



Quiri/Quiri

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January 2008 Edition
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From the Lay Directors Rob Franz W34, Bob Franz M36

As we write this article we are celebrating the First Sunday of Advent and we are joyfully looking forward to the hope in the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The birth of Jesus, the incarnate Son of the Father, is our hope. For as St. Paul says: "For in this hope we were saved." Romans 8:24. "We have peace with God through our Lord, Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1. So we hope that all of you had a very blessed Christmas as you welcomed the baby Jesus into your hearts.

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The mission of Cum Christo is to bring Christians together in an ecumenical environment that renews their relationship with Jesus Christ and motivates them to grow as disciples of Jesus in their churches, their everyday life and other places where God leads them.

Do you need to have your address changed for a Quiri/Quiri mailing? Changes may be emailed to Stacey Bergmann at sbe@columbus.rr.com

Next article due date: February 29, 2008 include weekend number barber_trish1231@yahoo.com

Potpourri and Updates

The Cum Christo annual Retreat, which is open to all and scheduled for Saturday, February 2, 2008, at Upper Arlington Lutheran Church at Mill Run is an excellent way of setting your course of hope in Jesus for the coming year. Won't you join us?

During the Catholic Youth Conference at Nationwide on November 8, 9, and 10, the Cum Christo Center housed 12 students and several adults from St. Joseph's in Plain City including Fr. Toner and Elaine and Tony Bonacci. This allowed them quick access to the conference.

The new section leader of Pre-Cum Christo is Ed Price. We thank him for offering his expertise to the Cum Christo Movement. And we thank Jerry Abraham for his many years of service in that capacity. Ed has written an article on Sponsorship and our need for the Cum Christo Community to seriously consider "making a friend, being a friend, and bringing a friend to Christ," so please read it and consider being a sponsor.

Leaders' School Weekend Orientation November 9 and 10, 2007, educated and trained twenty future Cum Christo leaders in the psychology, the weekend and the spirit of the Movement. Won't you consider the next Weekend Orientation in May 2008?

Even though Cum Christo develops leaders to go into their environments to bring Christ to their communities, Ultreya exists for all to renew themselves, to work an Ultreya team, to obtain a group and to gain the graces and strength to persevere in our Fourth Day. Please consider working a team or asking your group to work a team or coming down to the Center on Wednesday evening at 7:30 P.M. for spiritual renewal.

Our treasurer, Mike Chambers, is working diligently to get Cum Christo incorporated as a charitable organization with the IRS. We will have our own 501 c3 tax exempt status. The Columbus Diocese cut us off back in 1993, so our only choice at this time is to become an independent entity. If any of you have any ideas or input on this (cont. page 6)

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Fr Charlie Cotton, M83



Cross: a New Beginning !

The last Sunday of November, we celebrated the feast of Christ the King. This feast also celebrates the last Sunday of the liturgical year, 2007. The gospel for this feast was taken from Luke's Passion narrative (Lk 23:35-43). Jesus is hung upon the cross between the two thieves. Not only is Jesus King of heaven but also King of earth, a King who shared and gave His life upon a cross for each of us.

The one thief questions Jesus, "if He is the Christ, then save yourself and us too." The other thief rebukes him saying, "Have you no fear of God," and concludes by saying, "this man has done nothing criminal." He then says, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And Jesus simply says, "Today you will be with me in Paradise."

As we reflect upon the two thieves, two who shared in the suffering and dying upon a cross, it calls me to reflect on the power of the cross in my life as we end a liturgical year and come to an end of a calendar year and begin a new year.

None of us care to carry a cross. A cross can be heavy, bulky, have splinters and be uncomfortable. Usually carrying the cross calls me to change, to take time and look where I am at, where I have been and where will I possibly be.

Maybe our cross is our job and dealing with a difficult boss or co-workers. Maybe we experience concerns within our family relationships. There is a lack of communication or a lack of respect as parent and child. Maybe our cross is our inability to step forward and say "yes" in living a life in Christ, our King. Or maybe the cross reminds me that I am a sinner, that I have not made the best choices, therefore, who am I that my King loves me.

The cross also can help us focus on what has been going on in my life. Like the one thief, he simply admits that he was a sinner and in need of healing. His healing came on his cross next to his King.

Many of us wear a cross. Hopefully that cross is more than a nice piece of jewelry but a symbol and sign for us as well as a faith commitment in the life of our King, Jesus Christ.

At the closing of a Cum Christo weekend, each candidate is given a cross from the spiritual director who says in giving the cross, "Christ is counting on you" and the candidate responds, "And I on Him."

Hopefully the weekend for each candidate will be an end and yet a new beginning. An end to indifference in our relationship with Christ and living that out in our daily serving of the Lord and others in our life. And a new beginning that our journey of faith and witness is not on my own, but with the Lord and a community of others who continue to search and serve together for the Lord.



Pre CumChristo **Ed Price M34**

Make a Friend, Be a Friend, and Bring a Friend to Christ

Is Christ asking us to invest in others? Sometimes that is easier at Christmas or when we hear that still voice within to make a new year's resolution. The problem is it often takes work to invest in others. Today we want easy answers, short cuts, and slick marketing pieces to attract others to Christ. Think how easy a GPS navigation tool takes us from place to place Set the destination and it works like an autopilot.

(cont. on page7)

No Fear

Reverend James M. Long

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. John 14:27

Fear is a fact of human life. If all of us were honest about it, we live with fears of all kinds. We are afraid of losing our jobs, our financial resources, our health, our relationships, and our loved ones. Fear and anxiety can be from physical threats such as natural disasters, terrorism, crime, or accidents. They also can come from emotional threats such as rejection, loss of prestige or respect, or alienation from others. Ultimately, there is the fear of death. We long to feel safe.

Jesus was aware of our fears. He urged his followers to not be troubled or afraid. He recognized that we are subject to threats from the world, but he said that he has overcome the world. "In the world you will have suffering. But take heart! I have conquered the world." (John 16:33) Thus, our peace does not come from insulation from the world's troubles, but from faith in Jesus Christ.

One of the reasons I have served as a spiritual director on three weekends, and also why I find Cum Christo so compelling, is that it prepares people for a life of faith in the world. Piety, study, and action are the foundation in preparing us the Christian journey. I am always deeply moved by the ecumenical nature of the Cum Christo movement. While many things have divided Christians through the centuries, we can rally around the essentials of our faith tradition. More importantly, we equip one another to live without fear in the world.

Many times in the Bible, people who encounter the living God or a difficult situation are told to "fear not." Fear must have been very common, and reassurance very necessary in those ancient times. It remains so today. It is not because we tell ourselves not to fear that we find our courage. It is because we turn to a loving God who has shown us in Jesus Christ that no matter what we confront, we are not to be troubled or afraid. No fear!

Post Cum Christo

Mary Tracy, W92

PUT (Permanent Ultreya Team) is preparing for the "Christmas for Seniors" gift-giving scheduled for December 15th at 9a.m. This is truly a special time when we, as a community, exhibit the true meaning of Christmas by giving of ourselves and bringing much needed items and a smile to the residents of the Jaycee Arms.

Our next event is the Silent Auction/Dinner Dance on February 23rd, 2008. from 6:30pm - 11:30pm at The Holiday Inn on the Lane. The theme is "International" and, through our choice of attire, we hope to see our various heritages come to life. If you would like to help on the decoration committee and/or donate an auction item, please contact Jenny Held at jennymheld@aol.com (777-5580) or Sue Shetler at sshelter@acncolumbus.com (771-6830). The evening is a lot of fun, fellowship and food...so come join us for a great time!

2008 is almost upon us and our big sign-up board is fairly empty. Please pray about and consider working on an Ultreya team. Talk to your group or fellow Cursillistas in your church – what wonderful apostolic action! Working on a team is a great way to become involved in Cum Christo, meet other Cursillistas, have some fun and, for me, get down to Ultreya when I might otherwise be a couch potato!

As we approach a blessed time in our Christian faith, let us be mindful of the "reason for the season". My prayers for you are for good health, abundant blessings and peace and joy in the New Year! De Colores.

The Music Ministry Tami Robbins, W100

Recently, I had the pleasure of watching our seven month old granddaughter for the weekend. I was amazed to see her sitting on the floor amongst her toys, swaying to the music that was playing in the background. When I held her up she bounced in time with it and bobbed her little head. I think that God has hard wired us to LOVE the music. This is why I am honored, as a musician, to glorify God and to touch lives with his “joyful noise.”

I remember on my Cum Christo weekend the pleasure of singing along with Fiesta; and my utter astonishment at the serenade when the music played and people sang to us. It was so very moving! Music is just ONE of the many gifts of Cum Christo. That is why I am compelled by the spirit to invite musicians to join us. There have been five thousand or so people who have made the weekend. We have about twenty active musicians who not only are team members on the weekends but who provide music for Ultreyas, spiritual days of reflection, and the Spiritual directors dinner. Many are part of the Kairos’ teams within our prison ministry while others are members of their choirs within their churches. I feel that there are more people out there who are musicians and perhaps just need to be invited to join us. So please come...join us in a beautiful ministry. You’ll make new friends and learn new things.

At this time, we are trying to get a good keyboard to stay at the center. This should make it much easier for pianists to play for Ultreyas and for the weekends. New music books are in progress and hopefully will be complete by the spring weekends. Once that is finished, I hope to be able to actually get some sheet music for some of our more frequently used songs. My plan is to make it easier for other types of musicians to participate in Ultreyas, Serenades, Fiestas and other events.

So, if you are a musician, and you have been hearing a quiet whisper or perhaps getting a gentle nudge from our Lord to share your gift, please contact me at: robbinscastle@yahoo.com . Please type Cum Christo musician in the subject line; and let me know your e-mail address and phone #, and what instrument you play. If you have made leaders school, please advise me of that as well. I usually try to keep all the musicians updated on upcoming events and opportunities via E-mail. I look forward to hearing from you. Remember. Christ is counting on you! De Colores!



SERVICE

Joe DeCesare, M60

Hi everybody ! I am the new person handling the service section of secretariat. I still have a lot to learn but I know my first job needs to be recognition and a huge dose of gratitude for my predecessor, Sonny Beem. His affection for this community by caring for this facility with love is a great witness to me I will continue to rely on his help and his advice.

In addition to normal maintenance and cleaning we are investigating the fire escape and some type of motorized transport to the upper floors for the aged and handicapped of our community.

Is your group looking for a little action? I have several tasks in mind where a group could adopt a portion of the building. For example, your group could adopt the third floor dormitories. Such a donation of time could entail turning the mattresses every 6 months, checking the window operation periodically, changing light bulbs as needed. Give me a call (792-8030). We could meet and develop a comfortable program for your group that would be a great service to Cum Christo. Let your light shine (especially if your bulbs are flickering.)

In Thanksgiving

FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

FOR ANSWERED
PRAYERS

FOR HEALTH AND
WELLNESS



Hugs and Prayers

FOR THOSE WHO
HAVE DIED AND
THEIR LOVED ONES

FOR THOSE
SUFFERING FROM
ILLNESS OR
ACCIDENTS

FOR THOSE IN THE
MILITARY

FOR OUR CHILDREN

FOR ALL JOB
PROBLEMS

You are invited to the annual



“Day of Spiritual Reflection”

Guests from outside the Cum Christo community are welcome to attend.

Saturday, February 2, 2008

8:30 AM---Coffee, Tea and Breakfast Rolls

9 AM to 1:30 PM---Program

Box lunch will be provided. Donations accepted.

Reservations needed to plan for food service.

The Church at Mill Run (event location)

3500 Mill Run Dr.

Hilliard, 43026

Topic of the day is

“Being a Disciple of Jesus 24/7”

There will be three presentations by Cum Christo Spiritual Directors, each followed by small-group discussions.

- *Rev. Bonnie Gerber, Pastor, All Saints Lutheran Church*
- *Rev. Jim Long, Minister of Pastoral Care, First Community Church*
- *Rev. Orinda Hawkins-Brinkley, Pastor, St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church*

Please make a reservation for this special event to help us plan for attendance! Send your reservation to:

Becca Schott

431-9277

rbschott@columbus.rr.com

WHAT GOD CAN DO WITH A MAYBE

Deacon Dick Bauman, M4



Although it was almost 43 years, ago the experience is as clear today as it was then. Sitting in Holy Cross Cross_Church listening to Fr, Richard Dodd give the first meditation of Cursillo #4, he said “God Loves you loves you and wants you here.” The response in my head was yeah sure, tell me another one. At some point an ambulance went by outside the church and father Dodd had to stop because we could not hear. After the ambulance went by he pointed his finger at us by he pointed his finger at us and even and even though I was sitting in the next to last row it felt like that finger was an inch from my nose, he said “Why aren’t you in the emergency squad going to Grant Hospital? You are no there because God wants you here because God Loves you. The mental response was maybe.

During the week-end at the altar visit in front of the Blessed Sacrament it became evident to me that God loved me, just as I was, not as I could be or should be and I wept tears of joy. Because of that unconditional love, it was in my mind, imperative that change was necessary.

My comment after the week-end was " It felt like they laid me out on a table and chopped me into little pieces, and no one saw this but me and Jesus, I saw what I had been, which I disliked, I saw what I was and I hated it, and I saw what I could become with God’s help and God help me if I didn’t become that man." The struggle to become that man is a daily ongoing struggle..

To help my growth I became involved in the Cursillo Movement and with help of many dedicated men and women, especially the people I have met with in Group Reunion my growth continues.

My call to the Diaconate was encouraged by Frs. Korby Theilen and Ralph Huntzinger. Both are Cursillistas Changes have come and gone in the movement, some good and some not so good, the best change has been the Ecumenical aspect of the week-ends. It was my privilege to serve on the first Ecumenical week-end.

To those who want to change the week-end format, my advice would be tread very carefully and make sure the change is what God wants and not just what we want.

My involvement on Teams, The Spiritual Directors Team, Leaders school and on Secretariat covers many years and man hours, and I would not trade them for the world.

My prayer for the movement is that it will continue to prosper and grow in the name of our Brother Jesus under solid leadership as inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Lay Directors cont.

please contact us. We are still looking at the pros and cons of this move.

On the third Ultreya following the Women’s Weekend in October, we spoke of true Palanca as prayer and sacrifice. It was stressed that true palanca does not include the niceties such as cookies, candies, mementos, etc. In themselves these items are not true palanca. The work of love and labor behind the item offered for the conversion and healing of another person is a form of true palanca. And yes, signing your name to any type of written palanca is appropriate. What was neglected in the talk, to place all of this in perspective, is the history of the Movement regarding palanca. From the Spanish Cursillo and the original Columbus Cursillo there were no gifts or niceties like cookies and candies. That is why we called them distractions and additions to the weekend. They are not essential to the Weekend. We are simply trying to make you aware of true palanca as sacrifice and prayers in the form of written general and personal palanca as well as of service palanca which are essential to the Weekend. So, we ask you to consider the type of true palanca you will give to the candidates and team on a Weekend.

We have great hope in the Cum Christo Movement and Community because of the presence of Jesus Christ in each of you. “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13.

Weekend Representative

Nancy Meyer, W27

The Year in Review

Our movement was blessed in 2007 with strong leadership and ready and willing babe chicks! Jay Janszen, assisted by Joe Finneran spent March 8-11 with 28 candidates of the Men's 144th Cum Christo. The Spiritual Directors were Fr. Charlie Cotton, Deacon Tony Bonacci, and Rev. Scott Marier. The Closing was held at the Church of the Resurrection. The Women's 136th followed a month later led by Becca Schott and assisted by Mary Tracy April 19-22. The Spiritual Directors, Fr. Jerry Stluka, Deacon Jim Rouse, and Rev. Bonnie Gerber, along with Becca and Mary, ministered to 26 babe chicks. The Closing was held at St. Anthony Church. In the fall of 2007, September 27-30, the Men's 145th weekend was blessed with Rector Tom Long and Assistant Paul Peterson. Fr. Leo Connolly, Deacon John Rericha, and Rev. Jim Long also helped lead 18 candidates to a closer relationship with Jesus. First Community Church hosted the Closing. From October 25-28, Sukey DiCesare, assisted by Katy Kram, guided the Women's 137th Cum Christo on a spiritual journey. Rev. Bonnie Frost, Fr. William Metzger, and Mary-George-Whittle served as Spiritual Directors. The 28 babe chicks and the Team attended their Closing at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

As we look back on the miracles of 2007, we also look ahead as Tom Corroto and Randy Smith prepare for Team Formation for the Men's 146th which begins April 10, 2008. The search continues for a church to host the Closing. Debbie Kackley and Kathy Corroto are gearing up for the Women's 138th in May. St. Joan of Arc will host the Closing. Rectors and Assistants for Fall 2008 are Rick Simmonds and John Fleck, and Ellen Judge and Shelby Fleck. It has been my privilege to help these special saints of our community arrange for weekends that can transform lives. We serve an awesome God! Thanks to all who made 2007 a year to remember, and thanks to those who will do the same in 2008.

De Colores



Pre CumChristo cont.

No sweat, no thinking, just get me to my destination.

I don't have all the answers to get our weekends filled with great candidates. I do believe it takes hard work on each of you individually and all of us collectively in the movement. Collectively, I am in a position to study and work with contact couples across our church communities to talk up CumChristo. That is our mission as Pre CumChristo. We have tried many avenues. We have a lot of work ahead of us to keep the movement alive and responsive to Christ's call to witness to Him. We believe CumChristo is a method of renewal and conversion.

We can only do so much and that leads me to ask you to meditate on what you can do individually to sponsor candidates. Consider the need to invest in your relationships, being a friend, making your friendships real, and bringing those relationships to Christ. Pray and ask Christ to help you know when, where, and how He wants you to invest in that friendship. At what point will He ask you to sponsor that person to make a weekend.

Are we willing to go to the cross and bear the burden it may take to sponsor someone? Yes, it is work, but what a reward awaits us. What a friendship in Christ awaits us and those we sponsor.

Have we made friends whom Christ may be asking us bring to Him in CumChristo? Is Christ asking you to go one more step in that friendship and personally invite a friend to the Weekend? These are all good questions to ask ourselves as we consider our resolutions for Christ in the New Year. Happy New Year!

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Cum Christo Dates

Ultreya - Every Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

October 25-28, 2007
Women's 137th Weekend

October 30, 2007
Spiritual Director
Appreciation Dinner

November 9-10, 2007
Leader School/Weekend Orientation

February 2, 2008
Cum Christo Retreat

February 24, 2008
Annual Silent Auction Dinner

April 10-13, 2008
Men's 146th Weekend

May 15-18, 2008
Women's 138th

September 18-21, 2008
Men's 147th Weekend

October 16-19, 2008
Women's 139th Weekend

March 12 - 15, 2009
Men's 148th Weekend

April 23-26, 2009
Women's 140th Weekend

September 17-20, 2009
Men's 149th Weekend

October 15-18, 2009
Women's 141st Weekend

