

# THE GOOD NEWS

November 2011

## NOVEMBER ULTREYA

### INCLUDING BABE CHICK DINNER

**Place:** Our Lady of Hope

**Date:** November 19, 2011

**Time:** After 4:30 PM Mass

**Scripture:** 1 Maccabees 2: 15 - 29

**Theme:** Planting the Seed

**Presentation:** Babe Chicks

**Solemnity of Christ the King  
November 20th**



Collect: Almighty and merciful God, you break the power of evil and make all things new in your Son Jesus Christ, the King of the universe. May all in heaven and earth acclaim your glory and never cease to praise you. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



## AREA 4 ULTREYA ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Dates to Remember:

**November 12, 2011--Fourth Day Reunion - 9 AM - Noon, St. Margaret Mary - Winter Park**

**Sponsors, remember it is your responsibility to attend with your candidates. If you are unable, please make arrangements with another Cursillista to take your candidates.**

**November 19, 2011—Babe Chick Dinner and November Ultreya will be combined. Please plan to attend the 4:30 PM Mass with dinner following. A-H Desserts, I-R Side Dishes; S-Z Salads**

### SPRING WEEKENDS

**Men's #89: March 8-11 (Mike Frey - Rector)**

**Women's #97: March 22-25 (Gloria Spanjers - Rectora)**

**Please think about sponsoring a candidate for the next 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](mailto:pattiwillems@cfl.rr.com).**

### 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



**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!

## OCTOBER ULTREYA

God's Gift of Eternal Life was the theme for the October Ultreya. After opening with the prayer to the Holy Spirit and the song "Be Not Afraid," Maureen led us in a prayer which asks God to make us brave for life. Dee read the evening's scripture, Romans 6: 19-23. The scripture states that it is impossible to be neutral. Every person has a master - either God or sin. A Christian is not someone who cannot sin but someone who is no longer a slave to sin. He or she belongs to God. You are free to choose between two masters, but you are not free to adjust the consequences of your choice. Each of the two masters pays with his own kind of currency. The currency of sin is eternal death. That is all you can expect or hope for in life without God. Christ's currency is eternal life - new life with God that begins on earth and continues forever with God. Eternal life is a gift from God. If it is a gift, then it is not something that we earn, nor something that must be paid back. Our salvation is a gift of God, not something of our own doing. He saved us because of His mercy, not because of any good things that we have done. How much more we should accept with thanksgiving the gift that God has freely given to us.

Cathy witnessed about how all the connections and messages are much clearer since making her Cursillo. Before Cursillo, she really did not see God's presence very much. However, Cursillo has provided her the ability to go deeper into her faith and the realization that we are not meant to try to make it on our own; that forming loving and accountable Christian communities is one of our purposes in life. The oldest of five children, Cathy attended Catholic school through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Her parents were hard working and although they attended church, as a family they were disconnected from their faith in their daily lives. After moving out at 18, she did not go to church anymore. After marrying and having her first son, she started going back to church. Wanting to be an involved mom, Cathy started volunteering with religious education. She noticed how some of the people she was meeting at church had a deeper friendship with each other than she was used to; full of solidarity, support and meaningful sharing. Cathy found this attractive and was encouraged to attend a weekend. Cathy's mom was Episcopalian, and although she attended her own church she also attended with Cathy's dad. Cathy was amazed that after Christmas this year, she learned that her mom was converting to Catholicism. The Holy Spirit was working because her parents immediately got involved in a Christian community. She also was able to sponsor her niece for confirmation during which she was able to see her mother receive communion for the first time - a very holy moment! In addition, Cathy spent time with her parents in March, vacationing with them in Sedona, Arizona. They were able to share in the beauty of nature and enjoy each other's company. They visited the Chapel of the Holy Cross and attended a Taize prayer service. It was very beautiful and emotional; again the Holy Spirit at work! After returning from their trip, her dad found out that he needed heart valve surgery. Although it was not an emergency, he chose to have the surgery immediately as he did not want to have any diminished quality of life. He came through the surgery fine; however, after returning home he came downstairs, laid on the couch and his earthly life ended. Her brother Chris spoke at the funeral and shared how their dad's faith was not disconnected from his life anymore. That her dad was able to see her mom convert to Catholicism, that they were able to go on one more trip together and share so many special moments, that her mom is able to fully embrace the faith that was so important to her dad and to have a Christian community supporting her makes Cathy see and be so thankful for God's plan. (continued on pg. 6)



*God Bless You!*  
*Your Area 4 Coordinators*  
*Patti and Mike*

**GET READY, SET, BLOOM!**

**Excerpted from National Cursillo  
Newsletter, October, 2011**

**If You Love Me, You Will Keep My  
Commandments**

Dear Cursillista:

I am grateful to the Lord for the blessings of the National Cursillo Encounter this past July 2011 in San Antonio, Texas. We had over 500 participants in attendance and the spiritual reflections, technique presentations, and celebrations were uplifting for all who attended. I am also grateful for all who gave of their time and palanca for this Encounter.

Now that summer has ended we are approaching the Fall Season. This is a time to enjoy the change of leaves and the brilliant colors of a new season. It is the beauty of a kaleidoscope in nature and how nature shows her beauty in the last days of her seasonal life. With the fall of leaves, the cycle will be complete and soon there will be the end of this season, and the beginning of a wintertime that will bring about a resting in the cycle of nature or the “the hibernation in life” as we will move into the depth of cold weather, and therefore, a preparation for new changes. Such is the beginning of a new liturgical season, the great season of Advent that will bring about a renewal in the Sacred Liturgy in the Catholic Church with the use of the new Roman Missal for the English-speaking world.

What does it mean for our manner of worship? It means that once again the Church will experience a renewal for a more authentic way of worship at the Holy Mass by acclaiming to a better translation to the original Latin text. Why is this important, because it calls us to be more authentic worshippers, “an hour is coming and is already here, when authentic worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit and in truth”, (John 4:23). This is the greatest act that we can give Him, that is, to love Him and adore Him as He desires to be loved. It also calls us to be who we say we are as Cursillistas, Christians, as Catholics, as a Church to be totally open to Him, to imitate Him in all things and to love Him so that we can love the Father, and someday see the Father and be with the Father forever.

The call to be more authentic is necessary for knowing and living the truth and sincerity as to who we are as Christians, as Catholics and even so as Cursillistas. How can we be more authentic as Cursillistas? By being more authentic Catholics. We do this when we live what is fundamentally Christian, what is fundamental to being Catholic which is living the Commandments by a life of grace, participating in the sacramental life of the Church, and the three pillars of our Cursillo Movement in piety, study, and action. We live it when we actively engage with our Fourth Day Community in the weekly Friendship Group Reunion and in the Ultreya. And for those who have been chosen to be the Leaders of the Cursillo Movement, with our participation in the School of Leaders and Secretariats.

From the leadership perspective, we so many times see the confusion of Cursillistas leaving their authenticity by trying to make Cursillo what it is not, therefore, resulting in changes in the Movement that end up cluttering the weekend or lessens authentic encounters with self, Jesus, and others and leaves the methodology of the Cursillo to their own personal desires. True enough, the Cursillo methodology is a clear plan that has been developed over the last 67 plus years. It is well structured and the gift of the Cursillo Charism by the Holy Spirit is essential for living the Cursillo. We should not try to invent an alternative to the Cursillo way just for the sake of originality or innovation. There is enough innovation in living according to the Spirit of Cursillo just as it was meant to be since the beginning. Perhaps we just need to study it more thoroughly and simply apply it.  
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**The Cursillo® Movement**



**BIBLE STUDY: THE PROPHETS: PART I:  
Taking the Pulse of the Prophets**

**November 16, 2011 9:20 AM - Noon**

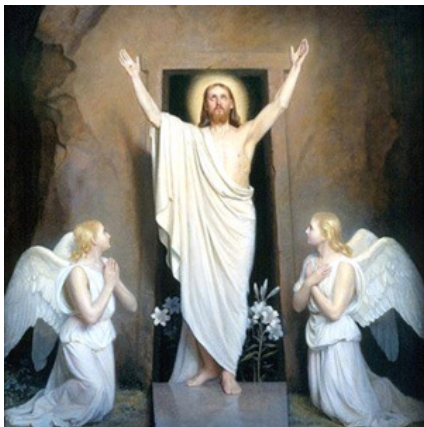
Introduction to the Prophets of the Hebrew Scriptures









Speaker: Fr. David Kaczmarek, TOR

\$20

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



-  **Helen McCartin**
-  **Jack Barr**
-  **Jacob Anthony Losch**
-  **Chuck Knichel**
-  **Rosa**
-  **Joe Losch**
-  **Bob Heisler**
-  **Fr. Joe Pinchock**

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 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).



## Mike's Minute!



*WELCOME TO OUR BABE CHICKS:  
JANET ROGERSON, ANGELA GALLAGHER AND PAM WILLMOTT*

### Thanksgiving Table Prayer

O Gracious God, we give you thanks for your overflowing generosity to us. Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat and especially for this feast today. Thank you for our home and family and friends, especially for the presence of those gathered here. Thank you for our health, our work and our play. Please send help to those who are hungry, alone, sick and suffering war and violence. Open our hearts to your love. We ask your blessing through Christ your son. Amen



*(continued from page 2)*

Giving the spiritual reflection, Jasmine spoke of how everyday each one of us is confronted with choices that somehow affect our lives in a larger way. When reflecting on St. Paul's words to the Romans about sin, slaves, sanctification, death and eternal life, we have to hit the pause button and ask one simple question...choose or lose? St. Paul was an important figure in our faith; intelligent, he had the power of expressing spiritual truths in the simplest words, and this, rather than the building up of a systematic theology, was his contribution to the early Church. He was a man of action. Paul reveals the dynamic of his whole career when he writes, and "I press on towards the goal, in Christ Jesus." In the scripture, Romans 6:19-23, St. Paul calls us to decide; he calls for choices. He begins with an everyday example that a first century Christian would understand - slavery (16-19). When a slave was passed in ownership from one master to another, the old master's authority came to an end. Once, says St. Paul, you were slaves to sin. Sin was your old master and you were forced to do all the evil desires your heart ordered you to do - you had no power to say no. However, when Christ lives within you, you are free from sin's power. You have passed from the service of sin into the service of God; your business now is to do what pleases God, not what sin dictates. So the true disciple of Jesus has a daily choice: we can choose to serve the old master to the prize of God's heavenly calling of our lives - sin, and reap the wages sin will eventually give us, or we can choose to serve Jesus as our Master - and live a life of holiness and Christ-like character. The choices we make of whom we will serve will determine our eternal destiny, our reward. We either choose to serve God or we lose! Moreover, whomever we obey ends up reflecting in our character; we must choose to be slaves of righteousness; we must choose to serve God every day. St. Paul tells us we have the choice to serve God by learning righteousness. He tells us, "Now you must choose to be servants of righteousness so that you will become holy." It is simple. To be a true disciple of Jesus takes effort! To have Christ-like character is a matter of choice for each one of us. To live a life of righteousness requires us to make a daily choice, sometimes hourly. The last phrase in the scripture, "for the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." How can sinners like you and I hope to receive eternal life? Why should we get the gift of life and not the wage of sin? It is because we are "in Christ Jesus our Lord." In Him we are righteous. In Him we are forgiven. In Him we are loved. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. If we are living now by the Holy Spirit, let us follow the Holy Spirit in every part of our lives. We need to **ADMIT** our need; **PRAY** for the gift of God; **TRUST** in the promises of God; **ACT** in obedience to the commands of God and **THANK** him for his gifts. The Christian life is not a burden to be borne; it is a privilege to be lived up to.



*(continued from page 3)*

So many times by changing the weekend encounter with non-essentials, i.e. mañanitas, agape, marriage rollo, washing the candidates' feet, etc. or trying to make the Cursillo become a retreat instead of a personal encounter with the living Christ, or not completing all the requirements that are necessary for the fullness of the Cursillo conversion experience, or by omitting or adding materials which were never intended to be part of Cursillo, we somehow lose our authenticity. If we keep to the Cursillo purpose and method as it was intended then we can live the fullness of the Cursillo and be free to enjoy what Cursillo is meant to be, an encounter of friendship with Christ and ongoing encounter of His love so as to bring us to a constant and progressive conversion to be more authentic Christian Catholics who love their faith and love the Church and wish to give witness to the friendship of Jesus to the world.

Renewal requires a willingness to be open to the Spirit and that happens when we are clear about our way of prayer and understanding of our Cursillo Charism and of the call 'to be' Christian.

No question, there are many ways to find the love of Jesus, and Cursillo is but one way, however it is a very powerful way if we are willing to concede to its proper methodology. We can bring many to the Lord if we lower our nets and truly witness the profound depth of the Christian renewal in the Movement. Before he left his disciples he told them if you love me, you will keep my commandments. The proof of love is in honoring his truth and in doing all that we can to live the truth by living the commandments of love and truth.

I am grateful for all Cursillistas who make sincere efforts to be faithful to the Movement. I pray that we continue to do this as best as we can in the six language elements that are in some 150 plus dioceses, and almost 1,000,000 Cursillistas who we are presently numbered in the USA.

God bless you Cursillistas to keep your fire, a light for Jesus, and to go out and proclaim the good news of Christian love by the way you live your calling to his friendship and to his love and mercy to sinners, to reach out to the far away and invite them to a personal relationship with our Lord and Savior and our most intimate friend, Jesus Christ. Remember, He is counting on you!

De Colores!

May the Mother of God lay her mantle upon you,

Fr. Peter M. Jaramillo S.S.A.

National Spiritual Advisor

