



# Cursillo

**Diocese Of Birmingham Alabama**

Satellite School of Leaders

February 14, 2015

at St. John's in Madison, AL

at St. Thomas in Montevallo, AL



# SOL Agenda



- † Bible Enthronement
- † Leader's Prayer
- † Leader's Group Reunion
- † Doctrinal Talk: in Madison – Rev. Joy Nellissery  
in Montevallo – Rev. Ray Dunmyer
- † Technique Talk: - Preparing Great Palanca
- † in Madison – Mark Bonucchi  
in Montevallo – Sally Smith
- † Work of the Sections: Breakout Session
- † Announcements
- † Closing Prayer- Bible Dethronement
- † Chapel Visit (optional, but encouraged)



## 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



Presenter:

in Madison - **Rev. Joy Nellissery,**  
Associate Pastor, St John's, Madison

in Montevallo – **Rev. Ray Dunmyer,**  
Pastor at St. Thomas the Apostle



# Techniques Talk



Topic: **The Power of Palanca**

Presenter:

in Madison – **Mark Bonucchi**,  
Secretariat Lay Director

in Montevallo – **Sally Smith**,  
Secretariat School of Leaders Chair



# The Power of Palanca



- † Palanca is the Spanish word for “lever,” which helps a person or group move something that is beyond their strength.
- † It means praying and/or sacrificing something for another person.





# The Power of Palanca



- † The palanca is the action of.....
  - **intercessory prayer,**
  - **sacrifice, or**
  - **works of mercy**
- † Palanca is not letters or books or other "things".
- † Source: <http://www.cursillo.org/palanca/#palanca>





# The Power of Palanca



## “What is a palanca letter?”

- † A palanca letter is one that is sent to the candidates and team, informing them of the prayers and sacrifices that you are offering to God on their behalf.
- † A letter may be sent explaining what type of palanca is being offered, but the letter is NOT the palanca.
- † Source: <http://www.cursillo.org/palanca/#palanca>



# The Power of Palanca



## Posters Conveying Palanca:

- † Decorating the Rollo Room at each weekend are letters and posters from Cursillo groups around the country and world. This shows the candidates that people everywhere are praying for them.
- † Ultreya Chairs are encouraged to create a poster for an upcoming weekend here or elsewhere to be signed by Cursillistas at an Ultreya.



# The Power of Palanca



- † As Cursillistas, we are part of a praying and sacrificing community.
- † Palanca gives us the power to do things that could not be done without the grace and power of God. Without God we are powerless, but with God we are full of His power and our prayers and sacrifices can heal, open hearts, save a marriage, move mountains.
- † As we approach the next Cursillo Weekend # 132 "on our knees," we can be assured that all attending will be blessed.



# The Power of Palanca



† Examples of palanca that are being offered by this Diocese includes the following:

Novenas

Masses

Eucharist

Rosary Decades

Visits to the Blessed Sacrament

Days of Fasting

Personal Sacrifices

*And So Much More...*



# The Power of Palanca



## **We have a Palanca subcommittee, which is responsible for:**

- † Assisting the Precursillo Chair in ensuring that all Cursillistas within the Diocese of Birmingham are aware of the needs of the fellow brothers and sisters in Christ,
- † Helps to facilitate ongoing efforts of prayer and sacrifice within the Birmingham Cursillo Movement, and
- † Assists with coordination efforts for palanca supporting Three Day Weekends within the Birmingham diocese and throughout the world.

If you would like to assist with this work, please contact Rosalie Geoffroy,  
the Pre-Cursillo Chair email: [nonna51@otelco.net](mailto:nonna51@otelco.net) Phone: 1-256-498-0890



# The Power of Palanca



- † **Remember the Cursillo National Palanca intentions:**
  - **Mondays – National, Regional, and Diocesan Secretariats**
  - **Tuesdays – School of Leaders**
  - **Wednesdays – Cursillistas in the United States**
  - **Thursdays- National Cursillo Movement’s Apostolic Actions**
  - **Fridays – Cursillo Weekends**
  - **Saturdays – OMCC and NACG Executive Committees**
  
- † **Let us continue to pray and offer palanca for each other.**



## SoL Discussion Items



Is it time for a third satellite SoL to be established in Tuscaloosa or to start alternating satellite locations between B'ham and Tuscaloosa?

† **Satellite Option 1:** Huntsville + Birmingham + Tuscaloosa

† **Satellite Option 2:** Huntsville + Birmingham (one month)

Huntsville + Tuscaloosa (next month)

Remember Combined SoL in Cullman (third month)

† **Satellite Option 3:** Huntsville + Birmingham (current way)

**We have eliminated the Remote (dial in) School of Leaders.**

- “Call in” was First Thursdays at 7:00 pm/1900 hours.

- Participation had been very small



## Work of the Sections – 15 minutes



- † “Work of the Sections” is the part of the SoL meeting when we break into groups to discuss, identify, design, and help implement solutions to any issues within the three Cursillo sections--PreCursillo, Cursillo and PostCursillo
- † The breakout groups are facilitated under the leadership and guidance of the current Secretariat member for the Section (Rosalie Geoffroy –Pre-Cursillo, TBD – Cursillo, Christina Semmens –Post Cursillo)
- † YOU decide to which group you want to brainstorm
- † Palanca committee members work with Precursillo section, Communications committee members work with PostCursillo,
- † **DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A COMMITTEE?**





# SoL 2015 Schedule

## Locations Tentative



Date	SoL Meeting Location	Comment
Jan. 10	Combined in Cullman at Sacred Heart	Quarter 1
Feb. 14 and March 14	Satellite – Huntsville and Montevallo Satellite – Locations TBD for Huntsville and Birmingham Areas	
Apr. 11	Combined in Cullman at Sacred Heart	Quarter 2
May 9 and June 13	Satellite – Locations TBD for Huntsville and Birmingham Areas	
July 11	Combined in Cullman at Sacred Heart	Quarter 3
Aug. 8 and Sept. 12	Satellite – Locations TBD for Huntsville and Birmingham Areas	
Oct. 10	Combined in Cullman at Sacred Heart	Quarter 4
Nov. 14 Dec. - None	Satellite – Locations TBD for Huntsville and Birmingham Areas Or Day of Reflection (TBD)	



# Announcements



- † 1. The next **Women's Cursillo Weekend # 132** is Feb. 26 – March 1
  - Do palanca (prayers and sacrifices)
  - Attend Closures at 3:30 pm
- † 2. The next **Men's Cursillo Weekend** date is not set – need 16 candidates minimum
  - Sponsor a candidate
- † (Next reserved date is August 20-23, 2015, but may not be a Men's Weekend)
- † 3. **Spring Regional Encounter** will be held in Venice, Florida, April 24-25th. All Cursillistas are invited to attend. See Region VII website for more information and registration forms.

Go to [www.BhmCursillo.org](http://www.BhmCursillo.org) for details



# Announcements



- † 4. **Cursillo de Cursillo (CDC) Workshop** in Mobile,AL
  - The Archdiocese of MOBILE Cursillo is hosting - May 14-17 weekend
- † 5. A pilgrimage to the **World Meeting of Families** and **Pope Francis' visit** in Philadelphia from September 20-27th is being organized now. Anyone interested is welcome to participate, but must **reserve a spot by MARCH 13th**.
  - Cost per adult for the week is \$1400 per person and includes round trip transportation, hotel accommodations, and conference fee. \$100 refundable deposit due now, other monies not due until May and July.
  - A more detailed information flyer and registration form is available on the Cursillo website under Postcursillo, on the "Your 4th Day Connection".
- - Contact Christina Semmens phone 256-603-0225, [semcsem@aol.com](mailto:semcsem@aol.com)

**Go to [www.BhmCursillo.org](http://www.BhmCursillo.org) for details**



# Announcements



## 6. CURSILLO ON EWTN

The first of two episodes, "Cursillo, Its Origins, Mentality, and Purpose", will be broadcast on EWTN's **The Church Universal** program on the following dates:

- March 8, 2015 - 4:00 p.m (CDT)
- March 10, 2015 - 4:00 a.m (CDT)
- March 13, 2015 - 9:00 p.m. (CDT)

If your TV set does not receive EWTN, you can [stream it live](#) from your computer. We will keep you posted on the dates for the 2nd episode.



## 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.
- † **Perform Bible Dethronement.**