



Fourth Day News

Washington Cursillo Movement

Informing, Enlightening, and Building Community

Secretariat Corner



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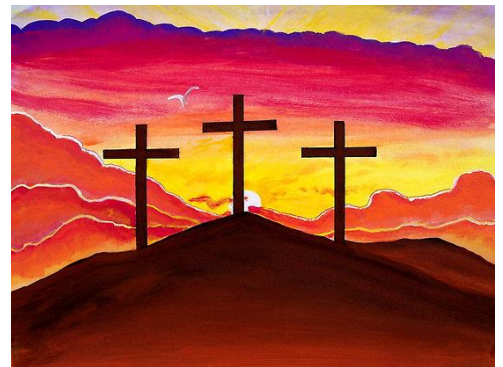
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WANT TO BE AN AUTHENTIC WITNESS?

PRACTICE LIVING THE METHOD IN COMMUNITY!

I was moved by the witness of a new sister at the closing of the 215th Cursillo. What got me? She told the community that long before she showed up for the weekend, the entire parish community embraced her and started to walk with her, warts and all. She was moved by the witness of her parish community and was delighted to see the larger community at the closing but not really surprised; she had seen it all before.

This weekend witness caused me to think about my drinking habits, not what they are, but what they should be. You have not seen this in the literature until you read this; the Cursillo Movement is an invitation to drink as long as your drinking partner is the "Samaritan Woman."



John 4: 39-40 says this of the Samaritan woman: *"Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me everything I have done." When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed for two days...."* Who has come to your group reunion, Ultreya or Parish with such a witness? If no one is coming, you have not spent enough time at the Samaritan Woman's watering hole; you know she drank the living water which is the risen and living Christ. This Lent, instead of giving up something, take time to figure out how you can drink more of the living water and become a fountain for a brother or sister

The essence of our Movement is to be a fountain of living water for the brother or sister who is searching (everybody is searching, just in case you did not know).

So, who is searching for a drink from your group? I showed up for a closing and heard several new sisters witnessing, and it sounded something like this: “The coordinator had her group reunion as part of the weekend community; I really wanted to be part of that community, and I felt like they invited me to be one with them!” How authentic is your invitation? I showed up at team formation recently and there were several team members from Laurel; everyone from Laurel said that Marty Novak had a profound influence on them living their communal life in the Movement. It was as if everyone in the Laurel Ultreya was sponsored by or in reunion with Marty Novak. I wasn’t from that Ultreya, but I had been in a group reunion with Marty for about 10 years. When those who search see your group and the authenticity of your invitation, they will come. Don’t believe me; ask the woman who witnessed about the parish community embracing her, or the sisters who saw themselves in the coordinator’s group. Take the real challenge; find a Cursillista in the Laurel Ultreya who was not connected to Marty Novak.



This note is designed to help you with your walk and begins by introducing witnesses. It is an invitation to join the crowd that goes to the same well where the Samaritan woman drank. The folk who drank the living water are described like this: *“They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers”* (Acts 2: 42). And who should be initiated into drinking with the Samaritan Woman?

Pope Francis says, “The Church will have to initiate everyone – priests, religious and laity – into this “art of accompaniment,” which teaches us to remove our sandals before the sacred ground of the other (cf. Exodus 3: 5)” (EG #169).

What did “they” do to initiate? *“They defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by the power of their testimony...”* (Revelation 12: 11). We have evidence – a parish, a group reunion and an individual – that drank with the Samaritan Woman. How do we share the good news so that hungry and thirsty folk see our group (Reunion, Ultreya or Parish) as a source for an abundance of living water to go with the bread of life? This Lent go back to the source of living water as the Samaritan Woman did and invest real time in devotion to the communal life. Then find someone with whom you can share; then initiate them with your witness! Ultreya!

© February 2015
Deacon Timothy E. Tilghman
Spiritual Advisor to the Secretariat



216th Women's Cursillo Weekend
"Spirit on Fire!"
October 8 – 11, 2015

I've always loved a good campfire. There's something about gathering around a glowing fire with family and friends, singing, talking, sharing stories and toasting marshmallows that just warms my heart! And so, when asked to be a coordinator (after the initial shock wore off), I said, "I know the theme!" Lord, start a fire in me! Create a spark, make it burn brightly, that all the world may see. Spirit on Fire! And then God whispered... "Come into my presence." In the months after accepting this journey, I prayed "Start a fire in me," and in His ever so quiet voice, God said, "Come into my presence." And I continued to pray, "But God, I really like this theme. This is the theme I want. Spirit on Fire!" And the Lord said, "Then seek my face more and more. Come into my presence."

I pray to God, I praise Him. I ask Jesus for help in my daily struggle. And I ask the Spirit to light Her fire in me.

Through prayer, I realize, that it is God's presence in me, in my life, that ignites this passion, this fire. So where do I find Him? In prayer, at Mass. But is that enough? How do I make time for Him? How do I truly live in His presence? I mean, where do I *really* find Him?

Have you ever noticed that as a fire burns down, and the embers slowly begin to fade, they lose their red glow? The fire no longer seems so warm and its bright light dims. But, when we gather those coals close together, when we stoke the fire and add some new tinder and kindling, it creates a spark. The flames grow. The warmth and light return. And so it is with our faith. God gathers us in close, close together and close to Him. With the littlest spark, the flame is lit. And within His presence, together in an ever growing circle of friends, we keep it burning. Brightly, that all may see! I thank each of my sisters and brothers who are joining me by the fire:

Christine Abresch (Table Leader)
Monica Jeffries-Barnes (Table Leader)
Sharon Casey (Table Leader)
Father Peter Daly (Head Spiritual Advisor)
Jennifer Ferguson (Table Leader)
Burma Hill (Angel)
Denise Jenkins (Table Leader)
Cheryl Kerwin (Angel)
Nancy Mattingly (Assistant Coordinator)
Mary McCullough (Table Leader)
Stefanie Miles (Table Leader)
Ginny Novak (Musician/Spiritual Advisor)
Cheryl Pilkington (Spiritual Advisor)
Rosemary Reeves (Table Leader)
Deacon Tim Tilghman (Spiritual Advisor)

We the team of the 216th Women's Cursillo invite you to also join us in the circle. Please pray that the Spirit will reign down on us and fill us with Her light.

And please pray for the 16 new sisters that God is preparing to send us, that the Spirit will create a spark in them. Spirit, start a fire in us! And the Spirit says, "Come into my presence!" Spirit on Fire!

Toni Abresch
Coordinator, 216th Women's Cursillo



217th Men's Cursillo Weekend
***"Jesus Come and Fill
Your Lambs"***
November 12 – 15, 2015

My introduction and initiation into the Cursillo movement was anything but conventional. I knew nothing of the movement or its purpose when I arrived at St Joseph's Seminary that Thursday evening. For the next 3 days I kept questioning my reason for being there and why was I the one that was asked. By the third day I had a third question I kept repeating while in adoration "Lord what do You want from me, what are Your plans for me?"

At the closing while standing there addressing the Community with my witness I suddenly was filled with a spirit of revelation. Those questions and several others were answered. I was filled with the Spirit of the Living Christ and the spirit of Cursillo. Before I left the Seminary that weekend one of the goals I had set for myself was to do whatever was needed until I could one day lead one of these weekends and watch someone else be filled just as I was.

A few years later I was sitting at Mass on a Sunday morning and the choir started to sing the "Spirit Song" and as I sang along to the song I listened to the lyrics as I had never listened to any song before. As I sang the words I truly did become filled I began to become so filled with the spirit of the song and of Christ and of his message to me, I began to softly cry, yes I had become so filled that it was having to find a way to spill out of me. I suddenly felt again what I had felt at that closing of the Men's 194th Weekend. I was filled with the Spirit of Christ and His love for me.

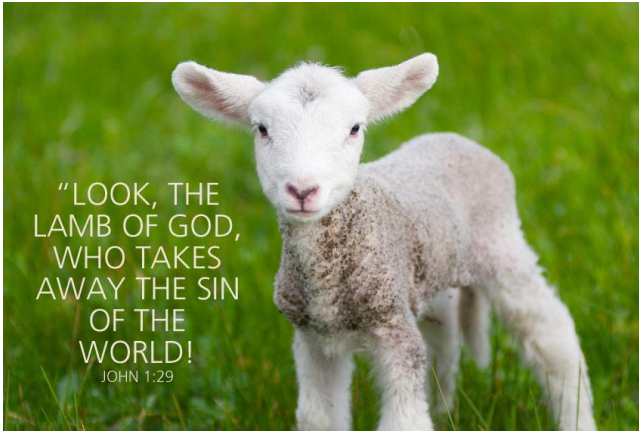
**Spirit Song (O Let the Son of God Enfold
You) by John Wimber**

*O let the Son of God enfold you
With His Spirit and His love
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul
O let Him have the things that hold you
And His Spirit like a dove
Will descend upon your life and make you whole*

*Jesus, O Jesus
Come and fill Your lambs
Jesus, O Jesus
Come and fill Your lambs*

*O come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name
O give Him all your tears and sadness
Give Him all your years of pain
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name*

© 1979 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing



I was still working at my goal of one day being a coordinator for a weekend. I had read in the Leader's Manual how to become qualified and I was determined that one day I would achieve this goal. I recall having a conversation with my mentor Phyllis Winston and during that conversation I asked her how does one determine the theme for one's weekend. After her explanation I knew what my theme would be "Jesus come and fill your lambs". Two years later I was called to Coordinate the Men's 217th weekend and my Assistant Coordinator Stefan Abresch asked me had I been thinking of a theme for the weekend, without hesitation I told him I have had the theme for a couple of years.

This song has become a prayer, a meditation, a soothing balm, an encouraging hug, a warm embrace more importantly it has become a reminder of how much I love being filled with the Love of Jesus. I also can't think of a better way to express my journey during this time of preparation and encounter as I work toward my goal of coordinating the Men's 217th Weekend. During those early days of seeking out my core team and then the rest of the team, I prayed that Jesus fill me with His Spirit of wisdom and guidance. Later on in the process once we begin the formation I shall pray that Jesus fill me and each of our team with His Spirit of dedication and commitment to His work.

Finally once that weekend begins I pray that Jesus fill each of those new brothers with His Spirit of the Living and Loving Christ as well as the spirit of Cursillo. To that end I can say I will have achieved my goal and completed what He had asked me to do. De Colores!

James Brightful, Coordinator
217th Men's Cursillo Weekend



A Cursillista Beyond Washington Cursillo

Reflecting on Phyllis' appointment to the talk "Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo," I realized that I have a witness about my experience of leaving Washington for Florida, leaving Cursillo behind for . . . Lord knows what. Well, the Lord did indeed know.

In January 2012, we traveled to Florida to take possession of our new little house, and spent a week getting everything set up—you know, TV cable, water hookup, phone line, etc. Then we hurried back to Washington because Pat's vacation from work was up, she had not yet retired.

A month or so later, I returned to Florida to take up residence, leaving Pat to wind up her job. On my to-do list was to look into finding Cursillo in the Venice Diocese so as to continue my commitment to the Method.

Walking into my new home, I immediately noticed there were messages on the shiny new phone, and dialed up to retrieve them. The first message went something like this: "Hi, Mary! I'm Terry, coordinator for the Walk to Emmaus starting on Thursday. I want to welcome you to the Walk. Call me at 111-1111 if you have any questions."

Now, for those unaware of Walk to Emmaus, it's one of the descendants of Cursillo, organized for protestant denominations, with the same methodology and goals, but changed to fit protestant sensibilities.

Here's a shocker! I'm looking for Cursillo, and here's something a bit like Cursillo! So I left that message undeleted and went on to the next message, which was also about Emmaus: "Hi, Mary! This is Terry, from Emmaus. I enjoyed getting to know you over the weekend. We have Group Reunion coming up on Saturday, and we'd like you to join us. Call me on 111-1111 for details."

I didn't delete that message either, but prayed about it for a few days, meditating on the opportunities God puts in our way. Meanwhile, I worked through my to-dos as I had planned. In a week or so, feeling that my phone messages, even though intended for the previous owner of my phone line, must also have been meant for me, I dialed 111-1111 and told Terry the story and asked her if I could join her group, too, even though she had not invited me. Terry told me that her group was women only, but that Bob Smith had a men's group near me that would happily welcome me.

Bob Smith? That seemed a familiar name. Who was he? Then I realized that earlier that morning I had bought a bike from a Bob Smith who lived just a few blocks away, compared the phone numbers, and found I already knew Bob. Is the Holy Spirit knocking, or what?

Long story, but now I'm the Catholic in a Methodist group reunion and giving witness in an entirely new and challenging way.

BTW, I soon thereafter found a Catholic Ultreya and through them formed a Catholic group I also attend. The Protestant Ultreyas have not worked well for me.

John Molineaux
38th Men's Cursillo, April-May, 1981
Bowie Ultreya

HOLY
A
I
K
U



*I will adore Him...
I will bow down before Him...
I will revere Him*

*some see a wafer...
I see flesh consecrated
and my life infused*

*let my silent gaze
be a sign of awe; wonder...
the real presence awaits*

*Cheryl Kerwin
152nd Women's Cursillo Weekend
Calvert Ultreya*

“Let’s Go To The Hop”



**Calling All Cursillistas Babe chicks,
Cluck hens and Roosters**

If your Ultreya wants to be a “**Hop Host**”, please contact Paul Washington or LaVerne Atiba: at LayDirector@washdc-cursillo.org or Paul Washington on 202-302-3518; LaVerne Atiba on 202-494-0060.

Prayer Corner



If you have prayer requests or want to be added to the mailing list to receive prayer requests, please submit your e-mail information to MaryAnne Upright at MAUpright@aol.com.

A Call to the Community from Pre Cursillo

Sponsoring Call to the Community:

The Pre-Cursillo team is prayerfully committed to work with all facets of the Cursillo to increase sponsorship in the Movement. This Sponsor call is designed to bring to the attention of all of the membership within Ultreyas and the Secretariat requesting diligent action in getting more of our environments to become a part of Cursillo. It is our role to consistently provide guidelines and rules, that, if read and complied with, there should be a greater increase in sponsorship to bring a friend to Christ. With the Lord’s help, we will continue, through the Secretariat 4th Day Committee to keep in front of all Ultreyas our duty to follow the Mission of Cursillo – “**Make a Friend, Be a Friend, and Bring that Friend to Christ.**” The Chairs of Pre and Post Cursillo remain in contact and have agreed that we will be working even closer to help our community to grow and to reach goals that will ensure that our Community realizes Christ’s Mission.

Weekend update:

The 215th Women’s weekend held in February 2015 had a total of 13 women that completed the weekend. It was so very evident that the sponsors for this group of new sisters really followed all of the protocols for sponsoring. I report that because each of the new sisters had so much information about Cursillo prior to coming to the 23 day weekend and found that the 3 day weekend experience was just a pre cursor to living their fourth day. Accolades must go to the sponsors and the team for keeping the weekend what Christ wanted it to be.

For that we say "Thank you Lord!"
Therefore, it is imperative that all of our wonderful community should be in the mode of preparing our friends who will be able to live the Cursillo method from the 3 day weekend through their 4th day, Cursillo School of Leaders and Spiritual Direction.

Upcoming Weekends:

The next two weekends are fast approaching and the Pre-Cursillo Team is requesting applications now from our brothers and sisters within our environments to make the weekend in preparation to live their Fourth Day with Christ. The dates for the next two weekends are as follows:

- [October 8 – 11, 2015 - 216th Women's Cursillo Weekend](#)
[Toni Abresch, Coordinator](#)
- [November 12 – 15, 2015 - 217th Men's Cursillo Weekend](#)
[James Brightful, Coordinator](#)

Application to Make a Weekend:

The Committee has placed on the website an application to make a weekend. We are asking all sponsors to please use that application when asking your friend to complete the data requested.

Charles & Nancy Smallwood, Co-Chairs
Pre-Cursillo Committee to the Secretariat

SAVE THE DATE!

This year's "Not for Ultreya Leaders Only" Workshop will be on Saturday, May 2nd. Time and Place to be announced later.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

UPCOMING WEEKENDS

JOSEPHITE CENTER WASHINGTON, DC

October 8 – 11, 2015

216th Women's Cursillo Weekend
Toni Abresch, Coordinator

November 12 – 15, 2015

217th Men's Cursillo Weekend
James Brightful, Coordinator

CURSILLO SCHOOL OF LEADERS (CSOL)

St. Joseph's Church

2020 Saint Joseph's Dr., Upper Marlboro, MD
7:00pm – 8:50pm

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Reading Scripture Meaningfully/Fr. Pawel Sass

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

CDC ad DC/Secretariat Team

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Open Forum

Relax and Reflect Weekend

June 12 – 13, 2015

Speakers: Fr. Pavel Sass & Deacon James Caldwell

Holy Trinity Spiritual Center

Region II Encounter

April 24-26, 2015

Pope John Paul II Retreat Center
414 S. 8th St, Vineland NJ 08360

Josephite Jubilarian Mass

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2015

11 O'clock in the Morning

Please join in the Celebration of the 50th Jubilee of Priestly Ordination for

The Very Reverend William Leonard Norvel, Jr. Superior General, The Society of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart

"Feast of St. Joseph the Worker"
St. Joseph Seminary, 1200 Varnum St. N.E.
Washington, DC 20017

25th National Encounter

July 23-26, 2015

Villanova University,

800 E Lancaster Ave, Villanova, PA 19085

Registration is open NOW

How do I register for the Encounter?

You may register on-line at <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/encounter/> or download a registration form and mail form with full payment to the National Cursillo® Center, P.O. Box 799, Jarrell, TX 76537. You can also fax form to 512-746-2030, or e-mail form to admin@natl-cursillo.org. Use a separate Encounter Registration Form for each person.

4TH DAY NEWS

2015 PRODUCTION SCHEDULE



2nd. QUARTER ISSUE

April - June 2015

Submission Deadline

June 3, 2015

3rd. QUARTER ISSUE

July – Sept. 2015

Submission Deadline

Sept. 9, 2015

4th. QUARTER ISSUE

Oct. – Dec. 2015

Submission Deadline

Dec. 23, 2015



Editors Corner

Are you a writer? Do you have thoughts, poems, prayers, or reflections to share? The Washington Cursillo® Community wants to hear from you!! Ultreya Leaders, please send us your sharing – it would be great to hear from each leader at least once a year! Babe Chics your articles are the most important ones. Let us hear from you. **Articles should be submitted in Arial 12 Font Size no later than** **Remember to sign your articles with your name, weekend, and Ultreya.**

**Submit articles at any time to
Lethia Kelly at
[communications@washdc-
cursillo.org](mailto:communications@washdc-cursillo.org)**

Website News!!
Jack McFadden and Tom Arnold
(Web managers)

**The Washington Cursillo®
Movement website is
<http://www.washdc-cursillo.org>**

LIST OF ULTREYAS

Assumption

1:30pm, 2nd Saturday
Ansgar Hall
Assumption

Gwendolyn Jarman

gwendolyn.jarman@rcn.com

Richard Sylvester

Bowie-Lanham

7:00pm, 2nd Friday
St. Edward's, Bowie

Judy Kelly

301-249-7197

Marme1999@gmail.com

**Marguerite
Dobrosielski**

Calvert County

7:30pm, 2nd Monday
St. John Vianney
Church Basement

Rita Leclerc

410-326-2078

leclercrita@hotmail.com

Gisela Victoria

gizelstix@comcast.net

Linda Pixton

410-610-9193

lindapixton@gmail.com

Toni Abresch

tabresch@comcast.net

Leanne Stivers

lcstivers87@gmail.com

Central PG County

7pm, 4th Monday
Rosemont Room
St. Josephs in Largo

Burma Hill

burmahill57@aol.com

Thelma Adams

thelmaadams1@verizon.net

Vanetta Wallace

nettastnest@verizon.net

East of the River

7:30pm, 4th Friday
OLPH
1st Portable Bldg.

Pearl Baylor

301-894-8405

pearlbaylor@yahoo.com

Rita Robinson

301-297-7769

equityassurance@hotmail.com

Forestville

St. John the Evangelist
7:00pm, 2nd Sunday

MaryAnne Upright

MAUpright@aol.com

Laurel

7:30pm, 3rd Friday
St. Nicholas Church
8603 Contee Road
Laurel, MD 20708

Debra Rausch

301-498-8806

rauschda@gmail.com

Tom Arnold

Tkkcm1@yahoo.com

301 725-3450

Stefan Abresch

sgabresch@aol.com

410-474-2996

Katie Schall

301-906-9435

amydom21@aol.com

Montgomery County

7:30pm, 1st Saturday
**Missionaries of the
Most Holy Trinity Home**
1733 Metzert Road
Adelphi MD

Sonia Melendez

pfcjai@msn.com

And...

7:30 pm 3rd Friday

St. Paul's Church Hall
9240 Damascus Rd.
Damascus, MD 20872

Steve & Rosemary Reeves

301-391-6580

Cursillo_st.paul@verizon.net

NE/SE

7:30pm, 1st Friday

St. Anthony's Cafeteria

James Brightful

202-269-4606

James@amphitrion.com

Bernadette White

202-269-0710

bcw3056@yahoo.com

Our Lady Queen of Peace

Not Currently Meeting
St. John's Church Hall.

Shelia Vallot

202-583-0271

svallot@verizon.net

St. Teresa of Avila

7:30pm, 2nd Monday
St. Teresa's Church
Parish Life Center (PLC)
14th & V Streets, SE

Jennifer Ferguson

301-412-5008

calypsofergie@gmail.com

So. Maryland

7pm, 4th Wednesday
St. Mary's Church
Newport

Marc Abresch

tipmanrules@hotmail.com

Christine Abresch

chrisabresch@hotmail.com

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