

COLUMBUS, PHENIX CITY AND FORT BENNING CURSILLO COMMUNITY

November 2009

IT'S HAPPENING NOW!

Men's Cursillo #91 October 29 – November 1.

Women's Cursillo # 92 November 5 – 8.

REMEMBER THE WEEKEND PRAYER WHEEL

There's still time to sign up for the prayer vigil for our upcoming weekends. The address is www.3dayol.org. the steps to reserve an hour to pray are very simple.

1. Go to the home page of the web site and in the legend on the left side of the page click on **Prayer Vigil**.
2. This will take you to another page entitled **Prayer Vigil Requests** click on the first line **Check out List of Vigils**.
3. This will take you to another page entitled **Active Prayer Vigil Sign-Up Sheets** scroll down until you find our weekend, the list is in alphabetical order.
4. When you get to the sheet marked **Roman Catholic Diocese of Savannah / Catholic Cursillo Men's #91** click on the date of the weekend. The Women's weekend # 92 is the very next listing; be sure and sign up for it, too.
5. That will take you to a new page entitled **Prayer Vigil Sign Up Sheet**. To select a time slot for you to pray scroll down to the time and date and click on the left most column marked *Sign-up* (cyan in color).
6. That will take you to another page marked **Prayer Vigil Sign-Up**. It asks 4 questions: your name, your e-mail address and your location and your country. Please include your church, your hometown and state in this column. Your e-mail address will not be sent out or sold on any lists. It is necessary so that the server can send you a reminded of your choice to pray and when.

NOVEMBER ULTREYA

Ultreya in November will be on Sunday, November 8, at 1:30 PM in the parish hall of St. Patrick's Church in Phenix City. All Cursillistas are invited to join us for lunch at 12:45 PM. For more information call Bob Spano, 706-269-3319 or St. Patrick's Church, 334-298-9025.

SCHOOL OF LEADERS

School of Leaders will be on November 8 from 11:30 AM to 12:45 PM. The School of Leaders is a grouping of Cursillistas who get together to learn more about the Cursillo movement, how it works, what its place is in the Church, and especially what its role is in our community.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

In the Archdiocese of Mobile:

Mary Hastings Cursillo 29, mother of Nancy Elstner – Cursillo #19

Barbara Prudhomme – wife of Richard Prudhomme – Cursillo #26

Ann Dacovich Cursillo # 14

In the Diocese of Savannah:

Shirley Buafo (candidate Cursillo 90) lost her daughter, Althea, to brain cancer. Shirley is a communicant at St. Joseph's in Macon, GA

Alex Cruz lost his father last week - Alejandro Cruz-Ortiz – Alex worships at Sacred Heart-Warner Robins.

Emily Bowden lost her mother, Skip Korson on October 10th. Emily is another Sacred Heart Warner Robins parishioner

Junnie Winters lost her mother, Shirley Howard, two weeks ago. Junnie and her husband worship at Sacred Heart Warner Robins and Shirley was a Cursillista from the beginning of the movement in this diocese. I think she attended Women's #1 or Women's#2.

We have several new advocates for our prayers in the communion of saints. Please pray for their 5th day and for their families.



ANNUAL RETREAT

A retreat for all Cursillistas will be held January 8-10, 2010 at Hillview Retreat Center near Collins, GA. The cost is \$75 per person. If interested please RSVP: CursilloCorner@gmail.com

More details to follow later.

IMPORTANT DATES

- October 29 – Nov. 1 Men's weekend # 91 Diocese of Savannah, Echeeconee Campground, Lizella, Ga.
- November 5 – 8 Women's weekend # 92 Diocese of Savannah, Echeeconee Campground, Lizella, Ga.
- November 8 School of Leaders, lunch and Ultreya. Columbus/Phenix City.
- November 14 Diocese of Savannah Secretariat meeting
- December 13 School of Leaders, lunch and Ultreya. Columbus/Phenix City.
- January 8-10, 2010 Annual Retreat
- March 4-7, 2010 Men's Cursillo #106 Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat
- March 18-21, 2010 Women's Cursillo #107 Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat
- Men's Cursillo #93 will be held April 8-11, 2010 at Camp Hillview
- Women's Cursillo #94 will be held April 15-18, 2010 at Camp Hillview
- Men's Cursillo #95 will be held September 9-12, 2010 at Camp Hillview.
- Women's Cursillo #96 will be held September 16-19, 2010 at Camp Hillview

PLEASE GIVE YOUR SUPPORT

Camp Echeconnee is only a short drive from Columbus and Phenix City. Please plan to come to the closing and lend your support to our new Cursillistas. The men's Cursillo ends on November 1 and the women's on November 8. Closings are scheduled for 4:30 PM. Please try to arrive between 3:30 and 4:00.

Camp Echeconnee is located at 637 Mt. Paran Rd., Lizella, GA 31052.

The entire route is US Hwy 80 east from Columbus. US 80 turns north at Geneva, GA (18 miles from the DMV office in Columbus). Continue north on US 80 7.5 miles to Talbotton, GA. In talbotton US 80 will turn east toward Lizella, GA. Mt Paran Rd. is on the right 45 miles from Talbotton. There is a sign for Camp Echeconnee and Church of God of Prophecy on the corner. (If you cross the Bibb county line you just passed Mt. Paran Rd.) The Camp is 1 mile on the left.

DeColores

PALANCA

A summary of Chuck Everitt's School of Leaders presentation on Palanca.

Palanca is a powerful word and a powerful force within Cursillo. Just ask anyone who has made a weekend and you'll hear time and time again, that palanca is the most meaningful part of their three day experience and it's impact on their Fourth Day. That's saying a lot, when you consider that each and every part of the weekend is so meaningful to the unfolding journey.

Palanca is the Spanish word for LEVER. In Cursillo, the levers that lift candidates towards God, are prayers and sacrifices made for them. Sometimes, although our intentions are solid, we lose sight of the lever and instead, concentrate on the form in which that leverage is revealed.

We can get so caught up in the style or form, that we lose the point of what palanca is and should be. Unfortunately, this introduction to palanca becomes somehow stamped in the minds of the candidates and takes on a life of its own as it is then embraced and shared with candidates on future weekends.

According to the Leaders Manual false palanca falls under the guise of 'nice things' such as flowers, candy and even letters of good wishes. . . letters with comments such as: 'have a great time'. 'wish I were with you'. . . 'as I write this, I'm recalling my own weekend' ... etc.

Far better is a note that reveals prayers and sacrifices. Examples might be: 'I'll attend Mass for you during your weekend;' 'I'll skip coffee and dessert while you're there;' 'I'll rise early and recite the Rosary for you each day.'

Another way is to write a general letter to include not just one but all candidates in your prayers. You may want to work with members of your permanent group and offer this special prayerful approach for the candidates.



And let's not forget the team; they're present to carry out the work of the Lord and have spent weeks in formation to be certain true messages (not stories) are delivered to the candidates. Palanca is needed for them as well.

When you think of palanca, think of LEVER and remember the levers of support are prayers and sacrifices. Let's all recommit to support this and in so doing, properly define the true meaning of palanca as it is passed on to future candidates.

Palanca is an offering of Prayers and Sacrifices for the Candidates, and Teams on the Cursillo weekends....

UPCOMING WEEKENDS

Diocese of Savannah

Men's Weekend #91: Oct 29-Nov 1, Echeconee Campground, Lizella, GA
English and Spanish

Women's Weekend #92: Nov 5-8, Echeconee Campground, Lizella, GA
English and Spanish

CURSILLOS IN 2010

Archdiocese of Mobile

Men's Weekend #106: Mar 4-7, Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat, Holy Trinity, AL
Rector: TBA

Women's Weekend #107: Mar 18-21, Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat, Holy Trinity, AL
Rectora: TBA

The Deadline for the minimum of 15 candidates for each is December 1 – we need your apps now!

Fall dates are not finalized.

Diocese of Savannah

English Men's Weekend #92: 8-11 April at Camp Hillview

English Women's Weekend #93: 15-18 April at Camp Hillview

Men's Cursillo #95 will be held September 9-12, 2010 at Camp Hillview.

Women's Cursillo #96 will be held September 16-19, 2010 at Camp Hillview.

Venues are currently being sought for the Spanish Cursillos in 2010. Announcements will be made as soon as possible.

SPANISH CURSILLO

The Hispanic Cursillo has now achieved sufficient numbers to support Cursillos entirely in Spanish. While always a part of our Cursillo community, starting in 2010, we will have separate English and Spanish weekends every spring and fall. If you are fluent in Spanish, please consider volunteering for this special apostolate.



NEW DIOCESE OF SAVANNAH CURSILLO WEBSITE

The Diocese of Savannah Cursillo website has been moved to www.diosavcursillo.org. The old site had been down for several weeks and the ISP couldn't get the problem corrected. It is still being updated, but it is now up and running and should be complete soon.

While on a road trip, an elderly couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch. After finishing their meal, they left the restaurant, and resumed their trip.

When leaving, the elderly woman unknowingly left her glasses on the table, and she didn't miss them until they had been driving for about forty minutes. By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around, in order to return to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses.

All the way back, the husband became the classic grouchy old man. He fussed and complained, and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. The more he chided her, the more agitated he became. He just wouldn't let up for a single minute.

To her relief, they finally arrived at the restaurant. As the woman got out of the car, and hurried inside to retrieve her glasses, the old geezer yelled to her, "While you're in there, you might as well get my hat and the credit card."



THE SILENT SERMON

A member of a certain church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the pastor decided to visit him.

It was a chilly evening. The pastor found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for his pastor's visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited.

The pastor made himself at home but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, the pastor took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead. Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting.

The pastor glanced at his watch and realized it was time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow, once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the pastor reached the door to leave, his host said with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fire sermon. I will be back in church next Sunday."

We live in a world today, which tries to say too much with too little. Consequently, few listen. Sometimes the best sermons are the ones left unspoken.

This newsletter is compiled by the Columbus, Phenix City and Ft. Benning Cursillo Community.

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