

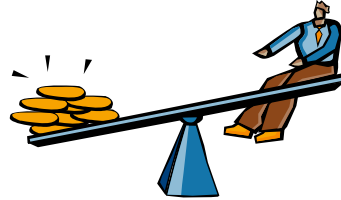
Cursillo News for Jan – Feb 2010

Calendar of Events

January 15-16, 2010	Practice Weekend , at Sacred Heart, Hebron
January 16, 2010	Secretariat Meeting , Sacred Heart, Hebron (following Practice Weekend about 1:00pm)
January 21-24, 2010	Men's Three Day Weekend , at Sacred Heart, Hebron
February 4-7, 2010	Women's Three Day Weekend , at Sacred Heart, Hebron
February 13, 2010	SOL - 10:00am – 3:00pm (Mass at 9:30am); St. Ann Parish, Doniphan, NE
March 13, 2010	Secretariat Meeting , 9:30 am; Blessed John XXIII, Lincoln (9:00am Mass)
April 10, 2010	SOL - 10:00am – 3:00pm (Mass at 9:30am); St. James Parish, Cortland
April 23-25, 2009	Region VI Fall Encounter (Location TBA)
May 8, 2010	Secretariat Meeting , 9:30 am; Blessed John XXIII, Lincoln (9:00am Mass)
June 12, 2010	SOL - 10:00am – 3:00pm (Mass at 9:30am); St. Ann Parish, Doniphan, NE

Just a reminder ... Palanca is the backbone of the Cursillo Movement and essential for the spiritual success of each Three Day Weekend, as well as in our living the Fourth Day. As the candidates are living their Three Day Weekend, your spending time with our Lord before the Blessed Sacrament is the best means of helping them encounter Him. Please make sure the assigned hours are covered according to the locations listed below, or contact a neighboring Ultreya Center for assistance ... He's counting on YOU!!!

Please come to the Men's and Women's Closings (5:00 pm) to welcome the new 4th Dayers (4:00 pm Mass for those who would like to assist).



Lift them up in prayer ...

Send Palanca to:
Sacred Heart Church
Attn: Cursillo Palanca
436 North 3rd Street
Hebron, NE 68370

PRAYER/ADORATION HOURS (by Ultreya Center) for the Jan-Feb 2010 Hebron Weekends

Thursday, 7:00pm - Friday, 1:00am	Hastings/Holdrege/Minden
Friday, 1:00am - 7:00am	Beatrice/Crete/Lincoln
Friday, 7:00am - 1:00pm	David City/Shelby/Wahoo
Friday, 1:00pm - 7:00pm	Southwestern Nebraska (McCook/Imperial/Grant)
Friday, 7:00pm - Saturday 1:00am	Plattsmouth/Nebraska City
Saturday, 1:00am - 7:00am	Hastings/Holdrege/Minden
Saturday, 7:00am - 1:00pm	Beatrice/Crete/Lincoln
Saturday, 1:00pm - 7:00pm	David City/Shelby/Wahoo
Saturday, 7:00pm - Sunday 1:00am	Southwestern Nebraska (McCook/Imperial/Grant)
Sunday, 1:00am - Sunday, 7:00am	Plattsmouth/Nebraska City
Sunday, 7:00am - 5:00pm	Hebron

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From the Secretariat/SOL ...

1. Ultreya Center News:

- ◆ The **Beatrice/Crete/Hebron/Lincoln Ultreya Center** continues its rotation of locations ... As was reported in the November/December 2009 Newsletter, because Thanksgiving and Christmas both occur at the end of the month (thus conflicting with the 4th Sunday of each month), one **combined Ultreya** for November and December was held on **December 6** at **Sacred Heart Parish in Hebron**. The **January Ultreya** will be held at 5:00 pm in the **St. Joseph Parish Center in Beatrice on Jan. 31** (the 5th Sunday, rather than the normal 4th Sunday, so as not to interfere with the Men's Closing on Jan. 24). The **February Ultreya** will be held at 5:00 pm in the **Sacred Heart Parish Hall in Crete on Feb. 28**.
- ◆ The **Southwest Ultreya Center** will continue to rotate its Ultreya location between McCook and Imperial. The **January** Ultreya will be held on **January 10** at 3:30 pm in the basement of St. Patrick Church in McCook. The **February** Ultreya will be held on **February 14** at 2:30 pm.
- ◆ The **Plattsmouth/Nebraska City Ultreya Center** continues to meet at 7:00 pm on the 1st Thursday of each month in the **St. Joseph Room at Church of the Holy Spirit in Plattsmouth**.
- ◆ The **Vietnamese-language Ultreya** is held on the third Sunday of each month at 3:00 pm at **Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Lincoln** (6345 Madison Ave).
- ◆ See the outside cover of the Newsletter for scheduled Ultreyas.

2. Change in Secretariat Positions

John Springer was elected as the new **Lay Director** for the Lincoln Diocese, and Mark Pribyl was selected to complete John's third year as Three Day Chair. Because the Secretary position was combined with the Treasurer position effective Jan. 1, 2009, the Secretariat decided that election for the combined position would be tied to the term for the Secretary position (thus, the next election for the Secretary/Treasurer position will be effective for the year beginning Jan. 1, 2011). These changes become effective January 1, 2010.

3. Precursillo – The following article (written by Jeanne Bendzinski) was taken from the electronic version of the December 2009 issue of the Twin Cities Catholic Cursillo Diocesan Newsletter, “Kindling”. The article is available at <http://www.tc-cursillo.org/Files/KindlingFiles/KindlingDec2009.pdf>

SPONSORING WORKSHOP REVIEW

Kathy Springer, Regional Service Team, was the guest speaker at November Leaders’ School. She spoke on the topic of sponsoring.

She described the overview of Cursillo and our action of sponsoring. First, we must be clear for ourselves and those we ask to participate in a Cursillo weekend on the reason to do so. Kathy stated the two major reasons: 1) to save souls, and 2) to build Christian community.

In sponsoring someone to a weekend, the sponsor is really in a servant role. The candidate travels in faith with their sponsor from their pre-Cursillo life, encounters Christ on the weekend, and then practices following Christ in their post-Cursillo life. As a sponsor, it is our duty to inform, guide and assure them that attending the Cursillo weekend is in their best interest for growing their relationship with Christ. Then it is our duty to assist their transition to participating in the follow-up of grouping and Ultreya to build Christian community.

Kathy encouraged us to not be fearful of sponsoring because Christ will give us what we need in time, words, and actions to bring Him new friends. As a sponsor, we are to ask Christ to see the possibilities in all people who are potential leaders but still diamonds in the rough.

Our initial task is to make and be a friend; then prepare that friend to accept the message of the weekend: that Christ loves them. A sponsor becomes a mentor to their new friend by making the Cursillo purpose clear, walking them through details and concerns about Cursillo and attending the weekend, and then helping them participate in what follows the weekend. Our God of surprises may also find ways in which our candidate can mentor us on our journey. That is a beauty of the Christian community.

When considering a friend to make a Cursillo weekend it is important to know them well enough to determine if now is the best time for them. Certain life events might make the intensity of a weekend experience more than the friend could handle. Mentoring is an essential step, but equally important in the process is modeling the behavior you are encouraging the friend to participate in by attending grouping and Ultreya regularly and being an authentic personal witness to Christ and a Christian life yourself. Your friend should recognize something in you that they want for themselves, even if they cannot exactly identify what that might be. Always keep praying for Christ to show you the new friends He wishes to attend a weekend.

Good sponsorship includes the following elements:

- 1. Personal contact is indispensable. Authentic witness is powerful for the transmission of the Gospel message. We are to know and enlighten others with the truth. Practice “make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ” but always respect the dignity of the person and where they are in their life. Striving for personal contact over electronic contact will allow the friend to experience Christ’s presence more fully.*
- 2. Be an authentic witness in your own life. Your thirst for truth will inspire others to thirst for truth. Don’t be afraid of who you are, admit mistakes, and go forward in humility on your journey to Christ. Any friend will see from your actions if you believe and if you live what you believe. This is what will “speak” to them.*

3. Do real palanca for others. The prayers and sacrifices we perform for others is essential for conversion. Talking to Christ about our friends is the most important thing we do when considering sponsoring.

4. Study your environments. Our environment is where we are and who we are with at any one point in time. This is an important element that strengthens our own faith when we live as witnesses to others. It is also important in that Christ can show us who He would like us to bring to Cursillo. They may not necessarily be attending church regularly, or the ones who stand out as strong leaders already.

In light of “make a friend, be a friend, bring your friend to Christ”, the candidate’s pre-Cursillo time is when the sponsor is making a friend and praying with Jesus about them. During the Cursillo weekend, the sponsor keeps praying but has brought their friend to meet Christ on the weekend. In the 4th day, the sponsor continues to pray for their friend and remains connected by being a friend in many ways, especially encouraging them to follow Christ by remaining in Christian community through participating in 4th day activities/events.

Sponsoring as action doesn’t stop when the friend makes a weekend, but continues in true Christian friendship. All Cursillistas ultimately act as sponsors to new 4th dayers, continually encouraging them in their faith journey.

Jeanne Bendzinski

As always, registration forms for Three Day Weekends are available from the Cursillo of Lincoln website (<http://webpages.charter.net/seas/cursillolincoln.html>). **Please use the most recent forms**, as information has changed. The Registration Form should be filled out by the candidate and returned to you as the sponsor; you should fill out the Sponsor Form (and be prepared to fulfill the sponsor responsibilities described on the back of the form), including getting the candidate’s pastor’s signature, and send the Registration Form and Sponsor Form together with the registration fee (\$20) to the Lay Director (address on the form).

4. Three Day Weekend

The next **Three Day Weekends** are scheduled for **January/February 2010** at **Sacred Heart Parish in Hebron ... who do you know that should be there?** The Weekends are:

- **Men’s Weekend: January 21-24, 2010**
Coordinator: Jon Junkin
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Nick Baker
- **Women’s Weekend: February 4-7, 2010**
Coordinator: Roddy Spangler
Spiritual Advisor Fr. Chris Goodwin

See last paragraph under Precursillo (above) for information about registration forms.

5. Postcursillo

◆ **News from Region VI**

The **Spring 2010 Region VI Encounter** will be held on **April 23-25, 2010** (we are still looking for a host diocese). Regional Encounters begin at approximately 8 p.m. on Friday evening (registration prior to opening) and conclude with the Ultreya on Saturday evening (Sunday morning Mass and breakfast are provided on Sunday morning). The **Registration Form** will be included in the March-April Newsletter.

◆ **News from National:**

- **2010 National Encounter** (*Registration Forms available at www.natl-cursillo.org/*)

Make plans now to attend the **20th National Cursillo Encounter**, to be held **Thursday, July 29 – Sunday, August 1, 2010**. **Region VI** (our Region) will be hosting the event at **Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri** ... they don't get too much closer than this!!

The keynote speaker will be **Fr. David M. Knight**. Fr. David M. Knight, born in Dallas, Texas, is a priest of the diocese of Memphis and director of His Way House, a center of spiritual growth, in Memphis, TN. He served as Diocesan Spiritual Director of Cursillos in Memphis, and has given retreats, workshops and talks to Cursillo groups throughout the country.

Fr. Knight wrote the book, **Cursillo Spiritual Formation Program**, published by the Cursillo for use in School of Leaders, and his book, **His Way** (which the Lincoln Diocese studied in SOL), is widely used by Cursillistas and quoted in Cursillo literature. **His Way**, a book on the spirituality of the laity, has been used in renewal programs in dioceses throughout the country, as a follow-up by the National Cursillo Movement.

Participating in the National Encounter would be a wonderful way for cursillistas to become more familiar with what is going on in Cursillo. As a matter of fact, our new Episcopal advisor, Bishop Elizondo, is personally encouraging cursillistas to make the effort and sacrifice to attend this Encounter in order to be as well informed as possible in order to promote an authentic Cursillos of Christianity (see Bishop Elizondo's letter on the back of English Registration Form at the National website). Christ is counting on us!!

- **Election to Executive Committee** – At the National Secretariat Meeting held Nov. 13-14, 2009, in Dallas, TX, Kathy Springer, who is the Region VI English Coordinator and a member of the National Secretariat, was elected (along with Beto Lopez from Kansas City) to the Executive Committee of the National Secretariat for a term of two years.

6. **School of Leaders (SOL)**

The **Dec. 12, 2009, SOL** will be held at St. James Parish in Cortland. Because the Winter 2010 (Jan. 21-24 for the Men, and Feb. 4-7 for the Women) will be the first set of Weekends to fully incorporate the changes in the new Cursillo Manual, this SOL will be devoted to reviewing the changes. Please come to help with this important work ... it gives ALL of us a better understanding of the Cursillo Movement and its charism, as well as the Three Day Weekend.

The next SOL will be **February 12, 2009**, at St. Ann Parish in Doniphan (see the enclosed registration form on the inside of the mailing cover). As usual, the day will begin with Mass at 9:30 a.m., followed by 10:00am Group Reunion, the technique talks and work sessions, and the doctrinal talk. **All** cursillistas are invited to deepen their understanding of Cursillo, especially those who are just beginning their Fourth Day.

From the Spiritual Advisor

In John's Gospel it says, "*And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.*" (Jn 1:18) These words speak about the awesome mystery of the Incarnation ... of God becoming man and taking on our flesh. This is a truth that most of us have grown up with as Catholics living in the twenty-first century. Because we have heard this truth repeated, it is often something that is taken for granted and something that is not much reflected on.

However, this truth has impacted and continues to impact our lives. St. Paul says that when Christ died for us when "... *we were enemies of Christ*" (Rom. ??:??). It is also true that before the Incarnation we were enemies of Christ. This was not because of anything that God did. Rather it was because of what we did. Adam & Eve sinned and because of that, we were conceived and born with Original Sin and we continue to sin. We need a Savior.

God in His eternal, infinite goodness, mercy, and love desires our salvation, and continually reaches out to us and offers us His grace and His love. He did this over and over in the Old Testament times with the Jewish people, and He does this in our times with each of us. The Father most perfectly showed His love for us giving us His Son, who was born of a woman, and took on our flesh. He did this so that as man He could die for our sins and as God He could make atonement for our offenses against the Father.

We recall this mystery of the Incarnation when we pray the Nicene Creed every Sunday (or Saturday night) at Mass. In the Creed, we pray "... *by the power of the Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.*" The Church instructs us to bow during these two lines so that, through a change in bodily posture, we might pause to reflect on this awesome truth, this awesome gift. Two times a year, on December 25 (Christmas eve and Christmas day, when we celebrate our Lord's birth as the God-Man, the visible appearance in our world of God's Son) and on March 25 (the Annunciation, when we celebrate the Incarnation, God becoming flesh, taking on our human nature in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary), the Church instructs us not just to bow our heads, but to genuflect during the praying of these two lines of the Creed. Again, it is through the use of our whole persons, our bodies, voices, mind, and soul, that we are called to acknowledge this great truth.

Later in the Mass, at the Consecration, this mystery of the Incarnation, as well as the mystery of our Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection, is made present to us, when bread and wine are changed into Jesus' Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. Not only did God become flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary. God becomes flesh under the appearance of bread and wine during every Mass and we are able to receive the God-Man into our body and soul.

So, God took on our flesh at the Incarnation, and through Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection, He died for us to forgive our sins, and rose from the dead to defeat death and win for us eternal life ... to grant us salvation. Through this wonderful gift of God, we are no longer enemies of Christ, even though through our sins we continue to turn away from God. Perhaps if we more frequently and consciously reflected on the awesome gift of the Incarnation, our response at times of temptation would be better and we would act more like the adopted sons and daughters of the Father, the brothers and sisters of Jesus, and the friends and temples of the Holy Spirit that we are. May the blessings of the Incarnation ... of the Christ-child be yours not only at Christmas, but every day of the year. ***De Colores!!... Fr. Mark Seiker***

From the Lay Director

When two blind men approached Jesus, and they told Him they believed Jesus could make them see, Jesus touched them and said, "Let it be done according to your faith" (Matt 9:27-30). The blind men must have had sufficient faith, as they received their sight. Every day we should ask Jesus to do the same for us, "Lord, help me to see." And every day Jesus asks us similarly, "Do you believe?" Is our faith sufficient to receive Jesus' healing touch? Every day we must work on that faith, that coming to know and believe, so we too can say, "Yes, Lord, I believe."

What a wonderful opportunity we have during this Advent season to really work on our relationship with Jesus. We anticipate the celebration of the birth of Our Savior, feeling the same expectant hope that Mary felt, the excitement of the great event. Every day the time becomes shorter until we too can make that spiritual trip to Bethlehem and join St. Joseph and the shepherds in exclaiming with the Angels, "Glory to God in the highest!"

During this Advent and Christmas season, may all of us experience the love and joy of the coming of the Infant Jesus. And on that great night of all nights, feel the peace and love of Our Dear Jesus and know that He has come to save us. May God bless all of you! ***De Colores! John Springer***

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Secretariat Members

Spiritual Advisor..... Fr. Mark Seiker 308-534-5461
Lay Director John Springer 826-2699
School of Leaders.....Jon Junkin 489-2115
Precursillo..... Roddy Spangler 239-0086
Three Day Weekend.....Mark Pribyl 946-2073
PostcursilloMonica Buster 365-7682
Secretary / Treasurer..... Kathy Springer 826-2699

Ultreya Center Representatives/Contacts

Beatrice/Crete/Hebron..... John and Kathy Springer 826-2699
David City/Shelby Rose Hottovy 367-4798
David City/ShelbyMary Jane Hilger 538-5235
Hastings/Holdrege/Minden..... Kathy Rowell 308-876-2271
Hastings/Holdrege/Minden..... Myron Wendland 308-472-1410
LincolnJon and Joan Junkin 489-2115
Lincoln – Vietnamese Language Hang Bui 617-7369
Southwestern NE.....Bill & Elaine Swanson 308-962-7247
Southwestern NE..... Helen Bieker 308-345-4870
Plattsmouth/Nebraska City..... Terry Little 296-4170
Wahoo Contact John Springer 826-2699

Ultreya Centers

- 1) **Beatrice-Crete-Hebron-Lincoln**
Location alternates: Crete/Lincoln/Beatrice/Hebron
Usually 4th Sunday of month, 5:00pm; however:
December Ultreya was held on Dec. 6 at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron
January 31 – 5:00 pm Ultreya at St. Joseph Parish in Beatrice
February 28 5:00 pm Ultreya at Sacred Heart in Crete
- 2) **David City-Shelby**Contact: Rose Hottovy or Mary Jane Hilger
- 3) **Hastings-Holdrege-Minden**..... All Saints' Parish Hall, Holdrege
3rd Sunday of month, 3:00pm
- 4) **Lincoln – Vietnamese Language Group**
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lincoln
3rd Sunday of month, 3:00pm
- 5) **Plattsmouth-Nebraska City**
Church of the Holy Spirit (St. Joseph Room), Plattsmouth
1st Thursday of month, 7:00pm
- 6) **Southwestern Nebraska**
Location alternates: McCook/Imperial; Usually 2nd Sunday of month
January 10 – Ultreya in McCook (3:30pm CT)
February 14 – Ultreya in Imperial (2:30pm MT; 3:30pm CT)
- 7) **Wahoo**.....Contact: John Springer

Secretariat Mail

John Springer.....Lay Director
1410 E. 15th St. Crete, NE 68333
Newsletter published: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov

Lincoln Diocese Cursillo WebPage
<http://webpages.charter.net/seas/cursillolincoln.html>

National WebPage: www.natl-cursillo.org/

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

January – February 2010



CURSILLO NEWSLETTER
3301 Echo Dr
North Platte, NE 69101-9608

Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring Your Friend to Christ!

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER
3301 Echo Dr
North Platte, NE 69101-9608

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

***Invite a friend to the
Upcoming Cursillo Weekends
January/February 2010
Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron***

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CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

Jan – Feb 2010



Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring Your Friend to Christ!

School of Leaders

*February 13, 2010
202 N 5th Street (5th and Cedar Streets)
St. Ann Parish, Doniphan, NE*

*Please come ... Deepen your understanding of Cursillo ...
ALL are welcome - Including ALL new 4th Dayers !!!*

If you cannot be with us, we request Palanca for the success of the School.

If not you, then who?

God wants to use your time/talent/treasure ... He wants you to be a good steward of that which He has given you. SOL, which is the working arm of Cursillo and is entrusted with the work of Cursillo in a diocese, needs the help of good stewards, such as YOU, to help with the work of Cursillo ... the harvest is great ... but the workers are few ...

SOL is a time to build community ... to spend time with others who deeply love our Lord and want others to love Him as well. SOL is an opportunity to work with others who know the very great value of Cursillo, and who want to make sure that others might have the opportunity to live a Weekend ... those who are concerned with the specific mission given to ALL OF US at our Baptism ... those who want to answer the call to Christianize the world.

SOL is for ALL cursillistas (new and veteran) ... for all who have a desire to share their love of God with others ... it is for ALL men and women, couples, singles, priests and religious, young and not-so-young If you wonder if it is for YOU, God may be prompting you to become more involved ... at least, come and see ... you already know that He is counting on YOU!

!

School of Leaders Agenda:

- 9:30am --- Mass (for those who wish to assist)
- 10:00am -- Group Reunion, Session #1, Lunch, Session #2, Visit to Blessed Sacrament, Depart.
- 3:00pm --- Clean up and departure (*estimated time* ... may be earlier ... may be later ...).

The Technique Talks will be from the diocesan workshop provided by National for pastoral planning (Planning Basics; Pastoral Planning; Exercise in Pastoral Planning); study of this process will be a great way to come to a deeper understanding of the Cursillo Movement. The Doctrinal Talks always relate to topics that will help you to continue to grow in your spiritual life ... on-going metanoia!

Please bring the following with you to the SOL (if you have them):

- ◆ **BRING YOUR OWN SACK LUNCH** (to save on time preparing and cleaning up, etc.)
- ◆ Pilgrim's Guide
- ◆ Leaders' Manual (please pray the Leader's Prayer regularly)
- ◆ *We ask that you consider making a donation to help cover a donation for use of the facility.*
- ◆ *Please bring a snack to share, if you like.*