



Buffalo Cursillo

September 2019 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.

School of Leaders	September 7, 2019, Saturday - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm Christ the King Parish, Main St.at 30 Lamarck Dr, Amherst, NY 14226
Reunion Mass	September 13, 2019, Friday – 7:30pm hosted by the South Towns Ultreya Place: St. Anthony’s 306 Ingham Ave. Lackawanna, NY 14218
Cursillo Dance	September 21, Saturday 7 pm to 10 pm. At St. Vincent de Paul gym Open to all. Price –FREE. Music by Jeff Pacer
Men’s #225	October 10 -13, 2019
Women’s #226	November 7 – 10, 2019
2 nd Touch	January 31 – February 2, 2019 Stella Niagara Center of Renewal, Lewiston NY.

Lay Director’s Report:

Pam & I will be pilgrimaging again to Medjugorje in September. This is a site of present-day ongoing apparitions of Our Blessed Mother Mary. I am happy to bring any of your prayer requests to Jesus’ mother for one of the visionaries to present during their next apparition. Send me an email. Also, I can buy rosaries, scapulars or other sacramentals for anyone who asks. Mary has told the visionaries that she blesses any sacramentals purchased on pilgrimage in Medjugorje. Send me an email by September 9th.

Reminder: it is very important to join in the discussion of the new “Step by Step Rectors guide” this Saturday at the School

of Leaders. Please make every effort to attend.

Rainbow Vineyards Ultreya (North towns) has changed their regular gathering dates to the 1st Thursday and the **3rd Tuesday** of each month. If you are not a regular attendee at Ultreya, please consider joining us again. This ongoing friendship sharing is the essence of Cursillo. It brings us back to that wonderful feeling of closeness to Christ and to one another that we experienced on our weekend. Call me to discuss.

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

Spiritual Director's Reflection:

In this coming Sunday's Gospel -Sept 8th - (Luke 14: 25-33), we hear Jesus telling us to: Hate your father; hate your mother; your wife; your children; your sisters and brothers; even hate life itself and oh yes, give up all your possessions. **What a great way to get attention, eh...?**

Here are my Top 5 questions people might ask after reading/hearing our Gospel:

5. Has Jesus forgotten about the fourth commandment and honouring our parents?
4. Didn't Jesus say that we should love our neighbours as ourselves?
3. Has He forgotten that God *is* Love?
2. Where is our *gentle* Jesus - the kind and loving Jesus who smiled out from the pictures in my children's illustrated Bible?

The **#1** Question people want an answer to, is....

What in the world is going on here?

Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem while huge crowds were following Him:

- Clamouring for His attention
- Pleading for His healing touch
- Anxiously awaiting His next miracle
- And pledging to follow Him wherever He was going - hoping against hope, that He could save them from all their problems.

Only Jesus knows that He is on His way to Jerusalem; headed straight for the cross and the horror that lies ahead.

Jesus appears to be their Saviour and they may want to follow Him to the ends of the earth - but Jesus knows exactly what following Him will mean.

He's asking the crowds to think carefully before they follow Him any further. He's clueing the crowd in with the statements we just heard. But is Jesus really asking His followers **to hate**?

We define the word "**hate**" as "intense hostility and aversion; distaste coupled with sustained ill will".

So, logically, that just can't be what Jesus is requiring for discipleship...

The Hebrew word – "**sane**" (*saw-nay*) to "hate" someone doesn't mean **deep and unconditionally despising** - like our interpretation.

"To hate" is a Semitic expression which literally means, "**to love less, or detach oneself from.**"

Here, Jesus is **warning** the crowd that following Him means that everything on earth, even love of family, must be secondary to our love of God.

Jesus is being patently honest - His words are intentionally designed to shock the crowds into a true understanding of the **real cost** of following Him.

So, without this deeper understanding of His message, His provocative words **provoke** us; these shocking words **shock** us and they **confuse** us.

Jesus lays out three "**tripwires**" for discipleship:

- Attachment to family
- The difficult consequences of discipleship – carrying one's cross
- And attachment to possessions

If someone cannot detach from family or possessions or cannot live out the consequences of the Christian life, a realistic Jesus says that person "is **not** able to be my disciple".

Attachment to family came first.

Jesus isn't condemning society or the clan system that framed it.

He simply used a Semitic linguistic idiom of extreme language to emphatically make His point.

When He said "hate," Jesus was not talking about emotional revulsion. He was referring our having the **ability to put God**

first before relationships or self-interest. Without such detachment, we could never have the ability to truly follow Jesus.

Next, Jesus spoke of carrying one's cross. We modern-day people *reduce* the meaning of this phrase to our coping with *personal* struggles.

For early Christians and so many across our world even today, this phrase had/has a far more *literal* meaning. Just as Jesus went to the cross, His followers have also tasted suffering and death for their devotion to the Lord.

Thirdly, Jesus turned again to the notion of attachment.

In the end, discipleship requires us to "*detach*" or *put aside* both *possessions* of the *heart* i.e., one's relationships and possessions of the earth - *always putting God first*.

Discipleship not only means to follow Jesus through *detachment* and *carrying* our "*crosses*", but it also entails *revealing* the crucified and Risen Christ to others. Moreover, *through* our struggles and the consequences of faith, *Christ is present - to us and to those around us*.

When we put God first, we open the door for Him to touch people around us in ways unimaginable as He works through us!

Just think of the many ways Jesus touches us through others...

So, before we hold onto people, things, or causes too closely, let us always ask God to guide the priority we give them, and always put our relationship with God first.

Peace and all good things!
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

Pre Cursillo Report:

Marge and I have begun to see how many men are interested in attending. We have a handful of new applications. If God is talking to you to invite someone, please respond to His nudge.

As stated in previous newsletters, we would like to train individuals to take over our job in the Spring or Fall of 2020.

You are welcome to shadow what we do before you commit. Please pray – this could be your ministry.

God bless,

Diane-380-0187 and Marge-698-5828
Email: bfloprekursillo@gmail.com

Cursillo Section

Wow did that summer go by fast. Can't believe it is already September. Here is the news from the Cursillo Section. The men's team selectors are 90 percent of the way to a full men's team and the women selectors have begun their work on the formation of a women's team. If you receive a call from the women's or men's selectors please pray and consider saying yes to their request.

Joan and I are excited to begin our preparations for the fall weekends. In anticipation of that our first Cursillo Section meeting is this Sept. 10, 2019. Please keep the Section and Joan and I in your prayers as we go about the business of making a friend, being a friend and bring that friend to Christ.

DeColores,
Mary Ann and Joan

Joan Conklin and Mary Ann DeMaria
Section Team Co- Coordinators
Call/Text: Joan at 716- 480-2964
Or Mary Ann at 716 512-4765
Email: Joan dnjconklin5303@gmail.com
Mary Ann mdemaria@roadrunner.com

Post Cursillo:

ULTREYA SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

Click here to view: [September Ultreya](#).

SECOND TOUCH 2020

It's that time again to mark your calendars for the annual Second Touch (more than a retreat) weekend for all Cursillistas.

The Date is January 31 to February 2, 2020 at Stella Niagara Center of Renewal, Lewiston NY.

All Cursillistas are invited to attend. This weekend is a very special time for all of us, a time for prayer and community building, for sharing, making new friends and reconnecting with old friends. These weekends help us to continue our understanding of Cursillo.

This year we are continuing the “**LIVING THE CHARISM SERIES**” with “**Cursillo a living Christian experience with others. The beginning - Thursday Night.**”

The weekend starts on Friday night January 31 at 7PM and finishes on Sunday afternoon February 2nd about 1PM. To come for the whole weekend and stay at the center overnight the cost is \$160. To commute is \$85. To stay all day Saturday \$55. For Dinner and Ultreya on Saturday \$25.

To Sign up or for more information call Carol Palesh 716-694-0942 or E- Mail grannypalesh@verizon.net

Looking to form a **permanent group** or add members to your existing group?

Email Jerry at BuffaloCursillo@gmail.com.

Contact Info:

Mike Cucinotta 310-2861
Mary Beth Cucinotta 573-8205
4077 Thornwood Lane
Williamsville NY 14221
Email: Mecucinotta@roadrunner.com
Email: Mbcucinotta@roadrunner.com

School of Leaders:

The next step in examining the Step by Step weekend will be Saturday, Sept. 7 from 10:00 to 2:00 at Christ the King Church, Main Street. Lunch will be served. It is important for everyone involved in the planning and execution of Cursillo weekends to be as informed as possible about the Step by Step.

Come and bring a friend.
Bill Gross
Email: wfgross45@gmail.com

Secretary:

May the gift of peace be with you.

Mary Bitka
Call/Text: 716-984-0664
Email: marybitka@gmail.com

Prayer Request:

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

Karen Stack Koneski
Mike Ryan
Timothy McCann
Mike McCarthy
Alice's daughter-in-law, Laura
Bill Gross
JoanRoberts
Helga Pollak
Mary Flanagan
Joe Insana
Dell Leaderstorf
Bill Heidle
Corinne Giermek
Larry Lomanto
Ryan Stack
Dcn Joe Barr
Jim Youngers
Tim Heidle
Nan
Owen Mangan
Gary Hall
Michael Volk
Michael Ryan
Kathy O'Keefe
Denise Bressette
Lynn Johnson
Diane Coughlin
Deacon Dan McGuire
Bishop Malone
Gary Banas
Father Jim Walter
John Agugliaro
Marcia Moretti
Amelia and Kent
Cheryl Besant
Quinn children
newborn Marylynn Joanne
Toni Sessamen
Mary Mercurio
Father Sam Venne
Elaine Stack
Marie Sorrentino
Frank Gallagher
Pat Abraham
Vinnie Barone
Linda Orszulak
Eva Tamoga
Ellie Wieleba
Lou and Liz Pauley
Lorrie Dickerson

baby Finleigh
Doug Shrout
Dan Graesser
Leo Reiter
Jeannette Shields daughter in law

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

[Cursillo Name Tags or Shirts](#)

Contact Mike Szematowicz;
Call/Text: 812 0633
Email: szematm@gmail.com
List shirt size, color preference, weekend #. Mike will provide price and address where to send the check.