

Charlotte Cursillo

MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER



2022 CALENDAR

UPCOMING

School of Leaders: 9:00 – 11:30 AM
01/29, 02-26, 03/26, 04/30, 05/28,
06/25, 07/30, 08/27, 09/24, 10/29,
11/19, 12/3 or 17

These dates are subject to change.

Please check for updates online at

www.charlottecursillo.com

(Live & Zoom Virtual Meetings)

Spring Regional Encounter

April 22-23, 2022

Birmingham, AL

Women's 85th Weekend

July 14-17, 2022

St. Ann, Charlotte, NC

Men's 83rd Weekend

July 21-24, 2022

Sacred Heart, Salisbury NC

National Encounter

July 21-24

Orange, CA (Chapman University)

Post-Weekend Reunion

August 27, 2022

Sacred Heart, Salisbury 1:00-4:00 PM

Grand Ultreya

October 8, 2022

Lake Norman State Park, Troutman, NC

Fall Regional Encounter

October 17-18

Savannah, GA

Contact Information

Candidate Weekend Application for
Sponsors is on the website.

Website: www.charlottecursillo.com

National: www.natl-cursillo.org

Director's Cut



John Sequeira

As I write this, we have just begun the season of lent...a relatively somber time of reflection. On the other hand, it is also the beginning of a new Cursillo year full of promise. We finally appear to be moving away from pandemic lockdowns and mandates. Cursillo life is returning to normal. As part of this, in January our Secretariat team met in person for a 2-day planning retreat at the Catholic Conference Center. We have lots of good news to proclaim.

First, we have a new Spiritual Advisor – Deacon Jack Staub from St. Matthew in Charlotte. Deacon Jack and his wife, Susan, are long-time Cursillistas, and Jack will be a wonderful guide on our spiritual journey. Deacon Jack will be replacing Deacon Mike Martini who has faithfully served our Movement for the past 4 years. We have been blessed with Deacon Mike's spiritual wisdom, his enthusiasm, and his ever-present deep questions for us to ponder at School of Leaders. He will continue to support the Movement as the Spiritual Advisor to Cursillo Region VII and will attend local Cursillo events in the future.

We also have three new Secretariat Leaders. Manon Reiher from St. John Neumann in Charlotte and Joe Linus from St. Matthew in Charlotte will be our new Precursillo Chairpersons. Also, John Maloney from St. Therese in Mooresville will be joining the Secretariat as our new Secretary. They replace Patti Eiffe, Don Phipps, and Erin Hoyle, who have served faithfully for the past 3 years. We will miss their joyful presence at our meetings.

As you may have heard, we now have dates for both our Men's and Women's Weekends, the Weekend Reunion, and our Grand Ultreya set for this year. The dates also have been set for the Spring (Birmingham, AL) and Fall (Savannah, GA) Cursillo Regional Encounters as well as the Cursillo National Encounter (Orange, CA). It promises to be a spirit-filled and fun social year.

Finally, we will be working hard this year to get the word out about Cursillo to all parishes where Cursillistas currently worship. We are concerned that many faithful Catholics have never heard about Cursillo or, even worse, may have misconceptions regarding its purpose and charism. To address this, we are looking for Cursillistas who are willing to serve as "Cursillo Ambassadors" at their parishes. These Ambassadors will hold once-a-year "FYI" sessions where parishioners can meet with Cursillistas in a social setting and learn more about the purpose and method of our Movement. If you would be willing to serve as the Cursillo Ambassador to your parish, let anyone on the Secretariat know.

Stay tuned for an exciting year!

~ John Sequeira ~

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 Secretariat Newsletter & Marketing



Tita Wofford

History: The positions of Newsletter and Marketing in the Cursillo Diocese of Charlotte are fairly new ones, having been added around 2017. It all began when I showed Mary Phipps, the Lay Director at the time, some brochures and programs that I had designed for Cursillo. She remarked that we needed this kind of help in the Charlotte Movement. The need for a newsletter to aid in communication in the Cursillo Community was introduced and favorably accepted by the Secretariat. Neither the Newsletter nor Marketing is part of the Secretariat, but is an example of talents that can be used to enhance and benefit Cursillo. Cursillo helps us to see what our talents are and how we might be able to use them to build the Kingdom of God.

Newsletter: The first publication of our quarterly *Charlotte Diocese Cursillo Newsletter* was in March 2018. The goal was to keep the format simple but informative and relevant. The format has remained fairly constant, while the content varies with the news and events that are currently happening. As the editor, I ensure that the Newsletter has 1) An updated calendar of the major Cursillo activities, 2) An avenue for the Lay Director to inform you of the direction of the Cursillo Movement both locally and nationally, 3) Informational features highlighting the different Ultreya's and the different Secretariat and outlying positions, 4) Information about the Cursillo Weekends, 5) Witness stories, and 6) Other articles pertinent to the Movement. The aesthetics of the Newsletter is important. Care is taken to include pictures and clipart to increase the visual appeal. *The Newsletter is always looking for suggestions from the Cursillo Community which can be sent to our website: www.charlottecursillo.com.*

Marketing: Needs have arisen within Cursillo for brochures and pamphlets that cover a wide range of topics: Sponsorships, the Cursillo Trifold Brochure, Music programs, Regional Encounter programs and agendas, flyers, banners, the new Step by Step Manual and Cookbook...in short, whatever the need is!

This year we are venturing out into the diocese to get visibility in the *Catholic News and Herald* with ads advising of Weekends, Ultreya's, and more, along with feature articles to explain what Cursillo is. The possibilities for the Newsletter and Marketing are limitless!

~ Tita Wofford ~

South Charlotte Ultreya



I lived my Cursillo at the Men's 78th Weekend at Charlotte Catholic High School. Don Phipps was rector and I sat at the table of St Peter.

I attend the South Charlotte Ultreya which meets at St Matthews Catholic Church. Historically, we've had a fairly stable, well attended Ultreya, with around 20-40 folks in a given month. We take a little break around the holidays and in the middle of summer. Otherwise, barring the recent Covid craziness, we meet pretty consistently. And again, prior to all the interruptions of Covid, one of our attendees provided the meal before our actual Ultreya meeting. He enjoys doing this as his way of serving the community, which...no surprise...was always highly anticipated by those in attendance. Oh...and a little bit of wine, added to our pre-sharing social time.

The format of our time together is fairly standard, starting with 30 minutes of social time before the actual meeting begins. It's at this time when the free-book table gets poured over...particularly by those looking for the next study aid.

At the actual start of the meeting, we sing De Colores, usually with guitar accompaniment. Then, the announcements of upcoming Cursillo events are read, followed by the small group sharing. Our Ultreya has been fortunate to have a pretty steady stream of witness speakers with accompanying echoes.

Another feature of our Ultreya has been the availability of our deacon to deliver a spiritual talk. We conclude each Ultreya with prayer for all the intentions. Then, there's the clean up, pack up, and break up...until the next joyful time with our Cursillo friends.

~ Hamp Dulin ~

2022 Secretariat Planning Meeting Retreat



Top Row: Bill Wells, John Honey, Hamp Dulin, John Ciffe

Middle Row: Olivia Schimtt, Beth Ann Dulin, Kathy Crisson, Manon Reiher

Front Row: Tita Wofford, Barbara Dean, John Sequeira, Joe Linus