



Buffalo Cursillo

June 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.

Lay Director:

After our brief section announcements, please read **Personal Reflections** submitted by Cursillistas from our Diocese. Thank you for these heart-felt testimonies of the last couple months.

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Lay Director Buffalo Diocese
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Cursillo Section:

It is with a heavy heart that we are once again postponing the upcoming fall weekends. Things are just too unsettled currently. We talked about the possible candidates and how they would feel with the accommodations, conference room, chapel, eating etc. As far as dates for future weekends, we need to wait and see what the school system is going to do, which in turn will affect Faith Formation. So as soon as we know further details, we will relay them to you all.

MAY GOD BLESS US AND KEEP US!
And remember make a friend be a friend and bring that friend to Christ. Even though it may have to happen 6 ft. apart.
ULTREYA!!!

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Personal Reflection:

Ernie Curto

The onset of COVID-19 certainly turned my life upside down. Working from home, virtual masses, cancellation of activities dear to my heart, especially Catholic and Ecumenical prison ministries. One constant I most appreciate is my permanent group. They are a spiritual anchor in a turbulent sea. I look forward to sharing our piety, study and action. Listening to them inspires me. They energize my spiritual batteries for the coming week.

DeColores! Ernie #202

Mary Ann DeMaria

Please keep all in prayer... it is hard to live this way. I honestly don't think this is what God wants. I was at St Mary's of the Lake's "Storm Heaven with the Rosary" on Monday and Lisa and Paul walked in, do you know how hard it was for me to not hug them, That is what Cursillo is all about.

I agree it has been difficult for all of us to have to keep our distance from one another. I have been praying through this and trying to rely on the Lord His ways are not mine. I have really tried to live out Romans 8:28 "We know that all things

work for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose. May we feel the peace of Jesus and remember that He is holding us all in the palm of His hand.

De Colores Mary Ann #167

Martha Eadie

My eyes are forced open, ever so slightly. Maybe it's because the light of day is streaming into my bedroom and the space is filling with brightness. Maybe it's because my brain is churning and clicking over today's "to do list." Today is Monday, it's the beginning of a new week. Wait a minute.....I think that was yesterday, or the day before.....I pick up the cellphone on my nightstand and squint to see the date and time. Okay, it's Wednesday today. Where did Monday and Tuesday go? What does it matter? The days keep coming and going but time moves like a giant boulder rolling slowly uphill. That doesn't seem quite right. I am no scientist, but I still wonder if there is a theory of physics that can prove this can be so. We are in a global pandemic where nothing seems right.....and yet anything is possible.

"We are in unprecedented times....." I hear this phrase almost daily. But my world is not as I once knew it to be. My kitchen table has become Central Command – my principal's desk, complete with laptop, pens, stapler, paper, and lots of post-it notes. This has become the place where all school functions usually happen every single day, and at all hours of the day. Cardboard boxes with file folders tucked inside, are situated near my makeshift desk area. My kitchen table was the place to gather for a meal and conversation. Today, I gather with teachers and staff, sans the meal. We talk and discuss many things about school and what's happening in our own lives: Who is

stir crazy today? Who feels they are at the end of their rope? Is everyone safe and healthy? Then we talk about school: what's going on, what's coming up, and of course, when the almighty deadlines are. So much is different, yet somehow so much the same. We talk, we plan, and we collaborate – all remotely, totally online. I never thought possible, that in spite of my lack of technical prowess, I would be hosting virtual meetings. It is my new reality and it moves me down the "principal road."

Schools doors closed in mid-March. I thought for sure we would be back open within a few weeks. Somehow, those weeks turned into months. And now, the school year will finish without teachers and students in the school building. It's difficult to think about the memories that won't be made: students enjoying recess on the school playground, class field trips, First Communion, May Crowning, pancake breakfasts, moving up days, Hope Ribbons, 8th grade Class Day, Darien Lake Science day, yearbook signing, the end-of-year hot dogs, watermelon, and Mrs. Kelly's famous macaroni salad. Then there are the photographs, lots and lots of them, taken by students, teachers, and parents, all marking those special moments. Then at last, the day arrives to celebrate the culmination of elementary school with the 8th grade graduation.

How can it be that it's the month of May? The season of spring, newness, and hope for summer days ahead. Is the world truly coming alive again? I see trees budding, hear the birds singing, and breathe the deep smell of fresh cut grass. Yes, our world is both the same and yet different. We will continue on, somehow, just as the world continues on. We will continue to discover new ways to celebrate special moments and make new memories.

It's okay that they will look different and perhaps feel different. But the bottom line is, life does go on. We are all God's children. He will carry us in the palm of His hands. There is nothing we can't do with Him at our side.

What do I hope for the future, or what do I think school should look like next year? After dwelling on these questions, I conclude that it doesn't matter. God knows what we need and He will take care of it. Faith will carry us on, prayer will strengthen and calm the anxieties and fears of the spirit and heart. We are in a global pandemic where nothing seems right and yet anything and everything is possible, with God. Martha #226

Tim Hanavan

There has been much to worry about during the pandemic. For me, the worst has been the inaction of our church leaders, who have mostly been bending the knee to secular government leaders. They have been as silent about the absence of the sacraments as they have been about the ongoing slaughter of the unborn. It appears that the bishops are now more focused on this mortal world than their most important job, the care of our eternal souls.

However, instead of dwelling on that I have decided to stay focused on Jesus. Even without the sacraments Jesus is still present in all of us. And as Cursillistas we

always have our piety/study/action to keep us focused. We can't control much in this life but only we can control if Christ is king of our hearts and souls. A hopeless Christian is a Christian that leaves Christ in the tomb. Tim # 218

Lois Weber

Putting my items on the belt at the grocery store and heard a customer in distress talking to the clerk. her keys were locked in the car. I looked up and it was my friend Margaret. I was able to give her a ride to her house to get her spare keys. We both commented about God's intervention that we both happened to be at the store at that time of day. Lois #110

Louise OConnor

Covid19 has been a privileged time for me: Good health with financial and emotional stability. I personally have relished this "down time" away from busy schedules and commitments. My family has experienced a milestone event with a bittersweet ending. There has been a rollercoastment of emotions for all of us. Through the encouragement of a special friend and relative, I have persued in writing a short story regarding this event. It is now in the process of being printed in limited paperback. books.God's hand has been in all of this venture and He has provided me the time to share the blessings showered on me and my family. - Louise #156

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.

Pray for assisted living people and their family

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
Joan Roberts
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
Michael Volk
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
Marie Sorrentino
Frank Gallagher
Pat Abraham
Vinnie Barone
Linda Orszulak
Eva Tamoga
Ellie Wieleba
Lou and Liz Pauley
Lorrie Dickerson
Doug Shrout
Dan Graesser

[Cursillo Name Tags or Shirts](#)

Contact Mike Szematowicz;
Call/Text: 812 0633
Email: 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.