



Oct. – Dec. 2014 – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Edition

# Fourth Day News

Washington Cursillo Movement

*Informing, Enlightening, and Building Community*

## Secretariat Corner



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## Advent – A Time of Waiting

Advent is a time of waiting, a time of getting ready, a time of preparation for the event that has been promised us and our ancestors for centuries past. Our anticipation is of no less significance than that of Mother Mary in whose very womb grows our Redeemer, the long-awaited Messiah, "called Son of the Most High." (Luke 1:32)

The mystery of the Incarnation is a great truth for us Christians – one that is slowly unwrapped for us each year during this season of hope. Each year, depending on the circumstances of our lives, we are given a further glimpse into the mystery that will be completely revealed only after the great reunion of God to mankind in His glorious, eternal Kingdom.

Advent is a good opportunity to meditate on God's unconditional love which can be found all round us if we take the time to reflect on His creation.



His creative hand makes all things possible – we only need prayerfully to utilize our senses to know this as we gaze out the window of our mind to the world. Grace will abound as we come to know Him better and understand the mystery of that love and the truth of the promise that we are created to share everlasting life with Him.

When Evil tries to ensnare and detract us from the experience of God's goodness, just know that opening our hearts to the working of the Holy Spirit can help us to keep on track, to renew us and reform our minds to see the Good more clearly.

And even when we do fall into the grip of sin,  
we can still hold our heads up knowing that  
we can go to Him for mercy, and that  
forgiveness is only a prayer away.

So as we patiently await the coming of our  
“God with us” this Christmas, we keep in  
mind that in one sense our life's journey is  
an “advent mystery” known only to God  
Himself, and is only “solved” by us when that  
perfect union of God and oneself is  
completed on the Last Day. That is God's  
promise; that is His Truth!

Deacon Tom Molineaux  
Guest Speaker  
2014 Advent Day of Reflection



## ***“A Safe and Silent Night”***

***“What is God asking of me?”***

Blows cold and icy, blizzard wind,  
With darkness, lonely night.  
Sleepy, hungry, how much farther?  
Sweet boy longs for respite.

Then in the distance, just ahead,  
Light shining, warmth aglow.  
Soft pillow, blanket, meal awaits,  
A shelter from the snow.

Be still and listen lest you miss,  
Soft knock upon your door.  
His quiet voice in earnest heard,  
A room for just one more?

Who is this little boy who comes,  
So softly in the night?  
What is His need, what does He ask?  
From those within in the light?

Lay down your head, sweet little boy,  
Let cares be out of sight.  
Sweet dreams for you and may you know  
A safe and silent night.

© Toni Marie Abresch  
December 27, 2009

## ***TABLE CHAPEL VISITS: MEETING THE LIVING CHRIST IN PERSON***

We ask two questions of those experiencing the first moment of the fourth day. The most important question of the two is “How have you encountered Christ?” This question is most important because without the encounter, one has no real life. Advent is about the new beginning; it all begins with Christ.

The Table Chapel Visit is one place where the Cursillista meets the living Christ in person.

Our **PILGRIM'S GUIDE** talks about this encounter in these words: "We purposely do not offer a model in this Guide because visits are so personal" (PG. 28). What makes the visit with the risen and living Christ so personal?

**THE FUNDAMENTAL IDEAS OF THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT (#338) says:**

*The Eucharist is the center of life throughout the three days of the Cursillo. Everything in the Cursillo tends to create in the Cursillistas a realization that afterwards, on the "fourth day," the Eucharist must continue to be the center of their lives, of their encounters with the Lord, and of their encounters in community with their brothers and sisters.*

When I asked a couple of experienced spiritual directors in our local Movement about Table Chapel Visits, they told me to make a distinction between the rite of Eucharistic Adoration (Exposition, Adoration and Benediction and Reposition) and the Table Chapel Visits.

One director expounded and said:

The chapel visits are different than the formal ritual of Adoration and Benediction. The same Jesus is truly present. Now as a table group we have the opportunity to be present to the Lord in a more intimate oneness and a personal closeness. This can be a deep experience of "one body" and "my" Jesus.

What makes the Table Chapel Visit different from the ritual of Eucharistic Adoration? The opportunity to meet Christ in the Table Chapel Visit is like Samuel's meeting with the Lord, which follows: "Then the Lord came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"



And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3: 10). The power is in the personal encounter that comes during the weekend. If the team does not set the Eucharistic banquet table during the weekend, Table Chapel Visit remains another "It was a nice three days off but they did not impact my life" experience. What makes it personal and special? Each of us has Samuel's experience, a greater awareness of Christ's presence and the depth of His love. Christ becomes present and one sees the real presence and becomes aware of the steady voice of unlimited love and grace. Some are quiet; some speak. All who are open become more aware of the presence of the Divine Christ who lives in us.

What is the "everything" that the weekend presents in the Table Chapel Visit? It is in the practice as we are reminded in #338: "Eucharistic celebrations should be prepared daily and diligently so that they can be lived intensely." Before our 3-day experience, many a Cursillista showed up for the Rite out of habit without an appreciation of the ritual; it was more habit than it was time with the risen and living Christ.

The Table Chapel Visit is like every other essential in the Cursillo Weekend. It leads the pilgrim to a deeper experience of the living Christ in the pilgrim and the small group of Christians. Through this practice and other ways of living the Cursillo Method, the pilgrim's awareness of Christ is heightened at Mass, in Eucharistic Adoration and in small group sharing. Take time this Advent to be with the Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament; when you do bring the spirit of the Table Chapel Visit with you. *Ultreya!*

©December 2014  
Deacon Timothy E. Tilghman  
Spiritual Advisor to the Secretariat



## **215<sup>th</sup> Women's Cursillo Weekend "Pearls of Mary"**

### **CALLED TO BE A COORDINATOR ...**

I received the call from 3-Day to "have lunch". ME! No way did I feel I was ready, prepared or even able to be that servant leader. On the drive home from lunch with 3-Day I stopped by the Shrine. After much prayer, I met with my Small Group Reunion. These extraordinary prayer warriors assured me of their continued prayer and support.

Less than a month later, I found myself planning the Formation process for Team 215.

In the development of our theme, I began to think of my reliance on the Blessed Mother after the death of Delano, my grandson. The idea of Pearls came to mind. The Holy Spirit led me to (John 2:1-11), the Wedding at Cana. We all know the story, yet my eyes fell on the words, "do whatever He tells you." During a close moment at the Coordinator's Workshop, my theme "Pearls of Mary" was confirmed.

After that workshop I received the following Story of the Pearl:

*A foreign substance, such as a grain of sand, enters the oyster muscle. This irritates the oyster causing the oyster to cover that irritant with secretion. The longer the irritation is there the more the oyster coats it. Pearl oysters vary in size and can be quite rough and ugly. Yet what is happening inside is a combination of rainbows, moonlight, and bits of flame. Once the oyster accepts the irritation as part of itself, the pearl begins to develop. The worse storms, gales, even hurricanes will not dislodge it. When raised from its bed the oyster is opened to reveal a beautiful pearl.*

Joining me in saying yes to the command to "do whatever He tells you" are the members of Team 215. Rev. Thomas Reilly, Head Spiritual Director (Actual Grace, Sacraments, Life in Grace) is serving on his first women's team. Barbara Shaw, Spiritual Advisor (Know Yourself, Habitual Grace); Elizabeth Silcox, Musician (Leaders); LaVerne Atiba, Head Angel, assisted by Gwen Sutton and Leanne Stivers (Three Glances of Christ). Leanne will also do The Person of Christ.



Our Table Leaders include Marla Jo Bonuccilli (Prodigal Daughter, Christianity in Action); Sally King (Action); Rose Thurston (Study of the Environment), and Pearl Baylor (Piety). Our first-timers include Table Leaders: Rita Robinson (Ideal), Melissa Littlejohn (Layperson in the Church) and Gwen Jarmin (Study). Sr. Annemarie Schreiner, Daughters of Charity, Table Leader, (Christ's Message to the Cursillistas, Obstacles to the Life of Grace) is a first timer on a team in our Archdiocese; Phyllis Winston, Assistant Coordinator, (Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo) and as Coordinator I will give the Total Security Rollo. Our Team is blessed with the support of our Liaisons, Ginger Caldwell and Stefan Abresch. Your prayers and palanca will be the "spiritual irritants" necessary for the transformation that takes place over the weekend. Then, throughout their Fourth Day, our new sisters will be able to "do whatever He tells them" as the "Pearls of Mary".

De Colores  
Bernadette White (Pio Pio), Coordinator  
215th Women's Weekend



***"Everyone who has,  
more will be given."***

***LK 19: 26***

One way that we can look at this statement is that we have been chosen and given more. The more that received cannot be seen with the human eye, but can be seen with the heart of grace. We have been blessed with the abundance of God. What we have been given is given for a life of service, and a life that we are called to share. In the sharing of divine wealth the spirit uses us as a catalyst to change lives in the same way that Jesus did, and through him we excel and grow in a way in which so much more will be given. And now my life song sings.

*Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of more. Help us to use your gifts and blessings for your advantage so that we will be raised up on the last day. And now my life song sings.*

Stephan Abresch  
Laurel 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-302-3518; LaVerne Atiba on 202-494-0060.



## 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](mailto:MAUpright@aol.com).



## “I Love Jesus” Then and Now

A reprint of my article written in the Ultreya Magazine in 1985.

*(“In giving the “Study” talk at the 30th Women’s Cursillo, Evelyn Rattley gave witness to a personal experience which ignited a spark of laughter...and love...that continued District of Columbia, told this story :”)*

Derek, age seven, lived in the Shaw area of Washington where the inner city riots and burnings occurred several years ago, leaving scars not only on buildings but also on the souls of the people living there – in its wake it left unemployment, crime, drugs, and prostitution. A learning center for children with learning disabilities was opened in that area, and Dereck was among the children who attended.



On opening day, many of the little ones ran here and there around the room – ringing, bouncing, and lifting, touching the new and different equipment.

Some stood perfectly still. Some cried. When Dereck e the room, he stood in amazement and exclaimed loudly, "Damn! Look at all this stuff!"

I proceeded to overlook this statement at that time, but I later found out that this was a normal expression for Dereck – he used this word (and many others like it) not only when excited or when something went well, but especially when he failed at a task. I decided I would have to try to change this behavior, to substitute "wow" for the word "damn"; to reward Dereck with love and affection, to give him a prize or goodies when he would say "wow" instead of "damn," I started saying "wow". The other children started saying "wow" instead of "dam".

Feeling elated over this small achievement I asked and received permission from the principal and faculty to include the children from the Center in the annual school Christmas play. Since Dereck could talk clearer, louder, and ore distinctly than the others, he was given a small speaking part. He was to look first at the Infant Jesus, turn to the audience and say, "I love Jesus." We practiced over and over, starting right after Thanksgiving up to Christmas, and Dereck got to know his part perfectly. ("I love Jesus," "I love Jesus....")

Finally, the day of the play arrived. The auditorium was filled with special guests, parents, dignitaries, and the entire school population. The stage was beautiful. The Infant Jesus lying in the manger, the three wise men, the Christmas tree with its bright star on top, children dressed up like angels, bells, animals, gingerbread people, etc. When it was Dereck's turn to speak, he came on stage. He stood absolutely still ... as if transfixed ... and then looked with amazement at the Infant Jesus ... turned to the audience and exclaimed as loud as he could ... "Wow! Damn! I love Jesus!"

Evelyn Rattley  
27 Women's Cursillo Weekend  
Washington, DC

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **UPCOMING WEEKENDS**

#### **JOSEPHITE CENTER** **WASHINGTON, DC**

##### **February 12 - 15, 2015**

215<sup>th</sup> Women's Cursillo Weekend  
Bernadette White, Coordinator

##### **October 8 – 11, 2015**

216<sup>th</sup> Women's Cursillo Weekend  
Toni Abresch, Coordinator

##### **November 12 – 15, 2015**

217<sup>th</sup> 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, January 21, 2015**

With Whom Are We Called To Share the Good  
News/Barbara Shaw, Spiritual Advisor

##### **Wednesday, February 25, 2015**

Social Dimension of Evangelization/Deacon  
James Caldwell

##### **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

### **Advent Day of Reflection**

**Sunday, December 7, 2014**

**Deacon Thomas Molineaux**

2:00-5:00pm

Brother Richard's Place

### **Relax and Reflect Weekend**

**June 12 – 13, 2015**

**Speakers: Fr. Pavel Sass & Deacon James Caldwell**

Holy Trinity Spiritual Center

## **A CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE 215<sup>TH</sup> WOMEN'S CURSILLO WEEKEND**

Pre-Cursillo has issued a “call for applications and sponsors” for the upcoming 215<sup>th</sup> Women’s Weekend. Each Ultreya Leader is asked to be responsible for submitting at least one application for the next weekend. Please remember that the Ultreya Leader must see all applications before they are submitted to Pre-Cursillo. Through the Fourth Day Committee, Pre-Cursillo works very hard with each Ultreya Leader to ensure that the applications they receive from their candidates are complete and fully signed by all parties. Please remember the importance of asking all sponsors to work with their candidates well in advance to ensure that the Ultreya leadership and its members have time to review the applications to determine if there is any support that needs to come from them prior to the application’s submission.

As of the first of our new year, we will be using a new application with a slight increase in the weekend fees. Please download the current application form from the Washington Cursillo website at <http://www.washdc-cursillo.org>, for the current application and up to the minute information on Cursillo.



**2015 Coordinators L-R Toni Abresch, James Brightful and Bernadette White**

## **“REFLECTING ON THE LUKE’S GOSPEL”**

**“...everyone who gets and has will more be given ...” [Lk 19:11-28]**

In this scripture, we see that God requires a humble heart in order to use us. Jesus tells the story of the three servants who were given money to multiply and return to their master. Two of the three took the money and made more while one, afraid he might lose some of the money, did nothing with what he’d been given. As a result, the master took the third man’s money and gave it to the first man who had brought back the most money.

This story reminds me of an old saying, “the rich get richer and the poor get poorer”. I’ve never examined that saying in quite the way it applies to Luke’s gospel reading. The quality of the wealth verses the poverty. If we use what God has given us, matters the difference how much we have, we will get more to give. If we don’t we won’t. Many of us think in terms of wealth as a solution to our problems. We fail to see that the greatest form of wealth is in the Holy Spirit. God tells us that if we “...seek first of all His kingdom and His righteousness, and then all these things taken together will be given you besides.” [Mt. 6:33]

How much more can a person ask for? Really, He didn’t say, “some things” He said “all things”. He didn’t promise us that if we take the little we have and multiply it we would gain the results of the multiplication, He said that so long as we keep our eyes on His purpose, He will provide us with all of our needs. Now that is a Hallelujah thought! **(LARSK)**



## 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY NEWS

### 2015 PRODUCTION SCHEDULE



#### **1<sup>st</sup>. QUARTER ISSUE**

Jan. – Mar. 2015

**Submission Deadline**

**Jan. 5, 2015**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup>. QUARTER ISSUE**

April - June 2015

**Submission Deadline**

**April 3, 2015**

#### **3<sup>rd</sup>. QUARTER ISSUE**

July – Sept. 2015

**Submission Deadline**

**July 6, 2015**

#### **4<sup>th</sup>. QUARTER ISSUE**

Oct. – Dec. 2015

**Submission Deadline**

**Oct. 5, 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 January 5, 2015 for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter issue.** **Remember to sign your articles with your name, weekend, and Ultreya.**

Submit articles at any time to  
Lethia Kelly at  
**communication@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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday  
Ansgar Hall  
Assumption

**Gwendolyn Jarman**

[gwendolyn.jarman@rcn.com](mailto:gwendolyn.jarman@rcn.com)

**Richard Sylvester**

## Bowie-Lanham

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

**Judy Kelly**

301-249-7197

[Marme1999@gmail.com](mailto:Marme1999@gmail.com)

**Marguerite  
Dobrosielski**

## Calvert County

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

**Rita Leclerc**

410-326-2078

[leclercrita@hotmail.com](mailto:leclercrita@hotmail.com)

**Gisela Victoria**

[gizelstix@comcast.net](mailto:gizelstix@comcast.net)

**Linda Pixton**

410-610-9193

[lindapixton@gmail.com](mailto:lindapixton@gmail.com)

**Toni Abresch**

[tabresch@comcast.net](mailto:tabresch@comcast.net)

**Leanne Stivers**

[lcstivers87@gmail.com](mailto:lcstivers87@gmail.com)

## Central PG County

7pm, 4<sup>th</sup> Monday  
Rosemont Room  
St. Josephs in Largo

**Burma Hill**

[burmahill57@aol.com](mailto:burmahill57@aol.com)

## East of the River

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

**Pearl Baylor**

301-894-8405

[pearlbaylor@yahoo.com](mailto:pearlbaylor@yahoo.com)

**Rita Robinson**

301-297-7769

[equityassurance@hotmail.com](mailto:equityassurance@hotmail.com)

## Forestville

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

**MaryAnne Upright**

[MAUpright@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:rauschda@gmail.com)

**Tom Arnold**

[Tkkcm1@yahoo.com](mailto:Tkkcm1@yahoo.com)

301 725-3450

**Stefan Abresch**

[sgabresch@aol.com](mailto:sgabresch@aol.com)

410-474-2996

**Katie Schall**

301-906-9435

[amydom21@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Cursillo_st.paul@verizon.net)

## NE/SE

7:30pm, 1st Friday

St. Anthony's Cafeteria  
James@amphitrion.com

**James Brightful**

202-269-4606

[James@amphitrion.com](mailto:James@amphitrion.com)

**Bernadette White**

202-269-0710

[bcw3056@yahoo.com](mailto:bcw3056@yahoo.com)

## Our Lady Queen of Peace

Not Currently Meeting  
St. John's Church Hall.

**Shelia Vallot**

202-583-0271

[svallot@verizon.net](mailto:svallot@verizon.net)

## St. Teresa of Avila

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

**Jennifer Ferguson**

301-412-5008

[calypsofergie@gmail.com](mailto:calypsofergie@gmail.com)

## So. Maryland

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

**Marc Abresch**

[tipmanrules@hotmail.com](mailto:tipmanrules@hotmail.com)

**Christine Abresch**

[chrisabresch@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisabresch@hotmail.com)

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