

# THE ROOSTER

JANUARY 2025

# Cursillo

## *A Note From the School of Leaders*

*"A Movement is only as  
good as its leaders are."  
Is GOD calling you?*

The Cursillo Movement originated within a school, and it was through the constant and coordinated efforts of the leaders of that school that it acquired its form, as well as its drive toward growth and development. The school then came first. It was the school that gave birth to the Cursillo Movement, nurtured it, and made it strong enough to survive and branch out into a full-fledged movement in the Church. The school has always been and is to this day the element that is essential to the continuity and development of the movement.

Is the LORD calling you to a deeper commitment to Cursillo Apostolate? Would you like to learn more about the methods of Cursillo and serve CHRIST through leadership in the movement? The School is a group of people who are striving to be saints and want to bring others with them. The School of Leaders is a community of service to the Movement.

Our monthly SOL meetings will be held the first Tuesday of every month. Locations change monthly. Watch for upcoming emails that will inform you of the scheduled location.



## *IN THIS ISSUE*

*MEET YOUR  
SECRETARIAT  
TEAM*

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*UPCOMING  
WEEKENDS  
INFORMATION*



# Get to Know Your Secretariat Team



**Tommy Lachat**  
**Lay Director**

I made my Cursillo in the Fall of 2015 following an invitation from my brother, Mom, Dad, Aunts, Uncles... you get the idea. My wife Alesia and I go to Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Aurora. We also just celebrated our anniversary in December, being blessed with 6 wonderful years of marriage (at least I think they've been wonderful). In August I started working at a company called Renfert and have been enjoying my time there as their Warehouse Lead.

I served as the head of School of Leaders over the past year, this was something I didn't really see myself doing but, I very much

enjoyed my time getting to know the movement better through the school. Towards the end of last year, I felt the call to step up into the opening position of Lay Director. I am truly blessed to have an opportunity to serve each and every one of you and look forward to doing so.

God Bless you all, De Colores



**Nick Valenti**  
**Assistant Lay Director**

I made my Cursillo in Spring 2019. I grew up at Holy Family in Rockford, and I have been finding more things to volunteer for at St. Bridget's in Loves Park since joining the parish around nine years ago. As a bachelor with no kids, I've been able to say "yes" to an awesome variety of things including facilitating the Saturday morning sessions of our parish Bible study to slinging pasta at our St. Joseph's Altar each March. When I'm not at work or volunteering at church, you're likely to find me cooking, with my nose in a book, or with a group of friends around a table playing board games.

## 115th Men's Spring 2025 Weekend

*"Here I am Lord"*  
*Acts 9:1-20*

**March 27-30,**  
**2025**

*Rector: Tom Wright*  
*312-907-3562*  
*twright361@aol.com*

*Assistant Rector:*  
*Greg Alberth:*  
*847-508-9793*  
*galberth130@gmail.com*

**TEAM MEETINGS (1-4pm)**

*1st: January 26 - St. Charles Borromeo.*  
*2nd: February 9 - St. Katharine Drexel Commissioning*  
*3rd: February 16 - St. Katharine Drexel*  
*4th: March 2 - St. Katharine Drexel.*  
*5th: March 23 - St. Mary, Oregon.*



**Make a friend,  
Be a friend,  
Bring a friend to Christ.**





### **Candace Marsh Secretary**

Hello & De Colores from your Secretary! I am looking forward to continuing keeping the Cursillo flame burning. I am stepping out of my comfort zone a bit as I am more of an introvert instead of an extrovert. I joined the Secretariat as a Secretary in Jan/Feb 2020 and have started a 2nd 3-year term this year. I will not be able to continue after 2026 and will need to take at least a year off from any Secretariat position. My plan is to get the word out about the Cursillo movement to more people in my parish and maybe even in my area parishes. I plan to ask people to start thinking about going on the next Cursillo weekend which is already planned for Spring in March 27-30 for Men's and April 3-6 for Women's. Please note the Secretariat meetings are open to all Cursillo members and are held every 4th Tuesday at St. Mary's Church in Maple Park. Any

voting taking place will be taken by Secretariat members only, but opinions and suggestions are welcome by all.



### **Sandra Ondrla Treasurer**

Hello, my name is Sandra Ondrla and I am a Cursillista who is honored to serve God as a member of the Rockford Cursillo Movement Secretariat.

I made my Cursillo weekend in the fall of 1999; since then I have had the privilege of working many weekends, and grateful for all the friendships I have made along the way- with those sharing the same beliefs and ideals. Knowing the importance of keeping this movement thriving and remaining true to its roots, I felt called to join the Secretariat in January of 2022. I was excited to take on the role of Pre-Cursillo Chairperson; a role which I enjoyed immensely over these last couple years.

Feeling obliged to continue working as a member of the

## *106th Women's Spring 2025 Weekend*

*"Woman, whom are  
you looking for?"  
John 20:15*

### **April 3-6, 2025**

*Rector: Carol Prunty  
815-499-0842  
pruntys79@comcast.net*

*Assistant Rector:  
Barb Olson  
815-544-1722  
Olbel2618@hotmail.com*

### ***TEAM MEETINGS (1-4pm)***

- 1st: January 26 - St. Mary, Oregon.*
- 2nd: February 9 - St. Katharine Drexel Commissioning*
- 3rd: February 23 - St. Mary, Oregon.*
- 4th: March 16 - St. Mary, Oregon.*
- 5th: March 30 - St. Mary, Oregon.*



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Bring a friend to Christ.**





Secretariat, and having an accountant background, it seemed fitting for me to continue as Treasurer once my term as Pre-Cursillo Chair ended. Once again, I am thrilled to serve God and the Rockford Cursillo Movement as your Treasurer and pray these next coming years are fruitful with many additional Cursillista's.

I have truly enjoyed working with such a great team of Catholic men and women who share the same objective- to bring others to Christ.

May God continue to bless us all!!



**Mark Powell  
Pre-Cursillo**

I have been a Cursillista since October 2014, and the movement has profoundly changed my life, just as it has for so many others. Over the years, I've been frustrated to see weekends with few candidates or, worse, weekends canceled due to not having enough candidates. As a retired military officer with 28 years of experience making things happen, I'm committed to building on the strong foundation already in place and enhancing our outreach efforts. My initial focus as the Pre-Cursillo leader is to map out the groups within our Diocese, ensuring we work through each effectively to build a steady stream of candidates. Beyond never missing a weekend, my ultimate goal is to bring more men and women to Christ through Cursillo. Join me in this effort—I need some volunteers to help make this happen. Call today, and let's work together to ensure the movement continues to transform lives!



**VACANT  
School of Leaders**

Interested? Contact us today to volunteer for this crucial position!



**Make a friend,  
Be a friend,  
Bring a friend to Christ.**

*"Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord."*

ACTS 9: 1-20





**Vicki Scull  
Cursillo**

I started living my Cursillo in the spring of 2016. I have been married to my husband Scott for 19 1/2 years. I am a parishioner of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Oregon. I am very much retired from over 40 years in the medical field. I have 3 grown married children and 4 grandchildren. The love of my life!

For the past 9 years the Rockford Cursillo Movement has been an intricate part of my faith journey and I am very honored to continue working as the head of the Cursillo position on our secretariat. I look forward to working with everyone to help revitalize this beautiful aspect of Catholic faith.



**Camille Ernst  
Post-Cursillo**

I have been married to Dave for 27 years and we have 3 children. I am a parishioner at Holy Angels in Aurora. I made my Cursillo in the fall of 2010. Since then I have been very involved in Cursillo, including working the weekends on various teams, and served on various committees.

As Post-Cursillo Chairperson, I would like to help with the Cursillo movement, and help my fellow Cursillistas grow in their own Fourth Day. Utreaya are an integral part of that and my team and I will help facilitate them. My hope is that I can help bring more Cursillistas to be involved in the movement.

*“Woman,  
why are you  
weeping?  
Whom are  
you looking  
for?”  
Supposing  
him to be the  
gardener,  
she said to  
him, ‘Sir, if  
you have  
carried him  
away, tell  
me where  
you have  
laid him,  
and I will  
take him  
away.’”*

JOHN 20: 15



**Make a friend,  
Be a friend,  
Bring a friend to Christ.**





**Fr. Godwin,  
Spiritual Director**

Dear Cursillistas/Friends,

Decolores!

Our beloved Holy Father of blessed memory, Pope St. John Paul II said, "To be Christian means to be missionaries, to be apostles. It is not enough to discover Christ – you must bring him to others!"

That saying from JP II encapsulates the mission of the Cursillo movement.

To put simply, Cursillo, as you may already know, is a short course on Christianity. It enlivens the essentials of the Christian message in simple but practical ways. Cursillo has helped me and many others to rediscover and to deepen a qualitative relationship with the Lord and others in the day-to-day experiences of life. The Cursillo dictum- "Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ,"



**Make a friend,  
Be a friend,  
Bring a friend to Christ.**

*"I urge you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose."*

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10

