



2019 - 2020 CALENDAR

UPCOMING

School of Leaders:

September 19

October 10

November 14

December 5

(Zoom Virtual Meetings)

If you have never (or rarely) been able to attend School of Leaders, now is the perfect time to...

GIVE IT A TRY!

Best part...no travel

AGENDA

Time: 9:00 - 11:30

➔ Group Reunion – (This is a little different from your weekly Group Reunions. We have a “Leaders’ Group Reunion” Sheet to follow.)

➔ Talks – Doctrinal / Technique

➔ Breakout Sessions – Precursillo / 3-Day / Postcursillo

➔ Announcements

➔ Intentions and Closing Prayer

If you would like to attend, be sure to watch for the Email Zoom Link from your Ultreya Leader

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

Well it's Fall already and who would have thought that we would still be in the middle of the COVID doldrums when this first started in back in March. Worse yet, it now looks like we have a long way to go before we return to anything approaching “normal.”

These are not easy days for us Cursillistas. Our charism is to proclaim “the *best news* – that God, in Jesus Christ, loves us – by the *best means* – which is friendship.” Friendship, in turn, is all about interpersonal relationships – making friends, being friends, and bringing friends to Christ. How do we do all this in a COVID world?

Surprisingly, the answer is: Much the same way we did it before all this craziness began – only the *method of communication* has changed. Whereas in the pre-COVID world we might meet someone for lunch to discuss Cursillo, now we might have to use the phone. (You remember the phone? It was the thing we used before email, text, and Instagram.) And 4th Day Reunion Groups? Well, we used to meet at a restaurant or someone's home – Now our meetings have moved online via Zoom or other video conference call technology. Even our largest gatherings (Ultreya and School of Leaders) are still going strong – just not in person. Over 50 people attended our last School of Leaders online. Some Ultreyas are recording record numbers.

The bottom line is that our obligation as Cursillistas has not changed. Only the method of communication has changed. “Far away” Catholics still need a new relationship with Jesus Christ and our movement is still one of the best ways to make that happen. Jesus Christ is counting on us. Let's not use COVID-19 as an excuse for sitting back and telling ourselves “I'll get to it later when things get back to normal.” Pick up the phone. Reach out to potential candidates. Explain the Cursillo movement to them. Invite them to group with you. If anything, people are more isolated now and in need of friendship. A call from you might mean more now than ever before. Let's treat COVID-19 as an opportunity instead of an excuse. Souls are at stake. “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.”

If you have not been meeting with your 4th Day Reunion Group, reach out and set up a Zoom call. Don't know how to do that? Call me, it's really simple. Not holding your Ultreya meetings online? Call me, it's really simple. Not attending School of Leaders? Now it's easier than ever. No travel, just click online. My dear friends, life goes on and so does Cursillo. It's time to make lemonade out of the COVID lemons, and we are just the people to do it.



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 Life Under COVID-19

No one would EVER wish to be part of a global pandemic, and this is one that is definitely “history in the making.” In the United States, there is much debate on the handling of the virus, but there is no question, virtually (no pun intended) everyone has been impacted in one form or another.

How about Cursillo...the Movement dear to our hearts? Well, like each individual, organization, school, church, business, or government, nothing has been left untouched but this tiny, but oh so powerful, virus. In looking at the activities around the diocese, we learn that even during a world-wide health crisis, we can still keep our spiritual and community lives functioning, and in some cases, thriving. Let's see what's been going on during the past 6 months.

- *Group Reunions* continue to take place. Some, took a short pause to assess their possibilities and were able to move forward utilizing a medium like Zoom. A few have gone back to in-person sessions following the pandemic “public-gathering” protocol.
- *Ultreyas* have continued to take place...by Zoom now. And, while we love our gatherings and fellowship in person, there are strong advantages in not having to leave our houses and travel...sometimes, long distances. Thus, EVERYONE can now attend an Ultreya, regardless of location. If Ultreya leaders are having a problem finding witness speakers for their local gatherings, they can reach out to other Ultreyas in the diocese, or even those outside the diocese or state, for that matter.
- The Women's Team has virtual team meetings, challenging each one to think outside the box. The benefits become quickly evident. And, as it reviews “Step by Step” (the updated Weekend Manual), and the reasoning behind it, the team grows more and more into a Christian community, based on friendship!
- Lastly, the Secretariat has not skipped a beat with monthly meetings, utilizing its Tracking Report to ensure that all projects are on target, and goals and deadlines are being met, but most importantly, keeping its focus on the Movement, ensuring that it continues to flourish under the Charism of Eduardo Bonnin.

~ Tita Wofford, editor ~



Small CDC Study Groups Take Off

Beth Ann Dulin, School of Leaders Chairperson

Keeping in the spirit of our “virtual” meetings, School of Leaders, began a review of the Cursillo de Cursillos (CDC) Personal Study Guide, a course based on the Foundational Charism. Small groups meet and review a chapter a week for a period of 18 weeks. The meetings last about 30 minutes and can be tailor-made to each group's needs. Besides being an excellent study of the Cursillo Charism, members within the groups get to know each other better deepening their already-existing friendships.

This study opens up possibilities for learning more about Cursillo in the future. There is a plethora of material about Cursillo (founder, Eduardo Bonnin was a prolific writer) which can be found in our *School of Leaders Library*, as well as online at www.natl-cursillo.org if you prefer to have your own personal copy(ies). See comments below:

- *CDC Zoom meetings have been another great source of commitment, friendship, and study of our lives.*

...Celeste Durasoff, Gastonia

- *I am really enjoying our CDC study group. It has not only been a great opportunity to learn more about our Charism, but I am also making new friends and having a lot of fun. Each session is packed with great discussion combined with lots of laughter and joy. I'm so glad we are doing this.*

...Pam Kelley, Winston-Salem



On the Home Front

Winston Salem Ultreya continues to meet by Zoom the 3rd Thursday at 6:00 PM during the COVID-19 pandemic. We had a guest speaker this month, Kathy Crisson. Kathy's witness talk was on friendship and how we can share friendship with others in our daily lives. Thank you, Kathy for your inspiration.

~ Patti Eiffe ~

Editor's Note: Kathy (Greensboro) was able to participate in the Winston-Salem Ultreya easily because of Zoom!

