

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

August 2022

Calendar of Events



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

September 10, 2022 **SOL - 9:00am** (via ZOOM; tentative date)

➤ To participate in SOL or Secretariat Meeting, start your Zoom app, and enter the **Meeting ID: 731-820-8877**

September 23-24, 2022 **Fall 2022 Region VI Encounter**, Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Wayzata, MN

October 14-15, 2022 **Secretariat Meeting**, held in conjunction with Practice Weekends

October 20-23, 2022 **Men's Weekend**, St. Michael Parish, Hastings; Closing Sunday, October 23 @ 5:00 PM

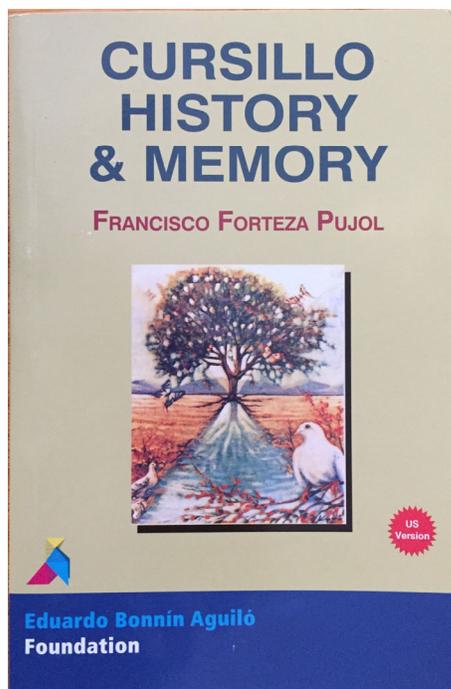
October 27-30, 2022 **Women's Weekend**, St. Michael Parish, Hastings; Closing Sunday, Oct. 30 @ 5:00 PM

Region VI Fall Encounter, September 23-24, 2022

The Region VI Fall Encounter will be held September 23-24, 2022, at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Wayzata, MN. Watch Region VI website for registration. De Colores!

School of Leaders (SOL) ... September 10, 2022 (tentative date) - 9:00am

Via ZOOM. (To participate in SOL or Secretariat Meeting, start your Zoom app, and enter the **Meeting ID: 731-820-8877**).



The lay presentations are coming from the book pictured on the left (Cursillo History & Memory). This book can be ordered at the National Cursillo website: <https://tinyurl.com/y5fe72be>

There will also be a Spiritual presentation. Topic yet to be decided.

From the Spiritual Advisor

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in us the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created. And You shall **renew** the face of the earth, is how us Cursillistas start these years of Eucharistic **Revival**. We are being called by the Holy Spirit to lead the hearts of the people to love the Lord, to recognize Him in the breaking of the bread, and to love Him who is the quiet Lamb of God in the most Blessed Sacrament and throughout our parishes. Let these days and years of Revival be the fine celebration - full of colors and joy in the love of the Lord - of the King of Kings who comes to us in humility. Let our “unleavened bread lives” astound those around us with the power of the Blood of Jesus Christ. I am so delighted to be serving each of you as Spiritual Advisor and look forward to the graces that will surely come.

De Colores!! **Fr. Bernard Lorenz** fr.bernard-lorenz@lincolndiocese.org

Upcoming Cursillo Weekends ... and We Need Your Help

Cursillo Weekends. It's been **5-1/2 years** since we've had Cursillo Weekends in the Lincoln Diocese!! We had Weekends planned for Fall 2019, but they had to be postponed and were re-scheduled for Spring 2020. We all know what happened in March 2020 with everything coming to an abrupt stand-still and shutting down entirely. But, thanks be to God, we are ready to begin again ...

A **Men's** Weekend is planned for **October 20-23, 2022**, and a **Women's** Weekend is planned for **October 27-30, 2022**, both to be held at **St. Michael Parish in Hastings**. During the interim (when we were shut down and waiting), we found ways to live our 4th Day Cursillo (because we know it's vital), but in ways we never envisioned, thanks to the technology that emerged (Zoom probably the most used). Virtual meetings of all kinds began taking place. Some Group Reunions met via Zoom, Ultreyas were also meeting via Zoom, and we had Secretariat Meetings, 4th Day Retreats, and School of Leaders via Zoom as well. As the COVID restrictions were loosened, meetings became hybrid – both in-person and via Zoom; this hybrid form of meeting may continue to be used going forward (for who knows how long). Our Three Day Weekends, however, will be in person ... it's hard to experience Friendship, the Person, and Christ via Zoom!!

Included in this Newsletter are Registration Materials for you to give to those persons who come to mind when you think of someone who is hungry to know Christ better, and who deeply desires to find out how to integrate their Catholic faith and Baptismal vows in a more dynamic and joyful manner into their daily everyday lives. That person is likely to benefit greatly from living a Cursillo! Please help others to encounter self, Christ, and others as you did on your Weekend and beyond ... invite them to live a Cursillo Weekend. It's life-changing, not only for the person who lives the Weekend, but for all those who come into contact with that person. A friend once commented about how Cursillo helped her deal with her father in his later years and through the dying process: “My father will never live a Cursillo Weekend, but he lived Cursillo through me.” Be the person to encourage someone with a spark and zest to come to know self, Christ and others through Cursillo!! Be that person's sponsor, walking with him/her before the Cursillo, to the Cursillo, and after the Cursillo.

In May 2022, Pope Francis encouraged cursillistas to “go beyond” for mission and unity/communion in his address at Italy's 7th National Ultreya. In terms of mission, the Pope commented that “the great challenge is to maintain a spirit of charity and unity that is based on the spiritual heritage accepted by all, lived out and shared by everybody, understood by and entrusted to all.” In terms of unity/communion, Pope Francis told the gathering of cursillistas that “you have a particular charism, which has led you to rediscover and be able to announce in a simple and direct way the essential of the Christian experience, that is, the love of God for every man and woman.” He encouraged the Cursillos to let themselves be animated by this charism, so as “to experience the joy of evangelizing, in all areas of life, private and public”, also reaching out to those who are far away from the Church (and those “far away” may be sitting right next to you in the pew!).

We are all on a pilgrimage ... we are journeying through Christ ... to the Father ... under the guidance of the Holy Spirit ... with the help of Mary and all of the saints ... as we seek to bring our brothers and sisters along with us. On our Cursillo Weekends, we learned that that was our ideal. We need to help others discover this ideal ... help others to encounter self, Christ, and others in order to best make their life's pilgrimage back to the Father, bringing many along with them. We do it simply by making a friend, being a friend, and bringing

our friend to Christ. A Cursillo Weekend is a perfect way to help others discover or rediscover their mission in life as given them by God ... it's a great way to awaken their faith in a new and vibrant way.

We Need Your Help. It's exciting to begin providing the opportunities offered through Cursillo again in our Diocese!! But there will also be challenges. In addition to not having had Cursillos for 5-1/2 years, we've also experienced a diminishing and near diminished treasury. It is not inexpensive to promote and try to encourage and grow Cursillo, both in terms of continuing to support those who have already lived Cursillo, but also to allow opportunities for those who have yet to experience it. During the Weekend, we ask the new cursillistas to consider what sacrifice they can make for the gift they have received, in order that they might allow others to experience what they did and to help Cursillo remain vibrant in the Diocese. We generally mention briefly what it takes to make Cursillo a financially viable entity. We ask them to think about what they would spend for a weekend away from home where really great lodging and meals are provided ... where all of their needs, both physical and spiritual have been provided for ... We remind them that their Weekend went from Thursday evening to Sunday evening (an extra day than most retreats), and included expenses related directly to the Weekend such as: (1) a per-day donation to the host parish for use of the facility for each set of Weekends (Men's and Women's) and for the practice weekend; (2) meals and snacks; (3) supplies and materials; and (4) coverage for the priests who are helping out with the Weekend (for each Weekend, 2 priests assist); coverage can range from approximately \$200-600 for each substitute priest for the Weekend Masses/Confessions, and includes mileage (this depends on how far away the substitute priest lives). In addition, there are other expenses related to Cursillo in our Diocese, such as: (1) the annual dues that allow us to be associated with Cursillo (\$650 per language group, which could include English, Vietnamese, and possibly Spanish); (2) newsletters throughout the year; and (3) other on-going expenses such as Grand Ultreyas for the whole Diocese and 4th Day Retreats.

We ask everyone at that time, including the Rollo team and the Service Team, to prayerfully consider what he/she is able to give. We ask them to give what they are able, commenting that some are able to give more than others and some less. We point out that some may be blessed with the ability to give more, and that their donation may make it possible for someone who is less fortunate to experience what they did. We encourage them to ask God to help them know to what extent they can and should help, letting them know that their contributions are what allow the work of Cursillo to continue in the Diocese throughout the year. Finally, we ask them to consider whether or not the Weekend had been a valuable experience for them and if they would like to make sure the work of Cursillo continues in the Lincoln Diocese ... we ask them to please help ...

And we are asking you to do likewise ... please help us in whatever way you can to begin hosting Cursillo Weekends again and keep Cursillo vibrant in our Diocese. Christ is counting on you!! Remember what St. Teresa of Jesus (Avila) once said: "Christ has no body on earth but yours ... no hands but yours ... no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion for the world is to look out; yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good; and yours are the hands with which He is to bless us now." Please be His body and hands and feet and eyes ... please help others to encounter self, Christ, and others through Cursillo. If you are able, please consider making a monetary donation in any amount to "Cursillo of Lincoln" ... donations may be mailed to the Diocesan Treasurer: Kathy Springer, 1410 E. 15th St., Crete, NE 68333. Even if you cannot make a monetary donation, please pray for the work of Cursillo ... consider sending a food donation, or help in some other way. If you're interested in helping with the Service Team or providing the Closing meal or in some other way, please, please, please let us know. Contact information is included on the back of this Newsletter. And may our Lord bless each and every one of you in a very special way!!!! Ultreya!! Onward!!!

From the Lay Director

Three Day Weekends are on the horizon! You've been waiting, perhaps the entire 5 ½ years since the last weekend, to invite that friend you've been journeying with. As you continue to talk to God about your friend, before inviting them to live a weekend, you're also wondering about being a sponsor – sponsoring your friend through the Precursillo, the weekend, and the Postcursillo phases. Perhaps some reflection on what the Cursillo Movement is, is in order.

The Cursillo Movement pursues a two-fold purpose; an immediate one and an ultimate one. The immediate purpose is to provide a foundation for the person to live what is fundamental for being Christian – love of God and neighbor- experienced through three essential encounters, with self, with Christ and with others. The ultimate purpose is to vertebrae Christianity in society with others who live what is fundamental for being Christian, while strengthening the three encounters.

Therefore, the goal of the Movement is not about “preaching the Good News,” but to become the Good News, allowing our actions, in a natural way to become evangelical in our daily lives resulting in a more authentic, continuous, and progressive Christianity.

The Cursillo Movement is focused to help each of us fulfill our baptismal responsibility; to go forth, as apostles, and proclaim the Good News that God in Christ loves us. We must make a conscientious effort to tell the world about Christ. The Cursillo Movement provides us with the method necessary for fulfilling our baptismal responsibility, along with the support for using the method.

The purpose of sponsoring is to prepare a person who can bring about a change in their environments. You should have a plan that should include identifying those individuals with the talents to bring about the change, to bring Jesus Christ into their environments. Sponsoring is not a haphazard circumstance. It should be a deliberate act to bring Jesus Christ into the world. As a sponsor you should know your candidate very well. If married, you should know their spouse as well. Your candidate will become an active participant in their Group Reunion and at Ultreya. Your candidate will become part of the Christian community that links together with others to bring Jesus Christ to the world. **THIS IS THE PURPOSE OF SPONSORING!**

Above all else, you should be a member of a Group Reunion. Show your candidate how to be a Christian by the way you live your life, love your family, care for your neighbors, and speak out for Christ. Provide your candidate with an opportunity to learn the tools of the Group Reunion and Ultreya. Besides sharing the Postcursillo method with your friend, share also all aspects of the Cursillo Weekend, starting with Thursday night, and then Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Thursday is designed “to awaken the moral consciences of all the candidates, beginning with an analysis of their own lives and causing them to desire an encounter with God. This retreat phase is done in an atmosphere of silence. The focus of Friday should be to help each candidate to have a better understanding of self. Friday should help them discover what motivates them in different situations. The focus for Saturday is to combine the fully realized self with a merciful and loving God. Saturday helps the candidates to understand the current relationship that they have with God and should spawn a desire for a still deeper and fuller relationship with God. The last day of the Cursillo is completely dedicated to directing the candidates toward their future -- the living out of what is fundamental for being a Christian, in personal contact with the Lord and in friendship with one’s brothers and sisters. Everything on Sunday is meant to propel the candidate toward the “fourth day,” when one takes up one’s daily and lifelong task: putting Christianity into life – to leaven with the Gospel the environments in which one has been placed.

Ensure that your candidate has transportation to the Weekend. Find out what is needed for a comfortable stay. See if your candidate will need assistance with things such as the home, spouse, children, pets, etc.

After the Cursillo Weekend – Be willing to meet with the new Cursillista in a one-on-one setting. Try to answer any question that this person might have. If you do not know the answers, assure the new Cursillista that you will attempt to find someone who can provide the answers.

Many people leave the Weekend with enthusiasm, after having had the opportunity to encounter self, Christ, and others. That is sufficient only for the first step. The new Cursillista should be motivated to take the second step: to freely use the method of perseverance by seeking a group of friends and making a commitment to share the Christian way of life together, thus fortifying the three encounters initiated in their Cursillo. Be sure that the new Cursillista finds a Group Reunion. It may be yours, or a different group entirely. Take them to the Ultreya too.

It is not enough to send someone to the Cursillo Weekend. The new Cursillista needs as much personal attention after the Weekend as they received during the Weekend ... probably even more. We must make a conscientious effort to ensure that we do all that can be done. De Colores! *[text in part from “The Sponsor’s Booklet”]* – **Greg Vandenberg**

Upcoming Ultreyas

Beatrice-Hebron-Crete:

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

- September Ultreya (September 11, 2:00pm) – Crete, Sacred Heart Parish Hall.
- October Ultreya Attend the Men’s (10/23) and Women’s (10/30) Closings; St. Michael, Hastings 5:00pm
- November Ultreya (November 13, 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 2nd Sunday of month)

- September Ultreya (September 11, 12:30pmMT) – In-person & ZOOM (St. Patrick Parish Hall, Imperial)
- October Ultreya Attend the Men’s (10/23) and Women’s (10/30) Closings; St. Michael, Hastings 5:00pm
- November Ultreya (November 13, 1:30pmCT) – In-person & ZOOM (St. Patrick Basement, McCook)

Contact: Kay Portillo (308) 227-1231

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. Bernard Lorenz (308) 414-1195

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER
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Men: October 27-30, 2022
Women: October 27-30, 2022

**Dates for Upcoming
Weekends 20-23, 2022**

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

August 2022



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

What is Cursillo?

CURSILLOS IN CHRISTIANITY

In today's world, can Christianity penetrate the many areas of secular life? Can it live there? Can it grow there? Can it transform the world in a way that is more fruitful than the past and in keeping with the times? The Cursillo Movement thinks so. It proposes no new type of spirituality, but simply a method through which a person's spirituality may be developed, lived and shared in any area of human life where there are Christians willing to dedicate their lives to God in an ongoing manner.

Cursillo teaches that the Gospel should be proclaimed in very natural ways; i.e., we should be Christ-like as we go about our daily activities, right where God put us. Unfortunately, while most people would like to live their lives in a Christ-like manner, the pressures of the world often make this difficult. Cursillo provides a method (with tools) to meet the challenges and respond to the opportunities presented each day. The method is introduced by a little course.

FORMAT OF THE EXERCISES

Cursillo (pronounced **kur-see-yo**) is a Spanish word meaning "little, or short, course." It begins on a Thursday evening and ends the following Sunday evening. During the three days, those attending live and work together listening to talks given by priests and laypersons. They also share the Eucharist and pray together.

Titles of the talks indicate their content: Ideal, Habitual Grace, The Layperson: A Christian in the World, Actual Grace, Piety, Study, Sacraments, Action, Obstacles to a Life of Grace, Leaders, Study of the Environment, Life in Grace, Christianity in Action, the Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo, and Total Security. Each talk is followed by a discussion period.

THE FOURTH DAY

Cursillo recognizes the importance of persevering beyond the Weekend itself, so its design includes a method for increasing and continuing the conversion process beyond the Three Days by providing a means for living the "fourth day" (each day after the Three Day Weekend is referred to as the "fourth day"). In the Cursillo Movement, the community spirit is continued in the fourth day through a monthly gathering or reunion called "Ultreya", during which we encourage one another to continue to grow in Faith, Hope, and Love (Ultreya means "onward"; we encourage one another onward ... to continue/persevere). In addition, reunions of smaller groups of friends (Group Reunion) are available weekly for fostering spiritual growth in the individual members, helping each to better take Christ out into the world.

CHRISTIANIZING ENVIRONMENTS

The Cursillo Movement can have very positive results in the spiritual revitalization of the world ... the "New Evangelization." The Christ-likeness in a few good people is contagious. The transference of Christ's values to others in one's family, school, place of business, etc., is the Christianizing of environments the Cursillo promotes.

The goal of the Cursillo Movement is that Christ be the prime influence in society. Its primary objectives are to develop in Christians a consciousness of their power and mission to become leaders in the work of Christian renewal, and to sustain them as they provide a Christian leaven in civic, social and economic life. This "Christianizing of environments" is what the Cursillo Movement is all about.

CURSILLO

Cursillistas (persons who have lived a Three Day Cursillo Weekend) believe that Christianity CAN penetrate the many areas of secular life. Cursillo is not a new type of spirituality, but simply a method through which our spirituality is developed and lived – right where we are!!

A Cursillo Weekend's aim is to concentrate closely on the Person and teachings of Jesus Christ. Truly, a Cursillo is an encounter with Christ ... a real meeting with Christ. Cursillo gives those who participate a living understanding of basic Catholic truths and the desire to serve the Church. What's more, it provides a means to continue the Christian formation that begins on the Weekend.

Interested? You are invited ... Come and see!!

For More Information, Contact:

Greg Vandenberg, Lay Director	308-530-7587
John and Kathy Springer	402-826-2699
Kay Portillo	308-227-1231
Cathie McKenzie	402-200-0033
Thai Nguyen	402-580-7587
Diep Van Nguyen (Vietnamese)	402-474-9588
Fr. Bernard Lorenz (Spiritual Advisor)	308-414-1195
Fr. Mark Seiker	402-694-3427

Revised 08/13/22

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

Additional Information for Candidates re: the Cursillo Weekend (2022)

The Coordinators for the upcoming Cursillo Weekends are Greg Vandenberg (308-530-7587) for the Men's Weekend (October 20-23, 2022) and Kathy Springer (402-826-2699) for the Women's Weekend (October 27-30, 2022). Cursillo Weekends are held in various locations around the Diocese. This one is being held at St. Michael Parish, 715 Creighton Ave; Hastings, NE 68901 (phone number in case of emergencies during the Weekend is 402-463-1023; option 7).

The purpose of this note is to pass along some helpful information, based on questions we're commonly asked. If other questions arise, please do not hesitate to call Greg or Kathy (see contact information below).

- ✚ The weekend will start at approximately 7:00 p.m. on Thursday ... it is best to plan to arrive between 6:30 and 7:00 p.m. The Weekend concludes about 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. on Sunday.
- ✚ Someone will be there to meet you, greet you, and help you with your things.
- ✚ Please let us know if you have any special dietary (or other) needs.
- ✚ All meals, snacks, and drinks (tea, soda, water, coffee, etc.) are provided.
- ✚ You will need to bring a pillow and sleeping bag (or sheets and a blanket). We have foam mats to put underneath your sleeping bag (these are surprisingly comfortable). You are welcome to bring an inflatable bed or cot.
- ✚ You may want to bring ear plugs if "background" noise bothers you at night.
- ✚ Bring comfortable clothing and any personal items you need (towels/washcloth, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, a couple of hangers for towels and clothes, flashlight, prescription medications, etc.).
- ✚ Dress is very casual, as most wear jeans and shirts/sweaters/sweatshirts, although we usually dress up a little nicer for the Lord's Day.
- ✚ Don't worry if you forget something, as we can get whatever you need.
- ✚ **There are showers available throughout the weekend.**
- ✚ There is usually time for sharing jokes, so please bring a number of your favorite clean jokes with you to share.
- ✚ You may want to bring a Rosary (if you have one) and a Bible.
- ✚ Was it mentioned that we have food?!?!?!?
- ✚ The Lincoln Diocese Cursillo Website is: <http://www.seas-np.org/cursillolincoln.html>

We look forward to spending the Cursillo Weekend with you in the company of our Lord.

Greg Vandenberg
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The Cursillo

*A Method to
Find,
Form,
Sustain
and
Link
Lay Leadership for Christ
and His Church.*

*One Means of Supporting
Christian Community.*

(Reprinted with permission from The National Cursillo Center) 4/3/94



Bishop James Conley (Bishop of Lincoln)

February 8, 2014

“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!”

Bishop Fabian Bruskwitz (Bishop Emeritus of Lincoln)

April 8, 2003 Pastoral Bulletin to Diocesan Priests

“Cursillo began in Spain in the 1940’s, and has since spread throughout the world (it was also the catalyst for such movements as Marriage Encounter, Teens Encounter Christ (TEC), Christians Encounter Christ, Residents Encounter Christ, and KAIROS, each of which addressed the needs of a specific group.) Through regular reflection on personal growth in the areas of holiness, formation, and evangelization, the Cursillo Movement offers Catholics an authentic means of helping the Church fulfill her mission of bringing the Gospel to the world.

“The Cursillo Movement first came to the Lincoln Diocese in 1965, and has since continued in its efforts to bear fruit in the spiritual lives of those involved, as well as in the environments these persons were sent by God to Christianize (family,

neighborhood, parish, work). Cursillo is a solidly authentic method of deepening a relationship with Christ, a means of putting on the mind of Christ. It is one way to assist Catholics to teach others to do the same.

“The Cursillo Movement is strongly recommended for its authenticity in promoting holiness, formation and evangelization in the spiritual lives of those who faithfully participate and persevere in living the Cursillo Method, especially to the leaders in every environment within the Diocese. The Lincoln Diocese Cursillo Movement enjoys the full endorsement and support of the Bishop and of Pope John Paul II who publicly thanked the Lord for all He has done and never ceases to do in the Church through Cursillo.”

Pope Francis (formerly Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio)

June 13, 2011 Letter to the Cursillistas of the Archdiocese of Buenos Aires

My dear Cursillistas:

“‘The good seed are the children of the kingdom.’ (Mt. 13:38)

“As we approach the celebration of the feast of Saint Paul, your patron and model of how to live “de colores”, we give thanks to God for all the fruits that the Cursillos in Christianity Movement has generously given the Church.

“Your service of proclaiming Christ by being his witnesses in your everyday environments, is an embodiment, a concrete renewal of the Baptism that we have received in Him and makes you disciples and missionaries of the Word, as this was expressed in the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church: “Through their baptism and confirmation all are commissioned to the apostolate by the Lord Himself” (Lumen Gentium no. 33).

“I write to you conscious of the challenge that today’s society presents to the enculturation of the Gospel; but I trust that your audacity and apostolic fervor - born of a personal encounter with self and with Christ - will lead you to make history for the good of all. So that, many brothers and sisters, marginalized or not, who live on the fringe may feel embraced by the love of Jesus.

“To be a pilgrim in our City means not becoming comfortable, but to be open to life and to pay attention to what is happening in our heart - like a good Samaritan confronted with the difficult circumstances of so many brothers and sisters.

“It is necessary that the Cursillos in Christianity Movement, through the participation of everyone, continue its journey of pastoral conversion as proposed at Aparecida (Cf. 5th General Conference of the Bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean, “Disciples and Missionaries of Jesus Christ”)

“As Cursillistas living through difficult times you need to ask God for the Grace to have many candidates, to have an ongoing precursillo, so as not to fall into the hopelessness that paralyzes and causes anguish. The gift of the Kerigma that you received in your Cursillo sends you on mission as proposed by the tripod of piety, study and action.

“As an Archdiocesan Church, we need the unity of all in Christ, so that He, and only He may reign in our hearts and we may thus be able to recognize him like the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

“In thanking you for your journey as a Cursillista, I ask you not to stop renewing your apostolic zeal and dedication and that of your brothers and sisters in your Group Reunion before Jesus in the Eucharist.

“Today more than ever we need that your nearness in the environments be a source of light and joy for so many brothers and sisters who do not yet know that God is a Father who loves them tenderly.

“Today more than ever we need your presence so that many families may encounter the transcendent love of Christ - a new and greater dimension of human love.

“Today more than ever we need you and your witness at the Ultreyas, so as to go “onward”, to go beyond, in the proclamation and experience of the Kerigma.

“I ask that you pray for me. May Jesus bless you and Our Lady, Mother of Divine Grace, keep you.”

Affectionately, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio SJ,
Archbishop of Buenos Aires

Saint Pope John Paul II

July 29, 2000 Jubilee Address to Cursillistas, Rome

“Your presence here, so varied and festive, shows that the tiny seed planted in Spain more than 50 years ago has become a great tree laden with fruits of the Spirit. Indeed, it continues to be a successful response to the question asked by my venerable Predecessor Pope Paul VI at the first world Ultreya in Rome: ‘Can the Gospel still win over the mature person ... in urban and rural cultures?’ You transform the world by becoming new men and women. I am therefore delighted to join in your thanksgiving to the Lord for all He has done and never ceases to do in the Church through the Cursillos de Cristiandad. The theme of this world Ultreya – *Evangelizing the Milieus of the Third Millennium: A ‘Challenge’ for the Cursillos de Cristiandad* – demonstrates your efforts to repropose the experience of Christ to the men and women of the 21st century with new means and enthusiasm. This has become ever more urgent, since whole countries and nations, where religion and the Christian life were formerly flourishing and capable of fostering a viable and working community of faith, are now put to a hard test ... as a result of the constant spread of indifference to religion, of secularism and atheism.”

“In view of this situation which challenges believers to remake the Christian fabric of the ecclesial community, the Cursillo method aims at helping to transform in a Christian way the milieu where people live and work through the involvement of ‘new men and women’ who have become such from their encounter with Christ. This is the goal of the three-day ‘little course’ on Christianity, in which a team of priests and lay people, supported by the prayer and sacrifices of the movement’s other members, communicate the fundamental truths of the Christian faith in an especially ‘living’ way. When presented in this way, the message of Christ almost always opens participants in a Cursillo to the gift of conversion and to a deeper awareness of the Baptism they have received and of their own mission in the Church. They feel called to be the prophetic ‘leaven’ which

is kneaded into the dough so that the whole mass will rise to be the ‘salt of the earth’ and the ‘light of the world’ to proclaim to everyone they meet that only in Jesus Christ is there salvation and that it is only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of man truly becomes clear.”

“... This is your apostolate, carried out in constant harmony with the Church, to show the ‘strength of communion’ which is at once the style and the very essence of the People of God. As you face the various forms of individualism which fragment and divide your evangelizing ability and resources, join your missionary forces with those of the various ecclesiastical groups raised up by the Spirit in the Church of our time. Endeavor to restore the beauty of the first Christian communities, which prompted pagans to say with admiration: ‘See how they love one another!’ And always be docile to the directives of the Magisterium. No charism, in fact, dispenses you from referring and submitting to the Pastors of the Church, whose discernment is a guarantee of fidelity for the charism, itself. May the Jubilee celebration instill in all of you a renewed fidelity to your original inspiration and a firmer ecclesial communion. Many people are looking to you for the light of faith.”

“... During the days of a Cursillo, the words of [a] popular Spanish song help the participants to reflect on the multifaceted beauty of creation. In encountering Christ, you have learned to look with new eyes at others and at nature, at everyday events and at life in general. You have experienced that true happiness is found in following the Lord. This personal and community experience must be passed on to others. Many men and women of our time, who unfortunately turn away from God, expect from you the light of faith that will help them rediscover the colors of life and the happiness of feeling loved by God.”

Pope John Paul II
July 29, 2000 Jubilee Address to Cursillistas, Rome

Saint Pope Paul VI

• ***May 28, 1966 Address to First World Ultreya, Rome***

“Cursillos de Cristiandad, that is the word, purified through experience, affirmed by its fruits, that today travels with citizenship papers throughout the world ...”

“Whether some methods become obsolete, whether new manifestations of the Spirit arise, the permanent task of the layman will continue to be the infusion of Christianity into life through the encounter and personal friendship with God and in communion with his brothers. The layman, upon forming himself in Christianity, reforms his mentality and conforms his life to Christ’s image by means of faith, hope and charity; acting with complete responsibility, he transforms the temporal structures in which he is immersed; guided in his action by the glance of Christ, he continually tries to remake the world according to God’s plan and design ..”

“We know that in your plan of spirituality and apostolate in the Cursillo Movement the ‘Sensus Ecclesiae’ (mind of the Church) is the guiding light that orients you ...”

“Beloved sons and daughters: Our soul is so oppressed by the vision of the evils which afflict the Church and mankind. But permit us to express our overwhelming joy that at this moment floods our soul before the immense

chorus of your manly faith in Christ, your fidelity to the Church, your fervent loyalty to this Chair of Peter and to the ministry of the episcopal hierarchy.”

“Cursillos de Cristiandad! Christ, the Church, the Pope, are counting on you!”

• ***Dec. 8, 1975 Apostolic Exhortation on Evangelization in the Modern World***

“TAKE A CHRISTIAN or a handful of Christians who, in the midst of their own community, show their capacity for understanding and acceptance, their sharing of life and destiny with other people, their solidarity with efforts of all for whatever is noble and good. Let us suppose that, in addition, they radiate in an altogether simple and unaffected way their faith in values that go beyond current values, and their hope in something that is not seen and that one would not dare to imagine. Through this wordless witness these Christians stir up irresistible questions in the hearts of those who see how they live: Why are they like this? Why do they live in this way? What or who is it that inspires them? Why are they in our midst? Such a witness is already a silent proclamation of the Good News and a very powerful and effective one.”

For More Information, Contact:

Greg Vandenberg, Lay Director
John and Kathy Springer
Kay Portillo
Cathie McKenzie

308-530-7587
402-826-2699
308-227-1231
402-200-0033

Thai Nguyen
Diep Van Nguyen (Vietnamese)
Fr. Bernard Lorenz (Spiritual Advisor)
Fr. Mark Seiker

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

Revised 08/13/22

Cursillo Registration Form

Diocese of Lincoln, NE

(Give completed Registration Form to your Sponsor or to your Pastor.)

Name:	Parish (include town)	
Street Address:		
City, State, Zip:	Birth Date	Gender: M F
Email Address:	Current Marital Status (circle one): Married Widowed Divorced Separated	
Home Phone:	Single Religious Priest	
Work Phone:	Spouse's Name:	
Cell Phone:	Is spouse Catholic? Yes No	
Occupation:	If not Catholic, what Religion?	
	Spouse's Occupation:	

Why do you wish to make Cursillo Weekend?

Are you able to receive the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion? Yes No

Has your spouse made a Cursillo? Yes No
(answer follow-up question to the right)

If Yes, where and when?

If No, has there been a meeting to explain Cursillo to both spouses?

Yes No *(this is required regardless of which spouse goes first)*

Activities you are currently involved in (Church, Civic, Professional, Hobbies, etc.):

FYI -- Sleeping arrangements are generally foam mats / mattresses on the floor ... cots/other may be available.

Do you have any conditions that would require special attention (health, diet, disabilities, allergies, problems with stairs, etc.)? No Yes / explain:

Emergency Contact

Name:

Phone:

Do you have questions about the Weekend that your sponsor has not been able to answer? If so, what are they?

Has the recommended follow-up program of Group Reunion and Ultreya been explained to you? Y N

Your Signature _____ Date _____

Sponsor's Name _____ Sponsor's Address _____

If you have questions about a sponsor, please contact those listed below or ask your Pastor.

Sponsor's Signature _____ Date _____

A \$20.00 non-refundable registration fee should be submitted with the registration. During the Weekend, you will be invited to make a donation to help cover the expenses associated with the Weekend. Those who cannot afford the requested registration fee and/or donation should attend and contribute what they can. Checks should be made payable to "Cursillo of Lincoln" and mailed to:

- Men: Greg Vandenberg, 3101 Meadow Court, North Platte, NE 69101; 308-530-7587
- Women: Kathy Springer, 1410 E 15th St, Crete, NE 68333; 402-826-2699

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