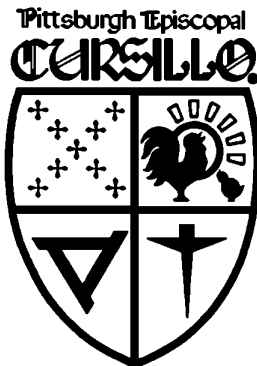


Rainbow Rooster

The voice of Cursillo in the Diocese of Pittsburgh



Lay Leader's Message

Our Numbers Are Down

The number of Pilgrims coming to Cursillo weekends has fallen off. It appears as if the divisions in our denomination have finally affected progress of the Cursillo movement both nationally and in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

The Cursillo weekend has repeatedly proven to be an effective renewal experience for churches around the country and in this diocese. Whether parish leadership has been "progressive" or "conservative", Cursillo has played a vital role in congregational development throughout our Diocese. The weekend focuses on Christ, not theology.

During these times, it is possible that our clergy are experiencing additional demands on their time from a variety of directions. As the servant community we can come alongside to help absorb some of the discipleship burden. We have a weekend event that throws no additional burden on our clerical leadership, and the returning Pilgrim frequently plays a more active role in the congregation because of a more lively relationship with Christ. The enhanced sensitivity for reaching into their community comes as an added blessing from the standpoint of parish leadership.

I urge each person who reads this message to prayerfully ask the Lord who you might sponsor to the next Cursillo weekend—the coed weekend, September 29-October 2. Our Cursillo community needs to attract more Pilgrims than we have the last few retreats.

You will need a new application, and we have them as well as new brochures on the Cursillo website. Directions to that site are spelled out in detail at the end of this message.

Because this weekend is also our first event at our new venue, this issue of the Rooster contains vital information on pricing and on how to get to St. Joseph's Center. Please read it carefully. The article contains details of a new pricing policy.

One thing I want to particularly call your attention to is the "early Rooster" discount. There will be a \$30 savings for those Pilgrims who get their applications in by August 28, 30 days prior to the weekend. We have introduced the

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Upcoming Cursillo Weekends • 2005-06

Coed Weekend #80September 29 - October 2, 2005
Men's Weekend #81February 23-26, 2006
Women's Weekend #82March 23-26, 2006

Back to the Mountain (St. Martin's)October 29, 2005

NEW Location : St. Joseph Center – Greensburg

Holy Hour & SerenadeSaturday at 7:30 p.m. (be there 7 p.m.)
ClausuraSunday (be there at 3:30)

Lay Leader's Message (continued)

encouragement for earlier applications so that more Pilgrims will get more Palanca. When Pilgrim applications are delayed until the week before the weekend, we do not have enough time for the community to react on specific notes and prayers.

The discounted price of \$150 is higher than previous weekends, and it is our intention that the average registration for each weekend come out at about that figure. Higher costs at St. Joe's have driven the new pricing. At the Bishop's direction, no person will be kept from the weekend by cost, and we will continue to make scholarship money available to close the gap where you have run out of options for your Pilgrim.

You can keep current on the lists of Pilgrims and team members by accessing the cursillo link through the Diocesan website, **www.pgh.anglican.org**. The links thereafter are "mission partners" and then "Cursillo". For weekend rosters, click "Fourth Day" and "prayer and palanca list"; for applications and brochures click "Weekends" and then the appropriate link. You will need Adobe Reader to access these tools, but it can be easily downloaded, and it is free.

If you have questions on any of the above, please call me.

Your brother in Christ,

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rgbpsb@verizon.net
412-262-5827

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Food Palanca

Food palanca, snacks for the Pilgrims and Team, is always welcome! However, the new facility has some guidelines that we have been asked to follow. We can bring pre-packaged snack foods (cookies, chips, pretzels, candy, etc.), bottled water, fruits and veggies (but they must be in the packages from the store). We have been asked not to bring home baked goods or soda. These guidelines are a result of the Health Department codes designed to reduce liability.

Lisa Bell-Loncella, Weekend Coordinator Coed # 66

A Get-A-Way Weekend with the Holy Spirit: Priceless!

Did you know that we're moving? The St. Joseph Center, Seminary Drive, Greensburg is the new location for the Cursillo 3-Day Weekend. Situated just off Route 30 (1 mile west of the Mountain View Inn), it is closer in travel time for most and it is handicap accessible—the key factors in the Secretariat's decision for making the change. In announcing the new location and new fee structure, the Secretariat is emphasizing the "early rooster discount" of \$30, to bring the cost to \$150 from \$180. The discount applies when the application fee of \$50 is received 30 days prior to the 3-Day Weekend. For the upcoming Coed Weekend #80 (September 29 – October 2, 2005) the deadline is August 29th. The weekend still includes meals, lodging, linens, clergy for prayer and counseling, and how God shows up for each Pilgrim—the priceless element of any 3-Day Weekend.

How can you make the 3-Day Weekend a priceless experience for someone you know? Besides considering the cost savings of \$30 to each Pilgrim, let us consider the positive impact of early Rooster registration:

- First, the Pilgrim has time to put aside funds toward the fee.
- Second, the Pilgrim will be prayed for by name by the Cursillo Team of 30 members, while preparing themselves and each other for their roles in the weekend.
- Third, Pilgrim names, home church and sponsor are posted on the Cursillo website (www.pgh-epis-cursillo.org) to allow parishes to glean names for personalizing Palanca. Pilgrims signed-up too close to the Weekend miss out on receiving these cherished messages. Time is required to prepare Palanca and to have it delivered in time for delivery to the conference center. Do you remember those personal notes and Palanca that you received from your circle of friends-in-Christ, the Cursillo Community members. You want the best for the Pilgrim that you sponsor, so push for all 3 parts of the application to be completed and returned to me—30 days prior to the 3-Day Weekend. (You can download and print the application forms from the website.)

Have you offered to sponsor a Pilgrim recently? Why did your sponsor invite you? According to a booklet published by the National Secretariat, "To explain Cursillo to someone who has never experienced it is, at best, difficult. Often, for those who have experienced Cursillo it is still somewhat mystifying. This is not because the Cursillo Movement is a "secret" organization. The reason behind the mystery is God. No one can fully explain how God touches each person in His special/unique way throughout the various elements of the Cursillo Movement, because no one can explain the mystery of God."

How can you make the 3-Day Weekend a priceless experience for someone you know?

In the Cursillo Movement, we approach evangelization as a very natural act of being Christ-like within each of our daily activities—in our environments. We realize that while most people would like to live their lives in a Christ-like manner, the pressures of the world often make this difficult. The Cursillo Movement provides a METHOD to provide

each of us with the tools, the mentality, the strength, and the support to make this natural type of evangelization possible. The Cursillo Movement can assist each of us in developing a deeper understanding of what it means to be fully Christian by helping us to impact our individual environments.

There is much more to the Cursillo Movement than just a 3-Day weekend.

The cost of a Get-A-Way Weekend with the Holy Spirit: Priceless!

It begins with your invitation.

Questions? Call Lawna Blankenship, Pre-Cursillo Coordinator at 724-942-3504, or email lawna_b@yahoo.com.

From the Weekend Coordinator

We are half way through our move from the Ligonier Camp and Conference Center to St. Joe's. Many thanks to Dave Floyd, Wendy and Doug Blakelock and John and Annis Rogers for their help packing and moving our belongings from the "closet" at the LCCC to Johnstown for summer storage.

Help Wanted

We'll have another moving day in mid September. Our supplies and equipment that we stored at St. Mark's, Johnstown this summer will need to be transported to St. Joseph's Center for weekend #80. Will you be available on a Saturday in September to help move things from the temporary summer storage to St. Joe's? We do not have much storage space at St. Joe's. Some of our things will not fit ... the skit costumes, the vigil candles, the Stations of the Cross panels ... and we will need some place to store them between weekends. Prayerfully consider how your Cursillo Community might help meet our storage needs.

Clean-Up Team – still needed

Many hands make light work and helping hands are needed at the close of a Cursillo weekend. The Clean-Up Team does not require any special

skills and is a one-time commitment. Arrive at St. Joe's between 1 and 2 p.m. Sunday. Assist in breaking down and packing the Palanca Chapel and putting away the Communion service following the Closing. Help 4th Day Team gather and pack supplies. 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 Co-ed Weekend (#80, September 29 – October 2). Interested? It's a wonderful way to be involved in the Weekend and give Palanca!

If you feel called to help with the moving venture, providing storage or coordinating a Clean-Up Team, please contact me by phone:

814-266-3059
or email: etbell@pitt.edu

Lisa Bell-Loncella, Weekend Coordinator
Coed # 66



Cluster Coordinators . . . Thank You!

With the introduction of Cursillo Parish Coordinators (see article on page five), Palanca District/Cluster Coordinators have been discontinued. Many thanks to all of you who have served so faithfully in this capacity—many of you over a number of years:

Colleen Klingensmith • Janet Voss • Sandra Carlson • Lisa Bell-Loncella • Mary Lou Reynolds • Sue Randolph • Kathy Hartle • Erba Heinen • John Clarke • Carole Floyd

Your efforts on behalf of Cursillo are greatly appreciated!

Ginger Machak, Palanca Coordinator

Why I Set Aside Saturday for the Serenade and Holy Hour

Think back to Saturday night of your Cursillo weekend. After the amazing Agape Dinner, you settled into the Rollo Room waiting for the next activity. Then you heard the voices of the Serenade coming from the hallway just out of sight. You didn't know who they were. You were told that they were "members of the Cursillo community" who came to serenade you.

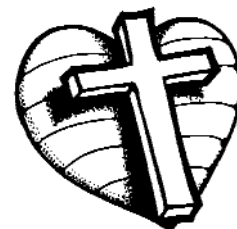
If you made your Cursillo in the past five years, I was probably one of those singing to you. I just wouldn't miss it! The serenade is an opportunity for me to be part of the weekend again. I offer my Palanca of prayer and music to the new Pilgrims. I am received once again into the Cursillo community. I am renewed in Cursillo.

After the Serenade we join with members of the kitchen and fourth day teams to share Eucharist at Holy Hour. Once again I am part of the experience for the new Pilgrims. We lift them up in prayer and

we praise God for his powerful love working through us. Old friends are there working on team, and others have come for Holy Hour just as I have. The presence of the Holy Spirit is evident in the glowing faces all around me.

So you see, the Serenade and Holy Hour are for the Pilgrims, but I am blessed by the opportunity to serve through these activities. You never know how many others will be there, but you know you will experience God's love. I wouldn't miss it! You may have received Palanca that promised "The best is yet to come". Giving back through activities like the Serenade and Holy Hour are part of that promise. I hope to see you Saturday night at the next Cursillo weekend!

Annis Rogers, Cursillo # 56



Wanted: Cursillo Parish Coordinators

Pittsburgh Episcopal Cursillo Secretariat is introducing the new concept of Cursillo Parish Coordinator. The goal is to have one individual or couple from each parish to be identified as the Cursillo Coordinator. This person will act as the main communication liaison between the Secretariat's palanca coordinator and the Cursillistas from the parish. In addition, the parish coordinator may choose to delegate some of the responsibilities of the position to other cursillistas in the parish.

The chief qualification for parish coordinator is that they be enthusiastic about and supportive of the Cursillo movement. It is advisable that the coordinator be active in a reunion group, attend events such as Ultreya and Back to the Mountain, and be familiar with literature about Cursillo. The responsibilities of parish coordinator include those of Parish Liaison and Weekend Support.

As Parish Liaison the coordinator will:

- Assure that each pilgrim has opportunity to join a reunion group
- Serve as parish communications liaison for the Secretariat, Rooster, etc.
- Establish/maintain a current list/database of Cursillistas in the parish

- Communicate information on locations, times and members of reunion groups.
- Communicate information to parish Cursillo community re: upcoming events such as Back to the Mountain, Ultreya, and Weekends
- Serve as spokesperson and energizer for Cursillo in the parish
- Maintain a file of current application forms for Cursillo weekends to be given to candidates

As Weekend Support the coordinator will:

- Regularly encourage current Cursillistas to identify prospective Cursillo Pilgrims
- Discuss potential Pilgrims with parish priest/vicar re: readiness to attend Cursillo
- Identify prospective sponsors and convey sponsorship responsibilities/commitment to sponsors
- Oversee Pilgrim's application completion; assure application is timely forwarded to the weekend registrar for processing
- Encourage current Cursillistas to send Palanca to Pilgrims and to team members; arrange Palanca party/gathering or collection of palanca from parish Cursillistas
- Obtain prayer vigil commitments and communicate list to Secretariat Palanca Coordinator



New Location for All Cursillo Weekends

St. Joseph Center

US Route 30 - just east of Greensburg

Facilities are:

- more spacious
- handicap accessible
- closer to the center of our Diocese

See Lay Leader's Message on front page for more details!

Parish Coordinators

continued from pg. 5

- Encourage and support attendance at the weekend's Holy Hour, Serenade, and Clausura

Thanks to those who have already volunteered to be parish coordinators. A listing of coordinators will appear in a future issue of the "Rooster."

Please prayerfully consider taking on the role of Parish Coordinator.

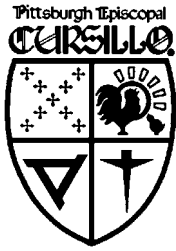
If you are interested, please contact:

Ginger Machak, Palanca Coordinator
email: gingermachak@hotmail.com
phone: 412-835-5894

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Fox Chapel Episcopal Church
630 Squaw Run Road East
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

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Coed Cursillo Weekend #80 September 29 - October 2, 2005

Candidate

Sponsor

Parish

This list is as of 6/13/2005 • 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

RECTORBob Fleming
ASST. RECTOR (Ding-a-Ling)
ASST. RECTOR (Cha Cha)Sheila Seiling

SPIRITUAL DIRECTORSThe Rev. Gary Miller
The Rev. Doug BlakelockThe Rev. Marion Kush

MUSIC TEAM
Cathy Csellar, RectorMarsh Tallant

ROLLISTAS
IdealsScott McKee
LaityJackie McKee
Piety
StudyDavid Floyd
ActionCarol Floyd
LeadersDan Skaff
EnvironmentRich Machak
Christian Community in Action
Total Security
Fourth Day

PALANCA TEAM
Meagan Skaff, RectorKen Herbst
Ginger MachakTom Thompson

KITCHEN TEAM
Lisa Bell-Loncella, Rector

4TH DAY TEAM
Leigh Lewis, RectorDottie Fleming