# Novice December 2020

"Something Worth Crowing About"



Published by The Cursillo Movement of Mobile

Editor Bobbie Genovese

Graphic Design Sam Genovese

*Send articles or information to:* 

Sam Genovese

sam.genovese455@yahoo.com

or phone 334-792-1656



I think the following is a good reminder of how as Catholic, Christian Cursillistas we are to lead. Matthew Kelly's podcast The Better You Follow, The Better You Lead is a wonderful reflection for Advent and all year long. May you 'Let your Soul Shine' and have a blessed Advent, Holy Christmas and Happy New Year. My condensed transcript of the podcast follows.

De Colores, Theresa Gorman

We hear a lot about leadership in our world today. And there's also of talk about everyone's a leader and this is certainly true in many respects. We all play roles as leaders. We play roles as leaders as parents. We play roles as leaders in our relationships with friends and socially. We play roles as leaders in our workplace Even if we don't have formal leadership roles, we have influence through our words, through our actions, and through our attitudes. We all certainly play leadership roles. And there's a lot of emphasis on that in our world today. But what does it take to be a leader... what does it take to be a great leader?

The first thing that occurs to me, the thing that we almost never talk about, is that in order to be a really good leader, you have to be a good follower. You have to know what it takes to follow in order to be a good leader. ... Are we good followers? Do we think about being followers? We don't talk that much about it; but there is an art to being a good follower. At the core of that I think is the art of listening. We talk a lot about obedience. Leaders. Followers. Obedience. The Latin word for obedience, the root of that word, is 'to listen deeply.' What does it mean to be obedient? It means to listen deeply.

\*\*Continued on page 4\*\*



# A Word From Deacon Joe Mueller

# WORK, PLAY, LOVE AND WORSHIP:

The Mayo Clinic announced a sure cure for getting rid of that tired feeling. Tests revealed that people are chronically tired because they live unbalanced lives. And so they took Dr. Richard Clark Cabot's famous formula for life - WORK, PLAY, LOVE and WORSHIP. These are the ultimates of life that must be held in proper balance - work, play, love and worship. The Mayo Clinic made them a symbol, four arms of equal length. They said that whenever one or more of those arms becomes a stub, then

the result is unhappiness, and unhappiness is usually the forerunner of fatigue. Thus, a business man's arm may be long on work but short on play and worship. A debutante's arm may be long on play and short on work. A spinster may be long on work and worship and short on play and love. The old saying that "all work and no play make Jack a dull boy" is psychologically sound. And so, all work and no worship leads to chronic fatigue. It's a simple, psychological and physical fact.

### **CURSILLO MAILING LIST**

This is a reminder, sent out once a month, about your mobilecursillo.org mailing list membership. It includes your subscription info and how to change it or unsubscribe from a list.

You can visit the URLs to change your membership status or configuration, including unsubscribing, setting digest-style delivery or disabling delivery altogether (e.g., for a vacation), and so on.

In addition to the URL interfaces, you can also use email to make such changes. For more info, send a message to the '-request' address of the list (for example, cursillistas-request@mobilecursillo.org)containing just the word 'help' in the message body, and an email message will be sent to you with instructions. If you have questions, problems, comments, etc, send them to cursillistas-owner@mobilecursillo.org. Thanks!

Fall Weekends 2020

ALL WEEKENDS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL THE VIRUS IS CANCELLED

### **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 no weekends scheduled.

# **Meet your Secretariat**



### **Bob Wheat**

Post Cursillo South

We would like to have been able to introduce you to Bob Wheat, but once again his information never arrived

### This hit me...

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you. You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them. You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around. You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk. So don't wait to be kind. Don't wait for someone else to be kind first. Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change. Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it.

- Nikki Banas



## **ULTREYAS**

### Auburn/ Opelika

 Leader: Celeste Boydston (205) 821-1024 auburnopelikaultreya@gmail

### Baldwin

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

### Dothan

Leaders: Bobbie and Sam Genovese (334) 792-1656
 Sam.genovese455@yahoo.com

### **Mobile**

 Leader: Jorge and Sarah Bedia (251) 454-3176 swmbo6@gmail.com

### Montgomery

 Leader: Evelyn Pope (334) 233-1657 montgomerycursillo@gmail.com

### North Baldwin

• Leaders: Ann McAdams (251) 580-2389 sdcale@gmail.com and Anne Henley (251) 379-1383 jrhanley@bellsouth.net

### Phenix City/Columbus

 Leader: Sam Hoover (334) 614-0065 samdhoover@yahoo.com

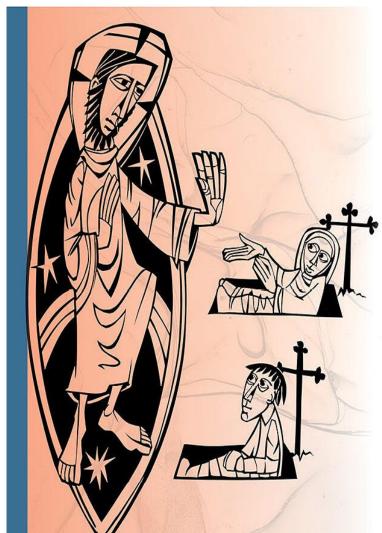
### South Baldwin

 Leader: Diane Perdue (251) 504-8904 d.c.perdue@gmail

Ultreyas, School of Leaders and Group Reunion are postponed
Ultreyas, School of Leaders and Group Reunion are postponed
until the Covid 19 situation can be reassessed. The only excepuntil the Covid 19 situation can be reassessed. The only excepuntil the Covid 19 situation to this if you are grouping using Skype or a similar format
tion 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



# Go Forth, Christian Soul



Go forth, Christian soul, from this world in the name of God the almighty Father, who created you, in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, who suffered for you, in the name of the Holy Spirit, who was poured out upon you, go forth, faithful Christian.

May you live in peace this day, may your home be with God in Zion, with Mary, the virgin Mother of God, with Joseph, and all the angels and saints. . . .

May you return to your Creator who formed you from the dust of the earth.

May holy Mary, the angels, and all the saints come to meet you as you go forth from this life. . . .

May you see your Redeemer face to face.

### Continued from page 1

And so, I think, today we are being called to renew our following of Jesus. To ask ourselves, 'Am I following Jesus?' And if not Jesus, who or what am I following? And how is that working out for me? Because there are times that we wander off, right? We wander off. ... I do that in my relationship with God. I suspect you do too from time to time. But we just sort of wander off – it isn't even intentional that's the scary bit... it's unconscious...and we look around and say where am I? Where's God? Where's Jesus? Because we've wandered away. Today's invitation is an invitation to follow. To renew our commitment to following Jesus. What does it take to be a great follower? To realize that to be a great follower we must listen deeply to the voice of God in our lives. And to ask ourselves what is God saying to you today. He's talking to us all the time. He has new messages everyday. The question is not 'Is God speaking'? The question is 'Are we listening'."



# HE IS COMING. ARE WE READY?

One of the talks during the Cursillo weekend is about the way in which we INFLUENCE our ENVI-RONMENTS. First, we need to see what environments we have in our lives....work, neighborhood, parish, various clubs or groups to which we belong. Then we need to discern what we could possibly do to help those environments to recognize Jesus and become closer friends with Him. As easy as that might sound, we both know that this is such a critical part of our effort to change or influence our environment. This discernment stage involves reflection, prayer, and even consultation perhaps. This could be something we bring to our Group Reunion and discuss. The card that we use as our guide for discussion during our Group Reunion asks us what we have done in the past week to help the Lord; it further challenges us to see if we have failed to adequately serve/help the Lord. I cannot speak for you, but I have found in my own experience that the best way to mess something up is to plow ahead without very much consultation or reflection. The temptation to ACT tends to be stronger than the need to THINK through a situation.

The Old Testament reading for the 1st Sunday of Advent gives us a lot of material to use in reflecting on what needs to be done in our environments – starting with our own environment in our lives/homes. Isaiah says that people have hardened their hearts, have wandered away from the Lord, and do not call on His name. He says that we have withered like leaves and our guilt carries us away like the wind! He concludes with an exhortation: "....we are the clay and you are the potter: we are the work of your hands." WOW – the discussion on just those phrases from the reading could easily fill an entire Group Reunion chat on what we face today in our lives. Do we see examples of this in the environments in which we live?

- •In this Advent season, would there be an opportunity to simply remind people of the true meaning of Christmas, especially with the heavy emphasis on consumerism and the total abandonment of JESUS in any current "Christmas" TV programming? And if so, how do we go about this?
- •How do we personally keep Christ in Christmas by what we DO AND SAY in our family life or have we caved in to the current mentality, gone crazy with Black Friday shopping and already have our Christmas tree/decorations all up?
- •What spiritual practices have we put into place in our own homes which lead the family to observe ADVENT as a time to ANTICIPATE the coming of a Savior? For example, do we use the Advent wreath in our own homes to show the passage of time in preparation for the birth of our Savior? Or an Advent Calendar???
- •Have we and our family made plans to receive the Sacrament of Penance which is being offered during ADVENT in our parish? What Mass or Masses do we plan to attend on Christmas? Do we have a liturgical ministry to fulfill?
- •Who really needs New Year's Resolutions when we are being faithful to the challenges of Group Reunion and reforming our lives on a constant basis?

I want to take this opportunity to wish all Cursillistas and their families a truly MERRY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS. And a MOST HOLY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021.

Give someone the ultimate gift – the chance to become a CANDIDATE for a Cursillo Weekend of their own in 2021. Don't just ask – SHOW THEM WHAT IT HAS DONE TO YOUR LIFE!

De Colores, Sam