

AUG 13 1982

2-day celebration of Cursillo's 25th anniversary scheduled here

CAMDEN — About 500 of the 1,800 cursillistas in the Camden diocese are expected to gather at the St. Pius X Retreat House in Blackwood Friday and Saturday, Aug. 27 and 28, for a celebration of the Cursillo movement's 25th anniversary in this country.

There are some 1,000 Spanish-speaking and 800 English-speaking members in the diocese, said Fr. John T. Frey, associate pastor of St. Agnes parish, Blackwood, and spiritual director of the English-speaking Cursillistas.

"There are members of Cursillo in almost every parish," Fr. Frey added. "Members are people attuned to the fact that the Catholic Church is people changing their environment through volunteer services."

The purpose of the movement is the Christian renewal of everyone at every level of society, that is, to structure Christianity

by means of practicing Catholics who, through their lives, give a Christian impetus to a life which has ceased to be Christian.

Fr. Frey said members of Cursillo do this by volunteering their services in key environments such as family, parish, media, politics, education and social justice, for the Christianization of these environments.

"For example, a pastor might call for volunteers for a particular project. A Cursillo member would volunteer, but without identifying himself as such."

Cursillo utilizes two structures to make possible a conversion in the apostolic Christian life after candidates make their first Cursillo weekend — "Reunion" and "Ultreya."

Reunion is the means of forming the group, or nucleus, through sharing, planning and reviewing Christian life in its three aspects of piety, study and

apostolic action.

The Ultreya broadens the apostolic horizon of the groups and encourages them in their work through sharing with other groups from varied segments of society. It also provides an opportunity for priests to give both individual and spiritual direction.

The monthly English-speaking meetings are held at St. Agnes parish while the Spanish-speaking meet at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and Fatima parish, Camden, under the direction of Fr. Roque Longo, M.S.S.C.C.

"The Cursillo weekend is a real commitment," said Fr. Frey. "It starts on a Thursday evening with a 'quiet time' for prayer and meditation and includes daily Mass. There are 14 talks given over the three days, nine by laymen and five by priests, deacons and religious. There is plenty of time for discussion.

"At the Sunday closing participants are asked to think about the methods suggested for continuing to live their Catholic faith in a powerful way, suggestions for meeting in small groups of five or six each week and reviewing their relationship with God; for studying that relationship and

keeping it alive and productive; and for studying their activities with respect to how they can apply these things at work, at home, in society, etc."

During the anniversary celebration, Bishop George H. Guilfoyle will be the principal celebrant of a concelebrated outdoor Mass at noon on Saturday. Concelebrating with him will be Auxiliary Bishop James L. Schad, Fr. Frey and Fr. Longo.

The weekend will open with registration at 7 p.m. Friday, followed by small group reunions, night prayer and a "fiesta."

On Saturday morning Msgr. Charles B. Mynaugh, of Philadelphia, director of the Delaware Valley Catholic Office of Television and Radio, will deliver the main address, speaking on his vision of Cursillo as a means of evangelization.

Following a barbecue at 1 p.m., Bill Macready, a Cursillo member from Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish, Maple Shade, will give a talk, "Where Do We Go From Here?"

Dinner will be at 6 p.m., with a "wrap up" talk by Fr. Frey at 7:15 p.m. followed by a social.