



## December 2022 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.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Spring 2023 Weekends:	Men's Weekend #230: May 4-7, 2023 Women's Weekend #231: May 18-21, 2023 Support Masses: TBD
Virtual Ultreya:	Bethany Ultreya meets virtually on Zoom the 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday each month. This is ideal for those who cannot get out and those who have moved out of town. Contact Lynn Lomanto for the meeting information; <a href="mailto:Lomantolynn@gmail.com">Lomantolynn@gmail.com</a>

### **Lay Director's Report**

One of the most challenging aspects of living as a Cursillista involves the study of our environment. What exactly IS our environment? We all live in multiple environments simultaneously and we're called to Christianize our environment(s) but just how can we do that and more importantly, exactly which environment does Jesus want us to Christianize at this moment? The answer will be similar for most of us: our family, where we work, what communities we live in, what organizations we belong to are all examples of environments where we have been planted – as in a garden. Successful gardeners usually have a plan in mind before they start planting. That means they study the environment (the soil, the light, the climate, etc.) before they put a seed in the ground. The work we undertake has eternal consequences so it's supremely important that we put in the effort to look critically at our environments and again, talk to Jesus about them, and ask Him to lead us and then plan accordingly.

Thanks to the Holy Spirit and Eduardo Bonin who knew a thing or two about studying one's environment, we have the gift of Cursillo®. With our Method of Group Reunion and Ultreya we can work on our piety, study and action with fellow Cursillistas to faithfully live out our various callings and make a difference in our environments (cha, cha, cha!).

As Advent advances and Christmas gets closer, we will do well to take some time for quiet reflection, in front of the Blessed Sacrament if possible, and prepare our hearts for Emmanuel the King. All around us the world is busy putting up external decorations to attract our attention to something they have for sale that will last for a few moments in the scope of eternity. Ours should be the internal decoration of a joy-filled spirit, a light to the nations, peace that the world cannot give.

My prayer is that you have a Cursillo® Christmas this year, and if you have someone in mind you'd like to sponsor, give the gift of Cursillo® for Christmas. Get ready. The Lord is coming!

De Colores and Thanks to God for all He as given us this year!

## **Terry Johnson #191**

Lay Director Buffalo Cursillo

(716) 908-9055

[twjrex@gmail.com](mailto:twjrex@gmail.com), [buffalocursillo@gmail.com](mailto:buffalocursillo@gmail.com)

## **Spiritual Director Report:**

To be provided next month

## **Historian Report:**

### **Buffalo Cursillo History #12 (continued):**

December 2022           “Renumbering Cursillo Weekends”

1973 was a year of new beginnings. From 1965 to December 1972, there had been Men’s Cursillos #1 to #29 and Women’s Cursillos #1 to #20. Beginning in January 1973, Cursillos would be numbered consecutively beginning with Women’s #50. This helped to end the confusion of the members of the Men’s and Women’s Cursillos.

In addition to the above change, Buffalo Cursillo found a new home, created a new newsletter, added Secretariat members and held two Reunion Masses each month.

The new home for Buffalo Cursillo was found at Bishop Gibbons High School in North Tonawanda. Built in 1961, the co-ed high school remained open for ten years, staffed by the Felician Sisters and the Barnabite Priests.

The high school had been built in honor of Edmund Francis Gibbons, who served as a priest for the diocese of Buffalo from 1893 to 1919. Gibbons was appointed sixth Bishop of Albany from 1919 to 1954. He was still living at the time when Bishop Gibbons High School was built and later died at the age of 95 in 1964.

Fr. Charles Schoy, founding Principal and diocesan priest, remained in charge of the buildings after the school closed in 1971. The diocese allowed various groups including SEARCH, a Cursillo – styled weekend retreat for teens as well as other high school retreats the use of the building.

Buffalo Cursillo had the use of the main building where Men’s Cursillo #29 - #87 were held until 1979. In the meantime, Bishop Head had put the high school on the real estate market around 1974. Over time, several buildings were sold, and Bishop Gibbons remained Cursillo’s home until 1979.

A new format for the “Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter” was created. No longer was the newsletter mimeographed on yellow paper by the Secretary Agnes Johnson (Women’s #1) in a borrowed office. Tom Bennett (Men’s #24) introduced a new photo offset edition which was mailed through the US Postal Service with a non-profit permit. Much preparation for the newsletter was done in the new Cursillo Office at Bishop Gibbons. This included help in writing, editing, photographing, typing. Addressing, sorting and mailing. This necessitated an addition to the Secretariat – the Communications Section headed by Bill Hausle (Men’s #11). Other additions included the Liturgy Section, separate Cursillo Sections: Women’s Cursillo Section chaired by Mary Ann Ericson (Women’s #7) and Men’s Cursillo Section headed by Frank Krahling (Men’s #15). Under this section, additional men were charged with Team Training, Commissary (Kitchen), Maintenance, Setup and Cleanup, Purchasing and Inventory, Ushers, Parking and Security. With fourteen Cursillo’s planned for 1973, think of the large numbers people attending the holy Hour, Las Mananitas and Closings.

Post Cursillo was divided into the Northern Division with six Northern Ultreyas chaired by Jim Powers (Men’s #13) and the Southern Division with six Ultreyas South and East of Rt. 5 chaired by Jack Breen (Men’s #12).

It became apparent that two Diocesan Reunion Masses should be held on each second Friday of the month, one in the Northtowns and one in the Southtowns. For some time, the Diocesan Reunion Masses had been approaching the capacity of the churches, the parking lots and the halls for the socials.

The spirit of the congregation in praising God was a joy to behold and a joy to be a part of. This was evidenced by the number of Cursillistas who attend month after month and of those who attended the Diocesan Reunion Mass even before they had made Cursillo.

1973 proved to be an extraordinary year: hosting 14 Cursillos, welcoming 462 Babe Chicks, boasting numerous volunteers in many facets of the Movement, and counting 12 thriving Ultreyas all set against the cultural backdrop of stay-at-home Moms, 3 major TV channels and the continuing war in Viet Nam.

Carol Stier  
Buffalo Cursillo historian  
(716) 692-1606

### Pre-Cursillo Report:

To be provided next month.

### Cursillo Section:

To be provided next month.

### Post-Cursillo:

We want to continue to say “welcome to your 4th day” to the new babe chicks since we are hoping that you are getting into the routine of going to Ultreyas and forming permanent groups! We were excited with the great turnout at the ‘welcome to your 4th day’ dinner on Saturday November 12th at St. Vincent DePaul’s in Springbrook. About 100 people were in attendance. It was great to get together as a community and celebrate our faith!

The *Cursillo for new Cursillistas* went well on December 3rd. The goal for this first-time event was to explain to the babe-chicks, both men and women, how Buffalo Cursillo operates, how they can get more involved, and where we can use help. About 25 people participated, which included 5 babe chicks.

We always encourage babe chicks and ‘experienced’ Cursillistas to get as involved as possible in Cursillo activities including permanent groups, Ultreyas, reunion masses, and School of Leaders workshops. In this Advent season it is a great time to **recommit to Christ as He is indeed “counting on you”**. Please consider making a promise to Christ that you will attend a Cursillo event by the end of January 2023 (start the new year off right!!).

Please look at the information for the **Second Touch** weekend to be held January 27th to 29th elsewhere in this newsletter and at the website.

Watch for location and date for the next **Reunion Mass** which will be held in February (info will be available in January).

You can also put the **School of Leaders** on your calendar! See details for the next event elsewhere in this newsletter.

As always, please let us know if you need help finding a **permanent group** or are open to inviting additional Cursillistas to your current group.

*“The Lord is Near! Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”*

Phillippians 4:6

May your Advent be blessed and your Christmas merry!

Mike Emery – memery289@mail.com, 716-207-2834

Kate Emery – emeryinbuffalo@roadrunner.com, 716-598-5073

### School of Leaders:

The primary role of our School of Leaders is for those in our Cursillo community to come together and continue their ongoing “conversion” by being together and, through the Holy Spirit, learning from each other. Iron sharpens iron. You’ve likely heard that more than once. We are the iron that sharpens the iron that is each other. But that sharpening can only happen if we come together.

In January, a unique opportunity that we call Second Touch will take place from January 27th to the 29th. Lots of “iron” will be there to sharpen and get sharpened. This event will take the place of our School of Leaders in January. If you are interested in attending, please contact Carol Palesch - 716-694-0942 (grannypalesh@gmail.com), or Marty Ruhland – 716-481-0662 (rdservices@roadrunner.com) .

Marty Ruhland

Call/Text: 716-481-0662

Email: rdservices@roadrunner.com

### Treasurer:

God Bless and Thank You again for being so generous.

Ed Hackett

Call/Text: 716-863-9851.

Email: [ehbanker@yahoo.com](mailto:ehbanker@yahoo.com)

### Secretary:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mary Bitka

Call/Text: 716-984-0664

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

### Prayer Request:

Entered into their 5<sup>th</sup> Day:

Theresa Fuhrmann (Women’s #99) – Died 9/30/2022

Mary Jane Guyette (Women’s #12) – Died 10/31/2022

Violet Lochocki (Women’s #171) – Died 12/2/2022

If you learn of a recently deceased Cursillista please notify Carol Stier at (71) 692-1606.

Please pray for the following

Arthur Ruhland  
Mary Mercurio  
Laura Ciavarella  
Timothy McCann  
Dcn Joe Barr  
Tim Heidle  
Dcn Dan McGuire  
Bobby Lovenetti  
Pat Mahoney

Bob Yager  
Fr. Joe Badding  
Betty Ciavarella  
Joan Roberts  
Patrick Johnson  
Kathy O'Keefe  
Gary Banas  
Vinnie Barone  
Jack Thomann

Mike Matyas  
Pam Hornung  
Angelo Ciavarella  
Mary Flanagan  
Kathleen Montesanti  
Denise Bressette  
John Agugliaro  
Linda Orszulak

Teresa Barone  
Jean Claire Buchbinder  
Marie Gannon  
Bill Heidle  
Jim Youngers  
Lynn Johnson  
Marcia Moretti  
Ellie Wieleba

Cathy Derrick  
Chelsea Ellis  
Mike Ryan  
Corinne Giermek  
Cathy Agugliaro  
Diane Coughlin  
Cheryl Besant  
Cole Coons

Notify Marty Ruhland (716-481-0662), [rdservices@roadrunner.com](mailto:rdservices@roadrunner.com) ) for any names to add or remove from the prayer list.



# Upcoming Cursillo Dates

## Reunion Mass

Date: February 2023  Time: 7:00 PM Place: TBD  Host: TBD	Date: March 2023  Time: 7:00 pm Place: TBD  Host: TBD	Date: April 2023  Time: 7:00 pm Place: TBD  Host: TBD
---	--	--

### Men's Weekend #230 May 4-7, 2023

TBD - Support Mass for Men's Team

5/3 - Set-up Men's Weekend @ 5:30 pm, St. Vincent's

5/4 – Registration from 7:00 – 7:30 pm  
Sponsors & community stay for prayer service @ 8 pm.

5/7 – Las Mananitas – 6 am (Men only)  
- Community Gathering at 3 pm with Closures (no mass) ALL welcome

TBD – 4<sup>th</sup> Day Dinner; Potluck  
doors open at 6 pm. Dinner at 6:30 pm at St. Vincent's

**Entire Community Welcome**

### Women's Weekend #231 May 18-21, 2023

Support Mass – date and location TBD

5/17 – Set up for Women's Weekend @ 5:30

5/18 – Registration from 7:00 – 7:30 pm  
Sponsors & community stay for prayer service @ 8 pm.

5/21 – Las Mananitas – 6 am (Women only)  
- Community Gathering at 3 pm with Closures (no mass) ALL welcome

TBD – 4<sup>th</sup> Day Dinner; Potluck  
doors open at 6 pm. Dinner at 6:30 pm at St. Vincent's

**Entire Community Welcome**

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDY

### School of Leaders (Workshops)

Topic: See Newsletter  
 Date: December 10, 2022  
 Time: 10:30AM  
 Location: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 4375 Harris Hill Rd.  
 Williamsville, NY 14221

For additional information please see the School of Leaders article in the newsletter.  
 Organizer: Marty Ruhland, (716) 481-0662

### Steubenville Conferences

Where: Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio

Topics and Dates:  
 Power and Purpose Conference, June 9-11, 2023  
 Applied Biblical studies, July 26-28, 2023, and  
 Defending the Faith Conference, July 28-30.

More information on the conferences is at  
<https://steubenvilleconferences.com/adult/>

<b>Ultreya name Area served</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	
<b>Bethany</b> Cheektowaga & surrounding area	<u>December 8, 2022</u> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	7:00 pm	<b>Zoom</b> Contact Lynn to be added to email list	
	<u>December 22, 2022</u> 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	7:00 pm		
<b>Come to the Well</b> Clarence area	<u>December 20, 2022</u> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	7:00 pm	<b>Member House</b> Contact Chris for location	Ja
<b>Full of Grace</b> Elma area	<b>No Meeting</b> Last Wednesday January - June September – October	7:00 pm	<b>Member House</b> Contact Marty for location	
<b>Pueblo de Paz</b> Warsaw area	<b>No Meeting</b> (inactive as of 11/28/21) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	7:00 pm	<b>St. Mary's Church</b> 6785 East Arcade Rd East Arcade Pavilion/Multipurpose room based on weather	
	<b>Contact Liz</b> Last Sunday	7:00 pm	<b>St. Michael's Church</b> 171 N. Main St, Warsaw	
<b>Rainbow Vineyard</b> North towns area	<u>December 13, 2022</u> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	7:00 pm	<b>St. Jude the Apostle Parish</b> 800 Niagara Falls Blvd North Tonawanda	
	<u>December 27, 2022</u> 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	7:00 pm		
<b>Southtowns</b> South towns area	<b>No Meeting</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	7:00 pm	<b>Member House</b> Contact Lisa for location	
	<u>December 15, 2022</u> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	7:00 pm		
<b>Spirit of the City</b> City of Buffalo	<b>No Meeting</b> (inactive)		<b>St. Jude Center</b> 760 Ellicott St. Buffalo	

Rev 4.24.2022