit back and reflect on what we have and be grateful.

Last summer I had to have several eye procedures. Cataracts were removed and I was also diagnosed with FUCHS Dystrophy of the coronas. I had a DSAEK procedure to both eyes, which means a transplant of the endothelial membrane of the cornea; it is stripped and replaced. Recovery times for each procedure is quite lengthy. The first transplant was to my left eye. After that transplant, I could see fine, then a few days later everything went fuzzy, I could not see out of my left eye. It was scary. My eye rejected the transplant. My doctor said do not worry, we will do another transplant in that eye. I was thankful the second transplant took. Then I had my right eye done. That transplant went much better. I had several months of down time, which meant prayer time for me. The power of prayer from my family and Cursillo family got me through this.

I also am thankful and appreciative of our priests in our parishes. COVID has been a challenge especially for them. They have had to think outside of the box to keep their parishioners safe while preaching the gospel.

Another question Fr. John asked is: **How are you becoming more aware of the way God is blessing and gifting you?** Asking to be a Rectora on a Women's Cursillo Weekend is not only God's blessing but a gift. It is an honor to be a part of the Cursillo community to show how we can bring piety, study, and action into another person's life. God's gift to me is my

prayer sisters, we have been grouping together for 20 years. We have kept in touch, either thru meeting in my back yard, text messaging or zoom. We depend on each other for support. I am also active in a Bible Study Group – we have interesting discussions of the Bible. One of God's blessings was recovering fully from my eye procedure. I felt God's presence thru my family, friends and my eye doctor, Dr. Lee. I found out, he is a man of faith, easy to talk too, and a Notre Dame fan. God has a way to bring a person you never met into your life to help you through a difficult time.

Fr. John asked, **how are you keeping your personal faith and the faith of your family growing and refueled through these COVID restrictions?** Keeping everyone safe is important. At times it has been difficult. We were lucky to be able to live stream the mass, and it is great for the homebound. But I discovered it was easy to become complacent. It is easy to watch mass online in my pajamas. Our teenage grandkids thought attending mass online was great. I could see they were losing out of attending church in person. It is up to the parents and grandparents to show them to attend mass in person and receiving the Body of Christ is so important. ----- We will lead by example.

The last question: **How are you able to evangelize others?**

I pray for people in need every day and by helping others. I belong a local women's organization PEO. We raise money for scholarships for women. I am currently serving as President. Over 1/2 of the members are older women. Keeping them connected is important, so they learned how to zoom and even joined our Facebook page. Just calling them to say hello or drop a note in the mail is helpful. I stay active in our church by being a Eucharistic Minister. Also being a part of the Minute Maid's. We clean the church, parish offices, rectory, we paint rooms and do gardening, whatever is needed. I also serve on the Pastoral Council. I currently work part time at Williamson Funeral Home in Jacksonville. At first, I thought working in a funeral home would be difficult. But instead, it is rewarding to be serving these family members who are grieving.

Right now I believe the pandemic, politics and division in the country and disregard for humanity is causing so much grief and pain. Evangelization is needed more than ever. People are in need of God. Christians can evangelize around the world by helping those in need. When this happens, God becomes an even more central figure and allows those who do not think of God daily - to question, to seek, and attempt to make a connection with God.

Thank you and please pray for the upcoming Rector's and Rectora's as they prepare for their upcoming weekends.

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### Newsletter Address Changes

To update your address for the mailed newsletter:  
Call Hal Klaus at: 618-973-4048 or  
email him at: [updateaddress@quincycursillo.com](mailto:updateaddress@quincycursillo.com)

If you receive your newsletter by email, updates can be made through the website: [www.quincycursillo.com](http://www.quincycursillo.com)  
Look under Newsletter tab

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### Team Application Updates

If you've changed your phone number or cancelled your landline since you were last on a Cursillo weekend, please remember to update your team application.

Our team applications coordinators are: Phil & Brenda Leatherman. They can be contacted by phone at: 573-588-2523 or email: [littleaz78@yahoo.com](mailto:littleaz78@yahoo.com).

## Cursillo Board Election - Candidate Information

It's time to choose new Cursillo Board members to replace those whose term expires in August.

Board members who are retiring are Tim Gilbert, Marie Korte and Patty Marshall (Patty filled the unexpired term of Diane Lagoski when she became Lay Director. Patty is eligible to be re-elected.) We thank them for their service and commitment to Cursillo during their term.

All Cursillista's are urged to prayerfully consider the following nominees to serve a three-year term. You will be voting for **ONE man and TWO women**. A ballot is provided on the back page with instructions. Cast only one ballot per Cursillista



I am **Ann Gage** from Quincy. I was blessed to serve as Rectora of the January 2016 weekend. I belong to Blessed Sacrament Parish in Quincy where I concluded my 36th year of working for the Catholic Church as a teacher, principal, and DRE/Pastoral Minister in 2014.

My current parish ministries include Lector, Communion Minister, RCIA Team, Stewardship Committee, Bible Study facilitator, Circle of Caring, Horizons Soup Kitchen, and Tribunal Advocate.



I am **Patty Marshall** from Dallas City, Ill. I attend Sacred Heart Parish in Dallas City. I was Rectora on #228 in July 2005. My ministries include serving on the Cursillo Board 2011-2014 and 2020-21, Lector, Youth Leader, Parish Council, Communion Minister, and Spiritual Formation Group.

I am an Innkeeper at 1850 Guest House, Dallas City, Ill.



My name is **Ann O'Sullivan** from Mt. Sterling, Ill. I attend Holy Family Parish in Mt. Sterling. I was Rectora on #220 in October 2004. My ministries include serving as Lector, Eucharistic Minister and PSR Coordinator.

I am a Registered Professional Nurse, Retired Assistant Dean, Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing and Health Sciences; and Adjunct Professor Illinois College.



My name is **Diane Powers** and I am humbled to be considered for the Cursillo Board. My husband, Jack, and I are members of Holy Family Parish in Fort Madison, Iowa. We have six children and three grandchildren.

I was Rectora of Cursillo 344 in July of 2019. I am grateful to serve in whatever way I can. Some of the ministries in which I serve are as a lector, Eucharistic minister, hospitality, youth core member, choir & music and I've been active in TEC for many years. I am a legal assistant at Fehseke & Gray Law Offices in Fort Madison.



My name is **Tom Becker**. My wife Delana and I have been married for 42 years. We have 3 children and 7 grandchildren. I farm with my brother John.

I made Cursillo 193 in 2002 and was Rector in 2018 on Cursillo #333. We are members of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Martinsburg, Mo. where I serve as music director and help teach RCIA.



I am **Jim Cramsey**. I was a candidate on Cursillo #92 in December 1987 and was Rector of Cursillo #241 in November 2006. I am now a member of St. Francis Solanus Parish, Quincy (formerly of St. Peter Parish, Quincy.) I am a Lector and Eucharistic Minister. I have also been involved in the RCIA Program.

I have been married to Kathy for 46 years, having 3 children and now as a result we have 7+ grandchildren, one due in December 2021. I retired in 2017 from Richards Electric Motor Co. after a 43 year career.

I served on the Cursillo Board for one term 2009-2012. It was a very rewarding and humbling experience. We are Blessed to have such a great organization.



Hello, my name is **Tim Oitker**. My wife Deana and I are members of the Church of St. Peter in Quincy, Ill. where our daughter Katie attends school, I assist with food preparation for funeral meals, and help with lawn care at the church and school.

I joined the Cursillo family as a candidate in March '78 (#28), and was blessed to serve as Rector in September '07 (#249). I retired from Stratas Foods, LLC in March '19. I'm currently employed (part-time) by the Quincy Park District at Westview Golf Course.

If selected I'm prepared to commit the time and energy required, and will seek God's guidance in all decisions.

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

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

### 2021 CURSILLO BOARD ELECTION BALLOT

The Cursillo Family is asked to cast a vote for **ONE** of the following **MEN** and **TWO** of the following **WOMEN** candidates who will serve for three years beginning in August 2021. Cast only one ballot per Cursillista.

Please give prayerful consideration to the qualifications of candidates.  
Brief bio's and photos are available on page 3 of this newsletter.

| VOTE FOR ONE<br>MEN                  | VOTE FOR TWO<br>WOMEN                   | VOTE FOR ONE<br>MEN                  | VOTE FOR TWO<br>WOMEN                   |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tom Becker  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ann Gage       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tom Becker  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ann Gage       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Cramsey | <input type="checkbox"/> Patty Marshall | <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Cramsey | <input type="checkbox"/> Patty Marshall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tim Oitker  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ann O'Sullivan | <input type="checkbox"/> Tim Oitker  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ann O'Sullivan |
|                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Diane Powers   |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Diane Powers   |

### VOTING OPTIONS

- Voting by Postal Mail:** Mark your ballot and mail to: Quincy Cursillo, Attn: Diane Lagoski, P. O. Box 3153, Quincy, IL 62305-3153
- Vote by Email:** Send email to: [vote@quincycursillo.com](mailto:vote@quincycursillo.com) and list the three candidates, 1 man, 2 women, that you want to vote for. If your spouse shares your email, indicate that you are sending votes for both of you.
- Scan ballot and email:** If you have the ability to scan your completed ballot, attach and email to: [vote@quincycursillo.com](mailto:vote@quincycursillo.com)
- Ballots at June 27th Mass:** Ballots will also be available during the June 27th Cursillo Community Mass.

**YOUR BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 31, 2021**

Ballots received after this date will not be counted.