

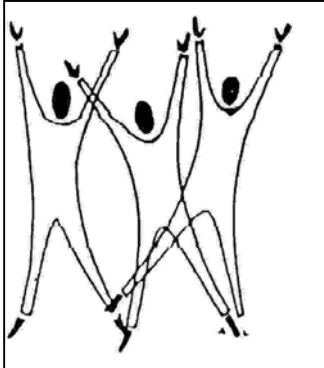
WITNESS

NASHVILLE CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

www.nashvillecursillo.org

cursillotn@bellsouth.net

November 2006



Welcome New Cursillistas!

Men's #86

Walter Ambrogi—St. Phillip
 Bert Brahney—Our Lady of the Lake
 Steve Bramlage—St. Phillip
 Larry Brinks—St. Henry
 Mike Catalano—St. Henry
 Jim Chadwell—Christ the King
 David Clippinger—St. Henry
 Dan Cottone—St. Matthew
 Troy Cowan—St. Henry
 Joseph Crum—St. Stephen
 Mark DeMille—Christ the King
 Mark Erdman—St. Henry
 Henry Franco—Immaculate Conception
 Roger Fucilli—Cathedral of the Incarnation
 Michael Gilles—St. Catherine
 Rick Gronefeld—St. Henry
 George Grover—Christ the King
 Stephen Guerin—Our Lady Queen of the Universe
 Jeff Kohl—St. Henry
 Rumaasha Maasha—Our Lady Queen of the Universe
 Daniel Melchior—St. Anthony
 Joshua Melchior—St. Anthony
 Ismael Oñate—Immaculate Conception
 Danny Preston—St. Henry
 Clark Rochelle—Christ the Redeemer
 Francisco Rosado—Immaculate Conception
 Tony Roushdi—St. Henry
 Romulo Sanchez Beristain—St. Phillip
 Scott Summers—St. Anthony
 Charles Walker—Christ the King
 Conrad Walker, Jr.—Our Lady of the Lake
 Brett Wesnofske—Christ the King

Women's #70

Marcia Brinks—St. Henry
 Ella Chadwell—Christ the King
 Isabelle Cook—St. Stephen
 Jennifer Crum—St. Stephen
 Alvina Cruz—St. Matthew
 Glenda Dahlhauser—Christ the King
 Pat Dannemiller—St. Matthew
 Jennifer Erdman—St. Henry
 Ronnie Francescon—St. Rose
 Gladys Franco—Immaculate Conception
 Nancy Garza—Immaculate Conception
 Barbara Gronefeld—St. Henry
 Melinda Hunkler—St. Henry
 Janet Hunter—Our Lady of the Lake
 Deborah Jones—St. Joseph
 Joan King—St. Rose
 Mary Beth Lawrence—St. Rose
 Jackie Miller—St. Rose
 Cheryl Miller—St. Anthony
 Meg Neeley—St. Henry
 Carmen Oñate—Immaculate Conception
 Mary Perry—Our Lady of Lourdes
 Angela Rosado—Immaculate Conception
 Mary Roushdi—St. Henry
 Laurie Summers—St. Anthony
 Christine Van Enkenvoort—St. Anthony
 Jodi Vehr—St. Rose
 Cheryl Walker—Our Lady of the Lake
 Connie Wesnofske—Christ the King
 Carol Wieck—St. Henry

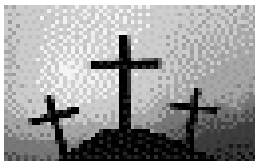
COME TO ULTREYA!

Below are Ultreyas in the Nashville Diocese:

CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH
 3001 Belmont Blvd
 Nashville, TN 37212
Every Thursday-Mass at 6:00, Ultreya at 6:30 PM. School of Leaders held 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 7:30PM

SAINT ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH
 1601 N. Tennessee Blvd
 Murfreesboro, TN 37130
School of Leaders held on the second Saturday of each month at 5:30 PM. Ultreya follows at 6:30 PM

SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH
 1900 Huntsville Hwy
 Fayetteville, TN 37334
Ultreya held the Second Sunday of each month at 12:30 PM



Cursillo Weekends for 2007:

Spring — Men's Weekend, March 1st-4th; Women's Weekend, March 15th-18th
 Fall — Men's Weekend, Sept 20th-23rd; Women's Weekend October 4th-7th,
If you are interested in sponsoring someone you can get an application from our web site.

Cursillo Christmas Celebration—Dec 7th

Please join us for the annual Christmas party at Christ the King

- Mass at 6:00, refreshments & fun in Marian Hall from 6:30-8:00.
- All family members are welcome
- Please bring your favorite Christmas party snacks

After the Cursillo Weekend

By Mike Schlacter

My sponsor took me to his Group and I have been there ever since. The Group is my lifeline to continued development as a Cursillista. I have been reminded and encouraged every weekend to Pray my commitments of Daily Prayer, Rosary, Extra Masses and Visits to the Blessed Sacrament. I hear others tell of their close moments with Christ and have learned to see Him in so many other places than I initially imagined...He is everywhere! He is truly among us daily.

My formation has added to the groups and I have learned so much from the others in the group. I have borrowed or bought books based on their reactions for my own development. I have learned



better how to Evangelize daily and on larger projects.

I have all this because my sponsor took me to Group once. Thanks Joe! Thanks to the whole Group for accepting me where I am and helping me to grow into a better Christian Person.

Please as a Sponsor, help your new "babe-chick" into a Group, they will never forget you. Those who wonder from outside of the Group, please come in, the temperature is just right.

De Colores!

Mike Schlacter,
Cursillo #81
Table of St. Paul
Cathedral of the Incarnation

Nashville Cursillo Secretariat Members:

- Lay Director—Amy Staples, astaples@mtsu.edu
- Spiritual Advisor—Marty Deschenes, modesch@aol.com
- Secretary—Paul & Therese McLean, tampmurse@comcast.net & mcleanp@comcast.net
- Treasurer—Jay Hoover, jayhoover@bsh-cpa.com
- Pre Cursillo—Open
- 3 Day Weekend—Margot Deschenes, margot-desch@aol.com
- Post Cursillo—Mike Schlacter, schlacter9@comcast.net
- School of Leaders— Dave Heiar, dheiar@ora.fda.gov
- Parish Coordinators—George & Mary Sloan, sloan385@bellsouth.net
- Communications—Ray & Mary Beth Brocato, brocatofamily@comcast.net, raybrocato@comcast.net

The Importance of Group Reunion

By Sharron Doyle

I am a recent Cursillista and I had a wonderful weekend, but I have to admit that my favorite and most meaningful part was the closing when everyone who has made Cursillo came in singing. It was such a powerful and moving experience to be a part of that group...I felt Christ's presence. I feel that the group that we have all become a part of is the key to keeping that spirit alive. It is so helpful to be with those who are going through the same day to day as we are and to get encouragement and even a little push when we need it!

I am currently a part of two group reunions. In my first group reunion I meet with two women from my weekend who attend St. Henry, but who have young children at home like I do. We created a kind of "play group" gathering and it works well for us. We take turns meeting at each others' homes and it allows us

to group when we otherwise couldn't have. I truly see Christ in these two women and in the effect that we have on our little ones!

In my second group reunion I also meet with three women who go to the same church and school that we do and who have children in the same classes as our older children. We share many life experiences and are able to support and encourage each other. These three women are my inspiration; they are there to keep me accountable and focused throughout the week. The relationship that we share is even stronger now with our Cursillo bond!

Group reunion is the most important part of Cursillo to me because I feel that it keeps the weekend going

and gives us direction and a use for the tools that we learned on our weekends. It is a great reminder to me each week that God is in my life and He has a plan for me and that I can make it through those ups and downs. It is Christ touching me through others.

I encourage all of you who are not grouping to attend an Ultreya on a Thursday night or call to find a group to join in on. It is a wonderful weekly reminder of the moving weekend that you experienced and is a great way to return your focus to God.

De colores!

Sharron Doyle
Cursillo #69
Table of St. Theresa
Christ the King Parish

"Group reunion is the most important part of Cursillo to me"

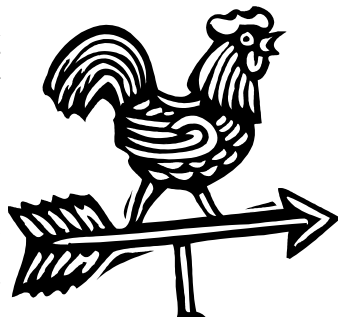
A Message from our Spiritual Advisor

By Deacon Marty Deschanes

In his *Confessions*, Saint Augustine wrote: "Our heart is restless until it rests in You." All of us experience this restlessness that St. Augustine talks about. We want answers, we look for happiness, we seek comfort, we long for peace or sometimes just for a little quiet time. In the business of our everyday life, especially at this time of the year, it can be difficult to keep our focus on Jesus as the Lord of our existence and to bring the spirit of Jesus into all of our activities.

Advent is a great time to reflect upon our relationship with Jesus, a time to reevaluate our spiritual life. As Saint Augustine discovered, God is the only solution to our restlessness of heart. A consistent and strong spiritual life with Jesus as our Lord is the way to the Father and to peace.

Spirituality is an attitude, it is a mentality that must permeate our whole life, every moment of our existence. Sometimes it requires a change of mind and heart, especially of heart. We are Christian by choice. But are we Christians in our heart? Has our Christianity penetrated the depths of our spirit? Is our spirituality authentic? Is it a spirituality we leave at the door of the church after mass, or is it a spirituality we bring along to work with us, or to a Titan's game or to a Friday night party? Is it present in every moment of our family life, the hectic as well as the peaceful moments, if those still exist? This spirituality is not



meant to be used as an escape from the world of today. It is meant to be lived right where we are, in our family, in our neighborhood and in our workplace.

This spirituality must be anchored in prayer, prayer that becomes part of our daily life, prayer that permeates our innermost being. One of the signs of vitality in a Christian community is the desire for a deeper life of prayer, a deeper spirituality.

The purpose of the Cursillo is to assist in developing a deeper understanding of what it means to be fully human, fully Christian and fully Catholic. The Cursillo provides a method and a structure to help us place God at the center of our lives and to strive to bring Him into the lives of the people around us, our families, our neighborhood and our work place. One of our favorite sayings is "Bloom where you are planted."

The Cursillo is for those who want to grow, and for all who are restless for a better life. The Cursillo method is designed to help us grow in our spirituality.

The world of today is not an easy one to live in. But it becomes much easier to face and to influence if we live in union with Christ and a Christian community. That's what Cursillo did for me. It gave me a way to structure my life, my prayer life and my life with a community of friends.

Parish Coordinators

If you or someone you know is interested in finding a group, contact a Parish Coordinator from the list below. They can help find other Cursillistas who are also looking to form a group reunion.

St. Paul the Apostle—Tullahoma
—Jerry Bailey, rjtm2641@bellsouth.net, 931-723-1042

Our Lady of Lourdes—Springfield
—Sandra Bracy
sbracy@logantele.com, 270-539-6237

Immaculate Conception—Pulaski
—Mike Hume, deaconhume@aol.com

St. Henry—Nashville
—Marty & Margot Deschenes
margotdesch@aol.com, 615-352-2473

St. Rose—Murfreesboro
—Mike & Missy Johnston
mjohn20221@aol.com, 615-893-5164

Christ the King—Nashville
—Sam Francescon
francescons@bellsouth.net, 615-269-0350

St. John Vianney—Gallatin
—Eileen George
george@realtracs.com, 615-826-4040

Holy Rosary—Donelson
—Paul & Therese McLean
tapmnurse@comcast.net, 615-754-2273

Cathedral of the Incarnation—Nashville
—Kevin & Deb McDermott
kpmcdermott@kpmg.com, 615-297-0313

St. Anthony's—Fayetteville
—Dan Lear
danandfaye@hotmail.com, 931-607-1983

St. Frances—Lebanon
—Phyrne & Bob Kendall, 615-286-2284

St. Matthew—Franklin
—George & Mary Sloan, sloan385@bellsouth.net,
615-591-4079

Our Lady of the Lake—Hendersonville
—Sharon Ratcliff & Mary Sundermeir
dan-ratcliff@comcast.net, 615-822-4709

St. Christopher—Dickson
—Tom Roche, troche581@yahoo.com, 615-441-3154

St. Thomas Aquinas—Cookeville
—Sister Pat Russell
srpat@citlink.net, 931-526-2575

St. Joseph—Nashville
—Matt & Lisa McConnel
mattnlisa4@juno.com, 615-382-0590

St. Phillip—Franklin
Israel Cordero, israelcordero@aol.com, 615-794-4163

St. Stephen—Mt. Juliet
Jay Hoover, jayhoover@bsh-cpa.com, 615-754-8621



*Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend
to Christ*

Lay Director's Corner

By Amy Staples

When Margie Heiar asked me to consider finishing her term as Lay Director of the Nashville Cursillo movement, I have to admit that I laughed. Surely she couldn't be asking me this! After all, I had only made my Cursillo weekend 18 months ago. Granted, I'm a regular attendee of Ultreya and the School of Leaders and am serving on my second retreat team this spring, but this seemed to be quite a leap. Fortunately, Margie didn't ask me for an answer right away, because on that Saturday evening the answer would have been "no."

But I prayed about it and talked to my group reunion, my spiritual director, and my mother. The more I reflected, the more I realized that my two key objections were that the Secretariat should have chosen someone else and that I wasn't experienced enough to do a good job. But prayer led me to two key conclusions: (1) I was being asked to have faith in the discernment process of the Secretariat and the Holy Spirit, and (2) I was being asked to have faith that if God was leading me to this position that God would lead me through it. So when I called Margie on Monday night, I had to say "yes" to the position of Lay Director.

Now I'm learning how to be a servant-leader in the Cursillo Movement. I'm counting on Christ—but also on all your prayers and input—to be able to do this job. Feel free to email me with any questions or concerns over the next year—astaples@mtsu.edu.

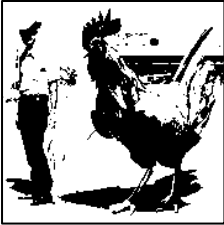
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Editors: Ray & Mary Beth Brocato

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Cursillo Fast Fact

Q: Why a rooster?



A: The rooster has become a symbol of the Cursillo movement. Why? Good question. Probably because the rooster is mentioned in the traditional folk song "De Colores" which is sung by Cursillistas 'round the globe.

So now you also know where the phrase "De Colores" comes from too! Literally, it means "of colors" but it is also sometimes used as a greeting or parting phrase by Cursillistas.

Thoughts from a Bell Ringer

God's Alarm Clock

By John Stephens, Cursillo #75, table of St. John, St. Joseph



Whether you are an Assistant Rector or a new Cursillista the Lord is always sending you signals. You might not always understand the signals but if you ponder them and pray about them you will understand that the Lord is telling you how much He loves you, has faith in you and depends on you to be His "Bell Ringer". Be a "Bell Ringer" for the Lord - sponsor a "Babe Chick" for the next Cursillo. No telling whom you might wake-up.
DeColores!

My Fourth Day

Tony Roushdi - Cursillo #86, table of St. James, St. Henry Church

I returned from Cursillo ablaze with the Holy Spirit exactly as I had anticipated. I went to the Cursillo weekend expecting to feel a renewed fire of the Holy Spirit just as I had when I attended a Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) retreat in high school and a Koinonia Retreat as an adult. About two weeks after returning from Cursillo, I also experienced the ebb of my spiritual enthusiasm, just as I had after returning to the stresses of the real world following TEC and Koinonia.

I was fortunate enough to be asked to give my witness talk at Ultreya only two weeks after beginning my fourth day. I was still ablaze with the Holy Spirit and the Lord gave me an abundance of things for which to give thanks and witness. Last night as I reviewed the notes I made while preparing for my Ultreya witness talk I realized that the points I discussed then, although totally accurate at the time, are no longer the most prevalent feelings regarding my fourth day. The shift in focus doesn't disappoint me because I am aware that metanoia, our continual spiritual conversion, is not a sprint, it is a marathon. It is a journey, not a destination. As we grow and transform in our spirituality we will experience a change in the ways that we become most aware of Jesus Christ in our lives.

Upon returning from Cursillo I had not yet become part of a small group and, therefore, my Ultreya witness talk made no mention of any group experiences. As I write this article for the Cursillo newsletter today I realize that my three-member group and the piety, formation, and evangelization we have shared over the last few weeks is now the prevalent focus of my fourth day. Perhaps the fire of the Holy Spirit I encountered during Cursillo may only return during Ultreya and Clausura reunions. However, the small group meetings are the infusions of energy, the "water breaks", I will need along the marathon of metanoia.

My small group meets on Tuesday nights. We are all fathers of small children so last Tuesday we opted not to meet due to Halloween activities. Over the past week I have been aware that I truly missed the time with my group and how much I look forward to seeing them again tonight. Since our first meeting my group brothers have shared many inspirational moments recently experienced in their lives. This has generously allowed me to experience their inspiration and formation almost as if I were there with them at the time. This is a priceless gift to me in particular. Being a very slow reader and the busy father of five children I tend to read fewer spiritual books than the average Cursillista. My small group meetings have become my primary method of formation.

If anyone reading this article has not yet joined a small group or has not attended a group meeting or Ultreya lately, I encourage you to do so. If you are like me you can always use a "water break" as you continue your marathon of metanoia.

De Colores!