

August 2009

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

Are you hungry?

Although the stock market has rebounded over the past several weeks I am sure many of us have not recovered what we lost from our own present or future retirement funds. Many people, especially those who have lost jobs or homes are still wondering what the future holds for them.

How can we respond to all of this? Let me share a story that was on National Public Radio recently.

The owner of a diner in a small town was faced with the same choice that many business owners are facing, a loss of income that requires reducing expenses. This owner has two options: lay off some employees, or ask each of them to work one day each week without pay. Since it seemed like the best choice for everyone the employees chose to work a day each week without pay.

Word spread around town. Towns-people discovered which day the employees were scheduled to work without pay. Something wonderful happened. Town residents decided to eat at the diner on those days and left tips that totaled more than the workers lost in pay that day. Everyone benefited from these choices. The owner and the employees had no idea that the town residents would respond in this way. They made their choice simply because they were grateful to keep their jobs and help each other. By making the choice they did, all gained more than anyone expected.

Something similar happens in the Gospel from John chapter 6 about the 'Multiplication of the Loaves.' Everyone (5,000 men + women and children) was fed with 5 loaves and 2 fish. What is especially amazing is that after everyone had eaten their fill, there is some left over. The Gospel story tells us the left over fragments fill (12 baskets) much more than what they started with.

We all have a choice. We can give thanks for what we have and make choices about how to live accordingly. Or we can focus on what we don't have and make choices in life according to that perspective as well. The problem with focusing on what we don't have is we might miss the opportunity for life and love. The diners owner, the workers, and towns-people in the story all made the choice to give thanks for what they had.

Are you hungry? Do you feel at times that you are overwhelmed and don't know where to turn? Jesus knows our hunger and is willing and able to satisfy our deepest need. If we turn to Him in prayer and trust, He will satisfy our hunger beyond our expectations. The Gospel miracle reminds us that God is not stingy with his blessings. Even when times look tough and we believe we are given more than we can handle, God pours out an abundance of love. It is a challenge for us to recognize that even when we don't think we have enough, there is plenty to share. We only need to turn to Jesus, the Bread of Life, and allow him to feed us.

Gods blessing, Deacon Ed Mueller

"My group meets every Tuesday evening. I look forward to our meetings even though it's a 40 minute drive each way. My best friend makes the trip with me and it gives us time to catch up and prepare for group. I have become good friends with the ladies in my group. God has put each one of them in my life for a reason and I see it over and over. They keep me accountable; they encourage me; they will do anything for me. I cannot imagine NOT grouping!"

Cursillista form Weekend #836

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Thank you Dean's Blueprint for printing our newsletter!

www.champaigncursillo.com

EACC 2009 Calendar

August 15	Ultreya—7:00 pm at St. Pat's in Urbana
September 12	Ultreya at Our Lady of Lourdes in Gibson City
September 15	Deadline for applications for the Women's Cursillo
October 10	Ultreya at St. Charles Borromeo, Homer
October 22-25	Women's Cursillo #935 at St. Pat's, Urbana
November 21	Ultreya TBA
December	No Ultreya

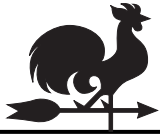
EACC 2010 Calendar

February 4-7	Men's Cursillo at Holy Cross, Champaign
February 25-28	Women's Cursillo at St. Pat's, Urbana
October 7-10	Men's Cursillo at Holy Cross, Champaign
October 21-24	Women's Cursillo at St. Pat's, Urbana

Energize at Ultreyas!

The **August 15th** Ultreya will be at St. Pat's in Urbana. Father Hogan will be there to give a mass at 7:00 pm. Please bring a snack to share for the Ultreya following mass.

Mark your calendar for the **September 12th** Ultreya at Our Lady of Lourdes in Gibson City. Join us for mass at 5:00 pm. We will have a pot-luck following mass, at 6:00 pm. Father Dennis will speak on "Who is the Center of Your World?" Contact Lisa Volker at lmv3161@hotmail.com or 217-784-5533 for questions or childcare arrangements.



Eastern Area Cursillo Community
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Champaign, IL 61826-7043

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Ultreya *energize!*

We Thrive! in community.

You're invited!

You and your Cursillo community are invited to the Peoria Area De Colores Celebration on Saturday, August 22, 2009, starting at 7:00 pm. The celebration will be held at

Crossroads United Methodist Church
1420 N. Main Street
Washington, Illinois 61571
309-444-2381

Located at the corner of Route US 24 and Main Street

This is a time for all of our renewal families to come together to celebrate our love for the Lord through worship and music. The theme is "Jesus is the center of the storm." Many renewal groups will be represented such as Cursillo, Prison Ministry, TEC, Walk to Emmaus, and Via de Cristo. This annual celebration began in 1999. As in the past, it promises to be a spirit-filled, uplifting evening. I look forward to seeing you there.

God Bless,
Maureen Alouan (Diocesan Lay Director)

Your role as a Sponsor is extremely important!

Prior to the Cursillo weekend

- Pray. Pray. Pray!
- Get to know your candidate.
- Introduce them to Cursillo by bringing them to an Ultreya.
- Explain the philosophy of the Roman Catholic Cursillo to candidates who are not Catholic.
- Have husbands and wives submit applications at the same time* when possible.
- Never allow money to be an obstacle. Call a Secretariat member about the financial concerns of your candidate.
- Make sure applications are filled out completely*—sponsors are to fill out the back side of the application.
- Be prepared to be a means of Actual Grace to help your candidate* overcome obstacles and concerns that arise about the Cursillo.
- Support the Cursillo team*—do Palanca, write Palanca letter to team.

Prayer and Sympathy

- ♥ To friends and family of Cursillista R.C. Gray (who passed away mid-July).
- ♥ To Peggy Emkes on the recent death of her mother, Margaret Sharp.
- ♥ To Mary Margaret Rund on the recent death of her husband, Bob.
- ♥ To Mickey Nickrent on the recent death of her niece, Megan.
- ♥ Mark (Becky) Doran's mother, Roberta Doran went to rest in her eternal home on August 3, 2009. Roberta is the sister-in-law of Lena Nickrent, Aunt to Nancee Livingston, Tony and Mickey, Anthony Nickrent.
- ♥ On July 20, 2009, Rhonda Torrez went home to Jesus after a life long battle with Diabetes. Please pray for the Torrez family, and Ed and Diane Delso as they grieve the loss of their best friend.

Give yourself to God

Please pray about how God would like you to give of your time and talents to others through our Cursillo Community. Give of what you have and experience the joy of seeing the amazing things God will do! **We need your help in one of these areas:**

**Music • Clausura • Kitchen (co-chair) • Security
• Ultreya • Palanca**

Contact one of the following Secretariat members to let them know how you can serve—Mickey Nickrent: 217-586-1435; micnic1@gmail.com; Dick Baxley: 217-217-867-2686, rdbaxley@hotmail.com; Kathy May: 217-355-2386; MamaKHome@aol.com.