



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

Pope Opens the Church's Holy Doors

By: Kathy Eberle

Holy doors are only opened during a special year called a Jubilee Year designated by a Pope. Traditionally there are holy doors only four basilicas of Rome St. Peter's St John Lateran, St. Mary's Major, and St. Paul Outside the Walls.

But Pope Francis has modified the rules and said that every Catholic Cathedral in the world may designate a holy door to be opened for a year, so that even those who cannot come to Rome can participate in the church's Jubilee Year of Mercy by walking through the doors. Holy Doors symbolically represent Jesus, who said "I am the door" (John 10:7)

What happens when a Catholic walks through the Holy Doors!
Walking through the Holy Doors means they receive an indulgence, which is a lessening of the consequences attached to sin:

To receive a full indulgence (called a plenary indulgence) you must

1. Walk through the Holy Doors
2. Go to Reconciliation or receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation
3. Receive communion
- 4 Pray for the Pope.



I walked through the Holy Doors at the Cathedral of Assumption in Louisville Kentucky after going to mass and praying the rosary at the abortion clinic with some of my friends. Walking through the doors was a very special moment for me, because I don't know what kind of special graces I would receive from God.

When walking through the doors I wondered what is behind the doors at the Cathedral. There was chapel that I would go through. I stopped and prayed to the Holy Spirit. Then I went through some more doors until I came to a garden outside, in this garden I saw some signs showing the Corporal Works of Mercy and the Spiritual Works of Mercy. I had to have an open heart and mind to what plans God has for me and my spiritual journey with him.

If you accept the challenge ask yourself these questions.

What special graces do you think God will send to you as your gifts?

Will you let your heart be as open as the Holy Doors that invite you to enter into a fuller relationship to God?

Rev 3:8 " I know your works (behold, I have left an open door before you which no one can close) you have a limited strength and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name"

1 Corinthians 16:9 "because a door has opened for me wide and productive for work, but there are many opponents."

St Meinard Archabbey also has the Holy Doors open, if you are willing to see what God special gift or graces would be heading your way. Jubilee of Mercy will be coming to a ending November 20th, 2016.

This is something that, you may not want to miss out on!

Decolores

Kathy Eberle

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Which door will you choose

By: Bob Eberle

One Sunday Father Tom Clegg did a homily at Saint John Paul II, (under fathers consent of using his talk) that inspired me to write it in a little different twist, to share with our Cursillo community!

Once there were three sisters, well into their years, whose minds were slipping a little bit. One sister called down to the other from the bathroom. "Emily, I've got one leg in the bathtub and the other on the floor, Am I getting into the tub or out of it?"

Emily goes up to help, but halfway up the stairs she pauses on the landing and asks out loud, "Am I going up the stairs or down the stairs?"

The third sister witnessing all of this said to herself, "Thank God I'm not like those two, knock on wood... "In which she did, she immediately look up and asked out loud, "Is that the front door or the back door?"

Regardless of your age, life can at times be confusing and hard to remember things but do you still remember your Cursillo weekend experience? I know I do, like it was yesterday! And I will tell you by helping putting on weekends I, honesty can say that I had learned more from those weekends then the first one that I had, for there is just too much to absorb and take in on your first trip around.

Fr. Michael White is the author of a book called "Rebuilt". In the book he talks about the passage in Mathew's Gospel where Jesus says to St. Peter: "You are the rock, and on this rock I will build... my Church".

Now what is interesting here is the Greek word that Mathew uses that has come to be translated as Church. That Greek word is Ekklesia. I'm going to build my Ekklesia. An Ekklesia at that time of Jesus was not a building at all. It was a gathering of people with a mission and a purpose.

And not only that... It was a mission and a purpose for the immediate area. An Ekklesia was kind of like a town hall meeting, a gathering of people for a purpose. (Similar to our Ultreya)

Ekklesia was a movement. And so when Jesus says I'm going to build my Ekklesia, What Jesus is really saying is I'm starting a movement here... (Similar to our Cursillo) A movement of people toward the kingdom of God.

When Fr. White explained that, it opened up that passage to me in a new and vibrant way. As it challenged me today as I reflect on what type of community we are building here at Mount St. Francis Cursillo.

Because what I want to be about here in Cursillo, Is what I hope we all want to be about here at St. Mount Francis Cursillo is working with Jesus to build up the kind of Ekklesia that Jesus would be proud of.

Now let me be very clear here I am not talking about building a building or where we meet is what that makes Jesus be proud of. I am talking about building a movement of people who are committed to Christ Jesus and to making God's kingdom come alive in Cursillo.

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Please Welcome our newest cursillistas members:

Christina "Tina" Merk

Inson Conroy

Megan Hibbard

Welcome to your 4th day!

The Witness Online

For pictures, archived articles, and the latest Cursillo news, Please check out our website—www.cursillo.org/mtstfrancis. For Palanca and Communications via Cursillomsf@gmail.com.

***** HEADLINE *****

Get your rusty pen out and blow the dust off of that piece of paper and write an article on what your faith journey in the Cursillo Movement has been like for you, submit it for the next publication of the witness. Go ahead it is simple to do.

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
Alan & Sharron Barker
Will & Rosie Block
Ron Byerley
Joe & Ann Marie
Camarata
Debbie Hall
Donna & Ron Robb
Carol Flum
Ron Campbell
Don & Sue Kochert
Kaye Hobbs
Ruth Houghton
Carol Lenfert & Family
Lu Simpson
Alice Volpert
Bill Schwender
Connie McKinley's
Family
Fr. Mike Hilderbrand
Richard Becht's Family
Phyllis Schickel
Eric Hobaugh
The Mount Saint Francis
Cursillo Community
World Peace
Candidates for the up
coming Cursillo weekends

*Please help keep our
prayer list updated.
Contact Sr. Karen at 812-
949-3189 or send an
email to:
karen102850@att.net*

In Fr. White's second book "Tools for Rebuilding" he takes it a little farther in which he tells his reader, if you want to know if what you are doing in your parish (Cursillo community) is an Ekklesia, ask yourselves these four questions.

1. Are you making a noticeable difference in your community or are you simply serving your members? An Ekklesia changes its community; it doesn't simply serve its members. For it is not our mission to keep everyone happy, our mission is to serve. Are you making a noticeable difference in your community or are you simply serving your members?

2. Are you mobilizing for the mission or are you insisting on business as usual? An Ekklesia is about doing its mission which is the work of God. I wonder how many good things don't happen in our community because "We don't do it that way." or "This is the way we have always done it." Or "This won't work here." Are you mobilizing for Cursillo mission or are you insisting on business as usual?

3. Are you here only to preserve your history or are you willing to go where God is leading you and blessing you? An Ekklesia looks more towards the future than its past, something Pope Francis preached all the time. In his Apostolic Exhortation, Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis addressed this when he writes:

And so the biggest threat at all gradually takes shape: "the gray pragmatism of the daily life of the Church, in which all appears to proceed normally, while in reality faith, is wearing down and degenerating into small-mindedness". A tomb psychology thus develops and slowly transforms Christians into mummies in a museum.

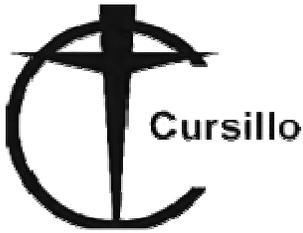
4. Are you here only to preserve your history or are you willing to go where God is leading you and blessing you? Are you simply meeting or are you moving? It is more than, attending a wonderful 3 day weekend retreat, it's more than, just going to Mass on Sundays. It is more than, just attending an Ultreya. If we are not doing the work of God... If we are just coming to Mass to fulfill our obligation... to punch our spiritual time card, we are missing the point of our faith. Are you simply meeting or are you moving?

Think today about how you can help Jesus, to build an Ekklesia, a church that moves people into deeper relationships with him and with one another. Let's be a community that moves outward rather than inward. A community where all of its members challenge themselves to continual formation as a disciple of Jesus, Christ. Where all of its members focus on their spiritual growth, and how can they better serve our community and how we can serve within and outside of our community.

Let's be a cursillo that not only preserves our history, but one that also creates new history. I hope that you will join us in doing this. And if you cannot join us in doing this, then I invite you to step aside and don't work against us. For we are officially under construction... you're in a hard hat zone. We are involved in a movement here... We are building an Ekklesia... we are building a community. Make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend to Christ!

Are you getting out or in the bathtub? Are you going up or down the stairs, which direction are you taking to answer what door?

Make a friend, Be a friend, Bring a friend to Christ!



Mark your Calendars

Secretariat meets on 2nd Monday of each month 7:00PM. @ St. John Paul II - St. Joe Chapel - Old School Room.

Pilgrims Way meets on 3rd Monday of each month 7:00PM. @ St. John Paul II - St. Joe Chapel - Room next to gym.

Ultreya meets on 4th Monday of each month 7:00PM. @ St. John Paul II - St. Joe Chapel - Room next to the gym.

August 13, 2016 MSF Cursillo Fiesta @ MSF Lake—Activities start at 4:00 PM Meal at 6:00 PM This event will be replacing our August Ultreya (No Ultreya in August)

August 25—28, 2016 Men’s Cursillo @ Mount Saint Francis, Indiana

August 28, 2016 5:30 PM Men’s Cursillo Closing @ Mount Saint Francis, Indiana

September 17, 2016 9:00 AM - 4th Day @ MSF Lower Chapel—Registration 8:30 AM to 9:00 AM (see flyer) This event will be replacing our September Ultreya (No Ultreya in September)

September 23—25 2016 Cursillo Regional to be held in Evansville, Indiana

Pilgrims way will be taking a summer break so there will not be a meeting in June or July

Mount Saint Francis will be celebrating 40 years of retreats. It will be a year long celebration. The events planned so far include, **Oct. 1 is Homecoming at the Mount.** Bro. Bob Baxter would like to invite all of the Cursillo members to these various events.

Secretariat

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Wanted: Your witness articles

E-Mail your newsletter items to: photobugbob@aol.com, or mail to: Bob Eberle , 107 Millview Street, Sellersburg, Indiana 47172-1130

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Fourth Day Retreat

Saturday, September 17, 2016

Mount Saint Francis, Lower Chapel

Sign-in 8:30 a.m., Program 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy And The Fourth Day

Registration Deadline: September 10th (for meal preparation purposes). You can email registration below to bmorr43@yahoo.com by September, 10, 2016, or via easiest method that will let us know of your participation by the deadline.

Payment: \$20.00 per person. Will be accepted the day of the retreat or please mail to Barbara Morris, 1216 Ekin Avenue, New Albany, IN 47150.

Make checks payable to: Mount St. Francis Cursillo

What to Bring: A snack for the sharing table and **YOU**, please!!!

Yes, I will be at the Fourth Day Retreat on September 17, 2016!!!

Print name(s) clearly:
