

Winter Gala
Saturday
January 28, 2012
at Peterstown
\$18.00 per person
(see inside for details)

Upcoming Ultreyas:

- February** **Holy Trinity Church in Cherry.** (Mass at 7:00 as usual)
March **St. Louis in Princeton.** Potluck family gathering 6:00. Announcement of next summer's Rector and Rectora with a short meeting. Mass will be at about 7:30.
April **Sts. Peter and Paul Parish at Peterstown.**

Cursillo dates for 2012

June 7-10 will be the Men's Cursillo
June 21-24 will be the Women's Cursillo

Ask your candidates to reserve their vacation days to attend an Ultreya!
Now is the time!!!

Luke 2: 4-6

And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

We are all very familiar with this part of the birth of Jesus, but I have always liked the part where Mary wraps him in swaddling clothes. There is a Protestant minister here in Mendota that comes up with some clever sayings and puts them on the sign in front of his church. The one he has on there now is cute but oh so true. It reads, "Mary wrapped the first Christmas present."

Oh how true that is. Jesus is the reason for Christmas. He is the ultimate present from our God, His only begotten Son. He is the reason for our hope. Let's never forget the real meaning of the season and the most precious first Christmas present.

I wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

DeColores, Deacon Ray

Come to the Cursillo Extravaganza
Winter Gala
Saturday, January 28, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

This year's theme is Cursillo Extravaganza –a night of many colors. We hope that you will join us for a night filled with fun, food, dancing, door prizes, and time to visit with old and new friends. Remember — you may invite friends who have not made a Cursillo.

The evening will begin with the regular Peterstown Mass at 5:30. Registration and hors d'oeuvres will be from 6:30 to 7:00 with a buffet dinner and dessert from 7:00 until 8:00. Dancing and a social time will follow from 8:00 until 11:00.

Door prizes will be given away throughout the evening. Everyone is welcome to donate door prizes. If you would like to donate a door prize, just bring the wrapped items the night of the gala.

Darlene Larabee is in charge of decorations. She is asking for volunteers to decorate one table each. If you like to decorate (or would be willing to help), please call Darlene at 815-481-1836. Decorating will be done on Thursday, January 26th, at 6:00 p.m. at Peterstown.

To make reservations, please fill out the slip below and mail it along with your payment (\$18.00 per person), to

Linda Mahnesmith
1001 Phyllis Ave.
Princeton, IL 61356

Make checks out to Illinois Valley Cursillo. Reservations and payment must be received by January 21st (for the caterer). Linda's number is 815-872-0614 if you have any questions.

Name _____
Phone Number _____
of reservations _____ X \$18.00 per person
Amount enclosed _____

Register to receive your newsletter via email!

Please help the Illinois Valley Cursillo save money on postage each month by registering your email on our website at www.ivcursillo.com.

Still interested in receiving the paper newsletter?

If an online newsletter isn't for you, please select from the choices below and mail your reply to:

Yvonne Sondgeroth
903 S. Park Ave.
Mendota, IL 61342

_____ Please continue to send the newsletter by mail.

_____ I would like to receive the newsletter from our website

_____ I am no longer interested in Cursillo. Please remove my name.

2001 Ten Year Reunion in April

Dear Cursillistas,

The day after our final Ultreya of 2011 (last November), a friend asked me when we were having our ten year reunion for our Cursillo group. We made our Cursillo in 2001. Thus, we are having a belated Ten Year Reunion for the 2001 Cursillos at the April 2012 Ultreya which will be at Peterstown on April 14th. The Men's Cursillo was #662 with Dean Vandre as the Rector. The Women's Cursillo was #664 with Lorraine Straznickas as Rectora. A complete list of the team members and candidates will be in the February and March newsletters. We hope that many of you will be able to attend and visit with old friends. Also, Sister Anne Germaine Picard will be speaking at the April Ultreya about her mission trip to Africa last year.

Have a Happy, Blessed, and Peaceful New Year,

Linda Mahnesmith

Lay Coordinator

Palanca News

The Palanca Committee wishes you a Happy New Year and would like you to mark some important dates on your 2012 calendar. The Men's Cursillo June 7- June 10, the Women's Cursillo is June 21- 24. Saturday, April 28 is Coloring Day. We meet at Peterstown at 8:30 am. All supplies are provided.

On coloring day we color the 152 pages which are signed by the palanca community for the 72 hours of prayer dedication in the Palanca Chapel. These colored pages are eventually put in a book for the rector and rectora. Cursillistas are not the only people allowed to color. Many hands make quick work of the coloring.

Due to the difficulties of getting in touch with people because of various reasons like people not having a landline it gets more difficult to contact a lot of Cursillistas for onsite palanca visits. We need people to initiate the sign up process for the 1, 2 or 3 hour Palanca Chapel visits. The Chapel is open from Thursday at 4 pm until Sunday at 4 pm. We will have sign-up sheets at the future Ultreyas or you can e-mail Ray at rraubry@yahoo.com or call Rosie Aubry at 815-433-4733 to reserve a time. It is important to always have two people in the Palanca Chapel at all times. If you cannot be with us in Peterstown we would also like you to contact us for home palanca. Thank you. De Colores

Meet the Cursillo Board

Name—Linda Mahnesmith **Position**—Lay Coordinator

Cursillo Number and Year--# 664 in 2001 (I have been on five teams since then.)

Town—Princeton **Parish**—St. Louis Parish in Princeton **Family**—Husband, Roy

Occupation—Retired elementary school teacher (35 years at Western/Bureau Valley and 5 years part-time at St. Louis Catholic School)

Hobbies/Interests—Reading, listening to music, playing cards and games, animals, Cursillo, my friends, and my church (and now TEC, Deacon Vince)

What Cursillo Means to Me—Cursillo means love and a new community of friends. Cursillo has helped me to keep moving forward on my personal faith journey. I have become much more active in my parish, and I have stayed active in the Cursillo program. Cursillo has given me the courage to do things that I never thought I would be able to do.