

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATES TO REMEMBER

Leaders School

Jan. 12, 19, 26 & Feb. 2 & 9, 2017

Men's Weekend

March 23-26, 2017 – at Monastery

Women's Weekends

March 30-April 2, 2017 – at Monastery

Region VII Spring Encounter

April 21 – 22, 2017 - Birmingham, AL

----- **Sign-up for SPRING Teams:**

Team signups to work on the Men's and Women's Teams for the Spring 2017 weekends was held during Leaders School.

However, if you are interested, please contact Michael Wojcik 770-289-1860 for men's team or Christa Cook 770-513-2524 for women's team.

Team Formation for the March weekends will begin Saturday, February 11, 2017 then each Thursday thru March 16th. Team Retreat will be on Saturday, March 18th.



Founder and Pioneer of Atlanta Catholic Cursillo Movement has gone to be with his Father!

Fr. Richard Kieran
Died November 21, 2016
At Age 76

Cursillo was brought to the Atlanta Area in 1965 after Bill Kingery, Charles Mueller and Msgr. Michael Reagan traveled to Chicago to make their Weekend.

At their encouragement a team from Chicago traveled to Atlanta and held our very first men's weekend on August 15, 1965. The weekend was held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church with 31 candidates. Father Richard was among those first Cursillistas.

Father Kieran was ordained a priest on June 20, 1965, in Dublin, Ireland, at St. Patrick's College. He was then recruited to serve in the Archdiocese of Atlanta at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

We in the Cursillo Movement knew him best as our FIRST Spiritual Director. However, in his 51 years of priesthood many of his early years also focused on Catholic education and later years as a pastor in six parishes. Throughout all these years, spreading the Gospel through preaching and service and through the development of lay people were his passionate concerns.

Shortly after his ordination, he began teaching at St. Pius X High School, and then was named principal from 1969 to 1973, when he was asked to lead St. Joseph High School, Atlanta, until the spring of 1975. He was Secretary of the Department of Education of the Atlanta Archdiocese for eight years from 1974 until 1982. He also earned a master of arts in education.

During these years, he resided at Holy Cross Church, St. Anthony Church and Sacred Heart Church, Atlanta. He was also chaplain to Our Lady's Association for Exceptional Children and fostered bringing the sacraments of confirmation and first Communion to those with disabilities.

He was named pastor beginning with Holy Family, Marietta, in 1982; followed by St. Joseph, Athens, from 1983-1987; the Cathedral of Christ the King, Atlanta, from 1987-1990; Immaculate Heart of Mary, Atlanta, from 1990-1997; St. Anna, Monroe, from 1997-1999, and St. Michael, Gainesville, in 1999.

In October 1999 he suffered a brain hemorrhage which, following surgery and hospitalization, necessitated an end to his active ministry. He has been in rehabilitative care for the last 17 years.

Throughout the decades, Father Kieran was the mainstay of the Atlanta Catholic Cursillo movement. He became the first Spiritual Director in 1966 and continued until 1983, later returning as a co-leader.

He pioneered the Cursillo weekend in Spanish, teaching himself the language in order to hold the weekends. He co-authored the spiritual directors' manual for the National Cursillo Secretariat in 1976 and assisted Episcopal and Lutheran Cursillo teams to form.

Thousands of lay people in the Archdiocese have taken part in the renewal weekend and many permanent deacons mention it as pivotal in their subsequent decision to seek ordination.

Among the first to celebrate Mass in Spanish in the archdiocese, he was appointed secretary of a committee for the Spanish-speaking apostolate by Archbishop Thomas A. Donnellan in November 1977 and coordinated the Hispanic apostolate until 1982, drawing women religious to serve the rapidly growing Spanish-speaking Catholic community in Georgia. He also ministered to Cubans detained in the federal penitentiary in Atlanta.



.....51 Years in the Priesthood.....

The photo on left, taken when he celebrated his golden jubilee Mass on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Seen here with his brother, Fr. John Kieran.



Fr. Richard's Funeral Mass
November 28, 2016
Celebrated by Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory



Dear Friends,

During these past six months of 2016 God has given us great joy and at the same time great sorrow.

We had a Men's weekend and a Women's weekend and the Spirit was so active and evident in both. Each team prepares well for the experience and then we just kind of wait during the weekend to see how the Spirit touches the Candidates, and works through the team. Those of you who have ever worked on a team have seen this happen again and again.

One difficulty we've had during the last few years is to have enough men team members to successfully host a Cursillo weekend. In the years to come I pray that more who have experienced a Cursillo will be available to work on a team so that the charge our God has given us to evangelize, through the Cursillo, can go forward.

Elsewhere in this newsletter Glenn has reflected on the death of Fr. Richard Kieran in late November. He was the wonderful Founder and active presence in the Cursillo for 34 years. My greatest sadness is that in the last seventeen years of the Cursillo the new Cursillistas only met him when he came to hear Confessions on the Weekends. It was his presence for the Sacrament and the stories we told about him that kept his presence central to the Movement. Father Richard might be gone to his much deserved eternal reward but he will always be a presence in the Cursillo Movement in Atlanta.

For all of us I pray we will have a joyous and peaceful Christmastide.

In Christ's peace and love,
Sr. Margaret

PS: Thanks for all your prayers; my broken shoulder is healing just fine!

CONGRATULATIONS and WELCOME NEW CURSILLISTAS

Our October Cursillo weekends were held at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit Retreat House in Conyers. We only had 17 Men and 23 Women, but it was very Spirit Filled. The following new Cursillistas attended.

NAME	PARISH	NAME	PARISH
Dave Angner	Christ Our King & Savior	Cookie Almestica	St. Philip Benizi
Dennis Forlie	St. Thomas Aquinas	Ellie Almestica	St. Philip Benizi
Michael Garrett	St. Thomas the Apostle	Vickie Angner	Christ Our King & Savior
Kent Hedrick	St. Thomas Aquinas	Diana Clarkin	St. Michael / Archangel
Kris Hedrick	St. Thomas Aquinas	Mike D'Antonio	Christ Our King & Savior
Michael Hughes	Shrine of the IC	Kim Hedrick	St. Thomas Aquinas
Ron Lawrence	St. James	Connie Kaness	St. Michael the Archangel
Rob Lemon	St. John Neumann	Gretchen Karst	Immaculate Heart of Mary
Sean McFadden	St. Thomas Aquinas	Pam Lemon	St. John Neumann
David McGrew	St. Pius X	Ricki Martin	Prince of Peace
Randy Merritt	St. John Neumann	Cindy McFadden	St. Thomas Aquinas
Matt O'Shea	St. Thomas Aquinas	Cathy Merritt	St. John Neumann
Regis Perhac	Prince of Peace	Dawn O'Shea	St. Thomas Aquinas
Joseph Raez	Prince of Peace	Michelle Perhac	Prince of Peace
John Thomas	St. Thomas Aquinas	Pat Priore	St. Catherine Laboure
Peter Uwechue	St. Lawrence	Angela Ramirez	St. George
Shane Walker	St. James	Alice Sales	St. Philip Benizi
		Celia Scappaticcio	St. Lawrence
		Kelly Schreckenberger	St. Lawrence
		Karen Smith	St. Paul of the Cross
		Joyce Thomas	St. Peter the Rock
		Linda Wallace	St. John Vianney
		Pat Wolfe	Prince of Peace

MAY THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH YOU ON YOUR 4TH DAY!

It's never too early to recruit candidates and turn in their applications. We are always in need of more candidates for the upcoming weekends, especially men! Applications can be found on our website: www.atlcatholiccursillo.org

Leaders School

Our Leaders School will begin again after the Christmas and New Year's break on January 12th and continue each Thursday thru February 9th. Reminders and additional information will be sent via email.

Ultreya Leader Workshop

Another workshop is being planned for the Ultreya Leaders in our Archdiocese, organized by the Post Cursillo Secretariat section, YLonne Swails & Jeff Carr. Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 4th, more information will be forthcoming.

Fran Zipfel, Lay Director	2016 – 2017 Secretariat	Cindy Lister, Pre Cursillo
Sr. Margaret McAnoy, Spiritual Advisor	Visit our Website:	Larry Ruder, Pre Cursillo
Father Steve Yander, Spiritual Advisor	www.atlcatholiccursillo.org	Christa Cook, Cursillo
Penny Simmons, Spiritual Advisor	Webmaster, Greg LaHatte	Michael Wojcik, Cursillo
Terry Irving, Leaders School	Newsletter by Glenn Zipfel	Jeff Carr, Post Cursillo
Chris Shepherd, Leaders School		YLonne Swails, Post Cursillo
Glenn Zipfel, Treasurer/Communications		Mary Lu Christiansen, Secretary