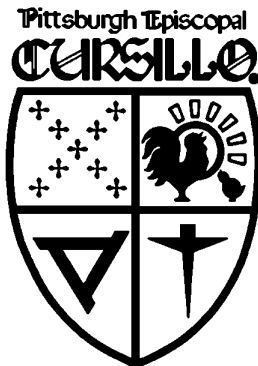


# Rainbow Rooster

The voice of Cursillo in the Diocese of Pittsburgh



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## Lay Leader's Message

### What's Next?

#### Greetings on the New Year!

While I am probably the last to extend you those wishes, I extend them for a reason. I would like to take this opportunity to brief you on the Secretariat's plans for 2005. It will be an eventful year for the Cursillo movement in Pittsburgh.

We will have three weekends. Don Voss will lead the Men's next month, Sheila Stagnitta will lead the Women's in April and Laurie Hough will lead the Coed next September. While Don and Sheila have been long time team members, they are each leading their first weekends. Laurie has already led a weekend, and has been invited back to help us learn how to adapt our weekend experience to a new retreat site, St. Joseph Center in Greensburg.

The move to St. Joe's has only been made after much prayer. We have needed to improve handicap access on our weekends. We have had a smooth and fruitful season at the Ligonier Camp and Conference Center. When we approached them about their plans for improving handicap access in their building, they said that those kinds of facility changes were not possible at their site.

Beginning in 2003, Rich Machak did a search of the wide range of conference facilities in our area, and then Bob Fleming helped us understand how to better fit St. Joe's into our finances. It will be a little more expensive. The facility features are described elsewhere in this issue. You will like it for a lot of reasons, one of which is that each round trip out there will be about one half hour shorter for most members of the Diocese.

Elsewhere in this issue is an article about an Episcopal Cursillo Leadership Workshop (ECLW). We are planning to hold an ECLW in our diocese as soon as scheduling arrangements can be completed with other dioceses in our region.

I attended an ECLW in the fall of 2003 and highly recommend it to you. If you believe you are being called into increased weekend leadership responsibilities, I believe

# A New Retreat Center

Beginning in September, 2005, Episcopal Cursillo weekends in Pittsburgh will take place at St. Joseph Center in Greensburg.

"The search took over two years", said Bob Fleming who led the team which looked at the new site. "We started out seeking a more-handicap-accessible location, and we ended up with a situation that had many desirable features, including a more easily reached site. In addition, the Center has more parking, a separate chapel for Clausura and Eucharists, a secure 4th day space and rest rooms right next to the rollo room."

The new retreat location is on Route 30, three miles east of Greensburg. It has convenient access to the turnpike, I-70, US 119 and US 22. The 2005 Coed weekend is scheduled for September 29-October 2 and will be the first weekend retreat to take place at the new location.

## Lay Leader's Message (continued)

ECLW participation should be an essential part of your preparation. We are aware of dioceses who have made ECLW attendance a prerequisite for anyone aspiring to be a weekend rector(a). The ECLW contains a lot of good stuff.

It is going to be an exciting year. There are other changes being prepared, but these are enough for now.

There is one more thing I would like to mention, before closing, and that is our continuing desire to keep the Cursillo movement separate from the political tensions within our denomination. **Our movement seeks to lead others into a more fruitful relationship with the Lord. That is our purpose.**

You have a Secretariat that consists of people who hold differing views on the political discussion, but we can unite, and have united, in our desire to change our part of the world for Christ.

I ask your help in keeping us on track. Some of you have already been helpful in this area. If you believe we or I misstep, please let me know. We need to be accountable to you on this.

It promises to be an exciting year.

In Christ,

Ron Benson  
rgbpsb@juno.com

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# A Thanksgiving for All Cursillo Leaders

## Is there a leader for Christ inside you?

Can you answer that question in your heart and know that you are doing everything you possibly can to utilize the gifts and talents that God gave you to be a leader for Christ? Are you living all you are called to be and serving all you are called to serve in the name of our Lord?

The Cursillo movement effectively builds leaders. If you were to take an informal survey you would learn that many of our lay and clergy leaders in the Pittsburgh Diocese are Cursillistas who have grown into their God-given missions through participation and service in the Cursillo movement. Many people who have chosen to live the life in Christ have been greatly impacted through the Cursillo movement.

If this describes you, join us at this moment in thanking God for your Cursillo experience. Thank God for how He has changed your heart and how He has provided, through a channel called Cursillo, a way to deepen your commitment to Christ and to support you in living the full Christian life.

**Christ  
is counting  
on you!**

We should also take a moment now and thank the Lord for all those leaders throughout our diocese who have come before us: those servants who have led Cursillos numbered 1 through 77, worked on teams, sponsored candidates, served on the Secretariat, provided on-going Palanca, attended Clausuras, and dedicated their time and love in small ways to change hearts and build leaders for Christ. Without all these people in front of us, none of us would have experienced or benefited from the Cursillo movement. They have made a difference in our hearts and lives through their leadership in Cursillo.

Thank the Lord also for all present and future leaders to be. We are blessed to have the opportunities we have in our diocese to learn, grow and serve through an active Cursillo movement. The need for disciples and leaders has never been greater as we reach out to hurting people in a chaotic world. Answer His call to lead. Christ is counting on you!

Meagan Skaff, Cursillo #57

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## The Weekend Coordinator

### How Everyone can Contribute to the Weekend Experience

A little over a year ago, Ron Benson asked me to consider serving in the capacity as Weekend Coordinator on the Secretariat. I wasn't quite sure what I was getting into, but God gave me the nudge and I took the plunge. Dave and Peggy Vale, my predecessors in this position, graciously mentored me through the Men's Weekend (#75) last February. Even with all of their help, it was still "baptism by fire". Over the course of the past year and two weekends (#76 & #77), I have been gradually grasping and managing this job. What a rewarding way to serve God and the Cursillo community!

The Weekend Coordinator is responsible for taking care of the Team's needs for the Weekend. I have a deep appreciation for the

extensive planning and coordinating that goes into a successful weekend and the many ways that God works in and through the Team and Pilgrims as it all falls into place. It is been a blessing to assist the Rectors and Team as they prepare for and carry out the weekend. Much of what I do takes place between the weekends: replenishing supplies (poster paper, note pads, pencils & markers, bibles and crosses, bread and wine for Eucharist, etc.), printing copies of the Pilgrim's Guide and rosters (Team and Pilgrims) and cleaning the linens and Communion vessels. Establishing communication with the leadership team and outside rectors is also a vital component of the planning process. By the time the weekend arrives I feel like an honorary member of the team. Indeed I

## The Weekend Coordinator

...continued

work closely with the Team through the weekend. I spend Thursday afternoon making sure the Team has everything. Sunday afternoon I help prepare for closing and put things away.

What strikes me most profoundly is that there are so many ways that everyone can participate—working on small projects between the weekends or assisting with the weekend itself.

Jesus sent His disciples out in teams of two.



Two by two, you too, can help on a Cursillo Weekend: an Altar Guild Team, a Publication Team, a Clean-Up Team; the possibilities are many. The Clean-Up Team has a very special role; it does not require any special skills and is a one-time commitment. The Clean-Up Team for the fall weekend

was awesome! While the Pilgrims shared their testimonies of God's work in their weekend, the Clean-Up Team quietly put away the round tables and cleaned everything in the Rollo Room. Others cleaned and put away the Communion service while still others made sure the rooms upstairs were empty and took care of the garbage. What wonderful palanca! Indeed, a member of the 4th Day Team returned from the Rollo Room and exclaimed "We've been palanca'd!"

Perhaps when you attended Back to the Mountain you indicated on a survey that you would like to help with a weekend. Perhaps you would like to help, but don't know how. Perhaps you feel called to coordinate a Clean-Up Team of Cursillistas from your parish and give palanca to the 4th Day Team of the Men's Weekend #78, February 17-20.

Interested?

Call 814-266-3059 or email me: [etbell@pitt.edu](mailto:etbell@pitt.edu)

It's a wonderful way to be involved in the weekend and give palanca.

Lisa Bell-Loncella  
Weekend Coordinator  
Coed #66

## A Call to Action for All Leaders



It takes leaders to build leaders. When Jesus sent out the first 12 and then the 72 disciples, He gave us an example to follow for

building leaders for His church. Cursillo follows this example in our common desire to grow in His image.

So, where will leaders for tomorrow's Cursillo come from? The answer is "YOU". The leaders for Christ for the future, for the Pittsburgh Cursillo Movement, are YOU. Today's Cursillistas will help encourage and build tomorrow's Cursillo leaders.

Now is the time to be a leader and to build more leaders for Christ. The Pittsburgh Diocese is hoping to host, in the coming future, a retreat for Cursillistas called the Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop (ECLW). This workshop is a part of the National Episcopal Cursillo method and is offered by other diocesan movements all over the world.

The ECLW is a special weekend workshop that invites Cursillistas from our own as well as other dioceses and states to attend. A national team of experienced leaders from other movements facilitates the workshop, thus allowing the local Secretariat and diocesan leaders to participate and receive, rather than 'work the weekend'. While an ECLW is not intended to be a "back to the mountain" experience, it is very much intended to be a weekend of learning, growth, refreshment, rest, fellowship, and worship. Unlike a Cursillo weekend with a constant flow and tight agenda, the ECLW is a retreat for current and future Cursillo leaders, designed in a more loosely organized structure with planned space in between participation in activities, group discussions, and talks.

The Cursillo materials state the purpose of an ECLW is to serve the Cursillo leadership in four ways:

- To deepen the commitment to Christ and the living of a life in Christ

# A Call to Action for All Leaders

...continued

- To clarify the purpose and method of the Cursillo movement as it seeks to work within the Episcopal Church
- To help grow new leaders for the Cursillo movement
- To help diocesan Cursillo communities to assess how they live out the Cursillo method and encourage them to explore how to do it more effectively

The ECLW begins on a Friday night at 7 p.m. and runs through Sunday after lunch. The weekend includes worship, fellowship, free time, Eucharist, and talks. Participants sit at small group tables for group discussions following talks that are directed specifically to the needs of the participants and the diocesan Cursillo movement. Like a Cursillo, the interaction and input of each participant makes the workshop unique and a personal experience.

We went to the North Carolina Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop. On Labor Day weekend in 2003, five Cursillistas from our Pittsburgh Diocese all headed south to an old Episcopal mission in the mountains of North Carolina to attend an ECLW. We found it to be a very relaxing and refreshing weekend. One participant in that ECLW was about to be a weekend rector. Here is what Dan had to say about his experience at an ECLW:

*"I don't know how I could have led a Cursillo weekend if I had not gone to that ECLW. By meeting people from other Diocesan movements, I had better insight into the Cursillo method which helped me make better choices and decisions leading a weekend. I learned a lot I didn't know about Cursillo, even though I've worked on many many teams in many different roles. The ECLW prepared me for adapting to unexpected challenges on the weekend. It gave me a better understanding of the real Cursillo process and how I, as a Rector, could be a better Cursillo leader to help create leaders."*

## In Your Journey of Leadership Growth, Plan to Attend an ECLW.

Scripture affirms the importance of investing our talents and time for the future. If you feel called to serve on a Cursillo team, to sponsor candidates, to be a Team Rector, or perhaps to be a Weekend

Rector, put the ECLW on your prayer list and your checklist of "Important Things to Do". It's our prayer that when the Pittsburgh Cursillo Movement hosts an ECLW sometime in the coming future that you will choose to be a part of this unique workshop and weekend experience.

Please help us now by praying for the many opportunities in the Pittsburgh Cursillo Movement that we have to build more leaders for Christ. Choose to live your Rule of Life. Choose to organize your life around prayer, study, and action.

~~~~~  
**Come and be the leader that God has called you to be.**  
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Choose to come to the Clausura on February 27.

Come to the next Back to the Mountain.

Come to the next iUltreya!

**Come and be the leader that God has called you to be.**



# Upcoming Cursillo Weekends • 2005

**Men's Weekend #78** .....February 17-20, 2005  
**Women's Weekend #79** .....April 21-24, 2005  
**Coed Weekend #80** .....September 29 - October 2, 2005

**Location of all Men's & Women's Weekends:** Ligonier Camp and Conference Center

**Location of Coed Weekend:** St. Joseph Center – Greensburg

**Holy Hour & Serenade** .....Saturday at 7:30 p.m. (be there 7 p.m.)

**Clausura** .....Sunday (be there at 3:30)

# Other Important Dates • 2005

**Back to the Mountain** .....March 12, 2005

St. Martin's - Monroeville (Call Jane Flaherty 724-733-3005)

**Ultreya** .....May 15, 2005

Fox Chapel Episcopal

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Pittsburgh, PA 15238

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# Men's Cursillo Weekend #78

## February 17-20, 2005

Candidate	Sponsor	Parish
Joe Johns	Tom Cosgrove	St. Mark's - Johnstown
Lou Dlvido	Lisa Bell-Loncella	St. Mark's - Johnstown

For a complete list of this weekend, please contact:

Laurie Hough 724-592-7351  
 email: [denny1@westol.com](mailto:denny1@westol.com)

or visit our website:

[www.pgh-epis-cursillo.org](http://www.pgh-epis-cursillo.org)

### Team Members

**RECTOR** ..... Don Voss  
**ASST. RECTOR (Ding-a-Ling)** ..... Larry Silverstein  
**ASST. RECTOR (Cha Cha)** ..... Michael Galbraith

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS** ..... The Rev. Dan Crawford  
 The Rev. William Geiger ..... The Rev. Gary Miller  
 The Rev. Greg Malley

**MUSIC TEAM**  
 Jeff Smead, Rector

**ROLLISTAS**  
 Ideals ..... Dave Vale  
 Laity ..... Bob Springer  
 Piety ..... Jeff Smead  
 Study ..... Manny Schnepf  
 Action ..... Jim Forney

Leaders ..... Brian Taylor  
 Environment ..... Dan Skaff  
 Christian Community in Action ..... Larry Silverstein  
 Total Security ..... Michael Galbraith  
 Fourth Day ..... Don Voss

**PALANCA TEAM**  
 Sam Starr, Rector ..... Dan Skaff  
 Dave Newhard ..... Bob Jessup ..... Varney Holland

**KITCHEN TEAM**  
 Matt Cornman, Rector ..... Chris Orchard  
 Dan Warner ..... John Ochap

**4TH DAY TEAM**  
 Rob Meyers, Rector ..... Manny Schnepf  
 Dave Johnson ..... Ron Yadrick  
 Mick Pompelia