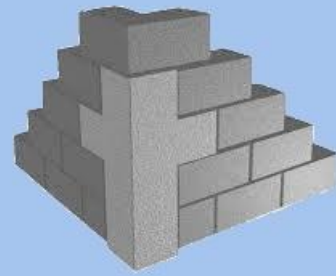


# CornerStone

Cursillo Movement of the  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington

Summer issue 2013



## Witness

- Friendship

It is that time of year again, when we need to evaluate how we are doing with our friendships. Do we have a friend who is ready to be brought to Christ? Women's weekend will be held October 24<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>. Men's weekend will be held October 31<sup>st</sup> to November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Applications are being distributed to the Ultreyas. If you've made a friend and been a friend to someone, it may be time to invite them to Cursillo. We have been given such a beautiful gift, we should be willing to share it with others. When I look back to when I lived my week end, I am amazed. At the time, I thought it had just brought me back to where I had been before my husband died. I have discovered that it did more than that. Yes it put me back in full contact with Jesus but it also challenged me to go beyond that.

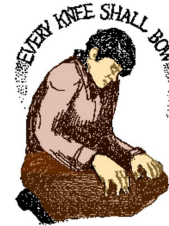
While I thought I had a good relationship with Christ back then, I have found that it was only the beginning of a relationship. While my circumstances have caused me to live alone, I am no longer alone because He lives with me every day. He challenges me to go beyond my comfort zone. He consoles me when I get down and blesses me constantly.

My small group has made me accountable and added such a new and different dimension to my life.

Please consider bringing your friend to the weekends this fall. And if they say yes, support them and help them not just on the weekend but in their fourth

as well. The fourth day is so important. Its what makes the difference between a nice retreat and a true conversion.

DeColores,  
Diane Geoffroy

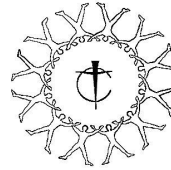


## From Our Spiritu- al Advisor

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As many of you know as a Universal Church we are celebrating what is known as the "Year of Faith" which Pope Benedict ask us to focus on the richness of our faith and to share it with those whom we share our lives. The "Year of Faith" began last October and will run until this coming November. It is a wonderful time for us to ask ourselves: What am I doing to grow in my own faith and how am I sharing it with my brothers and sisters. The Addison County Ultreya, which is hosted at St. Peter's in Vergennes, would like to invite you to something that might help answer both of these questions at once. Our Ultreya is hosting 3 "Days of Renewal" These three day of renewal will following our Sunday 10:30 Mass. Following the Mass we will share a meal which will be followed by a presentation and this will be followed by a small group discussion on the topic of the day.

The three days are:



September 29<sup>th</sup> topic - Scripture: God's love letter to us

October 13<sup>th</sup> topic - Living out our Baptism =  
Living our Faith: Evangelizing

Each day will end by 1:30. Please join us as we do what we can to grow in our own faith and to help our brothers and sisters to do the same. If you have any questions feel free to call me at 877-2367.

Peace, Fr Yvon



### **Pre Cursillo Corner**

#### ***"What Makes A Good Sponsor?"***

We all know that a strong sponsor makes for a strong candidate. But what does this really mean? Certainly living an authentic Christian life and having an understanding of the Cursillo Movement are at the heart of a successful sponsor. But what else?

My sponsor, Judith Dickerman-Nelson, and I had been friends for years before I lived my Weekend. Ours is a friendship forged in Christ—we met at Mass, and our friendship deepened both through our parish community and during time spent together (sometimes with our husbands, often not) going on hikes, going to the movies, attending the local events, etc. Our spiritual lives and lives of those in our environment are at the heart of our conversations, then and now. It definitely helps the Movement if sponsor and candidate know each other well.

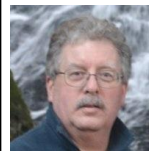
Preparing the ground for the candidate is also a wise step on the part of the sponsor. Two years before I became a candidate, I read about an upcoming Weekend in our parish bulletin. I asked Judith about the Movement, and I now know from reading Cursillo literature that she was well versed. What I learned did not make me jump up and say, "Terrific. Sign me up."

But I stayed interested. This may or may not matter for other sponsors, but Judith always waited for me to ask about Cursillo (which, of course, I did). It also helped that I was invited to attend both small group and Ultreya prior to my Weekend. While this step is not specifically spelled out in the Cursillo literature, its spirit certainly is:

"Provide the candidate(s) with as much information as possible. " (*Leaders' Manual*, p.95).

There is no substitute for information understood by experience.

DeColores  
Carol Bemis

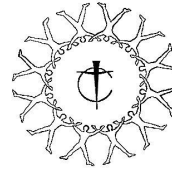


### **Weekend Corner**

#### ***"Community as Weekend"***

It's all about community. In searching my family's ancestral background, I have stumbled upon many journals and articles relating to the immigration of the French Canadians at the turn of the 1900's. Many of these poor French-Canadians were searching for a better life for themselves and their family, so they were looking to move to the so called "Land of Milk and Honey", the USA. Since this was before the invention of the automobile, the methods of transportation would have been horse-back or horse drawn, or by rail. The distance from Quebec City to lower New England would have been easier traveled by rail. Most of the immigrants would have moved to an area where relatives settled since their lifestyle in Quebec was centered on the family and Catholic Parish. So even though there were moving a great distance, they still preferred to begin anew in an area they still preferred to begin anew in an area surrounded by family and friends.

So now you are scratching your head and wondering where I am going with all this.



Well, let me explain. These immigrants on the move would pass through a ‘conversion’ process. Leaving behind the old, ‘Canada’, for the life anew in the ‘USA’. Once in America, they would in a sense be starting to live their ‘Fourth Day’. But we all know that sometimes it is difficult to transition from the old ways and into the new ways. So they looked for comfort in trying to bring their former life to their new location. They worked hard and established French-Canadian social clubs, French-Canadian Catholic Parishes, French-Canadian Catholic schools, and media such as newspapers. Good or bad, it helped to relieve some of the anxiety of moving to a foreign land. They felt some consolation in their ‘small groups’ of family and friends. But in doing so, they also continue to hold onto the ‘old’ life and forego the experience of living in and within the ‘new’ life of being a member of America

We can all relate to this in a sense, as we went through that ‘conversion’ process on the Cursillo. During the Cursillo, we recall our ideals of the past and compare them to the Christian ideals we are called to embrace. But we inherently retain some of our old ways. Tell me that after the Cursillo you lived, you did not find it difficult to live the new life you are called to. I am still Armand, before, during and after the Cursillo. I know for me many ‘sins’ continued after the conversion and I did not whole heartedly engage the Cursillo method. I, and as I see many others, fall back into some of the old ways and look for the easy way through our Fourth Day

What can we do? If you have the pleasure of being asked to be on a Cursillo team, remember in all honesty just what it was like for you to enter the Fourth Day. Frightening wasn’t it? So, be the best team member you can be and put your whole heart behind the task. Put your best effort forward to build a living breathing community determined to let the Holy Spirit breathe new life on the candidates.

And looking back, see the successes and the failures, the challenges of being Christian in this secular world, and how you have become the different person from the one who entered the Cursillo on that Thursday evening. Remember that a person, most likely your sponsor, was there for you each time you tripped and stumbled. Be that person for all the new Cursillistas you encounter.

May God bless you in all your work in His Name.

DeColores

Armand Auclair .

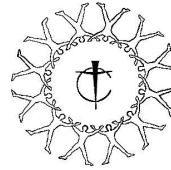


## **Post Cursillo Corner**

### **“Sponsorship”**

A good sponsor can make a great weekend even better. I wanted to make my Cursillo weekend and backing out never entered my mind. But my sponsor drove me to the weekend which took off the pressure of finding directions and getting lost. I had the added bonus of my sponsor was on team. This isn’t all my sponsor did for me. After the weekend she invited me into her small group. There were already 3 people in the group so I was the fourth. I knew all the people from church and I very quickly felt comfortable sharing with them. Our friendship and their involvement with Cursillo Leaders School inspired me to become a member also.

If you have not been as lucky as I and feel your 4<sup>th</sup> day is missing something please let us know. We know there are Cursillistas out there that still feel there is something missing in their life. It may be small group, Ultreya and Leaders School. Let me first invite you to Leaders School.



We meet the second Sunday of each month at 1:30pm at St. Andrew's Church in Waterbury. The meeting begins with prayer and a 10 minute talk from our Spiritual Director Father Royer followed by witness about some aspect of Cursillo and small group, after this we share what our Pre-Cursillo, Weekend and Post-Cursillo with a visit to the Blessed Sacrament. So grab a fellow Cursillistas to enjoy the ride with and come to a Leaders School meeting.

Decolores

Linda Cagney



### ***Lay Directors Corner***

The Cursillo de Cursillos (CdC) is a workshop for experienced Cursillistas. The format of the workshop is similar to a Cursillo weekend. In many ways, this is a Cursillo weekend for experienced

Cursillistas. It starts on Thursday evening, and it ends Sunday evening. The presentation team is a team of people from outside the diocese and sometimes even from outside of New England. The team is composed of both lay and ordained persons. Similar to a weekend Mass and meditations are presented each day. The participants sit at tables of ten persons similar to a weekend, after the presentation of a talk the table discusses the talk. Unlike a weekend, there are no posters. So much for the format.

The talks presented discuss the various aspects of the Cursillo Movement and life (your 4<sup>th</sup> day) as a Cursillista. The titles of the talks are:

- The Coordinator's Introductory Rollo,
- The Mentality of the Cursillo Movement,
- The Essence and Purpose of the Movement,

- The Methodology and Strategy of the Cursillo,
- Living and Sharing What Is Fundamental to Be a Christian,
- Dangers and Deviations in the Movement,
- The Cursillo Movement In The Pastoral Ministry of the Church,
- Pre-Cursillo,
- The Three-Day Cursillo Weekend,
- Group Reunion,
- Ultreya,
- School of Leaders,
- Secretariat,
- The Priest in the Cursillo Movement, (presented by the Spiritual Advisor) and
- The Functions of the Lay Cursillo Leader.

The meditations presented on the weekend are:

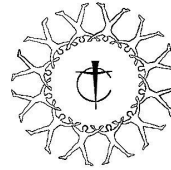
- Who Am I? Do I know Myself? Why Did I Come?;
- Who Is Christ? Do I Know Him?, Can He Still Count On Me?;
- In What Disposition Does Christ See me Now?;
- Christ The Leader;
- How Does Christ Want Me From Now On?

I had the opportunity to attend a previous CdC and am looking forward to attending the CdC scheduled for October/November 2014. I greatly encourage everyone who has lived there Cursillo Weekend to attend the Cursillo de Cursillos. It is my fondest hope to see you all there; it is an opportunity not to be missed.

May Bless you all

DeColores

Dan



## ***Cursillo Weekends***

There will be a Women's and Men's weekend this fall. For the first time in our history the women's weekend will be held first. The dates of the weekends are:

Women's Weekend October 24-28 and the

Men's Weekend October 31-Nov 3.

The Teams have been gathered and are currently in the process of formation. Please keep all of the team members in your prayers as you commence doing Planca for the teams and candidates.

### **Women's Team**

**Rectora:** Diane Geoffroy  
**Asst. Rectora:** Bonnie Day  
**Spiritual Director** Fr. Dallas  
**Asst. Spiritual Director** Sr. Carmen

#### **Team Members.**

Judy Hussey  
Linda Touburg  
Jane Vincent  
Rachel Roy  
Bella Preedom  
Kathy Nolan.



### **Men's Team**

**Rector:** Fred Laterneau  
**Asst. Rector:** Dick Fellenz  
**Spiritual Director:** Fr. Yvon Royer  
**Asst. Spiritual Director:** Dec. Ward Nolan

#### **Team Members**

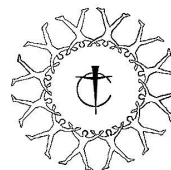
Tony DiBlasi  
Frank Partsch  
Mark Diego  
Malcolm Spenser  
Tom Coen  
Bernie Poginy  
Peter Fitzgerald  
Matt Parisi



Please Keep all of these individuals in your prayers as you do Planca for them.

Thank you and May God Bless you for planca.

DeColores.



## ***Funding Cursillo***

Where does the money go? And Why should I donate my money to Cursillo are both legitimate questions for people to ask when we are asked to give money to Cursillo. There are costs at the Diocesan, Regional, and National levels of Cursillo

At the Diocesan Level – Your School of Leaders - there are funds which are essentially in and out. These “in and out” funds include the application fees for Cursillo Weekends and registrations for Renewal Weekends. Our weekends are designed to be break-even. The costs for the weekends are met by the registration fees assuming everyone pays the full registration fee. Some candidates can not afford the total amount of the application fee, and the community is asked to assist these candidates. Other costs for the School of Leaders include:

The hard copy of the Cornerstone. This costs the movement about \$350 per quarter (\$1400 per year) for the printing and mailing of the newsletter – which is why we try to encourage the community to get their copy of the newsletter from the Vermont Cursillo Web-site.

The Vermont Cursillo web site costs the School of Leaders about \$130 per year. An electronic version of the Cornerstone is available on this site, as well as a calendar of Cursillo events and other Cursillo documents and information.

The Regional affiliation fees of \$200-250 per year – these fees go toward paying the necessary expenses of the Regional Service Team. Those expenses are reviewed and approved by the Regional Secretariat (all of the Diocesan Lay Directors and Diocesan Spiritual Directors in the Region. Those funds go toward paying expenses incurred by the team when it assists the various

various diocesan movements and when members of the team attend required national and regional meetings. The affiliation fees for the Region are the only source of funds for the Region.

The National Affiliation Fees are \$450-500 per year per diocesan language group (Vermont has only one put a city like New York or Los Angeles may have 5 or 6 (English, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino) There are about 250 to 300 active movements in the US. The National affiliation fees cover about 1/3 of the costs of the National Cursillo Center. The rest of the costs are mainly covered by the sale of National Cursillo Literature, donations, and to some extent by the registrations for the National Encounter.

The total amount of donations needed for your Cursillo movement to continue is in excess of \$2600 per year. Later this year when the annual appeals letter is sent out, please be as generous as you are able to be.

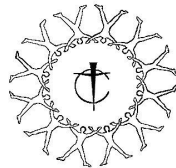
May God continue to bless you and your work

DeColores

Dan Daigler

Cursillo Movement of the

Summer issue 2013



**From the Staff of the Cornerstone**

The next deadline is June 15, 2013. Please mark your calendar and send us your Ultreya news, prayer requests, and articles by this date. We invite you to share your Ultreya witness talks by emailing them to [dad@svcable.net](mailto:dad@svcable.net)

**For a list of Ultreyas**, please visit our website at [www.vtcursillo.org](http://www.vtcursillo.org) .

**Request for Prayers**

**Please send prayer requests to**  
[dad@svcable.net](mailto:dad@svcable.net)

