

**Diocese Of Birmingham Alabama**

**School of Leaders**

**February 2014**

**“A Cursillo Leader, therefore is a dedicated apostle; a person who puts all of his abilities in the service of Christ.”**



# Agenda



- † Leader's Prayer
- † Leader's Group Reunion
- † Doctrinal Talk
- † Technique Talks: Cursillo de Cursillo (CdC)
- † Work of the Sections
- † Announcements
- † Discussion Items
- † Closing Prayer-Chapel visit





## Leader's Prayer



- † Lord grant that we may understand the necessity for depth in our Movement, rather than surface glory. Convince us of the truth that colorful programs do not constitute success.
- † My God, give us a spirit of self sacrifice so that we may offer everything for Your cause: our time, our abilities, our health and even our lives if necessary. Instill in us courage in our initiatives, good judgment in our choice of the right means, and that determination, which in spite of failures, assures victory.
- † Move away from us the tiny rivalries, sensitivities, discourtesies, pride, everything which distracts from You, everything which divides or discourages.



## Leader's Prayer con't



- † Help us to maintain at a high level, a meaningful supernatural and mutual charity among ourselves, so that each one will seek by preference, the most humble task and will rejoice at the good performed by others, so that all our spirits, united in a common purpose, will have one single spirit, Yours Jesus, and that this spirit may let us see Your attractive goodness marked in all our faces, Your warm accents in all our words, and in our lives something superior to the world, something that proclaims Your Living Presence among us. Amen
- † Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patron of the Americas, Pray for Us.
- † St Paul, Patron of the Cursillo, Pray for Us.





# Doctrinal Talk



**TECHNIQUE TALK**



# Essence and Purpose of Cursillo



- † We have all heard much on this topic
- † Purpose of this presentation is to review as well as pass on fresh thoughts on the subject from the CdC
- † The Essence (or Foundational Thoughts) of the Movement are:
  - Love
  - Friendship
  - Christ is my friend
  - that God in Christ loves me (the Good News)
- † The Purpose of the Movement is directed to the Person; so all men and women know the Good News that “God in Christ loves me”; this is realized through the witness of friendship





# Purpose of Cursillo



- † The purpose of Cursillo is achieved by “Making Christians in order to build Christianity.”
- † What does this mean?
  - It’s not enough to preach the Good News; we must BECOME the Good News
  - Called to be SAINTS, living in grace, walking in rhythm with the Church
  - Called to be APOSTLES, giving of ourselves so Christ might live in all
  - Called to be PERSONS with a deep and normal personality
  - To be in tune with the times, its needs and demands
  - To “go build Christianity” is to “Give life to the Mystical Body of Christ”

What if a person came to seek Christ and he only found me?





# Methodology of Cursillo



- † As Cursillistas, how are we called to “give life to the Mystical Body of Christ”? In other words, what is the “methodology”?
  - Through the “leavening” of ordinary life (environments)
  
- † Three elements to “leavening”
  - Who—All of us
  - How—through friendship
  - For Whom—all men and women who do not know the Good News



## Methodology cont



- † What are the “environments”?
  - The PERSON in THEIR environments (“baptizing the jungle”)
  - Found everywhere—the store, office, bar and grill, sports field, beach, school, university, taxi, bus and any other locations that persons occupy in the course of their daily life
- † How to leaven the environments we encounter within ordinary life (the “moveable square meter”)?
  - FRIENDSHIP
  - People will listen to the truth of the Good News ONLY if the person speaking it meets the person where they are and approaches them in friendship (acts free of egotism and full of love)
  - WITNESS is more powerful than teaching, therefore, we must BECOME the Good News



# Summary



- † Focus of the Cursillo Movement: Jesus, person and friendship
  - Movement's foundational thoughts: Love, Friendship, Christ is my friend, God in Christ loves me (the Good News)
- † Not enough to preach the Good News; we must become the Good News
- † Environments is the study of the person
- † Friendship is the means to communicate the Good News
- † To “go build Christianity” is to “Give life to the Mystical Body of Christ”

What if a person came to seek Christ and he only found me?



# Pope Francis and what is Fundamental



“It is urgently necessary to find new forms and new ways to ensure that God’s grace may touch the heart of every man and of every woman and lead them to Him. We are all simple but important instruments of His; we have not received the gift of faith to keep it hidden, but rather, to spread it so that it can illumine a great many of our brethren on their journey.”

--Papal Address, May 17, 2013

# Work of the Sections







## Work of the Sections



- † Work of the Sections is designed to be the opportunity for the members of the School of Leaders to identify, design, and help implement solutions to any issues within the three sections--PreCursillo, Cursillo and PostCursillo
- † Work of the Sections is directed and conducted under the leadership and guidance of the current Secretariat member responsible for that section
- † SOL members count off and distribute evenly between the 3 sections—unless they are actively serving on a particular committee within a particular section (i.e. Palanca committee members work with the Precursillo section, Communications committee members work with PostCursillo, etc...)

# Announcement Items





# SoL 2014 Schedule



Month (2014)	SoL Meeting Location	Comment
Jan	Combined-Cullman-Sacred Heart	
Feb/Mar	Satellite – Hsv and B’Ham	Quarter 1
Apr	Combined-Cullman-Sacred Heart	
May/Jun	Satellite – Hsv and B’Ham	Quarter 2
Jul	Combined-Cullman-Sacred Heart	
Aug/Sep	Satellite – Hsv and B’Ham	Quarter 3
Oct	Combined-Cullman-Sacred Heart	
Nov	Satellite – Hsv and B’Ham	Quarter 4

**Remote SoL 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each Month; 1900**  
**Go to [www.BhmCursillo.org](http://www.BhmCursillo.org) for details**



# Announcements



- † Women's 3 Day Cursillo Weekend will be held April 3-6, 2014 and is FULL (32 confirmed candidates). Continue offering Palanca for both the team and the candidates. (total number of 32 + 24 =56)
- † Next Cursillo Region VII Encounter, April 25-26, 2014 in Palm Beach, FL. Link to Registration form and other info is on Region VII website, [www.cursillo.org/region7](http://www.cursillo.org/region7)
- † Cursillo de Cursillos (CdC) weekend will be 25-28 September 2014 at St Bernard's Retreat Center. Registration is now underway. Registration forms are available online at the Cursillo website ([www.bhmcursillo.org](http://www.bhmcursillo.org)).
- † Next Secretariat meeting will be held Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> in Cullman. April's Secretariat meeting will be held after the Combined SOL in Cullman.
- † At this time, there are 10 men's applications, and an additional 19 women's applications on file (besides the 32 women already slated to attend the April weekend). If the current pace of applications received continues, it is POSSIBLE that another women's weekend will be scheduled BEFORE a men's weekend if the number of men's applications on file does not increase dramatically in the near future.





# Discussion



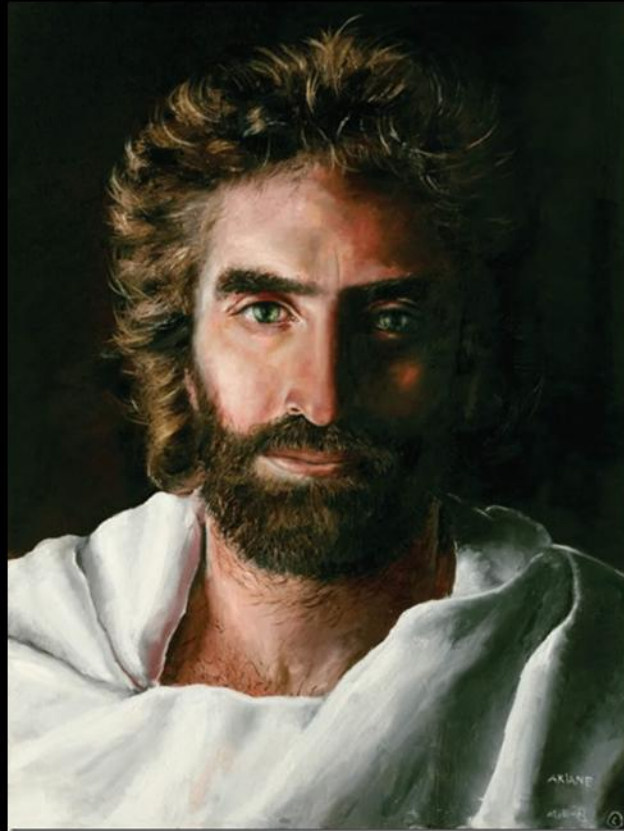


## Closing Prayer



- † Dear Lord, we must have fraternal charity, or we can accomplish nothing for you.
- † In loving you, help us to have a genuine concern for one another, a generosity in sharing one another's burdens, a gallantry in defending the reputation of our group, a sincere sympathy in sharing one another's suffering and sorrows, and a joy in sharing their spiritual growth.
- † By this shall all men know that we are your Apostles. Amen.

# The Diocese of Birmingham School of Leaders



**I Am Third**