



# Buffalo Cursillo

April 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:

School of Leaders	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> at 1pm. Location to be determined.
Reunion Mass	There will not be a Reunion Mass in April.
Spring weekends	Men's: #227 April 7-10, 2022 Women's: Spring Weekend postponed until October 20-23, 2022 Support Mass: April 2 <sup>nd</sup> at St. Vincent DePaul Church 4 <sup>th</sup> Day: April 29 <sup>th</sup> at St. Vincent DePaul Church
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

Thinking of Men's Cursillo 227 and what they have been through during their formation: "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed" 2 Cor. 8-9. We have been hospitalized, suffered death in our families, endured sickness and personal injury. And yet here we are, ready to serve the Lord in every way that we can. Welcoming into our Community ten (maybe 12?) new babe chicks who have, no doubt, been going through their own desert experiences, their own trials as they discern the call that they are hearing to "Come, follow Me." So, I ask you, my dear brothers and sisters in Christ, to continue to offer Palanca for the Movement, for the Weekend, for the Church and for the world. Come to the break-in on Saturday, April 9th. Come to Las Mananitas (if you're a man) on Sunday, April 10th at 6am. Come to the Closura (everybody!) on Sunday afternoon at 3pm and hear what the Lord has done in the lives of our new Cursillistas!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us. St. Paul the Apostle, pray for us.

De Colores,

**Terry Johnson #191**  
Lay Director Buffalo Cursillo

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## Spiritual Director:

To be provided next month.

## Historian Report:

### **Buffalo Cursillo History #6 (continued):**

“Calling All Priests.” One of the main factors for the growth of the Buffalo Cursillo Movement in the first five years was a letter from Bishop McNulty, dated April 12, 1966, calling upon priests to make the weekend and to encourage their flock. He wrote: “For the success of this Diocesan-wide movement, the cooperation of the Pastor and Associates is absolutely necessary.”

The letter continued: “It (Cursillo) is a short course in Christianity which has a twofold purpose:

1. To help the person who makes a Cursillo to experience Christian Community living.
2. To help train lay leaders who will aid pastors in spreading Christ’s Gospel.

I encourage our parish priests to ask parishioners to attend a Cursillo together.”

Bishop McNulty’s letter was followed up with a letter by Fr. Dave Doyle, first Spiritual Director, and Lou Pauly, first Lay Director of the Buffalo Cursillo to all priests of the diocese. Their letter stated: “The Cursillos in Christianity are now in Buffalo. This remarkable tool of Christian Renewal is now operating. Five men’s and one women’s Cursillos are now finished.”

“You are going to be asked to sign applications for some wishing to make a Cursillo (all applications must be signed by a priest), (note: no longer required) so for your information here are some of the criteria necessary to make a Cursillo.

1. The applicant must be a Catholic of maturity.
2. He should be a “sensible” person (not an eccentric) and should not have a record of emotional instability.
3. He should not be cut off from the Sacraments in a way that Confession would not restore (i.e., an unfixable invalid marriage.)”

The letter continued: “The best plan is to start by having the priest make his Cursillo either first or with his candidates. When you make your Cursillo you can speak first hand of its effects.” Of course, the initial invitation was to male parishioners and married men who were required to make Cursillo first before their wives.

From 1966 to 1969 over 50 diocesan and religious order priests from the WNY area made Cursillo, as well as numerous seminarians. The invitation to make a Cursillo no longer came from the Catholic paper or at Communion breakfasts, but from the pulpit and parish bulletins bringing a ground-swell of applicants from across the diocese. The support of the clergy provided Spiritual Directors and meeting places for the twelve interparochial Ultreyas.

Barry Smith, former priest of the Diocese of Buffalo, who co-founded the Buffalo Cursillo Movement along with Lou and Liz Pauly, entered his Fifth Day January 27, 2022. Barry made Erie Men's Cursillo #6. He was Spiritual Director of the Buffalo Cursillo from 1969-1974.

Also, Art Kornacki, who made Buffalo Men's Cursillo #133 entered his Fifth Day, March 4, 2022.

I am looking for Cursillo Newsletters from the 1980's and 2002

Carol Stier  
Buffalo Cursillo Historian  
(716) 692-1606

### Pre-Cursillo Report:

To be provided next month.

Audrey DiMaria and committee  
[audimaria80@gmail.com](mailto:audimaria80@gmail.com)

### Cursillo Section:

We will be holding the Men's weekend beginning April 7th thru 10th, set-up on the 6th, Holy Hour on the 9th at 7pm and the Closures on the 10th at 3PM in the church.

### Post-Cursillo:

There will be no reunion mass in April since the Men's Weekend and 4th Day Dinner are both in April. The 4th Day Dinner was rescheduled to Friday April 29th since the Women's Weekend is postponed until the Fall. It will be at St. Vincent DePaul at 6441 Seneca Street in Springbrook with doors opening at 6PM, potluck dinner at 6:30PM. Please bring a dish to pass, your own plates, bowls, cups, and silverware.

Study is one leg of the Cursillo grouping triangle, along with piety and action. There are opportunities to 'study' this summer at the Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. Most people would say that their relationship with God is not where they would like it to be, but many also feel unsure of how to change it. The Steubenville Conferences offer unique conference experiences to help people escape the spiritual desert and empower them to live every day as joyful disciples of Jesus Christ. Franciscan University hosts adult conferences annually with the titles and themes of: Power and Purpose, Applied Biblical Studies, and Defending the Faith. We attended the Power and Purpose Conference for the first time in 2021 along with about 10 other Cursillistas from Buffalo and truly enjoyed it. The conferences include moving speakers and some time to just chill, relax and be with God without the everyday distractions, or at least of less of them.

You can get all the information on the conferences at <https://steubenvilleconferences.com/adult/>  
Here is a 2-minute promo video on the Power and Purpose Conference  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EgsaPorFfRA>

Registration is now open. When you sign up use the codes below for preferred seating and other perks and discounts.

- Power and Purpose Conference June 3-5, 2022, code is: **PPC22JcasNY**.
- Applied Biblical studies July 27-29, 2022, code is: **ABS22JcasNY**
- Defending the Faith Conference July 29-31, 2022, code is: **DFC22JCasNY**.
- The Early Bird code prior to April 19 for a \$20 discount at registration is: **earlybird2022**

Jerry Casillo is an ambassador for Franciscan University and is leading groups from Buffalo, but you can also go on your own. Contact Jerry for additional information at [miride@aol.com](mailto:miride@aol.com) or 716-803-9952. He can help with transportation arrangements if needed.

Mike Emery – [memery289@mail.com](mailto:memery289@mail.com), 716-207-2834

Kate Emery – [emeryinbuffalo@roadrunner.com](mailto:emeryinbuffalo@roadrunner.com), 716-598-5073

### School of Leaders:

Here is an interesting excerpt from the Cursillo Manual in the section on developing a Study Rollo. “God will be more pleased by piety without study than by study without piety. However, neither of these is ideal.” Attending the school and sharing ideas is a tremendous way to strengthen that leg of our tripod called “Study” in a prayer filled environment.

Thank-you to everyone who attended our March edition of the Buffalo Cursillo School of Leaders (School of Lights). I hope everyone came away with at least a tiny bit of spiritual growth or perhaps a renewed outlook on prayer.

April is a busy month. Our men’s weekend kicks it off and Holy Week fills it out. So, we will not convene a school in April. May 22nd is my target date for our next gathering. The subject will involve the exploration of this thing we call Small Group or The Friendship Group Reunion. Small Group is at the core of our movement. We will study why it is so important and perhaps discover ways to optimize this experience.

DeColores!

Marty Ruhland  
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### Treasurer:

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### Secretary:

Mary Bitka  
Call/Text: 716-984-0664  
Email: [marybitka@gmail.com](mailto:marybitka@gmail.com)

### Prayer Request:

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

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