



Cursillo #349: January, 20-23, 2022

Rector: Damian McDonald

Theme: "We are Commanded to Love"

Dear Cursillo Family,

We are back! And how humbling it is to lead a team of Spirit-filled real men that God has chosen for Cursillo #349. Your prayers and palanca are felt and appreciated. Please continue offering up your prayers and sacrifice for us and the candidates God is calling to be on this weekend. And brush off your top ten list of potential candidates and ask one more time.

The theme for the weekend is, "We Are Commanded To Love", and the scripture is Mark 12:30-31, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength." And, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Our theme song is "We are Called". The Lord has called us all to love and we are looking forward to, along with the Cursillo family, sharing the love of Christ. Please consider writing a much appreciated Palanca letter.

I am honored to introduce the team of Cursillo #349.

Spiritual Director: Fr. Chris House, Springfield, IL (Sacraments, Saturday 10:05 am); **Assistant Spiritual Directors:** Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck, Champaign, IL (Grace, Friday 11:15 am); Fr. James Wheeler, Quincy, IL (Holy Spirit Divine Aid, Friday 3 pm); Deacon Wayne Zimmerman, Quincy, IL (Obstacles to Grace, Saturday 4:15 pm); Fr. John Doctor, Quincy, IL (Christian Life, Sunday 10:15 am).

Assistant Rectors: Steve VanCleave, Mexico, MO (Ideal, Friday 10 am); Joe Troesser, Ladonna, MO (Environment, Sunday 9 am); Joe Heneghan, Jerseyville, IL (CCIA, Sunday 11:30 am).

Rollistas: Mike Bickhaus, Quincy, IL (Laity, Friday 1:30 pm); Matt Heldt, Mt. Sterling, IL (Piety, Friday 6:45 pm); Nick Steinkamp, Quincy, IL (Study, Saturday 9 am); Tim Bealor, Mendon, IL (Action, Saturday 3 pm); Bill Hanks, O'Fallon, MO (Leaders, Saturday 7 pm).

Auxiliaries: Ross Brockhouse, Virginia, IL; Rodney Brumbaugh and Mark Novak, both of Hannibal, MO; Chad Freie, Middletown, MO; Scott Jones and Ryan Skolasinski, both of White Hall, IL; Darin Huntley, David Stammeyer and Sam Vranjes, all of Quincy, IL.

Service Team: Scott Gough, Shelbina, MO; Mike Hilgenbrinck, Bloomington, IL; Deacon Dennis Holbrook, Quincy, IL; B. J. Menne, Troy, MO; Denny Schumacher, Jacksonville, IL.

Food Service Team: Adam Blaue, Wellsville, MO; Richie Fogle, Hannibal, MO; Dave Hummel, Quincy, IL; Gene Rupnik, Springfield, IL.

Sacristan: Rick Davis, Quincy, IL; **Musicians:** Tyler Peters and Ray Wheeler, both of Quincy, IL; **Observing Rector:** Dave Ferrill, Mt. Sterling, IL; **Board Rep:** Greg Wittland, Quincy, IL; **Rector:** Damian McDonald (Group Reunion and Ultreya, Sunday 12:45 pm) and Lisa McDonald (A Woman's Perspective, Sunday 1:30 pm) both of Mendon, IL.

As you will see in this newsletter there are several changes in how the weekend unfolds. We are excited to be the first team to see just what the Holy Spirit has in store for us. How will the Holy Spirit work in you? Look for creative ways to offer up Palanca for this weekend and those to follow. As St. John Paul II said, "Prayer joined to sacrifice is the most powerful force in human history."

Thank you for your continued prayers.

Damian McDonald, Rector of Cursillo #349.

Preliminary Candidate List

A preliminary list of candidates for each upcoming weekend is sent by email to the Area Representatives about 5-7 days before the weekend starts. If you would like to receive this list, contact your Area Representative to let them know your email address. A list of Area Representatives can be found on the Quincy Cursillo website under the About Us tab.

UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Clement Ultreya

Friday, November 19, 2021 at 7 pm
K of C Hall Meeting Room
St. Clement Parish, Bowling Green, MO

Fourth Day Renewal

December 3-4, 2021
Franciscan Retreat Center
Register online at: quincycursillo.com

Cursillo Community Mass

Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 8 pm
St. Francis Solanus Church
1721 College Ave., Quincy, IL

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 - Jim Citro
July 21-24, 2022 - Sharon Brunts
September 15-18, 2022 - Russ Siebers
November 3-6, 2022 - Stacey Eilerman

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 application coordinators are: Phil and Brenda Leatherman. They can be contacted by phone at: 573-588-2523 or email: littleaz78@yahoo.com.

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.

Lay Director Message

Fellow Cursillistas,

I praise God for all of you and your dedication to our mission in Cursillo.

After months of hard work and lots of prayer, we want to share with you our plan to move forward with our Cursillo weekends. Our first weekend will be January 20-23, 2022 with Damian McDonald as Rector. Please begin to pray for him and his team now.

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, there will be some changes to how the weekend looks. Our goal is to keep everyone who comes to the weekend safe and well, both team and candidates. The weekend will essentially be closed to anyone other than team and candidates. The committee that came up with the recommendations I will outline for you was made up of Cursillistas who are nurses, doctors and public health experts from Illinois, Missouri and Iowa. The Board unanimously adopted these recommendations.

1. **Food service and sanitation.** Some changes we are making were actually long overdue. Most only affect the service team and food service teams on the weekend. However, the family will not be coming in to help serve meals. Also on each weekend, we will have 2 food service managers, Cursillistas who have food service certifications. They will make sure we are in compliance with public health guidelines. If you hold a food service certification and would like to volunteer, please contact Pat Holbrook.
2. **Pre-weekend process.** Each person coming into the building for the weekend must provide proof of a negative Covid test within 48 hours prior to the weekend. A Covid questionnaire will be included with the application that all team and candidates must complete and bring to registration. Masks will not be required on the weekend but are optional for those who wish to wear them. SPONSORS, I have to emphasize to you that no one should come to the weekend if they are sick, even if they have a negative test. This is true for team as well. If a rolloista is sick, we are prepared to find someone else to give their talk. Also, if someone becomes ill on the weekend, they will be sent home. They will be asked to Covid test and notify the board rep of the result. Consequently, please make sure your contact information is correct on the sponsor form.
3. **Buddy Mass.** There will not be a Buddy Mass. The team will have a Mass at their last team meeting and they will be anointed at that time.
4. **Thursday night.** Sponsors will drop off their candidate outside the building between 7:30-8:15 pm. Team members will meet them and carry luggage and get them settled. Sponsors Hour will happen off site at St. Francis Church, 1721 College Ave. in Quincy at 8:30 pm.
5. **Palanca Chapel.** We will continue to have an Online Palanca sign up for coverage for the weekend. We still want something to show the candidates they are being prayed for throughout the weekend. Those who sign up will pray at home or in their local parish churches. Team members will pray over the rolloista before they speak. Others can gather elsewhere, at someone's home or at church, to pray during a speaker's rollo. The online Palanca Chart will be available through the Cursillo website or contact Bob Gough and he can add your name to the online signup. His contact information is listed in this newsletter.

6. **Palanca Letters.** There are several options to deliver Palanca letters. Letters can be left in the box outside the front door of the Retreat Center; give the letters to a team member or sponsor to bring with them Thursday evening; or send letters by email to: palancaletters@quincycursillo.com. The emailed letters will be printed by the service team and put in envelopes for the candidates and team.
7. **Special Presentations:** Stations of the Cross presenters, clowns and entertainers will be allowed but they will be vaccinated and Covid tested. No touching will be allowed.
8. **Candlelight Mass** will be held off site at St. Francis Solanus Church in Quincy. After Mass, those that wish will proceed to the Retreat Center and gather in the circle drive outside the south chapel. Candles will be provided. Team and candidates will be able to see us through the glass windows and doors in the lobby. Songs will be sung by all. We believe the message will still be powerful.
9. **Closing.** The team and new Cursillistas will have witnessing when crosses are distributed followed by a private Mass. Sponsors will pick up their candidate outside. We strongly recommend either sharing a meal afterward or setting up a gathering in your community to welcome them.

I realize that this may be a lot to digest. We must remember a couple of things. First, the weekend is for the candidates and they are totally unaware of what they might be missing. Second, as both Father George Kramer and Father Tom Henseler always said, the important work that is done on the weekend happens in the conference room. The rest is window dressing, although it definitely feels good. We are confident that the Holy Spirit will find a way to bring the message home. There are so many who need Jesus, especially now. The Board feels it is more important to restart the weekends with restrictions than to wait until it is safe to resume with everything like it used to be, mostly because we don't know when that will be.

These changes make it very apparent how important your groups in your community are. Please get together with your Area Reps to brainstorm ideas of how you can pray for and support your new candidates.

Jesus calls us to be a part of His mission to bring others to Him. The weekend may look a little different but the mission is still the same. I ask for your continued prayers for the Board as we proceed, for the upcoming weekends, for the health and safety of all who attend the weekends, for the state of the world, and for the end of Covid. I love you all.

I also want everyone to know that we are going to have a Fourth Day Renewal on December 3-4, 2021. We are limiting the number who can attend to 35 so if you are interested, you need to get your application in soon. As in Cursillo now, each person who comes must provide proof of a Covid negative test within 48 hours of the weekend. It is time for us to be together again.

In Jesus' name,
Diane Lagoski, Lay Director

Quote for Contemplation

St. Francis calls us to "holy newness". In respect to the pandemic, we are being called to holy newness. We should see the blessings and gifts and have a greater appreciation for them. Any challenge is an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to work. Bring a holy newness to our Cursillo weekends.

Fr. John Doctor, OFM

Palanca Sign Up and Palanca Letters

Even though there will not be an onsite Palanca Chapel for the Men's Cursillo, we are still asking everyone to offer palanca for the team and candidates at your local church or at home.

To let the men know you are praying and offering palanca, please sign up through the **Online Signup**. Follow the link on the Quincy Cursillo website home page: www.quincycursillo.com. If you need assistance signing up, contact Bob Gough at 217-577-8044 or bobgough1966@yahoo.com

This signup listing will be shared with the candidates and team on Friday afternoon so please sign up by 2 pm that day so they can see that all the hours are filled.

Palanca letters can be 1) dropped off to the box located in the front entryway of the Retreat Center; 2) send letters with team or sponsors on Thursday or 3) email letters to: palancaletters@quincycursillo.com. Any letters dropped off or emailed should be delivered by Saturday evening.

Board Member Election Results

New board member election was held this summer. Those elected to serve a three-year term are Ann Gage, Patty Marshall and Tom Becker. Tim Oitker was elected to fill the unexpired term of Ron Clark, who resigned with one year left on his term. These new board members officially took their seats at the Annual meeting in August. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin their journey of serving you by serving on the Board.

A big thank you to our retiring members going off the board - Tim Gilbert, Marie Korte and Ron Clark. Marie will continue to serve as Board Secretary - an unelected position. It takes a great deal of time to serve on the Cursillo Board and we all owe them our gratitude for serving.

And as we complete this year's election, we start looking at the 2022 election. The Cursillo Community is invited to submit names of qualified past Rectors and Rectoras for nomination as candidates for the Cursillo Board. A letter of nomination signed by both the Nominator and the Nominee should be sent to the Cursillo Lay Director (Diane Lagoski, P.O. Box 3153 Quincy, IL 62305) by December 15, 2021. Please review the policy for the Cursillo Community to nominate a candidate for the Cursillo Board for the 2022 election on our website under the About Us tab.

Board of Directors 2021-22



Left to right - Front row: Pat Holbrook, Patty Marshall, Diane Lagoski, Lay Director; Ann Gage, Jill Kelly. **Back row:** Ed Holthaus, Assistant Lay Director; Tim Oitker, Fr. John Doctor, Spiritual Director; Tom Becker, Greg Wittland, Mike Grant

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

Next Board Meeting
November 16 at 6:30 p.m.
Retreat Center Conference Room

LAY DIRECTOR

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dlagoski@hotmail.com

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Ed Holthaus 217-430-9536
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

For updates on Cursillo news
check the website at:
www.quincycursillo.com
and "Like Us" on Facebook.

Fourth Day Renewal

When: December 3-4, 2021
Time: 7 pm Friday to 7 pm Saturday
Where: Franciscan Retreat Center-Quincy
Cost: \$50
Director: Russ Rohrer

Fourth Day Renewal is a 24-hour experience of personal growth for those who have previously made a Cursillo weekend and are wanting to renew and develop their spirituality. It's also a way to meet new friends in our Cursillo community

This relaxed, co-ed environment is ideal for both singles and couples.

During this time of Covid, all attendees are asked to provide results of a negative Covid test taken within 48 hours prior to start of the Renewal. No masks or vaccination status are required.

Download an application to mail or register online at www.quincycursillo.com/

If you have questions about the Fourth Day Renewal, call Steering Committee Scott Gough 573-231-5828 or Paula Gough 573-248-5828.

Fourth Day Renewal: Dec. 3-4, 2021 **Director: Russ Rohrer**

We hope that you will consider joining us on the upcoming Fourth Day Renewal. It has been a very long time since we've been able to have fellowship with our Cursillo family. These 24 hours could be just what you need to re-ignite that spiritual fire and a great way to start off Advent.

Our theme is "Thirsting For You, Oh Lord" which seems appropriate after this past year. The scripture verse we will focus on is Psalm 63:2 "So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory."

The team that is in the process of preparing for the Renewal includes: Russ & Terri Rohrer as Director and Assistant Director, Fr. John Doctor as Spiritual Director, Tim Serbin as Musician, Table Leaders include Tim Oitker, John Venegoni, Cele Gilbert, Phil and Brenda Leatherman, Dave Hummel, and Art Brown. Service Team includes Rachel Brink, Marty and Laurie Stegeman. Steering committee advisors are Scott and Paula Gough. We still have a few team members to add.

For anyone that hasn't yet attended a Fourth Day Renewal, it's a very relaxed atmosphere - all the tension you may have felt when you first attended Cursillo is gone because within minutes you feel that you are among old friends.

Please register online through the Cursillo website www.quincycursillo.com under the "Applications" tab. You will receive an acknowledgement letter along with a health screening questionnaire. The \$50 fee can be paid upon arrival.

The team is looking forward to seeing you.