

# Mobile Rooster



Jan. 2021

"Something Worth Crowing About"

## New road for the New Year?

If one of your New Year's resolutions is to find a new road to get closer to God and your faith, a Cursillo weekend might be just the ticket. You've likely heard of it through friends and/or fellow parishioners, but may not have gotten a clear picture of what it's all about.

Deacon Rick Risher from St. Columba Parish in Dothan has been Spiritual Director for Mobile Cursillo for 5 years, and he offers a succinct explanation: "The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ dwells in me, that I may share him with others."

Personally, I would say of my three-day retreat, "My Cursillo experience has changed my faith journey, life and my family. It opened my eyes to the wonder and beauty God places in my life." Cursillo started in 1944 in Majorca Spain, as a "small course" (the literal English translation of the word). It involves a three-day retreat meant to empower Catholics by strengthening their faith and giving them the tools and encouragement to live their faith in their daily lives. In 1957, the Cursillo movement came to the United States, and by 1961 Cursillo served both Spanish and English communities with weekends held across the country.

More than 4,000 people have gone through the Cursillo experience since it was established in the Mobile Archdiocese in 1981. Participants come from all walks of life and live together in Christian community for three days. Then, they are sent to live their 4th day in the greater community around them: home-- parish, work, any part of their movable square meter.

**"INSTEAD OF BEING JUST A CHURCH THAT WELCOMES AND RECEIVES BY KEEPING THE DOORS OPEN, LET US TRY ALSO TO BE A CHURCH THAT FINDS NEW ROADS, THAT IS ABLE TO STEP OUTSIDE ITSELF AND GO TO THOSE WHO DO NOT ATTEND MASS, TO THOSE WHO HAVE QUIT OR ARE INDIFFERENT."**  
—POPE FRANCIS

This is not to say that after a weekend a new Cursillista ends up on a street corner with a sign proclaiming "Jesus Saves." Quite the contrary. The purpose of Cursillo is to develop the 'spiritual muscles' to continue with your life as it is, but with a new Christ-centered focus and purpose. Many dioceses across the country have active Cursillo programs. The Diocese of Mobile usually held 4 weekends each year prior to the COVID pandemic and look forward to beginning anew in the fall of 2021!

Making a Cursillo weekend is a once-in-a-lifetime answer to the call of the Holy Spirit. However, a larger group of Cursillistas—those who have already made their weekend—plan and staff retreats. It takes many people to coordinate a weekend. The sponsors, those on team, the praying community, and the candidates are all integral parts. Attendees are asked to leave their problems and worries at home to focus on the message of the weekend. One great thing about Cursillo is that once you've lived it, you can come back as a volunteer any time and find it familiar, yet still learn something new. Cursillo, like our Catholic faith, must be lived to help us grow; and in doing so, help our Church be a light to the world. Adapted from <https://ocatholic.com/a-cursillo-weekend-is-one-of-those-experiences-that-changes-everything/>

--Theresa Gorman, Lay Director



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## **A Word From Deacon Joe Mueller**

### THE GUIDE SHOULD KNOW HIS OWN WAY

A short story is told about Bishop Fulton Sheen on a visit to a particular city he had never been to before.

Coming out of the station, he approached a small boy and asked him the way to the City Hall. The boy offered to walk with him and show him the way. As they walked along, the young boy started to question the then Father Sheen.

"What's your name?"

"Father Sheen."

"And why are you going to City Hall?"

"I'm going to talk to a lot of people there."

"Well, what are you going to talk about?"

"Oh, I'm going to tell them how to get to heaven."  
"Geez," was the reply, "Why you don't even know the way to the City Hall."

How many times have we asked God for directions? What were the times we sat in prayer and asked God to "show me the way, guide me on the right path." So often God will hear our plea for direction. He will give us the directions, the path to follow. But we decide not to follow. We want to take a shortcut. We think we know a better way. Maybe we just want to take the easy and fastest way.

*There are new paths to blaze in the New Year. Will the paths we take this year lead us to our Lord Jesus Christ?*

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#### **CURSILLO MAILING LIST**

*This is a reminder, sent out once a month, about your [mobilecursillo.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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.*



Every Monday morning when I open my computer, one of the first things I look for is my email from Jeff Gorman. I don't know how many years Jeff has been doing this but it's quite a few and I don't know how many lives he brightens with his Monday Morning Quotes. But I know I'm one of them. If you'd like to be part of this, email Jeff and I'm sure he'll put you on his list. -Sam Genovese

**Jeff Gorman** <jeff.gorman@sonoco.co

Mon, Jan 4 at 11:50 AM

Happy New Year. Some nuggets from previous quotes I have sent to start the year. Sometimes it is not the quote as much as who said it that makes it so powerful and inspirational.

*"Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties."* - Helen Keller

And then there are these 2 guys who are on my favorite list for sure:

*"You're never wrong to do the right thing."* - Mark Twain

*"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every New year find you a better person."* - Benjamin Franklin

But my last quote to get us started this year comes from someone that is not on a fab 5 list....she stands alone (well, she stands now with other saints).

*"There are no great things, only small things with great love. But those small things done with great love become the source of great joy. I don't do great things. I do small things with great love."*

--Saint Mother Teresa

Have a great week.



## 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 until the Covid 19 situation can 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



**Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat**  
*Peace in the Pines*

## Happy New Year from all of the sisters and staff at Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat!

Thank you for all of your support and prayers through 2020! We are looking forward to sharing God's love in the coming year!

### **SCHEDULE A RETREAT**

Looking for a private retreat opportunity? We have two hermitages available for private, no-contact retreats. Contact us to schedule your next retreat. Phone: 334-855-4474 Email: [btsr@msbt.org](mailto:btsr@msbt.org)

**BTSR and the MSBTs are offering online retreats in the coming months**

#### **Sponsored by Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat**

- *Women's Retreat with Sue DeFereri. January 22-24*
- *Marriage - An Intimate Partnership of Life and Love with Jane and Fred Springer. January 29-30*
- *"Fratelli Tutti" - "Sisters and Brothers all" - Pope Francis' Revolutionary Vision for a World Made New with Fr. Dennis Berry, ST. February 19-20*
- *Lenten Morning of Prayer with Sr. Terry Bretthauer, MSBT. March 3*
- *Desert Day of Prayer with Sr. Nancy Walsh, MSBT. March 31*

Contact Sr. Gail Lambert, MSBT, sponsored retreat coordinator, for more information and to register. You may also register online!

#### **Sponsored by the MSBT Vocation Office**

- *Coffee with the Sisters. January 13th from 7:30 - 8:30PM EST*
- *Rise Up & Journey with Jesus, a discernment retreat. January 29-30*

Email [voc@msbt.org](mailto:voc@msbt.org) for Zoom links and to register.

### **PURCHASE GIFT SHOP ITEMS**

Check out our website for a selection of some of the items available.

Contact Sr. Mary Anne, MSBT, for more information and to place your order.

Phone: 334-855-4474 Email: [btsr@msbt.org](mailto:btsr@msbt.org)

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Do you enjoy being outside? Do you like to garden? Do you consider yourself handy? Please contact Elisabeth for more information about gardening, weeding, putting together benches, sealing wood, cutting wood seats from fallen trees, walking the property line to refresh painted markers, fixing a large wood sign, and more.

Phone: 334-947-9557 Email: [btsr@msbt.org](mailto:btsr@msbt.org)

### **THE POWER OF PRAYER**

We continue to pray for all of you and your families. Please keep the MSBTs and the sisters and staff at Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat in your prayers as well.





*Something Worth  
Crowing About*

## THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

"Remember, keep holy the Lord's day." Many people have trouble with this commandment. As someone just told me, he wishes that he did not have two Saturdays each week. He told me his point was that sometimes he can't tell a difference between what he does on Saturday and what he does on Sunday. Is this the case with you? Some people spend time puttering around the house on Sunday, mowing the grass or making repairs to the house. A lot of us have trouble with keeping the Lord's day holy because we make ourselves busy!!

Before we made our Cursillo, many of us couldn't find time to make the weekend-- some took years to get to their Cursillo. We've all invited candidates who put it off, and put it off, and put it off, because they were just too busy.

I wonder if this also happens after a person has made the Cursillo weekend. The good spirit, the joy, the great feeling of God's presence is with them for a short time, and then seems to peter out. They start getting busy with things they "must" do on week-ends. Eventually they can't even find time to go to Mass. What was once a great source of prayer and inspiration becomes another day to work.



Maybe we who are still active in Cursillo need to set the example. Are you willing to take the Sundays of this new year and give them back to God? Are you willing to let the Sundays of this year belong to the Lord? Will you spend time with God this and every Sunday? Will you spend time with your family at Mass? Will you spend time to strengthen your faith and renew your self. Will you allow yourself the time so God can re-create you?

In this COVID era, that may mean gathering around your computer or TV to stream your parish Mass. It's not ideal, and it's certainly not like attending in person. But it sends a message that Sunday is not just like every other day. Mass is important enough to stop what we're doing and take time for God

So let's set the example. Let's make a promise to ourselves and to God: this year the Lord's Day shall be holy. I'm convinced that if we observe the first day, the fourth day of Cursillo will take care of itself.

***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 FOR YOUR LIFE!***

***De Colores, Sam***

