Charlotte Cursillo

DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



2019 -2020 CALENDAR

Sponsorship Workshop: Jan 26, 2019 / 9:30 - 12:30 St. Paul the Apostle, Greensboro, NC

Men's Weekend March 28-31, 2019 Valley Haven Retreat Ctr, Hickory, NC

Women's Weekend April 4-7, 2019 Valley Haven Retreat Ctr, Hickory, NC

Weekends Reunion: TBD

Spring Encounter: April 26-27, 2019, Lawrenceville, Georgia

National Encounter: July 18-21, 2019 Scranton, Pennsylvania

Eucharistic Congress: Sept 6-7, 2019

Grand Ultreya: Sept 20-22, 2019 Valley Haven Retreat Ctr, Hickory, NC

Fall Regional Encounter Date: TBD Orlando, Florida

School of Leaders: 9:00 - 11:30 St. Aloysius, Hickory, NC

School of Leaders Dates: 2/16, 3/16/2019 Remainder of year: TBD

Contact Information

Sponsors can obtain the **Weekend Application** for candidates from the website.

Website: www.charlottecursillo.com In addition: Check the website for the Newsletters, Ultreya information, Forms, Cursillo Tri-fold Brochure, related links, and more.

National: www.natl-cursillo.org



Sponsorship Workshop

Sponsoring or Thinking of Sponsoring a Candidate? This Sponsor Workshop is for You!

When: Saturday, January 26, 2019
Time: 9:30-12:30
Where: St Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, Greensboro, NC

Please join us for an informational workshop on sponsoring candidates for a Cursillo weekend. The workshop will be presented by individuals from the Southeast Region 7 service team.

Sponsoring a candidate is an essential part of the Cursillo Movement. Sponsorship is a commitment. It helps the candidate to grow through the Cursillo experience. A good sponsor prepares his/her candidate to live the weekend and succeed beyond the weekend.

This workshop promises to give you all the information and procedures to be the sponsor who will give your candidate the opportunity to reflect Christ in family, workplace, and community environments. We look forward to seeing you there.

† Discover Your Next Mission from God †

The title of this article is also the title of a book by Julie Onderko that Deacon Mike Martini is currently presenting in the School of Leaders. We all have a mission that God is calling us to, and it is our job to follow the Saints' guidance and listen to the Spirit so we can discern what that mission is.

At the last Cursillo National Encounter in Seattle, the best talk was on Succession Planning. You can read this talk on the National Cursillo website. Deacon Mike helped to write this talk and even though it was geared to succession within the Cursillo Movement, I believe it could be broadened to include discerning for any mission from God. Part of the benefit of Cursillo is to help you find where God wants you in society.

At the end of 2019 the Secretariat will be voting on four of the positions to begin January 1, 2020. They are *Lay Director*, *Assistant Lay Director*, *3-Day Women's Chair* and *Treasurer* with each having a 3-year term. The candidates will be selected from within the School of Leaders. Copies of the job descriptions can be obtained through the School. If you are interested and have questions, anyone on the Secretariat can help you with your questions. If you are interested in a Secretariat position, Deacon Mike has agreed to offer Spiritual Direction for you.

Cursillo Questions: Contact the Lay Director on the website. **Cursillistas**: Let us know what you would like to see covered in our Newsletter. Remember, it is for YOU.

A Cursillista's Witness

Salisbury Ultreya

A local Cursillista received this witness from a fellow Cursillista in Wichita concerning his 3-month old daughter. Give it a read; I think you will find it as inspirational as I did.

"Remember, life on earth, regardless how long or how much suffering we endure, is nothing but a blink of an eye compared to the joyful eternal life in heaven with our loving father. Every hour, every minute, keep your eyes on your final destination, on HEAVEN!"

For 3 days I repeated this over 50 times as I played the role of St. Paul in the Wichita Catacombs, a 1-hour walk through drama, on the lives of the early martyrs through different skits. We are called to be living martyrs, dying to self (dying to our ego, greed, pride, etc.) everyday for the sake of Christ.

The statement was not part of the script. God laid this on my heart, so I ended every tour with it.

It began to seep through me and even though I believed it, I wasn't convicted by it until that last evening of the tour.

The next evening we saw the glare in Sarah's left eye. Someone did a Google search and suspected the rare cancer that Sarah has. I told her to get off the Internet since they always present the worst-case scenario. My wife seemed worried and to put her at ease, I called our optometrist and neighbor. He came over at 9:00 PM, took a guick look and asked us to come to his office early the next morning. That evening I woke up in the middle of the night wondering, "could this be the rare cancer?" Could it be that God laid those words on my heart, right before all this happens, so that I can be anchored during the storm and remember that our suffering here on earth is nothing but a blink of an eye compared to heaven?" "Could it be that Sarah is a gift from God to teach us about hope, trust, and how to keep our eyes on heaven every day of our lives?"

At the doctor's office after a quick check, he sent us to a retinae specialist in Wichita who diagnosed her. When the diagnosis was confirmed it was sad to hear but we experienced God's peace right away knowing that, through all this, God is inviting us all to a spiritual journey, to learn to trust more, and to experience heaven and peace here on earth and during our eternal life. We know that God will use this suffering to bring us, and others, closer to Him and to experience peace that surpasses all understanding.

To make sure I got the message, God sent this verse as part of the Liturgy of the Hours.

Romans 8:18 "The sufferings of this present are nothing compared to the glory to be revealed for us".



Salisbury Cursillistas Spreading Joy While Volunteering

Sacred Heart's Ultreya meetings are a great example of a Christian Community coming together to share our close moments, evangelizations, apostolic failures and successes, and other events in our lives. We are a group of Christians that knows how to "be a friend".

We open with a prayer and then group (3-4) for about 20 minutes. Sometimes there is a subject or question suggested in the agenda to get things started. Examples of these are: When have you encountered Christ during this last month? How has he changed you? / How have you cooperated with him during Lent this year? How have you come to know Jesus better and shared his love with others since our last Ultreya?

Next on the agenda is a song. We try to pick a song that fits with one of the gospel readings at Mass that month.

We take a quick 10-minute break. Snack time!! Everyone brings a dessert or appetizer to share

Following is our witness talk. The talks are thoughtprovoking, heartfelt, and always followed by the assigned "echoes" and everyone joining in a good discussion.

Some trimmings - we'll call them "personal touches" - at our meetings are our "mascot rooster," a Sacred Heart candle burning next to our intentions book, sometimes a tablecloth with roosters on it...sometimes flowers. We always have "touches" that make our special time together even more special.

And we have the best variety of spiritual advisors! Our priest, Fr. Eckert, & Deacon Mazur are regulars. Plus, Sister Susie, Deacon Mike Martini, Sister Joan and others who have graciously visited with us and shared their wisdom.

We have a book for folks to write their prayer intentions, and close including these and any other intentions. Prayers are followed by more sharing of goodies, goodbyes, and clean up!

We make every effort to stick to the authentic method/agenda for our Ultreyas and have found that this produces the most meaningful and successful meetings.

Come visit with us any time! We meet the second Monday of every month from 7:00pm – 8:30pm in the Sacred Heart School library.

For more information about Sacred Heart's Ultreya, you can contact Ted & Mary Blanton at 704-798-5200 or Erwin & Olivia Schmitt at 336-413-1530.