

CURSILLO MINISTRY REPORT

The Cursillo Ministry of the Diocese of East Carolina traditionally holds two Cursillo weekends every year. These weekends are designed to enrich and deepen an individual's faith journey and foster ministry among lay people. The weekend consists of talks and group discussions built on the Cursillo tripod of Piety, Study, and Action. The weekend is filled with singing, prayer, meditation, great food, and lifetime friendship building. Each person returning from a Cursillo weekend is encouraged to participate in what is known as the "Fourth Day" which extends for the rest of their lives. There are ongoing means to support Christian Ministries and living through the Cursillo Community. Small groups called "Reunions" and larger groups called "Ultreyas" meet on a regular basis. We mature in our spirituality through these groups, and the Cursillo experience. Our Fourth Day makes that experience a lifetime process of spiritual growth and renewal.

Although Covid-19 conditions necessitated the postponement of the scheduled weekends in April and November 2021, this ministry remained active. The Diocesan Cursillo presented a virtual Grand Ultreya in June 2021 with opening remarks from Bishop Rob Skirving. A lay witness was given by Lisa Richey with a clergy response from Reverend Malone Gilliam and a lay response from Sandra Loucks. Wonderful music was provided by Fred Klinck, Adelaide Brooks, Tom Czaplisky, and Leslie Bowman. One hundred people attended the Diocesan Grand Ultreya. Secretariat continues to meet virtually six times a year. Group reunions continue to meet across the diocese. These weekly meetings are held both virtually and in person. Hope remains high that weekends in April and November 2022 will be held.

In August 2021, The National Episcopal Cursillo Ministry Committee presented a virtual National Grand Ultreya. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry provided a prerecorded opening address. Bishop Rob Skirving delivered a moving presentation on the value of following a Rule of Life. Over 800 people attended the National Grand Ultreya.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Richardson

Lay Director of Secretariat of the Diocese of East Carolina