

# THE ROOSTER CROWS



Diocese of Knoxville  
NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2020



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**Servant Leader View**  
**SPRING 2020**

DeColores! Hello, my name is Angela Feltz; I attended my Cursillo - Women's weekend #5 in English in September 2000 @ Eagle Rock near Maryville Tennessee. I sat at the table of Mary, Queen of Heaven.

I was not expecting to be elected Lay Director for our Diocesan Cursillo Movement and I cannot do it alone. I need all of you, those in Group Reunions, those who attend Ultreyas, those who attend the School of Leaders (or perpetual learners) and the Secretariat Meetings. But most of all I need the rest of you who have encountered yourself, Jesus, and others in your life after the encounter of your Three day Cursillo Weekend. What a Blessing we have received in the Cursillo Movement, in our own lives, in the lives of our friends, in our parishes and in the Diocese of Knoxville as a whole. The Catholic Church is alive and well in East Tennessee as we live out the Charism of Cursillo – Friendship. And we can continue to grow within ourselves and our friends by living the Tripod of Piety, Study and Action. And living the Tripod will help us to make a Friend, be a friend and bring our friend to Christ.

I have been active in our movement even before I made my Cursillo when I worked for Fr. Brando. I have worked with the Newsletter, the Database, attended Group Reunion, Ultreyas, School of Leaders and the Clausuras of many Cursillo weekends. I was on the Secretariat in the Pre-Cursillo position as well as serving 5 years on the Regional Service Team. I have attended many Regional Encounters and National Encounters.

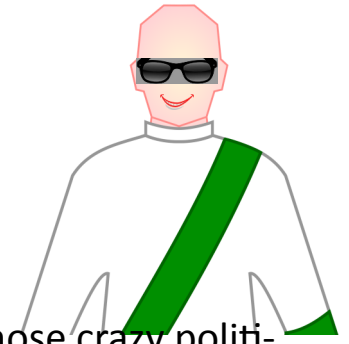
I would like to give credit to God for His presence in my life. Both in the expected and the unexpected times I have been lifted up and have been given the peace that only God can give. I thank all of you for your part in my life. With your friendship and our experiences, you have helped me to be the person that I now am and will continue to bless me as I complete the task that God is calling me to as your servant in Christ. I offer my prayers for you. May your lives be showered with God's many Blessings as you live out your baptismal promises to help others know our Awesome God!

Hail Mary, full of Grace, ...

Eduardo Bonnin, Servant of God, Pray for us!

## THE WAY I SEE IT

by Deacon Bill Jacobs



### FRIENDS, INDEED

“Sure is wacky weather we’re having, isn’t it?” “What about those crazy politicians in Washington?” “Can you believe who won the Oscars this year?”

These statements, or others like them, are what passes for conversation in some of the superficial friendships that we have. News, sports, and weather are all that we share with these friends, and the friendships never deepen beyond the superficial.

Cursillo, through the weekly Group Reunion, calls us to ongoing conversion by using the friendship of others. Having friends with whom we can share our deepest needs and concerns, our failures and our successes, is a precious gift of the Cursillo method which we must never take for granted.

Eduardo Bonnin, founder of the Cursillo movement, recognized the importance of friendship in our ongoing faith journey. He considered it the key to the post-cursillo. He wrote, “When friendship develops between two people who share the conviction that Christ, who dwells in both of them, gives meaning to their lives...then a new dimension is attained that is transcendent—resulting in an active, conscious, and growing perception of their integration with and in Christ.”

So, friendship in Christ is what helps us to transcend the mundane and worldly part of our lives. Our perception of Christ acting in and through us is sharpened and clarified. Our thoughts and actions are increasingly flavored with the Holy Spirit, as a result of our weekly group sharings.

Let us never take the Group Reunion for granted! It is a privileged means for all of us to grow in holiness. Stop coming up with excuses why you can’t make it to group this week—because your Christian growth (and, quite possibly, your eternal soul) depends on it!

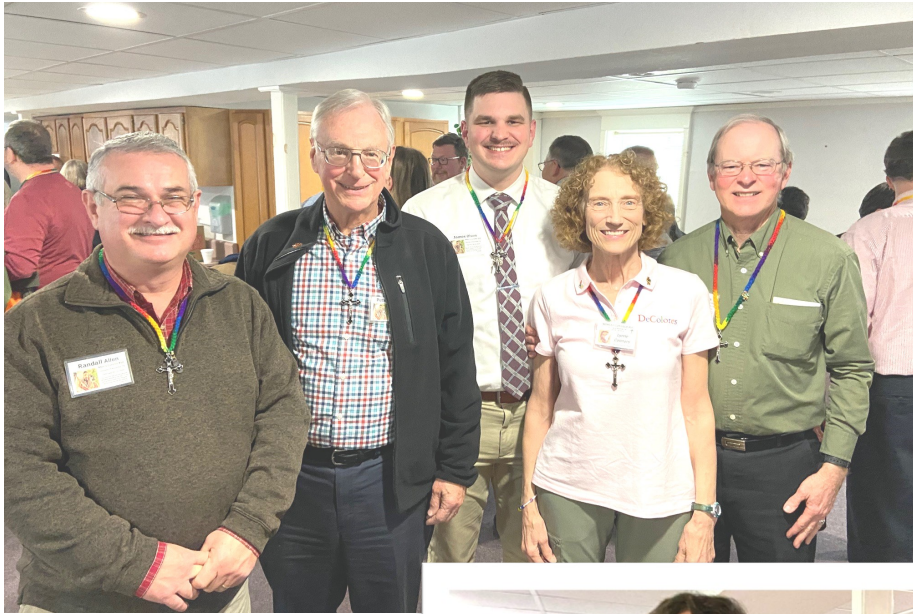
*Ut benedicat nobis Deus opus.*



JOYFUL GATHERING  
MEN'S CLOSING  
FEBRUARY 2020







DISCIPLE:  
ONE WHO FOLLOWS

APOSTLE:  
ONE WHO IS SENT



I would like to thank all those who supported me in my first Cursillo weekend as the Three Day Coordinator for our Diocesan Secretariat. I was very nervous about how this would turn out, and without the help of many of our fellow Cursillistas, the weekend wouldn't have run smoothly.

First of all, I want to thank outgoing 3 Day Coordinator Debbie Ferrari for helping me purchase many of the supplies needed on the weekend, and for providing an outline of the job responsibilities that helped as a checklist for me. And I want to thank Sharon Prohaska for all of her help providing labels for the notebooks, name tags, and the take home envelopes. Sharon also did her magic to create the photos included in everyone's take home packages. Thanks also to Angie Feltz for taking the photos of the participants of the weekend.

Thanks to the crew that met at the Foothills Retreat Center Wednesday morning the day before the start of Weekend #52 to pick up all the equipment at Velma Burke's house and then to set up the Chapel and Rollo room for the weekend. This team included Velma, Dick Shriver, Baron Johnson, Paul Carter, Keith Feltz, Orville Fraser, and my wife Lynne. And thanks to the many people unknown to me who brought extra snacks during the weekend. I know there are many people who I have forgotten to mention, and I apologize for that. But please know that I am indebted to you all for your help setting up for and throughout Men's weekend #52.

De Colores,  
Jim Connors

# P-a-l-a-n-c-a Please

Every Cursillista, after returning from their Weekend, knows what Palanca means. It is a Spanish word, literally meaning “a lever”. In the physical sense, it is a tool that enables a small effort to accomplish a mighty task. It is the small sacrifice of the many for the benefit of the few. I’m sure you had the same response as me when I realized on my weekend that many thousands of people were directing their efforts, *lifting up their hearts to the Lord*, for the purpose of my conversion. I was humbled and in awe of their mighty efforts (*I still am*). But now, the very best part, because I can join my prayers and sacrifices with those of many others for the conversion of Christians and Cursillistas all over the world!

Palanca is not a lengthy letter or a pretty picture, it is our petitions to God for the success of our Cursillo activities, and can include: Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Holy Communion, praying the Rosary, reading the Scriptures, Stations of the Cross, Liturgy of the Hours, Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, fasting, almsgiving and any acts of self-denial offered with a prayer. *Wow, all these simple things we do every day, combined with supernatural power, to accomplish the goals of Christ!* God is Good!

DeColores!

David Campbell

HERE ARE OUR NEW CURSILLISTAS FROM MEN’S WEEKEND # 52. IF THESE MEN ARE FROM YOUR PARISH, OR IF YOU KNOW THEM FROM ANOTHER ARENA-PLEASE WELCOME AND PRAY FOR THEM.

Peter McGrath, St Bridget

James Olson, St Bridget

Randall Allen, St Bridget

Mark Fuller, St Therese

Bill Morrison, St Therese

Shawn Duggan, St Therese

Bill Potter, St Therese

John Naum, St Jude

Jaison John, St Mary’s -Johnson City

Victor Fanelli, St John Neumann

Peter Lloyd, Our Lady of Fatima

Pat Schwartz, St Mary’s - Athens



## 4th Day News you can use!

*We will be hosting Spring Regional Encounter !  
April 24th-26th ,2020 an exciting event for 2 key  
Posts: Spiritual Advisor and Lay Director.  
More information below.*

### Spring Regional Encounter 2020

Our diocese is part of Region IV in the Cursillo Movement. It consists of all dioceses in Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, and includes Cincinnati Ohio, Indianapolis Indiana, Mt St. Francis, Indiana, Belleville Illinois, St. Louis and Springfield – Cape Girardeau in Missouri. The Region IV service team is made up of representatives from these dioceses and a Spiritual Advisor. There are 4 team members and a priest or deacon as the Spiritual Advisor on the Regional Service Team. Our diocese is currently represented by Fr. Alex as the Regional Spiritual Advisor. Angela Feltz has previously served on the Regional team for 5 years.

The Regional Service team conducts two Regional Encounters yearly; one is the spring encounter and the other in the fall encounter. The Spring Encounter this year is hosted by our diocese. It is primarily for the Lay Directors and the Spiritual Advisors of the Region. Local Secretariat members are invited to attend also. The Fall Regional Encounter is open to all cursillistas.

The weekend begins on Friday evening and ends on Sunday morning. The team presents talks (rollos) to the participants. We gather for Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, and we listen to our presentations. It is a chance to speak with those in other diocese who are doing the same thing that we do here in Knoxville. **It is scheduled on April 25-27, 2020 and will be at held at Foothills Camp and Retreat Center in Alcoa, TN.**

Anything we need to know about Cursillo we can reach out to the Regional Coordinator. And they in turn can reach out to the National Cursillo office if that is needed.

Please offer Palanca for the safety in traveling for all the participants and for the speakers. God will reward you for your prayers.

-- Angela Feltz

## What is the School of Leaders Anyway??

As the coordinator for the Diocese of Knoxville Cursillo Movement School of Leaders, I hope you have wondered about the nature of the School of Leaders. School of Leaders is defined as a “service of the Cursillo Movement”. Again and again we hear Cursillista say “I’m not a leader!!” so they justify missing these events. Yet again and again we hear of people who want to be considered for weekend teams. The purpose of this article is to clarify what we experience at the School of leaders.

And my ulterior motive is to stir-up your curiosity enough to bring you to the next School of Leaders.

To start with, the School of Leaders is for ALL Cursillista who have positive memories of their weekend and who are driven to keep Cursillo alive and well in the Diocese of Knoxville. This gathering is different from Ultreya in several ways. We have refreshments and fellowship, but we make every effort to keep the School of Leaders to a maximum of 2 hours.

Here is the usual agenda for a School of Leaders:

Opening Prayer—Leaders Prayer	Leaders Group Reunion (brief with pairs of participants)
Doctrinal Talk by the Priest or Deacon (30 mins)	Technique Talk by a Cursillista (30 mins)
Table Discussion by the Sections of Cursillo: Pre-Cursillo, Three-Day Weekend, Post-Cursillo (15 mins)	
Section Reports 10 -15 mins	Closing Prayer and Blessing

I think I am “pumped” about the School of Leaders because of the efforts of so many extraordinary Cursillista who offer their time and talents to give talks, help set-up and clean-up. But most importantly I am the School biggest fan, because the Cursillista who come with an open heart and mind, strengthen their connections with our Cursillo Movement. I have the utmost optimism that our Cursillo community will continue to thrive due in no small part to the dedication of those who attend the School of Leaders. God Bless Them All!

Here are the upcoming School of Leaders

### “Second Saturdays”

DATE	PLACE	TIME
March 14	Our Lady of Fatima Alcoa	11 AM
May 9	Our Lady of Fatima Alcoa	11 AM
June 13	St. Dominic Kingsport	11 AM
July 11	Our Lady of Fatima Alcoa	11 AM
August 8	St Bridget Dayton	TBD
September 12	Our Lady of Fatima Alcoa	11 AM
November 14	Our Lady of Fatima Alcoa	11 AM



De Colores!! My name is **Jim Mac Dougall**, I lived my Cursillo on the 80<sup>th</sup> Men's Weekend in the Diocese of Allentown, PA in October of 2009, and sat at the table of St. Bernard de Clairvaux. Currently, **I worship at St. Dominic's Parish in Kingsport, TN and group at St. Mary's in Johnson City, TN.**

A little over 2 years ago, I lost my job and through God's loving providence my wife Betty and I ended up here in East Tennessee. What a blessing it has been to be able to come so far away from what was home for us for most of our lives (Eastern Pennsylvania) and be welcomed into the various parish, Cursillo and neighborhood communities. We joke that it takes longer to go anywhere now as we have to stop and talk with so many people that we meet in our travels.

I was honored to serve the men of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Knoxville Cursillo as assistant rector. Through our team formation, I was so inspired by the witness and dedication of these prayerful brothers in Christ. These men welcomed me as a fellow pilgrim on the journey together. Having an opportunity to group with them as part of our formation helped me get to know them a little better and really appreciate all the gifts that they brought to this weekend. I felt very humbled to be asked to give the Cursillista beyond the Cursillo talk; being so new to the diocese here it was a great leap of faith by our rector Baron Johnson. In my former diocese, this talk was often given by men who had lived the first few Cursillo weekends and had been involved with the movement for decades. As I reflect on what I was able to share, following the Cursillo method of Piety, Study and Action along with weekly Group Reunion allowed for a much smoother transition to our new home here. I told the guys on the weekend, that the Group was the same, but the guys were different. I found the same on this weekend. The weekend was the same, and as always, the Holy Spirit was in charge right from the start. Prayer to the Holy Spirit, brought us 12 excellent men just in time. Prayer to the Holy Spirit kept us humble and allowed the Spirit to reveal Himself to the new Cursillistas. Prayer from the community in the form of palanca lifted us up to the mountain top and will sustain us all in our 4<sup>th</sup> Day! These 12 new babe chicks are a blessing to our Cursillo community and I pray for them every day that they will too be moved to draw closer to Christ and become involved with the Cursillo community. Please continue to pray for them and for the team and candidates for the Women's weekend.

De Colores,  
Jim Mac Dougall

From the Spirit  
through the heart  
to the page



## We Cursillistas like things that come in threes:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Piety, Study and Action

Faith, Hope and Charity



For our Lenten participation let us consider Almsgiving - one of the **Three** Pillars of Lenten practice; the other two pillars being prayer and fasting.

"Prayer and fasting are good, but better than either is almsgiving accompanied by righteousness ... It is better to give alms than to store up gold; for almsgiving saves one from death and expiates every sin. Those who regularly give alms shall enjoy a full life" (Tob 12:8-9).

In Mike Aquilina's article on the subject he says these good things:

Why is almsgiving better than prayer and fasting? Because it is prayer, and it involves fasting. Almsgiving is a form of prayer because it is "giving to God" — and not mere philanthropy. It is a form of fasting because it demands sacrificial giving — not just giving something, but giving up something, giving till it hurts.

Jesus presented almsgiving as a necessary part of Christian life: "when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing" (Mt 6:2-3). He does not say IF you give alms, but WHEN.

Like fasting and prayer, almsgiving is non-negotiable.

Of course, St Teresa of Calcutta was the best example of almsgiving. She was insistent that her sisters give cheerfully. She taught the missionaries to "keep the joy of loving the poor and share this joy with all that you meet. (And) remember works of love are works of peace."

Have a wonderful Lent and Easter

## English ULTREYAS IN OUR DIOCESE

St Jude's Hixson, TN

1st Tuesday of the month 6:30 pm

ST. MARY JOHNSON CITY, TN

3rd Tuesday of the month 7:00 pm

St Therese Cleveland, TN

2nd Thursday of the month 6:00 pm

Our Lady Of Fatima Alcoa, TN

3rd Monday of the month 6:30 pm

St Thomas the Apostle Lenoir City, TN

4th Tuesday of the month 7:00 pm

St. Bridget Dayton, TN

To Celebrate the new Cursillistas. March 28th at 6:15PM

"please contact Jim Connors at 423-475-7887 if you are planning to attend so that we will have sufficient food on hand for everyone."

## Spanish ULTREYAS IN OUR DIOCESE

St Thomas the Apostle Lenoir City, TN

2nd Sunday of the month 2:00 pm

St. Joseph the Worker Madisonville, TN

2nd Sunday of the month 2:00 pm

### Upcoming Womens English Weekend 2020!

Women's English weekend will take place: March 19-22  
at Foothills Retreat Center 2926 Topside Rd, Louisville, TN.

**YES we have moved location!** There are many reasons for this move: A few of them are: it is more centrally located in our Diocese, the Retreat Center will do the cooking , clean up is included, all linens are provided and it is possible for each person can have their own room. With these things crossed off of the Team's 'to do list' they can focus more on the Candidates.

We hope this location will make it easier for more of the 4<sup>th</sup> Day to attend the Closing, as we all know how much it means to have a nice turnout, not only for the Candidates but the Team as well. Please *start praying and doing palanca for the Team and prospective candidates.*

Be advised that the Spanish men's and women's weekends will still be held at Apison.



## Members of the Secretariat 2019/2020

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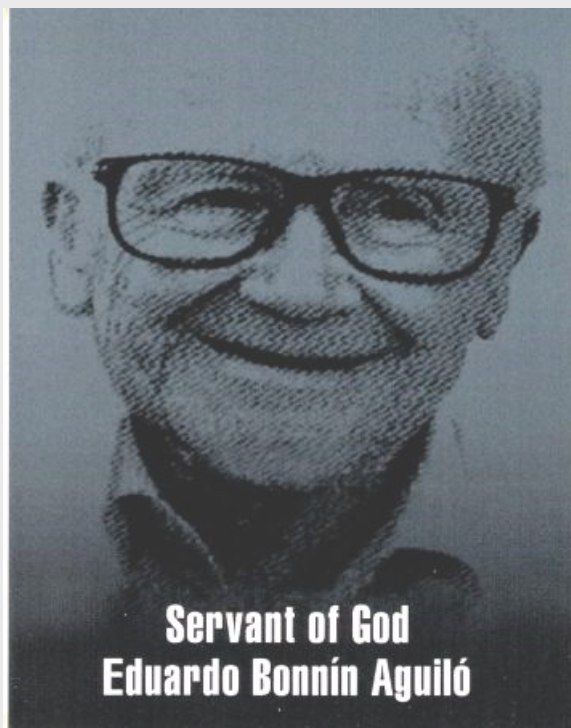
Fecha: Sabado 7 de marzo del 2020 hora 8:00am a 5:00pm

Invitados: Juan Ruis y Nadia Lopez

Mas informacion: Israel Figueroa 865-456-9864

## FIRST OF THE MONTH: A PRAYER FOR CURSILLO

At our November Secretariat meeting, Deacon Bill Jacobs, our Spiritual Advisor, declared that on the first day of each month we should pray for the Cursillo Movement and its members. The idea was warmly received and we hope you will also participate by praying for Cursillo. The prayer below is for the beatification of our founder, Eduardo Bonnín. You are welcome to use this prayer or say prayers of your choosing. Either way, we hope you will continue to pray for this Movement and its success in bringing others the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and also into our lives and our environments.



**Q** God, the dispenser of all  
graces and charisms.

You granted your servant **EDUARDO BONNÍN AGUILÓ** the grace of dedicating his whole life, with humility and generosity, to the work of the **CURSILLOS IN CHRISTIANITY MOVEMENT**, as he traveled the five Continents proclaiming that God in Christ loves us.

Grant us through his intercession the favor that we now implore Thee.  
(Name the favor being requested).

Also grant us the grace, of his beatification for your greater glory and the good of your Church, that shines throughout the lives of its saints.

We beg this of You in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(At the end we pray The Lord's prayer)

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