

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 2/2019

ADVENT SEASON, 2019

2020 WEEKENDS –; Women’s Weekend – February 27 to March 1, 2020
Weekend to be held at Eagles Nest Retreat Center, Dorion Bible Camp

DIOCESE OF THUNDER BAY CURSILLO SECRETARIAT MEMBERS

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NEWSLETTER: Submit Articles before 15th of month to:

Don Tribe -Email: 2121.tribe@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER MAIL OUT CHANGE!

If you know of a Cursillista who would like to receive our newsletter, please let us know so we can get their email address and include them in our email list.

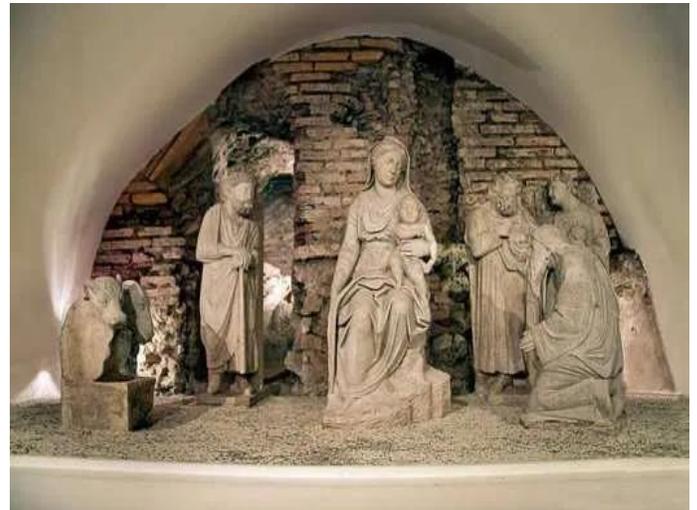
We are no longer sending out the Newsletter by mail.

PRAYER TIPS *In our busy lives we often get caught up with distractions. As most of us have some kind of electronic device, an easy way to remind ourselves is to set an alarm to remind us to say a prayer.*

E.G. At one of our secretariat meetings, Judy Ross alarm went off at 6:00 pm to remind her to say the Angelus. So, the entire Secretariat joined in for the prayer.

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!



*“And the word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth”
JOHN 1:14*

Santa Maria Maggiore Nativity

This is the oldest known nativity scene. The first example of figurines for nativity scenes started in the late 13th century when Arnolfo di Cambio was commissioned to carve marble nativity figures for the first Rome Jubilee held in 1300. The nativity can be seen in the museum of Santa Maria Maggiore Church. Saint Francis is credited with starting the tradition of the nativity scene.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR REPORT

By Deacon Dennis

At our Ultreya last month (November) at the witness, one of our cursillistas shared of her growing commitment to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Yes praying, but also praying certain devotions with indulgences to offer for the Holy Souls. This led to Spiritual growth for herself by following the requirements indicated for a plenary indulgence for a soul. That meant her own Confession, Mass and Communion.

After the witness we had some discussion and I'm sure encouraged us all to remember praying for the Holy Souls not just in November but all in our daily prayers.

I mentioned to the group about a prayer card that I kept in my wallet. I received it at my grandmother's funeral 40 years ago.

In recent years I haven't left it in my wallet. I took it out and now I pray this prayer every day. Others were asking they would like to see the prayer so here it is.

"O gentle Heart of Jesus, ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in Purgatory, have mercy on them.

Be not severe in your judgments, but let some drops of Your Precious Blood fall upon the devouring flames.

And, Merciful Savior, send Your angels to conduct them to a place of refreshment, light and peace. Amen"

LAY DIRECTOR

Linda and I had the great blessing in October to attend a Cursillo of Cursillos in Mallorca held to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Cursillo. It was an experience that we wish all of the cursillistas in the Thunder Bay Diocese could have attended.

We were met at the airport by Manuel, one of the Three Amigos who has been to Canada and is a close friend of ours. We had an opportunity to visit his home and spend some quiet time with him before the weekend events began.

250 cursillistas attended from 12 different countries. Some we had met before. The Rollo topics on the weekend we had heard before but each time we hear them there is so much more we get out of them. The Rollistas in Mallorca speak from a depth of experience that comes from living where Eduardo received the charism and where Cursillo is a lifestyle that permeates everything they do. The warmth and love we were shown while we were there were genuine and heartfelt.

The Rollista who gave the Ultreya Rollo spoke with such passion as to how Ultreya was so important to his Cursillo journey and how he personally felt he would not, possibly, have continued in Cursillo without it. He did not use notes but spoke from the heart allowing the Holy Spirit full reign to work through him. He lived his Cursillo weekend in 2015 but spoke as if he had been a cursillista for many years.

We made many new friends and spent quality time with old friends from the different countries. We had an absolute blast at Fiesta on Saturday and at the 75th anniversary party after the Clausura on Sunday. I had the privilege to be the assistant in a magic act during the fiesta and the wonderful support we received from the audience made it an event I will not soon forget. The party on Sunday night had live music that had almost everyone dancing the night away.

As I stated at the start of this article the whole weekend was a true blessing and we owe it all to those who asked us to attend a Cursillo weekend. That was the start of an amazing journey that we know has only begun. None of us know the outcome of inviting someone to attend a Cursillo weekend. We do not know what a gift it can be or where it may take someone but Linda and I are forever grateful that someone took a chance and invited us.

Who do you know that you would love to see having their life changed forever, for the better by the simple choice of offering them the opportunity to attend a weekend? We do not know just how great that gift may turn out for them. We do not know how God will use them for his glory. If we look at potential candidates with this in mind it may be easier for us to make the invitation.

Speaking of great opportunities, I have the pleasure to inform you that Thunder Bay has been chosen to host the 2020 Canadian Cursillo National Conference. Just imagine, all the benefits and rewards of attending a conference without having to travel to do so. There will be cursillistas from all across Canada, some from the U.S. and possibly some from overseas. There were quite a few cursillistas at the event in Mallorca who were excited at the news the conference would be here in Thunder Bay. They are looking forward to spending time in our wonderful city.

The conference will require organizing and I am looking for volunteers to assist in this endeavor. There are many different facets in holding a conference and each of them requires someone who has talent or simply an interest in seeing the task carried out. There will be enough to do that everyone could contribute a bit of their time if they choose to do so. As we all know many hands make light work. All of the tasks have clear guidelines to make them easy to carry out.

I will be sending out more on this in the near future so please take some time to discern if you feel called to help in any way.

Again, it is an amazing opportunity for those of us living here and I hope all of you plan to attend to make this the best national conference yet. De Colores Reino

PALANCA

By Mary Jane Safronyck

Methods of prayer and palanca, are as diverse as each one of us. We may pray in a group, we may pray on our own, or we may pray each day, by way of a Novena. We may pray traditional prayers, our own created prayers, or simply talk to God. We may offer to God, what we are feeling, what we are doing, or the crosses each of us face. Whichever way we do it, what we should strive for, is to pray constantly. If we surround ourselves with activities focused on God, it makes it easier to do so. Then ask the saints to intercede for us, and we are on our way to holiness. I will often talk to God, or create my own prayers. Always, when I talk to Jesus, I refer to Him as my "Beautiful Jesus". One day, it occurred to me, I should write a prayer about My Beautiful Jesus. This is what The Holy Spirit inspired me to write:

My Beautiful, Jesus!

I look upon you in The Divine
Mercy Image.
Your eyes, full of compassion,
captivate me.
My heart melts, within Your
gaze.

My Beautiful, Jesus!

I look upon you in The Holy
Sacrament.
The disguise of ordinary bread,
Cannot disguise Your Beautiful
Heart,
When we look to you, with eyes
of faith.

My Beautiful, Jesus!

I look upon You on the cross,
Bloody and bruised, a crown of
thorns upon Your head.
You are more beautiful to me,
than ever.

My Beautiful, Jesus!

I look upon you in Holy
Scripture.
Throughout salvation history,
You have been merciful to us,
Over and over again.
May You never grow weary of
little souls,

Who need forgiveness,
Over and over again.

My Beautiful, Jesus!

At pivotal moments in my life,
You spoke to me in my heart.
Your beautiful words,
I will treasure always.

My Beautiful, Jesus!

Remain with me.
In my final breath, take me
home with you,
To live within your beauty,
Forever and ever.
Amen

SECRETARY'S COMMENT

By June Enger

Our Father - Jesus did not say "My Father", but "**OUR Father**" - because he wanted us to understand that God the Father Almighty is Creator and father of all of us not just Jesus.

"Who art in Heaven" - Not only is Heaven where we will experience eternal life but, it is also our home

"Hallowed be Thy name" - Tells us how holy God's name is. We need to understand that God's name is not just holy but He's sacred.

"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven" - Reminds us that it is God the Father who created us and everything & everyone around us, even that science likes to talk about.

"Give us this day our daily bread" - not just food to eat & maintain our bodies, but also spiritual nourishment that gives us strength for the trials of life. We need to sometimes seek Mass to receive it & or in prayer.

"And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us" - We need to start by forgiving ourselves, ask God for forgiveness when we fail to love others, just as we need to forgive those who have failed to love us.

"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil" - God knows when we are going to lead ourselves towards evil, so this is when to ask God for His will in any given situation.

Amen - Let it be so.

Cursillo Experiences

DeColores and greetings to all!

Though I still consider myself a newbie Cursillista, only three years old, I was very fortunate to be able to attend the 2019 Cursillo of Cursillos in June of 2019, in Halifax, N.S. What a “large” experience it was!! It bustled with fellowship!! Everyone there was a friend through Christ and some became much closer friends who I look forward to seeing in 2020.

One could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit: in our worship time and singing; in the quiet sharing of small group discussions; in the passionate and blessed rollos of Cursillistas, including those of the Three Amigos from **Spain**: Miguel Sureda, Manuel Fernandez and Juan Aumatell; in our “play time” and in the healing of those who brought their personal sufferings to be privately prayed over. A small (are any really small?) miracle of healing occurred for someone I became friends with at our small group table.

It is in this sharing of the faithful, from Canada, USA and Spain, that I felt inspired, strengthened and refreshed and more prepared for the battles I face in my daily life. The knowledge gleaned from, and prayers of, people who are with me on this life pilgrimage, help me to stand back up after I fall or stray.

Like my initial Cursillo weekend and the continuing “fourth day”, Cursillo events give me a voice and sounding board for all the little miracles and intercessions of God that I am blessed with daily, as well as my spiritual struggles. The others “get” what I’m talking about. It’s a wonderful freedom!

It was a weekend well worth attending, for enrichment of soul and joy in your heart. (There was lots of laughter and good food too!) I highly recommend attending the 2020 Cursillo of Cursillos in Thunder Bay. You will be greatly spiritually nourished.

[and another thing..... if I may...]

From my limited experience, there seems to be a noticeable shortage of young adults in the Cursillo movement, which could be due to school, new job and financial issues, yet that age group is where many young Christians lose their way. I certainly did! I would have gained much in having a “small group” circle of Cursillista friends (and larger Cursillo community) to share my faith experiences and struggles with; to help me stay focused on Jesus, in a culture fraught with darkness and confusion. A safe place to share and confide and learn.

Let us encourage young, mature Christians, who seek to deepen or explore their relationship with Christ, to make a Cursillo weekend. I would love to receive a whole pile of applications from these young people!!

Peace be with you,

Marcia Brunelle

PreCursillo Chairperson

TREASURER

I wish all of you a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year - Judy Ross, *Treasurer*

VACANT POSITIONS ON SECRETARIAT - PALANCA & FOURTH DAY CHAIR

The secretariat has two vacant positions for Palanca and 4th Day Chairperson. If you think you might be interested in either of these positions, please contact any member of the secretariat for additional information on what this entails. *Please pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to find individuals to fill these positions.*

