



Buffalo Cursillo

August 2019 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.

Cursillo Picnic	August 11, 2019, Sunday - 1:00 pm, Mass at 3:00 pm Deacon Mike and Dawn Quinn's house 532 S. Shore Blvd., Lackawanna, NY
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 - hosted by the South Towns Ultreya
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

Lay Director's Report:

2019 National Encounter -

The Encounter was held on July 18 - 21 at the University of Scranton in Scranton PA. Close to 900 Cursillistas from all over North America attended. Two men from Mallorca Spain who knew and worked with our founder Edwardo Bonnin came and gave talks on Edwardo, Pre-Cursillo, Cursillo and Post-Cursillo

There was a wealth of information given this year and I want to share as much of it as I absorbed. I'll send a separate shout out shortly that details the notes that I took and also post it on the website.

Step by Step Rectors Guide -

Please pray for Cursillo in Buffalo and throughout the nation, and pray for us, the members of your Secretariat. We have a big task ahead and, some difficult decisions to make. Please everyone, call on the Holy Spirit daily to guide us and show us the best way forward to serve our Cursillo community, those in our one square meter, our Lord Jesus and our loving Father.

Cursillo is a holy movement inspired and led by the Holy Spirit. It brings all of us and those we befriend closer to Christ. The evil one wants to divide, discourage and destroy us because of the good work we do. We cannot let this happen. We must vow to remain together and unified no

matter what. It is ok and natural that we all have different ideas, likes, and preferences on how we conduct our weekends. We will have differences yet we must remain loving friends.

As we present the Step by Step Rectors Guide in the School of Leaders everyone's voice will be heard and respected. I want everyone to ask questions, offer your thoughts sincerely and say what is on your mind. Everyone's opinion, desire and preference are important. No one will be left out or silenced. We will do this together as the loving community that we are.

From the beginning, Buffalo Cursillo has brought many souls closer to Christ. We are God's servants and we will continue to be so going forward. Some procedures may change but the mission and goals remain the same.

Let us not be led astray or distracted. Take to heart the words of the leader's prayer regarding what is truly important and what it says about putting aside our personal desires for the good of the mission.

The immediate task before us all is to learn and understand what is being presented and the reasons why. Then we can make informed decisions. We will study this for as long as it takes to understand and only then decide how we will conduct our weekends. Since we are individuals, we will not agree on everything even though that is what we strive for.

I have expressed my preference publicly at the Secretariat meetings and the last School of Leaders. The Secretariat cannot be a dictatorship. We must be servants. Me as lay director, and all the members of the Secretariat, are here to serve the Cursillo community in our diocese and the Cursillo movement worldwide. That

being said; as office holders, it is our role and responsibility to make decisions for the community. We will perform these duties faithfully and transparently. Be assured that all of us on the secretariat want to make the best decisions for the good of the Buffalo diocese Cursillo movement. So, we ask for your support, participation, input, cooperation, involvement in learning and understanding, and your prayers.

Call, email or text me anytime to discuss further.

Position Available

Would you like to be part of the Cursillo team? We have one or two openings for an outside Palanca Coordinator. The job is to download Palanca received by email from all over the world, print them and bring them to the Palanca team prior to the start of the weekend. Likewise, send out email Palanca from us to other diocese that are holding weekends.

This is an important task that can be shared by one or two people. It is an excellent starting point for new Cursillistas who want to become part of the leadership team. We will pay your expenses for printer ink and paper. Please pray about this, talk to any friends who might be willing to share the duties with you. Contact me if you can help out. De Colores!

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

Spiritual Director's Reflection:

God, Creation and Love

In the beginning, God had 4 possibilities:

1. Not to create a world – nothing at all
2. Create a world where no good or evil exists – an amoral world
3. Create a world where only good exists
4. Create a world like we have – where we are given free will and the freedom to choose – (THIS IS THE ONLY CHOICE WHERE LOVE IS POSSIBLE!)

One of the many reasons that Cindy and I are enjoying being blessed with our two grandchildren, Lily (turning 3) and River (turning 1) so immensely and intensely is because we get to witness, firsthand, the beauty of the love and innocence of children. As each day and event unfolds, we both realize that we get to observe the spiritual impact of each child's inner recognition of the Transcendent God within them.

Here's a great example: While shopping at Wegmans recently, I observed a young child, couldn't have been more than 4 years-old, watching her mother frantically searching for her car keys who then said, "I must be losing my mind." The child responds – "Mommy, just don't lose your heart because remember, I'm in there."

Love is the craving of the human heart to belong in the sacredness of trust within a relationship caused by the love that comes only from God.

Once we, ourselves, come to truly know the love of the Father and to trust that we are in His heart – we appreciate this choice of free will that He gives us even more... Ultimately, however, our gift of free will provide us with only two choices when it comes to loving God our Father, either to:

- Bend the knee to Him and say, "Your will be done."
Or,

- Refuse to bend our knee and then have God say to us "Your will be done!"
Which will do we choose?

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 contacted potential candidates. We have invited them to our summer activities, along with sharing the dates for our next set of weekends.

We invite you to pray if the ministry of PreCursillo could be a way for you to get involved. Marge and I will take you under our wing, allowing you time to learn the ropes.

Please keep our Teams (which are beginning to form) and our candidates in our prayers.

Diane-380-0187 and Marge-698-5828

Email: bfloprekursillo@gmail.com

Cursillo Section

Mary Ann and I have been blessed as we become the co-coordinators for the buffalo Cursillo Section. We would like to thank our Buffalo Cursillo community and the Secretariat for their prayers and confidence. Currently we are learning the "nuts and bolts" of the weekend and the different groups under this Section.

We would like to thank Bob Piskun, it takes two of us to fill his shoes. Bob has a deep love of our Buffalo Community and is always available to do the littlest or

biggest projects. He is always thinking of ways to get us together, such as the Cursillo Dance.

Please the next time you see Bob give him a big hug and a huge thank you...he is a great role model.

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 AUGUST

MaryBeth put together a newly formatted Ultreya schedule with up to date information. Click here [August Ultreya Schedule](#) to view.

Next up; Cursillo Picnic, August 11, 2019
Starts at 1:00 pm, Mass at 3:00 pm
Deacon Mike and Dawn Quinn's house
532 S. Shore Blvd., Lackawanna, NY.
Bring your family! Swimwear, meat to grill, a dish to share, plates/utensils, drinks, a blanket or chair for mass.

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: Mucucinotta@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. 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:

Have a Safe and Blessed Summer!
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:

Dick Sterling, Ed Coughlin, Mike McCarthy, Alice's daughter-in-law, Laura, Bill Gross, Joan Roberts, Rev Chuck Slisz, Helga Pollak, Mary Flanagan, Joe Insana, Mark Mullen, Dell Leaderstorf, Mercurio's nephew Ray, Bill Heidle, Corinne Giermek, Larry Lomanto, Ryan Stack, Dcn Joe Barr, Jim Youngers, Tim Heidle, Nan, Owen Mangan, Tony Rozak, 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 Shroul,

Dan Graesser, Leo Reiter, Jeannette
Shields daughter in law, Chuck DiMaria

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.