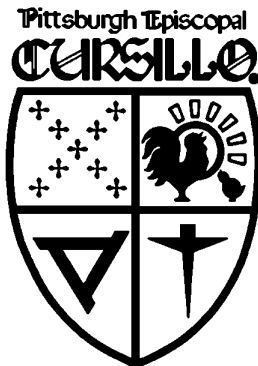


Rainbow Rooster

The voice of Cursillo in the Diocese of Pittsburgh



Inside

Spring 2005

Lay Leader's Message	1
Secretariat & Contact Info	2
Palanca, Pilgrims	3
The Weekend Coordinator	3
Weekend #79	
Candidates & Team	Insert
Happening News	4
Happening Auction &	
Community Ultreya!	5
Weekend Dates	Back Cover

Lay Leader's Message

God's Pursuing Love

I attended the Back to the Mountain workshop last Saturday, and I was particularly blessed by the lay witness testimony. A lady who has learned how to hear God, was able to share with and encourage us on how He led her through her son's illness. At each stop along the treatment path, she was guided to help and pray for other people. He showed her how to be a Kingdom builder through his (successful) treatment process; I was reminded again how inspirational it is to hear about God's work.

As I prepared to write this message, I realize that I have always admired, and secretly envied, those who regularly hear God speak. Some people even have regular dialogues with Him. I am not one of those. I hear a voice, occasionally, and once I even had a written dialogue with Him. But those moments are the exception, not the rule.

I want to share with you one of those times I did hear Him speak. I was on team for an upcoming Cursillo weekend and could not go on a missions trip that I had helped get started. It was a work mission, but we only had two people sign up; a parishioner, a contractor, and his helper, John.

At church one Sunday, I encountered a member of our missions committee who asked me how the trip was coming. I told her that we might have to cancel for lack of interest. She suggested we pray about it, and we went into the prayer chapel and asked the Lord what we should do about the trip. Then we were silent and waited on Him. After a few minutes, I heard a voice clearly say "It is sufficient that John go!"

Now John was an addict who had been in and out of rehab and had relapsed numerous times. When sober he was one of the best carpenters in the city, but he had been a problem for his boss. During one of his relapses, he made a mistake on a job that cost my friend, his boss, well over five figures to make good. But if the Lord was pursuing John, the trip was on.

Ultimately, four others signed up to go and the six left for Mexico. When they returned, we heard how John had started the week resentful that he was expected to participate in a Bible study and devotional at the start of each day.

continued on pg. 2

REMINDER : New Retreat Center

Beginning in September, 2005, Episcopal Cursillo weekends in Pittsburgh will take place at St. Joseph Center in Greensburg.

The new retreat location is on Route 30, three miles east of Greensburg. It has convenient access to the turnpike, I-70, US 119 and US 22. The 2005 Coed weekend is scheduled for September 29-October 2 and will be the first weekend retreat to take place at the new location.

Lay Leader's Message (continued)

Then, during the week, he kept two members of the team up until early morning for several nights with questions about spiritual matters. They prayed with him, including the sinner's prayer. By mid week he was singing during praise time, and by Friday he was waving his arms in the air!

John had obviously had a significant encounter with the Lord, and the entire team was excited about it. So were we who stayed behind! It was a great story!

During the weeks after the trip, John and his boss would meet, early, to start the day with Bible study and prayer. They prayed together to bring the Lord into the upcoming events of their day. Things were going very well, but unfortunately, that did not continue. Two weeks after his return from Mexico, John had a massive heart attack and died.

Since then, recalling the Lord's steady, timely pursuit of John has always been a significant encouragement to me, and I share it now for your encouragement. The Lord loves us and continues to do extraordinary things to penetrate our rebellion to reach us with His love. We see it frequently on a Cursillo weekend.

That is one of the joys of being on team, to be a spectator to that chase. Our next Ultreya will be on May 15 at Fox Chapel, from 6-8:30 p.m. It will be your next chance to bring a group from your parish to be encouraged.

Ultreya!!

Ron Benson
rgbpsb@juno.com

Pittsburgh Episcopal Cursillo

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Palanca, Pilgrims and Planning

All members of the Cursillo community are encouraged to visit our website at www.pgh-epis-cursillo.org to access Guidelines for Application & Attendance to the Episcopal Cursillo and the trio of application forms (Pilgrim, sponsor & clergy) which can be printed and used to recruit people to attend. There you can also find the current list of Pilgrims for Palanca planning.

As Pre-Cursillo coordinator (as of January 2005), I will receive all Pilgrim applications and make a personal phone call to the Pilgrim. After our conversation, I will send a confirmation letter to the Pilgrim along with The Cursillo Movement brochure. I will also send a letter to the Pilgrim's sponsor with instructions, along with a map to the retreat center and dates for the next Ultreya. The Pilgrim's name will be forwarded to several others to include in their planning. The process starts with YOU!

**Christ
is counting
on you!**

With a team of 30 people planning for each of three Cursillo Weekends each year, it is up to us—you and me—to invite and sponsor Pilgrims. Without the invitation, Christians are missing the wonderful mountain top experience that we all had. Lead time is critical to this planning, so that you are urged to keep abreast of upcoming events—Weekends and Ultreyas—through the Rooster and the website. Plan to do some inviting—you will be blessed for your efforts.

Contact me if I can help!

Ultreya!
Lawna

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lawna_b@yahoo.com

The Weekend Coordinator

Moving Day

In his column in the last Rooster, Lay Leader, Ron Benson announced plans for a new location for Cursillo weekends. The Co-ed weekend, #80, will be held at St. Joseph's Retreat Center in Greensburg. That means we have to move – literally. We have equipment and supplies stored at the Ligonier Camp and Conference Center (LCCC) and we need to move it. Some of these things will move to St. Joe's; some of these things will need a new home.

Your Secretariat is working out the details for Moving Day. We're calling on the whole Cursillo Community to help. As we put together a plan, prayerfully consider how you may be able to help. For example, we need a temporary place to store our belongings between the Women's Weekend in April and the Co-ed Weekend in September. Some things will not move to St. Joe's (the tables that go in the Rollo Room and the kneeler) and will thus need a more perma-

nent storage place. Any moving venture requires able bodies to pack and move things. Is there space in your parish basement where we might store our equipment and supplies over the summer? Might your Parish Sunday School be able to use the green tables we have used in the Rollo Room while at LCCC? Will you be available on a Saturday in May to help move things from the storage closet at the LCCC to the temporary summer storage? Will you be available on a Saturday in September to help move things from the temporary summer storage to St. Joe's?

Clean-Up Team

The Clean-Up team has a very special role; it does not require any special skills and is a one-time commitment. Arrive at the LCCC between 1 and 2 p.m. Sunday of the Women's weekend. What can you do? Assist in breaking down and packing the Palanca Chapel and putting away the Communion service following the Closing.

continued on pg. 4

The Weekend Coordinator

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Help 4th Day Team gather supplies and pack up the closet. Put away the round tables and clean everything in the Rollo Room and make sure the rooms upstairs are empty and take care of the garbage. Perhaps when you attended Back to the Mountain you indicated on a survey that you would like to help with a weekend. Perhaps you would like to help, but don't know how. Perhaps you feel called to coordinate a Clean-Up Team of Cursillistas from your Parish and give palanca to the 4th Day Team of the Women's Weekend

(#79, April 21 – 24). Interested? It's a wonderful way to be involved in the Weekend and give palanca!

If you feel called to help in any way with the Moving venture or to Coordinate a Clean-Up Team, please contact me:

phone (814-266-3059) or
email (etbell@pitt.edu).

Lisa Bell-Loncella, Weekend Coordinator
Co-ed #66

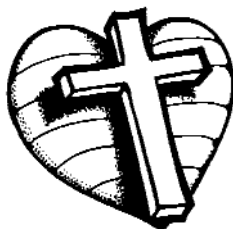
HAPPENING Goes to Lima, Peru

We have some exciting news to share with you about Happening. Happening is the youth version of Cursillo, that ministers to high school teenagers in grades 9th through 12th.

Last year while The Very Rev. Canon John Park, Missionary to Peru, and his family were here in Pittsburgh, his sons Robert and James had an opportunity to attend Happening. Robert had attended his first Happening, at the very first Happening ever in Honduras, when a missions team from Texas came. Robert was able to serve on staff for two Happenings and James came through in 2004 as a participant. Now Fr. John with the approval of our Bishop, has invited the Pittsburgh Happening to come to Lima this summer and teach them this teen evangelism and discipleship program for their cathedral.

Thus, Happening has formed a mission trip and is taking a team of teens and adult chaperones to Lima this summer. We are proud to tell you that Bishop Henry Scriven, The Rev. Tom Finnie, The Rev. Bill Geiger and The Rev. Jim Simons will be members of our team. Our mission trip is planned for July 11th through 18th, 2005. What an awesome opportunity to encourage teens to

deepen their commitment to Jesus. We are filled with joy that God would lay this in our path.



We ask for your prayers for this mission trip during the weeks of preparation and of course for the time we will be in Lima. Fundraising will be difficult for some of our team and any donations you would like to make to Happening would be greatly appreciated. Checks made payable to Happening are tax deductible, and can be mailed to:

Happening
1138 Mohawk Road
McDonald, PA 15057.

Faithful to Jesus,

Cindy Thomas
Happening Administrator

Missions Auction Evening

You are invited to a fun evening at an Auction!

Come support teens who are taking a mission trip to start up a "Happening", a Youth Evangelism and Discipleship Program in Lima, Peru!

Auction proceeds support a Pittsburgh team traveling to Lima • July 11-18, 2005

When: Saturday, April 23 • 7 p.m.
Where: St. David's Church
905 E. McMurray Road
Venetia

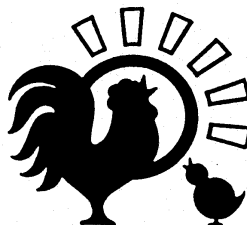
Admission is Free!

RSVP for seating:
Janet Rohrer (412.782.0496)

**Collectibles • Bake Goods •
Gift Certificates • Discount
Services • and many other
wonderful items for bid !**

Directions: Route 19 South, pass South Hills Village, Exit right to E. McMurray Road, follow 4 miles, church on right. Emergency cell 412.260.1509 or 412.600.2555

Ultreya



Please join us for the
Diocesan Cursillo
All Community
Ultreya

When: Sunday, May 15
6 - 8:30 p.m.

Where: Fox Chapel Episcopal Church
(Refreshments afterwards)



Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10: 23-25



Upcoming Cursillo Weekends • 2005

Women's Weekend #79April 21-24, 2005
Co-ed Weekend #80September 29 - October 2, 2005

Location of Women's Weekend: Ligonier Camp and Conference Center

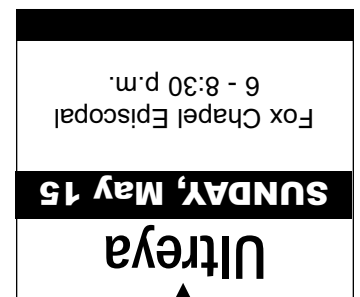
NEW Location of Coed Weekend: St. Joseph Center – Greensburg

Holy Hour & SerenadeSaturday at 7:30 p.m. (be there 7 p.m.)

ClausuraSunday (be there at 3:30)

Other Important Dates • 2005

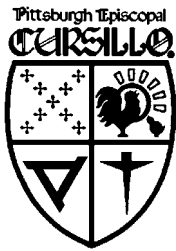
UltreyaMay 15, 2005
 Fox Chapel Episcopal



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Cursillo Community of the Pittsburgh Diocese
 c/o Fox Chapel Episcopal Church
 630 Squaw Run Road
 Pittsburgh, PA 15238

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Women's Cursillo Weekend #79

April 21-24, 2005

Candidate	Sponsor	Parish
Davida van Mook Fran Hartzell	Catherine Parham Nancy Phillips	Fox Chapel St. Andrew's - New Kensington

For a complete list of this weekend, please contact:

Lawna Blankenship 724-942-3504
email: lawna_b@yahoo.com

or visit our website:

www.pgh-epis-cursillo.org

Team Members

RECTORSheila Stagnitta
ASST. RECTOR (Ding-a-Ling)Dottie Fleming
ASST. RECTOR (Cha Cha)Leigh Lewis

SPIRITUAL DIRECTORSThe Rev. Cathy Brall
The Rev. Lang PegramThe Rev. Deb Barr
The Rev. Marion Cush (Palanca Chapel)

MUSIC TEAM
Stacey Regan, RectorJeanne Kohn, Asst. Music Rector

ROLLISTAS
IdealsLaurie Hough
LaityGail Wilson
PietyPam D'Abruzzo
StudyAnnis Rogers
ActionBarb Grundler

LeadersElaine Darrell
EnvironmentConnie Guggenheimer
Christian Community in ActionDottie Fleming
Total SecurityLeigh Lewis
Fourth DaySheila Stagnitta

PALANCA TEAM
Annis Rogers, RectorPeggy Vale
Elaine DarrellKaren TeulleCindy Leap

KITCHEN TEAM
Maggie Hall, RectorCindy Pompelia
Julie PolczynskiPuppy Cosgrove
Melissa McDonoughKimberly Payne

4TH DAY TEAM
Mary Lou Herbst, RectorDarla Johnson
Valerie DealMary Ann Evankovich
Jackie McKee

Agape Dinner: Fox Chapel Church