

# The Witness

Mount Saint Francis Cursillo Center  
Mount Saint Francis, Indiana 47146



You are my witnesses, says the Lord, my servants whom I have chosen [Isaiah 43:10]

## New Beginnings

By: Sister Karen Byerley

Nothing in life remains the same. This can be said about anything that grows and matures. This is also true about our Cursillo Community. We have some exciting news to share with everyone. So many businesses and groups are struggling to survive the conditions of this age. Because of the economic needs of the Mount Saint Francis Center for Spirituality it has become necessary for us to look for another space to have as our home base. We were made aware of this within the last months but the time table was not definite till now.



As some of you may know it became necessary for the *New Albany Youth Ministry Office* to find a new space. Fortunately for them the Mount had space that could be renovated and used for their needs. The Cursillo Office was within that needed space. How wonderful for them to find a workable space that will also benefit the Mount and their financial needs. Unfortunately for us that meant there was no “room in the inn.”

For the last few months our materials have been stored in the locker room area of the basement. But the time has now come for us to relocate. We, the Secretariat, have been praying about this situation for a good while now. Our friend, +Jim Smith, spent a good deal of time brainstorming about spaces that might be available within the Deanery. We have been praying to Jim and to the Blessed Mother for a workable solution.

Well, God is Good! All the Time! Our prayers have been answered through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. A team of three had a meeting with *Fr. Tom Clegg*, pastor at *St. Joe Hill and St. Paul Church, Sellersburg*. Fr. Tom has graciously offered to allow the Mount Saint Francis Cursillo community to have a new home space at St. Joe Hill. We will have an office space within the school building on the top floor. We can use the room off the gym for Ultreyas and other needed

events. How blessed we are to have found a new home. *We are so grateful to Fr. Tom and to the people at St. Joe for allowing us to continue the work of evangelization in this Deanery.*

The Mount Saint Francis Cursillo Community owes a great debt of gratitude to the friars at Mount Saint Francis. It was through their vision, insight and dedication that our community came to birth and thrived in this area. We were built on the hard work, love, devotion and commitment of so many wonderful friars. Friars Ivan, Juniper, Ralph, Bonaventure and Don Halpin are just a few of the wonderful Franciscans upon whose shoulders our community took shape and grew. (I am sure I forgot to mention other important and influential friars and for that I apologize. We definitely appreciate all of them.) Now we have the continued support of the current friars, Bro. Ambrose, Fr. John Elmer and Bro. Bob. We want to thank them all for all they have done and will do to help our Cursillo community continue to grow. This move does not in any way effect our relationship with Mount Saint Francis and all of our friends and supporters there. We will still have week-ends there and other events at times. We love our friars and the sacred, holy space of the

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## The Witness Online

For pictures, archived articles, and the latest Cursillo news, check out what Steve Volpert is doing to our website—[www.cursillo.org/mststfrancis](http://www.cursillo.org/mststfrancis). Send your email address to [svolpert@twc.com](mailto:svolpert@twc.com) to get meeting reminders and real time updates.

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## Home Sweet Home

By: Renee Wimsatt

### Welcome Home



What makes a home? Is it the building? Is it the walls? Is it the furniture?  
Is it the people we love?

I believe it is all of that and more! I am a divorced mother of two girls.

Around three years ago it became necessary to sell what had been our family home. We had lived in the house for approximately 17 years and it was in need of updates and maintenance. In order to market the house quickly and obtain the best price, I enlisted the assistance of a professional stager.

I painted everything the colors she suggested. I removed half of the clothes from the closets to make the place look roomier. I took down my window treatments and my home decorations. Then I removed most of the items that made the house look personal.

The day came for the professional stager to make a showcase of my home.

The plan was for me and the girls to be gone out of town for the day while she transformed the place. When the stager arrived that morning she looked around the house and was quite pleased with all the work I had put into it. However, there was one problem.

There were still religious articles displayed in the home. The way it was explained to me: “*Renee, Jesus has to go.*”

I told her: “*No, Jesus stays.*” The stager informed me that some people would find that offensive. I told her I wouldn’t take them down. If someone found them offensive they probably didn’t need to live in this house.

The house was sold after the first showing— at almost full asking price!!

I don’t mean to imply that when we make decisions of conscience we are always rewarded in this life but I believe God is always looking out for us. I am certain Jesus is in the house I sold just as I am certain he is present in the home I have now.

What makes a house a home? I believe it is the presence of the people we love and the presence of the God that loves us. *De Colores!*

*Continued from Page 1.*

Mount. We are always welcome there. The grounds are still ours for roaming, retreating, enjoying, praying. Our relationship with The Mount is a holy one, we are rooted in that space and are always connected in a most holy way. It will always be home in a most special, unique way. We are still the Mount Saint Francis Cursillo community just homing out of a different space. If you currently group there that is great and you should continue to do so. Just please make sure Bro. Bob or the other staff knows where and when you are grouping. We must still follow the Virtus (or Safe and Sacred) guidelines to protect our youth.

We also want to thank our Catholic family at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. They were also willing to find a space for us to use and call home. All I know is we are certainly a blessed community. God continues to gift us with the opportunities to evangelize in our environments here. Let us be faithful to that call.

***Starting in July all our regular events will be held at St. Joe Hill. That includes meetings and Utreya. Utreya will be held in the room next to the gym.***

***Can’t wait to see you all for Utreya, and Pilgrim’s Way or any other Cursillo related events!***

New Address- St. Joe Hill Catholic Church, 2605 W. Saint Joe Road, Sellersburg, IN 47172.

Directions- From I-65 N or I-64 W- Take I-265 to Exit 3. Turn onto Grantline Road towards Indiana University Southeast (IUS). Travel 4.3 miles past IUS and Grantline Elementary School. Crossing railroad tracks, turn right onto St. Joe Road (across from The Chicken House Restaurant on your left). Cross R.R. tracks again and look for the church steeple on the left.

The Following  
Cursillistas Need  
Your Prayers

The lost I will seek  
out, the strayed I will  
bring back, the  
injured I will bind up,  
the sick I will heal  
Ezekiel 34:16

The Franciscan Friars

Brother Ambrose

Richard Becht &

Family

Joe Camarata

Margaret Campbell

Danny Hall

Howard Gettelfinger

& Family

Fr. Mike Hilderbrand

Bernadette Kok

Carol Lenfert &

Family

Tom McDonough

The Mount Saint

Francis Cursillo

Community

Phyllis Naville

Ann Ross

The Schickel Family

Mary Ann Smith &

Family

World Peace

*Please help keep our  
prayer list updated.  
Contact Sr. Karen at  
812-949-3189 or  
send an email to:  
karenbyerley@att.net*

## From a Friend of Carlos Perez

Five seagulls are sitting on a dock. One decides to fly away.

How many seagulls are left? Four?

No, still five. Deciding to fly and actually flying away are two different things. There's no difference between the gull that "decided" to fly and the others until he actually flaps his wings. Likewise, there is no difference in the person who INTENDS to do things differently and the one who never thinks about it in the first place.

Consider how we judge ourselves by our intentions

while we judge others by their actions. (borrowed from "The Noticer")

Turn good intentions into actions. Others (especially our kids) can't see our hearts or our intentions. "I'm gonna do better" and "I meant to do better" are worthless. Start flapping.



## Bringing our Friends to Christ

By: Greg Hamilton

I have run into so many fall-away Catholic adults who grew up in the church. They attended Catholic schools, were altar servers, went through all the sacraments, and attended daily Masses. Many tell me they were forced to attend so many Masses and participate so often in reconciliation that they were burned out by the time they got to college. At the point where they had the choice to participate in the church, they fell away.

As an adult convert, I can't relate to their experience. I encourage them to come back and experience the Church as an adult, to attend adult education classes, and see if things have changed. I remind them that they are still Catholic and are still welcome in their church.

My ponder is this, what can we change in the Church to help our young people create that personal relationship with Christ which will draw them back to Him when they stray. It is easy to blame the person who falls away as being selfish or lazy or materialistic. Yes, there are those people too, but I've met far too many who are basically good people who just don't thirst for Christ. It breaks my heart to realize they don't share my love of the Church and I can't implant my experience of Her in them.—*You can join Greg's blog "Puzzle Pieces" on Facebook.*

### Important Dates:

Men's Cursillo Weekend— Louisville/September 4-7, 2014

4th Day Retreat-Mount St. Francis/September 20, 2014

Christmas Fiesta-Mount St. Francis/December 15, 2014

Women's Cursillo Weekend— Mount St. Francis/April 23-26, 2015

## 4th Day Retreat

**Date:** September 20, 2014      **Place:** Mount St. Francis, Lower Chapel  
**Time:** Sign-in at 8:30 am      **Cost:** \$20.00 per person  
 Concludes at 5:00 pm

**What to Bring:** A snack for the sharing table.

**Registration Deadline:** September 13th (for meal preparation purposes)  
 Ann Marie Camarata at [jcam72@twc.com](mailto:jcam72@twc.com)

**Payment:** Will be accepted the day of or please mail to treasurer at:  
 Mr. Dennis Conroy  
 3009 Minton Court  
 Memphis, IN 47143

(Please make checks payable to: Mount St. Francis Cursillo)

### Secretariat

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### Wanted: Your witness articles

E-Mail your newsletter items to:  
[david.laurie91@gmail.com](mailto:david.laurie91@gmail.com), or mail  
 to: Laurie Slusser, 1229 Lafayette  
 Drive, New Albany, IN 47150

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