

Winter Cursillo Report

Summary of the January and February SOLs—The SoL in January was COMBINED and was held in Cullman at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The SoL in February was SATELLITE and held in Birmingham at St Thomas, Montevallo and in Huntsville at St John's, Madison from 9:30-11:30am. The doctrine talks were given by Deacon Tim Vaughn, Fr Ray Dunmeyer and Fr Joy Nellissery. The technique talk In January the School of Leaders and in February on Palanca. The slides for all SOL technique talks can be found at www.bhmcursillo.org under SOL presentations.

Additional announcements concerning the Movement are:

- **Women's Cursillo #132** was postponed due to weather and has now been **rescheduled for the weekend of March 26-29, 2015 at Sacred Heart Monastery (Benedictine Sisters)**. Clausura will be held at 4pm, so be sure to arrive no later than 3:45pm.
- **Pilgrimage to the World Meeting of Families and Apostolic visit by Pope Francis in Philadelphia, PA, September 20-28, 2015.** A pilgrimage for all interested adults and families is being formed now. Cost for the week-long trip is \$1400 per adult for double occupancy. Cost includes roundtrip travel, hotel accommodations, WMF conference registration fee and weeklong SEPTA metro pass. More details and a registration flyer can be found on the website at www.bhmcursillo.org. Spaces are limited, so reserve yours today for this once in a lifetime event!
- **A Cursillo de Cursillo (CdC) will be held May 14-17, 2015 in the Archdiocese of Mobile.** If you were unable to attend the CdC in our diocese, but would like to attend this one since it is close to home, please contact the PostCursillo Chair, Christina Semmens, 256-603-0225, semcsem@aol.com for more information.
- **Cursillo is going to be on EWTN!!!** On **Sunday, March 8th at 4pm CST**, on the EWTN program, The Universal Church, national Cursillo leaders will discuss **Cursillo's Origin, Purpose and Mentality**. Set your DVRs or plan to watch! (Or if you miss it on Sunday, catch the re-airing of the program later that week)
- **The next Regional Cursillo Encounter will be held April 24-25, 2015 in Venice, FL.** This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with our Cursillo brothers and sisters from across Region VII (Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina), so please consider making plans to attend as ANY Cursillista is welcome to participate. More information can be found at the Region VII Cursillo website (<https://www.cursillo.org/region7.org/>).
- **The latest National Cursillo Newsletter is now available** at www.natl-cursillo.org or on the Birmingham Cursillo website (www.bhmcursillo.org)

Cursillo Methodology—“The purpose of the Ultreya is to provide an opportunity for all the groups to come together in order to encourage one another and to journey together in a joyous atmosphere.” (*Cursillo de Cursillos Personal Study Guide*, p.69)

Cursillo Procedures— “The School of Leaders is the place where suggestions, issues and/or concerns about the Movement and how it is being implemented and lived within the diocese is supposed to be discussed by the Cursillo community. If a Cursillista is unable to attend a School of Leaders gathering, they are encouraged to forward their suggestion, issue and/or concern to the School of Leaders Chair, another member of the Secretariat, or the Lay Director, Mark Bonucchi, 256-975-3871, mmbonucchi@msn.com.

Questions/Concerns—

“I have been asked to give the Witness talk at our next Ultreya, but I don’t know what I should talk about. Do you have any suggestions?”

First, am glad that you are willing to serve your Cursillo brothers and sisters in this important role since the purpose of the witness talk is to encourage your fellow Cursillistas in their efforts to become better apostles. As for what to talk about, keep in mind that the witness talk is to simply share how Christ is currently working in your life. You can do this by sharing 1 of 3 things: either an explanation of Christ is working in your life in a particular situation, or an apostolic success or failure from the last week. Finally, since your talk is only be 5-7 minutes long, focus on sharing only thing and then trust that Spirit will take care of the rest!