

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

October 2017



Calendar of Events

November 11, 2017	Secretariat Meeting , St. Joseph Church Basement, York – 9:30am (9:00am Mass).
December 9, 2017	SOL - 9:30am – 1:30pm (Mass at 9:00am) at IHM, Lincoln.
January 13, 2018	Secretariat Meeting , St. Ann Church, Doniphan – 9:30am (9:00am Mass).
February 10, 2018	SOL - 9:30am – 1:30pm (Mass at 9:00am) at St. Ann Church, Doniphan.
March 10, 2018	Secretariat Meeting , St. Ann Church, Doniphan – 9:30am (9:00am Mass).
April 27-29, 2018	Spring 2018 Region VI Encounter – Omaha, NE Spanish to host.
August 16-19, 2018	Cursillo National Encounter, Seattle University, Seattle, WA.

***** Plans for a Cursillo de Cursillos (CDC) in the Lincoln Diocese *****

The Secretariat is in the process of exploring the possibility of hosting a diocesan CDC this coming Summer (2018). More information will be available in the coming months ... watch for a special mailing when details are known. To help you better understand what a CDC is, an explanation of the opportunities and benefits of a CDC is included on the back of the Newsletter cover page.

Region VI Fall Encounter (September 29-October 1, 2017)

The Region VI Spring Encounter was hosted by the Fargo, ND Diocese on Sept. 29 – Oct. 1, 2017. The new English Region VI Cursillo Coordinator is John Ciliberti from the Kansas City, MO Diocese.

School of Leaders (SOL)

The next SOL will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Lincoln on December 9, 2017. The Vietnamese and English language groups will jointly gather to renew friendships and grow in our understanding and utilization of the gift of Cursillo. 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!!*

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!

2017 is the 60th Anniversary of the first Cursillos in the United States (Waco Texas, May 27, 1957). The history of Cursillo in the U.S. was presented at the 27th National Cursillo Encounter (July 27-30, 2017, San Antonio, Texas). Those attending (several from our diocese were there) had the pleasure of listening to the witness of some of those who were at that May 1957 Cursillo. I believe there were seven men at the Encounter from that Weekend (two were deacons and two were priests). It was an honor to hear presentations by two of those men (Louis Salinas and Fr. Esteban Jasso). Rather than attempt to summarize what they said, I ask that you go to the website below, scroll down, and select the text version (English or Spanish) and read what they said. There was a lot of ad-libbing and anecdotes sprinkled in their presentations (not included in the written text), but you will certainly get the meat of what was said. The common theme is the profound effect the Cursillo had on those men and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the Movement.

Following that first Weekend, Cursillo quickly spread; Louis Salinas commented that, in just a few short years, Cursillos were held across Texas (Mission, San Antonio, Houston, San Angelo, Wichita Falls), and outside of Texas in New York, Puerto Rico, New Mexico, Ohio, and “many other places”. Again, I cannot encourage you enough to read these presentations - the website is: <https://www.natl-cursillo.org/resource-center/2017-national-cursillo-encounter-workshop-sessions/>

Our National Coordinator, Hoang Tran, expanded on the rapid growth of Cursillo in our country. The first English Cursillo was held in 1961 in San Angelo, Texas (the first English women’s Cursillo was held in San Angelo in 1963, attended by a lady from our diocese). By 1962, Cursillos were held in California, Michigan, Indiana, New Mexico, New York, Maryland, Kansas City, and Massachusetts. The first Cursillo in the Lincoln Diocese was held in 1965, the same year the National Secretariat was formed in Kansas City. The first National Encounter was held at Notre Dame University in 1971. By 1973, over 130 U.S. dioceses had Cursillo. To date, U.S. Cursillos have been held in Spanish, English, Korean, Filipino, Vietnamese, Chinese, Portuguese, (and others not listed) as well as in Native American Indian languages. Today there are 239 affiliated diocesan language groups (a diocese can have multiple language groups) and over 1.1 million Cursillistas! You can read this history and more from the text of Hoang’s presentation (same website as above).

The Holy Spirit was truly present in those early days of the U.S. Cursillo, and that presence continues today. There was a lot of Palanca offered back then, and the sacrifices continue today through all of you. Louis Salinas remembers that someone said at that first Cursillo: “One of these days there will be Cursillistas worldwide.” How true that statement was! He further said, “Everything we learn in the Cursillos, we can go on living. First we must live it in our hearts and in our lives and we can continue living it. And thanks to you who give of yourselves so that others can continue living it and that others may live the cursillo.” We should do as he says, live the Cursillo so others can know and live the message – God in Jesus loves us!

As always, remember that God still wants us to spread this Good News that He loves us. No matter where our environment is, we still have the mission to “bear fruit” and share it with others.

May God bless you!

De Colores!! John Springer

From the Spiritual Advisor

During the month of November, we celebrate the Feast of All the Saints and All the Poor Souls in Purgatory. Throughout November, we remember to pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed. We would do well to remember to pray for those persons we loved here on earth after they have died ... and we should also pray for those who may have made life difficult for us. This custom has been a long tradition in the Church and there are even references to prayer for the dead in the Old Testament.

One aspect of prayer for the dead that is often misunderstood is the practice of indulgences. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC#1471) includes three different quotes as follows: (1) *“An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints”*; (2) *“An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin”*; and (3) *“The faithful can gain indulgences for themselves or apply them to the dead.”*

It is interesting to note that October 31, 2017, is the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s posting of his 95 Theses. A number of these dealt with indulgences, and it was clear that the Church needed spiritual and moral reform in this regard. Granted, not all of the 95 theses dealt with indulgences, but they were one of the triggers that most people understand to be an important part of what is now referred to as the Protestant Reformation.

Unfortunately, there was a lack of communication between the Protestant Reformers and the Church in the 16th century, and in the effort to bring about reform, indulgences got a bad rap and people weren’t sure what the truth was about indulgences. That’s unfortunate, as you see above in the quote from the Catechism, that indulgences can be applied to the dead, thus, bringing great consolation to suffering souls. But you, as a Catholic and as a cursillista, should have a clear understanding of how important it is to pray for those who have died.

Some cursillistas make reference to living the “Fifth Day” ... that time after we leave this life and enter into eternity. Who knows where our Fifth Day will lead ... we may make a pit stop in Purgatory and need the prayers of those who can offer them on our behalf. Remember, we are (present tense) all part of the Communion of Saints – the Church triumphant (those in Heaven), the Church suffering (those in Purgatory), and the Church militant (that’s us ... still here on earth), and we need each other – now and then!! So, don’t forget to offer Palanca for those who go before us ... after all, it’s a spiritual work of mercy to pray for the dead!

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)

- October Ultreya (October 29) – John XXIII Diocesan Center (Conference Room), Lincoln
- Combined November / December Ultreya (December 3 ~~or 10~~ **TBA**) – St. Joseph Parish Center, Beatrice
- January Ultreya (January 28) – Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Hebron
- February Ultreya (February 25) – Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Crete

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

Southwestern Nebraska (McCook-Imperial-North Platte):

Location alternates (usually 2nd Sunday of month)

- November Ultreya (November 12) - 2:30pm MT – St. Patrick Parish Hall, Imperial
- December Ultreya (December 10) - 3:30pm CT – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Hall, North Platte
- January Ultreya (January 14) - 3:30pm CT – St. Patrick Church Basement, McCook
- February Ultreya (February 11) - 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 John Springer (402) 826-2699, Lay Director

Secretariat Mail

Lay Director – John Springer; 1410 E. 15th St.; Crete, NE 68333 (jejspringer@windstream.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	John Springer (402) 826-2699
Precursillo	
Three Day Weekend	
Postcursillo	
School of Leaders	Greg Vandenberg (308) 534-8586
Secretary / Treasurer	Kathy Springer (402) 826-2699
Spiritual Advisor	Fr. Mark Seiker (308) 534-5461

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER
3301 Echo Dr
North Platte, NE 69101-9608

***Lincoln Diocese
Cursillos
Lincoln de 2017
cursillo de 2018
summer***

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lincoln, NE
Permit No. 363

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska

October 2017



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



National Cursillo® Movement

National Cursillo® Center • P.O. Box 799 • Jarrell, TX 76537 • 512-746-2020 • Fax 512-746-2030 • www.natl-cursillo.org

Cursillo de Cursillos Opportunities & Benefits

Cursillo de Cursillos, what is it? Simply stated, it is a *course* on the Foundational Charism of Cursillo for Cursillistas who are searching for something *beyond* the Cursillo Weekend course. To help Cursillistas with a thorough knowledge of the Charism, a special course called Cursillo de Cursillos was developed by the Founder, Eduardo Bonnín.

Cursillo de Cursillos is a course that has provided Cursillistas with a treasure of knowledge and a living experience of what is essential in the mentality, purpose, and methodology of the Movement. The course is offered to those Cursillistas who have the desire *to be* effective Christian leaders. This course has provided many Cursillistas with an opportunity to discover the immense possibilities that Cursillo offers the person and the Church.

Cursillo de Cursillos has helped many Cursillistas delve into the foundational elements of the Movement in light of its Charism. This course uses a schedule and format like the Cursillo Weekend. The course begins on Thursday evening and concludes on Sunday afternoon. A total of 13 Rollos and 4 Meditations are presented by a team of laity and clergy. Each Rollo presented is followed by a dialogue within each table group. Sufficient time is allotted for questions and answers at the end of each Rollo. Each day creates a different environment in and through the participation of the Cursillistas in friendship. The weekend provides a relaxing atmosphere with plenty of time for breaks, reflection, personal contact, and daily Eucharist.

Besides an increased knowledge of the Charism of Cursillo, the participants have enjoyed the opportunity to strengthen and renew friendships, make new friends, share and learn from one another personal experiences in discipleship and leadership. Cursillistas have also enjoyed the opportunity to nurture and deepen the three essential encounters with self, Christ, and others that were discovered during the Cursillo Weekend. Like the Cursillo Weekend, the Cursillo de Cursillos must be a personal experience to take advantage of its opportunities and benefits.

Cursillistas have responded enthusiastically to the truth and simplicity of Cursillo in light of its Charism and through God's grace, they are inspired to return to their School of Leaders, Ultreyas, and environments to live, witness, and communicate the Good News that God loves them. This inspiration or response is evident in the Cursillistas as they listen, reflect, share, and freely embrace the true Charism of Cursillo!

To-date, Cursillo de Cursillos is the most effective course available for Cursillistas wanting to learn about the Foundational Charism. The Secretariats in the dioceses of the 12 regions in the United States are asked to contact their respective Regional Coordinator to provide a Cursillo de Cursillos for their community. The goal of Cursillo is to communicate God's love through friendship in the moveable square meter where God has placed us at this exact moment. Make the decision today to attend a Cursillo de Cursillos and allow the Charism of Cursillo to form you, inform you, and transform you. Christ is still counting on you!

In Friendship!

National Secretariat
National Staff