



March 2019

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:

We just completed the 2019 2<sup>nd</sup> touch weekend. This was the first in the “living the Charism” Series entitled “Living your life in Grace.

Seventy Five Cursillistas attended at Stella Niagara. Click here for an [Outline of the Rollos](#).

We videotaped the Rollos and will add them to the website for viewing as soon as we iron out some file size issues.

Members of the Secretariat are working diligently on producing a Sponsor's video. This will be a valuable aid to people who want to invite friends and relatives to a Cursillo weekend. Stay tuned!

See details below on our upcoming Reunion Mass and School of Leaders.

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

### Spiritual Director's Reflection:

As sons and daughters of God, we are to walk in the ways of our heavenly Father, to “be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

As in the Lord's prayer, grateful for the Father's mercy, we're called to forgive others their trespasses because **God has forgiven ours.**

Loving enemies entails performing good actions even while we are **under attack** and **stressed**. Jesus means for us to:

- Do **good** even to someone who hates us. To choose **not** to return an “eye for eye” or “tooth for tooth” – to choose **not** to return evil with evil.
- If someone curses us, we **bless** them. Practically, that means that we need to speak good **to** and **of** someone. (That's the second way to show love.)
- A third way, is to “**pray for those who mistreat you.**” Even if their presence upsets us, we should always pray for the person; pray that they have a **change of heart**. Ask God to do some good in their lives that will bring them closer to Him.

This is what is referred to as **agape**, that kind of love is to “**will the good of another**”; to act in such a way as to bring good to another.

Notice that none of these acts are **primarily rooted in our emotions.**

All are rooted **in our will**; rooted in the **choices** that we consciously make to **do** good, to **say** good, and to **pray** for who oppose us.

However, this also means that we probably will need to go to Jesus for comfort, peace and consolation.

Allow His presence and grace to **build** the spiritual strength within to withstand the hurt we will endure since we can **never** do this alone.

As humans, we are just simply *too emotional*, too *weak*, too painfully *consumed* by the cutting and snubbing ravages that our own pride *suffers* during those skirmishes with others.

We *need* God's grace and presence *before* these occurrences to help *steel* ourselves for such events so we *can* consciously choose the actions Jesus asks of us.

Jesus even gives us some parabolic expressions and examples for us to chew on:

- “If somebody strikes you on the cheek, you offer him the other also.”
- “If somebody steals your coat – say, “hey wait! you forgot my scarf” (Okay, I paraphrased that one!)
- “Give to everyone who begs from you” and take - away your goods, don't ask for them back.

Jesus is emphasizing *action* using the paradox built into these scenarios.

Unexpected? Surprising? Of course! They may even seem *irrational* – but it's because they don't operate according to the *logic of this world* but by the logic of the *kingdom of heaven*.

*It's the logic of the Son of God, who:*

- Comes into this world to be struck on the cheek by His own gruesome Passion and doesn't fight back.
- Gives His life for everyone, even the ones who reject Him.

It's the logic of God's kingdom; it's the logic of *Jesus' cross*.

We recently heard Jesus teaching us the *mystery* of the cross in the form of the Beatitudes.

Now, He teaches the *same* mystery through His command to *love our enemies*.

He expressed it through His *every* action; but His *ultimate* act of love for one's enemies ... *is the Cross*.

St. Paul tell us in Romans “While *we* were yet enemies, “God loves us” – *loves us all the way to Calvary*.

As we begin to reflect on what we might do to make this Lent the most meaningful Lent

of our lives – maybe we can begin by loving those who don't love us back... Granted, *it is not:*

- Easy
- Just what Jesus tells us to do...

But, it's *exactly what Jesus did!*

Peace and all good things!

Deacon Greg Moran  
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Cursillo Movement  
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### Pre Cursillo Report:

Since our last newsletter, we have heard from a handful of interested candidates that will be able to make the Spring dates. We have also received a few new applications.

Continue to pray and invite others to make a weekend. If you have any questions about being a sponsor, Marge and I are here to answer your questions.

2019 Spring Weekends:

Women's #224 is May 16 to 19.

Men's #223 is May 30 to June 2

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

### Cursillo Section

WANTED!

All Cursillistas to evangelize in showing Men and Women how much God loves them.

How do we do this you ask?

By talking to them about a Cursillo Weekend.

The Men's Team is almost filled. A couple of spots to fill in so if asked to work the weekend just say yes. You know you want to!!!!

We are always looking for people to lend a hand, Palanca Team, Kitchen Team, set up and clean up. Give someone a purpose in life to do something for someone else. Call me. PEACE to you all and your families!!

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

### Post Cursillo:

The reunion mass will be this Friday, March 8 at 8:00 PM at St. Amelias Eggert Rd. at 210 St Amelia Dr Tonawanda, NY 14150  
Sponsored by Bethany and Rainbow Vineyard. Ultreyas.  
PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE FOR MASS FROM 7:30 PM TO 8 PM.  
Our priest will be Fr. Ryszard Biernat. Lynn Lomanto will be giving the witness.  
Feel free to join the parish meditations at 6:45pm and Stations of the Cross from 7:00 to 7:45pm.

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

Mike Cucinotta 310-2861  
Mary Beth Cucinotta 573-8205  
4077 Thornwood Lane  
Williamsville NY 14221  
Email: [Mcucinotta@roadrunner.com](mailto:Mcucinotta@roadrunner.com)  
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### School of Leaders:

YOU'RE INVITED!  
School of Leaders' Workshop  
Saturday March 9 10:00am to 2:00pm  
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Hall at 4375 Harris Hill Rd and Main St. , Williamsville.  
Program: How Cursillo Helps in Knowing Christ.  
Speakers: Deacon Tom Friedman, Bill Gross, Dawn Quinn

The Program is Free! Lunch will be provided  
If you plan on attending please email Bill Gross, so we can get an estimate of how many lunches to buy

Come and bring a friend.

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

### Secretary:

Mary Bitka  
Email: [Mary.Bitka@nationalgrid.com](mailto:Mary.Bitka@nationalgrid.com)

### Prayer Request:

Please keep the following people in your prayers and Palanca:  
Bill Heidle, Tim Hanavan, Corinne Giermek, Larry Lomanto, Ryan Stack, Dcn Joe Barr, Jim Youngers, Tim Heidle, Nan, Owen Mangan, Tony Rozak, Gary Hall, Michael Volk, Michael Ryan, Audrey DiMaria, Kathy O'Keefe, Denise Bressette, Lynn Johnson, Deacon Dan McGuire, Bishop Malone, Gary Banas, Father Jim Walter, John Agugliaro, Marcia Moretti, Mary Dewald, 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, Mary Flanagan, Joe Insana, Diane Coughlin, Jeannette Shields daughter in law

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.