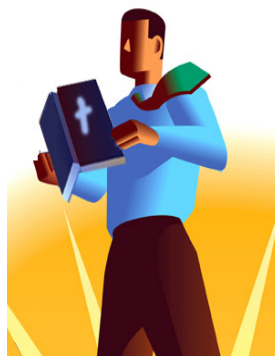


Mobile Rooster



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"Something Worth Crowing About"



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Brothers and Sisters,

I hope that your Lenten journeys are filled with health. I offer prayers for all during this time. Please offer this time of quarantine as part of your palanca for the Movement and for future candidates, team and the upcoming weekends. Our Cursillo year has started out with two successful weekends as evidenced by the joy-filled faces of the new Cursillistas! Both the men's and women's weekends incorporated parts of the Step-by-Step Guide with success.

Part of our transition moving us closer to the Step-by-Step Guide is to implement the Way of the Cross meditation on Thursday night. The Rosary was prayed on Friday right after the Piety talk. Preceding the discussion on the Piety rollo, all visited the Blessed Sacrament. A second Rosary was prayed on Saturday evening. These actions are moving us closer to the psychology and theology Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló intended for the weekends.

During this transition to the Step-by-Step Guide, the Mobile Cursillo community is using the latest edition of The Cursillo Movement's *Cursillo Manual, Third Edition* to prepare for the weekends. Part of this manual has a closing that is different from what our 4th Day Community in recent years has witnessed - including a 4th Day Witness and Adoration. The presentation of the crucifixes, service sheets and the Apostolic Commitment were witnessed by all.

Currently, Mobile Cursillo is in flux as we move closer to the original charism for the weekend by removing some of the well-intentioned ornaments that have been added over time. Right now, teams will use The Cursillo Movement's *Cursillo Manual, Third Edition* as it is outlined, as well as approved sections of the Step-by-Step Guide as led by the Secretariat. We welcome any thoughts during this time of growth.

Please remember what the rector(a) tells the new Cursillistas on the first evening, "I ask you not to prejudge this Weekend. Try not to interpret the whole picture until it's finished." The Fall Weekends will introduce even more concepts from the Step-by-Step Guide for the weekend. This metamorphosis will take a minimum of two years to be fully implemented. Please help us to let it flow and build with each weekend until it is fully implemented, i.e. "let it bloom as we plant it..." or "let the chrysalis become a beautiful butterfly."

Workshops have and will continue to be offered on the Step-by-Step Guide to provide a better understanding of the "Why" of the transition. Moreover, future teams will be asked to attend as a team a workshop prior to the weekend so all will be familiar with the Step-by-Step Guide.

God Bless,
Rob Wilburn
Lay Director



A Word From

Deacon Joe Mueller

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

There's always something to complain about. Some call it just venting! However, in our world today, how can we not get frustrated with the constant bombardment of problems affecting almost all aspects of our society. There's the partisan politics of Washington. An endless crisis of homelessness. An endless crisis at the borders. Then you have the threat of war that always seems to be imminent. Even the Church is under attack and in crisis mode.

Here's a reflection to think on:

A university student who was having a hard time getting his act together decided to take his frustrations out on God. He went into the university chapel, sat in a pew, looked heavenward and said, "All we have on this earth are problems and a bunch of dummies who will never figure out how to solve them. Even I could make a better world than this one." And somewhere deep inside him the student heard God's answer: "That's what you're supposed to do."

(Stories for All Seasons)

Scheduled Cursillo Weekends

Cursillos are generally scheduled for a Men's Weekend and a Women's Weekend each fall at the Visitation Monastery in Mobile, and a Men's Weekend and Women's Weekend each spring at the Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat in Holy Trinity (Fort Mitchell). We currently have the following weekends scheduled:

Fall Weekends 2020

Men's Weekend #146: Sept 17 – 20,

Visitation Monastery, Mobile

Rector: Sam Hoover

Women's Weekend #147: Oct 8 – 11,

Visitation Monastery, Mobile

Rectora: Marie DeLong

Fall Cursillos teams now in discernment

The teams for the fall Cursillos are now in the discernment process and will be finalized soon. To be considered for the teams, you must have a Team Application for the fall Cursillos on file even if you filled out a team application for the spring Cursillos. This gives the rector and rectora a current list of potential team members with current contact information. Completing a team application is not a commitment; the commitment is when you are invited and agree to serve on the team.

The team application only takes a couple of minutes to complete and is located here:

<https://form.jotform.us/70728335258158>



Knights' plea inspired by Pope Francis

Following the example of Pope Francis, we are urged to pray a Novena for Protection in Time of Pandemic during this difficult moment for our country and our world.

At important moments in the past, the Knights of Columbus have urged all Catholics to unify in prayer. We did this at the outset of World War II, after 9/11, and during papal conclaves and civic elections. Today, the world faces a pandemic illness for the first time in a century. Having lost our founder, the Venerable Servant of God Father Michael McGivney, to a viral pandemic 130 years ago, we know such situations can be very serious.

We also know that prayer is an important expression of our trust in God and our relationship with him. As Archbishop William E. Lori noted in his video message for this novena: Our response to the pandemic draws on our respect as Catholics for both faith and reason. Reason dictates that we should take the health precautions recommended by medical professionals and by science.

"At the same time," the archbishop tells us, "our faith makes clear that God is our all-powerful creator and that God is more powerful than any natural force, illness or economic setback. As people of faith, let us pray — together with our families whenever possible and appropriate — joining our prayers with those of the Holy Father, the supreme chaplain and people around the world. *This special novena will begin on Sunday, March 15, and conclude on Monday, March 23.*

(The Columbia magazine)

What is palanca?

What is a palanca letter? A palanca letter is one that is sent to the candidates and team, informing them of the prayers and sacrifices that you are offering to God on their behalf. A letter may be sent explaining what type of palanca is being offered, but the letter is NOT the palanca. The actual palanca is the action — intercessory prayer, sacrifice, or works of mercy — and it can be done without writing a letter.

Hello!

To Montgomery Ultreya:

Thank you, everyone, for your support of the recent men's and women's weekends at Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat. Having served on the women's team, I can definitely say it was a blessing for everyone involved. Your palanca was felt!

Now that we are back (home) I would like to invite everyone to the next Ultreya where we can really welcome the new Cursillistas from both weekends. I will send more on that later but the date is Monday, April 6. ere we can really welcome the new Cursillistas from both weekends. I will send more on that later but the date is Monday, April 6.

A recent flyer from BTSR announces work dates for the planting of the grotto area. The benches that were donated are almost ready for installation but the grotto has to be made ready. That's where we all come in! If you can give a Saturday, either April 4 or April 25, to give back to this beautiful place, I know our Mother would be pleased!

I am hoping to go on April 25. If you are planning to go, please email or post on FB so we can let others know. Maybe we can send a caravan from Montgomery down to the sisters!

Thank you in advance for your generosity of spirit. They are counting on all of us. Remember, the only hands and feet Jesus has are ours!

De Colores,
Evelyn Pope

If you have any questions about the work days at BTSR, please let me know!

Elisabeth Donner

Executive Director

Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat Center





New Cursillistas.

Jan Darby - St. Bede
 Mary Florian - St. Bede
 Martha James - Blessed Francis Xavier
 Masha Kloberg - St. Michael
 Ann Medlock - Sacred Heart
 Beth Pierce - St. Ignatus
 Bobboe Profozich - St. Michael
 Meredith Purser - Bl Francis Xavier Seelos
 Josie Ruegemer - St. Patrick, PC
 Melinda Seiter - St. Ignatius
 Virginia Koch - St. Michael
 Matthew Balsley - St. Patrick, PC
 Dave Berault - St. Dominic
 Kevin Blackburn - Holy Spirit
 Scott Godwin - St. Bede
 Jim Hartigan - Christ the King
 William Harvard - St. Patrick, PC
 Richard Koerner - St. Peter
 Michael Purser - Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos
 Deacon John Quillen - St. Anne, Columbus
 Dan Rendon - Holy Spirit
 Nishi Uppal - St. Anne, Columbus
 Gerry Wiczorek - St. Anne, Columbus
 Fr. Manny Vasconcelos - St. Anne – Columbus
 Phillip Simpao - St. Anne, Columbus
 Don Vestal - St. Joseph, Ft. Mitchell
 John Koch - St. Michael
 J.C. Cunningham - St. Columba
 Letitia Gordilla - St. Columba
 Ellen Thomas - St. Columba
 Kayla Thomas - St. Columba



ULTREYAS

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- Leaders: Jackie Simmonds (251) 379-6799,

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and Anne Henley (251) 379-1383 jrhanley@bellsouth.net

Phenix City/Columbus

- Leader: Sam Hoover (334) 614-0065
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South Baldwin

- Leader: Diane Perdue (251) 504-8904
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Brothers and Sisters,

Ultreyas, School of Leaders and Group Reunion are suspended/discontinued until April 6, 2020, at which time the situation will be reassessed. The only exception to this if you are grouping using Skype or a similar format on the computer. Please keep all those who are involved in this situation in our prayers God Bless,
 Rob Wilburn

Meet your Secretariat



Peg Gawne-Mark

Peg Gawne-Mark moved to Dothan, AL, in 2014 after retiring as a hospital chaplain for mental health and rehabilitation units of Essentia Health Miller-Dwan Hospital in Duluth, Minnesota.

Peg made her Cursillo in the Diocese of Marquette, Michigan Sept. 22-25, 1983 and sat at St. Elizabeth's table. Since making the weekend she has been active in Cursillo in the Dioceses of Winona, Minnesota, and Duluth, Minnesota.

She has served on Three Day teams and also the Secretariat in each diocese, and Rectora of the 100th Women's Cursillo in the Diocese of Marquette. She is married to Cliff Gawne-Mark. They live with their son Sean and his wife Rebecca, and grandchildren Connor, 14, and Caitlin, 12. In June she began serving as the Post Cursillo South for the Secretariat of the Archdiocese of Mobile Cursillo.

Holy Humor





*Something Worth
Crowing About*

The olden days of the Cursillo

I have been hearing a lot lately about the Cursillo going back to the old days. The National Secretariat and our local Secretariat seems to be moving in that direction. I made my weekend in 1968 in Chicago, the third city in the U.S. to put on a weekend. From what I remember, Cursillo started in the U.S. in Texas, then moved to New York, then to Chicago. I made the third weekend in Chicago, so when today's leaders talk about the old days, I lived those old days! Some of the things we're doing today, such as Leaders School, didn't exist until several years later. And as for team selection, here's the way it worked:

The Team Selection Committee invited you to be on the team, first in a service area. You had to work Kitchen, Palanca, and Chapel, then you were ready to work in the conference room as a silent auxiliary. After that you were asked to give your first talk. After you had given at least three of the talks, you could be considered to be an assistant rector. And then you were qualified to be a Rector. This was how you learned the trade! Teams were not picked by the rector they were selected by the Secretariat's Team Selection Committee and handed to the Rector or Rectora. He or she was allowed to choose the assistant. The Secretariat kept track of team members and what positions they held.

Leaders School was held during the team formation--six meetings, three to four hours each-- to form the team. A half hour of each team meeting was devoted to the history and purpose of the Cursillo weekend. In those days palanca was a very important part of the weekend. It was described as a fulcrum or a wedge to open the candidates hearts. There were no teddy bears, xeroxed letters or form letters. From what I hear,

all you have to do now to be rector is to attend Leaders School. For those of you who don't know the history of the movement and why it was started, here's a brief review: In Spain the men were leaving the church and in order to get them involved again, this program was formed. Since the women were holding up their part of the family's faith life, the Cursillo was designed for the men to go first!

When Leaders School was started here in Mobile, I was told that if I was not attending Leaders School I couldn't work on a weekend team. Then I was told I could work on a team, but couldn't be in the conference room, no matter how much experience I had. My "resume" is rather lengthy, and I only mention it to make a point on the need for leadership and experience in the Cursillo. Over the years I have worked on every facet of the Cursillo weekend, given every talk, and was Rector three times. I was active in three different diocesan Cursillos--Chicago IL, Rockford IL, and Mobile AL. I was on the Chicago Secretariat in Chicago, Lay Director for two terms in Rockford, and was on the Mobile Secretariat. I have also worked on the Ecumenical Cursillo in Chicago and was an assistant Rector who helped put a team together that took the Catholic Cursillo to Northern Ireland during the time of "the Troubles" in that country. (Interesting note: Because of that weekend, the #2 man in the IRA sat in on the peace talks and the war was ended.)

In spite of that experience, I didn't have enough for Mobile. At least that's what I was told. Anyway, that was the good old days for me. If you see any similarities let me know.

Sam Genovese

**This is a new feature, an opportunity for Mobile Diocese
Cursillistas to have a voice in the movement.
Please email your articles to sam.genovese455@yahoo.com
and we will publish them each month.**