

CARPE DIEM



November 2008

Newsletter for the Cursillo Movement for the Dioceses of Dallas & Fort Worth

Dear friends,

As we come to the close of a wonderful year for Renewal Center Ministries, it seems to be a good time to give thanks and praise for all the things the Lord has done.

- a) Celebrated our 35th year as an Institution in the Dioceses of Dallas and Fort Worth.
- b) Our newest programs, Mustard Seeds for 3rd and 4th graders and Living Stones for 5th and 6th graders, have begun to take off and we are now doing three of each every year.
- c) We introduced Mustard Seeds and Living Stones to youth at Jubilee Center, using Happening teens from various churches to serve as table leaders and making some talks.
- d) We also sent some youth from Jubilee Center to Happening. Some have attended to Staff School and will serve on future teams. The Jubilee Center Program Director and her husband attended Cursillo.
- e) We did a Cursillo and a Happening in the Diocese of Namarembe in Uganda.
- f) We did a Happening in the Diocese of Victoria Nyanza in Tanzania.
- g) We visited our old friend, Bishop Charles Ngusa in the Diocese of Shinyanga, Tanzania, where we are writing a grant to the Anglican Relief and Development Fund to add on to their clinics. While we were there, we helped with a free clinic for 300 people. This diocese is already very active in spreading Happening and Cursillo.
- h) During our trip to Africa, we met with Cursillistas from Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania with the plan of establishing a base in Kenya for introducing Cursillo and Happening to other dioceses in the region. They have since had one regional Cursillo

with team members and participants representing dioceses from the three countries. A bishop from Nigeria also attended. We are trying to get a foundation to help fund this endeavor. This will come under Bishop Abiero of the Diocese of Maseno South.

- i) We also had two "Back to the Mountain" weekends, one in English and one in Spanish.
- j) We also did five Cursillos in English, one in Spanish, three Happenings, two New Beginnings, and nine sessions of the School of Spirituality.

We know that 2009 will be a challenging year. Our resources have diminished this year and the economy will affect giving. But, we have been through rough times before, and the Lord always seems to bail us out; so, we just praise Him for the way He has worked though so many people. We have faith that He will continue to support us so long as we try to do His will.

God Bless,

Frank Bain

WHAT IS SPIRITUAL DIRECTION?

By Fr. Ray Ball

In the *Cursillo* literature we come across frequent references to the term "spiritual director," yet many of us in the renewal movement do not have spiritual directors or are confused by what the term means. Although there are several different models of direction in the Christian tradition, the one thing all of them agree on is that the director is not a spiritual master. *There are no spiritual masters in the Christian tradition!* We are all learners together, but some of us have been on the road longer than others and have accumulated beneficial information and wisdom.

The best description of spiritual direction I've ever found is one given by Fleetwood Range in her excellent book called ***THE RELUCTANT SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR***. She writes, "The simplest definition of spiritual direction I can give you is this: I take your hand in love and walk with you for a space in your faith journey. That's it.... *Di-*

rector and *directee* are never more and never less than two souls searching for God." (*THE RELUCTANT SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR* by Fleetwood Range; Catacombs Press, Huntsville, TX, 1996, p. 13). No matter the tradition, and there are several, the director is always the one who walks alongside the directee to listen, advise, comfort and confront. The director is never one who demands obedience or submission, but is a "soul friend" (*anamchara* in Irish Gaelic) who acts like an external conscience or a guide along the path (as in *Pilgrim's Progress*). It is not the same as a close friendship or that of a confessor/penitent, but more like that of a sponsor in a 12-step program to whom we have a level of accountability. It is an intimate relationship which must never be expressed sexually, so it is best to have this relationship with someone of the same sex.

The spiritual director is one who is called of God to this particular ministry, be they male or female, clergy or lay. There are schools for training and helping to sharpen certain skills, but it is not a ministry officially administered by the Church. The qualifications are to be a good listener, to be able to have the discernment of spirits, to be able to keep one's mouth shut when appropriate, to know the Word of God and have at least a minimal knowledge of psychology. A good director will be able to discern if he/she is in over his/her head and to refer. Some directors are professionals and charge fees for their services and some are amateurs who do not. (*Amateurs*, by the way, are people who do something for the love of something, not simpletons who have no ability or training!)

Each *Cursillista* should have a spiritual director, an intimate soul friend, according to the writings of *Cursillo* founder Eduardo Bonnín. But where to find one? The Renewal Center will begin compiling a list of qualified spiritual directors, and people who are interested in being included should contact the Renewal Center. If you are interested in becoming a spiritual director there are several good programs available (including one in the works for the Diocese of Dallas in the near future). Please check the publication or website of *Spiritual Directors International* for listings of other programs and for the names of members in your area.

The Rev. Raymond C. Ball, TSSF, Rector of All Saints Church in Dallas, is a Third Order Franciscan, a member of Spiritual Directors International and is an active Spiritual Director. He also serves on the faculty of FIND (Formation in Direction) for the Diocese of Texas and has been an active Cursillista of 19 years.

Cursillo #274**November 6—9, 2008 - Camp Crucis, Granbury*****Team*****Rector:**

David Weaver,
St. Alban's, Arlington

Observing Rector

Gloria Whitson,
All Saints, Fort Worth

Spiritual Advisors

Fr. Herb DeWees,
Good Shepherd, Dallas

Deacon Nancy Weaver,
St. Alban's, Arlington

Rector's Cha Cha

Debbie Nelson,
St. Alban's, Arlington

Palanca Cha Cha

Judy Turner,
St. Philip's, Frisco

Logistics Cha Cha

Susanne Franke,
St. Alban's, Arlington

Music

Paul Nelson,
St. Alban's, Arlington

Team

Emily DeWees,
Good Shepherd, Dallas

Mike Franke,
St. Alban's, Arlington

Tony & Lydia Hiatt,
Trinity, Fort Worth

Heather Newell
Redeemer, Irving

Dwight Otto
St. Francis, Dallas

Participants

St. Peter & St. Paul, Arlington

Bryce & Lesa Spangler

St. Alban's, Arlington

Rick & Alison Coombs

Good Shepherd, Cedar Hill

Barbara Thomas

St. John's, Fort Worth

Jay King (M)

St. Luke's, Denison

Laura Petrash

***There is still room for many more, ask
your best friend to go to Cursillo!***

Logistics Assignments**Baked Goods & Veggies**

St. Alban's, Arlington

Trinity, Fort Worth

Irving Ultreya

Conference Room Take-down

Betty Garton & Friends

We need volunteers to help with
Chapel Set-up & clean-up

Check our website for updates

www.episcopalrenewalcenter.org

Closing 3 PM

Sunday, November 9th

St. John's Chapel, Camp Crucis

Report from the Program Director

Call Linda at 214 351-9330 for more information.

November Cursillo to be at Camp Crucis!

Our November Cursillo will be November 6-9, 2008 at Camp Crucis. The Rector will be David Weaver from St. Alban's, Arlington. The Spiritual Advisors will be Fr. Herb DeWees from Good Shepherd, Dallas, and Deacon Nancy Weaver from St. Alban's, Arlington. November is a great time to experience the Holy Spirit and Camp Crucis. Now is the time to invite your friends to attend a Spiritual Weekend. If you have any questions, contact the Renewal Center at 214 351-9330.

The next Happening to be November 14-16, at St. Francis, Dallas

Happening is the program for high school youth, grades 10 -12. It is an excellent program that teaches them many spiritual tools. It is an opportunity to meet other Episcopalians like themselves, who are interested in getting to know themselves better, and God better too! If you have a senior in high school that will soon be going off to college, give them the best spiritual training to start their new life.

The next Happening will be in Dallas at St. Francis on November 14 -16. Applications can be found on our website, www.episcopalrenewalcenter.org.

Would you Like to volunteer at the Renewal Center?

Wanted: Young at heart person to help with a youth program? We have a new youth program, Living Stones for 5th and 6th graders. We need an administrative, outgoing leader, who would like to run these programs. We have them three times a year. It is an overnight program, with teenagers to lead the groups and give talks. We have a clergy person to give a follow-up to each talk from the Bible. We have had five so far, and the youth have loved them. Anyone interested in knowing more, please contact Linda Wilson at 214 351-9330.

Back to the Mountain???

This may be your response when you hear the words, "Back to the Mountain".

Let me explain what Back to the Mountain is: it is a fun, relaxing, spirit filled weekend spent at one of our lovely camps with wonderful people. In 2009, we will have the Back to the Mountain at All Saints Camp. It will be Saturday, April 25th and Sunday, April 26th, which is spring in far North Texas. The trees will be budding out and it will be cool at night.

We will have talks from clergy and lots of free time. Some people took hikes, some went out in a canoe, and others read books or took naps. We will be limited by our space requirement so start talking this up with your friends. Several times, a whole Group Reunion has come to share this special weekend with their special friends. Others who have been out of the Cursillo loop, have come to get reacquainted.

The next Carpe Diem will have more exact information about what we are planning. Hope to see you there!

FUTURE CURSILLOS

Cursillo #275—Camp Crucis

February 5-8, 2009

Spiritual Advisors

Rev. David Petrash

Deacon Ann Richards

Cursillo #276 - All Saints Camp

March 19-22, 2009

Spiritual Advisors

Rev. Christi Olsen

Rev. Gary Herbst

**Help the Renewal Center
by using your Kroger Plus or
Tom Thumb Card**

Here's how you can do it:

Tom Thumb:

Have Customer Service at **Tom Thumb** add our number (4147) to your Tom Thumb Reward Card so that the Renewal Center will receive credit for your purchases every time you use your Reward Card.

Kroger:

There is a new program. There are cards with barcodes at the Renewal Center and at Closing Services. Give the barcode card to the checker with your Kroger Plus Card when you check out. The number will be put on your Kroger Plus Card.

ATTENTION!!!

Please let us know ahead of time if you are moving so we can send you the *Carpe Diem*. If you do not let us know, it will be returned to us with the new address, if available. If it isn't available we have to delete you from the mailing list. Please call (214-351-9330 or metro 972-445-5095) or e-mail (office@episcopalrenewalcenter.org) the Renewal Center with any changes in your address, email address and/or phone number. Please let us know if you wish to read the *Carpe Diem* on line and we will put you on the list to receive notification when it is posted on our web page at www.episcopalrenewalcenter.org.

Give A Gift That Will Change Lives For Christ!

Give a donation to the Renewal Center as a memorial, in thanksgiving or as a gift in honor of someone. We take cash, checks & charges. See below.

Yes! I want to make it possible for the Episcopal Center For Renewal to continue to change lives for Christ through its various Youth, Adult, Spanish Language and Overseas Programs.

Please Print

Date: _____

Your Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone _____ Work phone _____

Email: _____

I agree to support the work of renewal in my daily prayers and by my financial commitment as indicated below:

\$50/month \$25/month \$10/month \$_____/month \$100/quarter \$75/quarter

\$50/quarter \$_____/quarter

Annual gift to be payable on _____ of \$2,500 \$2,000 \$1,000 \$750 \$500

\$ _____

By Check or Credit Card Master Card Visa Discover

Name on Card _____ Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

All gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Please make checks payable to: The Episcopal Center For Renewal, 10290 Monroe Dr. #101, Dallas, TX 75229



EPISCOPAL CENTER FOR RENEWAL

10290 Monroe Drive Suite 101
Dallas TX 75229-5718

*Cursillo®. Happening. New Beginnings. Living
Stones, Mustard Seeds and Schools of Spirituality*

**Non-Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Permit # 2698
Dallas TX**

Return Service Requested



**Serving the Dioceses of
Dallas & Fort Worth**

We are on the Web
www.episcopalrenewalcenter.org

Dated Material—November 2008

Renewal Center Staff:

Executive Director: *Frank Bain*
Frank@episcopalrenewalcenter.org
Program Director: *Linda Wilson*
Linda@episcopalrenewalcenter.org
Office Manager: *Jeri Corley*
office@episcopalrenewalcenter.org
Phone: 214-351-9330
Metro: 972-445-5095
Fax: 214-351-3992

Secretariat:

Paul Nelson—Lay Director
St. Alban's, Arlington
Linda Cox, Ascension, Dallas
Betty Garton, St. Peter & St. Paul,
Arlington
Pamela Hill, St. Martin in the Fields,
Southlake
Fr. Charlie Keen, Diocese of Dallas
Kristen Moore, Incarnation,
Dallas
Deacon Ann Richards, St. Francis of
Assisi, Willow Park
Jerry Vargas—San Mateo, Dallas
Gloria Whitson, All Saints, Fort Worth

Mark Your Calendars



November 1 - 9—11 AM Community of Servants—ECR

November 1 - Day of Deeper Understanding for Cursillo #273

November 6-9 - Cursillo #274—Camp Crucis

November 8 - School of Spirituality at St. Francis

November 14-15 - Fort Worth Diocesan Convention

November 14-16 - Happening at St. Francis, Dallas

November 27 - 28 - Office Closed for Thanksgiving

December 6 - Day of Deeper Understanding for Cursillo #274

December 6 - 9 - 11 AM Community of Servants—ECR

December 13 - School of Spirituality - St. Francis

December 22 - January 1 - Office Closed for Christmas

January 3 - 9 - 11 AM Community of Servants—ECR

January 10 - School of Spirituality - St. Francis

February 5-8 - Cursillo #275 - Camp Crucis

ECR: Episcopal Center for Renewal