



**Buffalo Cursillo**

May 2018 Newsletter

Check out our new 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's Report:

Men's weekend #218 took place April 19-22. As usual it was a glorious time spent with Jesus, the Holy Spirit and a wonderful Cursillo community.

Attention Sponsors: please review the "Sponsors Responsibilities" at the end of this newsletter. Especially section C. AFTER CURSILLO. Follow up by bringing your candidate to Ultreya and help him find a permanent group.

I want to offer a heartfelt thank you to all the Cursillistas in our community who participated; the Weekend Team, Palanca, Kitchen, Liturgy, Sponsors, and all who attended the Support mass, Thursday night meet and greet, Saturday Serenade and mass, Las Mananitas and Sunday Closing mass.

Now it is time to get those last-minute applications in for our spring women's weekend #220 May 17-20. Applications can be downloaded from the Home page of <http://www.BuffaloCursillo.com> See "Sponsors Responsibilities" at the end of this newsletter, especially section A. BEFORE CURSILLO. Most important is to pray for the candidates, Rector Carolyn McMamara and all of the Cursillista workers listed above who make it happen.

Exciting changes are coming to the school of leaders. They will be held quarterly instead of monthly. We are moving the day from Monday evenings to a weekend morning or early afternoon and will be held at different

locations throughout the diocese. No more driving at night! The format is being changed to more resemble a workshop. Each gathering will have a general theme and then three related presentations by several presenters. Lunch will be provided. We're now in the process of setting the schedule and formulating the details. So, stay tuned!

On a sad/happy note; Norm Paolini weekend #133, cofounder of St Luke's Mission of Mercy, entered his 5th day. Pray for him and his family and may his soul, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Peace,  
Jerry Casillo  
Lay Director Buffalo Diocese  
Call/Text: 716 803-9952  
Email: miride@aol.com

### Spiritual Director's Reflection:

*"We are an Easter people."*

We have all heard that statement before, I'm sure.

But this year, it struck me much differently than in the past. Instead of being a seasonally descriptive cliché about who we are during the current Easter celebration, this year it took on the persistence and strength of a proclamation of faith meant to guide our today, tomorrow and forever.

We are an Easter people – it doesn't end after Pentecost. (We don't become Ordinary).

But what does it really mean?  
How are we to live like an Easter people?

It begins when we come to realize that Easter, Christ's Resurrection from the dead, is far more about what is now open to us rather than just what happened to Jesus on Easter Sunday morning.

At least part of the answer to these two questions can be obtained through the important lessons we learn from the Acts of the Apostles accounts during our Easter season Scriptures.

St Luke reveals how that very first community of Jesus' followers began to shape their priorities and create a new way of life after His Resurrection. Here's are four things we can reflect on:

1. Within the early community, "there was no needy person among them" (Acts 4:34). Those who had more property and wealth liquidated their assets and gave the money to the apostles to distribute to those in need. This may be startling information to our 21st-century selves, but nonetheless true.
2. At first, Jesus' followers shunned the newly converted Paul. They feared that he had not changed and would *turn on* them. But they came to believe, with the help of their own Barnabas, that radical change is the sure sign of the work of the Spirit of Jesus (Acts 9:27).
3. Those early followers also had presumptions about whom God favoured and loved. But they quickly came to understand that God truly shows no partiality among humankind (Acts 10:34). All are equal in the sight of God.
4. Finally, there was a clear message on that Ascension Day that Easter people should not dawdle looking up at the sky but must live as active witnesses to faith wherever they are (Acts 1:11).

Jesus' disciples no longer lived in the fear of Good Friday night and Holy Saturday. Instead, they lived in the courage and in the "peace" that Christ greeted them with when He invited them to see and touch the nail marks and where the spear pierced Him.

This "*peace*" is not as we define it – as the absence of conflict and war. But the peace of Christ is experiencing *serenity* even in the *face of life's chaos* because we know Jesus is walking through it *with us*...and *trusting* that we will *rise* with Him in the end because we are an Easter people!

Cursillo is filled with Easter people as well as our parish communities whose faithfulness inspires our own.

- Easter People trust the Spirit's presence, especially in the midst of adversity.
- Easter People refuse to keep up with the envied "Joneses" and raise their children to do the same.
- Easter People accept their own illnesses as opportunities to reveal God's love to others and as an opportunity to merge their sufferings with Christ's for the salvation of others.
- They quietly feed the hungry and share their own resources with faithful abandon and patiently work to shape the next generation so they will do the same.
- They are the ones whose hearts are filled with joy as they approach the Eucharist, hands outstretched and the "Amen" on their lips. "So be it, I believe."

***We are Easter people*** - we believe that the Jesus' Cross transformed all suffering and pain and His Resurrection secured the promise of eternal life. This paschal mystery, this Easter faith, is what we Easter People are ***called to live every day!***

Deacon Greg Moran  
Spiritual Advisor–Diocese of Buffalo  
Cursillo Movement  
6056 Thornwood Dr. Hamburg NY 14075  
Call/Text: 716-863-3163  
Email: [deacongregmoran@gmail.com](mailto:deacongregmoran@gmail.com)

## Pre Cursillo Report:

On Sunday, April 22, we welcomed 16 new “babe” chicks into the folds. They are excited to use the Cursillo method in their 4th day to enrich their environments. Keep them in your prayers.

On Thursday, May 17 we will welcome about 15 women to experience the weekend to learn about a tried and truth method of bringing Jesus into our lives and those around us. If you have someone who is interested, it isn't too late to send in an application. Applications can be found on the website: [www.buffalocursillo.com](http://www.buffalocursillo.com).

Please join us on Sunday, May 6 for the Women's Support Mass. It will be at 3:00 at St. Vincent's in Springbrook, NY.

Diane-380-0187 and Marge-698-5828  
Email: [bfloprecursillo@gmail.com](mailto:bfloprecursillo@gmail.com)

## Cursillo Section

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ!!!!

What a FANTASTIC MEN'S CURSILLO WEEKEND!!!!!! Everything went very well with just a few changes in the procedure of the weekend. To the Section Team a great big Shout Out to each and every one of you for doing such a WONDERFUL JOB. Everyone from the Community that came into help, a BIG THANK YOU!!!!!!

I love it when a Community comes together for Christ!!!!!!

Let's do it again, May 17th for the Women's Cursillo Weekend. Set up is May 16th, doors open at 5:30pm. May God bless you and your families

Bob Piskun  
Section Team Coordinator  
Call/Text: 716-982-8025  
Email: [custodianbob@roadrunner.com](mailto:custodianbob@roadrunner.com)

## Post Cursillo:

Looking to form a **permanent group** or add members to your existing group?  
Email Jerry at [BuffaloCursillo@gmail.com](mailto:BuffaloCursillo@gmail.com).

The “Welcome to your 4<sup>th</sup> day” reunion and dinner for Men's 218 and Women's 220 Cursillo weekends will be held on:

Friday June 8, 2018 at 5:30 pm

At St Vincent de Paul 6441 Seneca St, Spring Brook NY (Elma).

Come and socialize with the babe chicks and the entire Cursillo community. Bring a dish to pass as well as your plates and utensils. Drinks will be provided.

### **ULTREYA SCHEDULE FOR MAY**

#### 1st Thursday May 3, 2018

**Bethany** @ 7:00pm St. Martha's Parish, 10 French Rd, Depew, NY 14043

**Rainbow Vineyard** @ 7:30pm Our Lady Czestochowa Church, 64 Center Ave, North Tonawanda 14120

**South towns** @ 7:30pm Boyle, 3936 Jefferson Ave, Hamburg, Witness: Jamie Shepard

#### 1st Wednesday May 2, 2018

**The Spirit of the City** @ 6:00 pm The St. Jude Center in Downtown, 760 Ellicott Street, Buffalo

#### 2nd Wednesday May 9, 2018

**Pueblo de Paz: Warsaw area** after 7:00pm Mass St. Mary's Church, 6785 East Arcade Rd., East Arcade

#### 3rd Tuesday May 15, 2018

**Come to the Well** @ 7:00 pm Call Jack Thoman for location 716-583-2320 [psalm139@gmail.com](mailto:psalm139@gmail.com)

#### 3rd Wednesday May 16, 2018

**The Spirit of the City** @ 6:00 pm The St. Jude Center in Downtown, 760 Ellicott Street, Buffalo

### 3rd Thursday May 17, 2018

#### No Ultreya due to Women's Weekend #220

**Bethany** @ 7:00pm St. Martha's Parish,  
10 French Rd, Depew, NY 14043

**Rainbow Vineyard** @ 7:30pm Our Lady  
Czestochowa Church, 64 Center Ave, North  
Tonawanda 14120

**South towns** @ 7:30pm

### Last Sunday May 27, 2018

**Pueblo de Paz:** Warsaw area @ 7:00pm St.  
St. Michael's Church Hall at [171 North Main  
Street, Warsaw, NY](#)

### last Tuesday May 29, 2018

**Full of Grace** @ 7:30 pm Annunciation  
Church, Selbert Hall, 7580 Clinton Street,  
Elma

#### Contact Info:

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### School of Leaders:

Do you know all the services St. Luke's  
Mission of Mercy provides? Neither do I!!!  
That's why I'm so looking forward to hearing  
Dave Toper's presentation at the next School  
of leaders, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 at ST. Vincent de  
Paul Church, Elma. Come and bring a friend.

Come and bring a friend.

Bill Gross

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

### Prayer Request:

Please keep the following people in your  
prayers and Palanca:

For the team and candidates of Women's 220  
weekend.

Linda Orszulak, Father Sam Venne, Eva  
Tamoga, Paul & Liz Coleman, Mary  
Mercurio, Carol Mazurkiewicz, Elaine Stack,  
Kate Emery's dad, Scott Crowe, Bob and  
Cheryl Besant, Audrey DiMaria, Toni  
Sessamen, Ellie Wieleba, Lou and Liz  
Pauley, Lorrie Dickerson, Diana Sotarczak's  
friend Carol, Doug Shroul, Rosebud Casillo,  
Dan Graesser, Mike Quinn, Mary Flanagan,  
Joe Insana, Donna Foster, Corinne Giermek,  
Leo Reiter, Quinn children, Denise Daniels,  
Marcia Moretti, Lorrie Rackozynski, baby  
Finleigh, Joan Conklin's friend Joyce, Vinnie  
Barone, Mark Schweizer's dad, Marie  
Sorrentino,,Ilona Klein's friend Bella, Pat  
Abraham, Rakoczynski's friends Cheryl and  
Bob, Mary Lynn Heidle's daughter in law:  
Jeannette Shields, Mary Dewald's nephew's  
daughter Amelia and friend Kent

All Cursillistas who are ill or suffering.

### Cursillo Name Tags or Shirts

Contact Mike Szematowicz;

Call/Text: 812 0633

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

List shirt size, color preference, weekend #.

Mike will provide price and address where to  
send the check.

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**

- 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:

- death in the immediate family
- treatment of any kind for emotional or mental issues
- divorce or separation
- rehabilitation or a recovery program for drug, alcohol or other behavioral addiction
- serious legal troubles

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