

Cursillo News for May – June 2010

Calendar of Events

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
June 27, 2010	Grand Ultreya – Sacred Heart Parish Center in Hebron (details included)
July 10, 2010	Secretariat Meeting , 9:30 am; Blessed John XXIII, Lincoln (9:00am Mass)
July 29 – Aug 1, 2010	20th National Encounter , at Rockhurst University, Kansas City MO
August 14, 2010	SOL - 10:00am – 3:00pm (Mass at 9:30am); Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron
September 11, 2010	Secretariat Meeting , 9:30 am; Blessed John XXIII, Lincoln (9:00am Mass)
September 24–26, 2010	Region VI Fall Encounter (St. Agnes Parish, Omaha, NE)
October 9, 2010	SOL - 10:00am – 3:00pm (Mass at 9:30am); St. Ann Parish, Doniphan, NE
November 13, 2010	Secretariat Meeting , 9:30 am; Blessed John XXIII, Lincoln (9:00am Mass)
December 11, 2010	SOL - 10:00am – 3:00pm (Mass at 9:30am); St. James Parish, Cortland

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More Comments from New Fourth Dayer

(Thai Nguyen, Sacred Heart, Crete, NE; UNL Student) – Immediately After January Weekends:

My Cursillo Weekend was an experience that would brand me as a child of God forever. It's funny to say that, knowing that I was both Baptized and Confirmed, both Sacraments having the same effect of being branded as a child of God. I felt that in the Cursillo Weekend, there was more opportunity to experience our Lord's Graces. We suffered in little ways, be it the sharing of bathrooms and sleeping quarters, or the various idiosyncrasies of our fellow Cursillistas.

Also, we were all mature enough to understand the teachings that the Rollos offered. My sufferings and the information from the Rollos served to get me better acquainted with Brother Jesus. There was a certain understanding of His pain from our small sufferings and we understood His Catechism through the Rollos. I found myself gaining confidence from this increase in understanding.

I made the most relieving and honest confession in my life that Cursillo Weekend because of my increased trust in Our Lord that stems from an increase of my understanding. I believe the Graces of being isolated from the world, only to be with God and a few of our fellow brothers, are great in terms of power.

This Cursillo experience will always be a fond memory for me. It will be a memory of the time where I decided to dedicate my life to the Lord and to my brothers and sisters in this world rather than to myself. The supernatural experience that is called Cursillo is strongly recommended to all Catholics of every stage.

(Thai Nguyen, Sacred Heart, Crete, NE; UNL Student) – Three Months Later:

As I mentioned before in my previous witness, Cursillo has almost been a life changing experience for me; it continues to be just that. Three months after Cursillo, life is starting to get back to its regular flow. The excitement and adrenaline of the Cursillo is slowly fading away. What is left, however, is much greater than the adrenaline felt after Cursillo. I am left with Jesus in my heart. I am left with Jesus in my mind, and I am left with Jesus in my soul.

The experience of Cursillo is almost like attending a concert of your favorite musical artist. You already love their records and you've seen them on video, but nothing compares to the actual experience of being in the audience while the musical act is crooning your favorite song. You leave with almost a brand new mindset of the artist. The relationship you have with its music is more intimate and stronger. Cursillo is like watching Jesus perform in all His glory. Tremendous amounts of love flow through your soul during the "performance" of Cursillo. You leave Cursillo loving Jesus all the more because you experienced Him in such an intimate way. It's something that you can never forget, and fortunately you're taking home Jesus Himself in your soul instead of just a keychain or t-shirt.

Everything you learned in Cursillo, all the close moments you have with Jesus, is now laid out before you to use to better the world. My faith is ever so strong because I experienced Jesus almost first-hand. His presence is clearly felt in all that I do, all that I say, and all that I think. I use my relationship with Jesus to "lure" in others who need Him.

The strength of Cursillo is almost overwhelming. I came home and found myself suddenly armed with an atomic bomb of Grace. After awhile, I look back and I find out that I am slowly using that infinite mass of Grace to help myself and to help others become closer to our Lord. The Cursillo has made such an impact on me that it's impossible to turn away from Christ. I also feel the power of Satan growing and heating up....a sign that I'm definitely a person worth destroying because of my devotion to Christ. I take it in as one of my crosses to bear. Satan is helpless, for my love for Christ is so strong that he has no way of penetrating deeply into my soul.

I use the gifts awarded to me by the Holy Spirit in order to get people to understand and accept Christ. It's surprising how much power Cursillistas have. I hope all Cursillistas will use the Power of the Holy Spirit to better themselves and to better the world.

The Cursillo is something of a gift from Christ Himself. It is my wish that all Catholics will be able to experience Christ like I did. May the light of the Holy Spirit continue to shine on all Cursillistas. De Colores!!

From the Secretariat/SOL ...

1. Ultreya Center News:

- ◆ The **Beatrice/Crete/Hebron/Lincoln Ultreya Center** continues its rotation of locations ... For the **May Ultreya**, several cursillistas plan to celebrate Fr. Lux's 25th Anniversary of Ordination in Holdrege on **May 23**, the date the Ultreya normally would have been held (therefore, there is not a formal Ultreya scheduled). The **June Ultreya** will be the **Lincoln Diocese Grand Ultreya** on **June 27** at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron.

- ◆ The **Southwest Ultreya Center** will continue to rotate its Ultreya location between McCook and Imperial. For the May Ultreya (normally would be held on May 9, which is Mother's Day, at 3:30 pm CT in the basement of St. Patrick Church in McCook); contact Helen Bieker (see contact information on back cover of the Newsletter) to make sure it will be held as scheduled since it's Mother's Day. The June Ultreya will be held on June 13 at 2:30 pm MT in the basement of St. Patrick Church in Imperial.
- ◆ The **Plattsmouth/Nebraska City Ultreya Center** will begin meeting for Ultreya on the **2nd Saturday of the month at 6:30pm** (following the 5:00pm Mass) at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Plattsmouth. The May Ultreya will be on May 8 and the June Ultreya will be on June 12.
- ◆ The **Vietnamese-language Ultreya** is also held on the fourth Sunday of each month at 3:00pm at **Immaculate Heart of Mary Rectory Basement in Lincoln** (6405 Madison Ave).
- ◆ See the outside cover of the Newsletter for scheduled Ultreyas.

2. Precursillo/Three Day Weekend

The work of Cursillo continues ... Now is the time to be studying your environments as you live your Fourth Day faithfully, taking advantage of the opportunities that our Lord gives you to make a friend, be a friend, and bring your friend to Christ. The best way to invite candidates to live a Cursillo Weekend is truly for them to invite themselves because of the way you live your life, and their wanting what you have. These are the opportunities to share about how Cursillo has helped you to grow in your own spiritual life.

If you know of persons who are hungry to know our Lord better, and who want to grow in their spiritual lives, begin to prepare them for a Three Day Weekend. Continue to offer Palanca, that God might give you eyes to see and ears to listen for those who want to know Him better ... We should be studying environments (those around you) at all times in search of persons who can help Christianize the world ... be looking for and talking to the "agents of change" ... *He's counting on you!!!*

The next set of Weekends has not yet been scheduled; however, that should have no bearing at all in your preparing candidates for the Weekend. The work of the Precursillo is ongoing, and NOT done solely in the few weeks leading up to the next set of Weekends.

3. Postcursillo

- ◆ Grand Ultreya ... Our annual Grand Ultreya will be on **Sunday, June 27th**, at Sacred Heart Parish in Hebron, NE. The Grand Ultreya is a **FAMILY event!!**

What is a Grand Ultreya?

- † This is a diocesan-wide, family-oriented event.
- † It will last from approximately **11am - 4pm**.
- † This will be a **potluck picnic**. Each family should bring a dish to share.
- † The Secretariat will bring paper plates, napkins, glasses and plastic-ware; iced tea/water/orange drink will be provided.

Where will it be held?

- † **Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 436 North 3rd Street, Hebron, NE**
- † We will gather in the Parish Hall (Sacred Heart has a 10:00 am Mass, so we will wait for the parishioners to head home before going to the Church). The Mass will be in the

Church at approximately 11:30 am, and the Grand Ultreya and meal will be in the Parish Hall (so the event will go on ... rain or shine).

Why have a Grand Ultreya?

- † Our diocese is widespread geographically and it is rare that cursillistas from the east and west all get together.
- † This is a **time for cursillistas AND THEIR FAMILIES** to take part in a Cursillo event.
- † **Past years have been great fun -- please come!**

◆ Other Postcursillo News ... from Region VI

The **Spring 2010 Region VI Encounter** was held on **April 23-25, 2010 at St. Bernard Parish Center in Belfield, ND**. The Region VI Pastoral Plan was reviewed. It was a wonderful time of sharing and growing in community. There was a good turnout from each of the three communities (English, Spanish, and Vietnamese), and it was good to spend time deepening our understanding of the gift that is Cursillo. Part of the great value of being together is in what we learn when we are together.

- ➔ The three technique presentations dealt with reviewing the various parts of the Region VI Pastoral Plan, as it relates to many aspects of Cursillo – Precursillo, Three Day, Postcursillo, SOL, Spirituality, and Literature. Before each discussion, a member of the Region VI Service Team gave a brief summary of the topic areas as they fit into Cursillo as a whole; then the entire group participated in an open question and answer discussion. There were many, many comments about how much everyone grew in their understanding of Cursillo through the presentations and discussions. Cursillo is all about personal contact, and this was personal contact at its best!!
- ➔ The spiritual presentation dealt with one possible approach to Jesus' pastoral plan for us, as found in the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5, 6, and 7 in Matthew's Gospel). One of the priest's participating in the Encounter asked why this particular presentation couldn't be included as part of a rollo during the Three Day Weekend ... and the answer is, yes, this has valuable insight, but it is not part of what was given to us by our Lord through Eduardo to include in the Three Days. The very fact that we were able to reflect on our faith in a different way during this presentation also demonstrates very clearly how much we still have to learn following the Three Days. Group Reunions, Ultreyas, and especially SOL are great ways to continue to grow.
- ➔ Difficulties in making Three Day Weekends truly authentic were also discussed at length (taking out extras and making sure that the essentials are included). Many good questions were asked about why we do particular things during a Three Day Weekend ... questions about who and why and how. It is always good to explore deeper certain elements of Cursillo (during the Three Day Weekend and otherwise) so that we have a better grasp of the entirety of Cursillo.
- ➔ There was also a discussion about the importance of making sure that all Fourth Dayers understand that confidentiality is absolutely essential in the sharing that occurs in ALL Cursillo activities (especially in Group Reunions and Ultreyas). One

of the dioceses brought up the issue that when we request prayer for people (e.g., in our Group Reunions or at Ultreya), and even as we offer vocal prayers in a group setting, we should preserve each person's anonymity by not disclosing who that person is unless they give us permission to do so (God knows and others don't need to know specifics) ... we can pray just knowing there is someone in need of prayer. One of the dioceses commented that it is important to stress over and over and over again (we can never reinforce it too much) just how important confidentiality is. In all cases, we need to respect what a person is sharing with us, and we need to understand that by the person sharing something with us in trust, that person is taking us into his/her confidence ... we do not want to violate that confidence and trust.

The **Fall 2010 Region VI Encounter** will be held on **September 24-26, 2010 at St. Agnes Parish in Omaha, NE**. Regional Encounters begin at approximately 8:00 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; sack lunches for those traveling are also provided). **This is SO close for our Diocese ... make plans now to be there to share in the work of Cursillo with others in our region!!**

◆ **And from National:**

Consider participating in the **20th National Cursillo Encounter ... It's not too late!!** Information about the Encounter is available on the National Cursillo website [<http://www.natl-cursillo.org>]. The Encounter is being hosted by **Region VI** (our Region) 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**, who wrote the books **Cursillo Spiritual Formation Program** (published by the Cursillo for use in School of Leaders) and **His Way** (which the Lincoln Diocese studied in SOL). The cost is Cost is \$370 per person **if received by May 31, 2010**, and \$420 per person **if received from June 1 to June 30, 2010**. The Encounter is scheduled to be held **Thursday, July 29 – Sunday, August 1, 2010**.

Participating in the National Encounter would be a wonderful way for cursillistas, especially the new Fourth Dayers, 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. Christ is counting on us!!

4. School of Leaders (SOL)

The next SOL will be **June 12, 2010**, 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 ... EVERYBODY is invited. The more participation we have, the greater the joy ... the more we can accomplish with and for our Lord ... We all come away with a better understanding of the Cursillo Movement and its specific charism in the life of the Church.

From the Spiritual Advisor

In Chapter 6 of John's Gospel, we have the Bread of Life discourse of Jesus. As we celebrate the Easter Season and begin Ordinary Time, it is good to spend some time reflecting on the great gift of the Eucharist. Jesus, the Bread of Life, gives Himself to us under the "appearance" of bread and wine. One of the saints said that Jesus humbled Himself to become a man, to be born in a stable, to die on the cross. In those ways, Jesus hid His divinity. St. Thomas Aquinas said that Jesus also humbled Himself when He hid His humanity in the mystery of the Eucharist.

The Jews that Jesus spoke to in John 6 did not understand the gift of the Eucharist and many in our world today do not understand the gift of the Eucharist. Jesus gives Himself to us as food for our journey. He gives Himself to us that we might have life. Our response must be to treasure this great gift so much that it changes our life.

On our Three Day Weekend, we were encouraged to make visits to the Blessed Sacrament as part of our life of Piety. During our Fourth Day, this is one of the greatest helps in living a life of piety. These visits to our Lord, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, are a way to prolong and continue our relationship with our Risen Lord. He gives Himself to us in Holy Communion at Mass, and then He remains with us in the tabernacles of our Catholic Churches. He wants to feed us not just once a week (on Saturday night or Sunday), but every day at Mass. He also wants us to come to Him in the Eucharist to pour out our hearts to Him and to listen to His Heart speak to us.

May the Lord's gift of Himself to us strengthen us in our spiritual life. May we invite our friends to come with us to spend time with Jesus, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.

De Colores!!... Fr. Mark Seiker

From the Lay Director

Even though we have just finished Lent and are in the Easter season (Easter through Pentecost) and are filled with the glory and hope of the risen Jesus, I still find myself clinging to my Lenten devotions. Many years ago during a Lenten season, after reading about the practice of praying an Our Father for each of the five wounds of Christ, I began to do so daily. This had a strong effect on me and I have continued this devotion every day since. This past week, a small card came with some EWTN literature we received with a prayer simply titled "Easter" that gives glory to our Risen Jesus, remembering His five wounds. It ends with a short prayer to our Blessed Mother asking for her intercession to obtain the grace for us to rise after death to the Eternal Glory of Paradise. It is the focus on the wounds in the prayers that seem to complete the five Our Fathers I have been praying these past years. These short prayers ask for help to flee from sin and walk to holiness (wounds in Christ's feet), for deliverance from evil (wounds in Christ's hands), and for the kindling of the fire of love in our hearts (wound in Christ's side). Through the wounds of Jesus, we are simply called to love, to forgive, to give.

In April 18th's (Sunday) reading from John's Gospel, Jesus asks Peter three times "do you love Me?" Peter answers, "Yes, yes, yes – You know that I love You." Am I so different from Peter, denying Jesus at one moment, then turning back to Him in sorrow when He asks "do You love Me?" As I ponder the wounds of Jesus and continue my Our Fathers, I see the love Jesus has for me, and I can only answer "Yes, Lord, I do love you, but never enough as You love me."

I pray that this Easter season kindles in all of us a great increase in love for the Risen Jesus. May we be ready and open for the Holy Spirit on Pentecost and receive the fire of love. May God bless all of you.

De Colores! John Springer

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Secretariat Members

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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 436-1998
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); **May 23 “Ultreya” - Celebrating
Fr. Lux’s 25th Anniversary of Ordination in Holdrege);
June 27 - Grand Ultreya, at Sacred Heart Parish, Hebron**
- 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 Rectory, Lincoln
4th Sunday of month, 3:00pm
- 5) **Plattsmouth-Nebraska City**
Church of the Holy Spirit, Plattsmouth
2nd Saturday of month, 6:30pm (following 5:00pm Mass)
- 6) **Southwestern Nebraska**
Location alternates: McCook/Imperial; Usually 2nd Sunday of month
**May 9 – Ultreya scheduled for McCook (3:30pm CT – Check with
Helen Bieker since it’s Mothers’ Day)
June 13 – 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

May – June 2010



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

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North Platte, NE 69101-9608

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

***More witnesses ...
Grand Ultreya coming
June 27, 2010***

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CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

May – June 2010



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

School of Leaders

*June 12, 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 continue to focus on review of the relevant areas of the Pastoral Plan, deepening our understanding of all three phases of Cursillo (Pre, Three-Day, and Post), plus the supporting areas of Group Reunion and Ultreya, as well as SOL and Secretariat. Study of each of these aspects of the Movement is a great way to better understand Cursillo itself. The Doctrinal Talk relates 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.*