

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

August 2021



Calendar of Events

The scheduling for in-person Cursillo gatherings will continue to be evaluated relative to restrictions prompted by COVID-19

- August 21, 2021 **SOL** - 9:30am – 1:30pm (in person at St. Mary Church, Aurora or via ZOOM) [notice **NEW Date**]
To participate in SOL or Secretariat Meeting, start your Zoom app, and enter the **Meeting ID: 629-734-5912**
- September 11, 2021 **Secretariat Meeting**, via ZOOM – beginning at 9:30am
- September 19, 2021 **GRAND ULTREYA** – St. Mary Church, Aurora, NE ... 12:30pm Potluck Lunch followed by Ultreya (all are welcome to attend the 10:45am Mass at St. Joseph Church, Giltner prior to the Ultreya.) See details inside.

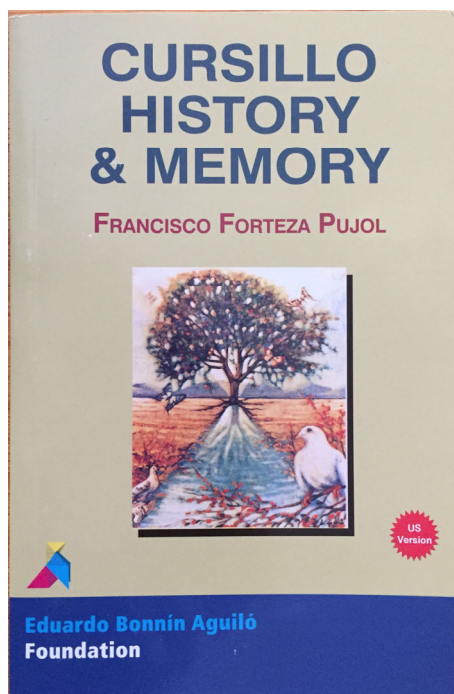
Men's & Women's Three Day Weekends ... We will continue to monitor current restrictions for public gatherings and we will schedule Three Day Weekends as soon as possible / prudent.

Ongoing Palanca is requested for Cursillo on all levels ... Christ is counting on YOU!! Please offer PALANCA for all Cursillo activities. 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.

Region VI Virtual Fall 2021 Encounter

Details are pending ... Watch the Lincoln Diocese Cursillo webpage: <http://www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html>

School of Leaders (SOL) ... August 21, 2021 ... 9:30am – 1:30pm (in person at St. Mary Church, Aurora or via ZOOM) [notice **NEW Date**] To participate in SOL or Secretariat Meeting, start your Zoom app, and enter the Meeting ID: 629-734-5912



The picture on the left is the book (Cursillo History & Memory) that we are studying. Our next session is scheduled for **August 21, 2021**, from 9:30am – 1:30pm (in person at St. Mary Church, Aurora, NE and via ZOOM). This book can be ordered at the National Cursillo website: <https://tinyurl.com/y5fe72be> Books will also be available at SOL.

Report on 31st National Cursillo Encounter (2nd Virtual), July 23-24, 2021

The 31st National Cursillo Encounter (2nd Virtual Encounter) was held virtually on Friday and Saturday, July 23-24, 2021. The focus of the Encounter was better understanding Cursillo – its charism, its method, the Cursillo leader, and stewardship of the Movement.

The Encounter began on Friday evening with Mass (virtual on Zoom) celebrated by Father Mark Seiker at Saint Mary Catholic Church, Aurora. The readings, psalm, and songs were in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Tagalog (Philippine). After Mass, Ultreya was held with witness, echo (in several languages), and spiritual wrap up (Father Einer Ochoa).

Saturday morning began with morning prayers with short talks on the Blessed Mother (the Miraculous Medal, Our Lady of La Vang, Queen of Peace, and Our Lady of Manaoag) followed by the Sabitina. The day continued with four rollos which were followed by small group breakout sessions of approximately 10 cursillistas each. Father Alex Waraksa (Diocese of Knoxville, TN) gave the spiritual keynote, “Charism in the Light of the Gospel”. Manuel Fernandez (Mallorca, Spain) then gave the keynote address, “Christ, Person, and Friendship”. Manuel talked about his spiritual journey and the importance of friendship in all aspects of life. He knew and met with Eduardo Bonnin.

After Manuel’s rollo, the Encounter broke into three language group sessions – English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. The two rollos that followed were given in the language of the assigned group. The third rollo was “Commitment and Discipline of the Cursillo Leader” by Father Mark Seiker as the English presenter. The focus of this rollo was discipleship and how it relates to Cursillo and the Cursillo leader (we are all leaders!). The final rollo, “Faithful Stewards of the Cursillo Movement”, was given by Vince Johnson (Region 10 coordinator from Arizona). He focused on Cursillo as a gift and that to be faithful stewards of this gift, we must protect it, be faithful to it, and share it, as well as study it and know the founder, Eduardo Bonnin.

After the final breakout/sharing session, all the language groups gathered together for Mass, which was prayed by Father Mark Seiker, from Our Lady of Guadalupe church in Omaha. The day ended with a fiesta where there were seven performances by the different language groups. The National Encounters also end with a T-shirt auction (the 31st Encounter T-shirt) which was to be signed by all the presenters. The final bid was \$450! The Encounter ended approximately 6:30pm CST. Five cursillistas from the Lincoln Diocese participated. It would be difficult to estimate the total number of participants, but with around 300 screens and knowing there were multiple cursillistas at many locations, we could guess 350 or so. Being able to see friends again (albeit virtually) from across the country was really great; however nothing beats in-person encounters, and we hope things will get back to normal soon. In any case, it is wonderful to come together to share our faith as a Cursillo community. De Colores!

From the Spiritual Advisor

Bishop Robert Barron in a reflection in the Magnificat for Sunday, August 1, 2021 wrote: *“we might render Jesus’ response [This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent.] as this: the work that God requires is a confidence in and surrender to his Son. It is the willingness to enter into the moral and spiritual space opened up by Jesus, to become thereby a member of his Mystical Body. Therefore, believing in him implies participating in his manner of existence – which happens, on a Catholic reading, precisely through prayer, active discipleship, and receiving the sacraments.”* These words of Bishop Barron are reflecting on a passage from the 6th Chapter of St. John’s Gospel, the Bread of Life Discourse. We are hearing from the Bread of Life Discourse in the Sunday Gospels during the last week of July and three weeks in August.

As Catholics we are fed by Jesus’ Words proclaimed in the Scriptures at Mass and the Church’s teaching that Jesus is really and truly present in Holy Communion. This prepares us to receive Jesus in Holy Communion at Mass. We continue to learn more about Jesus’ real presence as we live our faith as disciples (students) of Jesus.

As Cursillistas, following the example of our founder Eduardo Bonnin, who referred to himself as an apprentice Christian, we consider ourselves disciples (students) of Jesus, and also students of Eduardo Bonnin through whom the Holy Spirit gave us the Charism of Cursillo. In living the Charism, we follow the method of Group Reunion and Ultreya. I encourage you to participate regularly in a weekly Group Reunion and a monthly Ultreya, either in person or over the phone or via ZOOM. Also come to the SOL (August 21) and the Grand Ultreya (September 19). Live your life as an apprentice Christian and tell others about Jesus with your words!

De Colores!! Fr. Mark Seiker

Grand Ultreya

Sunday, September 19, 2021
St. Mary Church, (1420 9th St) Aurora, 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.

- † It will begin with a potluck lunch and Ultreya. Those who are interested can attend the 10:45am Mass at St. Joseph Church, Giltner (15 minutes from Aurora).
- † This will be a **12:30pm potluck lunch**, so each family should bring a dish to share. Ultreya will follow lunch.
- † The Secretariat will bring plates, napkins, glasses and plastic-ware; coffee/iced tea/water will be provided.

Where will it be held?

- † **St. Mary Church, 1420 9th St, Aurora, NE**
- † Take Exit 332 off of I-80 and go north on Highway 14 for approximately 3.5 miles (Casey's will be on your right). Turn left onto US 34 (Q St.) for 6 blocks then left again (after Pizza Hut) onto 9th St for 1 block and Church will be on your left.
- † The event will be held ... rain or shine.

Why have a Grand Ultreya?

- † *We have the opportunity to gather together again. Let us rejoice and be glad!*
- † *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!***

From the Lay Director

De Colores!

Thursday, July 29, 2021

The Secretariat's plans for a promised Diocesan Gathering are complete, an in-person Grand Ultreya with attendance via Zoom as an option. Recall that Cursillo offers a method of perseverance that will ensure you total security for the rest of your life. The Cursillo Method for persevering in our 4th Day (that's each and every day after a three day Weekend) is the method of Group Reunion and Ultreya. Where an Ultreya is a grouping of Group Reunions, a Grand Ultreya is a grouping of Cursillistas from across the entire diocese offering an opportunity to broaden our understanding of others and our vision of Christianity by grouping with persons we don't normally group with. There will be a witness too, a living example of how the witness is living out their commitment to a life of prayer and metanoia in their daily life. Ultreyas are very joyful opportunities to listen and share. An Ultreya makes an encounter with Christ through our brothers and sisters possible. All of us are on the way, at an Ultreya, we share the joy of being on the way together! Onward! – **Greg Vandenberg**

Upcoming Ultreyas
Subject to Cancellation or Postponement due to COVID-19 Pandemic

Beatrice-Hebron-Crete:

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

- **August Ultreya (August 8, 2:00pm) – Crete, Sacred Heart Parish Hall.**
- **September Ultreya – (September 19, 12:30pm) – Plan to attend the Grand Ultreya on September 19 at St. Mary Church, Aurora**
- **October Ultreya – (October 10, 2:00pm) – Beatrice, St. Joseph Parish Hall.**
- **November Ultreya (November 14, 2:00pm) – Hebron, Sacred Heart Parish Hall.**

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

Southwestern Nebraska (McCook-Imperial-North Platte):

Location alternates (**usually** 2nd Sunday of month)

- **August Ultreya – (August 8, 2:30pm MDT) – In-person (St. Patrick Parish Hall, Imperial)**
- **September Ultreya – (September 19, 12:30pm) – Plan to attend the Grand Ultreya on September 19 at St. Mary Church, Aurora**
- **October Ultreya – (October 10, 3:30pm) – In-person (St. Patrick Church Basement, McCook)**
- **November Ultreya – (November 14, 2:30pm MDT) – In-person (St. Patrick Parish Hall, Imperial)**

Contacts: Helen Bieker (308) 340-0268

Lincoln – Vietnamese Language Group:

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lincoln

- **Normally 1st Sunday of each month after 9:00am Mass (about 10:15am); however, not currently meeting due to COVID**

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, 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 (402) 694-3427

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER
PO Box 291
Aurora, NE 68818-0291

Forwarding Service Requested

SOL = August 21, 2021
Grand Ultreya = September 19, 2021
See Details inside.

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