

# Diocese of Kalamazoo

September ~ 2018

## Newsletter



**Fr Dan and 5 others from the Secretariat recently met with Bishop Bradley to share how the Cursillo is growing!** We also shared how Cursillo is an important and effective movement to address and strengthen the goals in the Bishop Bradley's Diocesan Plan. It was a very good meeting! These are some of the key points we shared...you might want to share too!

1. The Importance of the "Domestic Church" i.e., the Catholic family unit
2. Vocations
3. New Evangelization

**DOMESTIC CHURCH** – Men and women who complete a Cursillo weekend almost universally transform from PRACTICING THEIR FAITH TO LIVING THEIR FAITH. Because Cursillistas live their "fourth day" for the rest of their lives, through weekly meetings with other Cursillistas focusing on Piety, Study and Action, the movement has sustaining influence on the faith lives of those who attend a weekend, unlike those who attend a retreat or conference, where "follow up" is often non-existent. This strengthens the family unit as depositories of the faith. Many wives report a major blessing, as their husbands often begin to take a faith leadership role in the family, once completing a Cursillo weekend. The importance of strong faith leadership from both parents, especially the father cannot be underestimated.

**VOCATIONS** – One of the direct benefits of stronger faith families is that they become a fertile ground for vocation development. There are many stories of children who have expressed an interest in vocation, only to be discouraged by one of both of their parent or other family members. Cursillo families would universally support vocations, in their children, grandchildren, and in others.

**NEW EVANGILIZATION** – In order to attend a Cursillo weekend you must be a practicing Catholic capable of receiving the sacraments. While Cursillo does not reach out to non-Catholics during a Cursillo weekend, the theme of Cursillo is "**Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ**". So the outcome of the weekend is aimed at bringing others, who may have never encountered Christ, into the Church.

Cursillo...Evangelization...Livin' it!

Sharon Matkin, Lay Director

## Palanca, Palanca, Palanca...

Don't forget to offer Palanca for our fellow Cursillistas! Please pray for our upcoming Kalamazoo Diocese Cursillo weekends Oct.4 -7 (Spanish Men), Oct. 11-14 (Spanish Women), Oct. 18-21 (English Women) and March 14-17, 2019 (English Men). Also remember all worldwide Cursillo weekends, team formations, Ultreyas, Reunion Groups, Secretariat responsibilities, and the continuing zeal of ALL Cursillistas.

Palanca can include Masses, Holy Communion, and Adoration/visits to the Blessed Sacrament, Rosaries, or any other sacrifices or good works you perform. Please email your Palanca for the Kalamazoo Cursillo weekends to [kalamazoopalanca@yahoo.com](mailto:kalamazoopalanca@yahoo.com)

Once again, we will be offering 24-hour Palanca throughout our **English Ladies weekend, October 18-21 from 5 p.m. Thursday thru 5 p.m. on Sunday**. Email Mary Williams at [marymarthawilliams@msn.com](mailto:marymarthawilliams@msn.com) with the day and hour you will offer Palanca. We have 72 hours to fill and need everyone's help for a successful weekend.



October is a special month of honor to Mary...and filled with Cursillo weekends! We are asking All Cursillistas to pray a Rosary each Saturday of the month during the hour of 8-9am. This will be a great way to honor as well as ask for her **intercession for Cursillo!**

**Ultreya...Don't Miss It!**  
**Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>,**  
**2:30pm St. Thomas-More**  
**Kalamazoo**

**Come and pray for the**  
**Women's Team of Cursillo #70**

## Team #70 is just about ready to GO!

Plans and preparations have been underway for our **Ladies's Cursillo Weekend October 18-21**. Rectora **Grace Richards**, Assistant Rectora **Holly Keyser**, and 20 other women (and Father Dan) have answered the call and said "YES" to serve the Lord on Team 70!!! Please keep our team in your prayers as they prepare to do God's work. **Father Dan Hyman, Grace Richards, Holly Keyser, Mary Baker, Susie Boone, Melanie Boyd, Colleen, Brosman, Bette Burnham, Diane Chancey, Carol DeCruz, Irene Dunlap, Diana Godish, Angela Jasunas, Sharon Matkin, Brenda Panone, Erica Santiago, Melissa Schultz, Eileen Shue, Beverly Stevens, Ruby Swett, Theresa Willson, Sheryl Yesh.**

## Weekend Chair Report - Dave Garwood

Once again, the Amigo Centre in Sturgis will be active with a Cursillo weekend on October 18 – 21. A main concern is that we must have the majority of candidate applications in by Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, in order to finalize plans with the Amigo Centre. Now is the time to make that phone call or send that email encouraging your friend to attend!!! Follow up by picking up their completed applications and emailing them to Dave Spear at [d.c.spear@comcast.net](mailto:d.c.spear@comcast.net). The applications are slowly trickling in...WE NEED THEM NOW! We are asking God for 30 special candidates.

Having our weekends at the Amigo Centre has greatly reduced the amount of set-up and clean-up, however we still have much to do! Serenading Cursillistas are amazing at helping clean up from the weekend. I would like to add a few key leaders, men and women, to direct the process! Please contact me at [dgar49@comcast.net](mailto:dgar49@comcast.net) if you are willing to fill this role.

## Pre-Cursillo News...

August and September have been very busy months for spreading the good news of Cursillo throughout the Diocese. Our team has been praying about and contacting prospective candidates while also giving talks in Wayland, Three Rivers, Colon, Centreville, South Haven, Portage, Kalamazoo and Battle Creek.

**SPONSORS! We need your candidate applications...NOW!** All dietary considerations need to be submitted to Amigo Centre this week. Please email applications to Dave Spear @ [d.c.spear49@comcast.net](mailto:d.c.spear49@comcast.net) ASAP.

In the process of sharing Cursillo, we have met many dedicated Priests and Parishioners from our Diocese and beyond. We have also rekindled relationship with some of our older Cursillistas from years past. This has been very rewarding for the team. We have done our very best to share the gift of Cursillo throughout our Diocese. Our goal is that we will have visited all parishes in the Diocese of Kalamazoo within the next 5 years.

## GoFundGod!

As Christians, we are called to evangelize and bring others to Christ. Cursillistas have been given a gift and a plan to do this through our Cursillo weekends. Thank you to so many who have already made a tax deductible donation. Please help make it possible for many more to encounter Christ through Cursillo! Checks can be made payable to the Diocese of Kalamazoo with English Cursillo on the memo line. Send to our Treasurer:

**Diana Godish**  
1431 Northampton Rd.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

**We are on a Pilgrimage....**a journey to the Father through Christ under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, with the help of Mary and all the Saints, as we bring our brothers and sisters along with us.

**CURSILLO**  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF KALAMAZOO, MI  
*win' it!*



- **September 30** - Ultreya, 2:30 p.m. St. Thomas More, Kalamazoo
- **October 4-7** – Men's Cursillo in Spanish, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo (Closura at 5 p.m.)
- **October 11-14** – Women's Cursillo in Spanish, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo (Closura at 5 p.m.)
- **October 18-21** – **Women's Cursillo in English, Amigo Centre, Sturgis (Closing at 4 p.m.)**
- **November 11** – Welcome NEW Cursillistas, Ultreya, 2:30 p.m. St. Thomas More, Kalamazoo

## 2018 Secretariat

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