



The RAINBOW

Niagara Anglican Cursillo Newsletter

APRIL 2010



CURSILLO CALENDAR

Apr	18	Moonlight Church of the Nativity Hamilton 3:00pm
Apr	25	Mañanita Mount Mary, Ancaster
May	16	Diocesan Ultreya Location to be announced
Sep	TBD	Annual General Meeting

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We welcome submissions...

from readers, as viewpoints, faith journey stories, book reviews, news and coming events from parishes, etc.

All submissions must include a name, telephone number or e-mail for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for content and length.

(see last page for submission details & deadlines)

From our Lay Director

Nancy Harris

Greetings to all Cursillistas in the Niagara Diocese!

Shortly we will be seeing plants poking their stems up through the warming earth and eventually producing beautiful and colorful flowers. These beautiful flowers and their colors make me reflect on the colors in the Cursillo rainbow. They reflect the beginning of new life and are the Alpha before the Omega.

Life goes on. Between April 22nd and April 25th, a new beginning will start for Niagara Cursillo with the commencement of Weekend #45. The Weekend Coordinator is Larry Collinson and he has put together his team who are presently being trained to reach out to the new weekend participants to start them on their Christian journey through Cursillo.

There is still plenty of room left for participants for Larry and his team to bring closer to Christ. If you know of anyone interested in going on the upcoming weekend, please provide them with an application. Applications can be downloaded from the Niagara Cursillo website. If you are not able to download an application, simply call me or any member of Secretariat and we will be only too happy to provide you with one.

I want to call to your attention the AGM meeting to be held in September. Everyone in the Cursillo Wider Community is entitled to attend and participate at the AGM. You will be hearing more about this later but suffice it to say that there is always plenty of room for those Cursillistas with specific skills who can work on the various and diverse committees.

Since taking up my position as Lay Director, I have visited with several of you at Regional Ultreyas. I have found this to be most pleasurable, informative, and enlightening. It is my intention to continue to attend as many Regional Ultreyas and events as is possible in the future. I look forward to personally meeting as many of you as possible at these events. I believe that the overall strength of Niagara Cursillo begins at the Regional Ultreya level.

I hope to see and greet as many of you as possible at the upcoming Moonlight, Mañanita, and Weekend Closing service.

Ultreya and God Bless,
Nancy Harris

From our Spiritual Director

Rev. Susan Wells

The Diocesan Vision: Where does Cursillo fit?



In conversation with our Bishop Michael, he believes that Cursillo fits in the very center of the Diocesan Vision – That is “Following Christ passionately we pursue excellence, practise justice and grow”

What an affirmation this is. Are we up to it?

What do you believe the future of Cursillo is in our Diocese?

The bishop is hopeful that we will be an integral part of helping to implement the Diocesan vision at the parish level by doing what we have done for 28 years, creating Lay Leaders.

You can help?

Secretariat is looking for Cursillistas who are willing to take on roles within the Cursillo community.

Our AGM is coming up in September and we are looking for new members for Secretariat and individual committees. We are especially in need of those with computer programming and web-site design skills to sit on a communication committee. We are looking for someone to chair the Pre-Cursillo committee which involves promoting Cursillo at Diocesan events, mailing to parishes, updating literature. We are also looking for those who have musical skills to help out on weekends and other Cursillo events. And we are also seeking a new Spiritual Director.

Cursillo needs to continue to do what it does best, hold weekends. Not so we can make disciples, but rather in order to create an environment where people are open to hearing the voice of God and God’s call on their lives. We support each other in grouping, Ultreyas and Spiritual Direction along with phone calls, cards and especially prayer.

Please join with me in getting involved, in accepting the Bishop’s invitation to be an integral part of the vision. Secretariat believes that God is calling us to be part of the Bishop’s vision. As a Cursillistas you can help: pray for Cursillo and about your role in supporting the ministry of Cursillo: pray for Cursillo, introduce others to Cursillo, join a Committee, become a member of Secretariat, support Cursillo financially.

This is an exciting time for Cursillo.



CURSILLO

Musicians and singers!

Here are a few events coming up where we need your help:

SUNDAY, April 18

Moonlight Church of the Nativity, Hamilton - 3 p.m.

SUNDAY, April 25

Mañanita Mount Mary, Ancaster 6 am --- *be assembled by 5:45 a.m.*

Closing service for Weekend 45 - 4 pm --- *set up @ 3:45 p.m.*

SUNDAY, May 16

Diocesan Ultreya Location to be announced 3:30 p.m.

Ultreya is followed by a potluck

for more information contact Susan Little, Music Committee Chair at littleivo2@yahoo.com

Weekend #45 - Team Members

Coordinator	Larry Collinson
Assistant Coordinator	Marion Bailey
Spiritual Advisors	The Rev. Marcus Germaine The Rev. Mark McDermott The Rev. Susan Wells
Music Coordinator	Ann Grose
Professor	Ann Grose
Table Enablers	Sharon Insley Pat Roberts Bethany Georgas Laurie McDowell Marion Binns Margaret Wilding-Denew Tim Standish Fred Predon
Support	
Group Coordinator	Shirley Kitchen
Support Group	Jan Collinson Corey dePass John Newton

How do we introduce ourselves on Weekends and other events?

There has been some confusion lately amongst Cursillistas as to exactly how we should introduce ourselves before giving a Weekend talk, a Witness talk, a Response to a Witness talk or any general announcements to other Cursillistas.

Secretariat has made a ruling in this regard as follows:

"We have the freedom to introduce ourselves using the date, place and table name of our Weekend OR simply our name and place of worship, as we are comfortable."

I am certain that this choice of introduction will eliminate any confusion that may have previously existed.

Nancy Harris
Lay Director

Co-Ed Weekend #45 April 22 - 25, 2010

Community Prayer Vigil

Set aside one hour during the weekend to pray at home or other location of your choice
Please send an e-mail to the [list manager](#) to "sign up" on this list deadline to sign up is noon Wednesday April 21, 2010

<u>Day / Time</u>	<u>Name (please print)</u>	<u>Day / Time</u>	<u>Name (please print)</u>
Thursday	April 22	Saturday	April 24
4 pm - 5 pm	Dorothy Ferguson	7 am - 8 am	Michael Nurse
5 pm - 6 pm	--	8 am - 9 am	Alison Clarke
6 pm - 7 pm	Liz Biedinger	9 am - 10 am	Gloria Gardiner
7 pm - 8 pm	--	10 am - 11 am	Brian Rothwell
8 pm - 9 pm	--	11 am - 12 pm	--
9 pm - 10 pm	Joe Di Paolo	12 pm - 1 pm	Lou Williams
10 pm - 11 pm	Susan Little	1 pm - 2 pm	--
-/-	-/-	2 pm - 3 pm	--
Friday	April 23	3 pm - 4 pm	--
7 am - 8 am	Frances Fordham	4 pm - 5 pm	--
8 am - 9 am	Lorraine Cassidy	5 pm - 6 pm	--
9 am - 10 am	Julie Parks	6 pm - 7 pm	--
10 am - 11 am	Jim & Myrtle Emsbe	7 pm - 8 pm	--
11 am - 12 pm	Lainie Taal	8 pm - 9 pm	--
12 pm - 1 pm	Lou Williams	9 pm - 10 pm	--
1 pm - 2 pm	Jessie & Cec Johnstone	10 pm - 11 pm	Susan Little
2 pm - 3 pm	--	-/-	-/-
3 pm - 4 pm	--	Sunday	April 25
4 pm - 5 pm	Alison Clarke	7 am - 8 am	Muriel Hornsby
5 pm - 6 pm	Ted Clarke	8 am - 9 am	--
6 pm - 7 pm	--	9 am - 10 am	--
7 pm - 8 pm	--	10 am - 11 am	--
8 pm - 9 pm	--	11 am - 12 pm	--
9 pm - 10 pm	Trudy Smith	12 pm - 1 pm	--
10 pm - 11 pm	John Fordham	1 pm - 2 pm	Beverly Davidson
-/-	-/-	2 pm - 3 pm	--

Marion Bailey, (Coordinator Weekend # 44) invites you to remember your own weekend and to join her as the Wider Community commissions the Team for Weekend #45 and to join her in supporting the Participants of Weekend #45 at the Mañanita and the Closing,

Our individual Cursillo weekend experience may have given us a high – or maybe not - but the biblical story of the Transfiguration offers us an example of how mountain top experiences sometimes lead us into “valley” duty as written in Luke 9: 28-43. I would be willing to bet that, in some way, all of us reading this Rainbow have changed since our Cursillo weekend. Remember on the Thursday evening of your weekend when you heard the talk about the original Cursillo weekend in 1948, Majorca Spain? The Catholic action groups would travel the rough terrain to the shrine and encouraged one another with the word *Ultreya*. And here we are, on our Fourth Day – a pilgrimage to God in which we encourage one another by the cry “Ultreya!” -- Onward, upward and forward!! As the Cursillo method developed, “Ultreyas” became the community gatherings for support and encouragement. Recall the word “Cursillo” means “short course” in Christianity? As we concluded the introduction course – our weekend - we are encouraged to continue to learn and to grow in Christ. With Group Reunion and *Ultreya* we receive strength, support and encouragement on our journey through our Fourth Day. **The Cursillo Method is dependable and time proven.**

Weekend #45 is quickly approaching. This is the time when we, as Cursillistas, can further participate in God’s work. We can spread God’s word and invitation to attend the weekend beginning April 22nd by suggesting to a friend that he/she should fill out an application. **You could be instrumental in a life changing gift to your friend.**

A reminder especially for new Cursillistas – **the Moonlight is held on the Sunday before the weekend – that is, Sunday, April 18th at the Church of the Nativity at 3 p.m.** The moonlight is where the wider community gathers to commission the team for their work on the upcoming weekend, now that you are part of the Wider Community –you have the opportunity to join other to pray for the participants who will be attending Weekend #45 and to commission the team. It is an awesome service.

For those who were on the teams of past weekends, I encourage you to come and support the new participants and Team. These people are the future of Cursillo and the Church. Team #45 will be so encouraged to have your support at 6:45 a.m. on Sunday, April 25th at the Mañanita and again at 4 p.m. at the Closing. The support of the Wider Community is paramount to the new Cursillistas at these times.

As you pray and prepare Palanca, I ask you to keep in mind the theme of this weekend: John 3:16. I am convinced that there is nothing that you can do to make Him love you more and there is nothing that you can do to make Him love you less. He loves you. All he wants is for you to love him and to love your neighbor. He is counting on you to Make a Friend, Be a Friend, and Bring your Friend to Christ.

Ultreya
Marion Bailey

Gone but not forgotten

BY CASSIE WILLIAMS

Dec. 31, 2009, saw the end of the Diocese of Toronto's renewal movement called Cursillo. It had been established in 1976 by the late Rev. Canon Graham Tucker with the support of the late Archbishop Lewis Garnsworthy. Its mandate was to empower and train lay leaders. When it first started, the laity had little or no role in church ministry; that has completely changed. A lot of the lay involvement we see today is because of Cursillo.

Many people found their calling by attending a Cursillo weekend. The experience encouraged lay people to pursue ministry in volunteering, foodbanks, missions and personal and group prayer and study. For some, it was a turning point in the decision-making process to pursue careers in ordained ministry. Cursillo transformed not only their lives but the lives of those around them.

My own spiritual journey was forever enhanced by Cursillo. Through it, I met a wonderful group of spirit-filled and spirit led people. These people continue to pray and study regularly and witness in thought, word and deed. Through Cursillo, I was introduced to a much larger worshipping community outside of my church. I now have friends from all over the diocese and across Canada. I am now willing to talk about my faith to my friends, family, people at work, and in my own church and community. The witnessing of others and the support of these people encouraged me to pursue new ministries, even though I often felt unprepared or unqualified. A favourite saying was, "God doesn't call the equipped. He equips those He calls."

Cursillo developed in me a thirst for deeper spirituality and a quest for more knowledge. It enabled me to participate in and lead small and large group ministry, prayer chains, Bible study and mission work.

The time has come when Cursillo no longer needs to play the role in our diocese that it did for so many years. Although it has now ended in our diocese, it continues to flourish in other areas of Canada and in other countries. (It was Canadians who helped start Cursillo movements in Jamaica, Australia and New Zealand.) It has left behind a legacy of a firmly entrenched lay ministry. It has encouraged and supported renewal programs such as Alpha, Aware, Flame and Marriage Encounter. It has motivated people to take Bible study courses and form home study and fellowship groups.

There is now a group of parish leaders who see prayer, study and faith in action as key components of their own spirituality and that of their parish families. Cursillo will indeed be missed.

Cassie Williams is a member of St. Paul on-the-Hill, Pickering.

Weekend # 45 is just around the corner and so it seems like an appropriate time to remind everyone of the roles of a sponsor and Palanca.

Sponsorship:

The Cursillo Grouping is based on three elements "Faith, Study and Action". Action is about how we plan to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with others and one way is to suggest to a new friend that they attend a Cursillo Weekend – "a short course in Christianity."

But who should I send? – Ask God

What are my responsibilities? – To support them

Most Cursillistas would say their Cursillo weekend was formative step in their spiritual journey, (even those who are no longer active in Cursillo). The weekend brought them closer to Christ and helped them to better understand their role as disciples of the Risen Christ. What a gift to give to someone else.

Sponsorship is not onerous. It is merely being a support for your new found friend on their spiritual journey as others have been for you. You do not bear the sole responsibility. Like baptism the whole community has a role to play in supporting the participant in their life in Christ. It is up to each of us whether a sponsor, a team member or a member of the wider community to encourage participants and each other in our walk with Christ.

What is the role of the sponsor?

- To talk to participant about Cursillo – so they are prepared for the weekend
- To help where necessary, clearing the way for the participant to go on the weekend
- To make arrangements for them to get to the weekend (**you don't need to do it yourself**)
- To ensure either **yourself or someone else is there for them at the closing**. Someone who is free to give the participant their full attention
- To arrange for the participant to get home
- To meet with them after the weekend and allow them to share their experience
- To help them to find or form a group – either with you – or someone else (remember that you don't need to be a Cursillista to group)
- To arrange to either take them or have someone else take them to the regional Ultreya and Diocesan Ultreya so that they can become linked to the wider community.

Palanca.

Palanca is an integral part of a Cursillo weekend. Palanca is a lever, a support something that reminds participants about God's grace and God's love. It is our prayers that this weekend may be filled with the Holy Spirit and that each of the participants as well as those on team will be touched by God in a new way.

Palanca is the work of the wider community as individuals and collective supporting (sacrificing and praying for the participants) Palanca is also coming to the Mananita and helping the support group set up for the agape and the closing etc

Palanca is personal notes. Cute sayings are nice, but even more meaningful, are your personal notes that are an indication of your prayer and sacrifice on their behalf during the weekend.

Spiritual Director - The Rev. Canon Susan Wells

The Rainbow is published approximately four times per year: in November, February, May and July
Deadline for submissions is the end of the month prior to publication

Please send to: Nancy Wood, 2262 Kirkburn Dr, Burlington, Ont L7P 4G7 or e-mail editor@niagaracursillo.org.
All submissions must be Cursillo or Christ oriented, not of a political or controversial nature, and are subject to editing.
Secretariat has final approval as to appropriateness of any articles submitted.

If you know of an event, concert or activity that you feel might be of interest to Cursillistas please let us know