

Cursillo Rainbow Connection

Fall
2010

Archdiocese of
Newark, NJ
Cursillo Movement

www.mycursillo.com

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Cursillo Social / Fundraiser Set for October 1 – Checkbooks Out Please

Our Annual Social / Fundraiser is here again! This year we will be gathering on Friday, October 1, once more at St. Anastasia parish in Teaneck, starting at 7:00 p.m. We had great success with this event last year, and raised a significant portion of the cash necessary to keep all of our events throughout the year funded.

The cost of the Social remains at \$35 per person.

A delicious hot dinner is served, we kick back, relax, leave our cares at the door and concentrate on having fun. Just ask any one of the 100 + attendees from last year. This is a BYOB event; set-ups are provided. After dinner, we dance the night away courtesy of the great deejay entertainment provided by fellow Cursillista Vito Lupo.

Please see the attached flyer at the end of this newsletter and take the time to fill it out and send it in with your tax-deductable donation. The sign-up deadline date for the Social / Fundraiser is September 24, so please don't forget to take care of that soon. We need to get a head count prior to the event for the food order. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Some of the expenses the Archdiocese of Newark Cursillo faces each year include \$400 for National dues, \$150 for Regional dues, a \$400 deposit for each of the four Weekends we sponsor annually and up to \$2,500 to mount the Annual Day of Renewal. You can easily see why we are in need of your support. Cursillo receives no funding from the Archdiocese.

Even if you're not able to attend this Social / Fundraiser, please consider mailing in a donation to de-fray our annual expenses. Once again, please see the flyer attached and don't forget to mail in your reservations / donation. Mail Social / Fundraiser Dinner reservations go to Joanne Rinkus – see the attached. Those who wish to make a donation, but are not able to attend the dinner, please mail your donations to our Treasurer, Bill Dougherty, at 26 Division Ave., Belleville, NJ, 07109. Make your checks payable to Cursillo. Any amount you are able to give helps further our cause. Your generosity is truly appreciated – thanks to all for your outstanding support. We couldn't do this without you.

Women's 162nd Cursillo Weekend October 14—17, 2010

Living in His Grace and Mercy is the theme for the upcoming Women's Cursillo Weekend, taking place October 14 — 17, 2010 at the Casa. The Rector is Vicky McKoy, Angel is Trish Ferrara, with Ronnie Corso as Support Rector.

Spiritual Directors are Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu, Msgr. Paul Schetelick and Sr. Mary Eleanor Thornton.

The team and their rollos include: Janet Gyss, Ideals; Colleen Caratini, Laity; Mary Brown, Piety; Mary Lyne, Study; Linda Hade, Action; Trish Ferrara, Leaders; Peggy Folenta, Environments; and Gail Falcone, Christian Life. Rosemary Horkay and Roz Hughes serve as Personal Contacts; Carolyn Messina is Music Minister.

The Service Team is from Blessed Sacrament / St. Charles Borromeo, Newark; Marilyn Smith is Service Team Chief.

Time is running short - invite a Friend to this "once in a lifetime experience". Download applications from mycursillo.com. Please pray for the success of this Weekend!

We received news that Eleanya Andrew Uche, Blessed Sacrament / St. Charles Borromeo, Newark, will be moving with his immediate family to Nigeria this week. Andrew has been a vital part of our Cursillo community ever since making Cursillo six years ago. Andrew said, "We are counting on the prayers of all my brothers and sisters in Christ as we will continue to lift you up in prayer also. We have the faith to take this bold step because of the faith we have in the Lord that has been empowered and emboldened by the gift of Cursillo. We will surely miss all of you, but it is a small world and we do plan to visit often. God bless." Andrew, we will miss you and we thank you for your loyal service to our beloved movement. Andrew's email: uzomau@yahoo.com

Stanley Carris, father of longstanding Corpus Christi, Hasbrouck Heights Cursillista Paul Carris, passed away in mid-July after a prolonged illness. May he rest in peace. Paul, our prayers are with you. Paul can be reached at pcarris@panynj.gov

Men's 179th Cursillo Weekend November 11—14, 2010

Come Journey with Me is the theme for the upcoming Men's Cursillo Weekend, taking place November 11 — 14, 2010 at the Casa. The Rector is Tony Seymour, Warden is Donovan Green, with Pat Ferrara as Support Rector.

Spiritual Directors are Msgr. Paul Bochicchio, Fr. Charlie Pinyan and Deacon Kevin Regan.

The team and their rollos include: Bob Liwanag, Ideals; Bill Dougherty, Laity; Donovan Green, Piety; Jean-Francois Gueguen, Study; Greg Miskell, Action; Darren "Doc" Petersen, Leaders; Mike McBrady, Environments; and Mike Marella, Christian Life. Lou Mondello and Terry Manswell serve as Personal Contacts; Anthony Liguori is Music Minister.

The Service Team is an ad hoc group of Cursillistas headed up by Jerry Vernice, Holy Family, Nutley and Tom Hennessey, Holy Angels, Little Falls.

It's not too early to invite a Friend to one of the most life-changing weekends anyone can experience. Better hurry though – this weekend is filling up fast! Applications can be found on mycursillo.com. Please pray for the success of this Weekend!

Long-time Cursillista Anna Hardish, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oakland, recently underwent surgery to alleviate a brain aneurysm she had suffered. The surgery went very smoothly. Anna is resting at home and a full recovery is expected. She expressed deep appreciation for the many prayers that were offered on her behalf by the Cursillo community. She said she "could feel the prayers." Anna, know that we continue to pray for you. Anna's email: WeDeanoAnna@aol.com

September Ultreya hosts Ceferino Aguillón from Cursillo National

Our local Cursillo movement will be sponsoring an Ultreya at the Casa in Kearny on Friday, September 17 starting at 7:30 p.m. – just a few weeks from now. We will be entertaining a special visitor from Cursillo National that evening - Ceferino Aguillón, Jr. – National English Language Coordinator. Please make a special point to be with us that night to show Cef the breadth and scope of our movement. There is strength in numbers!

The good women of Our Lady of the Holy Angels, Little Falls will be facilitating this event. In case you're a newer Cursillista and haven't yet attended an Ultreya, the format runs akin to an expanded, slightly more formalized Group Reunion. We begin with prayer and a song performed "live", break up into groups for sharing, listen to a prepared Witness talk that speaks to the deliverer's spiritual journey as it relates to Cursillo, there are a few formal responses to the Witness talk and we conclude with a song and then fellowship. Our Ultreya events always wrap up by 9:30 p.m.

Lynda Hades from Holy Angels will be giving the keynote Witness. She has been working diligently on her presentation. All of the groups that take the time to put these events together deserve our time and support. Mark your calendars and please make it a point to join us that evening. Nothing beats gathering with Cursillo brothers and sisters, especially after a bit of a summer hiatus. All Cursillistas – both men and women – are invited and encouraged to attend. At the conclusion of these events, it's always the same consensus: it's worth the trip. We hope to see you there!

July Ultreya Success

Another successful Ultreya was held at the Casa in Kearny on Friday night, July 16. Even though we were in the throws of summer, a sizeable crowd was in attendance – about 40 strong.

This Ultreya was sponsored by the Men's Group Reunion of Blessed Sacrament / St. Charles Borromeo in Newark. Our local Cursillo movement thanks these men for taking the time to mount this event, and for enriching and inspiring us as we prayed, laughed and commiserated that evening.

Terry Manswell acted as the evening's facilitator, calling the gathering to order and centering us on what we're about for this evening of the "grouping of groups". We meet to help spur one another onward on our mission of seeking to know Christ better through each other and to be inspired to evangelize our environments.

After an opening prayer and some welcoming remarks by Terry, the "turning of the chairs" commenced followed by the recitation of the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Closest Moments to Christ, along with the rest of the Group Reunion exercise, were shared in groups of six.

Blessed Sacrament Group Reunion member Tom Daly delivered an exemplary and moving Witness of his Cursillo journey. Neville Evans offered his take on Tom's witness, followed by Isi Igetei's Spiritual summation. Marva Mendoza did an exemplary job leading us in song. Our usual fellowship rounded out the evening's events.

All in attendance agreed this was a particularly rewarding spiritual sharing experience. As with most things Cursillo, a Holy Spirit presence and the presence of Jesus was readily apparent.

Fr. Capadanno Parish Bids Farewell to the McBrady Family

The Cursillo community of the Fr. Capadano parish, located on the United States Coast Guard base at Ft. Wadsworth on Staten Island, recently said goodbye to a longstanding and active Cursillo family that was a big part of their community: Monica and Mike McBrady and their son and daughter.



USCG Cursillistas Monica & Mike McBrady, Maribel & Ramon Pagan, Theresa & Steve Taylor

After a six-year stint at Ft. Wadsworth, Lieutenant Commander Mike McBrady received orders to report for duty in Washington, D.C. in late August. The Fr. Capadano parish is dear to our local Cursillo movement, as many Cursillistas and their spouses from this parish community made their Weekend at the Casa in Kearny.

The Ft. Wadsworth connection to Cursillo began earlier this decade when Steve Taylor, USCG retired, but still an active Capadano member, took his wife Theresa's lead and made a Cursillo Weekend. The Taylor's are residents of Maywood in Bergen County, where they also worship at Queen of Peace parish. Wanting to share their enthusiasm for Cursillo, Steve and Theresa actively recruited others from their Staten Island parish to make Cursillo Weekends, with much success.

This military connection actually parallels how Cursillo first arrived in the United States back in the 1950's. Military personnel stationed overseas brought the movement home with them to the United States after making the 3-day Cursillo in Spain.

At right: The McBrady family accepts a recognition award from Msgr. Dorney at the conclusion of Mass

The McBrady's special farewell took place on Sunday, August 22. The McBrady family attended their usual 9:00 a.m. Mass at Fr. Capadano, and were pleasantly surprised to find a large turnout of both Coast Guard and Archdiocese of Newark Cursillistas there to offer their best wishes. The Fr. Capadano parish holds a special place in the hearts of the McBrady's. On that day, Monica was in her usual spot with the choir, Mike was a Eucharistic Minister and their children were the altar servers. Both Monica and Mike are Team and Service Team veterans in our local movement.

At the conclusion of the Mass, USCG Chaplain Lt. David Rozanek presented Mike with a special plaque. The McBrady's dear friend Msgr. James Dorney, pastor of the parish and presider at the Mass, also made a special presentation that recognized the McBrady's efforts, emphasizing they will surely be missed. Msgr. Dorney, a friend to Cursillo and a Cursillista himself, specifically thanked the Cursillo community for all they do for the parish. Both Monica and Mike took turns speaking to the parish and Cursillo communities, expressing their sadness at leaving all those they have grown to love like family, and thanking all the parish and Cursillo friends they have made in the years they have spent here for their love and support.

A farewell Social followed the Mass where all present received the chance to say goodbye to the McBrady's. Ever true to his word, we will be seeing Mike and Monica later this fall. Mike committed to being a Team member of the Men's 179th prior to receiving his orders to re-locate. Mike will make the trip up for the balance of the Team formation and serve out his talk-giving spot on the Weekend starting November 11, as scheduled. Monica will be on-hand in support of her husband at the Men's Closing taking place on November 14. We hope to see you there too!



Future Rectors Gather for Training and Fellowship

Does the idea of leading a Cursillo Weekend as a Rector sound like a big job to tackle? It does to just about anyone who has ever been asked to be a Rector. There are team selection considerations, pre-Weekend meetings to coordinate and talks to assign along with a whole host of responsibilities to ponder and details to coordinate.

Make no mistake, though. This is perhaps one of the most enriching experiences, spiritually and otherwise, that one could possibly undertake.



Kate Cheski, Annie Ventola, Gail Artola, Joanne Gebbia, Jean Kalemba

Our local Cursillo movement has a group in-place to educate and assist recently recruited Rectors, Wardens and Angels so that their Weekends conform to the standards set by our National governing body and to act as a resource to help them through the process of launching a successful Cursillo Weekend. The Rector's Training Day event acts as the first formal gathering of the core teams for upcoming Weekends. As such, it is always a joyous and celebratory occasion!

The Weekend Committee of our Secretariat recently facilitated one such training event, at Jean Kalemba's home on August 2.



Chris Sontag, Rick Buff and Ron Pepson

Joanne Gebbia, Rector of the spring, 2011 Women's Weekend, along with Rick Buff, Rector for the spring, 2011 Men's Weekend, participated in a round table discussion that detailed expectations of these Rectors and helped to answer their many questions about putting a Weekend together. Corresponding Angels and Wardens are invited to this event too, along with each Rector's Support Rector and Service Team Chief. Kate Cheski is Joanne's Angel; Jean Kalemba is her Support Rector and Gail Artola and Annie Ventola are her Service Team Co-Chiefs. Mat Glowski is Rick's Warden; Ron Pepson is his Support Rector and Chris Sontag is his Service Team Chief.

Lots of learning invariably takes place at these events. Secretariat-approved comprehensive guidelines are distributed to the Rectors several weeks prior to the meeting date so that participants arrive fully informed, with their questions at the ready.

These training seminars are just one more example of our local movement taking the time to gather for meaningful events that instruct and inform in order that the movement may be as effectively served as it possibly can.

Funny Where Going to Church Will Lead You

Jean Kalembe

Mid-August my parish, Our Lady of the Holy Angels, had a guest speaker at all weekend masses. Father Carl Chudy, Provincial Superior of the Xaverian Missionaries. I was always captivated by the work of missionaries. I remember that after our Cursillo weekends, over 33 years ago, my husband and I considered becoming lay missionaries. In fact we wrote to the Maryknolls seeking information; I cannot remember their exact response but I have a feeling that the fact that we carried with us five children, including twins less than a year old, dampened their enthusiasm of having the Kalembe's join them. But I looked forward to hearing about Father Carl's missionary adventures. As he went on with his talk I quickly realized that this was not the usual missionary discourse, but rather a call for inward reflection and appeal for understanding and peace between cultures and religions. He spoke of the current unrest between religious and political factions propagated by inflammatory media coverage. Although he never directly referred to the current conflict surrounding the Cordoba Islamic Cultural Center and Mosque to be built in NYC, that immediately came to mind. Father Carl was not taking sides, he was appealing to reason, reason based on the teachings of Christ. His call was that of Christ, love one another, not to succumb to the hysteria of the moment but to educate ourselves and act prudently and tolerantly. He ended with a suggestion that we go home and Google Christian/Muslim Dialogue.

I did and came across Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue; funny where going to church will lead you. The piece that caught my eye was "A Message for the End of Ramadan September 2009; Christians and Muslims: Together in Overcoming Poverty, written to Muslims by the Pontifical Council's president Jean-Louis Cardinal Turuan. It acknowledges that poverty is a global interreligious issue and must be addressed together by people of all religions. "3...We all know that poverty has the power to humiliate and to engender intolerable sufferings; it

is often a source of isolation, anger, even hatred and the desire for revenge. It can provoke hostile actions using any available means, even seeking to justify them on religious grounds, or seizing another man's wealth, together with his peace and security, in the name of an alleged "divine justice". This is why confronting the phenomena of extremism and violence necessarily implies tackling poverty through the promotion of integral human development that Pope Paul VI defined as the "new name for peace..."

Then I remembered reading an article in the National Catholic Reporter (July 29, 2010) by Benedictine Sister Joan Chittister entitled About that Other Shoe. Back to Google I went and brought it up. The article recalls a conflict that has similarities to the current one related to the proposed mosque. Sister Chittister recalls that in 1984 a group of Catholic nuns and bishops were determined to build a Carmelite convent on the grounds of the Auschwitz death camp; grounds Jews consider sacred because they are the burial grounds of their dead killed at the hands of Christians.

A major conflict grew. Jews looked on it as a sacrilege for Catholics to build on the burial ground of their loved ones. Catholics could not understand how they could be so misunderstood. They felt they were hallowing the ground by placing a cloistered community there to pray for those who died there.

The conflict took years to resolve and in the end the Catholics, led by the Pope, moved the location of the convent to a less provocative site and opened up an educational center devoted to peace and unity between Christians and Jews. Sister Chittister reminds us now the shoe is on the other foot. She, as Father Carl, does not take sides but suggests that there has to be another way to deal with the sensitivity of both sides. There needs to be a way to peace and healing or fear and mistrust will prevail. Funny where going to church will lead you. Follow the "new name for peace".

De Colores – really De Colores, all the colors.

- Jean Kalembe -

Let those who have ears hear!

How can I serve God and my community?
How can I best put my talents to work?

Such questions are at the heart of the Cursillo mission – and, indeed, many Group Reunion discussions. Certainly, many of us struggle for years to find the right answers.

At their parish in Park Ridge, Barbara and Gordon Roehrer found an answer by looking no farther than their own hearts. Barbara and Gordon are music lovers – and that’s an understatement.

Their love goes far beyond just listening to CDs or attending concerts. For years, Barbara has worked as a manager and booking agent for a number of talented local musicians, often spending her free time in small clubs to discover up-and-coming performers. For his part, Gordon is well-known in the Cursillo movement as a music minister and rector. But beyond Cursillo, he is also an accomplished – and much sought-after – bass player for a number of area singer-songwriters when they take the stage or go into a recording studio.

Five years ago, Barbara and Gordon started a concert series at their church, Our Lady of Mercy. They wanted to present accomplished performers who would entertain people on a Saturday night at a modest price. But they also wanted to raise money for a Haitian parish that OLM had long supported with money and volunteers.



Rex Fowler of Aztec Two-Step with Gordon Roehrer

What evolved is one of the most professional and respected music clubs in Bergen County – a club that splits its proceeds between the musicians and a fund for children’s scholarships at St. Vincent’s parish school in Vallieres, Haiti. Such artists as Rex Fowler (of Aztec 2 Step), Jen Chapin, Sloan Wainwright, Terence Martin and Red Molly have performed. Even the popular Cursillo music minister Joe McKay has taken the stage as an opening act.

This fall, the Acoustic Café lineup includes The Kennedys, Buskin and Batteau and Freedy Johnson. “I see the café as a way to bring exceptional performers to the community in a listening room environment,” said Barbara.

“The first rollo I ever gave – after numerous stints as music minister – was ‘Environments’,” wrote Gordon in an email. He added that the café has become a “wonderful ‘environmental’ cross-section of performers, parish volunteers, and listeners of all backgrounds – all subject to a ‘Good’ vibe.”

For more information on upcoming concerts at the Acoustic Café, check this website: www.cafeacoustic.org.

At left: Cursillistas Joanne Rinkus, Deidre Goebbel, Teri Carr, and Mary Lyne at a recent Acoustic Cafe show

God is in the Details

Pat Carr

Ever hear the expression God is in the details? This is a story about how I found God, in a small way, while painting our dining room over the summer.

I had just spent a long day, probably about ten straight hours, painting the room's ceiling and walls and priming the trim. I had finally gotten up to the point in my project where I was in the home stretch, applying a coat of gleaming white semi-gloss to the woodwork.

I have no problem working late. It was a little past midnight on a hot summer Saturday night. The room was brightly lit. The screen door wasn't letting in anything that even slightly resembled a breeze. Apparently, though, in my comings and goings through the door, other things were flying into the room unbeknownst to me. Things of a miniscule nature. The random moth and mosquito, for instance.

I was holding a container of paint, applying the white, wet stuff with a new 2" brush I had splurged on. Actually it was a plastic container that had a great ergonomically designed handle built into it. As a matter of fact, in a prior life the container had held Domino Sugar. For some reason I was in kind of a good mood, considering I was into the eleventh hour of a pretty grueling day.

So there I was, slapping the paint on, when I looked down into my yellow container, and was surprised to find a ladybug swimming around, not a snowball's chance of surviving what the little critter had gotten itself into. I thought to myself, "what is a ladybug doing swimming around in my paint?" Of course its colors of orange with black spots were beautiful juxtaposed against the sparkling white paint. It made me think of a time more than thirty years ago when I was painting the outside of my brother-in-law's house one summer, when I had to fend off the wasps and hornets while high up on a ladder. I would talk to them or sing to them and they would keep their distance.

I continued to dip my brush in the paint and apply

it to the woodwork. Every time I looked down to get more paint, the ladybug was slipping further and further away into the sea of white surrounding it. I had reached a critical juncture: would I break my momentum and rescue the critter, or let it slip quietly away to the bottom of my paint container? I think you know the answer. Anyone who talks to hornets is likely to rescue a ladybug in distress.

I went over to the sink just in time to save the poor thing completely covered in white goo. I fished it out, rinsed it off as best I could and brought it over to the screen door. I thought of the movie "Born Free" as I set the poor thing loose outside. I swear it seemed reluctant to leave my company.

In this "at one with nature" event I had experienced a Closest Moment to Christ. I was glad to have made the decision to save the poor thing. It made me think of the concept that the large are supposed to protect the small and that the strong watch out for the weak. That all of us are at some time vulnerable and that all forms of life have their "miracle" aspects. I then thought to myself, "I guess now I've done my good deed for the day." At which point I promptly cleaned up and went to bed. And slept well.

So yes, God is in the details. We paint our lives in a whole series of small strokes and seemingly insignificant moments more than anything else. News stories or testimonials may cover the big milestones, but life is generally about everything that happens in between the marquee events. It's funny how and when God decides to touch us. Say a prayer that we recognize and learn from these little moments.

As for my ladybug friend? I got up the next morning thinking about how it might have made out. Believe it or not, I went over to the screen door and found the ladybug clinging to the outside. While I was compelled to look hard for any trace of white paint, I couldn't find any. Then it flew away. Maybe it was a different ladybug. Or maybe besides being a pretty good painter, I give a mean bug bath.

- Pat Carr -



Strut your stuff down to the
Annual Cursillo Fundraiser

Friday, October 1st

Come join us for the Annual Fall Social and Fundraiser! Catch up with Cursillo friends you made when you were a candidate, and help our Cursillo pay some bills, too. We hope to see you and lots of Cursillo friends at this "strictly for fun" fundraiser event.

- **Buffet Dining — Great Food!**
- **BYOB (set-ups provided)**
- **Dancing after Dining with a DJ**
- **Cost is \$35 per person**
- **Payable in advance; no tickets sold at door**

If you're unable to attend, please mail your donation so that we can continue to offer the worthwhile programs you've become accustomed to experiencing. Thanks in advance for your support!

*Friday, October 1, 2010 7:00 p.m.
St. Anastasia Church, Redman Center
1095 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, NJ*

**REMEMBER TO RETURN THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT BY SEPT 24, 2010
TO JOANNE RINKUS, 37 TERRACE AVENUE, ROCHELLE PARK, NJ 07662:**

NAME _____

PHONE _____

TICKETS _____ **@ \$35 -** _____ **ENCLOSED.**

Please make check payable to Cursillo Movement.

Any questions, call Joanne Rinkus @ 201-587-1631 or e-mail jtr223@optonline.net