

# CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

March 2024

## Calendar of Events



April 13, 2024 -- **Secretariat Meeting, 9:00amCT via ZOOM (Tentative)**

- To participate in Secretariat, start your Zoom app, and enter the **Meeting ID: 629-734-5912**

April 26-28, 2024 – **Spring 2024 Region VI Encounter** (Hosted by the Dodge City, KS Diocese) see Region VI website <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/region6/>

May 11, 2024 -- **SOL - 9:00am** at St. Mary Church, Aurora (In person AND via ZOOM)

- To participate in SOL, start your Zoom app, and enter the **Meeting ID: 629-734-5912**
- Optional 8:00am Parish Mass if you are participating in person.

July 25-28, 2024 – **34<sup>th</sup> National Encounter, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY**

September 27-29, 2024 -- **Fall 2024 Region VI Encounter** (Kansas City, KS Diocese hosting) see Region VI website <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/region6/>

### **Region VI Spring Encounter, April 26-28, 2024**

The Registration Form and additional information are coming. See Region VI website <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/region6/>

### **Christ is counting on US!!**

We are hoping to have Three Day Weekends for both men and women in 2024, but we need help to make them happen. Dates are not yet set, as they will depend on team availability and location (we are looking for facilities with showers). To make the Weekends a reality, we need volunteers in a variety of capacities.

Keeping in mind that ALL is done for the greater glory of God, there are a great many ways to serve. Some of the areas in which help is needed are (this is not an all-exhaustive list): (1) first and foremost, please pray/offer Palanca for the work of Cursillo in our Diocese, especially as we are planning the coming Weekends; (2) rollo team; (3) service team; (4) food donations; (5) monetary donations (to help defray expenses to make the Weekends more affordable for those who struggle financially); (6) help setting up for the Weekends and tearing down at the conclusion of the Weekends; (7) cursillistas to come to the Closings to welcome the new cursillistas; (8) friends who will encourage and invite their friends to live a Cursillo; etc. If you think of another way to serve, please let us know. In addition, please pray for the work of the Foundation of Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló (FEBA), which is working on the cause for beatification/canonization of our founder, and in the process, is putting together his written and recorded materials to disseminate to all dioceses throughout the world.

*(article continued on next page)*

We have ALL been blessed by our Lord, and Cursillo has been an important part of the spiritual journeys of many of us, no matter how long ago our Weekend was or how long it's been since we grouped or went to Ultreya or School of Leaders or a Fourth Day Retreat, etc. It just doesn't matter ... all that really matters is that you do whatever you can to help someone who needs to encounter Christ do so. Please don't ignore Christ's thirst for souls ... consider volunteering in some capacity ... any capacity. Contact any member of the Secretariat to volunteer – contact information is included at the end of this newsletter.

Ending as we started, and always remembering, Christ IS counting on US!!

## **From the Diocesan Coordinator**

The season of Lent. It's my favorite liturgical season. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The liturgy is filled with reminders to engage in introspection, interior renewal, self-denial, and serving others, all the while reminding us of the Good News, that God, through Jesus Christ, LOVES US. The Church encourages each of us to return to God "with all their hearts" (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord and each other.

A recent tweet from Pope Francis helps us to appreciate our responsibility. "Jesus has lovingly cared for us, mercifully tended our wounds, opened our hearts to joy with His Spirit. All these are goods that we cannot keep only to ourselves or hide away. We have been showered with gifts, so we are called to make ourselves a gift for others." Cursillo is one such gift, and therefore something to share with others. How might you share it?

"If you want to get warm you must stand near the fire: if you want to be wet you must get into the water. If you want joy, power, peace, eternal life, you must get close to, or even into, the thing that has them." —C.S. Lewis Should we be sitting on the shore or should we get into the water?

There is a shortage of leaders willing to help with the work of Cursillo in our Diocese. We don't feel pessimistic about this situation, but on the contrary, we confidently face this challenge and prayerfully work for changes.

Through the experience of a Cursillo weekend, we were called to a deeper, fuller life centered on the Lord. We became aware of our need and responsibility to live what is fundamental for being a Christian. How are we doing in that regard?

"He calls all to accept the Gospel, and by Baptism, to be disciples, students of Jesus Christ, but He calls certain people to be leaders to help others accept the call. Some are called to lead others. They are Cursillistas who are willing to walk an extra mile for Jesus, to serve on the Secretariat, in the Pre-Cursillo, on the Cursillo Weekend, on the Post-Cursillo as Ultreya leaders and in the School of Leaders. They believe that the Cursillo is a gift of God given to them, and they must share the fruits of this gift with the world. This new life they share in Christ cannot be kept to themselves. They have an obligation to give glory and praise to God for all He has shared with them." (*National Cursillo Center Mailing – August 2009, LEADERSHIP IN THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT*)

How might you help? How might you discern what God wants of you? The answer is simple – through prayer. Thanks in advance for any help you might give! **-Greg Vandenberg**

## **From the Spiritual Advisor**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, the PREAMBLE to our BY-LAWS FOR THE CURSILLO SECRETARIAT OF THE DIOCESE OF LINCOLN starts with these words, “The Cursillo Movement pursues two purposes or objectives: an immediate purpose: to provide a channel for living what is fundamental for being a Christian = the progressive and complete conversion of the person, metanoia (a complete change - of mind and heart); The end purpose is to vertebrae Christianity in society by means of these persons who live what is fundamental for being Christian (the love of God and neighbor) in their daily lives. Simply explained, the purpose of the Cursillo Movement is that we become the Good News, and that our actions naturally turn out to be evangelical in our daily lives.

“Unity of purpose is essential if there is to be a natural and complete service to Jesus Christ through the Cursillo Movement ...” And, Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20 states, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Therefore, as cursillistas, let us “go and make disciples” in and through the **friendship** we have experienced and the **joy** of the grace of God always with us. Time is short and the distractions are many and deadly, so let us focus on that which Jesus offers us in love. Come, disciples of Jesus, and be who you are divinely destined to be.

*De Colores!!*

**Fr. Bernard Lorenz**



**Christ is counting on YOU!!**

## Upcoming Ultreyas

### Beatrice-Hebron-Crete:

Location alternates (2:00pm; usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month)

- April Ultreya (April 14, 2:00pm) – Beatrice, St. Joseph Parish Hall.
- May Ultreya (May 5, 2:00pm) – Hebron, Sacred Heart Parish Hall.
- June Ultreya (June 9, 2:00pm) – Crete, Sacred Heart Parish Hall.
- July Ultreya (July 14, 2:00pm) – Beatrice, St. Joseph Parish Hall.

Contacts: John/Kathy Springer, (402) 826-2699 or (402) 580-1367.

### Southwestern Nebraska (McCook-Imperial-North Platte):

Location alternates (usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month)

- April Ultreya (April 14, 12:30pmMT) – In-person & ZOOM (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Hall, North Platte)
- May Ultreya (May 5, 12:30pmMT) – In-person & ZOOM (St. Patrick Parish Hall, McCook)
- June Ultreya (June 9, 12:30pmMT) – In-person & ZOOM (St. Patrick Parish Hall, Imperial)
- July Ultreya (July 14, 12:30pmMT) – In-person & ZOOM (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Hall, North Platte)

Contact: Kay Portillo (308) 227-1231

### Lincoln – Vietnamese Language Group:

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lincoln

- Normally 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month after 9:00am Mass (about 10:15am)

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

### 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, Diocesan Coordinator

### Secretariat Mail

Diocesan Coordinator – 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](http://www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html)

Region VI WebPage: [www.natl-cursillo.org/region6](http://www.natl-cursillo.org/region6)

National WebPage: [www.natl-cursillo.org](http://www.natl-cursillo.org)

### Secretariat Members

Diocesan Coordinator .....	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. Bernard Lorenz (308) 414-1195

**CURSILLO NEWSLETTER**  
**PO Box 291**  
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***And we are counting on Him!***

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**March 2024**

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

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