

Cursillo News for Mar. – Apr. 2014

Calendar of Events

- February 21-22, 2014 **Practice Weekend**, at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron.
- February 22, 2014* **Secretariat Meeting** (details to be announced in next Newsletter; this Secretariat meeting is usually held at the conclusion of the Practice Weekend)
- Feb. 27-Mar. 2, 2014 **Men's Three Day Weekend**, at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron.
- March 2, 2014 **Men's Closing**, 5:00pm at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron (Please come to the Closing to welcome the new Cursillistas).
- March 20-23, 2014 **Women's Three Day Weekend**, at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron.
- March 23, 2014 **Women's Closing**, 5:00pm at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron (Please come to the Closing to welcome the new Cursillistas).
- April 12, 2014 **SOL** - 9:30am – 2:00pm (Mass at 9:00am) at IHM Parish, Lincoln (6345 Madison Avenue, Lincoln, NE).
- April 25-27, 2014 **Spring 2014 Region VI Encounter** –Fargo, ND Diocese to host (in Hankinson, ND).
- May 3, 2014* **Secretariat Meeting**, Blessed John XXIII Diocesan Center, Lincoln – 9:30am (9:00am Mass) [*Tentative: One week early due to May graduation schedules*]
- June 14, 2014 **SOL** - 9:30am – 2:30pm (Mass at 9:00am) *tentatively* scheduled for St. Ann Parish, Doniphan (watch for update in May-June 2014 Newsletter).

** During the Winter/Spring 2014 months, SOL and Secretariat meetings needed to be adjusted from the normal schedule of having SOL on the 2nd Saturday of the even numbered months (Feb., April, etc.), and Secretariat meetings on the second Saturday of the odd numbered months (Jan., March, etc.).]*

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Christ is counting on YOU!! Please offer Palanca for the spiritual success of this 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. 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 IS counting on you!!!

Please come to the Men's Closing (5:00 pm) and Women's Closing (5:00 pm) to welcome the new 4th Dayers.



Lift them up in prayer ...

*Send Palanca to:
Sacred Heart Church
Attn: Cursillo Palanca
436 N 3rd St;
Hebron NE 68370*

PALANCA (by Ultreya Center) for the February-March 2013 Minden Weekends

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

1. Ultreya Center News:

Details regarding upcoming Ultreyas are included on the next page and on the outside cover of each Newsletter and are also available on the diocesan webpage:

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

- The **Beatrice/Crete/Hebron/Lincoln Ultreya Center** continues its rotation of locations The February Ultreya would normally have been on **February 23** at St. Joseph Parish, Beatrice; however, since the Men's Closing is the following **Sunday (March 2)**, that will be the February Ultreya. The March Ultreya will be the Women's Closing at 5:00pm on **March 23** at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron. The April Ultreya is scheduled for 3:00pm on **April 27** and will again be held at St. Joseph Parish Center, Beatrice.

- The **Southwest Ultreya Center** will continue to rotate its Ultreya location between McCook and Imperial. The **March** Ultreya will be the Men's Closing at 5:00pm on **March 2** at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron and the Women's Closing at 5:00pm on **March 23** at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron. So there will NOT be an Ultreya on **March 9** (instead, go to the Men's and Women's Closings). The **April/May** Ultreya will be held **May 4** at 3:30pm CT at St. Patrick Church Basement in McCook.
- The **Hastings-Holdrege-Minden Ultreya Center** is holding quarterly Ultreyas. The next Ultreya will be **February 16**, at **2:30pm** and again at **St. Ann Parish, Doniphan**.
- The **Plattsmouth/Nebraska City Ultreya Center** – Contact Mary Lou Salazar or Terry Little for more information.
- The **Weston-Wahoo Ultreya Center** is currently not having Ultreyas. Please participate in Ultreya in one of the other Ultreya Centers (Lincoln is close).
- The **Vietnamese-language Ultreya** holds its Ultreyas on the fourth Sunday of each month at 3:30pm at **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church** in **Lincoln**.

2. Precursillo and Three Days

Upcoming Three Day Weekends are scheduled to be held at Sacred Heart Parish in Hebron on the following dates:

- Men's February 27-March 2, 2014
- Women's March 20-23, 2014

As you see, the dates for the next set of Three Day Weekends are fast approaching. Please try to get applications in early so that the candidate has time to prepare, as do we. Then as you continue to work with your friend/candidate, find ways to continue reminding about the upcoming opportunity to grow in faith. Be excited and joy-filled and enthusiastic ... if you aren't, why should they be?

There is a lot of work to do in the Precursillo (making a friend, being a friend, and bringing your friend to Christ), but the key is to begin the work, always in a spirit of Palanca (talking to God about your friend before talking to your friend about God), and with a mind/heart/will set "to the highest level" to persevere in winning this person for Christ. And maybe, this person might even be interested in ratcheting up his/her faith by living a Cursillo Weekend!! A current application form (with a separate information sheet about these specific Weekends) and an information sheet about Cursillo itself that includes comments from recent Popes and Bishops, including Bishop Conley (see below) are available on the Lincoln Diocese Cursillo webpage <http://www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html>.

Bishop Conley's Endorsement:

"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!"

3. Postcursillo

◆ Region VI Spring Encounter (April 25-27)

The Region VI Spring Encounter will be hosted by the Fargo, ND Diocese on April 25-27, 2014 at Hankinson, ND. The registration form was included in the January/February newsletter, and is also available on the Lincoln Diocese Cursillo webpage (see address on outside cover of newsletter). As always, there will be three rollos given by laypersons and one spiritual rollo. There will also be a Friday evening meditation, followed by Confession, plus Mass and an Ultreya on Saturday ... and of course, food.

◆ Upcoming Cursillo de Cursillos (CDC's) in Region VI:

- **February 20-23, 2014** – Moberly, Missouri (Diocese of Jefferson City, MO). The Weekend starts with registration at 5:30PM and should conclude around 4:00PM Sunday. If interested or need more information, please contact Terrie Foltz at terrie.foltz@gmail.com.
- **March 20-23, 2014** – Wichita, KS Diocese (in Wichita, KS). Same starting and ending times as above. If interested or need more information, please contact Sherry Watson at luv2Kamp@cablene.net. Maximum of 50 can attend; 27 have registered.

4. School of Leaders (SOL)

The **January SOL** was held simultaneously from 9:00am-12:00pm in three different locations, with the three groups connected via technology (using the Go To Meeting internet connection). Cursillistas participating in the SOL gathered at one of three different locations – St. Joseph Parish Hall in Beatrice, St. Ann Parish Hall in Doniphan, or St. Patrick rectory basement in McCook. The Technique Talk came from the chapter of *The Leaders Manual*, entitled "**The Postcursillo**." All of Cursillo points to the Postcursillo, which is our living the Fourth Day faithfully. The Three Day Weekend was conceived with the Postcursillo in mind ... so that men and women would gather and share, that all might grow in their faith, then be sent out to evangelize others in their individual environments. This is how we can ensure that Christ will be present in our families, our workplaces, our country, the world ... in each and every environment ... And we do this by being faithful and faith-filled witnesses in the world of the truth that GOD LOVES US ... each and every one of us!

The Doctrine Talk came from the final section of Pope Benedict XVI's Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Verbum Domini* ("**On the Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church**"). This ties in with what was discussed in terms of Cursillo's strategy.

During the work session, we finished our review of the newly issued “Articles of Operation for the United States Cursillo Movement,” which were recently approved and distributed to all dioceses.

The next SOL (open to both English and Vietnamese) will be held on **April 12, 2014**, at **Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Lincoln**. In upcoming SOLs, we will continue to review *The Leaders Manual*. Thus far, this study has proved to be very valuable and energizing in terms of understanding how we can make the best use of the tools given us in Cursillo to better carry out the joyful work of helping to build God’s Kingdom here on earth.

From the Lay Director

Many of us have been reading and/or discussing the book by Mathew Kelly, “The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic.” The four signs are prayer, study, generosity, and evangelization. The book further expands on each sign and talks about how the “dynamic Catholic” develops and uses the four sign to be an effective apostle for Christ.

Most of the persons I share with are cursillistas, and when we talk about this book, we generally focus on two things – first, how easy it is to identify those 7% who might be considered “dynamic Catholics,” and second, how the four signs closely relate to the Cursillo tripod – Piety, Study, and Action (with generosity and evangelization combined to be action). If you are (or even if you are not) an active and engaged Catholic, and especially one trying to live the Cursillo method, read (or re-read) Chapter 1 of the book, entitled “Incredible Possibilities.” Hopefully, in the first chapter you will recognize some part of your own faith journey.

One of the points that stood out to me is the growth of the Dynamic Catholic in each of the four signs. I reflected on how I myself began to try to seriously live my faith by living the Cursillo tripod. There was a commitment to spend time each day in prayer and study, and as my time commitment grew, my prayer and study deepened and began to change how I lived my life. Living my Catholic faith gradually became the “new normal.” Prayer is anything I do, talking to God constantly and trying to get closer to Jesus every day. Study has become reading “only the best” as we heard during the Three Days, and I find it difficult to sleep if I don’t read something spiritual for at least 10 minutes. I would guess that many of you do this as well (and maybe occasionally waking up at some point with the light still on and the book “resting” as well). As for action, it occurred to me that I might at first think myself as one of the “6 out 7” Catholics who don’t consider themselves to be evangelizers. But this stems from thinking we never do enough ... there is always that nagging voice prompting us to do something more.

One other point that really strikes home is the great impact that an increase of 1 percent in the number of dynamic Catholics could have on our troubled world. It is up to all of us to reach out to others, to evangelize our environments, to bring the great gift of knowing God’s love for us to our friends, families, relatives, co-workers, and so on. We must live what we know and what the Cursillo has given us. By doing so, we can change the world, one person at a time. And maybe the way that we live our lives will inspire other Catholics to want more and do more.

The Lincoln Diocese Cursillos are coming up quickly. Please pray, offer Palanca for the teams, candidates, and all those involved in the Weekends. Please come to the Closings – it will bring great blessings on the candidates. May God bless you! **De Colores!! John Springer**

From the Spiritual Advisor

Blessed John Paul II, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, and now Pope Francis, have all been encouraging Catholics to be involved in the New Evangelization. The word Evangelization might seem new to many Catholics. In fact, the Church has been evangelizing since Christ began the Church and sent the Apostles out into the world. Pope Paul VI said that “*The Church exists to evangelize.*” Blessed John Paul II called for a “new” Evangelization ... “*new in its ardor, methods, and expression.*” In his encyclical “*Redemptoris Missio*,” Blessed John Paul II wrote that “*This [new sense of mission] ... cannot be left to a group of ‘specialists’ but must involve the responsibility of all the members of the People of God. Those who have come into genuine contact with Christ cannot keep him for themselves, they must proclaim him.*”

As cursillistas, we have encountered Christ on our Three Day Weekend. At the Closing, we were told that Christ is counting on us! Christ wants each of us to live our faith and to share our faith. We are called to tell others (our human friends) about our Friend, Jesus. Sometimes that might seem scary or difficult. Some of us might not think that we are qualified to evangelize, or others might not think that we do a very good job of it. One of the best ways to become a better member of the Church and to better do the work of the New Evangelization is to continue to meet regularly in your weekly friendship Group Reunion. There you will share with your friends your encounters with Christ as you talk about your Piety, Study, and Action. There you will be encouraged by the friends in your Group Reunion to continue to deepen, expand, and improve your Piety, Study, and Action. Your friends will also look to you to encourage them to deepen, expand, and improve their Piety, Study, and Action.

As we begin our Friendship Group Reunion, we pray the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. We pray: “Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of us your faithful and kindle in us the fire of Your love ...” We are asking for the grace to be lit on fire ... to be filled with more ardor, more zeal, more enthusiasm for our faith. God is always ready to pour out His grace on us. We are to be always ready to receive His grace, and then to let His grace work through us.

I encourage you to continue to meet with your friends in your Group Reunion. If it has been awhile since you have grouped, then pray to the Holy Spirit and contact the members of your group and plan to meet again. You might also go to an Ultreya in your area, and look for cursillistas to meet with in a Friendship Group Reunion. I also encourage you to invite some of your friends who have not yet lived a Cursillo Weekend to make plans to be a part of the upcoming Weekends.

The mission of the Church is Evangelization. The mission of the Baptized is Evangelization. The mission of the Cursillo Movement is Evangelization ... to Christianize our Environments. We do that one person at a time, as we “make a friend, be a friend, and bring our friend to Christ.”

De Colores!! Fr. Mark Seiker

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Precursillo..... Roddy Spangler 402-239-0086
Three Day Weekend.....
Postcursillo Monica Buster 402-365-7682
School of Leaders..... Greg Vandenberg 308-534-8586
Secretary / Treasurer..... Kathy Springer 402-826-2699

Ultreya Center Representatives/Contacts

Beatrice/Crete/Hebron/Lincoln John/Kathy Springer 402-826-2699
Hastings/Holdrege/Minden..... Patricia Pettz (308) 830-2493
Hastings/Holdrege/Minden..... Mary Ann Connelly 308-381-8926
Lincoln – Vietnamese Language Diep Van Nguyen 402-474-9588
Lincoln – Vietnamese Language Canh Nguyen 402-435-0921
Southwestern NE..... Bill & Elaine Swanson 308-962-7247
Southwestern NE..... Helen Bieker 308-345-4870
Plattsmouth/Nebraska City..... Terry Little 402-296-4170
Weston/Wahoo/David City..... Fr. Chris Goodwin 402-642-5245

Ultreya Centers

- 1) **Beatrice-Crete-Hebron-Lincoln** – Location alternates.....
(usually 4th Sunday of month, **3:00pm**)
~~Feb. 23 – St. Joseph Parish Center, Beatrice (3:00pm)~~
March 2 – Men’s Closing, Hebron (**5:00pm**)
March 23 – Women’s Closing, Hebron (**5:00pm**)
Apr. 27 – St. Joseph Parish Center, Beatrice (**3:00pm**)
- 2) **Hastings-Holdrege-Minden** – Contact Mary Ann Connelly
February 16 at 2:30pm, **Doniphan** (St. Ann Parish Hall)
- 3) **Lincoln – Vietnamese Language Group**
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lincoln 4th Sunday of month (**3:30pm**)
- 4) **Plattsmouth-Nebraska City**
Check parish bulletin at www.holyspiritplattsmouth.com,
or contact Terry Little or Mary Lou Salazar
- 5) **Southwestern Nebraska**
Location alternates: McCook/Imperial; Usually 2nd Sunday of month
March 2 – Men’s Closing, Hebron (**5:00pm**)
March 23 – Women’s Closing, Hebron (**5:00pm**)
April/May ... May 4 – McCook (Church Basement) (**3:30pm**)
- 6) **Weston/David City/Shelby/Wahoo**
Not currently having Ultreya; please participate in a neighboring Ultreya

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://www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html>
Region VI WebPage: <http://www.cursillo.org/region6>
National WebPage: www.natl-cursillo.org

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

March – April 2014



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

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

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North Platte, NE 69101-9608

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**See Bishop Conley's Endorsement of Cursillo;
2014 Weekends:
Mar. 2
Feb. 27 - Mar. 2
Also note the upcoming
Men's --> March 20-23
Women's -->**

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

Mar. – Apr. 2014



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

School of Leaders

April 12, 2014

6345 Madison Avenue

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Lincoln, NE

***EVERY Cursillista is invited and welcome ...
The Cursillo Movement needs your
participation ... will you help?***

School of Leaders Agenda:

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

Topics of Talks

- The Technique Talks will come from chapters in **The Leaders Manual**. This will be a good way to deepen our understanding of Cursillo, since we understand it better and better every time we study any of the Cursillo literature.
- The Doctrinal Talks will be from Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation "Evangelii Gaudium" ("On the Proclamation of the Gospel in Today's World").

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

- ◆ **Leaders' Manual**, if you have one (available for purchase at SOL)
- ◆ *We ask that you consider making a donation to help fund the work of Cursillo.*