

April 2008

EASTERN AREA CURSILLO COMMUNITY **The 4th Day News**

By the time many of you read this you will have celebrated the most joyous of all celebrations—Easter and the rising of our Saviour Jesus Christ. However, I am writing this in the midst of Holy Week, which signals the end of Jesus' humbling Himself to humanity here on earth. Lent is a season of examination. We look at ourselves and aim to more closely follow Jesus. We seek to know God's will as the Psalm says, "Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth."

When we read the story of Jesus eating with the tax collectors (in Jesus' time these people were not held in high regard), we sometimes focus on the way He put himself in the midst of sinners. We do not always consider His reason. He ate with them not because they were more entertaining or had better food, but because they needed Him. He did it in order to call them to a better way. Sometimes we might even hear people explaining their own behavior in the world as being like Christ, saying they charitably eat with sinners, but this is backwards. We should not identify with Jesus in this story but rather with the tax collectors. In fact, if we differentiate between sinners and saints, we are no better than the Pharisees. (In Jesus' time the Pharisees thought they were pretty special—a cut above.) We always eat with tax collectors. We are all sinners in need of Jesus. One of my favorite definitions of a saint is: "A saint is a sinner who keeps trying."

We are called to follow Him, which means turning from ourselves toward God. Remember the night that Jesus ate with his disciples, among whom were Peter, who would deny Him, and Judas, who would betray Him. Even the apostles were not worthy to eat with Jesus, and yet He washed their feet and broke Himself for them. As we gather at the table today and everyday, let us examine ourselves and seek to follow Him.

God Bless, Deacon Bob Ulbrich

Palanca—Offering of Time, Talent, and Worship

Our Palanca is what keeps Cursillo going. Palanca for the Cursillo weekends can take many different forms. Many begin their personal Palanca when the team for the weekend is announced. *You may begin now*—attending extra masses, saying extra Rosaries, committing a specific time to pray daily, or sacrificing a treat or routine to focus on prayer and service to others.

It also means planning your weekend palanca. Will you be praying in the Palanca Chapel, working in the kitchen, doing security watches, helping with building set-up/cleaning, singing, entertaining, participating in the apostolic hour and clausura, or a combination of several of these things?

Any offering or sacrifice (usually something cherished or precious), that is given up for another's sake, is honored by our Lord. It is our way of letting Him know we are serious about our intentions. Without Palanca, Cursillo weekends would encounter more obstacles, bear less fruit, and soon cease to be for lack of a willing team and interested helpers. Without Palanca, we will not be moved by the Spirit of God to give the gift of Cursillo to a needy soul. This body of believers would cease to be a vibrant, active body of Christ. Palanca is a humble, most often anonymous, way to serve. Begin now to prayerfully consider what you will do for the upcoming Men's Cursillo, June 5–8, 2008.

Keep these 3 people informed of e-mail and address changes:

Guy Christopher (records), gtchrist@hotmail.com, Phone: 217-586-3768
Lee Ann Galaway (newsletter), leeg@aocs.org (work), Phone 217-489-3831
Joan Jordan (e-mail prayer chain), jjordan2@mchsi.com

Thank you Dean's Blueprint for printing our newsletter!

EACC 2008 CALENDAR

April 12	Ultreya at St. Thomas More
May 10	Ultreya
May 22	Application deadline for Men's Cursillo
June 5–8	Men's Cursillo #892 St. Thomas More HS
June 14	Ultreya
July 12	Ultreya
August 9	Ultreya
September 13	Ultreya
October 9	Application deadline for Women's Cursillo
October 11	Ultreya
October 23–26	Women's Cursillo #905 at St. Pat's
October 30	Application deadline for Men's Cursillo
November 8	Diocesan "You Are Called" Conference in Peoria—Watch for details later in the year.
November 13–16	Men's Cursillo #906 at Holy Cross
December 13	Ultreya

Ultreya • April 12

The April 12th Ultreya at Saint Thomas More High School (on North Mattis Ave., Champaign) will be hosted by John and Kathy May. The Ultreya will be begin at 7:00 p.m. with a mass (or communion service). Guest speaker, Karen Fulte, is an expert on Bishop Fulton Sheen. Karen is from El Paso, Illinois and travels around to give talks about him. Refreshments will be provided by the ladies of Cursillo #875. Come and be renewed in this reunion of Cursillistas!

Saint Thomas More High School is the location for the upcoming Men's Cursillo. This is a great opportunity to check out the facility and be ready to serve the guys in June.

It takes a lot of people doing a lot of things to put on a Cursillo weekend.

All kinds of skills come in handy. On-the-job training is available in all areas of involvement. A variety of tasks in different areas are listed below to help you plan your Palanca for the upcoming Cursillos. Don't be afraid to try something new. Broaden your "Palanca horizons"—that's where the fun is!

Building: set up/take down beds; rearrange rooms; move furniture; carry weekend supplies into and out of the Cursillo location; vacuum; clean sinks and toilets; stock bathrooms with soap, paper towels, and toilet paper; take out the garbage; pack up weekend supplies.

Kitchen: bake desserts, prepare food, cook, do dishes, make drinks, stock the snack basket, set tables, serve tables, clean up tables, decorate for Agape meal, prepare dessert trays, be chairperson for a day.

Security: stay up late, stay awake, walk around and keep an eye on the building, let late night Palanca chapel visitors into the building.

Sponsor's/Apostolic Hour and Clausura: usher, greet, do scripture readings, hand out song books, help set up church, gather up song books, hand out and gather candles.

Music: sing meditations, teach songs, sing in the choir for Apostolic Hour and Clausura, play a musical instrument.

Entertainment: sing, act, attempt to act, have fun, be silly.

Palanca Chapel: Help set up/pack up, pray, donate stationary items.



We Need YOU!!!

Following is a list of our current EACC Steering Committee. This committee meets every third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m., at Holy Cross Parish Center in Champaign. Our next Meeting is April 21. Steering Committee meetings are open to all Cursillistas. Positions needing to be filled and others looking for replacements are highlighted.

Secretariat Lay Coordinator
Phyllis Johnston,
217-344-8125

Secretariat Asst. Lay Director
Mickey Nickrent,
217-586-1435

Secretariat Representative
Dick Baxley, 217-867-2686

Records
Guy Christopher
217-586-3768
Looking for replacement!
Is it you?
(EACC database comes on its own laptop computer.)

Building/Transportation
Mike Burge, 217-590-4556
Tony Nickrent, 217-586-1435

Clausura
Patrick O'Donnell,
217-586-3288

Kitchen
Lainey Hewing
217-485-5244
Cochairperson needed to help coordinate kitchen!
Is it you?
Call Lainey today!

Music Coordinator
Lisa Bolliger, 217-586-4714
Asst. Cyndee Kirwan,
217-687-2897

Newsletter
Lee Ann Galaway
217-489-3831
(Mailing) Rita Deters
217-356-2286
Looking for replacement! Is it you?

Palanca
Cheryl Wilber, 217-762-7287
Nancy Davis, 217-947-2706
Carol Gustafson,
217-947-2231

Registration
Shelina Brewer, 217-721-4557

Security
Stan Alt, 217-727-2131
Denis Fisher, 217-784-5615

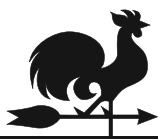
Sponsor's/Apostolic Hour
Dave and Pam Krisman,
217-688-2433

Chairpersons are needed NOW for the following positions:

- **Building**
- **Entertainment**
- **Secretary**
- **Treasurer**
- **Ultreya**

Say Yes!

Get involved!
Come to the next Steering Committee Meeting or call one of the Seretariat members:
Phyllis Johnston: 344-8125
Mickey Nickrent: 586-1435
Dick Baxley: 867-2686



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Palanca

Plan Now!

What sacrifice are you willing to make for the kingdom of God?