



**Buffalo Cursillo**

November 2018 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's Report:

Our next **Women's weekend #222** begins this Thursday November 8 at St Vincent de Paul. Check in is at 7:00pm (We will welcome new candidates right up to the last minute) Call or text me for details.

Holy hour and Mass is 7pm Saturday November 10. Las Mananitas Sunday at 6. Closing Mass Sunday 3pm.

Please volunteer to help your Ultreya with meals. And, remember to offer Palanca for the candidates.

If you have a candidate that has not submitted and application yet it is not too late. Call or text me or Diane or Marge from Pre-Cursillo anytime.

I worked the Palanca team for Men's weekend 221. It was a wonderful, spirit filled experience. Contact Lisa if you would like to help out this weekend or one of the two spring weekends [lgauthie@nycourts.gov](mailto:lgauthie@nycourts.gov)

The new format for the **School of Leaders** was favorably received. Counting little Mary Boyle we had 40 attendees. Fantastic.

I just completed the annual Diocesan report for our National Cursillo. It pointed out a couple areas where we need to make some improvements. All in God's time. DeColores!

Lastly we have our **Second Touch Weekend** on February 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>. Carol Palesh has been working hard to put this together for all of our benefits. Click here for the invitation and details. [Second Touch 2019](#)

Check out all our Calendar events at [Cursillo Calendar](#). Simply click on an event and all the details will pop up.

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

### Spiritual Director's Reflection:

In a Gospel in the middle of November *Jesus cautions - "In those days...."*

So begins our *preparation* for the Season of Advent which is drawing near.

Advent is more than a liturgical season within the church year. It's a reality that occurs in all sorts of ways and comes at various points in life, not only for a handful of weeks before every Christmas.

*"In those days ... the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken."*

Sounds ominous, doesn't it? *It is.*

Jesus speaks these words to His disciples as they had been admiring the temple with its

large stones; They were impressed - but Jesus warns them that change is coming. The temple of their life will be coming down.

***Maybe this is what our church/diocese is going through today...***

If you've ever experienced significant change in your life, whether desired or dreaded, you know about "*those days*", you've experienced "*those days*." If so, then, you know about Advent.

You know what it's like to enter the darkness of change. All change, whether welcome or unwanted, brings some kind of loss.

It may be the loss of a relationship, a loved one, a job – or the loss of what is known, comfortable, safe and familiar. Regardless, something in the world we knew - changed.

The advents of our lives set before us important questions:

- What do we do when it feels as if our world is falling apart?
- How will we find our way forward when the usual lights that illumined our path no longer shine?
- Where do we go when it seems as if darkness is our new companion and God's presence isn't so obvious?

"*Those days...*" can be *threshold* moments. We're always tempted to quickly:

- Do something
- Fix it
- Ease the pain
- Escape the uncertainty
- And to get back to what life used to be.

But advents are not that simple. We can never *go back* to the way it *was* before... God doesn't *undo* our life. God *redeems* our life!

***Maybe this is what God is doing for our church/diocese, today...***

Advent, whether the liturgical season or some other transition in our life are *always* about the ***hope and coming of what will be.***

That hope/coming is *always* the Son of Man, ***Jesus, the Christ***, who *always* brings Light into the darkness.

It's about ***Christ's presence*** being the ***ultimate answer*** to every prayer, to every light-extinguishing loss/pain during every advent of our lives.

Advent times of life are *liminal* times where we live in between ***what was*** and ***what will be***; We are neither ***here nor there.***

These ***transitions*** are hard because it can seem impossible to see our way forward. But these Advent times ***draw*** us deeper into God's ***divine mystery*** as we are reminded that we need to trust God's pruning for our salvation

Life's advents invite us to receive our God who comes to us, especially in the darkness of life.

***Maybe this is what our church/diocese is going through today...***

Jesus also cautions us - "***Be alert***" - "***Keep awake.***" Darkness is not our enemy as much as our own ***falling asleep/complacency.***

We fall asleep whenever:

- Fear controls our life
- Hope gives way to despair
- Busyness is simply equated with goodness
- Entitlement replaces gratitude/thanksgiving
- We choose what is comfortable rather than life-giving.
- Whenever we think that we have been abandoned or that loss and darkness are our final reality.

We ***can't allow*** the darkness to ***deceive*** us into believing there is ***nothing*** worth

waiting/watching for...by falling asleep - we *become* part of the darkness and will *miss* recognizing Christ's Light; His presence!

*We can't allow that to be what our church/diocese goes through today!*

In Advent - *we trust, we listen* more than speak, *we pray* and be *open* to God's answer - the One who Comes to *Light* our darkness.

Preparation, trust and prayer are *how we stay awake* and faithfully *surrender* to our God who comes to save us.

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](mailto:deacongregmoran@gmail.com)

### Pre Cursillo Report:

We are pleased to report that there will be a Women's weekend. While a light number, it gives Team members the opportunity to know all the candidates. It becomes a more personal friendship; a good start to living their 4<sup>th</sup> day.

Please keep in mind; applications are accepted year-round. We will contact the proposed candidates to advise them of the next scheduled weekend and then again about 8 to 10 weeks prior to the weekend to check their level of interest.

The Spring dates are: April 25-28 for the Men and May 16-19 for the Women's. Please keep the candidates, Team and all Cursillistas in your prayers.

God bless,

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

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### Cursillo Section

My Friends in Christ!!!!

As the music goes, "one more time".

We are embarking on another Women's Cursillo Weekend. The teams are in place and THANK YOU Team Selectors for putting together another great set of teams to do God's Work.

I had a great pleasure to work the Men's Cursillo Weekend and look at things from another perspective. For me everything looked very good!!!! We had a small number of Candidates but the mix between the candidates and team was fantastic!!!!

To our very special Cursillo Community, THANK YOU for all your help, prayers and Palanca. You are the hands and feet of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The next time you are in Walter Hall take a look under your feet. That's right, under your feet. You may even see yourself in the shine of the floors. The Cursillo Community came together to shine up the floors at St. Vincent's. My deepest gratitude to these helpers: Mike Kibbler, Otto Misso, Harvey Gress, Deacon Pete Walders, Linda Piskun and Joe Piskun.

PEACE to 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).

### Ultreya Information

<https://www.buffalocursillo.com/ultreya>

### **Contact Info:**

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### **School of Leaders:**

Our first School of Leaders workshop was a great success. Thank you to everyone who made it possible, especially our speakers: Carolyn, Maria, Curtis and Jerry. Thanks also to Randy for arranging a great lunch. I'd also like to thank those who came early and stayed late to help with the set up and cleanup. Our next workshop is scheduled for March 10 at Nativity. Keep watching this space for details.

Come and bring a friend.

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

### **Secretary:**

Marty Ruhland  
Secretary  
Email: [rdservices@roadrunner.com](mailto:rdservices@roadrunner.com)

### **Prayer Request:**

Please keep the following people in your prayers and Palanca:

For the team and candidates of Women's 222 weekend, Father Jim Walter, Kate Emery's dad, John Agugliaro, Bishop Malone and all priests in the diocese, Jamie Groff, Karl

Stack, Mary Dewald, Amelia and Kent, Dennis Lawson, Cheryl Besant, Joan Conklin, Gary Banas, Diane Coughlin, newborn Marylynn Joanne, Toni Sessamen, Mary Mercurio, Father Sam Venne, Carol Mazurkiewicz, Elaine Stack, Dcn Joe Barr, Frank Gallagher, Pat Abraham, Linda Orszulak, Eva Tamoga, Ellie Wieleba, Lou and Liz Pauley, Lorrie Dickerson, Diana Sotarczak's friend Carol, Doug Shrout, Dan Graesser, Leo Reiter, Mary Flanagan, Joe Insana, Iona Klein's friend Bella, Quinn children, Corinne Giermek, Marcia Moretti, baby Finleigh, Jeannette Shields daughter in law, Vinnie Barone, Marie Sorrentino, Lynn Johnson

Thank you for the prayers for Matt Hen's sister Becky Formwalt who passed on October 29, 2018

All Cursillistas who are ill or suffering.

Send names of people who should be added to the list or removed from the list to [miride@aol.com](mailto:miride@aol.com)

### **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.