

4660 Twilight Drive
Rapid City, SD 57703
July 25, 2007

Most Reverend Bishop J. Cupich (corrected)
Diocese of Rapid City
P. O. Box 678
Rapid City, SD 57709-0678

Dear Bishop Cupich:

We very much appreciate the warm reception, useful guidance and the spiritual advisor you provided Cursillo this past year. Below is our annual report which outlines the progress we made this past year with the reorganization of the movement and the goals we have established through the fall of 2008.

Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Rapid City's Annual Report

It was an active year beginning with the recruitment of Fr. Raymond Deisch and Bishop Cupich's subsequent appointment of him as our Spiritual Advisor. His wisdom and guidance has been greatly appreciated and our Spiritual Advisor's guidance will continue to be essential if we are to stay in harmony with the Bishop's desires.

In April a delegation of three men and five women attended the Cursillo Regional meeting in David City, Nebraska.

In May we held a Cursillo Leaders Workshop with 20 Cursillistas from the Rapid City Diocese attending. Its main focus was how to effectively provide an authentic Cursillo in our Diocese and it culminated with the establishment of an Interim Diocesan Committee to plan for and establish the movement's Secretariat.

In May we also petitioned the National Cursillo Movement for recognition as a movement in the process of becoming viable and were granted a one year grace period without dues to make this happen. At the same time we were also granted space for a web site which we promptly established. (<http://natl-cursillo.org/rapidcity>.)

At the Interim Diocesan Committee's first meeting, held in June, we established the ground rules to operate and selected a Chairperson (Hugh Brechtel), Alternate Chairperson (Jim Jacquot) and Recorder (Pat Calvetti). The Committee's second meeting was in July and we worked to establish a plan to provide you with this report, recruit a Spiritual Advisor and begin writing the By-laws for the Secretariat.

In July Jim Jacquot was our official representative at the National Encounter in Arlington, Texas.

We also have the following ongoing activities:

- Seven friendship group reunions are being held weekly in Rapid City with an undetermined number in the balance of the Diocese.
- Ultreya, reunion of the groups, is being held at 7:00 PM on the third Sunday each month, usually in Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall.
- Our School of Leaders meets twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Fridays at 7:00 PM in the lower sacristy of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.
- Our Interim Diocesan Committee meets at 8:00 PM after the School of Leaders on the 2nd Friday of each month until the Secretariat has been successfully established and takes over.

Interim Diocesan Committee's Goals:

- Write the By-Laws for the Secretariat and get them approved and blessed by Bishop Cupich
- With the bishop's approval, select the members of the Secretariat and have Bishop Cupich officially appoint the Spiritual Advisor and Lay Director for their terms in office.
- Make a team available to the bishop for the purpose of attending a meeting at each of the Deaneries to explain how the movement intends to support the work of the priests.

School of Leaders Goals:

- Prepare a team that can put on an authentic Cursillo by September of 2008
- Support the essential activities of the movement including: Friendship Groups, Ultreyas, the Secretariat and its Pastoral Plan, the Interim Diocesan Committee, and a Cursillo weekend in September 2008

Other established Goals:

- Provide support for the Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) Weekend to be held Labor Day Weekend.
- Participate in the Northern Hills Youth Rally in Belle Fourche.
- Plan for our first Cursillo (3 day weekend) to be held in September of 2008.

Your Excellency, we seek your continued advice, encouragement, and approval of what we are doing. We ask you to encourage the Deaneries to invite our team to one of their meetings with the purpose of making a short presentation to update them and answer questions on the purpose of the Cursillo Movement. The Movement is here, after all, to help build and strengthen parish life and we excitedly anticipate getting started across the entire diocese.

In the near future, we will need your approval and appointment of our next Spiritual Advisor, once a new one has been recruited. Since a Priest, deacon, or any vowed religious can be our Spiritual Advisor, with your permission, we hope to recruit from within that entire base.

Also, we will need your approval and appointment of the Lay Director, to head the Secretariat, once he or she is selected by the Interim Diocesan Committee. At that same time we will be asking for you to approve each of the other members of the Secretariat. Once they are in place they will begin working on the Pastoral Plan which will be presented to you for approval.

Sincerely in Christ,

Hugh D. Brechtel
Chairperson
Cursillo Movement Interim Diocesan Committee