



Buffalo Cursillo

September 2023 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:

Fall 2023 Weekends:	Men's Weekend #232: September 21-24, 2023 Men's Support Mass: September 16 th @ St. Vincent's 4:30 Mass Women's Weekend #233: October 26-29, 2023 Women's Support Mass: TBD
4th Day Dinner:	November 11th at 6:00pm at St. Vincent DePaul Church, 6441 Seneca St, Springbrook, NY 14140
Virtual Ultreya:	Bethany Ultreya meets virtually on Zoom the 2 nd and 4 th 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; Lomantolynn@gmail.com

[Lay Coordinator's Report:](#)

Vanity of vanities. All is vanity and a chasing of the wind. That is how King Solomon summed up the life of a natural man. I was granted a real-world experience of that this week while out on Lake Erie sailing with my friend Mark. The wind was constantly shifting direction as it does on some days. There was no way to move in a given track for more than five or ten minutes before having to change course in order to maintain speed. The result was that we decided to simply "chase the wind" and go wherever it led. Anyone following our course would have to conclude that either we had no particular destination, which we didn't, or that we didn't know how to steer a boat – we did. All in all it was a pleasant afternoon with a close friend but on further reflection I had to wonder how much closer we had come to Christ, versus how had we just gone in circles? My friend is one of what we consider the 'far away' in that he's a baptized Catholic who hasn't practiced since I can't remember when, possibly going back to when we first met at 10 years old. Having talked to God often about my friend, it's time to talk to my friend about God. But how to get started? Could there be a Cursillo® in his future?

Why come to Cursillo? Cursillo® brings one closer to God in a very personal and natural way. It fosters a personal relationship with Christ. It deepens our Christian life and revitalizes it. It gives meaning to daily life. It helps one to discover and appreciate our gift of life and discover our worth, recognize our abilities and gifts and help to develop possibilities and way to use our spirituality. It fosters friendship and gives a means of follow-up.

In building the Cursillo Eduardo Bonin stated: "To those who would make this 'Cursillo' we promise an exciting trip and the most exciting discoveries – discoveries from the living books which people are. You will learn to read these books pages, not by talking (we all know how to do that) but by listening. This is rare and more difficult.

What will you discover? Unsuspected depths where you least expected them. Natural qualities of Christianity, its' correctness, loyalty and simplicity. More discoveries? The joyful surprise of a need and deep hunger for the Spiritual, even from those you would least expect it. You would also discover the need to re-discover Catholicism which at every moment needs to be revealed to others." The How and the Why pg. 10.

These ideas defined and saturated the mentality of Eduardo Bonin and formed the content of the Fundamental Rollo's of Cursillo® and were put together before the first Cursillo was celebrated and are the same ones we are using today.

Terry Johnson #191

(716) 908-9055

twjrex@gmail.com, buffalocursillo@gmail.com

Spiritual Director Report:

A big welcome to Rev. Ronald P. Sajdak! Fr. Ron will be praying the Mass, hearing confessions, and being available for spiritual advisement during both our men's and women's weekends this fall! Thank you Fr. Ron!

As Cursillistas, each of us is deeply involved in assuring that all others feel included in our community. This inclusion is essential to our mission. We are effective in this effort and know that it is the goodness of God that drives us. I heard the following story from Paul Harvey that for me, was a great reminder of how God uses us in welcoming and including all those we encounter. It goes like this:

Philip was born with Downs Syndrome. He was a pleasant child, happy it seemed, but increasingly aware of the difference between himself and other children. Philip went to Sunday School with the other 8-year-olds each week. And, with his differences, was not readily accepted. Philip was not really a part of the group.

Around Easter, his teacher had a great idea. He gave each of the children a plastic Easter egg. They were to go outside, find the symbol for new life, put it into the egg, and bring it back to the classroom.

The children ran all around the church grounds, gathering their symbols of new life, and returned to the classroom. They put all the eggs on a table, and then the teacher began to open them. He opened one and there was a flower, and they ooh-ed and aah-ed. He opened another and there was a little butterfly. "Beautiful!" the girls all said.

The teacher opened the next one. There was nothing inside. The children, as eight-year old's will, said, "That's stupid! Somebody didn't do it right." Little Philip quietly said, "It's mine. And I did so do it right, the tomb is empty!" Little Philip understood that the most important sign of new life at Easter is the empty tomb! Jesus wasn't in the tomb because he was alive in the world.

There was silence. It was a miracle. Philip suddenly became a part of that group of eight-year-old children. They took him in. He was set free from the tomb of his differentness.

Enjoy these closing days of summer and welcome the crisp cool mornings of Autumn. Let this Fall's exploding colors keep us mindful of God and how we have been included in this Creator's loving plan.

DeColores,

Deacon Dave Clabeaux
Buffalo Cursillo Spiritual Advisor
716-353-3752

Historian Report:

Buffalo Cursillo History #20

September 2023 “Permanent Deacons”

“Since the Second Vatican Council the Latin Church has restored the diaconate ‘as a proper and permanent rank of hierarchy’. This permanent diaconate, which can be conferred on married men (or single men who must remain celibate), constitutes an important enrichment for the Church’s mission.” Catechism of the Catholic Church #1571

“At a lower level of the hierarchy are deacons, upon whom hands are imposed, ‘not unto the priesthood but unto a ministry of service’. For strengthened by sacramental grace, in communion with the bishop and his group of priests, they serve in the diaconate of the liturgy, of the word, and of charity to the people of God.”

“It is the duty of the deacon to administer baptism solemnly, to be custodian and dispenser of the Eucharist, to assist and bless marriages in the name of the Church, to bring Viaticum to the dying, to read the Sacred Scripture to the faithful, to instruct and exhort the people, to preside over the worship and prayer of the faithful, to administer sacramentals, and to officiate at funeral and burial services.” Constitution on the Church #29

The program for the formation of men to the permanent diaconate began in the Buffalo Diocese in 1973. Men who felt called to that vocation took part in a program at Christ the King Seminary for five years. The first class was ordained in 1978 by Bishop Edward Head. Included in that first class was Frank Krahlung (Men’s #15), the first permanent deacon to serve the Buffalo Cursillo Movement. Frank served as the Spiritual Director on Women’s #86 in 1978 and on Men’s #94 in 1980.

In the 1960’s and early 1970’s, eight to ten priests would each give a specific talk or meditation on the Weekend and then return to his parish. Only one or two priests would be considered Spiritual Director for the Weekend. As time went on, it became more difficult to even get one or two priests for the entire weekend due to the increased demands of parish ministry.

Sisters continued to serve as Spiritual Directors along with priests and later with deacons on Women’s Weekends.

Besides serving in parishes, permanent deacons were assigned as Chaplains in local hospitals and in prisons in WNY as well as to Catholic organizations.

Many Cursillistas ordained to the permanent diaconate in the 1970’s and 1980’s had already worked several Weekends or had served in leadership roles in the Movement.

In 1980, Deacon Gordon Cartwright (Men’s #15) was appointed as Spiritual Director of the Buffalo Cursillo Movement along with Sister Noreen McCarrick, OSF.

For the last 35 years, only permanent deacons have been appointed by the bishop to serve as Spiritual Directors for the Buffalo Cursillo movement.

They include:

Dn. John Gainey (Men’s #83)
Dn. Frank Polizzi (Men’s #101)
Dn. Pete Walders (Men’s #89)
Dn. Dennis Kapsiak (Men’s #59)
Dn. Joe Barr (Men’s #89)
Dn. Richard Mackiewicz (Men’s #137)

Dn. Mike Quinn (Men's #120)
Dn. Greg Moran (Men's #202)
Dn. Alejandro Manunta (Men's #199)
Dn. Gary Terrana (Men's #122) held the office of National Assistant Spiritual Advisor

Over the years, at least 75 Buffalo Cursillistas have answered the call to the permanent diaconate, including several men from the Spanish Cursillo Community.

These men have been a tremendous blessing to the Diocese of Buffalo, the National Cursillo Movement and to all the People of God.

Carol Norwalk Stier (Buffalo Women's #7)
Buffalo Cursillo Historian
(716) 692-1606

**Carol is still looking for the photos from the following Cursillo Weekends: 72, 73, 101, 102, 115, 122, 123, 124, 125, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 134, 135, 143, 169, 191, 192, 194, 198, 201, 206, 210, 214, 215, 216, 217, 221, 227, 228, 229, and 230.

Pre-Cursillo Report:

The Pre-Cursillo committee hopes everyone had a great summer.

It is time for everyone to begin finding candidates for the upcoming weekends. Applications are starting to come in for the Men's and Women's weekends. This Fall the weekends are:

Men's Weekend' September 21-24.
Women's weekend October 26-29

We need to make a friend be a friend and bring a friend to Christ.

I am looking for Ultreya members to assist in the candidate registration process. If you have Thursday evening available for 9/21 and 10/26, please contact me (Lynn). We arrive at St. Vincent's in Elma for setup at 5:00pm on Wednesday and 5:00pm Thursday for registration.

I will be working hard to keep both candidates and sponsors informed of the scheduled weekend. So, get those applications in.

Many Blessings,

Lynn Lomanto– (716) 863-9852
Donna Civiletto – (716) 785-5519

Cursillo Section:

The Cursillo section - in terms of our awesome Team Selectors have been hard at work putting together teams for both the Men's #232 and Women's #233 Weekends. We are excited to announce the following members of the teams.

The **Men's Team #232** is comprised of:

Joe Beinhauer -	Rector & Total Security
Scott Arnold -	Assistant Rector, Piety & Action
Alex Hartman -	Ideals
Dave Calveric -	Laity
Mike Kibler -	Study
Jerry Casillo -	Leaders & 4th Day
Tom Hall -	Environment
Bill Gross -	CCA (Christianity in Action)
Ryan Weber -	Warden
Pat Mahaney -	Warden
Bob Sessamen -	Liturgist
Spiritual Advisors:	Deacon John Hendricks Deacon Marc Leaderstorf

The Men's weekend begins on Thursday, September 21 and ends on Sunday, September 24. Please come and help with setting up the building on Wednesday, September 20.

The **Women's Team #233** is made up of the following women:

Denise Daniels -	Rector & Total Security
Donna LoVullo -	Assistant Rector & Piety
Therese Hahn -	Ideals
Debbie Adornetto -	Laity
Kate Emery -	Study
Karen Trimper -	Action
Loretta Schabel -	Leaders
Mary Kay Schaub -	Environments
Carolyn McNamara -	CCA (Christianity in Action)
Christine Shilen -	Beyond the 4th day
Kelly Gill -	Warden
Mary Lou May -	Warden
Greta Allwein -	Warden
Michele Schubert -	Liturgist
Spiritual Advisors:	Deacon Mark Bialkowski Deacon Dave Clabeaux

We are pleased that Father Ron Sajdak will celebrate Mass with us for both the Men's and Women's weekends. We are filled with gratitude for his Yes and support!

The Women's weekend will begin on Thursday, October 26 and end on Sunday, October 29. Help will be needed with setting up the building on Wednesday, October 25.

Hopefully, during the past few weeks of summer while socializing with our family and friends, we have had an opportunity to share about Cursillo, inspiring them to make the upcoming weekends. Send the applications to Lynn Lomanto.

Post-Cursillo:

ULTREYAS!!!! SMALL GROUPS!!!

While September and October will be busy with the Men's and Women's weekends remember that it is so important to come together as a Cursillo community regularly throughout the year! The fall is a great time to get back into the routine of gathering at Ultreyas and with your small group. As always, if you need help finding or forming a small group, please ask your Ultreya leader for help or reach out us. Also, if you sponsored a babe-chick for a May weekend please reach out to them to encourage their participation in Ultreyas and in a small group since summer activities may have temporarily put Cursillo on the 'back burner' ☺ Offering to pick up and drive a babe-chick, or Cursillistas who has not been active in Cursillo for a while, to a small grouping or Ultreya may be all they need to start or resume living the Cursillo way.

The first Grand Ultreya in many years was held on August 5th at the picnic shelter of the Church of the Annunciation in Elma. About 36 people attend on a nice but cool evening. It was a success! We were able to meet Cursillistas from across the WNY area for mass, a potluck dinner, grouping, a witness with a reflection, and fellowship. Please consider attending next summer's Grand Ultreya.

Make a friend. Be a friend. Bring a friend.

Your Post Cursillo Coordinators,

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

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

School of Leaders:

September in Western New York is the signal that it's time to get back to school again. I can almost feel the groans of each the kids who have been enjoying all the free time with friends all summer long. I know I've been enjoying the summer. I hope everyone who is reading this has enjoyed their summer as well.

But yes, it's time to get back to it again with our Men's and Women's Cursillo weekends looming large in the coming weeks. There is much to do. That being said, we are planning our next School of Leaders for early October. The date will be set at our next Secretariat meeting. I will be pushing for Saturday morning, October 8th. And we will continue to make use of the school at Church of the Annunciation in Elma as a fairly central location in the diocese.

We will continue with our study of the 10 Topics of Cursillo from the 1st Conversations of Cala Figuera. For our techniques talk we will be exploring actions that we are encouraged to undertake in our 4th day.

The Peace and Joy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all,

Marty Ruhland

Call/Text: 716-481-0662

Email: rdservices@roadrunner.com

Treasurer:

Ed Hackett
Call/Text: 716-863-9851
Email: ehbanker@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Mary Bitka
Call/Text: 716-984-0664
Email: marybitka@gmail.com

Prayer Request:

Entered into their 5th Day:

Rev. Msgr. Dino Lorenzetti (Men's #1) - Died 7/12/23

Dcn David Rotterman (Men's # 218 – Died 8/9/23)

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

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

Randy Rakoczynski
Terry Johnson
Jerry Frisicaro
Deacon Gary Terrana
Arthur Ruhland
Bob Yager
Cole Koons
Mike Matyas
Teresa Barone
Cathy Derrick
Mary Flanagan
Patrick Johnson
Cathy Agugliaro

Mary Mercurio
Fr. Joe Badding
Pam Hornung
Jean Claire Buchbinder
Chelsea Ellis
Laura & Angelo Ciavarella
Marie Gannon
Mike Ryan
Timothy McCann
Joan Roberts
Linda Orszulak
Bill Heidle
Dcn Joe Barr
Jim Youngers

Tim Heidle
Kathy O'Keefe
Denise Bressette
Diane Coughlin
Gary Banas
John Agugliaro
Marcia Moretti
Cheryl Besant
Bobby Lovenetti
Vinnie Barone
Ellie Wieleba
Mary Savio

Ultreya name Area served	Date	Time	Location	Contact Person
<u>Bethany</u> Cheektowaga & surrounding area	9/12/2023 2 nd Tuesday	7:00 PM	<u>Zoom</u> Contact Lynn to be added to email list	<u>Lynn Lomanto</u> lomantolynn@gmail.com 585.409.4123
<u>Come to the Well</u> Clarence area	9/19/2023 3 rd Tuesday	7:00 PM	<u>Member House</u> Contact Chris for location	<u>Jack & Christine Thomann</u> 716.583.2324 (Chris – m) 716.583.2320 (Jack – m) cmtpsalm139@gmail.com
<u>Full of Grace</u> Elma area	9/27/2023 Last Wednesday January - June September – October	7:00 PM	<u>Member House</u> Contact Marty for location	<u>Marty Ruhland</u> rdservices@roadrunner.com (716) 481-0662 (m)
<u>Pueblo de Paz</u> Warsaw area	9/24/2023 Last Sunday	7:00 PM	<u>St. Michael's Church</u> 171 N. Main St, Warsaw	<u>Liz Wascak</u> 585.237.5155 ewascak@yahoo.com
<u>Rainbow Vineyard</u> North towns area	9/12/2023 2 nd Tuesday	7:00 PM	<u>St. Jude the Apostle Parish</u> 800 Niagara Falls Blvd North Tonawanda	<u>Carolyn McMamara</u> 716.867.8962
	9/26/2023 4 th Tuesday	7:00 PM		<u>Carolyn Ruhland</u> 716.912.2890 caruhl73@Verizon.net
<u>Southtowns</u> South towns area	9/7/2023 1 st Thursday	7:00 PM	<u>Member House</u> Contact Lisa for location	<u>Lisa & Paul Johnson</u> 585.313.0853 (m – Lisa)
	9/21/2023 3 rd Thursday	7:00 PM		lisagauthie1@gmail.com
<u>Spirit of the City</u> City of Buffalo	<u>No Meeting</u> (inactive)			

Upcoming Cursillo Dates

4th Day Dinner	Grand Ultreya
<p>Date: June 17, 2023, Saturday Time: 6:30 PM Place: St. Vincent DePaul's Parish, Springbrook 6441 Seneca St, Springbrook, NY 14140 Bring: a dish to pass, plates, bowls, cup, silverware</p>	<p>Date: August 5, 2023, Saturday Time: ~ 12 -6, to be confirmed later Place: Church of the Annuciation picnic shelter 7540 Clinton St, Elma, NY 14059 Bring: picnic food, more information later</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Men's Weekend #232</u> <u>September 21-24, 2023</u></p> <p>9/16 - Support Mass for Men's Team 4:30pm mass at St. Vincent DePaul, 6441 Seneca St, Elma, 14140 9/20 - Set-up Men's Weekend @ 5:30 pm, St. Vincent DePaul, 6441 Seneca St, Elma, 14140 9/21 - Registration from 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Sponsors & community stay for prayer service at 8 pm. 9/23 - Break In 7:30 pm 9/24 - Las Mananitas - 6 am (Men only) - 3 pm Community Gathering with Closura (no mass) ALL welcome</p> <p>11/11 - 4th Day Dinner; Potluck @ St. Vincent's doors open at 6 pm. Dinner at 6:30 pm Entire Community Welcome</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Women's Weekend #233</u> <u>October 26-29, 2023</u></p> <p>TBD - Support Mass for Women's Team</p> <p>10/25 - Set-up Women's Weekend @ 5:30 pm, St. Vincent DePaul's Parish, Springbrook 10/26 - Registration from 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Sponsors & community stay for prayer service at 8 pm. 10/28 - Break In 7:30 pm 10/29 - Las Mananitas - 6 am (Women only) - 3 pm Community Gathering with Closura (no mass) ALL welcome</p> <p>11/11 - 4th Day Dinner; Potluck @ St. Vincent's doors open at 6 pm. Dinner at 6:30 pm Entire Community Welcome</p>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDY

<p style="text-align: center;">School of Leaders (Workshops)</p> <p>Topic: none in September Speaker: Date: Time: 10:30 AM - 12 noon Location: Church of the Annuciation, 7580 Clinton St., Elma Organizer: Marty Ruhland (716)481-0662 See the School of Leaders article in the newsletter</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">A Day of Gentle Reflection</p> <p>Gentle Women, Mother of Mercy - Chapter of Magnificat Saturday, September 9, 2023 @ 9 AM Speaker - Susan Brinkmann OCDS M Hotel Buffalo 2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, NY 14225 Details and registration at: https://magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/chapter-states-n-o/ny-buffalo/</p>
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