

# Joliet Cursillo

Volume 1 Issue 11

Winter 2006



## The 4th Day Newsletter

### From the Lay Director

Dick Kohl

#### NEW 3 DAY TALKS

In the previous newsletter, I asked for Group Reunions to volunteer to review a talk from the new 3 day manual and make a presentation at a prescribed time at the School of Leaders. I am happy to report that Group Reunions have accepted the challenge and have already begun making presentations beginning Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the talks being presented at the S. of L., ( see schedule below) the February 3, 2007 workshop at St. Charles Borromeo will be devoted entirely to the new talks. It is a wonderful opportunity for all Cursillistas to better know and understand the 3 day Cursillo mentality. Therefore, I urge each of you to ponder and consider being part of the Workshop, especially those of you who are contemplating working a weekend in 2007. For more information on the Workshop see inside the Newsletter.

NEW 3 DAY TALKS	GROUP REUNION CAPTAIN	DATE PRESENTED
Ideal	Carol Krupka	08/02 St Dominic
Laity	John Krzystofiak	12/12 St Pius X
Piety	Katie Kenny	1/03 St Dominic
Study	Chet Goodin	1/03 St Dominic
Action	Allan West	1/19 St Pius X
Leaders	Pat Millet	2/7 St Dominic
Evangelization Environments	Tom Lukaszewski	2/16 St Pius X
Christianity in Action	Eileen Goodin	3/07 St Dominic
Cursillista Beyond Cursillo	Caryn Kuhlman	3/16 St Pius X
Total Security	Jim Longo	4/04 St Dominic

COME TASTE AND SEE

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#### *New 3 Day Talks*

*debut with the Women's 100th.*

*Leaders School and a workshop at Saint Charles Borromeo will be reviewing the new talks.*

## From The Lay Director Dick Kohl

Continued

### SCHOOL OF LEADERS

If you hear that soft voice that speaks to you in the quiet of your heart that says: *Cursillo, Cursillo*, and keeps coming back at the strangest of times, perhaps it is the Holy Spirit prompting you to find out more about Cursillo. If this is the case or for any other reason, come and be part of the community of the School of Leaders. It is here we learn in depth the mentality of the Movement, learn more about our Catholic faith, and become part of a Christian Community. For 2007 we are in the process of putting together an exciting schedule that includes the new talks, review of the new Leaders Manual, clergy talks from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and many other thought provoking topics.

**Come taste and see the goodness of Cursillo.**

### ULTREYA

Last year I was able to attend most of the Ultreyas in our Diocese and would like to share with you a portion of this experience. I heard a woman share how she and 15 to 20 young adults from their parish went to Mississippi to help the victims of hurricane Katrina only to come back touched and totally inspired by the people they went to serve. I heard a father share an incredible story of how his daughter was called to become a Sister of Mercy and how their family continues to receive countless blessings. These are only two of the many stories of ordinary people who in spite of their struggles continue to strive to bring Christ to their environments. If you have not attended an Ultreya recently, may I suggest:

**Come Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord!**

## Grouping "The Spiritual life Line"

By Karen Mueller

I have been grouping since I made my cursillo weekend in 1986 - twenty years. It is my "Spiritual Life Line" -- The methodology of holiness, formation, apostolic action and evangelization within the Catholic Church - embodies everything we believe in as we carry out our mission -- My cursillo community through group reunion and ultreya has been Christ "in the flesh" for George and I while our daughter, Gwen, served as a army nurse in Baghdad for a year. Their prayers, support and love embraced us all.

Karen Mueller

**NEW 3 Day Talks will begin with the Women's 100 in April. The new leaders manual is available now. If you are planning to work a team in the future, plan on attending the 1 day work shop on Feb. 3rd at St. Charles Borromeo. You won't be able to dust off the old talk and go. The cost is \$8.00. Contact Carol Krupka, Kathy Stansfield or any one on the secretariat if you would like more information or are planning on attending.**

Please send any change of mailing/email addresses to me so I can keep our database current! If you know of a Cursillista who is not receiving our emails or the newsletter, please encourage and invite them to get involved again. Also, email their information and I'll enter the information in our database. [jdc\\_secretary@yahoo.com](mailto:jdc_secretary@yahoo.com)

God Bless-Kathy Stansfield



## FROM THE 3 DAY CO-CHAIRS

Joe and Kerry O'Donnell

Happy 2007 to all! As we begin this New Year, many of us tend to think of RESOLUTION AND REBIRTH! Having just celebrated the joy of Christmas, we think of the baby, the Christ child. The birth of Jesus gives us hope and an abundant feeling of New Life! As we move into this New Year, inspired by Jesus, you might ask yourself, what can I do to persevere in my 4th day to help change the world by bringing a friend to Christ? How can I help spread the "Good News"? What about asking yourself whom the Holy Spirit is placing in your life or on your heart to simply "INVITE" to make a Cursillo? What better gift is there than to be that vessel for God and part of someone's spiritual journey? The Holy Spirit brings you the name of the person, take the time to be that friend and invite that friend to Christ. The Holy Spirit will take it from there. As you companion your candidate through Pre, 3 Day and into their 4th day ... JUST BE PRESENT TO THEM and PRAY ALWAYS!

A fellow cursillista just told me a story about someone he sponsored years ago. He received a heartfelt Thanksgiving card from his candidate telling my friend how much Cursillo had meant to his faith and his life. He said "nobody had ever taken the time or gone out of their way to invite him on something like a Cursillo" that had given him a REBIRTH I HIS FAITH. The gift of Cursillo had affected his whole life, especially his relationship with God, self and others and most importantly with his family. WHAT AN HONOR TO SHARE WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT IN SOMEONE'S FAITH JOURNEY.

I remember when I made my weekend and Fr. Ed Grotovsky put the cross with "Christ is counting on you" written across the back, around my neck at the closing. I said "Fr. Ed. I am just beginning". He smiled and said "well, you have to start somewhere!" SO TRUE!! We will miss Fr. Ed and I just know he is in heaven praying for us all as we continue to persevere in faith. What a blessing he was to me and the Cursillo community.

RESOLUTION AND REBIRTH...BEGIN!!! Whom is God placing on your heart to INVITE TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF CURSILLO? Who is he calling you to MAKE A FRIEND, BE A FRIEND and go out of your way to BRING THAT FRIEND TO CHRIST.

Ed Millet will lead the Men's 113th Cursillo weekend on January 18-21st at St. Charles Borromeo and Laura Dodkowski will lead the women's 100th Cursillo weekend on April 19-22nd at St. Charles Borromeo! Please pray for the teams in formation and the candidates that God will send! God Bless you and your loved ones in the New Year! Hope to see you soon at Leaders School, an Ulterya or a Closing! Enjoy the moments.

Peace Joe and Kerry

According to the Alaska Fish and Game Dept. while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers the beginning of winter in late November to mid December.

Female reindeers retain their antlers until they give birth in the spring. Therefore according to every historical rendition Rudolph to Blitzen had to be a girl.

We should have known.. Only a woman would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit around the world in 1 night and not get lost



### Community Corner



Community corner is a regular feature



in the newsletter. If you are looking to join a group, start a new group or would like to add new members to your group email me at [jackieandpj@comcast.net](mailto:jackieandpj@comcast.net)



Men form the Men's 111th and Women from the Women's 97th. Contact your sponsor, your table leader or your weekend TC if you need help getting into a group



## TAKING EVANGELIZATION TO A NEW LEVEL

Susan Gaffey

When I made my Cursillo Week-end in March of 1993, the one part of the tripod that was, for me, the scariest and most difficult to understand was evangelization or action, as it is now called. Over the years, I learned to better understand apostolic action and how to apply it in the environments in my life – in my work, my home and my community.

Several weeks ago, however, I stepped out of my comfort zone and put myself in a totally different environment. It was not work related (I am retired), it was not home related and it was not in my community. Along with five other people from St. Walter Church, I went to Dedeaux, Mississippi to help, in some small way, with Hurricane Katrina Relief efforts. The trip was organized through the cooperation between the Diocese of Joliet and the Diocese of Biloxi. The purpose of the trip was to work with the Office of Long Term Recovery in the Biloxi Diocese, to do whatever was needed to bring normalcy back to the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

We stayed in the “Dedeaux Hilton” which is the name given to the Cursillo Retreat Center in Dedeaux. There is even a rooster in residence! The center is now being used to house volunteers in the recovery effort while Cursillo holds its week-ends elsewhere. There were 13 of us volunteers at the Dedeaux Hilton the week I was there, all getting up at 5:30 AM and going off to our respective assignments 20 miles away. Several went to Gulfport, some went to Biloxi and the rest of us worked in Bay St. Louis at the St. Augustine Retreat Center. We painted, hung drywall, cleared damaged trees and bushes, put up siding, repaired roofs and any other jobs that came our way. We met and worked side by side with other volunteers from Texas, California, Colorado, Utah, Massachusetts, Washington and Missouri. There were volunteers everywhere in the community and wherever we went, wearing our blue disaster recovery T-shirts, total strangers would come up to ask us where we were from and to thank us profoundly for coming to help them rebuild.

The need for recovery assistance is huge and will go on for the next five to ten years. The people of Mississippi are strong, resilient and filled with great hope. They live in tents, crowded FEMA trailers, partially standing houses, campers and anywhere there is some type of roof. These are also people who have great faith in their God, not blaming Him for the disaster, but thanking Him for their lives and the graces that He gives them to build again.

To be able to work in this ravaged area was truly a gift. It made me realize that we are all children of God, striving to make our way in the world. Many of us are blessed to have homes, clothes, food, jobs and other extras to make our life comfortable. Others, like the victims of Hurricane Katrina woke up on August 30, 2005 with nothing but their faith in God, their lives and the clothes they were wearing the day before. Today, almost a year and a half later, these people, while they do have food, clothes and temporary shelter, are still without jobs, homes, and an income. While I was there, I was unable to attend Mass because we were working all the time, but I never felt closer to God because of the prayers that were said each and every day. I hope I will again be able to help in some way in Mississippi. It was a truly profound and spiritually uplifting experience.

De Colores,  
Susan Gaffey  
St. Walter Parish



## "COME AND SEE"

**WHAT:** Workshop on new 3 Day Talks

**WHEN:** Saturday February 3, 2007

**WHERE:** St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center

come find out what the new 3 Day manuals are all about. Attending this workshop will prepare (both new and more seasoned) Cursillista Leaders to work future Teams.

### Schedule

<u>Time</u>	<u>Talk</u>	<u>Responsible Group Reunion</u>
8:15	<i>sign in and coffee</i>	
8:45	Introduction	Dick Kohl
9:00	Ideal	Carol Krupka
9:30	Laity	John Krzystofiak
10:00	Piety	Katie Kenny
10:30	<i>break</i>	
10:45	Study	Chet Goodin
11:15	Action	Allan West
11:45	<i>lunch</i>	
12:45	Leaders	Pat Millet
1:15	Evangelization of Environments	Tom Lukaszewski
1:45	Christianity in Action	Eileen Goodin
2:15	<i>break</i>	
2:30	Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo	Caryn Kuhlman
3:00	Total Security	Jim Longo
3:30	Summary	Dick Kohl
3:45	Closing prayer service	

Cost (includes lunch): \$8 To register or for questions, please contact:

Pat Millet, [meedpat@aol.com](mailto:meedpat@aol.com)

## **My Time Has Come.....**

Ultreya Laura Dudkowski, Post Cursillo

I want to thank all of my Brothers and Sisters for all the help and encouragement that they have given me during my term as the Post Cursillo Chairperson. I enjoyed talking with the Candidates at Sunday night dinner, where I got to see many of you before you went home and to Welcome you to the movement.

During my term we were able to present annually a one day workshop for everyone wanting to work teams. Whether there was only one person or twenty, we never cancelled the workshop. We also had a workshop or retreat to renew us and our friends spiritually. And finally we were able to get a Website up and running along with our Yahoo Groups – so we were able to communicate with the entire 4<sup>th</sup> Day community.

Our prayer request and support of one another in our difficult and happy times is what a Christian Community does for one another. I ask that you continue to pray for the Secretariat because their decisions rely on your prayers.

It is my daily prayer that all of us become more involved in the Ultreya's ... for this is where we are feed all year round, not just for the 72 hours of a weekend. The Ultreya is what gives us strength. As we model for the Candidates on the weekend, we need to continue to model for them after the weekend by attending Ultreya's on a regular basis.

I hope to see you soon.....Ultreya.

Don't forget the next workshop is on the NEW WEEKEND TALKS... I just couldn't resist... See you there!

### **From your Joyful Secretary...**

It is with great pleasure and honor to be serving Christ and the 4<sup>th</sup> Day for the Joliet Cursillo Movement. If there is anything I can do to assist you, please email me at [jdc\\_secretary@yahoo.com](mailto:jdc_secretary@yahoo.com) or [funnylady06@sbcglobal.net](mailto:funnylady06@sbcglobal.net)

Please send any change of mailing/email addresses to me so I can keep our database current!

If you know of a Cursillista who is not receiving our emails or the newsletter, please encourage and invite them to get involved again. Also, email their information and I'll enter the information in our database.

God Bless -  
Kathy Stansfield J  
Executive Secretary-Joliet Cursillo Movement

### **Before You Sponsor a Candidate**

Mike Iozzo

Before we sponsor a candidate, a lot of prayer, meditation and evangelization should have taken place. Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring Our Friend to Christ should have been the nature of our relationship with your candidate. To often we sponsor people as a result of happenstance rather than as part of a plan. Not to say that the Holy Spirit can't be allowed to work. The Holy Spirit will work and direct us, but we have a responsibility to study our environments, form environmental friendship groups and sponsor those individuals who will help us to Christianize those environments

## Remembering Father Ed Grotovsky

Kathy Stansfield

*Fr. Ed Grotovsky passed away in November, however, he will live in our hearts forever. For those of us who knew him, he left us with a better understanding of God's love. Below was his last 'official' message. I will always remember him on the Women's 97<sup>th</sup> weekend dancing at the altar to the song "Go Make a Difference in the World" during Mass after the Sacraments talk. Fr. Ed, you will be missed ... (reprinted with permission of his family)*

*Kathy Stansfield*

*August 25, 2006*

*My dear Sisters and Brothers,*

*It is hard to believe that summer is over and the children are going back to school. Time really seems to be flying by for all of us. Before you know it, our time on this earth may be over.*

*Therefore, now is the time to look at our spiritual life.*

*We need to ask ourselves. "Do we have a spiritual life, or is our life all about the materialistic thing?" The things that have a fleeting life come and go before we know it, and then we look for more to replace them. They keep us happy for a while; but like time the happiness goes away before we know it.*

*When we have a strong spiritual life, the happiness it brings does not go away. We need to build a spiritual life which will help us stay closer to God—A spiritual life that will always help us realize God's presence in our life. When we realize God's presence in our life, we can handle anything that comes our way. We will also realize that the material things of our life come from God's graciousness to us and they will not be fleeting.*

*A spiritual life is built on prayer and love of God. St. John Vianney tells us in his catechetical instruction that "Prayer is nothing else but union with God. When one has a heart that is pure and united with God, he is given a kind of serenity and sweetness that makes him ecstatic, a light that surrounds him in marvelous brightness." Prayer comes in many practices; Lectio Divina mantras and oral prayer. Of course, there are many others which also bring us into union with God.*

*Lectio Divina or sacred reading is reading scripture as slowly as possible, absorbing the words, reflecting on them and asking for guidance to put them into practice. Mantras are repeating chosen words over and over throughout the day. My favorite mantra is "Praise you and thank you, Jesus." Some people like the Hail Mary or the Jesus prayer, "Lord Jesus, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner." Oral prayer is talking to God just as we talk to other people. St John Vianney says, "How often we come to church with no idea of what to do or what to ask for. And yet, whenever we go to any human being, we know well enough why we go." In these types of prayer and in all others, we need to say no to distractions which come from our racing minds.*

*When we are in love with God, which comes from a solid prayer life, it is like when we are in love with a person; we become enchanted and in seventh heaven. It is then we will have a strong spiritual life because of our prayer and love of God.*

*With all my love and prayers,*

*Fr. Ed*



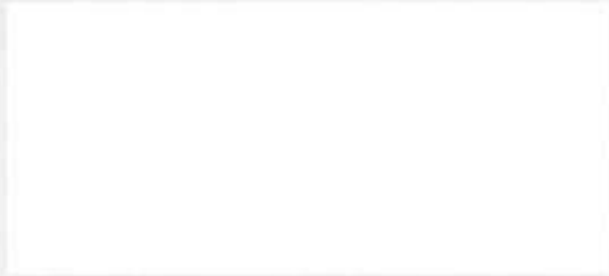


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The Joliet Cursillo 4th Day Newsletter Winter Edition

MAKE A NEW YEARS  
 RESOLUTION TO  
 ATTEND AN ULTREYA -  
 LEADERS SCHOOL or A  
 CLOSING



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**Calendar of Events**

**Weekends:** All are at St Charles Borromeo  
 Men's 113th Jan 18-21 TC: Ed Millet  
 Women's 100th April 19-22 TC: Laura  
 Dudkowski  
 Men's July 19-22 TC TBA  
 Womens August 9-12 TC TBA

**Workshops: "3 Day Talks"**  
 1 day workshop February 3rd St Charles Borromeo.

**Ultreyas:**

- St. Pius X Lombard 1st Saturday of the month following 8AM Mass
- St. Walters Roselle 3rd Saturday of the month following 8AM service
- St. Elizabeth Seaton Naperville 4th Tuesday of the month following the 7 PM Mass.

**Leader's School:**  
 St Dominic's Bolingbrook 1st Monday of the month 7PM  
 St Pius X, Lombard 3rd Friday of the month 7PM

**Secretariat . .**

Spiritual Director	Fr. Mark Jendrysik
Asst. Spiritual Director	Deacon Tom Thiltgen
Lay Director	Dick Kohl
Leaders' School	Carol Krupka & Bob Frazee
Pre Cursillo Chair	Mike Iozzo
3-Day Co Chair	Joe and Kerry O'Donnell
Post Cursillo Chair	Jim Gaffey
Palanca Chair	Katie Kenny
Executive Secretary	Kathy Stansfield
Recording Secretary	Linda Eaker
Treasurer	Mary Martin

