



February 2016



DIocese of KNOXVILLE CURSILLO

The Rooster Crows

FEBRUARY

DID YOU KNOW?

The principal consecrator of our own Bishop Richard Stika was Cardinal Justin Rigali. The Cardinal was consecrated bishop by Saint John Paul II. Church records can count back from him an apostolic succession of bishops, including 4 other popes, way back to a Cardinal Guilio Santorio in 1566. The printed records do not go back any farther, but we know that there is an unbroken string of succession back to the Apostles themselves.

You must all follow the lead of the bishop, as Jesus Christ followed that of the Father; follow the presbytery as you would the Apostles; reverence the deacons as you would God's commandment. —Saint Ignatius of Antioch





The Director's Chair

Building on a Firm Foundation

by Judy Holt, Lay Director

Lent comes early this year. It seems as though it was only yesterday that we celebrated the birth of the infant Jesus, which is the beginning of our salvation, followed by the New Year celebration. For many, the start of Lent, Ash Wednesday, can be a little like New Year's Day. We make resolutions, specifically with regard to the spiritual exercises of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Like New Year's resolutions, our success in fulfilling our Lenten resolutions, in large part, depends on the efforts we put into them.

This year, let us resolve to focus on the gifts of this holy season, and approach Lent with an openness to God and His will for us. Let our actions be specific to God, ourselves, and each other, and truly plan to bear witness to the miracles of this season of the Church year. We can do this many ways. Whatever we decide to do, what is important is that we have a plan in our Lenten resolutions. I say this because goals without plans are just wishes.

During these weeks of Lent, I pray that, among the many ways we use this grace-filled time, we spend some time to grow in our spiritual lives. To some, growing in the spiritual life may mean simply being more aware of God's presence in our life. Being "present" to the presence is simple and so spiritually uplifting. To others, it may mean adding to our prayer life; a conversation with our Lord is truly rewarding. It could also be intensifying our piety, study, and action. The plan can be as varied as each individual is different. I pray that we all become more aware of, and grateful for, the beauty of God's creation.

Let's not stop there. Take some time to reflect on your relationship with our Lord, His house, His people. The Church is more than a building – it is a "temple of living stones," and His people include our family, friends, strangers and enemies. When was the last time you reached out? Remember—I am the Church, you are the Church, we are the Church.

This Lent, take some time to reflect on your Cursillo weekend, and how you have changed by your encounter with self, Jesus and others. Spend some time in the next few months to learn more about the Cursillo movement, by making a commitment to attend Ultreya and the 4th Day Workshops (School of Leaders), as we are all leaders for Jesus Christ.

As we journey through the season of Lent, may one of our resolutions be to continue to grow during these days-in our knowledge and love of our Lord, and in our love for the Cursillo Movement. For without you, our diocese would have no Cursillo!

Inspiration Corner

by Fr. Joe Brando, Spiritual Director

Christmas is still around at my house, or, at least, at my mail box. I've received a good deal of responses to my Christmas cards, and all of them are quite beautiful. Two of them, which I just happened to read consecutively, really made me think. The first one, talking about a close moment at Mass, said, "I felt the pressure of God with us." I had to re-read the sentence at least 5 times before I realized that "pressure" was really "presence." In coming to a correct reading of that sentence, I asked myself if God puts pressure on us at Mass. If so, what would be the nature of that pressure? I was glad to have solved that handwriting problem. But then I opened the next envelope, which contained a DIVINE MERCY card, the first sentence of which stated, "You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for our souls..."

That was *not* a misprint, and it gave me food for meditation. It might for you as well. "Gushing" *does* include the concept of pressure. It can be the extremely heavy pressure of a fireman's water hose. It's a force that can knock us off our feet and down the street.

That thought made me consider the previous letter in a different light. Does God's love force us closer together? Perhaps? Do we push the friends we have made into the gushing water flowing from our Savior's side? Perhaps not? The force of God is one of infinite love. It truly is strong. But, it is also infinitely gentle. Meditate on these the two qualities of Christ's love for us: it is powerful but gentle. It forces us to grow in relationship with him; but the force is one that draws us closer to him. You can go on from there.

May these days leading us through Lent, be a time to talk about this holy paradox with your friends, and you will be driven closer to each other, and to God.

The Deacon's Two Cents



**I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS
SAYS THE LORD**

By Deacon Bill Jacobs

Does your house have a “junk drawer?” That one drawer in the kitchen where you throw all those little things like paperclips, thumbtacks, spare batteries and the like. When the day comes that you need something from that drawer, you open it up and start rummaging around for what you need. It is frustrating when, at first, you can’t find what you’re looking for. Inevitably, the thing turns out to have been right in front of your nose the whole time!

I was thinking about this as I reflected on the Close Moment of the Group Reunion. We share with each other the moments in our week where we felt closest to the Lord. These sharings are often the most memorable part of our small group that week. I would bet that you can think of a few of the most powerful Close Moments in your life right off the top of your head.

But we remember also the very last line in the Gospel of Matthew (28:20b): “[B]ehold, I am with you always, to the close of the age.” The Lord reassured his disciples, just before he ascended back to the Father, that he would never leave them. He says this to us, too. For Jesus is always with us, in every moment of every day. He guides us, strengthens us, protects our feet from stumbling.

With this assurance, there is no reason why our days cannot be filled with Close Moments! Yet it is *our inability* to perceive the Lord working in our lives that makes it so difficult for us to see Him. We are so consumed with the day-to-day details of our lives that our eyes are blinded. Our hearts are not prayerful, but distracted, losing focus on the presence of Jesus.

I have found that I can quickly change my mindset during the day by cultivating a grateful heart. I try to offer thanksgiving to the Lord for all the small and large favors that He grants me during the day. Even my next breath is a gift from Him, and I am truly grateful for it!

This Lent, may we all focus on the presence of Jesus in our lives. Let us “give thanks, with a grateful heart,” as the song says. Let us perceive Jesus in every moment of our lives, for He is right there in front of our noses. May our lives be so chock full of close moments that we will have a hard time picking just *one* of them to share at our Group Reunion!

Women's Cursillo #45



Women's Cursillo #45

Diocese of
Knoxville, TN
Apison Retreat Center
Nov. 19-22, 2015



Secretariat Positions

POSITIONS ON THE SECRETARIAT ARE UP FOR ELECTION:

Spanish PreCursillo Representative: Application coordinator, screening for eligibility, and communicating all information concerning the upcoming weekend to the candidates and the rector/a. Also works with sponsors to communicate their role in the Cursillo process.

Music Representative

Webmaster (Assistant to the Secretariat)

Have you looked at the Knoxville Cursillo web page lately? It is a simple page that only takes a few moments to maintain as updates come about because of the calendar of events in our Cursillo movement. Do you have any experience maintaining a web page? Do you have a desire to work with the Secretariat in keeping everyone informed about the happenings of our Cursillo Community? Contact Micheline Parkey for more information by email michelineparkey@epbf.com

Database Coordinator (Assistant to the Secretariat)

If God is calling you to one of these positions, please submit in writing your willingness. Send it via email to: judyassogliaholt@gmail.com or by mail to: Judy Holt, 10 Flamingo Ct., Johnson City, TN 37601. Please pray for discernment.

***This is man's glory, to persevere and abide in the service of God.
--Saint Irenaeus, Father of the Church***

Cursillo Calendar 2016

Event	Date/Time/Location	Contact
4 th Day Workshop/ Secretariat	Feb 6 (Sat) 9:30am-11:30am St. John Neumann Catholic School Library 12:00pm-2:00pm Secretariat	Dave Campbell Jorge Saenz Judy Holt
4 th Day Workshop/ Secretariat	April 2 (Sat) 9:30am-11:30am 12:00pm-2:00pm Secretariat TBA	Dave Campbell Jorge Saenz Judy Holt
Spring Regional Encounter LD/SA Regional Encounter	April 22-24 (Fri-Sun) Lancaster, KY	Judy Holt
4 th Day Workshop/ Secretariat	June 4 (Sat) 9:30am-11:30am 12:00pm-2:00pm Secretariat TBA	Dave Campbell Jorge Saenz Judy Holt
Spanish Women's Cursillo	Jun 23-26 Apison	
Diocesan Encounter Spanish Reunion	July 9 10:00-2:00 at St. Thomas, Lenoir City ?	
National Cursillo Encounter	Aug 4-7 (Thurs-Sun) Lewis University in Romeoville, IL near Chicago, IL	Judy Holt
Spanish Men's Cursillo	Aug 25-28 Apison	
4 th Day Workshop/ Secretariat	Sept 3 (Sat) 9:30am-11:30am 12:00pm-2:00pm Secretariat TBA	Dave Campbell Jorge Saenz Judy Holt
Spanish Reunion	Sept 11 (Sun) 2:00pm-4:00pm St. Thomas, Lenoir City	
Fall Regional Encounter	Sept 23-25 Farto Retreat Center, Evansville, IN	Judy Holt
English Women's Cursillo	Oct 27-30 Apison	Yurisan Cornejo Maria Cornejo
English Men's Cursillo	Nov 17-20 Apison	Yurisan Cornejo Maria Cornejo
English Reunion/Grand Ultreya Secretariat	Dec 3 (Sat) 9:30am-11:30am Reunion/Grand Ultreya 12:00pm-2:00pm Secretariat TBA	Dave Campbell Jorge Saenz Judy Holt

Members of the Secretariat 2016

Spiritual Advisor – Fr. Joe Brando, 2146 Floyd Porter Rd, Maryville, TN 37803, 865-603-4965, joebrando@ymail.com

Assistant Spiritual Advisor – Fr. Alex Waraksa, St. Patrick Catholic Church, 2518 W. Andrew Johnson Hwy, Morristown, TN 37814, 423-586-9174, awaraksa@hotmail.com

Lay Director – Judy Holt, 10 Flamingo Court, Johnson City, TN 37601, (cell) 423-767-6394, (home) 423-282-1616, judyassogliaholt@gmail.com

Pre-Cursillo, English – Keith Sanford, 11335 Twin View Drive, Knoxville, TN 37932-2454, (home) 865-675-6292, maclaire@ieee.org

Pre-Cursillo, Spanish – vacant

Cursillo, English –Maria Cornejo, 240 S. Wingate Drive, Lenoir City, TN 37771, 865-394-1093, cornejo19@aol.com and **Yurisan Cornejo**, 270 S. Wingate Drive, Lenoir City, TN 37771, 865-246-9777, yoursan@bellsouth.net

Cursillo, Spanish – Guadalupe Espinoza, 115 Sweet Oaks Rd., Sweetwater, TN 37874, 865-394-2419, elupe81@gmail.com

Post Cursillo – Micheline Parkey, 9306 Charber Circle, Chattanooga, TN 37421, (cell) 423-827-7738, michelineparkey@epbfi.com

Spanish Post Cursillo – Manuel Quintino, 2533 Reed Springs Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874, (h) 423-545-4473. Manuel.lupe.1960@live.com

4th Day Workshop, English – Dave Campbell, 325 Wooded Lane, Knoxville, TN 37922, (w) 865-755-3575, dcamp44@tds.net

4th Day Workshop, Spanish – Jorge Saenz, 764 Hatley Dr, Lenoir City, TN 37771, 865-220-0915, Saenzjorge46@yahoo.es

Secretary – Jenny Venable, 1825 W. Lakeview Drive #J76, Johnson City, TN 37601, Home: 423-328-9038 Cell: 423-306-2244, jvenable1617@charter.net

Treasurer – Lance Lyons, 303 Kanoonoo Trace, Loudon, TN, 37774, (cell) 865-405-3151 lancel Lyons1@gmail.com

Music – vacant

Assistants to the Secretariat 2016

Coordinator, Database – vacant

Coordinator, English Group Reunion – Peter Ulmer, 2663 Misty Ridge Dr., Lenoir City, TN 37772, (cell) 865-368-1898, (h) 865-935-7035, alfryma@gmail.com

Coordinator, English Palanca – Lois Schering, 1505 Cavalier Dr, Maryville, TN 37803, 865-681-7858, schering4@aol.com

Coordinator, Spanish Palanca – vacant

Coordinator, English Parish Representatives – Dave Campbell, 325 Wooded Lane, Knoxville, TN 37922, (w) 865-755-3575, dcamp44@tds.net

Editor, *Rooster Crows* – Deacon Bill Jacobs, 4340 Conger Road, Louisville, TN 37777 (cell) 865-309-1771, docsinknox@gmail.com

Spanish Leader – position eliminated

Coordinator, Prayer Chain – vacant

Webmaster – Vacant



**Christ is Counting
On You!**

We are on the web at
<http://www.knoxvillecursillo.org/>