

# Mobile Rooster



January 2024

"Something Worth Crowing About"

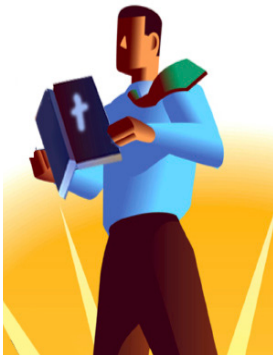
## A Message from Bob Spano

Brothers and Sisters,

The first Cursillo in the Archdiocese of Mobile was on March 20, 1980, at BTSR. The rector was Jimmy Jones and the team members were Keith Campagna, Rev Dr Harold Grant, John von Eschenbach, Orlando Moron, Deacon Read Haughery, Phillip Mock, Edward Gulesserian, Ken Lunsford, Lou Mackin, William Keelin, Everett Kergosian, Don Lisinski, Gerry Hankes, William Osgood, Larry Fink, Rod Jenkins, Michael Ralston, Buddy Samford, Ed Boyer, Dennis Drake, Rev Marty McGeough, CM, Rev Robert Stone, John Painter, and John Martin. The women's followed in May. The Rectora was Rosemary von Eschenbach and the team members were Sally Mackin, Phyllis Gauker, Sybil Haughery, Mary Ann Campagna, Sr Penny Smith, OP, Sr Miriam Picconi, Sr Terry Ahern, MSBT, Sharon Borsik, Rev Gene Sheridan, Helini Pedersoli, Mary Going, Rev Marty McGeough, CM, Mignon Painter, Dolores Meyer, Sr Theresa Mary Finan, MSBT, Bobbi Fink, Marianne Schlinkert, Carole Storey, Carol Hankes, Debbie Doran, Fran Keeling, Kathy Martin, Barbara Vass, Sylvia Grant, Jerry Mock, Barbara Barrows, Barbara Gulesserian, and Anna Kribs. Team members came from all areas of the archdiocese.

How did it happen? Several people from the diocese went to Atlanta to attend a Cursillo; then formed a School of Leaders to prepare to host a Cursillo. They were assisted by the Atlanta School of Leaders in preparation and in completing the teams. The Cursillo begins with the School of Leaders; that is what Eduardo Bonnin did 80 years ago. It is from the School of Leaders that the leadership and teams are derived.

You are not alone. The pandemic shutdown severely damaged every Cursillo throughout the nation. To restore the Cursillo, you must get back to the basics. Call on the regional Secretariat if you need assistance. The Regional English Lay Coordinator is Mary Paulinelli [skipperronsmate@yahoo.com](mailto:skipperronsmate@yahoo.com). The Diocese of Savannah School of Leaders meets on Zoom.us on the second Tuesday of every month at 8:00 pm et. I have recorded the meetings for the last 16 months; the link to the recordings at <https://diosavcursillo.org/school-of-leaders>.



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Editor  
Bobbie Genovese

Graphic Design  
Sam Genovese

Send articles or information by the  
15th of the month to:

Sam Genovese  
[sam.genovese455@yahoo.com](mailto:sam.genovese455@yahoo.com)  
or phone 334-792-1656



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

### **FINISHING UP AND MOVING FORWARD**

As I write this it is the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, which ends the Christmas Season. What's next? For a short period of time, like six weeks, we will move into Ordinary Time. But will it just be another "ordinary year?"

#### **Here's a little Charlie Brown reflection.**

Is there any purpose to pain? Any advantage to adversity? Any solace in suffering? "Don't be discouraged, Charlie Brown," Schroeder says, "the early defeats help to build character for later on in life."

"For what later on in life?" asks Charlie Brown.

"For more defeats!" replies Schroeder.

Charlie Brown then invests in five cents worth of Lucy's psychiatric help. At first, her advice sounds a bit more sophisticated.

"Adversity builds character," she says.

"Without adversity a person would never mature and face up to all the things in life!"

"What things?" He asks.

"More adversity!" She says.

We all will experience some adversity in the coming year. What will we do when we have to face that moment? Crumble and retreat in fear? Or move forward knowing Our Lord Jesus is with us all the way!

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In the next School of Leaders, John Sequeira, Lay Coordinator for the diocese of Charlotte, NC will talk about The Role of the Parish Cursillo Ambassador, which has been instrumental in the phenomenal growth of the Cursillo in his diocese. Join the meeting and let's get some enthusiasm back.

--Bob Spano, 641 Cusseta Hwy, Box Springs, GA 31801 706-304-4457

Hi there! You are invited to a Zoom meeting. Jan 9, 2024 08:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) Register in advance for this meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYuc-qorjIs-G9BPkM-tRLZeDJaHQdZYcUyD>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Hope to see you in January.



## Bishop Robert Barron

Friends, in Mark's Gospel ( 2:23–28), Jesus acknowledges that he is "lord even of the sabbath."

And the claim of the first Christians was Iesous Kyrios—Jesus is Lord. This was bound to annoy both Jews and Gentiles. The Jews would be massively put off by the use of the term Kyrios in describing an ordinary human being. Moreover, the implication that this man was the Messiah of Israel—when he had died at the hands of Israel's enemies—was simply blasphemous.

And for the Greeks, this claim was subversive, for a watchword of the time was Kaiser Kyrios—the Emperor is Lord. A new system of allegiance was being proposed, a new type of ordering and lordship—and this was indeed a threat to the regnant system.

Christians should enter the public arena boldly and confidently, for we are not announcing a private or personal spirituality, but rather declaring a new King under whose lordship everything must fall. If Jesus is truly Lord, then government, business, family life, the arts, sexuality, and entertainment all come properly under his headship.



## ULTREYAS

### Auburn/ Opelika

- Leader: Heidi Strother. Phone 334-319-6511. [auburnopelikaultreya@gmail.com](mailto:auburnopelikaultreya@gmail.com)

### Baldwin

- New leaders needed. Currently meeting via committee.

### Dothan

- Leaders: Don and Vickie Gardino (334) 805-3506 [vickigardino@gmail.com](mailto:vickigardino@gmail.com)

### Mobile

- Leader: Cathy Burch (251)709-6968 [burchce13@hotmail.com](mailto:burchce13@hotmail.com)

### Montgomery

- New leaders needed

### North Baldwin

- New leaders needed.

### Phenix City/Columbus

- New leaders needed.

### South Baldwin

- New leaders needed.

### Mobile

- Leader: Nell O'Donnell [nellodonnell@bellsouth.net](mailto:nellodonnell@bellsouth.net)

## SCHOOL OF LEADERS

### Why is Leadership Important?

It is important because it inspires, motivates, and sets an example for people to accomplish positive changes in the world.

Are you the next Cursillo leader?



## **BTSR News from Elisabeth Donner**

*January will be a busy month for us at the retreat center. I am seeking volunteers to help out with the following. Please let me know if you are interested.*

*Laundry angels – wash, dry, fold, and take up to utility closets in guest wings. No overnight accommodations available.*

*Retreat assistance – hospitality (tending to guest needs), locking up at night, unlocking in morning, ensuring coffee pots are always full, putting out food for some of the meals and taking out trash after some of the meals, guest room check after guests depart.*

*If you are interested in browsing the options, please arrange with us for a time to swing by.*

*The Sisters have decided that it is time to let go of all of the books in the library. The suggested donation is \$2.00 per book and the sets must be kept together. If you know of someone who would like to receive the entire collection, please reach out to us to arrange for delivery. Any mailed option will need to include the cost of mailing the books.*

*For books or volunteer opportunities, please contact us at [btsr@msbt.org](mailto:btsr@msbt.org) or 334-855-4474 (ext 3).*



### **We have so many reasons to celebrate in this new year! Here are a couple of notable reasons:**

*This weekend marks the 200th Marist High School retreat at Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat! What an incredible milestone as we all share in the rich history of BTSR and celebrate the students' experiences of our Lord in such a beautiful and peaceful place!*

*The fourth annual Christmas Time in the Pines event brought 2023 to an end with joyous days of celebrating the reason for the season with lights, exciting displays, and activities encouraging families to work together on answering questions. About 60 volunteers participated in different ways to help with the event.*

*Donating to BTSR keeps the mission going. To date, we have received donations totaling 67% of our goal of \$28,000. Thank you so much for choosing to continue to partner with us!*