



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

October 18-19, 2019

Orlando, Florida

School of Leaders: 9:00 - 11:30

3/16 – St. Aloysius / 4 – None / 5/18 –

St. Leo / 6/15 – Sacred Heart / 7/20 –

St. Leo / 8/17 – TBD / 9/21 – Grand

Ultreya (?) / 11 – None / 12/7 / TBD

St. Aloysius, Hickory, NC

St. Leo, Winston Salem, NC

Sacred Heart, Salisbury, NC

Contact Information

Candidate Weekend Application for Sponsors is on the website.

Website: www.charlottecursillo.com

National: www.natl-cursillo.org



Post Cursillo

Why Should I Be Proactive After My Cursillo Weekend?

The Post-Cursillo exists to insure that all Cursillistas within the Diocesan Movement have the opportunity to grow in their own Fourth Day. To this end, we seek to evangelize the Diocese of Charlotte where all Cursillistas can fellowship in Ultreya. Consider reaching out to those in your parish who may not be active in Group Reunion or Ultreya. Many reasons may apply, such as, being new to the area, unaware of local Ultreya, or not having true friendship with a fellow Cursillista. Make a commitment to prayer and palanca to see if you are being called to action. It's possible you are called to evangelize by inviting those in your parish to Ultreya through a bulletin announcement, hosting a parish gathering of all Cursillistas, personally inviting a fellow Cursillista to Ultreya or to join you in Group Reunion, or it may be to re-establish a connection to current Cursillistas.

Sometimes, in Cursillo terminology, the word "evangelization" or "evangelizing" may sound somewhat strange for our vocabulary; however, Eduardo Bonnin helps clarify its meaning: "When we speak of evangelization in the context of the Cursillo, we do not mean, or mostly mean it in the sense of simply passing on or spreading the Good News of the Gospel, but rather to succeed in making the person 'become' the Good News, that joyful Good News that Christ is alive in and amongst His people today, just as He was 2000 years ago." We must begin with ourselves and become the Good News to those we encounter in our daily lives; in our moveable square meter. It is by becoming a living witness of the Gospel message that we can truly and effectively evangelize our respective environments. Our evangelical efforts in all phases of the Movement spring forth from a vibrant and living Christianity in Action. It is in Christianity in Action, that is, in our Group Reunion and the Ultreya, that we live our Fourth Day, the rest of our lives.

Here is a quote from the book "Whom Shall I Send, Discerning the Will of God" by Fr. Frank Salmani: "We all know how difficult and awesome the task is that Jesus has placed before us. It takes a lot of work and dedication. The harvest is plenty. There is plenty of work to do, but laborers are few. The apostolic mission is a big job and cannot be done by a few. The time comes when leaders, whether among the religious or the laity, must take a stand and cut through all the excuses. God's work has to be done, and if we do not rise to the occasion, the work will be left undone. Therefore, let us remember our commission from Jesus: 'Go and make disciples of all nations.'" Cursillo is not only about proclaiming the Good News, but of becoming the Good News for as many people as possible as we live our Fourth Day through a life of conviction, decision, and constancy.

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Ultreya!

~Contributor: Beth Ann Dulin~

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.

Editor: Tita Wofford

Cursillo Introduced to "Way of Christ"

Several Cursillistas in the Greensboro/High Point area had an opportunity to attend meetings of the men's and women's *Way of Christ* ministries to provide information about the Cursillo Movement. The men's meeting was held on February 11 at a member's residence, while the women's took place on March 7 at the St. Pius X Simmons Parish Center. Speakers were James Ball, Deacon Francis Skinner, Bette Steinkamp, Kathy Crisson, Carole Ball, and Tita Wofford (half at each meeting).

Way of Christ is a ministry of St. Pius X, founded in 2015 by Dan & Tracy McCool, in an effort to fill a ministry need for young adults ages 18-39 (single, married, or with families) in Greensboro. Members meet bi-monthly as small groups but also in large combined activities such as adoration with praise and worship, board game nights, dinners, an annual retreat in May, and engage in "fun" activities outside the ministry.

The Holy Spirit was ever present as the presentation subjects covered a wide range of material. Topics included a short history of the beginning of the Cursillo Movement, a personal experience of "living" a Weekend, the connection Deacon Skinner - a deacon only since 2018) - had with Deacon Ron Steinkamp (who was the Spiritual Leader of the Movement for the religious for 3 years, and along with his wife, Bette, participated in over 20 Cursillo Weekends), some of the theology of the movement, the ability to always find a friend...even in a new city...because of the Cursillo community, and papal commentary and support of the Movement. The attendees did not hesitate to ask questions, and the feedback was positive.

This leads to the concept about having Cursillistas available to make presentations to other groups. Did you ever ask someone the question, "Have you heard about Cursillo?" only to get a response, "Yes, I've heard of it, but I don't know what it is." So, the name is out there, but it appears to be a little bit of a mystery!

Now understand, the purpose of this informational meeting was not to recruit. Speakers gave their take on Cursillo. Packets were given out at the end of the session that contained pamphlets and brochures explaining the Movement and the Weekend, cards gave the Weekend dates (just in case someone was or had been seriously considering the retreat), and a card with a Cursillo contact...but, no applications. The contact card enables someone, if interested, to pursue further information about a Cursillo Weekend, allowing the contact person to develop a relationship with that individual. As that relationship progresses, the Cursillista can determine if the individual would be a good candidate to sponsor, in step with the Cursillo method of "making a friend, being a friend, and bringing a friend to Christ."

Consider this concept in your area. The speakers who participated in the "Way of Christ" meetings would be happy to speak with anyone who has an interest in pursuing this. And, to put it on a more professional level, we are considering creating a professional packet for presenters, so the material is consistent and encompasses the full scope of the Movement, yet still allows for the personal testimonies which can touch people's hearts...and souls. We welcome your ideas!

~ Tita Wofford, editor ~

Twin Cities Ultreya

I'm Coming Back to Ultreya

This article was featured in the March 2019 issue of the Twin Cities Cursillo Newsletter, "Kindling."

A funny thing happened on the way to this article. I started writing it in late November for the January Kindling but ran out of time to finish the writing and editing. Imagine how surprised I was to read Gordy Palzer's article on Ultreya in place of my article in last month's Kindling. Back-to-back Kindling articles about Ultreya, do we think the Holy Spirit is trying to tell us something?

I lived my Cursillo weekend in February of 2000 and embraced the 4th Day method of Grouping and Ultreya. I'm still Grouping, but I pretty much stopped attending Ultreya. You ask: "Why did I stop?" That's a good question and one I've started asking myself over the past couple months. The only answer I can come up with is: "I don't have a good reason."

Somewhere back in 2011 I missed a few consecutive months of Jacob's Well and I fell into the belief that my not attending didn't negatively impact Cursillo or my faith journey. While I continued to Group and live weekends as team, I continued to ignore the call to Ultreya. As I missed more months I convinced myself that I did not need Ultreya.

When I was regularly attending Jacob's Well I joined 40-50 other 4th-Day folks and came to know them at a much deeper level. My desire to grow closer to Christ was nourished by these folks. Their energy helped me to see I needed community if I was to truly live the calling of the 4th Day. I enjoyed those Saturday evenings, I was fed those Saturday evenings, and maybe I even fed somebody else those Saturday evenings—but then I decided I didn't need Ultreya. Ultreya didn't leave me, I left Ultreya.

The more I think about Ultreya the more I'm starting to think – "Maybe I need to attend because Ultreya needs me to attend." I remember the times when I was on a waiting list to serve on teams. I remember the times when we would see 50-70 candidates living a set of weekends. I remember holding four sets of weekends each year and not having to worry about cancelling a weekend. I believe active Ultreyas played a big part in making this possible. I believe the energy of the Holy Spirit received by the 4th-Day through active Ultreyas was a driver of our movement. Being part of that larger community strengthened me to continue to say yes when called to serve Christ and Cursillo.

But then I decided I did not need Ultreya and I'm told I'm not alone in the choice. As more of the 4th-Day has stayed away from Ultreya the energy level in the Twin Cities movement has changed. Team waiting lists are a thing of the past, candidate counts could be better, we've eliminated one set of weekends, and we have had to cancel weekends a couple of times.

I know reduced attendance at Ultreya is not the only reason for the above and that other factors are impacting the movement. But I can see a direct correlation between the vibrancy of Ultreya and the energy in Twin Cities Cursillo. I cannot control the other outside factors impacting us now, but I can control whether or not I attend Ultreya. I can return to Ultreya and say – "Here I am Lord."

My commitment is to return to attending Ultreya evenings this year and, if you have been away, I invite you to join me.

(TWIN CITIES: St. Paul & Minneapolis, MN) ~ Mark Mitchell ~