

Ministry Highlight: Cursillo



My name is Phil Talarico and my wife, Barbara and I have been parishioners for over 30 years. We have served in different capacities at Saint Joseph's over the years and still do. In addition to administering the Holy Eucharist to the sick, the experience that has totally revitalized me spiritually was making my "Cursillo Weekend" about fourteen years ago.

The word "Cursillo" is Spanish for "a short course". During the "Thursday night to Sunday night" weekend, an adult (over 18 years of age) not only hears talks or "rollos" on what it means to be a Christian but also experiences the joy of building and/or recapturing a personal relationship with Jesus for a lifetime.

The Cursillo movement began in Spain in the 1940s to help renew the Catholic Church. It has developed into a "method" that is lived by over eight million Catholics around the world and is also followed by many Protestant Christian faiths. Cursillo has received the blessing of Pope Paul VI who gave Saint Paul to Cursillo as its patron Saint! Cursillo is also encouraged and endorsed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

During the 3-day weekend, several talks are given by clergy and lay people. These talks emphasize the true meaning of Grace, the Sacraments, the Mass, the nature and need of prayer, living one's daily life in union with God, studying to understand the gift of God, and introducing Christ to others by word and deed. The atmosphere of the weekend is joy and Grace. There is music, great food, fun and support for one another.

But the "Cursillo Weekend" is just a beginning. Cursillo provides the opportunity to reunite on a regular basis to sustain the initial enthusiasm from the weekend and to keep Christ as the prime influencer in your life. This method is a small meeting of people who have "made" their Cursillo. It is usually weekly, but you come when you can! Each person shares their failures and successes in terms of their prayer life, their study, and their evangelization as a means of support to one another.

For more information or if you are in need of a sponsor, please contact me at bstala1@gmail.com.



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NEW RADIO SHOW: "Cursillo Corner"

**premiering January 18 at 12:30PM
Holy Family Radio, 720 AM**

This show will provide updates and locations for events happening within the Cursillo community in addition to other interesting information related to the Harrisburg Diocese Cursillo organization (website: harrisburg-cursillo.org).

THE NEXT MEN'S WEEKEND: January 18 - January 21, 2024

The Christian Retreat Center
East Waterford, PA

THE NEXT WOMEN'S WEEKEND: February 29 - March 3, 2024

The Mariawald Renewal Center
Reading, PA

*Transportation for the weekends
will be provided by your sponsor.*