

## Lay Directors' Link



### Christ in Us

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*Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid Mary for you have found favor with God." Luke 1:30*

What hope and promise we can find in those words from Luke. Imagine an angel standing before us and inserting our name into the proclamation as we are told we have found favor with God. Would we be as open to God's way and as trusting of His word as Mary was on the day she conceived the Son of God?

And yet we are presented with the very same opportunity. We are asked to let the living God, our Savior, Jesus Christ enter our person. We are called to be Jesus in the flesh. Mary conceived through her faith; she trusted and believed God's Will would be done through her, and it was. God's will was done because Mary said yes.

We too can allow Jesus to enter into us by simply saying yes and choosing His Will over ours. In choosing Christ each day we allow His presence to grow inside us. As Christ grows in us we grow in Christ. And as our relationship deepens with Him our light begins to shine brighter for all to see.

With Jesus inside, Mary went off to visit Elizabeth. Keep in mind, news did not travel fast in those days and the news Mary had to share may have been tough for some people to firmly grasp. As she tried to explain it to people a common question might have been asked -- "So, let me see if I have this straight Mary, you're pregnant with **God's** kid?"

So with the light of Christ in her, Mary arrived at Elizabeth's door. No words were needed for

Elizabeth to capture the scene. She saw Mary and said -- "And how does this happen to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me" (Luke 1:43). It was obvious to her that Mary was carrying Christ.

Do we strive for that kind of relationship with Christ? Is Jesus so active and alive in us that others can clearly see His light shine without us saying a word? We have all heard that our actions speak louder than our words. As we let His light shine through us, our actions will be guided towards accomplishing His will and then others will begin to see in us what Elizabeth saw in Mary.

In what would become their first "family" vacation Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem. *While they were there the time came for her to have her child.* (Luke 2:6) Just as Mary was called to give life to Jesus so too are we called. It is through our words and actions that we are called to give Jesus life. Through our Piety, Study, and Action we ready ourselves to give birth to Christ in our environments.

Our calling today is as real as Mary's calling was 2000 years ago. With God's grace we are able to say yes to the calling and become His light shining bright for all to see. And when His light shines no words will be needed for all to see Christ alive in us.

*To Him be the Glory and Praise,*

*Wendy and Mark Mitchell*



**His Light  
Shining  
Through  
Us**

## Message from Our Spiritual Director

Almsgiving, as it appears in the Bible, is the willingness to be generous in caring for the immediate physical needs of those who lack the necessities of life. In practice, in Jesus' day, it meant giving something to beggars who were encountered in the course of the day. These were people such as the blind, the lepers, the lame or others who were affected by a disability and were unable to support themselves by their work. Eventually, in the English-speaking world, such people came to be known as "handicapped" because they held their caps out to indicate that they needed the financial help that would be placed by passersby in their caps. The origin of the term is a pretty good reason not to use it, but rather to speak of a person as having a particular disability. While there are still things that need to be done to help the physically challenged to survive and participate in Church and society, there are also more reasons for us to be generous. Our task is to give what we have for the benefit of those who do not have enough.

One of the myths given by those who do not want to help those on the low end of the financial scale is that Jesus once said "we will always have the poor with us". The implication being that we cannot make any difference to them so we might as well not even try. But this leaves out some important things about that Gospel passage. The people complained about the woman using expensive oil to anoint Jesus, saying that the oil could have been sold and the proceeds given to the poor. Jesus replies, defending her, saying that she has done a good thing by showing her devotion to Him. He says that you will always have the poor with you AND you will always be able to take care of them. I might add He expects us always to take care of them.

We may run into people who are appropriate beneficiaries of our alms. Even when we have no personal knowledge of individuals who would be good candidates to receive our generosity, we are still obliged under Jesus' directive to give. We have numerous vehicles and organizations, both church-related and not, to help us share some of what we have with those who are in need. Not only sharing with the poor in our own area, but throughout the world. As we reflect on the Gospel message of Jesus we should consider whether we are as generous as we should be with those in need. Jesus leaves no question that we should be caring for those who are unable to care for themselves without passing judgment on them. All we need to know is that they are our brothers and sisters, children of God, who deserve to be treated with our respect, dignity and generosity.

Father Bill Martin



## Weekends 293 & 294 Teams

Men's Team	Position	Women's Team
Eric Volden	<b>Rector/Rectora</b>	Jean Heying
Mike Kelly	<b>Asst. Rector/Rectora</b>	Janice Dircks
Steve Williams	<b>Proctor</b>	Rosie Stiyer
Jim Keyes	<b>Rollo Musician</b>	Eileen Stewart
Fr. Michael Skluzacek	<b>Spiritual Director</b>	Fr. Stan Maslowski
Dn. Joe Kenney	<b>Spiritual Director</b>	Dn. Rod Palmer
	<b>Spiritual Director</b>	
Gordy Palzer	<b>Ideals</b>	Betty Joyce
John Coverdale	<b>Layperson/Church</b>	Lori Miller
Tim Weldon	<b>Piety</b>	Carol Callahan
Gary Zitzlsperger	<b>Study</b>	Shelly Gooley
Archie Farnham	<b>Action</b>	Barb Zachman
John Coleman	<b>Leaders</b>	Sonia Lager
Jim Harasyn	<b>Study/Environments</b>	Janice Andrzejek
Jerry Rients	<b>Christianity in Action</b>	Elise Harasyn
Greg Sicheneder	<b>Auxilliary</b>	Barbara Haverberg
Skip Mathews	<b>Auxilliary</b>	
Bill Corrigan	<b>Kitchen Coordinator</b>	Kay Wacek
Tom Mahowald	<b>Kitchen</b>	Deb Fischer
Paul Bizer	<b>Kitchen</b>	Mary Guerreo
Mike Boutelle	<b>Kitchen</b>	Mary Theuringer
Alfonso Chavez	<b>Kitchen</b>	Karla Campos
Jim Dircks	<b>Kitchen</b>	Ann Hadel
Keith Peterson	<b>Kitchen</b>	Henrietta Wiegel
Jack Stewart	<b>Kitchen</b>	Teresa Steinman
John Haverberg	<b>Kitchen</b>	Mary Ann Jaedike
Dan Vanderheyden	<b>Palanca Coordinator</b>	Jeanne Bendzinski
	<b>Asst. Coord.</b>	Pat Japs
Kevin Doyle	<b>Palanca Musician</b>	Patti Cicchese
Dave Sonnenberg	<b>Palanca</b>	Kathy Weigel
Scott Wilson	<b>Palanca</b>	Pat Michels
Ron Zachman	<b>Palanca</b>	Marsha Farnham
Mark Lager	<b>Palanca</b>	Eleanor Dukart
Gary Martini	<b>Palanca</b>	Sharnaz Ranasinghe
Bud Heutmaker	<b>Palanca</b>	
Larry Presseller	<b>Liansons</b>	Marilyn Presseller

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 6896 E 250th St.  
 Elko, MN 55020

**5th Day, recently deceased:** Mary Kay Velishek 952.447.3209

### Reflections on Weekend #291

My friend Bill has been a member of several teams, but he will tell you he's never "worked" a weekend. And he's right. Every weekend is "lived". Every weekend is different and in their own way special. As Rector I was able to surround myself with some of my best Cursillo buddies, and then God filled in the rest of the team with great new friends to share our journeys with. Weekend #291 was a wonderful Christian community. The facility and the liaison team were outstanding. The candidates were terrific. The Palanca and Kitchen teams were truly the face of Christ. The Rollos and the reflections were inspired making us laugh and cry. More importantly, they made us think and examine our lives. Four times during the weekend we found ourselves reflecting on the parable of the Prodigal Son. The first time was at the Friday evening reconciliation service, then at Mass Saturday in the Gospel reading, and then it showed up twice more during talks. Coincidence? I think not. We were led to take a look at our own lives with respect to how we use the gifts our Father gives to us so freely (stewardship); how easily our Father forgives us when we just ask (reconciliation); and how quickly He shows us with love when we come to him (grace).

Looking back, a couple of things continue to stand out. The first was when a candidate exclaimed on how amazing it was when their table leaders put suits on they became professional speakers! Ah, the power of the Holy Spirit working through holy, willing men. The second was the sharing and comments made at Closures by the new 4th Dayers. They were absolutely wonderful, so spirit-filled and some of the best I have ever heard. I was particularly proud of the team when one of our candidates said he first saw Christ on Thursday evening when he was welcomed. Praise God! Weekend #291 is now a cherished "close moment" memory, and I can't wait to live another weekend! *Jack Stewart*

### Welcome to the New Fourth Dayers From Weekends #291 and #292

Larry and Amy Blankenship  
 Tom Brownrigg  
 Mike and Mary Kay Cooney  
 Louis DeMars  
 David Grimes  
 Bob and Jackie Harvey  
 David and Gina Holman  
 Mary Kay Marxen  
 Bob and Nancy Mathewson  
 Paul and Delores Mordorski  
 Sandi Nelson  
 Ken and Carol Pavett  
 Laura Prusko  
 Dan and Kelly Welch

#### Twin Cities Cursillo Vision Statement is:

"As a community committed to spiritual growth through Christ we strive to transform our every day world".

#### Twin Cities Cursillo Mission Statement is:

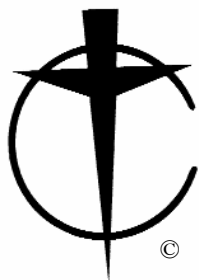
"We are a Catholic community committed to growing closer to Christ through prayer, study and service. By living the gospel we invite others daily to join us on our life long journey".

# Twin Cities Catholic Cursillo

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We are on the WEB  
[www.tc-cursillo.org](http://www.tc-cursillo.org)

## SCHOOL OF LEADERS

1st Tuesday, April 1 at 7:00 pm

**Location:** St. Joseph's Church, Hopkins,  
1310 Mainstreet, Room 151, School Building

**Topic:** 219 & 292 Weekend Review  
Given by Jack Stewart & Deb Streefland

**Featured Ultreya:** Restful Waters

### Ultreya's' Dates and Meeting Times for April

ULTREYA	LOCATION	TIME	DATE
St Cloud	St Mary's Cathedral	7:00 PM	3
Northeast	St. Peter, No. St. Paul	6:30 PM	4
North Minneapolis	St William, Fridley	7:30 PM	4
Restful Waters	St Dominic, Northfield	7:30 PM	11
Spanish Community	Assumption, Richfield	7:00 PM	11
St. Paul Midway	St. Mark, St. Paul	8:00 AM	12
Midwest	St Joseph's, Hopkins	7:00 PM	12
Northwest	St Henry, Monticello	7:30 PM	12
OLP/Highland	Lumen Christi, St. Paul	7:00 PM	12
Western	St Hubert, Chanhassen	7:00 PM	13
Jacobs Well	Holy Name of Jesus	7:00 PM	19
MN Valley	Risen Savior	7:00 PM	19
Deaf Community	Our Lady of Mt Carmel	11:00 AM	20
Korean	Korean Catholic Church St P	2:30 PM	20
Vietnamese	St. Joseph Hein	4:00 PM	27

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## Mark Your Calendars

### Upcoming Cursillo Weekends

Weekends to be held at Holy Cross, Minneapolis

#293 Mens: April 10-13, 2008

Rector: Eric Volden

#294 Womens: April 17-20, 2008

Rectora: Jean Heying

Spanish Weekends to be held at St. Dominic, Northfield

#295 Mens: June 19-22, 2008

#296 Womens: June 26-29, 2008

Weekends to be held at Holy Name of Jesus, Medina

#297 Mens: Oct. 23-26, 2008

#298 Womens: Nov. 6-9, 2008

The new team applications are available at Ultreyas and on our web site. After completing the form, email to [cursillo-chair@tc-cursillo.org](mailto:cursillo-chair@tc-cursillo.org). Applications are kept on file for one year from date of submission and approval. You must have made Weekends #287/288 or earlier to be eligible to work on the next Cursillo weekend.

### On April 19, Pray for Our Twin Cities Cursillo Movement

Please remember to Pray and do Palanca on the second Wednesday of each month for the Holy Spirit to revitalize our Cursillo movement.

The next **Region VI Encounter** is in Belle Prairie, MN on April 25-27 hosted by the Duluth Diocese. Call Wendy or Mark Mitchell, 763-478-6620, for information.