

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

January 2020



Calendar of Events

January 11, 2020	Secretariat Meeting , at St. Ann Church, Doniphan - 9:30am Meeting (9:00am Mass)
February 8, 2020	SOL - 9:30am – 1:30pm (Mass at 9:00am) at St. Ann Church, Doniphan.
March 21, 2020	Secretariat Meeting , at St. Ann Church, Doniphan - 9:30am Meeting (9:00am Mass)
To be Determined	Practice Weekend – to be scheduled at a later date.
April 30 – May 3, 2020	Women’s Three Day Cursillo Weekend – Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron.
June 11 – 14, 2020	Men’s Three Day Cursillo Weekend – St. Ann Parish, Doniphan.
April 17-19, 2020	Cursillo Region VI Spring Encounter , hosted by the Dodge City, KS – Spanish Cursillistas. <i>Location to be decided.</i>
July 23-26, 2020	Cursillo National Encounter , Creighton University, Omaha, NE. <i>National Encounters do not get any closer than this ... make plans to participate.</i>

Upcoming Three Day Weekends

The next Three Day Weekends are scheduled. The Women’s Weekend will be held at Sacred Heart Parish in Hebron – **April 30 – May 3, 2020**. The Men’s Weekend will be held at St. Ann Parish in Doniphan – **June 11 – 14, 2020**. Begin / continue to pray and think about which of your friends you should invite to be a candidate. Registration forms/information to give the candidates about the Weekend are included in this mailing, or can be found on the Lincoln Diocese Cursillo webpage [<http://www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html>]. If you are planning to sponsor a candidate, please contact the Coordinators: Women’s Weekend (Kathy Springer) and Men’s Weekend (Greg Vandenberg) for the Sponsor Form. If candidates need a ride, contact a Secretariat member to see who else might be headed to the Weekends. Please try to get applications in early so that the candidate has time to prepare, as do we. Be excited and joy-filled and enthusiastic ... if you aren’t, why should they be? And remember to “speak to God about your friend before you speak to your friend about God.” God relies on you to be His voice ... invite!

Palanca for the Upcoming Three Day Weekend Candidates ... Christ is counting on YOU!! Please offer PALANCA for the spiritual success of the Upcoming Weekends and every Cursillo activity. After all, Palanca is the backbone of the Cursillo Movement and essential for each spiritual success – on Weekends as well as in every Fourth Day. Offer your Palanca for those friends that you are praying about inviting to the Weekends.

Report on School of Leaders (SOL)

We have been studying/discussing the book *Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló - 100 years – Biography & Mentality*. This book contains lots of previously unknown information about the life of our founder and his mentality as well as the history of Cursillos in Christianity. Many of Eduardo’s quotes are very good for reflection and useful in living the 4th Day fully and joyfully! At the December 14 SOL (*a combined SOL with English speaking and Vietnamese speaking cursillistas*) we continued this study, and will do so at the February 8 SOL.

Our next SOL is scheduled for February 8, 2020 at St. Ann Parish, Doniphan. Please join us if you are able.

Region VI Spring Encounter (April 17-19, 2020)

The Region VI Spring Encounter will be hosted April 17-19, 2020 by the Spanish community of the Diocese of Dodge City, KS (*exact location to be decided*). Additional information (including fee and registration form) will be available once it is determined on the Regional webpage <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/region6/>. It's a great way to meet other cursillistas from our Region and enjoy time spent focused on building His Kingdom through friendship.

From the Lay Director

De Colores!

Readers of the newsletters published earlier this year know that Eduardo's Step-by-Step process for presenting a three-day weekend is being implemented. The Lincoln Diocese Cursillo Movement has been studying this process at our School of Leaders and will implement it for the upcoming 2020 Women's and Men's Weekends.

As I write this article the Fourth Sunday of Advent is just days away. The new liturgical year is underway and the new calendar year is just over a week away. 2019's National Cursillo Encounter held in Scranton, PA celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the first Cursillo – the Cursillo of Cala Figuera held August 19-22, 1944 on the island of Mallorca. Cursillo is still alive and well today. With more and more writings of the founder being translated, published and studied, the simplicity and profoundness of the Method becomes ever clearer and allows us to continue the gift of Cursillo given by the Holy Spirit to Eduardo.

This Sunday's Gospel will focus on St. Joseph's struggle with accepting that Mary, his betrothed, was "found to be with child through the Holy Spirit." (*Mat. 1:18*) Not understanding this overshadowing by the Holy Spirit, Joseph got weak knees and "being a just man ... resolved to send her away quietly." (*Mat. 1:19*) But as he considered this, he was gifted with a dream in which an Angel of the Lord appeared to him and helped him understand his place in salvation history. He was emboldened to yes to God. It's been said that God tirelessly seeks us, more so than we seek Him. It's been said that God answers all our prayers, but those answers can be Yes, No or Not Yet depending on the ask and how the prayer furthers God's will.

I believe we respond to God's calls in like fashion all too often answering No or Not Yet with a strong Yes coming in at third place. Like Joseph we get weak knees when the call doesn't fit our idea of what we are capable of, what we are strongly committed to, what we are comfortable with. I know that model fits me well. We don't really know what Joseph's visit by an Angel of God in a dream looked like. Was it spectacular in nature or a simple prompting to accept what he didn't fully understand, what his upbringing told him was wrong?

Are you being called by God to do something that seems impossible, or difficult? If you've been away from Cursillo for a while (or never really began), don't be afraid to get going again – get into a Group Reunion, attend an Ultreya. Rediscover the grace that comes from sharing your faith walk in friendship grouping. Are you being called to help with the work of Cursillo in some capacity? Are you being called to sponsor a friend in an upcoming Cursillo so that friend can experience an encounter with Jesus? "Christ is Counting on You" aren't just words spoken on your Weekend. It's a calling, a continuation of the prompting of the Holy Spirit ... it's God's design.

This newsletter will reach you after Christmas Day. The thoughts of gift selections will likely have passed. Some will be thinking of returning or exchanging gifts because the gift didn't fit them. God doesn't make mistakes. His gifts, including your living a Three Day Cursillo Weekend wasn't a mistake. Don't wait for a grand dream including a visit by an Angel of God to convince you that Cursillo needs all of us ... Cursillo needs you. Prayerfully consider how you can help see that the proclamation of the good news that "God in Jesus loves us" reaches others. May God richly bless you as the Christmas season continues!

–Greg Vandenberg

From the Spiritual Advisor

During the four weeks of Advent, we prepared and waited for the celebration of our Savior's birth at Christmas. Some of us have been blessed to spend some time reflecting and journaling with a prayer resource entitled: "Rejoice! Advent Meditations With Joseph". In the reflections, Fr. Mark Toups has reminded us about the importance of waiting in silence and of reflecting on the question: "Are you preparing for a person (Jesus) or for a day?" The day (Christmas day) will come and go. Jesus, who is God with us (Emmanuel) invites us to encounter Him this Christmas Season and each day of our lives.

This encounter is expressed in a verse from St. John's Gospel (*which is proclaimed at the Mass During the Day on Christmas*): "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 1:14). Some Scripture scholars say that the words "made his dwelling among us" could also be translated as "pitched his tent among us" [using the image of the nomadic people who moved from place to place and pitched their tent near green pastures for their sheep]. Jesus, who is God, became man (a little baby) ... he "pitched his tent among us". He chose to do this because He loves us. It reminds me of what St. Paul wrote to the Romans: "God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us." (Rom 5:8) God took the initiative. He loves us so much he became a man to show us how to live. He gathered the Apostles and Disciples around Him and formed them into His Church and sent them into the world to announce His Gospel to everyone that they met.

However, even from the beginning there were those who accepted the Gospel and those who did not accept it. St. John wrote: "He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God." (Jn 1:11-12) Remember, that through the Sacrament of Baptism, we have become adopted sons or daughters of God the Father, brothers or sisters of Jesus, and temples of the Holy Spirit. We are members of God's family ... children of God.

As members of God's family and especially as cursillistas, we have experienced the initiative of God and His friendship. He has in the past, and he continues in the present, to reach out to us. He still desires to "pitch His tent among us". He also wants us to introduce our friends and our neighbors to our Best Friend: Jesus! That is a special opportunity that we have as cursillistas ... to live in such a way that others want to know why we are living in grace ... why we are filled with joy and love.

May the joy and love of the Christmas Season continue to fill you each day. May that joy so fill you that you overflow and you invite others to experience Jesus in a deep friendship. You might consider inviting your friend to join your Group Reunion to experience your sharing of your relationship with Jesus through your sharing of Piety, Study, and Action. Eventually, you might invite them to live a Three Day Weekend.

You could also bring your friend and other cursillistas you know to an Ultreya in your area. During the ride to the Ultreya and after the Ultreya you continue to share with them your friendship with Jesus who has "pitched His tent among us".

This Jesus, whose birth we celebrate during this Christmas Season, has called you to a deeper relationship with Him through your Three Day Weekend. On Sunday of your Three Day Weekend, you were reminded that the experience of your Three Day Weekend was not just for you, but that you were being sent out into the world to tell others about Jesus and about your friendship with Him. Just as Jesus sent the Apostles and Disciples out into the world, so He is sending you out into the world each day.

Please remember Jesus' love for you. Please share His love with your friends and invite them to a closer relationship with Him. Also invite them to experience a Three Day Weekend. In this newsletter the dates of the upcoming Women's and Men's Three Day Weekends are listed.

Remember that Christ is counting on you.

***De Colores!!* Fr. Mark Seiker**

2020 National Encounter (July 23-26, 2020)

The 30th National Encounter will be at Creighton University in Omaha, NE on July 23-26, 2020. National Encounters do NOT get any closer than this ... start now to make plans to participate. There will be hundreds of Cursillistas participating, including both clergy and laypersons from multiple language groups including English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Filipino, Portuguese, Korean, and Chinese. It will be a great opportunity to experience the unity and the diversity of the Cursillo Movement across the world.

Upcoming Ultreyas

Beatrice-Hebron-Crete:

Location alternates (2:00pm; usually 2nd Sunday of month)

- **January Ultreya** – (January 12) – Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Crete
- **February Ultreya** (February 9) – St. Joseph Parish Center, Beatrice
- **March Ultreya** (March 8) – Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Hebron

Contacts: John/Kathy Springer (402) 826-2699

Southwestern Nebraska (McCook-Imperial-North Platte):

Location alternates (usually 2nd Sunday of month)

- **January Ultreya** (January 12) - 3:30pm CT – St. Patrick Church Basement, McCook
- **February Ultreya** (February 9) - 2:30pm MT – St. Patrick Parish Hall, Imperial
- **March Ultreya** (March 8) - 3:30pm CT – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Hall, North Platte

Contacts: Helen Bieker (308) 340-0268

Lincoln – Vietnamese Language Group:

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lincoln

- **1st Sunday of each month after 9:00am Mass (about 10:15am)** *[please notice the change from 2nd Sunday to 1st Sunday]*

Contacts: Diep Van Nguyen (402) 474-9588, Canh Nguyen (402) 435-0921, Thai Nguyen (402) 580-7587.

Not Currently Having Ultreyas *[Please participate in a neighboring Ultreya]*

- Lincoln
- Doniphan-Hastings-Holdrege-Minden
- Plattsmouth-Nebraska City
- Weston-David City-Shelby-Wahoo

For more information, contact Greg Vandenberg (308) 530-7587, Lay Director

Secretariat Mail

Lay Director – Greg Vandenberg; 3101 Meadow Court, North Platte, NE 69101
(glvandenberg@charter.net)

Newsletter is currently published as needed.

Lincoln Diocese Cursillo WebPage: www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html

Region VI WebPage: www.natl-cursillo.org/region6

National WebPage: www.natl-cursillo.org

Secretariat Members

Lay Director	Greg Vandenberg (308) 530-7587
Precursillo	
Three Day Weekend	
Postcursillo	
School of Leaders / Secretary.....	John Springer (402) 826-2699
Treasurer	Kathy Springer (402) 826-2699
Spiritual Advisor	Fr. Mark Seiker (308) 534-5461

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

Forwarding Service Requested

**Women's Three Day Weekend
April 30 - May 3, 2020
Men's Three Day Weekend
June 11 - 14, 2020
(See details inside)**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lincoln, NE
Permit No. 363

Women's Three Day Weekend
April 30 – May 3, 2020 Sacred Heart Church, Hebron, NE
Men's Three Day Weekend
June 11 – 14, 2020 St. Ann Church, Doniphan, NE



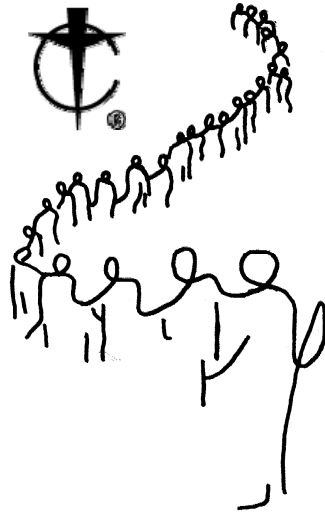
Eduardo Bonnin Aguilo
(picture copied from 100 Years Biography - Mentality)

The Cursillo

*A Method to
Find,
Form,
Sustain
and
Link
Lay Leadership for Christ
and His Church.*

*One Means of Supporting
Christian Community.*

(Reprinted with permission from The National Cursillo Center) 4/3/94



Bishop James Conley (Bishop of Lincoln)

February 8, 2014

“The Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Lincoln has my blessing and full support. For many, making a Cursillo retreat can be a trigger moment for a deeper conversion of life and a greater commitment to discipleship in the Lord. The Church is gifted with disciples from the Cursillo Movement who are true evangelists. As Pope Francis stated in *Evangelii Gaudium*, “Jesus wants evangelizers who proclaim the good news not only with words, but above all by a life transfigured by God’s presence” (EG 259). Cursillo retreats provide the opportunity for a heart to heart encounter with Christ, whose abundant love and mercy is transformative. Once transformed by a deep encounter with Christ, those involved in the Cursillo movement persevere in this grace through a life of prayer, regular participation in the Sacraments, and fidelity to the “fourth day.” The ready support of fellow Cursillo members and attendance at community reunions are a tremendous help as well. May God grant the Diocese of Lincoln many fruitful Cursillos and a great harvest of souls who have their hearts set on our Lord Jesus!”

Bishop Fabian Bruskwitz (Bishop Emeritus of Lincoln)

April 8, 2003 Pastoral Bulletin to Diocesan Priests

“Cursillo began in Spain in the 1940’s, and has since spread throughout the world (it was also the catalyst for such movements as Marriage Encounter, Teens Encounter Christ (TEC), Christians Encounter Christ, Residents Encounter Christ, and KAIROS, each of which addressed the needs of a specific group.) Through regular reflection on personal growth in the areas of holiness, formation, and evangelization, the Cursillo Movement offers Catholics an authentic means of helping the Church fulfill her mission of bringing the Gospel to the world.

“The Cursillo Movement first came to the Lincoln Diocese in 1965, and has since continued in its efforts to bear fruit in the spiritual lives of those involved, as well as in the environments these persons were sent by God to Christianize (family,

neighborhood, parish, work). Cursillo is a solidly authentic method of deepening a relationship with Christ, a means of putting on the mind of Christ. It is one way to assist Catholics to teach others to do the same.

“The Cursillo Movement is strongly recommended for its authenticity in promoting holiness, formation and evangelization in the spiritual lives of those who faithfully participate and persevere in living the Cursillo Method, especially to the leaders in every environment within the Diocese. The Lincoln Diocese Cursillo Movement enjoys the full endorsement and support of the Bishop and of Pope John Paul II who publicly thanked the Lord for all He has done and never ceases to do in the Church through Cursillo.”

Pope Francis (formerly Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio)

June 13, 2011 Letter to the Cursillistas of the Archdiocese of Buenos Aires

My dear Cursillistas:

“‘The good seed are the children of the kingdom.’ (Mt. 13:38)

“As we approach the celebration of the feast of Saint Paul, your patron and model of how to live “de colores”, we give thanks to God for all the fruits that the Cursillos in Christianity Movement has generously given the Church.

“Your service of proclaiming Christ by being his witnesses in your everyday environments, is an embodiment, a concrete renewal of the Baptism that we have received in Him and makes you disciples and missionaries of the Word, as this was expressed in the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church: “Through their baptism and confirmation all are commissioned to the apostolate by the Lord Himself” (Lumen Gentium no. 33).

“I write to you conscious of the challenge that today’s society presents to the enculturation of the Gospel; but I trust that your audacity and apostolic fervor - born of a personal encounter with self and with Christ - will lead you to make history for the good of all. So that, many brothers and sisters, marginalized or not, who live on the fringe may feel embraced by the love of Jesus.

“To be a pilgrim in our City means not becoming comfortable, but to be open to life and to pay attention to what is happening in our heart - like a good Samaritan confronted with the difficult circumstances of so many brothers and sisters.

“It is necessary that the Cursillos in Christianity Movement, through the participation of everyone, continue its journey of pastoral conversion as proposed at Aparecida (Cf. 5th General Conference of the Bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean, “Disciples and Missionaries of Jesus Christ”)

“As Cursillistas living through difficult times you need to ask God for the Grace to have many candidates, to have an ongoing precursillo, so as not to fall into the hopelessness that paralyzes and causes anguish. The gift of the Kerigma that you received in your Cursillo sends you on mission as proposed by the tripod of piety, study and action.

“As an Archdiocesan Church, we need the unity of all in Christ, so that He, and only He may reign in our hearts and we may thus be able to recognize him like the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

“In thanking you for your journey as a Cursillista, I ask you not to stop renewing your apostolic zeal and dedication and that of your brothers and sisters in your Group Reunion before Jesus in the Eucharist.

“Today more than ever we need that your nearness in the environments be a source of light and joy for so many brothers and sisters who do not yet know that God is a Father who loves them tenderly.

“Today more than ever we need your presence so that many families may encounter the transcendent love of Christ - a new and greater dimension of human love.

“Today more than ever we need you and your witness at the Ultreyas, so as to go “onward”, to go beyond, in the proclamation and experience of the Kerigma.

“I ask that you pray for me. May Jesus bless you and Our Lady, Mother of Divine Grace, keep you.”

Affectionately, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio SJ,
Archbishop of Buenos Aires

Saint Pope John Paul II

July 29, 2000 Jubilee Address to Cursillistas, Rome

“Your presence here, so varied and festive, shows that the tiny seed planted in Spain more than 50 years ago has become a great tree laden with fruits of the Spirit. Indeed, it continues to be a successful response to the question asked by my venerable Predecessor Pope Paul VI at the first world Ultreya in Rome: ‘Can the Gospel still win over the mature person ... in urban and rural cultures?’ You transform the world by becoming new men and women. I am therefore delighted to join in your thanksgiving to the Lord for all He has done and never ceases to do in the Church through the Cursillos de Cristiandad. The theme of this world Ultreya – *Evangelizing the Milieus of the Third Millennium: A ‘Challenge’ for the Cursillos de Cristiandad* – demonstrates your efforts to repropose the experience of Christ to the men and women of the 21st century with new means and enthusiasm. This has become ever more urgent, since whole countries and nations, where religion and the Christian life were formerly flourishing and capable of fostering a viable and working community of faith, are now put to a hard test ... as a result of the constant spread of indifference to religion, of secularism and atheism.”

“In view of this situation which challenges believers to remake the Christian fabric of the ecclesial community, the Cursillo method aims at helping to transform in a Christian way the milieu where people live and work through the involvement of ‘new men and women’ who have become such from their encounter with Christ. This is the goal of the three-day ‘little course’ on Christianity, in which a team of priests and lay people, supported by the prayer and sacrifices of the movement’s other members, communicate the fundamental truths of the Christian faith in an especially ‘living’ way. When presented in this way, the message of Christ almost always opens participants in a Cursillo to the gift of conversion and to a deeper awareness of the Baptism they have received and of their own mission in the Church. They feel called to be the prophetic ‘leaven’ which

is kneaded into the dough so that the whole mass will rise to be the ‘salt of the earth’ and the ‘light of the world’ to proclaim to everyone they meet that only in Jesus Christ is there salvation and that it is only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of man truly becomes clear.”

“... This is your apostolate, carried out in constant harmony with the Church, to show the ‘strength of communion’ which is at once the style and the very essence of the People of God. As you face the various forms of individualism which fragment and divide your evangelizing ability and resources, join your missionary forces with those of the various ecclesiastical groups raised up by the Spirit in the Church of our time. Endeavor to restore the beauty of the first Christian communities, which prompted pagans to say with admiration: ‘See how they love one another!’ And always be docile to the directives of the Magisterium. No charism, in fact, dispenses you from referring and submitting to the Pastors of the Church, whose discernment is a guarantee of fidelity for the charism, itself. May the Jubilee celebration instill in all of you a renewed fidelity to your original inspiration and a firmer ecclesial communion. Many people are looking to you for the light of faith.”

“... During the days of a Cursillo, the words of [a] popular Spanish song help the participants to reflect on the multifaceted beauty of creation. In encountering Christ, you have learned to look with new eyes at others and at nature, at everyday events and at life in general. You have experienced that true happiness is found in following the Lord. This personal and community experience must be passed on to others. Many men and women of our time, who unfortunately turn away from God, expect from you the light of faith that will help them rediscover the colors of life and the happiness of feeling loved by God.”

Pope John Paul II
July 29, 2000 Jubilee Address to Cursillistas, Rome

Saint Pope Paul VI

• ***May 28, 1966 Address to First World Ultreya, Rome***

“Cursillos de Cristiandad, that is the word, purified through experience, affirmed by its fruits, that today travels with citizenship papers throughout the world ...”

“Whether some methods become obsolete, whether new manifestations of the Spirit arise, the permanent task of the layman will continue to be the infusion of Christianity into life through the encounter and personal friendship with God and in communion with his brothers. The layman, upon forming himself in Christianity, reforms his mentality and conforms his life to Christ’s image by means of faith, hope and charity; acting with complete responsibility, he transforms the temporal structures in which he is immersed; guided in his action by the glance of Christ, he continually tries to remake the world according to God’s plan and design ..”

“We know that in your plan of spirituality and apostolate in the Cursillo Movement the ‘Sensus Ecclesiae’ (mind of the Church) is the guiding light that orients you ...”

“Beloved sons and daughters: Our soul is so oppressed by the vision of the evils which afflict the Church and mankind. But permit us to express our overwhelming joy that at this moment floods our soul before the immense

chorus of your manly faith in Christ, your fidelity to the Church, your fervent loyalty to this Chair of Peter and to the ministry of the episcopal hierarchy.”

“Cursillos de Cristiandad! Christ, the Church, the Pope, are counting on you!”

• ***Dec. 8, 1975 Apostolic Exhortation on Evangelization in the Modern World***

“TAKE A CHRISTIAN or a handful of Christians who, in the midst of their own community, show their capacity for understanding and acceptance, their sharing of life and destiny with other people, their solidarity with efforts of all for whatever is noble and good. Let us suppose that, in addition, they radiate in an altogether simple and unaffected way their faith in values that go beyond current values, and their hope in something that is not seen and that one would not dare to imagine. Through this wordless witness these Christians stir up irresistible questions in the hearts of those who see how they live: Why are they like this? Why do they live in this way? What or who is it that inspires them? Why are they in our midst? Such a witness is already a silent proclamation of the Good News and a very powerful and effective one.”

For More Information, Contact:

Greg Vandenberg, Lay Director 308-530-7587
John and Kathy Springer 402-826-2699
Helen Bieker 308-340-0268
Monica Buster 402-365-7682

Thai Nguyen 402-580-7587
Diep Van Nguyen (Vietnamese) 402-474-9588
Fr. Bernard Lorenz (Spanish) 308-414-1195
Fr. Mark Seiker 308-534-5461

Additional Information for Candidates re: the Cursillo Weekend (2020)

The Coordinators for the upcoming Cursillo Weekends are Kathy Springer (402-826-2699) for the Women's Weekend (April 30 – May 3, 2020) and Greg Vandenberg (308-530-7587) for the Men's Weekend (June 11 – 14, 2020). Cursillo Weekends are held in various locations around the Diocese. The Women's Weekend is being held at Sacred Heart Parish, 436 N 3rd St; Hebron, NE 68370 (phone number in case of emergencies during the Weekend is 402-768-6293). The Men's Weekend is being held at St. Ann Parish, 202 N. 5th Street; Doniphan NE 68832 (phone number in case of emergencies during the Weekend is 402-580-1367).

The purpose of this note is to pass along some helpful information, based on questions we're commonly asked. If other questions arise, please do not hesitate to call Kathy or Greg (see contact information below).

- ✠ The weekend will start at approximately 7:30 p.m. on Thursday ... it is best to plan to arrive between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. The Weekend concludes about 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. on Sunday.
- ✠ Someone will be there to meet you, greet you, and help you with your things.
- ✠ Please let us know if you have any special dietary (or other) needs.
- ✠ All meals, snacks, and drinks (tea, soda, water, coffee, etc.) are provided.
- ✠ You will need to bring a pillow and sleeping bag (or sheets and a blanket). We have foam mats and mattresses to put underneath your sleeping bag (these are surprisingly comfortable). You are welcome to bring an inflatable bed or cot.
- ✠ You may want to bring ear plugs if "background" noise bothers you at night.
- ✠ Bring comfortable clothing and any personal items you need (towels/washcloth, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, a couple of hangers for towels and clothes, flashlight, prescription medications, etc.).
- ✠ Dress is very casual, as most wear jeans and shirts/sweaters/sweatshirts, although we usually dress up a little nicer for the Lord's Day.
- ✠ Don't worry if you forget something, as we can get whatever you need.
- ✠ **There are showers available throughout the weekend.**
- ✠ There is usually time for sharing jokes, so please bring a number of your favorite clean jokes with you to share.
- ✠ You may want to bring a Rosary (if you have one) and a Bible.
- ✠ Was it mentioned that we have food?!?!?!?
- ✠ The Lincoln Diocese Cursillo Website is: <http://www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html>

We look forward to spending the Cursillo Weekend with you in the company of our Lord.

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What is Cursillo?

CURSILLOS IN CHRISTIANITY

In today's world, can Christianity penetrate the many areas of secular life? Can it live there? Can it grow there? Can it transform the world in a way that is more fruitful than the past and in keeping with the times? The Cursillo Movement thinks so. It proposes no new type of spirituality, but simply a method through which a person's spirituality may be developed, lived and shared in any area of human life where there are Christians willing to dedicate their lives to God in an ongoing manner.

Cursillo teaches that the Gospel should be proclaimed in very natural ways; i.e., we should be Christ-like as we go about our daily activities, right where God put us. Unfortunately, while most people would like to live their lives in a Christ-like manner, the pressures of the world often make this difficult. Cursillo provides a method (with tools) to meet the challenges and respond to the opportunities presented each day. The method is introduced by a little course.

FORMAT OF THE EXERCISES

Cursillo (pronounced **kur-see-yo**) is a Spanish word meaning "little, or short, course." It begins on a Thursday evening and ends the following Sunday evening. During the three days, those attending live and work together listening to talks given by priests and laypersons. They also share the Eucharist and pray together.

Titles of the talks indicate their content: Ideal, Habitual Grace, The Layperson: A Christian in the World, Actual Grace, Piety, Study, Sacraments, Action, Obstacles to a Life of Grace, Leaders, Study of the Environment, Life in Grace, Christianity in Action, the Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo, and Total Security. Each talk is followed by a discussion period.

THE FOURTH DAY

Cursillo recognizes the importance of persevering beyond the Weekend itself, so its design includes a method for increasing and continuing the conversion process beyond the Three Days by providing a means for living the "fourth day" (each day after the Three Day Weekend is referred to as the "fourth day"). In the Cursillo Movement, the community spirit is continued in the fourth day through a monthly gathering or reunion called "Ultreya", during which we encourage one another to continue to grow in Faith, Hope, and Love (Ultreya means "onward"; we encourage one another onward ... to continue/persevere). In addition, reunions of smaller groups of friends (Group Reunion) are available weekly for fostering spiritual growth in the individual members, helping each to better take Christ out into the world.

CHRISTIANIZING ENVIRONMENTS

The Cursillo Movement can have very positive results in the spiritual revitalization of the world ... the "New Evangelization." The Christ-likeness in a few good people is contagious. The transference of Christ's values to others in one's family, school, place of business, etc., is the Christianizing of environments the Cursillo promotes.

The goal of the Cursillo Movement is that Christ be the prime influence in society. Its primary objectives are to develop in Christians a consciousness of their power and mission to become leaders in the work of Christian renewal, and to sustain them as they provide a Christian leaven in civic, social and economic life. This "Christianizing of environments" is what the Cursillo Movement is all about.

CURSILLO

Cursillistas (persons who have lived a Three Day Cursillo Weekend) believe that Christianity CAN penetrate the many areas of secular life. Cursillo is not a new type of spirituality, but simply a method through which our spirituality is developed and lived – right where we are!!

A Cursillo Weekend's aim is to concentrate closely on the Person and teachings of Jesus Christ. Truly, a Cursillo is an encounter with Christ ... a real meeting with Christ. Cursillo gives those who participate a living understanding of basic Catholic truths and the desire to serve the Church. What's more, it provides a means to continue the Christian formation that begins on the Weekend.

Interested? You are invited ... Come and see!!

For More Information, Contact:

Greg Vandenberg, Lay Director	308-530-7587
John and Kathy Springer	402-826-2699
Helen Bieker	308-345-4870
Monica Buster	402-365-7682
Thai Nguyen	402-580-7587
Diep Van Nguyen (Vietnamese)	402-474-9588
Fr. Bernard Lorenz (Spanish)	308-414-1195
Fr. Mark Seiker	308-534-5461

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<http://www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html>

Cursillo Registration Form

Diocese of Lincoln, NE

(Give completed Registration Form to your Sponsor or to your Pastor.)

Name:	Parish (include town)	
Street Address:		
City, State, Zip:	Birth Date	Gender: M F
Email Address:	<u>Current Marital Status</u> (circle one): Married Widowed Divorced Separated	
Home Phone:	Single Religious Priest	
Work Phone:	Spouse's Name:	
Cell Phone:	Is spouse Catholic? Yes No	
Occupation:	If not Catholic, what Religion?	
	Spouse's Occupation:	

Why do you wish to make Cursillo Weekend?

Are you able to receive the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion? Yes No

Has your spouse made a Cursillo? Yes No
(answer follow-up question to the right)

If Yes, where and when?

If No, has there been a meeting to explain Cursillo to both spouses?

Yes No *(this is required regardless of which spouse goes first)*

Activities you are currently involved in (Church, Civic, Professional, Hobbies, etc.):

FYI -- Sleeping arrangements are generally foam mats / mattresses on the floor ... cots may be available.

Do you have any conditions that would require special attention (health, diet, disabilities, allergies, problems with stairs, etc.)? No Yes / explain:

Emergency Contact

Name:

Phone:

Do you have questions about the Weekend that your sponsor has not been able to answer? If so, what are they?

Has the recommended follow-up program of Group Reunion and Ultreya been explained to you? Y N

Your Signature _____ Date _____

Sponsor's Name _____ Sponsor's Address _____

If you have questions about a sponsor, please contact those listed below or ask your Pastor.

Sponsor's Signature _____ Date _____

A \$20.00 non-refundable registration fee should be submitted with the registration. During the Weekend, you will be invited to make a donation to help cover the expenses associated with the Weekend. Those who cannot afford the requested registration fee and/or donation should attend and contribute what they can. Checks should be made payable to "Cursillo of Lincoln" and mailed to:

- Men: Greg Vandenberg, 3101 Meadow Court, North Platte, NE 69101; 308-530-7587
- Women: Kathy Springer, 1410 E 15th St, Crete, NE 68333; 402-826-2699

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