



**Buffalo Cursillo**

August 2020 Newsletter

Check out our website at <https://www.buffalocursillo.com/> You will find dates and information on Ultreya, Weekends, Reunion mass schedule, Newsletters, Applications, and much more.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Cursillo Picnic	Sunday August 9, 2020. 1:00pm at Mike and Dawn Quinn's house 532 South Shore Blvd; Buffalo, NY 14218
Virtual Ultreya	Thursday August 13 & 27 Email Lynn for the meeting ID; <a href="mailto:Lomantolynn@gmail.com">Lomantolynn@gmail.com</a>
School of Leaders	Saturday, August 22, 10:00am – 12:30 pm at St. Gabriel's Church in Elma in the outside pavilion. More details in the SoL section below.
Reunion Mass	Friday in September. Details to follow
Spring weekends	Men's #227 April 22 – 25, 2021 Women's #228 May 20 – 23, 2021 Support Mass; to be determined Welcome to 4 <sup>th</sup> day June 5, 2021

**Lay Director's Report:**

**St Paul Novena**

We would like to ask all Cursillistas to join us in praying Novenas for the many needs in our world today. Each month we will post a different Novena on <http://www.BuffaloCursillo.com> that we ask all to pray in petitioning, praising, thanking or seeking mercy from Our God.

We see in our society a growing number of Catholics who are no longer practicing their faith. Bishop Barron refers to them as the "nones" (no religious affiliation). We also know that many Catholics do not believe in the real presence of Christ in the

Eucharistic. It is, and always has been the mission of Cursillistas to bring souls back to, or closer to Christ. The need is very great.

Therefore we ask with this first Novena to St Paul the Patron Saint of Cursillo that you **pray for the souls that we can assist God in bringing back to Christ and His Church.** Ask St Paul to intercede on our behalf to evangelize to the "far away" through our Cursillo method of making a friend, being a friend and bringing that friend to Christ. During the 9 days ask the Holy Spirit to put on your heart who to befriend or approach. Get to know them. Invite them to meet other Cursillistas at

Ultreya, reunion masses or your permanent group.

The Novenas will be listed on a new tab on the website “**Prayers and Novenas**” and you can click on this link. [St Paul Novena](#)

**Buffalo Cursillo Picnic** will be held this Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be a downsized gathering from previous years. There will not be a mass but it is important that we still have a place to get together and enjoy each other’s company.

Consider joining us this year. We need and love the personal contact. We can do this without fear, in a safe, responsible, manner by practicing social distancing just like we do at work, in stores and in church. Details below in the Post-Cursillo section.

#### **Secretariat, Post-Cursillo**

Harvey Gress has joined the Post-Cursillo Secretariat working with MaryBeth and Mike Cucinotta.

Harvey made weekend #103 back in 1982. He and his wife Carla previously worked on the secretariat years ago as Pre-Cursillo coordinators. Please join me in welcoming Harvey. Pray for him as well as all of us who serve our Lord by serving His people in this Holy Spirit lead movement.

#### **Ultreya’s**

Most Ultreya’s have gone back to meeting in person again in venues where social distancing can be practiced.

Bethany Ultreya is still having Video conferencing. We invite all Cursillistas from the Buffalo Diocese to join in, especially those who have moved out of town or are currently not active in another Ultreya.

The next two are Thursday August 6 & 20 at 7:00 pm. Email Lynn for the meeting ID; [lomantolynn@gmail.com](mailto:lomantolynn@gmail.com)

#### **Week of Eduardo**

Sign up from the link below to receive a "Daily Thought by Eduardo Bonnin" in WhatsApp [a-week-with-eduardo-2020](#)

This runs 7 days from August 17-23rd. The highlight is Saturday, Aug 22 from 3pm – 4-4:30 pm. with a Zoom encounter with Gail Terrana as the host. There will be 4 articles by Eduardo that are read and then a Reflection is given.

The weeklong event is free, just sign up through Whatsapp or the link above. Participants need to make sure to have downloaded WHATSAPP on their smart phone to get the daily reflections, Any questions please call Gail Terrana 716-870-1793

**The National Encounter** was conducted via Zoom with over 600 Cursillistas from across the United States: Livestream Masses, Virtual Fellowship, Breakout Sessions, Rollos, and more! It was a big endeavor with challenging technical issues due to the sheer number of participants. The talks and witness were inspiring and informative. These will be posted shortly on National’s website; [National Cursillo](#)

#### **Prayer Request**

Please pray for the people listed in the “Prayer Request” on the website and at the end of this newsletter. Send Cursillistas names to me if they need prayers. Also, please review the list below and send me any names who can come off of the list.

Jerry Casillo  
Lay Director Buffalo Diocese  
Call/Text: 716 803-9952  
Email: [miride@aol.com](mailto:miride@aol.com)

## Spiritual Director's Reflection:

The church of Corinth was not an easy-going crowd. From their beginnings, they were challenged by their desire to remain in their old ways. This created not only divisions within the community but also rivalry and enmity amongst brothers and sisters. When Saint Paul opens his first letter to the Corinthians, in the very first chapter, he makes a call to unity:

I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. (1 Cor 1:10)

I believe that we can always find guidance for our lives in the pages of scripture, for our individual lives and for the life of our beloved movement as well.

Recent meetings I have attended echoed the words of Saint Paul, patron saint of our movement, in the letter mentioned earlier. Especially when we go to the next verse:

For it has been reported to me ... that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." (1 Cor 1:11-12)

I sometimes hear, "I follow Buffalo," or "I follow National," or "I follow Step by Step." Is not the Cursillo movement a global presence of Christ? In the document STRUCTURE OF THE CURSILLO® MOVEMENT (<https://www.natl-cursillo.org/pdf/articles/english/structure.pdf>) we read:

The Cursillo Movement is neither a structure nor an organization. "God

did not become a structure, He became man". (Eduardo Bonnín)

Then reflecting on this fact, we could make Saint Paul's answer ours, Is Christ divided? Let us pause for a second and reflect on this reality in our heart of hearts. Am I dividing Jesus? Or His Church? Or His movement?

Further along in the letter St. Paul states:

But in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you. (1 Cor 11:17-18)

So for this month, let us reflect on these passages of scripture and so that we can find where we are in our hearts.

May the Good Lord bless us all...DeColores!!

Deacon Alex Manunta  
Email: [amanunta@gmail.com](mailto:amanunta@gmail.com)

## Pre Cursillo Report:

Pre-Cursillo has been contacting (in some cases attempting) candidates whose applications we have had on hand for a year or more. We are letting them know that while we won't have weekends this fall; we are still alive and well.

This is where, YOU, the sponsor and community are such an integral part of the process. While we don't want to beat a dead horse, be sure if you have sponsored someone, you are "being a friend". How is your friend dealing with the pandemic, along with the rest of the nations and

worlds situations? Have you reached out to them to check on them?

In initial conversations with potential candidates, they need to see where we are in March of 2021 to determine if they want to attend a weekend.

Did you know that you are strongly encouraged to bring your friend/candidate to Ultreya? To Reunion Masses? With so many festivals and events cancelled, perhaps your friend would like to join us at the Reunion Mass.

Marge, Lynn, Audrey and myself met and have developed a plan on possible ways to engage the sponsor in their sponsorship. We will begin implementing this plan later this month.

God bless

Diane-380-0187

Marge-698-5828

Lynn - 1585-409-4123, Audrey 675-4847

Email: [bfloprekursillo@gmail.com](mailto:bfloprekursillo@gmail.com)

## Cursillo Section

Hope everyone is having a happy and safe summer. If you have a candidate that is waiting for Spring dates, we know have them.

**MEN'S WEEKEND:** Set up: Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021- 6PM St Vincent's, Thursday April 22-May 25.

**WOMEN'S WEEKEND:** Set up: Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021-6PM St. Vincent's, Thursday May 20-23

**WELCOME TO THE 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY DINER**  
June 5,2021.

**MAY GOD BLESS US AND KEEP US!** And remember make a friend be a friend and bring that friend to Christ.

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Even though it may still have to happen 6 ft. apart.

ULTREYA!!!

Joan Conklin and Mary Ann DeMaria  
Section Team Coordinator

Call/Text Joan at 716-480-2964

Email: [dnjconklin5303@gmail.com](mailto:dnjconklin5303@gmail.com)

Call/text: Mary Ann at 716-512-4765

Email: [mdemaria@roadrunner.com](mailto:mdemaria@roadrunner.com)

## Post Cursillo:

**Please, Please, Please** continue to follow safe practices when meeting: Distance, Masks, Sanitizer

### Cursillo Picnic

When: Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm

Mass: 3:00pm

Where: Quinn Home – 532 South Shore Blvd; Buffalo, NY 14218

No shared food this year.

Provided: Grill, pool, soda, & water

Please Bring: Food, utensils, paper

products, **masks, sanitizer** for your family

Optional: Lawn chairs

## **REUNION MASS**

We are meeting with the Ultreya Coordinators to plan the next few Reunion Masses. Most likely September, October and November. We will post as soon as arrangements are finalized.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS PAGE**

This too is being updated. Stay tuned for info.

Mike Cucinotta 310-2861

Mary Beth Cucinotta 573-8205

4077 Thornwood Lane

Williamsville NY 14221

Email: [Mcucinotta@roadrunner.com](mailto:Mcucinotta@roadrunner.com)

Email: [Mbcucinotta@roadrunner.com](mailto:Mbcucinotta@roadrunner.com)

Harvey Gress

Email: [hgress@roadrunner.com](mailto:hgress@roadrunner.com),

## School of Leaders:

Saturday, August 22, we will hold our first Covid-adapted School of Leaders at St. Gabriel's Church in Elma. We will meet in the outdoor pavilion near the parking lot.

There is plenty of space there for social distancing, but please remember to bring your mask. We will begin at 10:00 and end earlier than we have been doing recently, probably about 12:30, so no lunch will be served, but drinks and snacks will be available.

We are finally reaching the end of our review of the new Step by Step guide. The focus will be on the third day of the three day weekend, the Sunday schedule. I hope you will want to stay informed.

The secretariat looks forward to seeing as many of you as can make it.  
God bless,

Bill Gross  
Email: [wfgross45@gmail.com](mailto:wfgross45@gmail.com)

## Secretary:

May the gift of peace be with you.

Mary Bitka  
Call/Text: 716-984-0664  
Email: [marybitka@gmail.com](mailto:marybitka@gmail.com)

## Prayer Request:

Please keep the following people in your prayers and Palanca along with all Cursillistas who are ill or suffering:

Notify Casillo of any names to add or remove from the prayer list.

Paul DeWalt

Kevin Urbanski  
Diane Reese  
Fr. Joe Badding  
Joe Macchia  
Paul Kieffer  
Dennis Hodur  
Chelsea Ellis  
Marie Lelek  
Frank & Martha Barry  
Owen & Aidan  
Laura, Betty and Angelo Ciavarella  
Chuck Stephan  
Marie and Jim Sorrentino  
Deacon Norm Foster  
Marie Gannon  
Loretta Sterling  
Betty & Leo Reiter  
Dan Siembida  
Mike Ryan  
Timothy McCann  
Mike McCarthy  
Alice's daughter-in-law, Laura  
JoanRoberts  
Mary Flanagan  
Joe Insana  
Bob Yegar  
Bill Heidle  
Corinne Giermek  
Larry Lomanto  
Dcn Joe Barr  
Jim Youngers  
Cathy Agugliaro  
Shaun Vona  
Tim Heidle  
Owen Mangan  
Sister Antonita  
Kathy O'Keefe  
Denise Bressette  
Lynn Johnson  
Diane Coughlin  
Deacon Dan McGuire  
Gary Banas  
John Agugliaro  
Marcia Moretti  
Mary Jo Kapsiak  
Mical's Aunt Maryann  
Cheryl Besant  
Quinn children  
newborn Marylynn Joanne  
Mary Mercurio

Paul & Terry Barone  
Father Sam Venne  
Elaine Stack  
Bobby Lovenetti  
Frank Gallagher  
Pat Abraham  
Vinnie Barone  
Linda Orszulak  
Eva Tamoga  
Ellie Wieleba  
Lou and Liz Pauley  
Lorrie Dickerson  
Doug Shroud  
Dan Graesser

### [Cursillo Name Tags or Shirts](#)

Contact Mike Szematowicz;  
Call/Text: 812 0633  
Email: [szematm@gmail.com](mailto:szematm@gmail.com)

View details at: [Cursillo Wearables and Name Badges](#)

List shirt size, color preference, weekend #. Mike will provide price and address where to send the check.