

# THE ROCKFORD Rooster

*"Something Worth Crowing About"*

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[www.natl-cursillo.org/rockford](http://www.natl-cursillo.org/rockford)



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## Message from the Lay Director

The Year of Faith started on October 11, 2012, and continues to November 24, 2013. It is a "summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the One Savior of the world". In other words, the Year of Faith is an opportunity for Catholics to experience a conversion – to turn back to Jesus and enter into a deeper relationship with him. The "door of faith" is opened at one's baptism, but during this year Catholics are called to open it again, walk through it and rediscover and renew their relationship with Christ and his Church.

We are summoned. We need to be authentic. We need to renew our Faith in God. We need a deeper and personal relationship with Jesus and His Church

This is exactly what we do in the Cursillo Movement. We open the door for our brothers and sisters to know Christ. Our weekends, groupings and Ultreyas all focus on our relationship with Christ. We help each other deepen this relationship with our Lord.

We are a group of people who are all working to have Christianity lived in society by means of a certain strategy and method. The measure of the success of the Cursillo Movement is the degree to which there is a change being made in the world. The Cursillo Movement is succeeding when more and more people are striving to form Christian life in their environments, when more and more people are coming to know Christ and becoming what Christ wants them to be.

The Cursillo Movement has a clearly unified goal with a developed strategy and approach, Structuring Christian Life. It has a method which helps people become more committed to Christ and His Church, a method which can help them persevere and grow in holiness, a method which can help them to remain linked together through Jesus Christ. It is this method that provides the organization that is needed to make all this possible.

The method promotes the proclaiming Christ as a witness, not as a teacher. People are touched more by witnesses than by teachers. The most effective teachers are also the most effective witnesses. The Cursillo method is neither apologetical nor catechetical. It is Christ-centered, testimonial, and personal. It is a road to conversion. It is communal and inductive. We are all touched by the witness of others in our lives. We remember the witness of the speakers from the weekends even if we do not remember anything else from the talks. That is why we group and share at all our meetings.

We need to be more Faithful. Not only just for the Year of Faith, but for Jesus and each other. Faith is not just a state of mind or a belief. It is who we are and what we do. Believing is not enough. Action is required to fulfill our beliefs. True belief turns into action that allows us to be Witnesses for Him. That is the path to Faithfulness. We are called to serve. We are called to lead. We need to be Servant Leaders. Go serve and lead. God's Peace, Love and Joy be with you.

Scott



# ULTREYA GRANDE V111

*A day of fellowship, food and fun where we will group  
and praise the Lord through witness and song*



*January 26, 2013 St. Mary's Church Sycamore,  
Illinois 9:30 AM to 4 PM  
Registration begins at 8:30 AM*



*Breakout session witness by.....Fr. Jeremy Trowbridge  
Witness by.....Gabe and Jenny Bourge  
Mass and spiritual talk by.....Msgr. Wilhite*

*Cost \$15 per person \$25 per couple  
Daycare will be provided for two dollars per child  
to cover cost of babysitters  
For our RS VP or questions contact Kayla Abramowitz  
815-622-8568 or kabramowitz5@gmail.com*



# Area Ultreyas

## INVITATION TO ALL CURSILLISTAS TO WORK UPCOMING WEEKENDS

For all Cursillistas who would like to come back and serve on a three-day weekend, the Rockford Diocese holds Cursillo weekends twice a year, one each spring and fall for men and for women. All weekends are held at St. Mary's Parish Community Center, 881 N. Mongan Drive, Oregon, IL 61061 (on the northeast corner of Rt. 64 and Mongan Drive).

**Men's 98th Cursillo April 11-14, 2013**  
**"Send Your Spirit to Fire My Soul"**

Ken Meeker - Rector, Phone 630/430-9879 k\_meeker@comcast.net  
 Kevin O'Connor - Assistant, martandkevinoc@comcast.net

### TEAM MEETINGS:

Meeting	Date	Time	Place
#1	February 10 2013	1:00pm	Holy Cross, Batavia, Rm 216
#2	February 24, 2013	1:00pm	Newman Ctr, DeKalb*
#3	March 10, 2013	1:00pm	Holy Cross, Batavia, Rm 216
#4	March 24, 2012	1:00pm	Holy Cross, Batavia, Rm 216
#5	April 7, 2013	1:00pm	St Mary's - Oregon

**Women's 88th Cursillo April 25 - 28 2013**

Terri Krey - Rectora, phone 815/385-1241 dan.and.terri@comcast.net  
 Dorri Hausser - Assistant, phone 815/385-8689 tweetybear1028@aol.com

### TEAM MEETINGS:

Meeting	Date	Time	Place
#1	February 3, 2013	1:00pm	St. Charles Borromeo, Hampshire
#2	February 24, 2013	1:00pm	Newman Ctr, DeKalb*
#3	March 10, 2013	1:00pm	Church of Holy Apostles, McHenry
#4	March 24, 2013	1:00pm	Church of Holy Apostles, McHenry
#5	April 14, 2013	1:00pm	St Mary's - Oregon

\* COMMISSIONING

## Dates to Remember

School of Leaders	January 17, 2013	St Charles Borromeo
Ultreya Grande	January 26, 2013	St. Mary's, Sycamore
School of Leaders	March 21, 2013	St. Charles Borromeo
Men's Cursillo	April 11-14, 2013	St. Mary's, Oregon
Women's Cursillo	April 25-28, 2013	St. Mary's, Oregon
School of Leaders	May 16, 2013	St Charles Borromeo
School of Leaders	July 18, 2013	St. Charles Borromeo
School of Leaders	Sept. 19 2013	St Charles Borromeo
Men's Cursillo	Oct. 17 - 20, 2013	St. Mary's, Oregon
Women's Cursillo	Oct. 24-27, 2013	St. Mary's, Oregon
School of Leaders	Nov. 21, 2013	St Charles Borromeo

Please check the website for School of Leader meeting dates in Maple Park and McHenry during February, April, June, August, October and December.

The Spanish word "ultreya" means "onward." It was a shout of enthusiasm by the first pilgrimage to the shrine of St. James of Compostela. And so we use that term to mean that which encourages all of us who attend the Ultreya to continue, to persevere in our Christian life as apostles for Jesus Christ. The purpose of the Ultreya is to keep the spirit and friendship of a Cursillo ongoing in order that it may be a motivating force for all of us to live the ideal and to evangelize. Ultreya is the place where friendships are built within the larger community. The Ultreya in its totality is the sharing of our Christian life.

- It is a community that makes itself visible in gatherings where they come together in an attitude of progressive conversion.
- It is a community united in one faith, one Lord and one baptism.
- It gathers to facilitate the living and sharing of what is fundamental to being a Christian.
- It also serves as an opportunity to come in contact with the larger Christian community and to help those who may not have formed a permanent friendship group.

McHenry: 3 times a year at The Church of Holy Apostles

Contact Rich & Barb Hayes, 815-728-0918 r2b2hayes@comcast.net

Oregon: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in June and December, 7:00 pm, at

St Mary's Parish Center Contact Linda & Ron Abramowicz 815-986-8554

Abramz6@comcast.net

DeKalb: 2 times a year, 7:00 pm, at NIU Newman Center

Contact Tom & Lori Kedzie 815-751-9644 lorikedzie@gmail.com

Rockford: May, September & January, 8:30 pm, at

St. Bridget's Parish Center (Loves Park)

Contact Al Johnson 815-877-3546 alafrdjohnson@gmail.com

Aurora: Spanish 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, 7:00 pm, at St. Nicholas,

Daleiden Center Contact Jesus Morones 630-844-9544

Chuy8844@msn.com



## SCHOOL OF LEADERS

Late again, the story of my life. Al has been hounding me to get this written. Well maybe not hounding but he has been persistent. It is not like I haven't been trying, but every time I sat down to write my mind went blank. I even called and asked for ideas, which I got but it still didn't seem right. Then yesterday my wife Cindy told me a story and I knew right then what God wanted me to write.

The story was about being a leader. It was about influencing others and transforming our environments. The story was about my eleven year old son Kyle. He showed me what it was to be a leader and that through a simple act of kindness, done out of love can truly influence those around us. The Leader's talk says that true leaders are not those in high places or those with power or money. We all know that eleven year old boys have no power and no money but they most certainly can be a strong influence on those around them.

My son Kyle has always had a big heart. He always thinks of others before himself which is unusual for someone his age. Cindy has spent the past few months helping some friends of our get ready for an estate sale. Many days Kyle would go with Cindy and help get things organized. The other day he spotted a semi truck, still in the box. It was one of those scale models where the doors and hood opens. He asked Jerry, the owner how much it was. Jerry said that he bought it for fifty dollars but would be willing to sell it for thirty. Without hesitation Kyle asked his mom if he could borrow the thirty dollars now. He told her he would repay her when they got home with his birthday money. You see, he didn't want the truck for himself. He wanted to give it to a friend of his at school. This friend was having a hard time and Kyle knew he loved trucks. When Jerry heard this, he gave the truck to Kyle for his friend. Cindy wrapped it up and Kyle gave it to his friend during school in front of all his class mates. When Cindy told me the story, I told Kyle how proud I was of him and asked him if this was a Christmas present. He said; "No, this was just a present for a friend." To him it was no big deal. He knew his friend was having problems and would love the truck. The fact that it would cost him his birthday money did not enter into the equation. It was a simple act of love and kindness that has profoundly affected Cindy, I and maybe his classmates.

What is a leader? Here is what the Three Day Manual say's a leaders is. "We are talking about those who have more weight, more influence.



## MEET YOUR SECRETARIAT...

*Tiffany Guthrie*  
**Secretary**

I am honored to be named the next secretary of the Secretariat. I began living my Cursillo in the Fall of 2010. I thank God daily for the gift of my husband of 13 years, Matt (also a Cursillista since Fall 2010), and my five beautiful children: Christiana, 12; Izabella, 10; Logan, 8 ½; Micaela, 7; and Ambrielle, 5 ½. Together as a family, we attend Holy Angels in Aurora.

I've been an active member of Holy Angels since joining the parish when I was just 9 years old. I was excited to finally receive the Sacrament of Confirmation my junior year of high school so that I could become active in the Eucharistic Ministry.

After three years, I chose to try lecturing. I found my calling! For at least 15 years, I've been reading the Word to His people and I've truly grown in my faith while doing so.

Once I experienced Cursillo, I knew I'd found exactly where God wanted me to be. I'm a busy mom, but thankful that my kids are all finally in all-day school. When I'm not working, I'm busy enjoying my family or teaching Religious Education, attending School of Leaders, team meetings and my weekly Groupings with my Cursillo Sisters in Christ (we affectionately call ourselves CA- Catholics Anonymous!).

I will pray for you all and ask God to bless you & those in your lives. Will you do the same for me?

**De Colores!**

### SCHOOL OF LEADERS

Every one of us here has the potential to become this type of leader by using our God given talents to orient, guide, and direct those around us to help bring about the Christian transformation of society." This past week I was shown first hand what it is to be a true Christian leader. It was shown to me by my eleven year old son who has a heart of gold. When I grow up I want to be like Kyle.

DeColores Don White





## 50 Years of History

*This summer we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Cursillo in the Rockford Diocese and in honor of that 50 years we will be hosting a picnic for all Cursillistas and their families. We will let you know of the date for the picnic as soon as we book a location. Please watch the website for more information.*

The first English Cursillo in the United States was in 1961 and the following year it was in Chicago and soon thereafter plans were underway to bring the Cursillo movement to the Rockford diocese. The first weekend in Rockford was August 8-11, 1963 at Muldoon high school in Rockford. The Rector was Norm Rapp from Chicago and his assistant was Francis Murphy who had just made his weekend in Chicago. The Spiritual Director was also from Chicago that first weekend, Fr Michael Cody.

Just 3 month later on Nov. 7-10, 1963 Rockford hosted its second weekend which was under the direction of the Rockford Diocese new Spiritual Director, Fr. William Knott, (now living in Sun City, AZ) and now Francis Murphy was ready to be the Rector. Fr. Knott was spiritual director on the next 4 weekends. Joseph Kiegel would be the assistant for that weekend but would follow up by being the first of only few men who would be Rector twice. The others were Charles Luecke, Jim Hodapp, Ken Sittenauer and Bob Wright. One, Jake McCabe actually was Rector 3 times.

The men would have 5 weekends before the women had their first on May 20-23, 1965. It was held at St. Josephs in Freeport and Madolin Witte was the Rectora. Her assistant was Rae DuFore who was then the next Rectora 6 month later. Fr. James O'Brien was the Spiritual Director for the first 2 women's weekends. The women have had a number of repeat Rectoras starting with Bart Williams 4 times and Barbara Roman, Shirley McCabe, Toni Hodapp, Lois Wright, Margaret Johnson, Tricia Aurand, and Donna Mancini each

serving twice. We have been blessed with many priest that have been Spiritual Directors (number of times) including; Fr. Michael Cody(1), Fr. William Knott(4), Fr. James O'Brien(2), Fr. John Reuland (14), Fr. William Collins(12), Fr. Thomas Caughlin(2), Fr. John Regan(1), Fr. Andrew Plesa(12), Fr. Jack Wentland(5), Fr. John Slampak(1), Fr. Timothy Piasecki(2), Fr. Richard Kramer(24), Fr. Geoffrey Wirth(3), Msgr. Robert Willhite(10), Fr. Harold Nigles(23) Fr. Robert Sherry(2), Fr. Mike Mas(2), Msgr. Dan Hermes(2), Fr. Steve St. Jules(1), Fr. Sylvester Eye(1), Msgr. Thomas Bales(4), Fr. Alan ReKate(1), Fr. Bill Morrissey(1), Msgr. Thomas Dempsey(1), Bishop Arthur O'Neill(1), Fr. Richard Grek(1), Fr. John Dalton(2), Fr. Max Striedl(2), Fr. Joe Nicolosi(2), Fr. Addison Hart(1), Fr. Lou Busemeyer(1), Fr. Dean Russell(1), Fr. Victor Alcazar(1), Fr. Godwin Asuquo(2), Fr. Sylvester Nnaso(1), Fr. Matthew Camaioni(1), and Fr. Brian Geary(1).

We also have had a few nuns as Spiritual Directors; Sr. Elyse Marie, Sr. Mary Stella Schellenberger, and Sr. Karen Bricher. We are very blessed to have many deacons involved in the movement and in 1993 they started to fill the role of Spiritual Directors. They include; Deacon Ray Johnson(7), Dcn. Gene Reilly(2), Dcn. Pat Maher(1), Dcn. Tom Hawksworth(7), Dcn. Mike Zebrun(1), Dcn. Mike Giblin(1), Dcn. Jack Roder(1), and Dcn. Curtis Fiedler(1).

Anyone who have a memory that you would like to share please forward them to Al Johnson [AlfredRJohnson@gmail.com](mailto:AlfredRJohnson@gmail.com) or 10714 Ventura Blvd., Machesney Park, IL 61115.

We will do what we can to post your memory. We are hopeful that the Observer will also allow us to have a feature article of the Movement of the 50 years.

## Secretariat Meetings



**Secretariat meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month at St. Mary's in Sycamore.**

The Secretariat of the Rockford Diocese helps the Cursillo Movement to function and achieve its purpose. It is charged by the Bishop to implement the Movement properly according to norms and guidelines established by the National Secretariat. All Cursillistas are urged to support the Secretariat by prayer and palanca.

Spiritual Director	FR. SYLVESTER A. NNASO		
Lay Director	Scott Long	815-282-0626	scottrlong@comcast.net
Asst. Lay Director	Linda Abramowica	815-886-8554	Abramz6@comcast.net
Secretary	Al Johnson	815-877-3546	alfredjohnson@gmail.com
Treasurer	Fermin Garcia	815-761-1579	garciaf65@yahoo.com
School of Leaders	Don White	847-683-2005	dwhite@foxvalley.net
Pre-Cursillo	Ray Oleferchik	847-683-0337	rayoleferchik@earthlink.net
Cursillo	Ron Abramowica	815-886-8554	AbramzR@comcast.net
Post-Cursillo	Denise Camaioni	630-202-0422	hope0414@yahoo.com

### Directions to St. Mary's Community Center Oregon, Illinois

**Take Rt. 64 to Oregon. Parish Center is on Rt. 64 at Mongan Drive, a mile west of town on the north side of the road.**

**Emergency Phone for Cursillo Weekends  
Friday Saturday & Sunday 815-732-7383**

## ROCKFORD CURSILLO COMMUNICATIONS



The Rockford Cursillo website is [www.natl-cursillo.org/rockford](http://www.natl-cursillo.org/rockford). There you can view Roosters, weekend and team meeting information and download candidate and sponsor forms.

Webmaster is Brenda Morones: [brndmoro@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brndmoro@sbcglobal.net)

Other informative web sites: National website: <http://www.cursillo.org>

Region V website: <http://www.cursillo-region-5.org>

OMCC World organization: <http://www.orgmcc.org>

Rockford Diocese website: <http://www.rockforddiocese.org>

The Rooster is published twice a year. If you want to add, modify or delete your name/address from the mailing list contact Al Johnson at [alfredjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:alfredjohnson@gmail.com) or 815-877-3546.

## Friendship Grouping Areas

### Oregon

St. Mary's Church

Women: Tuesdays at 6:15 pm

Men: Sundays at 7:00 pm

### Belvedere

Location: St. James Parish Center

Men: Saturdays at 8:00 am

### Sycamore

St. Mary's Purple House

Men: Mondays at 7:00 pm

### Loves Park

St. Bridget's Parish Center

Men: Mondays at 7:00 pm

### Hampshire

St. Charles Borromeo

Church basement

Men: Saturday at 7:30 am

### Aurora

Location: Holy Angels

Women: Wednesdays 8:30 pm

Contact Laura Wright 630-859-0781

### Virgil

Sts. Peter & Paul

Parish rectory

Men: Mondays at 7:00 pm