

# DeCOLORES AURORA BOREALIS

Jesus has put the colors of His love in us, His "Northern Light".  
Let your light shine on all around you.  
Spread the colors of His Love.

The Newsletter of the Diocese of Thunder Bay Cursillo  
664 Red River Road, Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1H8  
www.cursillo-thunderbay.org

Issue 1/2019

SPRING SEASON, 2019

2019 WEEKENDS – Men’s Weekend – October 17 to 20; Women’s Weekend – None Booked  
Men’s Weekend to be held at Eagles Nest Retreat Center, Dorion Bible Camp

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## DIOCESE OF THUNDER BAY CURSILLO SECRETARIAT MEMBERS

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**NEWSLETTER:** Submit Articles *before* 15<sup>th</sup> of month to:  
Don Tribe -Email: [2121.tribe@gmail.com](mailto:2121.tribe@gmail.com)

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### NEWSLETTER MAIL OUT

If you know of a Cursillista who would like to receive our newsletter, please let us know so we can send them one.

**If you no longer want to receive our newsletter or move, please let us know.**

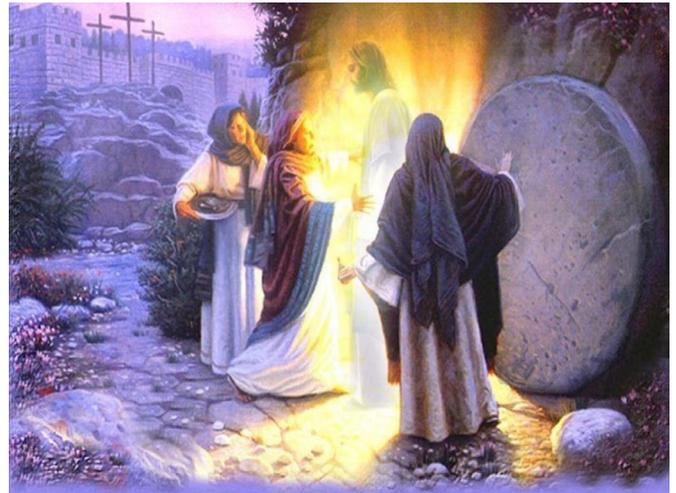
If we can email your newsletter it will save us about \$1.00/letter—we still have 150 names on our actual mailing list

**If you received this newsletter by email you do not have to send a reply email**

**PRAYER EXERCISE** Try praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy or a Rosary or other prayers on your walk or run or bike ride. It is a relaxing way to enjoy God’s creation and dialogue with him at the same time.

### WEEKEND APPLICATIONS FOR POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

Applications for the weekend can be printed from the web site and mailed to the address at top of page!



## THE RESURRECTION

Jesus resurrection from the dead affirmed he was truly the “Son of God”.

Those who first encountered him were “truly amazed” by this. Jesus said to St. Thomas. “Blessed are you that see and believe, but more blessed are those that don’t see and believe!”. We are those believers who don’t see and yet believe.

The Cursillo Weekend is an opportunity for others to come to see and believe in the risen presence of Jesus.

## **LAY DIRECTOR REPORT**

This spring the secretariat was forced to cancel both the Women's and the Men's weekends that were scheduled. The reason is that we simply did not have enough confirmed candidates for the dates selected. Now I know what some of you are thinking, "Why schedule weekends without sufficient candidates?" In reality there were candidates who had indicated they were ready to attend. Some simply did not submit their applications in time and others, due to life's circumstances, had to pull out leaving too few remaining to hold the weekends. So here we come to the heart of this article. Why are there too few candidates to guarantee that sufficient numbers will be available to hold weekends?

When I lived my weekend and as I attended yearly conferences, there was one consistent theme throughout. "Christ is counting on me!" To me, that message means I should always be living my fourth day. It should be on my mind as I go about my daily routines in my own small environment. Everyone I meet is a potential new friend.

On the occasions where true friendships start to develop, it is always at the back of my mind, when in their company, to note if they feel life is incomplete or if they feel their faith is weaker than they would like it to be.

On the occasions where it is clear they feel something is lacking I will introduce Cursillo. This introduction may be as simple as "Have you ever attended a Cursillo?" If they say yes - I will ask about their experience and if they are still living their fourth day. If they say no - I will discuss what Cursillo is and introduce the idea of them attending a weekend.

Some are immediately not interested so I drop the discussion and change topic. Some are curious and will ask for more information about a weekend. I answer any questions that they have and talk about the application form making sure they know an application is not a firm commitment to attend. I explain that we keep the applications on file and then inform those who have shown interest when a weekend will take place.

It is up to each person to discern when the Holy Spirit is prompting them to attend. We who have attended a weekend will relate to the discernment. We may have not attended several available weekends that were proposed to us because we felt we were not ready or we had other commitments. We also know that the weekend we did attend was exactly the right time for us.

I know in my heart that, "Christ is counting on me!" How about you? Do you still feel he is counting on you to spread the message of his unconditional love? Do you still live by the saying, "Find a Friend, Be Their Friend, Help Your Friend Become a Friend of Christ?"

We need all the Cursillistas, in our Diocese, to continue to bring others to Christ by the best method possible - and that is by friendship. In this way we can all do our part to grow this amazing movement. I would never want anyone I know on their last day to hear Christ say, "I do not know you!"

I would also like to put a plug in for the upcoming Cursillo of Cursillos in Halifax. It will be held from June 27th to June 30th. This year the "Three Amigos" from Mallorca will be in attendance to give rollos and provide answers to any questions concerning the Cursillo Charism as given to Eduardo and lived in Mallorca to this day. Cost for the weekend is \$295.00 (this includes room and meals).

We are also looking at hosting a potential Cursillo Conference here in Thunder Bay in June of 2020 providing we have enough support (meaning mostly attendance) from the Cursillistas in our Diocese. If this excites you and you feel you would be likely to attend please send a quick note to [laydirector@cursillo-thunderbay.org](mailto:laydirector@cursillo-thunderbay.org)

De Colores  
Reino Pitkanen - Lay Director

## **PALANCA REPORT**

*My Cursillo weekend proved to be the most significant turning point in my spiritual journey. It led me on the path to find ways to honour God.*

*Equally life changing, was a decision to consecrate my life to Jesus through Mary. I attended a 33 day retreat, enjoying each and every week, when a group of us (many who are Cursillistas) would meet, learn more about Mary, and the incredible love of God for each and every one of us. I desire to honour always, our beautiful Mother, who leads us to Jesus in the most perfect way.*

*We are all called to be saints. Mary's role and desire, is for all of humanity to become saints. For that is also the greatest desire of Jesus - her Son; the Holy Spirit - her spouse; and God the Father - who chose her for this most important role.*

*I would like to share with you a prayer, written after my Cursillo Weekend, and modified after my consecration to Jesus through Mary. May we be instruments, along with Mary, to lead others to sanctity.*

### **My Offering to God**

*Lord Jesus, through Mary, I lift up these offerings, as an intercession for the whole world:*

*I offer you my mornings, for you alone illuminate the world.*

*I offer you my night time, for in quiet repose, my thoughts turn to you.*

*I offer you my talents. Help me to use these gifts, to give you honour.*

*I offer you my personality, for you created us each different, to make a difference.*

*I offer you my occupation. Help me to do my best.*

*I offer you a day of rest, set aside for you.*

*I offer you my strengths, so I may support another.*

*I offer you my weaknesses, so you may support me.*

*I offer you my laughter, for I know it delights you so.*

*I offer you my sorrow, so you may comfort me.*

*I offer you my wisdom, so I may teach others.*

*I offer you my lack of wisdom, so you may teach me.*

*I offer you my prayers, for from you, we learned to pray.*

*I offer you my prayers, for it is in prayer, I feel closest to you.*

*I offer you songs of praise, for when we sing, we pray twice.*

*I offer you evangelization, for where there's 2 or 3 gathered in your name, there you are.*

*I offer you my participation in mass, for you offered us the Eucharist.*

*I offer you my plea for forgiveness, for you gave us the Sacrament of Confession.*

*I offer you obedience, for through baptism, I became your child.*

*I offer you my broken parts, for you gave us the Sacrament of the Sick.*

*I offer you my calling, for through confirmation you gave us the Holy Spirit.*

*I offer you oneness with my spouse, for you gave us the Sacrament of Marriage.*

*I offer you service for your church, for it is here, we worship together.*

*I offer you my share of income, for the gift of your Holy Presence.*

*I offer you the beginning of my life, so you may show me all the wonders of this world.*

*I offer you the end of my life, so you may show me all the wonders of heaven.*

*May all things we do be an offering to you, for in your grace, you offered all things to us.*

*Amen*

*Mary Jane Safronyck*

**SECRETARIAT POSITON OPEN** – We are in need of a Secretary for our Secretariat. If you think you might be interested contact anyone on the Secretariat.

## **TREASURER REPORT-INTERIM SECRETARY COMMENT**

I joined the Secretariat in 2018, in hopes to do my part for Cursillo. What I have learned is that this world becomes much warmer by being part of this Christian Group.

Our mission is to "Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ". With the mission in mind, I myself have come closer to God. I am grateful for the team I work with, to be able to learn on how to bring a friend to Christ. We are enriched by going through this life together.

Christ has always been the center of my life since I was a child and in going to church, during my early school years. I have always found a great peace with knowing God and that is why I always wanted to share Him with everyone.

Our spiritual growth is so individual. You will find that through prayer, that the Holy Spirit will strengthen you with the virtues you will need to be patient, kind and a good listener for those new friends (family included), so that they will want to know Christ.

During this life of ours we are there to plant the seed and also grow in our own faith, along with helping others. I am hoping for you from what I have learned is that there are many persons out there that enjoy making and being friends, in a time of their life, when they thought they were alone.

De Colores,  
Judy Ross  
Treasurer & interim Secretary for June Enger

## **PRE-CURSILLO CHAIR**

De Colores and blessings to all!

I have recently joined the Diocese of Thunder Bay Secretariat as the Pre-Cursillo Chair and am learning what this new assignment involves. So far, It is keeper of the applications and some subsequent follow up closer to the weekends. They (the Secretariat) are kindly breaking me in gently.

Because my Cursillo weekend experience has and continues to enrich my spiritual life, despite having no expectations, I really encourage all readers to pray on who you may know (ask for names) that would benefit from a Cursillo weekend.

Then prayerfully ask the Holy Spirit to set the stage for you to encourage your friend to attend. Filling out an application does not mean they HAVE TO come to a planned weekend. It simply shows their interest and allows us to off them an opportunity to attend a weekend as they are being planned and if they feel moved to attend.

Peace by with you.  
Marcia Brunelle

## **3-DAY CHAIR**

*By Colin Campbell*

God's love for us is unconditional. When we stray from God's love, we may not feel a heartache or a disappointment ... he chooses us in spite of our longing for worldly things.

God's will is that we love ourselves as Jesus would love us. When we acknowledge God and the blessings in our lives, we literally and figuratively walk through the open door of his grace and love. We all journey toward Christ's likeness on God's time and within the essence and structure of our free will.

Our free will is our greatest gift from God in that it allows us to feely accept his will for us and love him back as he does unconditionally for us.

## **WELCOME TO NEW CURSILLISTAS FROM 2018 WEEKENDS**

**Womens Weekend:** : Simone Diana, Jen Bedard, Bridget Stachejczuk, Carmela Bourelly, Marie LaFontaine and Debbie Beaven