

# THE GOOD NEWS

February 2010

## FEBRUARY ULTREYA

*Place: Our Lady of Hope*

*Date: February 18, 2010*

*Time: 7:00 PM*

*Theme: Mass*

*Refreshments: Everyone! Please bring finger foods or snacks to share.*



### *Ash Wednesday Prayer*

Father in Heaven,  
the light of your truth bestows sight  
to the darkness of sinful eyes.  
May this season of repentance  
bring us the blessing of Your forgiveness  
and the gift of Your light.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



### AREA 4 ULTREYA

- ❖ *Church of the Epiphany*
- ❖ *Our Lady Star of the Sea*
- ❖ *Our Lady of Hope*
- ❖ *Our Lady of Lourdes*
- ❖ *Prince of Peace*
- ❖ *Sacred Heart/St. Gerard Mission*
- ❖ *The Basilica of St. Paul*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Healing Retreat: Fr. Richard McAlear, OMI  
Church of the Epiphany  
201 Lafayette St., Port Orange, Florida

Sunday, February 7, 2010  
Healing Service after 6:00 PM Parish Mass

Monday, February 8, 2010  
Healing Retreat at 9:30 AM  
9:30 AM Light Breakfast  
10:00 AM Teaching  
12:00 Noon Light Lunch  
1:30 PM Teaching  
3:30 PM Healing Mass & Service  
(Breakfast & Lunch provided, donation)

For more information call Epiphany at 386-767-6111 or visit website [FRMAC.org](http://FRMAC.org). ALL ARE WELCOME!

If you have any questions, please call Carol Miner at 760-4222 or Maggie Lee 761-3283.



**MAKE A NOTE!** For Cursillo merchandise, visit the DeColores Rainbow Store at [www.decolores.com](http://www.decolores.com). It comes highly recommended for their prices, inventory and service!

## JANUARY ULTREYA

Our first Ultreya for 2010 was led by the charismatic persona of Joe Valley. Carl Acker, AKA Pavarotti, led us in song. Liz Lilly then led us in a prayer for Cursillistas. The prayer asks the Lord to grant that we may understand the necessity for depth in our movement, as well as give us a spirit of self-sacrifice so that we may offer everything for His cause: our time, our abilities, our health and even our lives, if necessary. The scripture for the evening, Ephesians 4:1-16, was read by Linda Martin. The scripture is a general plea for unity in the church; is manifested in the exalted Christ's gifts to individuals to serve so as to make the community more Christ like.

We were privileged to have Deacon Tom Tagye talk to us about the obstacles to a life with grace. We are called to live a life of grace; The World, The Flesh and The Devil present obstacles to this grace. The biggest obstacle, however, is sin. Personal sins, ones we knowingly commit, jeopardize our life of grace. Deacon Tom stated that Jesus is always knocking - if we want to live a life of grace we must open up! Living in the world we get caught up with things. The things of the world are meant for humanity and we must question the things we take for granted. We must ask ourselves what is my part in the world and not just accept things the way they are. If we are going to be followers of Christ we must make a difference. The second obstacle, the flesh, deals with things within us and our need to be in control. The third obstacle, the devil, is our personal evil. The devil cannot overtake us unless we allow it. We cannot ignore the reality of a personal evil. The devil attempts to have influence, but we are baptized in Christ and we must always intentionally be inviting God in. Ways to deal with the obstacles of grace are: mortification - acts of self-denial (what can I give up); prayer - essential to a life of a Christian (we must have spiritual discipline and make time for prayer every day); spiritual direction - an ongoing relationship (what is God doing in my life); and contact with other Christians. We must remember that a life of grace is constantly flowing.

We continued with intercessory prayers, announcements to keep us informed and all were challenged to sponsorship and commitment to Group Reunion. Singing DeColores and refreshments completed the evening. Michael and I would just like to thank all those who attended the first Ultreya of the year, especially because Mother Nature was not exactly cooperating. Remember palanca for candidates and team members. Remember: Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ.

*God Bless You!*

*Your Ultreya Area #4 Coordinators*

*Patti and Mike*



It is **YOUR NEWSLETTER** and hopefully it fulfills three necessities: to **INFORM, INSPIRE AND EVANGELIZE**. So, if you need to tell the Area 4 Cursillistas of a particular event, this is the place to do it. If you have seen, read, or had an inspirational moment you wish to share with others, this is the place. If you had an evangelization moment that will help others in their efforts, this is the place to share it. **The Newsletter Committee is always looking for your help to make this a useful publication.** Please contact Betsy or Cathy if you have something for the Newsletter. You can submit articles to Betsy at [RGNeerland@aol.com](mailto:RGNeerland@aol.com).

**GET READY, SET, BLOOM!**

**Excerpted from the National Cursillo Newsletter  
December, 2009  
LEADERSHIP WITHIN THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT**

The last two National Mailings included two articles about Leadership. In the August National Mailing there was a general article on “Leadership within the Cursillo Movement.” In October we looked at “The Call to Leadership - a Vocation.” In this article we would like to be more specific as to the different roles and responsibilities of the Cursillo leader within the Cursillo Movement.

### A Cursillo Leader

In the Leaders talk it states that: in Christianity, leaders are those who, having heard Christ’s call, throw themselves decisively into apostolic action with the capacity to influence others, guiding them to encounter the Lord. A Cursillo Leader, therefore, is a dedicated apostle; a person who puts all of his/her abilities in the service of Christ. As Pope Pius X exclaimed: “They must be mature Catholics, convinced of their faith, solidly instructed in the ways of religion, sincerely devoted to the Church, and in particular to this Supreme Apostolic See, and the Vicar of Christ on earth; persons of genuine piety, of manly virtues, of clean habits, of a life so blameless that they may serve as an effective example to all.” (St. Pius X, The Firm Proposal).

Fr. Frank S. Salmani in the Epilogue of his book “Whom Shall I Send?” stated, “If we decide our particular calling is to the Cursillo Movement as a Cursillo leader, we must understand that this calling, like any calling from God, is a vocation - it is not something we choose. The Lord chooses us. Accepting that call means making a commitment to God and His work. It involves directing our will to all that God wants. It means that we must be responsible stewards, sharing our time, talent and treasure with the world. If we accept the task of being a Cursillo leader, it also implies that this should be our primary apostolate. Not everyone is called to do everything. We are not called to do everything, but whatever challenge we do accept should be given our undivided attention.” We need to find ways to maintain our commitments.

First of all, we need to constantly work at our progressive conversion, especially when we assume a Cursillo leader role. Conversion is not something one can say “*I’m already there.*” Sometimes we may forget that our “doing” (Christian things) would be far more effective and realizable when we are conscious of our “being” (Christian) and when our service to others (love) is in “full gear.” The first thing we need is a strong life of prayer and study. Holiness and formation are the “fuels” of evangelization and the apostolate. Without a strong life grounded in the Lord, we will run out of gas very quickly. As long as we take time for prayer and study, we will have the tools we need to continue to transform our society. (Whom Shall I Send, p. 126)



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



March Ultreya (March 18<sup>th</sup>) will be led by the grouping of Pat, Florence, Betty, Sandy, Ardis, Claire and Shirley. The scripture for the evening is Exodus 32:7-14 and the theme is "Our Burdens Can Make Us Stronger."

**SPRING WEEKENDS**

Men's #85 - March 4-7, 2010 (Peter Balsam, Rector)

Women's #93 - March 18-21, 2010 (Kathy Ilkka, Rectora)

Men's team: Paul Bartholomew, Greg Lilly, Rick Cavallari, Joe Losch, Dale Neely, Deacon Tom Tagye

Women's team: Judy Neely, Mary Barbery

It is not too early to start preparing your prospective candidates for these weekends. If you need a copy of the "Cursillo - What Is It" booklet for your prospective candidates, please contact Patti or Mike at 322-6920 or pattiwillems@cfl.rr.com.

Dates to Remember: 4<sup>th</sup> Day Reunion & School of Leaders: April 17<sup>th</sup> - Sts. Peter and Paul  
 School of Leaders: May 22 - St. Patrick (Mount Dora)  
 School of Leaders: August 21 - St. Margaret Mary  
 4<sup>th</sup> Day Reunion & School of Leaders: November 6 - St. Margaret Mary



**PALANCA INTENTIONS:**

Mondays - National, Regional, and Diocesan Secretariats

Tuesdays - Schools of Leaders

Wednesdays - Cursillistas in the United States

Thursdays - National Cursillo® Movement's Apostolic Actions

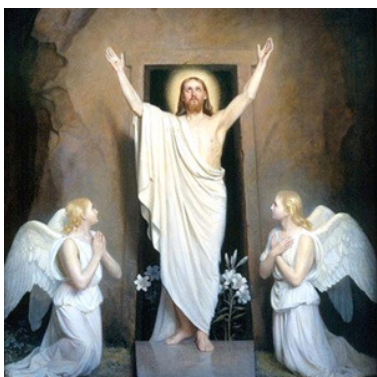
Fridays - Cursillo Weekends

Saturdays - OMCC and NACG Executive Committee

**PLEASE PAUSE AND PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING CURSILLISTAS**



In Memoriam-- Donna DeMarsh  
 Our Sister in Christ. May she rest in peace.



-  **Daniel Knight**
-  **Joanna Swart**
-  **Joyce Mead**
-  **Rae Sholette**
-  **Regina Cumbie**
-  **Joyce Dobrozensky**
-  **Herb Dobrozensky**
-  **Doris Jarvis**
-  **Ruthann Rose**
-  **Ellie Dorion**
-  **Marion Hecker**
-  **Bill Andrasco**
-  **Alice Andrasco**
-  **Jim Kisthardt**
-  **Joan Lilly**

# Reflections on Ash Wednesday

Stuart Malloy

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. It is a somber day of reflection on what needs to change in our lives if we are to be fully Christians. It was not always the way we know it today. Ashes marked on the forehead of worshippers were not given to everyone, but only to the public penitents who were brought before the church. Much like Hester Prynne bearing her scarlet letter, these open and notorious sinners were marked publicly with the sign of their disgrace.

As time went on, others began to show their humility and their affection for the penitents by asking that they, too, be marked as sinners. Finally, the number of penitents grew so large that the imposition of ashes was extended to the whole congregation in services similar to those that are observed in many Christian churches on Ash Wednesday.

We who will bear the ashes upon our foreheads stand with those whose sins may be more public, but not, according to the Scriptures, more grievous to the heart of God. And so we make our confessions. . . . If you only knew the secrets of my heart, if you only knew the sins that I am capable of contemplating, if you only knew some of the schemes I have considered - and of course God does know - then you would know that I, too, am a sinner.

Ashes are signs that we are all in this sin business together, and that the difference between the good in us and the bad in us is sometimes frightfully thin. We so often fall short of the Faith we claim. We have treated people as things and we have treated things as if they were valuable people. And so we look into our hearts and make the ancient prayer of one notorious sinner our own: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

Lent is a season that reminds us to repent and get our lives centered, our priorities straight, and our hearts clean. This holy season offers us a new chance to say "yes" to the Lover of our Souls who created us, who made us in His own image. Lent is the time for a restoration project that will reveal the beauty of God's design for us, showing once again the scale, proportion, and priorities intended by our Maker.

Further, Lent is a season of hope and with ashes on our foreheads and hope in our hearts, we go forth to love and serve. For by God's grace in Christ, we do not have to stay the way we are.

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## SAN PEDRO CENTER

Serving the people and parishes of the Diocese of Orlando  
407-671-6322



### News from San Pedro Center Senior Day of Reflection February 11, 2010 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Fr. Vianney Cunningham, TOR

These are wonderful days for meeting new friends and learning more about your faith. The day includes prayer, presentations, a great lunch, and a lovely Eucharistic celebration. Bring a friend. Suggested donation \$10.00. Register on-line at [www.sanpedrocenter.org](http://www.sanpedrocenter.org) or call **407-671-6322**.

**Visit the website to see all other available programs for Lent!**



### Mike's Minute!

**When your Hut's on Fire...**The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He prayed feverishly for God to rescue him. Every day he scanned the horizon for help, but none seemed forthcoming. Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect himself from the elements, and to store his few possessions. One day, after scavenging for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames, with smoke rolling up to the sky. He felt the worst had happened, and everything was lost... He was stunned with disbelief, grief, and anger. He cried out, 'God! How could you do this to me?' Early the next day, he was awakened by the sound of a ship approaching the island! It had come to rescue him! 'How did you know I was here?' asked the weary man of his rescuers. 'We saw your smoke signal,' they replied. **The Moral of This Story: It's easy to get discouraged when things are going bad, but we shouldn't lose heart, because God is at work in our lives, even in the midst of our pain and suffering.** Remember that the next time your little hut seems to be burning to the ground. **It just may be a smoke signal that summons the Grace of God.**