

THE ROOSTER

MAY 2024

Cursillo

School of Leaders

By Tommy Lachat, Chair

As we say goodbye to the Cursillo Weekends and hello to our new Cursillistas, it's time to get back to the everyday life of the 4th day. For me, this means getting back to the School of Leaders.

For our new Cursillistas, the School of Leaders is like a school of fish, journeying together by sharing in our faith- no homework or tests here. Currently, in the school we are going to be delving a bit deeper into the study of the environments. We also have a committee working on revising the Cursillo Manual. Our findings



will be brought to later School of Leaders meetings for further discussion and review.

Our meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at St. Mary's in Maple Park (also streamed live on Zoom). I welcome all of you to join.

Letter from Our Lay Director

By Tiffany Guthrie

Many blessings this day as we head into the middle part of our year. I hope you are feeling God's love today. We have successfully finished our Spring 2024 Weekends, and what a great set of events they were! God is Good!

As we head into the Fall preparations (yes, already!), let us be reminded to open our hearts to God's call. Will you be asked to give a talk or possibly head up a team? Might the Holy Spirit be wishing for you to quiet your hearts a little and serve on the Kitchen team? Whatever your

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purpose, give your all! And don't forget... we need candidates!

Who has been placed on your heart to ask? Pray about them and then reach out! The time is now!

As always, I am here to help make your Fourth Day the best it can be. Secretariat, your sponsor, those in your Group - we are all here to serve and walk WITH you, no matter your place on that path towards Christ. Let us know what we can do! No matter how long Cursillo has been part of your life, I encourage you to reach out to someone who might have fallen away from Grouping or working the weekends!

Pre-Cursillo Chair Reflection

By Sandra Ondrla

Yet another amazing Cursillo weekend has come and gone! Wow, how time marches on- and waits for no one. That was a saying my mom used often, and the older I get, the more I come to realize so much truth were in those old sayings!

As we are quickly approaching the summer months, let us take this time to enjoy our family and friends. As God continues to bless each of us, let us embrace these opportunities to give God glory! What better way to give HIM glory then to share the message of Cursillo.

Remember... Its nots complicated: Make a friend, be a friend, bring that friend to CHRIST, and always

Talk to God before you talk to your friend.

May God continue to bless us all!

Rector's Reflection

*By Brian Arnet - Rector
for the 114th Men's
Weekend*

The men's weekend went smoothly bringing all 21 men closer to Jesus. The Holy Spirit was present throughout the weekend. It took the entire team of volunteers to make it happen. Everyone did their job and more.

Each of the talks were excellent, which helped to create lots of good discussion afterwards at the table families. I could see the men getting more into the weekend as the talks built on each other. There was awesome discussion and participation at each of the tables.

The Chapel was a very reverent place to pray with Jesus present. Thanks to all the workers for keeping this a sacred place over the weekend. I heard that the prayers for each of the speakers were very powerful, and they worked.

The food was great and plentiful. The kitchen team did an awesome job by providing excellent food in a timely manner to keep us on schedule. The workers mingled with the candidates very nicely as well. I heard comments from the candidates that they truly appreciated the level of service that they received.

*"Do not
let your
heart be
troubled.
You have
faith in
God, have
faith also
in me."*

JN 14:1



The theme for the weekend was “Do not let your heart be troubled, you believe in God, believe also in Me.” John 14:1. I chose this theme as it struck me that it further states that God has many rooms for us in heaven, if we only accept his son, Jesus, as our savior.

The Music team led the conference room with our theme song to introduce each of the speakers.

My Assistant Mark kept us on-time throughout the weekend. He only found the box with the tinker bells, so they started calling him tinker bell.

My moment closest to Christ for the weekend was that ALL of the 21 candidates had a great learning experience. This was noted by the comments each of them made at the closing ceremony.

Thank you to everyone who helped make it possible.

De Colores.



Rectora's Reflection

*By Patti Hartmann -
Rectora for the 105th
Women's Weekend*

Being asked to be the Rectora for the Women's 105th Rockford Cursillo was quite an honor. It was also unexpected. After praying about it, I accepted. There was such a peace, and I felt that our Lord did want me to do this. There were a few obstacles on the way in my personal life, but somehow the Lord was interceding and making everything work out according to His plan. Planning and preparation went relatively smooth, but also showed me that the Holy Spirit is in control. Some of my “picks” for the weekend were not available, but that was OK. I let the Holy Spirit guide me and the person I needed to call. It truly was the Holy Spirit and Jesus interceding to make this weekend work.

While the weekend seemed to go off without a hitch (or at least to my knowledge), I learned to “let go” and “let God”. I was not in control. Speaking of not being in control, I, like the candidates, did not know what time it was except by the manual. That was very hard for me not knowing if we were on schedule. I did however have a great sidekick, Chandra. She helped us all keep on track, her and her “ding a lings.”

I felt that the chosen women in the conference room with the speakers were such a great

*“For even
the son of
man did
not come
to be
served,
but to
serve.”*

MK 10:4-5



choice. They seemed to mesh well and were very cooperative and open to the Holy Spirit guiding them. They were very interactive at their tables and participated without any urging from what I could tell. The posters were not a high light for some, however they did see the value and participated fully. They all seemed to be very involved with their discussions. It was a very intimate group being we were a small group.

I, myself, felt such peace throughout the weekend. No anxiety whatsoever. Every team seemed to outdo themselves and we were surrounded by smiles. Everyone seemed to pitch in and everything was on time. The service did not go unnoticed.

The chapel is always so special. I loved my adoration time before starting my day. My special moment closest to Christ was while I was in Chapel before my Total Security Talk. While the talk itself is very important, it is not a very emotional talk. While waiting to be prayed over, I asked to have "Oh Lord, I need you" be played.



Yes, I need Him always. Right after that the next song was from Our Lord to me. He said " I love you and you are Mine! " Those tears stayed with me while I gave the last talk of the day, and are with me now as I recall my Lord speaking to me. I am His!

An Invitation to Share "a Moment Closest to Christ"

By Ray Oleferchik

At our weekly group reunions, Cursillistas are encouraged to share their "moments closest to Christ." Whether you made your Cursillo this spring or 30 years ago, we are inviting Cursillistas to share with the entire Cursillo community a "moment closest to Christ" that has deepened your faith as you journey on your fourth day.

Here's one from Cursillista Al Johnson: "I was on a cruise of the eastern Caribbean on a Holland-America (H-A) ship right after Christmas and was able to attend Mass every day aboard the ship. H-A has a priest onboard to say Mass daily for the guest on every cruise. My moment closest however was the day I was able to get my wife and the other three we were traveling with to attend one of the daily Masses. God is good."

"A moment closest to Christ" submissions should be sent to rayoleferchik@earthlink.net.

Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ,





UPCOMING WEEKENDS

MEN'S: OCTOBER 17 - 20,
2024

RECTOR - TOM WRIGHT

WOMEN'S: OCTOBER 24 -
27, 2024

RECTORA - CAROL PRUNTY

**CHRIST IS
COUNTING ON
YOU!**

