

Lay Director's Report:

"Who Am I." What am I going to do with the rest of my life?

We were blessed at Our Mother of Good Counsel to have Fr. Jim Judge preside at Mass on the 21st Sunday in Ordinary time. His homily covered the Gospel of Matthew 16, when Jesus asked his disciples "Who do you say that I am". He incorporated the thought with "What are you going to do with the rest of your life?" Fr. Judge shared as he was growing up, remembering his father asking him on different occasions, "What are you going to do with your life?" He always replied, 'I don't know', until he became a Priest.

All of this got me to thinking! What am I going to do with the rest of MY life, or better yet, what does "Jesus" want me to do with the rest of my life? Have I done enough? Who am I? Am I the person "HE" wants me to be? As I look back on my life I would have never imagined being a Lay Director or even being this much involved in my faith. As my journey as the Lay Director is coming to an end, I am asking 'What do I want to do with the rest of my life'? There is volunteering at a hospital, Nursing Home, soup kitchens, meals on wheels, etc. There are so many areas I could get involved with. With all the hatred that is spreading around our country I know there is more that I can do. There is more that all of us can do. As Cursillistas are we doing all we can do? So, listen to the Gospel and ask yourself "Who Am I and what does God want me to do with the rest of my life?".

Monday morning news covering the devastation in Houston brought tears to my eyes when they showed elderly patients sitting in wheelchairs in a flooded room. I know Jerry Casillo's brother and his family live in Houston and all of us should be praying for them and everyone there.

Our weekends are here and it doesn't look good candidate wise. At last count we have 7

men and 2 women. Cursillo is all about love and friendship. I know we are full of love so let's spread it everywhere. I do not enjoy postponing weekends as I hate to deprive the people that said yes from the joys of these weekends. So ask yourself, "What can I do?"

NOTE: We have a Grand Ultreya fast approaching. It would be nice if we "all" could show up for this. The location- St. Cecilia's, 991 Centerline Rd., Sheldon, NY; DATE-9/8 ; TIME- 7:30 pm. See you all there.

Pray for Peace

God's Blessings...

Dennis J. Conklin #155

5303 - E Chestnut Ridge Road

Orchard Park, NY 14127

480-2904 & 480-2964

Dniconklin5305@gmail.com

Spiritual Director's Reflection:

Taking Up Our Crosses

Deacon Greg Moran

This weekend's Scriptures (9/3) offer tremendous insights about our human condition, God's expectation and Jesus' mission...which ultimately, becomes our mission.

First, Jesus presents us with this three-pronged paradox that we often:

If we want to save our life, we must **lose** it.

If we lose it for His sake, we'll **find** it.

If we gain the world, we **lose everything**.

Jesus tells us that we must deny ourselves and take up our crosses because:

He knows how we prefer the path of least resistance.

He knows that denying ourselves helps us avoid the temptations of the world;

And, He is teaching us that focusing on the design of the Father leads to a holy life.

***Taking Up Our Cross – 3 Brief Thoughts
Is Born of Obedience***

Bearing our cross is born of obedience. Jesus certainly didn't take pleasure in taking up His cross - He prayed in the Garden for the cup to be removed but added, "Not my will, but Yours, be done."

Involves Special Effort Everyday

Jesus doesn't tell the disciples to obediently carry the cross once it's placed on their backs. No, we are to pick up our crosses and actively take on the load that comes with it - daily. This isn't a one-time act of repentance, but rather a holy lifestyle...

Leads to Genuine Fulfillment

Ironically, there is great delight to be found in Jesus' message because of what it reveals about the grace and strength we constantly and actively receive from God which, in turn, strengthens our relationship with Him and gives us inner peace!

However, at first, we struggle mightily with the idea that we should expose ourselves to the brutality of the cross perhaps because at the core of that struggle could be a significant heart issue.

Perhaps, at heart, we begin to doubt whether the way God has instructed us to live will bring us the satisfaction we really thirst for in life.

But Jesus promises that God's grace, strength and rewards are always right here for us – all that we need, if we would just take it!

CS Lewis says...

"If we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that our Lord finds our desires, not too strong, but too weak.

We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

We can trust Jesus' example! When we are willing to lose our life that's when we will finally find it...and find it in God's abundance! In this divine paradox, taking up our cross leads to life just as Jesus' suffering and death brought life to a dying world.

Jesus makes it clear: He is returning, and He will repay us according to what we've done... For those who are in Christ, we have no fear of judgment because Jesus is our defense.

Pax et bonum!

Deacon Greg Moran
Spiritual Advisor–Diocese of Buffalo
Cursillo Movement
6056 Thornwood Dr. Hamburg NY 14075
Call/Text 716-863-3163 or e-mail @
deacongregmoran@gmail.com

Pre Cursillo Report

We continue to welcome applications for the Women's Weekend, to be held October 19-22. If you have access to scanning, feel free to send applications

to BfloPreCursillo@gmail.com. Please continue to pray and invite a friend. If you have questions, email or call us - (Diane) 380-0187 or (Marge) 698-5828.

Also, SAVE THE DATE for the Men's Spring Weekend; April 19 through April 22, 2018.

God bless,
Diane Putt and Marge Fetterman

Cursillo Section:

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ!!!!!!

Very simply the Section Team has already been at work putting together the Team, Kitchen Crew and Palanca Team. We do need the Community for their support of these Candidates. It is the utmost importance to show the support of our great community that Jesus loves us.

Please work on your evangelization by talking to someone who is looking to take the next step in their faith by living a Cursillo Weekend.

Looking forward to seeing you on the weekend!

The Men's Weekend was cancelled; September 14th – 17th

Bob Piskun,
Cursillo Section Leader
716-982-8025
custodianbob@roadrunner.com

Post Cursillo

Thank you to everyone who attended the August reunion mass and picnic. It was a

beautiful day enjoyed by all. Most specially thank you to Dcn. Mike and Dawn Quinn for sharing their beautiful home with us.

If you missed out on the opportunity but would like to see your fellow Cursillistas, you're in luck! We will be gathering again as a group in September for a Grand Ultreya. This will be run similarly to a regular ultreya, with grouping, a witness speaker, a doctrinal, and a social to follow. The difference is that it will be with more people from across the community. Please consider attending!

WHAT: Grand Ultreya

WHEN: Friday September 8th at 7:30 pm

WHERE: St. Cecelia's Parish on North Sheldon Road and 991 Centerline Road in Sheldon NY (in the hall behind the church)

HOSTED BY: Pueblo de Paz

If you are interested in further retreat opportunity, the dates for Second Touch have been set for Friday Jan 26 at 7 pm through Sunday Jan 28th at 1:30 PM at Stella Niagara. For those who do not know Second Touch is a weekend retreat for individuals who have already lived a Cursillo weekend. The theme this year will be "Essence of Being a Christian". The cost is as follows; overnight \$160, commuter \$85, Saturday all day \$55, Saturday dinner and ultreya \$25. For more information or to sign up to attend please contact Carol Palesh by phone at [716-694-0942](tel:716-694-0942) or by email at grannypalesh@verizon.net.

When thinking about retreats for yourself, do not forget about your friends. We are called to make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend to Christ. If someone you know would be brought closer to Christ from living a weekend, we have fall weekends this month and next. Consider inviting them to attend and of course keep the teams and candidates in your prayers.

Ultreya,

Curtis Boyle 430-1963

Maria Boyle 785-3275

3936 Jefferson Ave

Hamburg NY 14075

mhens77@gmail.com

curtisbo@buffalo.edu

Mike Cucinotta 310-2861

Mary Beth Cucinotta 573-8205

4077 Thornwood Lane

Williamsville NY 14221

Mcucinotta@roadrunner.com

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School of Leaders

If ever there was a section misleadingly named, the school of leaders is it. Not that the title is inaccurate; it's not. It's just that the title makes it sound like something it isn't.

It is not a section meant just for leaders of the Cursillo movement. In Cursillo, everyone is a leader. We don't have followers—only leaders. The school of leaders exists to provide information and insights into our movement and our apostolic faith.

The school of leaders supports the second leg of the Cursillo triad: study. If you've ever been to a group reunion or an Ultreya grouping, and couldn't think of anything to say when the group moved to "study", and if you've been to a school of leaders program, you're all set.

As my high school social studies teacher used to say about the history regents, "Tell 'em what I told ya'"

Hope to see you at the September school of leaders confab at St. Martin de Paul Church, September 18, at 6:30. Our presenter will be Deacon Tom Friedman.

Bill Gross

wfgross45@gmail.com

Women's Weekend #219 will be held from Thursday, Oct. 19 -22 at St. Vincent's in Elma. Please pray and do palanca for the candidates and the team as they prepare for and live their weekend.

Team #219:

Rector: Carolyn McNamara

Asst. Rector: Karen Trimper

Ideals: Peggy Barkley

Laity: Kathleen Almeter

Study: Carol Cucinotta
Action: Sue Leverentz
Leaders: Del Leaderstorf
Environments: Lisa Gauthier
CCA: Joan Conklin
Wardens: Terry Felong, Kate Emery, Heather Putt
Liturgists: Vida Frysz and Jennifer Appenheimer
Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo: Mary Ann DeMaria
Spiritual Directors: Dcn. Michael Quinn and Dcn. Peter Walders, Dcn. Greg Moran

September 8th GRAND ULTREYA hosted by Pueblo de Paz

School of Leaders/Section & Secretariat meetings Monday Sept. 18 @ St Vincent's 6:30 pm
Ultreya Schedule for September

Bethany (1st & 3rd Thursday)

Thursday September 7, 21 @ 7:00pm
St. Martha's March Parish

New Bethany Satellite (3rd Tuesday)

Tuesday September 19 @ 7:00 pm
Call Jack Thomann for location 583-2320

Full of Grace (Last Tuesday)

Tuesday September 26 @ 7:00 pm
Annunciation Church, Selbert Hall
Clinton Street, Elma

Pueblo de Paz (2nd Wednesday)

Wednesday September 13 after 7:00pm Mass
St. Mary's Church
6785 East Arcade Rd., East Arcade

Pueblo de Paz (Last Sunday)

Sunday September 24 @ 7:00pm
St. Mary's Church
23 Church St., Silver Springs

Rainbow Vineyard (1st & 3rd Thursday)

Thursday September 7, 21 @ 7:30 pm
Our Lady Czestochowa Church,

64 Center Ave, North Tonawanda
Witness Speaker: Carol Palesh 6/1.

The Spirit of the City (1st & 3rd Thursday)

Thursday September 7, 21 @ 6:00 pm
The St. Jude Center in Downtown,
760 Ellicott Street, Buffalo. For information
please call Eva Tamoga @ 689-8431

Southtowns (1st & 3rd Thursday)

Thursday September 7 @ 7:30pm
Jim and Marilyn Molloy
101 South Dr Orchard Park 662-4017

Thursday September 21 @ 7:30pm

Louise O'Connor
2814 Bell Hamburg 627-9601

Sick List: Please pray for: Diane Manuel, Lorrie Rackozynski, Ron Lomanto, Dcn. Joe Barr, Liz Pauly,
Denise Daniels, Maggie Evans

Cursillo Name Tags or Shirts can be ordered by mailing a check with name, weekend # and color preference for nametags: Contact Mike Szematowicz. Contact: Call 812 0633 or e-mail szematm@gmail.com

Newsletter Address:

Buffalo Cursillo
PO Box 2185
Buffalo, NY 14219

Buffalo Cursillo Movement



Buffalo Cursillo is a member of a worldwide movement of the friends in Christ - men and women who are working to bring Catholic Church. It provides a method of living a Christian Christ into their everyday life. The Cursillo is designed to life where one's spirituality may be developed, lived, and make it possible to live in union with Christ and desire to shared. The three-day weekend experience is a joyous bring others to Christ. introduction into a supportive and growing community of

Name: _____

(Please Print or Type) (Last) (First) (Initial) (Nickname)

• Do you play a musical instrument? _____ If yes, which one? _____

Has the Cursillo Movement been explained to your satisfaction? _____

Street: _____ Sponsor's Name: _____
Weekend # _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (cell phone) _____ (Signature of Applicant/Candidate)

Parish: _____ City: _____ Age: _____ (Date)

E-mail address (if any) _____

There is a suggested donation of \$75 for all Cursillo participants.

(more accepted, less never turned down. Collected at weekend registration desk)

Marital Status: - Single Married Widowed
 Separated Divorced
 - Male Female
 - Priest Deacon Religious

Mail Application to: Diane Putt, 11691 Whitetail Dr., Marilla, NY 14102 . Cell phone: 380-0187

Or Marge Fetterman, 10 Franklin St., Lancaster, NY 14086. Cell phone: 698-5828

Are you a baptized Catholic? _____ Are you able to receive the Sacraments? _____

Email: Bflo-PreCursillo@gmail.com

Religious Denomination of Spouse: _____

For more information, see our web site:

www.buffalocursillo.org **Updated 7/2017a**

Occupation _____

DIocese of Buffalo Cursillo Sponsor Form

a) If you have any medical problems, such as diabetes, disability, arthritis, mobility problems or special dietary requirements, please check yes or no so that we may provide for your special needs. ____ yes ____ no
 Please specify _____
 Candidate's name _____

b) Do you require a special diet? Yes ____ No ____
 Explain _____
 Sponsor's name _____

c) Do you need an outlet for sleep apnea or similar machines? ____ Please bring extension cord _____
 Sponsor's name _____ Weekend # _____

In what way do you participate in parish, diocesan or community activities (list specifically): _____
 address _____
 City _____ Zip _____

Parish _____
Ultreya _____
(E-mail) _____

Phone (Home) _____
(cell) _____
(work) _____

What Cursillo weekend did you make?
_____ How long have you known your
candidate? _____

Are you in group reunion? _____ If so,
how long? _____

Will you bring your candidate to the Cursillo?
_____ Attend the holy hour? _____

Attend the closing? _____ Will you attend
the Welcome to Your Fourth Day? _____

To which Ultreya will you bring your candidate?

If married, is the spouse's application included?

Are you aware of any medical or physical
handicaps that may need special attention on the
weekend?

If yes, please describe;

Our candidate is: talkative__ In-
between__ Quiet__ (check one)

Have you read the checklist of sponsor
responsibilities on the last page ? _____

Is there a co-sponsor? If so, Name:
_____ Cursillo
weekend# _____

Address _____
City _____ NY, Zip code

Phone _____ (cell phone)
_____ E-mail

Why do you think your candidate will benefit
from a Cursillo weekend?

I promise to offer prayer and palanca for my
candidate before, during and after their
Cursillo weekend. I will fulfill my sponsor
responsibilities and will encourage my
candidate's attendance at Ultreya and in the
formation of a permanent group.

Sponsor's signature

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Sponsor - please return all sheets,
(candidate's application and Sponsors
sheets), to the

Pre-Cursillo Section. **Please**
keep a copy of page 3 for yourself

**Mail Application to: Diane Putt, 11691
Whitetail Dr., Marilla, NY 14102**

Updated 7/2017a

DIOCESE OF BUFFALO,
CURSILLO APPLICATION FORM

SPONSOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES Page 3 of 3

Being a sponsor is an important responsibility. You are asked to look over the following list of guidelines and periodically check to see if you're continuing to walk with your candidate as he/she grows through the Cursillo method. Please check the ones you plan to follow.

A. BEFORE CURSILLO

- Before speaking to your candidate about God, have you spoken to God about your candidate?
- Did you give your candidate a general idea of what Cursillo is about?
- Did you explain the Fourth Day?
- Did you share how the Fourth Day has impacted your life?
- Did you complete the application with your candidate?
- In the case of married persons, did you complete both spouses' applications?
- Did you return the sponsor's form with each application?
- Did you plan transportation to and from Cursillo for your candidate?
- Do you have palanca ready to take with you Thursday night?

Remember to: 1. Mark palanca with the word "sponsor" on each envelope.

2. Notify pre-Cursillo of any changes of status of your candidate.

B. DURING CURSILLO

- death in the immediate family
- treatment of any kind for emotional or mental issues
- divorce or separation

If you have been an active Cursillista for less than one year, please ask either your sponsor or an experienced Cursillista to co-sponsor your candidate. In signing this, you as a sponsor are committing to adhere to all of the above.

Sponsor's signature

_____ updated 2016

- Are you doing palanca for your candidate?
- Have you re-assured your candidate that throughout the weekend, you are doing Palanca for him/her?
- Have you made plans to attend the holy hour, las mananitas and closing?
- Have you made yourself available to your candidate's family if there are specific needs?

C. AFTER CURSILLO

- Have you made plans to accompany your candidate to "Welcome to your Fourth Day"?
- Will you keep in close contact with your candidate showing the same level of interest and concern as you did before their Cursillo?
- Will you be taking your candidate to Ultreya the first few times?
- Will you be taking your candidate to Group Reunion the first few times?
- Will you encourage your candidate to continue his/her education through the school of Leaders?
- Have you encouraged your candidate to affect his/her environments?
- Will you encourage or take your candidate to the Reunion Masses?

Your personal contact, your Christian concern, love and friendship with your candidate should continue even after he/she has joined a permanent group.

Seek out the advice of the Buffalo Cursillo Movement's Spiritual Director and/or candidate's Parish Priest before inviting your candidate if he or she has experienced within the last two years any of the following:

- rehabilitation or a recovery program for drug, alcohol or other behavioral addiction
- serious legal troubles