

Buffalo Cursillo

May Newsletter

Lay Director's Report:

"I can do all things through Christ because He is in me. You are the TEMPLE OF GOD." Well here it is May and Joan and I are finally back home. We can now experience our new digs in Orchard Park. We ended our Florida stay by celebrating our son's wedding on a beach on the Gulf just south of Sarasota. I was able to bless both of them with Holy Water that Deacon Ron Dains provided and Maureen McCarthy picked up for us. What a blessing that was. They wrote their vows with the help of Joan.

Another Blessing was the witnessing at the Men's weekend. Fourteen men that were definitely on fire. I am sorry for those of you who were unable to attend the closing. Our weekends are a success only through Cursillista's that volunteer their time on Teams, on the kitchen staff and the Palanca team. We only had 5 permanent members on the Palanca team, they did a fantastic job but it would have been a little easier, especially on Sunday with a larger team. Remember your weekend? How many people volunteered to support your weekend? How many Ultreyas agreed to provide a meal? All of the support that makes for a successful weekend. We still need your help. The women's weekend is upon us and I know we need meals for the kitchen; men to serve the meals, Palanca members are always welcome and needed. Bob Piskun has provided you with names and phone numbers in his article in this newsletter. Please pray and consider volunteering.

We also need to help the Team Selectors. Having been a Team Selector, I know how difficult it is to form a team. People are busy. BUT, are we too busy to help Christ evangelize this troubled world? He needs our help!

"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me and me in them will produce much fruit."

Let's all stick together and produce the fruit like we all know we can!

Let's all stick together and produce that fruit that Our Lord has called us to!

Blessings....Dennis J. Conklin #156

PS: To all of wonderful Mom's....Happy Mother's Day...

All in God's Name

Dennis J. Conklin #155
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Spiritual Director's Reflection:

On Palm Sunday, Egypt suffered vicious, terrorist attacks on two Christian churches killing 44 and injuring over 100.

The week before those attacks, I was in Geneva Switzerland attending a conference. Each morning I would pass by the United Nations while the news was saturated with Syria's deadly attack on its own citizens and our response. About midweek, as I was looking at all of member countries flags in front of the UN, I was visibly shaking my head praying to God asking Him "Is there any hope?"

That evening, I turned to the Easter Scriptures to prepare a homily and found the Holy Spirit answering me with a resounding, "Yes, there is hope!"

When we hear about the growing problems within the world:

* It's too easy to feel like we are just stuck in such a violent, chaotic and forbidding place.

* And, it's too easy to despair and wonder if there is any hope at all.

But the message of Easter clearly reminds us that there certainly is Hope!

Hope comes in the form of a carpenter named Jesus from Nazareth; truly God and truly human, brutally executed 2,000 years ago though He was innocent of His contrived crime.

As foretold, His death wasn't the end of His story...it was only the beginning! Jesus is Risen and always active/present:

* In each one of our lives

* In and through the good people we encounter

* In the prayer of life we share together

* And, in the Eucharist

Throughout this past Lent we consistently heard Jesus telling us that no sin of ours is greater than God's love for us...there is Hope.

And, throughout the course of our lives, Jesus has been constantly telling us that no matter what our past has been, we can begin anew with Him...there is Hope!

Even in this world that so often appears hopeless, the Resurrection of Jesus offers us

new hope, new life, and a new awareness of God's redeeming love.

In Jesus, our hope, faith and followership allows us to be renewed and to rise with Him.

Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection, allows us the opportunity to live our lives walking away from our own empty tombs, just like He did. We can walk away from the empty tomb leaving our dead, sinful past behind – because Jesus' mercy and love liberates us from that cold darkness every time we bring our acts of contrition to Him.

It's through God's love, mercy and grace that we can walk away from that false belief that there is no hope toward a new vision of life.

- Because, today, the Lord and Master of our lives fulfilled His promises.

- Because, today, He is alive; Jesus is our Hope; He is our God who promised to accompany us throughout the challenges of this life and to lead us to His kingdom.

The Hope Easter brings is not wishful thinking. It's not merely having a pie in the sky attitude – nor is it pious optimism! But, instead, it is the holy promise of salvation given to us by our loving Father and sacrificed for us on Calvary by His own Son!

Because of Jesus -

- We have the Hope and promise of being forgiven and being filled with the grace to learn to forgive those who have wronged us.

- We have the Hope of facing the daily challenges of life with newfound courage

and patient endurance through God's
existent and renewed presence within us.

- We have the everlasting Hope in our Lord who makes all things new by means of His proven love that not even the evil intentions and actions of His executioners could vanquish...

You and I have faith because we believe in this Hope-

- Because we listen to the Spirit deep within us who is leading us back to God
- Because He is the One who created us for His kingdom
- The One who gives us the grace/strength to walk away from the cold, dead Darkness of a tomb.

Yes, there is Hope - because our Saviour lives!

Happy Easter! Deacon Greg God Bless!

God Bless!

Deacon Greg Moran
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Pre Cursillo Report:

No Report Submitted

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Cursillo

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ!!!!

I hope you all had a GREAT Celebration of Easter. Maybe you had a little time off and celebrated Easter with your family and friends.

Well, as they say, Men's Cursillo Weekend #216

Is in the books. The Men's Team did a FANTASTIC JOB with these Candidates. Our Men's Team Selectors needed to fill only a few spots on the Men's Team since most of these men were reteaming. The Men's Team Selectors will have their hands full come this fall, with putting together a new Team.

Our new Kitchen Coordinator, Mary Kay Straub and her staff did an OUTSTANDING JOB of feeding the Team and Candidates this weekend. We look forward to seeing her more in the future.

Lisa Gauthier is one of our new Palanca Team Selectors. She hit the ground running with putting together a Palanca Team. Another GREAT JOB done!!!!!!

If anyone is interested in working the Kitchen or a Palanca team, here are two numbers to call:

Kitchen: Mary Kay Straub-984-2927
Palanca Team: Lisa Gauthier-585-313-0853

Bob Piskun,
Cursillo Section Leader
38 Bernadette, West Seneca
716-982-8025
custodianbob@roadrunner.com

Post Cursillo

THE EASTER SEASON GOSPELS ARE FULL OF TRIALS & YET FAITHFULNESS IN THE LIVES OF THE EARLY CHRISTIANS. YES, THE APOSTLES WERE BLESSED WITH THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BUT DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY AT CURSILLO 216, WE WERE POWERFULLY REMINDED, SO HAVE WE!!!

And that within Cursillo we are called to that same faithfulness!

Whether it's been years since one's Cursillo or days, the FIRST & BEST WAY TO LIVE THE CURSILLO METHOD IS TO ATTEND GROUP REUNION & ULTREYA.

Ultraya includes much that's needed to persevere.....through being uplifted in the witness & spiritual reflection given, in group reunion, in the songs/psalmsall 4 verses! And always in praying & caring for one another in shared prayer & fellowship. VERY OFTEN AT ULTREYA, YOU GET TO KNOW WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN A FRIENDSHIP GROUP &/OR HAVE A DAY & TIME A/V THAT IS SIMILAR TO YOURS.

And beyond Ultraya there's always more: Below are listed CURSILLO WAYS TO GROW & CONTINUE TO PRAY & OFFER PALANCA FOR EACH OTHER!

May Dates:

May 7th at 3pm is the Women's Team Support Mass SVDP

May 15th at 6:30 is the CURSILLO School SVDP

May 17th at 6pm is Cursillo setup SVDP

May 18-21 is Cursillo 217 SVDP

June Dates:

June 16th is the "Welcome to Your Fourth Day Dinner & Reunion"

All are invited to welcome & celebrate Cursillo 216 & 217!

Gathering time is 6:15..... Potluck at 6:30 Reunion of the Teams to follow.....

Bring a dish to share, your plate & utensils SVDP

*"SAVE THE DATE FOR THE CURSILLO AUGUST 6th PICNIC & REUNION" TO BE HELD

AT DCN. MIKE & DAWN QUINN'S HOME..... Come early to visit & swim! Mass is at 3pm under the trees, with a picnic to follow..... bring a dish to share.

Keeping the Family of 216 & 217 in prayer, Jack and Christine Thomann
4290 Fireside Drive

Williamsville, New York 14221

jackt@tapc.net

cmtpsalm139@gmail.com

School of Leaders

No Article Submitted.

Mary Ann DeMaria

Coordinator

716-512-4765

mdemaria@roadrunner.com

May Cursillo Women's Weekend:

Women's Support Mass

Sunday May 7th, 3pm @ St. Vincent's

Weekend Setup

Wednesday May 17th, 5:30pm @ St. Vincent's

Greet the Candidates

Thursday May 18th, 7pm @ St. Vincent's

Serenade/Reunion Mass

Saturday May 20th, 7:15pm @ St. Vincent's

Las Manianitas

Sunday May 21st, 5:45am

Closing- Sunday May 21st, 3pm (come early to help set up)

April/May Reunion Mass

Holy Hours for weekends (*this could change*).

JUNE 6/16 Fourth Day dinner @ St. Vincent's

JULY 7/14 GRAND ULTREYA hosted by Bethany @ St. Vincent's

AUGUST 8/6 PICNIC (location to be announced)

SEPTEMBER 9/8 Pueblo de Paz

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER Holy Hours for weekends

DECEMBER 12/1 Fourth Day dinner

Our Cursillo Brother, Joe Tomaselo, has arranged for a special screening of this great movie. It will be shown at the North Park Theater, Saturday night May 15th. Tickets are \$10. And all proceeds will go to St. Luke's Mission of Mercy. Bring you family and friends to this once in a lifetime showing. For tickets and more information call Brittani Allen at 238-5522.



Ultreya Schedule for May

Bethany (1st & 3rd Thursday)

Thursday May 4, 18 @ 7:00pm
St. Martha's March Parish

New Bethany Satellite (3rd Tuesday)

Tuesday May 30 @ 7:00 pm (This month only)

Call Jack Thomann for location 583-2320

Full of Grace (Last Tuesday)

Tuesday May 30 @ 7:00 pm
Annunciation Church, Selbert Hall
Clinton Street, Elma

Pueblo de Paz (2nd Wednesday)

Wednesday May 10 after 7:00pm Mass
St. Mary's Church
6785 East Arcade Rd., East Arcade

Pueblo de Paz (Last Sunday)

Sunday May 28 @ 7:00pm

St. Mary's Church
23 Church St., Silver Springs

CURSILLO CONTACTS

Rainbow Vineyard (1st & 3rd Thursday)

Thursday May 4, 18 @ 7:30 pm
Our Lady Czestochowa Church,
64 Center Ave, North Tonawanda

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

Thursday May 4, 18 @ 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 May 4 @ 7:30pm
Carl & Elaine Stack
6490-37 Taylor Rd. Hamburg
Witness: Don Appenheimer

Sick List: Please pray for: Gary Tatu,
Marilyn Heidle, Peggy Walders; Don
Appenheimer; Charlie McCarthy, Rich
Foster, the Quinn children, Lorrie
Rakazynski, and Marie Sorrentino

Also, pray for Fr. Ray Uschold and Joanne
Corbett who have entered their 5th Day.

Notable News

Region III Meeting May 12 & 13 at St. Ann's
Retreat Center, Ebensburg, PA

Cursillo Name Tags or Shirts can
be ordered by mailing a check with name,
weekend # and color preference for
nametags: Contact Dennis Conklin for
shirts.

Newsletter Address:

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SECRETARIAT

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Secretary-Kathy Lindaman
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ULTREYA'S

Bethany: Cheektowaga & surrounding towns

MaryLynn Heidle: mlhroygbiv@aol.com
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Bethany Satellite: Clarence area
Jack Thomann: cmtpsalm139@gmail.com
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Full of Grace: Elma area
Dan Siembida: dsiembida1@roadrunner.com
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Pueblo de Paz: Warsaw area
Liz Wascak: ewascak@yahoo.com
585-237-5155

Rainbow Vineyard: North towns
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Southtowns: Southtown areas
MaryAnn DeMaria:
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Spirit of the City: City of Buffalo
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