

PASS IT ON newsletter

MAY 2006

The ENGLISH CURSILLO Community of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth, Texas

(THE ENGLISH SIDE OF THE FORT WORTH ENGLISH-SPANISH CURSILLO COMMUNITY)

2221 NW 26th St, Fort Worth, TX 76106 Phone: (817) 624-9411

www.ftworthcursillo.org www.natl-cursillo.org



Pray for the Weekends!

Upcoming Events:

- Wed., May 10, **School of Leaders**, Cursillo Center, Mass 7 pm, Meeting 7:30 - 9 pm.
- May 11-14 **MEN'S WEEKEND**
- Jun 1-4 **WOMEN'S WEEKEND**
- Wed., Jun 14, **School of Leaders**, Cursillo Center, Mass 7 pm, Meeting 7:30 - 9 pm.
- Sat., Jun. 17, **Return Ultreya** at St. Judes after 5 pm Mass.
- Sat., Jun. 24, **Fiesta DeColores** at Our Lady of Guadalupe, 7 pm.

Notes taken from Bishop Vann's Talk to April School of Leaders

In the past, I thought I had my whole life planned. Things usually don't go the way we plan, but if we trust in God, things will be OK.

My Cursillo Weekend opened a door in my life to see where the Lord was leading me. It was an intense and prayerful liturgical experience that gave me the power to say yes to where the Lord was leading me. It teaches one that our Catholic Faith can be alive – on fire for the Lord, that faith is more than just intelligence.

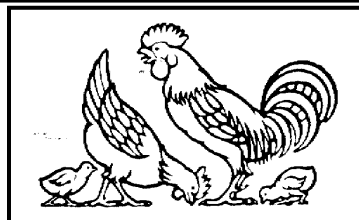
The Church is about more than people who follow rules without internalizing them – It is part of their personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We love Jesus Christ first, the love for the Church follows. Our love of Jesus Christ and His Church must be contagious.

As Cursillistas, take the love of Jesus you have experienced back to your Parish. Parishes are where people meet Christ. Pray for this.

Just as the prayers and sacrifices lifted you to a closer relationship with Jesus on your Weekend, prayers and sacrifices are needed for our Parishes. The Cursillo Weekend Rollos are powerful in touching persons for Christ. What kind of Rollo is our life? As our Faith is assaulted by the world we live in, we need to be strong in our Faith. Our strong Faith is needed to help others Faith not be shaken.

MENS TEAM #106: (Back, Left to Right) Eddie Jackson, Tim Schauf, Greg LaCroix, Paul Johnson, Jimmy Plumley, T.J. Raif, Roy Shelton (Front, Left to Right) Louis Sanchez, David Heywood, Robert Gonzales, Chris Tice, Tom Woodlee (Not in picture: Newman Gonzales, Dan Martin, Deacon Ed Bowden, and Fr. Francis Fernandez).

WOMENS TEAM #206: (Picture unavailable) Dahlia Tice, Denise Flemister, Enrie Shelton, Mary Munson, Brenda Wellmon, Cyndi Johnson, Leslie Skero, Florence Marcucci, Mirna Gonzalez, Jennifer Aragon, Darlene Sulano, Elva Perez, Diana Garcia, Erica Rodriguez, Nancy Sellers, Sue Martin, Kathy Steiner, Barbara Sekoral, Anita Almovar, Deacon Ed and Fr. Francis.



2006 Truck Raffle This is our MAJOR Community fundraiser! **Enclosed is ONE raffle ticket.** Donation is \$5 (But greater amounts are welcome!). Fill out smaller part (keep larger part for winner verification) and mail it with your donation check to: **FW Cursillo, 2221 NW 26th St, Fort Worth, TX 76106**

Raffle Drawing will be at the **Fiesta DeColores**, Sat., Jun. 24 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Hall, 4100 Blue Mound Rd. *Need not be present to win.* If you want MORE chances to win, contact Mary Munson, or a member of the

I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from His love. Death can't, and life can't. The angels can't, and the demons can't. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, and even the powers of hell can't keep God's love away. Whether we are high above the sky or in the deepest ocean, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38-39)

All the falsehoods, evil and lies we face cannot win as it comes up against the Mercy of Christ that is ours as Disciples of Christ who know Him personally. His Mercy will allow us to say yes to all of our Faith. Holy Week that we are approaching is the greatest Cursillo of all. In Hebrews 13, it says, "Let us go to Him outside the camp". Let us take our love of the Lord, our love for our Church back to our Parishes. Let our life be a Rollo to others.

School of Leaders is for **ALL** Cursillistas. Meetings are the 2nd Wed. of the Month at the Cursillo Center: 7 pm Mass, 7:30 – 9 pm Meeting

Ultreyas Stay strong in the Spirit - Attend ANY of these regular Ultreyas:

St. Ann's in Burluson:

Last Saturday of the month after 6:00 pm Mass, (alternating with St. Bart's). Potluck. (Next one: To be announced). Call Billie Trenshaw

St. Bart's in Ft. Worth:

Last Saturday of the month after 5:30 Mass, (alternating with St. Ann's). Potluck. (Next one: May 27). Call John or Carol Hunter

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Keller:

2nd Friday at 7:30 pm. Potluck. For info call Mary Munson

St. Stephen's in Weatherford:

1st Saturday of the month after 6 pm Mass. Potluck. Call Dan Martin

Cursillista Parish Reps

Holy Family: Celine Aaron, Penny Hardy

Holy Redeemer: Newman & Stacey Gonzalez

Most Blessed Sacrament: Mary Jean Nagy

Our Mother of Mercy: Lorenzo & Lana Wilborn

St. Andrews: Erica Rodriguez

St. Ann: John & Billie Trenshaw

St. Bart: John & Carol Hunter

St. Catherine of Sienna: Mo El-Abd

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: Mary Munson, Mary Rios

St. Francis (Lancaster): Irene Cox

St. Joseph: Bill & Margo McNeill

St. Jude (Mansfield): Paul Johnson

St. Mary (Graham): Dick & Lea Anne Gilley

St. Mary the Assumption: Angie Brady

St. Patrick: David Heywood

St. Paul: Larry Peplenski

St. Peter: Angie Plumley

St. Rita: Clyde & Charlene Hymel

St. Stephen: Dan Martin, Jim Hickey

St. Thomas: Becky Lopez

Contact Mary Jean Nagy, to assist or become your parish's Cursillo representative

FW English Cursillo Secretariat

Cursillo Center Director:

Fr. Francis Fernandez

Cursillo Spiritual Director:

Deacon Ed Bowden

Lay Director/President:

Tony Hernandez

V. President / School of Leaders:

Dan Martin

Secretary:

Florence Marcucci

Pre-Cursillo Coordinator:

Mary Jean Nagy

Post-Cursillo Coordinator:

Gary Marcucci

3-Day Cursillo Coordinator:

Denise Flemister

Palanca Coordinator:

Cheryl Greenawalt

Treasurer:

Tony Perez

Pass It On Editor:

Mary Casselman

Internet Communication Coordinator:

Tony Perez

Nominees for Fall Coordinators & Four Secretariat Positions

Women's Weekend Coordinator:

Cyndi Johnson

Men's Weekend Coordinator:

Chris Tice

Vice Lay Director - School of Leaders

Chairperson: **John Hunter**

Palanca Chairperson:

Diana Garcia, Terry Sambrano

Treasurer:

Terry Verbois, Israel Garcia

3 Day Chairperson:

Brenda Wellmon, Eddie Jackson

Above is the list of nominations from the April 12 School of Leaders.

Election will take place at the May 10 School of Leaders. Plan to attend to vote, or contact Dan Martin

Friends are Friends Forever if the Lord's the Lord of Them

from *The Inner Voice of Love* by Henri Nouwen,

Many of your past friendships grew from your need for affection, affirmation, and emotional support.

But now you must seek friends to whom you can relate from your center, from the place where you know that you are deeply loved. Friendship

becomes more and more possible when you accept yourself as deeply loved. Then you can be with others in a non-possessive way. Real friends find their inner correspondence where both know the love of God. There, spirit speaks to spirit and heart to heart.

True friendships are lasting because true love is eternal. A friendship in which heart speaks to heart is a gift from God, and no gift that comes from God is temporary or occasional. All that comes from God participates in God's eternal life. Love between people, when given by God, is stronger than death. In this sense, true friendships continue beyond the boundary of death. When you have loved deeply, that love can grow even stronger after the death of the person you love. That is the core message of Jesus.

When Jesus died, the disciples' friendship with Him did not diminish. On the contrary, it grew. This is what the sending of the Spirit is all about. The Spirit of Jesus made Jesus' friendship with His disciples everlasting, stronger and more intimate than before His death. That is what Paul experienced when he said, "*It is no longer I, but Christ living in me.*" (Galatians 2:20).

You have to trust that every true friendship has no end, that a communion of saints exists among all those, living and dead, who have truly loved God and one another. You know from experience how real this is. Those you have loved deeply and who have died live on in you, not just as memories but as real presences. Dare to love and to be a real friend. The love you give and receive is a reality that will lead you closer and closer to God as well as those whom God has given you to love.



Using Our Gifts

From **CHRISTIFIDELES LAICI (Christ's Faithful People)**

by Pope John Paul II on the 20th anniversary of Vatican II, #56:

All should not cease to develop earnestly the qualities and talents bestowed on them in accord with their conditions of life, and should make

use of the gifts which they have received from the Holy Spirit. What has been said about the spiritual vocation, can also be said - and to a certain degree with greater reason - of the infinite number of ways through which all members of the Church are employed as laborers in the vineyard of the Lord, building up the Mystical Body of Christ. Indeed as a person with a truly unique life-story, each is called by name, to make a special contribution to the coming of the Kingdom of God. No talent, no matter how small, is to be hidden or left unused (As in the parable of the Talents in Mt 25:24-27).

In this regard the apostle Peter gives us a stern warning:

“God has given gifts to each of you from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Manage them well so that God’s generosity can flow through you. Are you called to be a speaker? Then speak as though God Himself were speaking through you. Are you called to help others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then God will be given glory in everything through Jesus Christ”

(1 Peter 4:10-11).

From Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2003:

Grace is first and foremost the gift of the Spirit who justifies and sanctifies us. But grace also includes the gifts that the Spirit grants us to associate us with His work, to enable us to collaborate in the salvation of others and in the growth of the Body of Christ, the Church. There are sacramental graces, gifts proper to the different sacraments. There are also special graces, called charisms, after the Greek term used by St. Paul and meaning "favor," "gratuitous gift," "benefit." Whatever their character, charisms are oriented toward sanctifying grace and are intended for the common good of the Church. They are at the service of charity which builds up the Church.

Ideas from: www.spirithome.com:

How does one discover one's gift?

No formula is given in Scripture, but commonly the Lord will place a burden on a Christian's heart for a particular area of service. As one acts on this burden, how do others respond? Do they, in fact, see the Lord at work

through these actions? If they do, this may be evidence that a spiritual gift has been given in this area.

We may wish to have certain gifts, but if it is not the will of the Holy Spirit, we will not get what we ask for. When we pray for gifts, we ask, not demand, and we accept the gifts we are, or are not, given as being what the Holy Spirit wants for us.

The Holy Spirit is in full authority over the gift. He is free to give and to take back, and to give it again. If we're working with the Holy Spirit, the gift may be present at all times, or may come often, or just for a certain time. Sometimes we're afraid to use a gift, thus stopping the gift from helping anyone.

Since the Spirit can give any gift to anyone, gifts do not mean that anyone is holier than anyone else.

Our gift may not be what we think or hope it is. Sometimes there are strong signs saying 'NO' to what we want our gift to be, yet we ignore them. We may want to be able to speak boldly to strangers about God, yet we are easily discouraged and lose heart when we don't see any results in a short time. We may try to be a spiritual leader, but find that other peoples' problems overwhelm us. We may want to be a counselor, but instead, find ourselves constantly trying to be a fix-it. We may want to be a theologian, but let doubts or agendas rule us instead of God.

If our efforts to use a gift we think we have or want to have ends up in continued unfruitfulness along with continual personal stress, our gift is probably not what we think it is and we are going to need to get intense with God to find out what our gifts really are.

Our responsibility is to discover our gifts and to use them as well as to support for those who have other gifts. The Holy Spirit will not force someone to do anything, but waits for our cooperation. Only with our free and total cooperation, will the gifts we've been given be fruitful to others. If we don't use, or under-utilize, or mis-use our gifts, we hamper what the Spirit is trying to do with our lives.

Gifts don't make us superhuman. They're given to us as we are, or perhaps as God is leading us to become.

God not only commissions His followers to certain tasks or callings,

but He also empowers them with His grace to use them to bear fruit.

In serious time with God we can reflect on how we use our gifts:

- What are my gifts?
- How do I use them?
- Do I serve God with them?
- Do I use my gifts to help make my fellow believers stronger in their faith, hope and love?
- Do I use my gifts to draw non-believers towards God?
- How do I know if I'm serving God the way God wants me to serve?
- What opportunities has God made for me to use the gift?
- Have I used these opportunities?
- What must happen so that I can use these opportunities better?
- Do I trust God to lead me in the best use of my gifts, or am I trying to control the gift myself?

Spiritual gifts mean nothing if they are:

- used for fame, power, attention, or wealth;
- used outside of the context of the good news of Christ;
- used in a way that divides and weakens, or that aims to bring harm to others;
- used without love;
- left unused.



"God is more anxious to bestow his blessings on us than we are to receive them."

Augustine of Hippo

"Man discovers his own wealth when God comes to asks gifts of him."

Rabindranath Tagore, (1913 Nobel Laureate in Literature)

"God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called."

unknown

Blessed Mother Mary

The title of Mary as our mother is not merely symbolic. Mary is our mother in the most real and lofty sense, a sense which surpasses that of earthly maternity. She begot our life of grace for us because she offered up her entire being, body and soul, as the Mother of God.

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)

Imitate the virtues of the Blessed Virgin, particularly her profound humility, her lively faith, her blind obedience, her continual prayer.

St. Louis de Montfort

"I am a compassionate mother to you and to all of my devoted children who will call upon me with confidence".

Our Lady to St. Juan Diego



Community, Piety Online?

www.sacredspace.ie by the Irish Jesuits

"Sitting alone at your computer in Sacred Space, your religious world may seem to consist of God and yourself. We need reminding that our faith would not survive without the support of other Christians. We are part of a body of believers, who not only try to live their lives by Christian principles, but who turn to God together. When you click into Sacred Space, and from there raise your mind and heart to God, you are one of thousands upon thousands, young, middle-aged, and old people, who are praying with you, in every continent, some of them far removed from any Christian community.

Sacred Space is a cyber-community in 20 languages, joined by a common bond with Our Father in heaven". (Since 1999, site has been accessed by persons focusing on God in Prayer over 18 million times)

Our Heart is Who We Truly Are. the Place God Desires to Dwell

- ♥ Above all else, guard your **heart**, for it is the wellspring of life. (Proverbs 4:23)
- ♥ Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the **heart** (1 Samuel 16:7)
- ♥ Where your treasure is, there your **heart** will also be. (Luke 12:34)
- ♥ These people honor me with their lips, but their **hearts** are far from me (Matt 15:8)
- ♥ Create in me a clean **heart**, O God. Renew a right spirit within me (Psalm 51:10)
- ♥ He has planted eternity in the human **heart** (Ecclesiastes 3:11)
- ♥ I will give them a **heart** to know me, that I am the Lord. They will be my people, and I will be their God, for they will return to me with all their **heart**. (Jeremiah 24:7)
- ♥ No wonder my **heart** is filled with joy, and my mouth shouts His praises! (Psalm 16:9)
- ♥ I have hidden your word in my **heart**, that I might not sin against you. (Psalm 119:11)
- ♥ Search me, O God, and know my **heart**: test me and know my thoughts. (Psalm 139:23)
- ♥ A glad **heart** makes a happy face; a broken **heart** crushes the spirit. (Proverbs 15:13)
- ♥ Fire tests the purity of silver and gold, but the LORD tests the **heart**. (Proverbs 17:3)
- ♥ My son, give me your **heart**. May your eyes delight in My ways of wisdom. (Proverbs 23:26)
- ♥ I the Lord will draw you into the desert and speak tenderly to your **heart** (Hosea 2:14)

Cursillo in Christianity
Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth
2401 Southbrook Ct.
Arlington, TX 76006

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