



Courage & EnCourage  
228 North Walnut Street  
Lansing, Michigan 48933-1122  
517-342-2596  
Facsimile: 517.342.2468  
caverart@comcast.net

## **ENCOURAGE SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing Chapter

**When: Sunday August 18, 2013 from 2:30 to 4:00pm**

**Where: Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
9565 Musch Rd.  
Brighton, Michigan 48116**

Directions: US-23 to Silver Lake Rd. Exit (exit #55) West on Silver Lake Rd. to Whitmore Lake Rd. (a short distance). South on Whitmore Lake Rd. to Winans Lake Rd.(a three way stop). West on Winans Lake Rd. approximately one mile to entrance marked with a sign for Holy Spirit Cemetery and Holy Spirit Rectory and School. Turn left. We meet in portable classroom number four. Look for Encourage Meeting signs.

We have returned renewed and re-energized from one of the best and most well attended conferences we have attended. The liturgies were inspirational, the speakers were excellent, and the fellowship was heartfelt. We have enclosed a reflection by one of the Courage members after the conference last year. We thought that it captured the essence of the experience of attending a conference. I urge you read it over prayerfully for our brothers and sisters in Courage and in EnCourage, and make plans to attend next year at about this same time.

We have also enclosed an order form from the Daughters of St. Paul who audio record the conference speakers. They have been performing this service every year since we have been attending.

DVD recordings of the 2013 conference are available from The Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate and can be purchased on line from the Friars but only for a limited time: <http://airmaria.com/dvds-for-courage-conference-2013>

Please don't be confused. The Daughters of St. Paul provide audio discs only, while the Friars provide only video DVDs.


**Remember please** that we unite to pray each Thursday to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in reparation for our sins and the sins against human sexuality such as same-sex behavior and abortion. Reparation is making amends for the wrongs committed through our sinful condition. Additionally, we pray as intercessors for all our loved ones who will, like the prodigal, someday return home. We generally follow the model given to us by St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in the booklet ***Holy Hour of Reparation*** published by CMJ Marian Publishers. If you would like a copy of the booklet, we have a small supply in our office or you can order one by calling the publisher at 1-888-636-6799. Another beautiful prayer is the ***Chaplet of the Precious Blood*** that is available upon request. "That the necessity of reparation is especially urgent today must be evident to everyone who considers the present plight of the world, 'seated in wickedness'. The Sacred Heart of Jesus promised to St. Margaret Mary that He would reward abundantly with His graces all those who should render this honor to His Heart." (Pope Pius XI Encyclical *Miserentissimus*)

**Please note:** If you cannot attend the August 18th meeting, our next regular Diocesan meeting is Sunday, September 15, 2013.

For more information regarding our meetings, or to talk about the issue of same-sex attraction in your lives, call our Diocesan office at 517-342-2596 or email us at [caverart@comcast.net](mailto:caverart@comcast.net)

We look forward to meeting with you. Let us remember, however, to always respect the right of each to complete confidentiality.

Trusting in Jesus,

  
Bob and Susan Cavera

"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Mt 18:20

## + The Courage & EnCourage Conference Triduum +

We begin on a Thursday, made holy by Jesus alone. We begin with His Last Supper. We come as we are. We come with our *desire* to be chaste. We bring the weight of all our concerns to the altar. We bring the intentions of our loved ones who are unable to attend.

We pray as one. Our Father is the same.

We dine. We share news and hopes and fears; we joke and well-up with emotion. We are silent. We listen. Fathers and mothers wait for their famished sons and daughters. The addicted again are kissed by Christ in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Priests shepherd the flock. We members place our hands on each others' shoulders, and touch our brothers' and sisters' lonely hearts. Coordinators thank God for His aid. Speakers are humbled to address the audience. Our masculinity and femininity, our calling to be divine is rediscovered through Him, Who, eons ago, once flew over the chaotic waters rendering His serene order.

There are conversations over meals. Along paths we enjoy a stroll. New friends are made. Old friends smile. A little retreat of two is held in a quiet corner. We remember our beloved who sleep in Christ. Again, upon the Old and New Words we chew. Angels and saints are once more invoked as the Lord's sacrificial death day passes to His subject, the gentle ruler of the night sky. We meditate with the sorrowful Mother in the Stations. Roses that hail her are spoken one bead at a time. We watch for one hour, drowsy incense still honoring the God-Man. We sleep under the protection of tangible grace and peace.

Sins meet their formidable Opponent, Who crushes them under His nail punctured foot. Music praises the Almighty and lifts up the lowly. Valiant witnesses, controlling their fears, standing before the assembly, speak in their naked souls, deserving the standing ovation they are given. We celebrate on the eve of Easter memorial, grateful to be among those who unpretentiously acknowledge their shortcomings are before them always.

In the morning, we Resurrection believers again welcome the Dayspring from on high, still appearing as bread and wine—yet so much more. A blessing is placed over us as we go forth to our homes. The family bond is strengthened; comfort has been given to us. We commune with the Church in heaven and on earth. The Courage & EnCourage Conference closes until the trees again clothe themselves in dark greens.

But throughout the year, in the frigid, in the rain, and in the sunshine, we have each other ... and we cling to our Master Who holds us.

*The Courage & EnCourage Conference Triduum*

© Patrick A. Floriani

pajjf@yahoo.com

16 July 2012

*Dedicated to the men and women of Courage & EnCourage*

**ORDER FORM 2013**  
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Talks and Workshops sponsored by Courage at University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, IL, July 25<sup>th</sup> - July 28<sup>th</sup> 2013  
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