

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

June 2018



Calendar of Events

June 9, 2018	SOL - 9:30am – 1:30pm (Mass at 9:00am) at St. Ann Church, Doniphan.
June 24, 2018	Grand Ultreya , Schoenstatt Shrine (Cor Mariae) near Crete, NE – 11:30am Mass; followed by potluck lunch and Ultreya (see details inside).
July 14, 2018	Secretariat Meeting , via Skype and/or phone – 9:30am.
August 2-5, 2018	Cursillo de Cursillos - at St. Gregory the Great Seminary, Seward.
August 16-19, 2018	Cursillo National Encounter, Seattle University, Seattle, WA.
Sept 8, 2018	Secretariat Meeting , St. Ann Church, Doniphan – 9:30am (9:00am Mass).
Sept 28-30, 2018	Fall 2018 Region VI Encounter – Fargo, ND Diocese (Hankinson) to host.

Cursillo de Cursillos (CDC) in the Lincoln Diocese

The Secretariat is excited to announce that an English-language CDC is being held **August 2-5, 2018**, at **St. Gregory the Great Seminary** in Seward, Nebraska. A CDC is for those who have already lived a Three Day Weekend. CDCs were developed by Eduardo Bonnin to give Cursillistas a better understanding of the foundational charism of Cursillo itself (it has only been since 2009 that CDCs have been given in English). Simply stated, CDC is a short course on the foundational charism of Cursillo for Cursillistas who are searching for something beyond the Three-Day Cursillo Weekend. CDC Weekends have provided many Cursillistas with an opportunity to discover the immense possibilities that Cursillo has to offer the person and the Church. While the Three Day Weekend gives a keyhole view of the Cursillo Movement, the CDC opens the door allowing participants to enter fully into what it means to “live Cursillo.” The CDC begins on Thursday evening at 7:00pm (registration at 6:00pm) and concludes on Sunday afternoon at 2:30pm. Each day creates a different environment in and through the participation of the Cursillistas in friendship. The CDC provides a relaxed atmosphere with plenty of time for breaks, reflection, personal contact, and daily Eucharist. Recently, you received a mailing with details about the CDC (see the Lincoln Diocese webpage for the flyer and registration form, both of which were included in the recent mailing). *Christ is still counting on you!!*

Region VI Fall Encounter (September 28-30, 2018)

The Region VI Fall Encounter will be hosted by the Fargo, ND Diocese (Hankinson) on September 28-30, 2018. The location is not yet known; additional information (including fee and registration form) will be available on the calendar of the Regional web site soon <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.

Report on Region VI Spring Encounter (April 20-22, 2018)

The Region VI Spring Encounter was hosted by the Archdiocese of Omaha, NE on April 20-22, 2018, at Carol Joy Holling Retreat Center near Ashland, NE. There were 27 English speaking cursillistas and about 100 Spanish speaking cursillistas present. The topics covered dealt with Sponsoring. It was a good Encounter.

Always Keep in Mind What Cursillo is About:

- In the **Precursillo**, the person seeks Christ.
- In the **Three-Day Cursillo**, the person encounters Christ.
- In the **Postcursillo** (which is what all of us are now living), the person follows Christ. It is here that we daily live what is fundamental for being Christian.

To learn more about Cursillo, come to a CDC or the SOL or explore “My Resource Center” on the National website: <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/resource-center/> Ample resources exist to help you continue to grow in your life of faith ... take advantage of them.

From the Lay Director

De Colores!

Greetings to all who I know and to all that I have yet to meet as well. I’ve been elected as the Lincoln Diocese’s new Lay Director by the Secretariat. My name is Greg Vandenberg. I’m a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in North Platte and I lived my Cursillo weekend in March 2011 in Weston at St. John Nepomucene Church. I was a member of the St. Christopher family. I’d like to share a bit about myself with you. A cradle Catholic born in Omaha, I retired from the State Patrol at the rank of lieutenant after 30 years of service in November 2011. I pray through God’s grace that I’ll be able to use the talents He has blessed me with to continue to build and strengthen the Lincoln Diocese’s Cursillo Movement. Of course you that are reading this also have a part in this as Christ is counting on you too. I’ve inherited a position that John Springer served in for more than eight years. I have big shoes to fill!

Though a relative newcomer with only 7 years in the Movement, my time on the Secretariat gave me the opportunity to see how our Diocese is faithfully following the Cursillo method and is faithful to the Movement. With everyone’s help and participation I will continue to encourage study of the writings of our founder Eduardo Bonnin and other Cursillo materials so that we can all better understand the Charism of Cursillo through Piety, Study and Action.

I am so thankful for the many ways that Cursillo has blessed me. I’ve been able to attend Regional and National Cursillo Encounters resulting in new friendships and assurances that our Diocese is on the right track, free of deviations and distractions as we help others come to understand that God in Jesus loves us!

I would ask you to look back to the Calendar of Events and identify the upcoming activity that best fits your schedule this Summer and Fall. Whether it be the upcoming School of Leaders or Grand Ultreya in June, the Cursillo de Cursillos or the National Encounter in August or the Fall Region VI Encounter in September - each and every one of these events is an opportunity to experience continuous conversion. Cursillo was born so that Christians would be Christian. To be Christian is, more than anything else, to feel loved by God. I would suggest that feeling loved comes from spending time with Him and for Him.

I would like to give special emphasis to your consideration of the Cursillo de Cursillos August 2-5 in Seward at St. Gregory the Great Seminary. You should have received detailed information on this event in an earlier mailing. PLEASE participate! Experience the sacred surroundings where our seminarians are formed while bolstering your understanding of the Cursillo Method. See the vertebrae of Cursillo fleshed out. Go beyond the boundaries of your three day weekend experience. As stated elsewhere, as fruitful an experience as your three day weekend was, given the volume of information presented and the desire to live in authentic friendship with like minded Christians, your view was like that available through a key hole - limited. It was as if you had to keep adjusting your gaze to get a glimpse of the entire room. The Cursillo de Cursillos weekend literally throws open the door so the entire room is more easily visible, discoverable and understood. Though there will surely be other activities you can be involved in that first weekend in August, where better could your time be spent than in the service of Christ?

May we remain united in Our Lord Jesus Christ's love and His friendship. **-Greg Vandenberg**

From the Spiritual Advisor

St. Augustine in a discourse on the psalms writes a reflection on the seasons of Lent and Easter:

*“Now therefore, brethren, we urge you to praise God. That is what we are all telling each other when we say **Alleluia**. You say to your neighbor, “Praise the Lord!” and he says the same to you. We are all urging one another to praise the Lord, and all thereby doing what each of us urges the other to do. But see that your praise comes from your whole being; in other words, see that you praise God not with your lips and voices alone, but with your minds, your lives and all your actions.*

We are praising God now, assembled as we are here in church; but when we go on our various ways again, it seems as if we cease to praise God. But provided we do not cease to live a good life, we shall always be praising God. You cease to praise God only when you swerve from justice and from what is pleasing to God. If you never turn aside from the good life, your tongue may be silent but your actions will cry aloud, and God will perceive your intentions; for as our ears hear each other’s voices, so do God’s ears hear our thoughts.”

These thoughts of St. Augustine on the two seasons of Lent and Easter could be connected with a reflection on our life before we lived the Cursillo Weekend and our life after the Cursillo Weekend. Before our experience of the Three Day Weekend, which is often called the Precursillo, some of us were living our faith on various levels. The purpose of the Three Day Weekend is to move us from the Precursillo to the Postcursillo through our encounter with self, Christ, and others, which happens on the Three Day Weekend.

Our encounter with self, Christ, and others is not intended to be limited to just those three days. Rather the Cursillo Weekend is intended to form and shape the rest of our lives. We don’t “go back” to those Three Days, or try to relive them again. Instead, we daily deepen those three encounters which have shaped the rest of our lives, our Fourth Day. In fact, our Fourth Day is the time for us to daily encourage and be encouraged by others to live our Christian Faith. We should not as St. Augustine says: “*cease to praise God*” ... but rather as St. Augustine says “*If you never turn aside from the good life, your tongue may be silent but your actions will cry aloud.*” Other people should be able to notice that we have been changed through our encounter with self, Christ, and others.

However, some cursillistas have found that their experience of the Three Day Weekend only gave them a small “keyhole view” of the Cursillo Movement and now they want to more deeply “live Cursillo.” One way to more fully enter into a deeper understanding and living of the Cursillo Movement is to participate in the Cursillo de Cursillos (CDC) at St. Gregory the Great Seminary, in Seward, August 2- 5, 2018.

Just as the Three Day Weekend is intended to move us from the Precursillo to the Postcursillo, so the Cursillo de Cursillos (CDC) is intended to give cursillistas a better understanding of the foundational charism of Cursillo itself. The CDC is a short course for cursillistas who are searching for something beyond the Three-Day Cursillo Weekend. The CDC provides cursillistas with a treasure of knowledge and a living experience of what is essential in Cursillo and in living our Catholic faith.

Some cursillistas might remember that they were hesitant to commit to the time involved to live a Three Day Weekend and then after they lived their Cursillo, they better understood how important it was for them to “come away” from the world for three days to better encounter self, Christ, and others. Similarly, many cursillistas have found that they were reluctant to commit to three whole days to be on a CDC. However, after living a CDC, and investing their time with the Lord, they found that they have a much deeper understanding and richer experience of the Cursillo Movement.

I encourage you to prayerfully consider giving our Lord three days to participate in the Cursillo de Cursillos which will be held at St. Gregory the Great Seminary, in Seward, August 2 – 5, 2018. There is more information in this newsletter and in the flyer that was mailed to you a week or two ago that will explain the Cursillo de Cursillos a little more. I invite you to invest your time and yourself in the Lord and with other cursillistas at the Seminary.

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

Palanca Calendar

The Palanca calendar is available for download from the Lincoln Diocese Cursillo webpage:
<http://www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html>



Upcoming Ultreyas

Beatrice-Hebron-Crete-Lincoln:

Location alternates (2:00pm; usually 4th Sunday of month)

- June Ultreya (June 24) – Grand Ultreya at Schoenstatt Shrine, Crete (see details inside, in place of regular June Ultreya)
- July Ultreya (July 29) – Sacred Heart Parish, Crete
- August Ultreya (August 26) – John XXIII Diocesan Center, Lincoln

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

Southwestern Nebraska (McCook-Imperial-North Platte):

Location alternates (usually 2nd Sunday of month)

- June Ultreya (June 10) - 3:30pm CT – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Hall, North Platte
- June Ultreya (June 24) – Grand Ultreya at Schoenstatt Shrine, Crete (see details inside)
- July Ultreya (July 8) - 3:30pm CT – St. Patrick Church Basement, McCook
- August Ultreya (August 12) - 2:30pm MT – St. Patrick Parish Hall, Imperial

Contacts: Helen Bieker (308) 340-0268

Lincoln – Vietnamese Language Group:

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lincoln

- 2nd Sunday of each month after 9:00am Mass (about 10:15am)

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

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

- 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

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(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

Grand Ultreya

Sunday, June 24, 2018

Schoenstatt Shrine (Cor Mariae) near Crete, NE

The Grand Ultreya is a **FAMILY** event!!

What is a Grand Ultreya?

† This is a diocesan-wide, family-oriented event where cursillistas from throughout the Lincoln Diocese (and sometimes other dioceses) gather to renew friendships, since friendship is the very heart of Cursillo. *This year the Grand Ultreya is being held at the Schoenstatt Shrine – a special year for Schoenstatt as well, since 2018 is the 50th anniversary of the founder's (Fr. Joseph Kentenich) death.*

[For more information on Schoenstatt and the Cor Mariae Shrine, go to <http://cormariae.com>]

† It will begin with Mass at **11:30am**, followed by a potluck lunch and Ultreya. The Mass fulfills the Sunday obligation.

† This will be a **potluck lunch**, so each family should bring a dish to share.

† The Secretariat will bring plates, napkins, glasses and plastic-ware; coffee/iced tea/water will be provided.

Where will it be held?

† **Schoenstatt Shrine, north of Crete, NE** (340 State Hwy 103, Crete, Nebraska 68333; see map below)

† Take Exit 388 off of I-80 and go south on Highway 103 for approximately 10-1/2 miles (the Shrine will be on your left). If you come via Highway 33, turn north on Highway 103 (approximately 1-1/2 mile; the Shrine will be on the right).

† The event will be held ... 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 and friends** to take part in a Cursillo event.

*Past years have been great fun – Please come and
renew friendships ... or make new ones!*

2018 National Encounter (August 16-19, 2018)

The 28th National Encounter is being hosted by the Archdiocese of Seattle, WA at Seattle University, Seattle, WA on August 16-19, 2018. A registration form for the 28th National Encounter is available on the National Cursillo webpage (<http://www.natl-cursillo.org/>) for more details (i.e., speakers, etc.).

National Cursillo Movement ... \$3/Yr Campaign

Enclosed is a flyer from the National Cursillo Movement explaining the \$3/Yr Campaign. You are strongly encouraged to donate toward this campaign.

School of Leaders (SOL)

The **Spring 2018 Region VI Encounter** hosted by the Omaha, NE Spanish cursillistas took the place of the April SOL. The next SOL will be held at St. Ann Parish in Doniphan on June 9, 2018. As usual, there will be a 9:00am Mass for those who would like to participate, followed by the actual SOL beginning at 9:30am. Please consider coming and helping with the work of Cursillo. The SOL is NOT a school in the sense of someone learning to be a leader ... it is a community of cursillistas who have a heart for Cursillo and want it to be available for those who have not yet had the opportunity to encounter Christ on a Weekend. Please come ... *Christ is counting on you!!*

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER
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Cursillo de Cursillos
August 2-5, 2018

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June 2018



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