



November 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:

4th Day Dinner: November 12th, 2022 at St. Vincent's

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 2nd and 4th 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 Director's Report

The 5th Joyful Mystery is "The Finding of Jesus In The Temple" and the fruit of that mystery is of course, The Joy of Finding Jesus. That joy was certainly on display at the Closura of the Women's Cursillo #229 which was held this past October. Fifteen new Cursillistas-from as many different environments were welcomed by the Buffalo community. The expressions on their faces as they were met in the reception line showed ample evidence of that joy. We as a community now need to keep that joy going as we invite them to our Ultreyas and make them feel welcome. Certainly, we need to continue praying rosaries and making sacrifices as palanca to support the newest Cursillistas, women and men, but also as we look forward to our Spring weekends that will be here before we know and start to discern who the Lord is calling us to befriend.

The Region III Fall Encounter was recently held at Stella Niagara Center for Renewal and attended by Regional coordinators and team members, secretariats from Rochester, Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburg, Youngstown and Altoona-Johnstown. The attendees included approximately 25 people in person and another five or six via zoom. The conference center was quite comfortable and picturesque. An ideal setting for our 2nd Touch weekend in January. Look for details concerning that in the School of Leaders section of this newsletter.

After some regional business, we heard talks on The Precursillo and Leadership. The Precursillo talks focused on some of the hows and whys of precursillo. For example, it bears repeating that we always need to talk to God about our friends before we talk to our friends about God. Also, we need to know that it is God who chooses, not us. And Cursillo is not a place for us to "fix" our

friends, family members or fellow employees. But it does give us the place to naturally and authentically live our faith in the world. The main ideas covered in the Leadership talks included reminders for us all to take leadership, not ownership, be inclusive and not divisive and to try to discover what are our greatest obstacles to unity. The encounter began on Friday night and ended with Mass celebrated by Fr. Mickey McGrath on Saturday afternoon. The next regional encounter is a short road trip to scenic Greensburg, PA on May 5-6, 2023. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. The Secretariat will pay the conference fee if you cannot afford it. Please contact the Secretary, Mary Bitka if you are interested.

If you're looking for a nice place to take your sweetheart for dinner, may I suggest bringing her to the Welcome to Your Fourth Day Dinner to be held on Saturday, November 12 at St. Vincent de Paul's in Springbrook. This is a family friendly, kids welcome event.

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

Terry Johnson #191

Lay Director Buffalo Cursillo

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Spiritual Director Report:

To be provided next month

Historian Report:

Buffalo Cursillo History #11 (continued):

November 2022 “The Secretariat at Work”

“The Secretariat is a special committee whose members – priests, religious and lay people – are selected from the Cursillo community and commissioned by the Church hierarchy to direct, coordinate, inspire and serve the Movement at the diocesan or national level...so that the Movement can be effectively integrated into the life and pastoral activities of the Church.”

The Fundamental Ideas of the Cursillo Movement #576 (1992)

The lay director is responsible for the organizational and executive domains. The spiritual advisor, always a priest, religious or deacon is responsible for matters concerning doctrine and conscience. “A typical secretariat consists of the lay director; the spiritual advisor; the chair-persons of the School of Leaders, Precursillo, Cursillo and Postcursillo sections, a secretary and treasurer”. Leaders’ Manual p.42 (1988) & p.68 (2006)

These men and women are usually members of the School of Leaders who pray and have a group reunion before the Secretariat meeting.

The Buffalo Cursillo Lay Director leadership passed to Dick O'Donnell (Men's #5) from 1968 to 1970 and to Bill Rae (Men's #12) from 1971 to 1973. Fr. Barry Smith (Erie #6) was the Spiritual Director for Buffalo from 1969 to 1973 when he took over directorship of the House of Prayer at St. John Vianney Seminary (later renamed Christ the King Seminary).

In 1970, the Diocesan Cursillo Lay Director was invited to be a member of the newly formed Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Before there were standard missalettes and hymn books in the pews, people brought their own missals and prayer books to Mass.

Some parishes provided the Cantate Omnes, a small collection of hymns for congregational use compiled and published by the Catholic Choirmasters' Guild of Buffalo. The Buffalo Secretariat proceeded to publish its own song book, "Pilgrim's Guide" and "Leaders' School Manual."

The Cursillo Liturgy Committee, (one of several additional Committees on Buffalo's Secretariat) Sr. Mary Ann Martin, SSJ (Women's #5) and Jerry Stone (Men's #13) chose many new songs, folk and modern (post Vatican II) as well as traditional hymns for the Cursillo song book. They also had to obtain publishing rights.

Several songs composed by seminarian Paul Kowalewski (Men's #20) were added to the book. Volunteer Mary Ann Szafran typed and assembled music books for the guitarists.

Fr. Walter Kern (Men's #14) created and had printed locally the first "Pilgrim's Guide", for Buffalo. Copies of the Pilgrims' Guide" are usually distributed to the candidates after the 1st talk on Thursday evenings and used for morning and evening prayer as well as other spiritual exercises during the weekend. Previously, prayer and song sheets were used.

Max Knorr (Men's #9) put together a Leaders' School Manual and each year prepared a Curriculum for Leaders' School assisted by George Sentz (Men's #16) and Len Stauffer (Men's #8). Leaders' School is meant to be one of spirituality, formation and Christian community. The main topics included some of the Documents of Vatican II particularly "Apostolate of the Laity" and the "Church in the Modern World." Other topics to promote spiritual growth in the Fourth Day included Permanent Groups and Spiritual Direction. Early Leaders' School could also be called Catholic adult education and was attended by scores of Cursillistas.

For the first 10 years, the good will white envelope offerings on the weekends averaged about \$15 per person. The diocese contributed \$4,000 to the Secretariat annually. Because there were fees to the National Cursillo Office, printing and postage for about 1000 Buffalo Cursillo Newsletters, the Treasurer, Paul Needham (Men's #9) suggested taking up a collection at the Diocesan Reunion and Cursillo closing Masses. Annual pledge cards brought in a substantial amount.

In the 1960's, there were very few books available in English on the Cursillo Movement. These included The Leaders' Manual (1964), and Questions and Problems and The Pastoral Letter by Bishop Juan Hervas; Lower your Nets and the Group Reunion by Fr. Juan Capo; also, The Structure of Ideas and an article "The How and the Why" by Eduardo Bonnin.

At the first meeting of the National Secretariat of the Cursillo movement in 1966 in Kansas City (the group moved several places until establishing the Office of the National Secretariat in Dallas, Texas), the commentaries on the outlines for the Cursillo talks were commissioned. The commentaries clarified the goal of the movement, what should be included in the rollos (talks) and how they should be given.

“The Commentary on the Outlines of the Talks”, which synthesized the above publications was prepared for an American audience by Stephen Clark and Ralph Martin (later noted Catholic authors in their own right). The copies were available to the diocesan Secretariats in manuscript form to be used by the Rectors and the Professors giving the rollos.

In 1970, the Second World Encounter was held in Mexico City, Mexico. Pope Paul VI sent a message to be read to Cursillistas in attendance which was also the Second World Ultreya. It was here that the 1st International Group was formed (OLCC) Latin American Group. Our Lady of Guadalupe was invoked as the Patroness of Cursillo.

The year before, December 14, 1969, Pope Paul VI had approved St. Paul as Patron of Cursillo.

Carol Stier
Buffalo Cursillo Historian
(716) 692-1606

Pre-Cursillo Report:

Thank you to the #228 and #229 weekend sponsors for **making a friend, being a friend and bringing a friend to Christ.**

The Spring 2023 Cursillo weekends have been scheduled. Men’s Weekend #230 will be May 4-7, 2023 and the Women’s Weekend #231 will be May 18-21, 2023. Please pray for the upcoming Spring weekends, for the eventual men and women’s teams that will be assembled and for the candidates who will attend and those who are discerning the weekend attendance.

A special thanks to Audrey DiMaria for running the Precursillo section on the Secretariat for the last couple of years. Your devotion to the Cursillo movement helped bring others to Christ and grow in their faith. Lynn Lomanto will be returning to the Precursillo Section coordinator position; one she is familiar with having served in this role a few years ago. Welcome back Lynn!

Cursillo Section:

Our Fall weekends were a success, thanks be to the Holy Spirit, but now is not the time to sit back and rest on our laurels. Think Spring! Let your light shine for all to see and make friends, be friends and lead friends to Christ!

Post-Cursillo:

We’d like to welcome the women and men who made the recent Cursillo weekends!

You and your family are invited to the 4th Day Dinner on Saturday November 12th at St. Vincent DePaul Parish (6441 Seneca St, Spring Brook, NY 14140) with the Cursillo Community. The doors will open to the gymnasium at 6:00 pm and the potluck dinner will start at 6:30 pm. Please bring a dish to share (hot dishes hot and cold dishes cold), your own plates, cups, silverware, and napkins. Following dinner there will be time for sharing and fellowship with those who made the weekend with you.

If you sponsored a babe-chick or were a table leader on a recent weekend, please call the people you sponsored or who were at your table to personally invite them to the 4th Day dinner.

The next Reunion Mass will be planned for February.

We look forward to seeing you at the Welcome to the 4th Day Dinner and encourage you to contact us at any time.

God Bless and DeColores!

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

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

School of Leaders:

Our School of Leaders will resume again this month:

Date: November 19th

Time: 10:30am – 12:00pm

Place: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Clarence NY
(4375 Harris Hill Rd, Williamsville, NY 14221)

Deacon Dave Clabeaux will give a doctrinal talk on spirituality and I will follow that with a brief witness on the subject. I anticipate that this topic will provoke some interesting discussion in our meeting. So please come and join us on the Saturday before Thanksgiving and let us all learn from each other.

Second Touch is happening! January 27th – 29th, 2023 at the beautiful Stella Niagara Retreat Center in Lewiston NY. If you would like more information, would like to attend all or part of this event, please contact Marty Ruhland (716) 481-0662 (rdservices@roadrunner.com) or Carol Palesh (716) 694-0942 (grannypalesh@gmail.com)

Marty Ruhland

Call/Text: 716-481-0662

Email: rdservices@roadrunner.com

Treasurer:

A big thank you to all who made contributions to Buffalo Cursillo during the past few weekends. These donations are helping to make up for shortfalls we have been facing since we now have fewer Reunion Masses. This has put us on very good footing to begin preparing for the Spring weekends! God indeed has blessed each of us through the Cursillo Movement and in turn by you sharing those blessing with Cursillo, you have put it in a place to continue bless those still to make a Cursillo. Anyone who wishes to mail in donations, they can send them to:

Buffalo Cursillo,
c/o Edward Hackett
3921 Main St.
Strykersville, NY 14145

God Bless and Thank You again for being so generous

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:

Wayne Dryzmala	Jim Youngers	Kathleen Montesanti	Elaine Stack Bobby
Ken Dryzmala	Cathy Agugliaro	Kevin Urbanski	Lovenetti
Mike Matyas	Owen Mangan	Fr Joe Badding	Vinnie Barone
Teresa Barone	Kathy O'Keefe	Chelsea Ellis	Linda Orzulak
Randy Rakoczynski	Denise Bressette	Laura Ciavarella	Ellie Wieleba
Jean Clair		Betty Ciavarella	Lou Pauly Lorrie
Buchbinder	Lynn Johnson		Dickerson
Dcn Gary Terrana	Diane Coughlin	Angelo Ciavarella	Doug Strout
Pam Hornung	Dcn Dan McGuire	Marie Sorrentino	Dan Graesser
Tony Rozak	John Agugliaro	Marie Gannon	Corrine
Mark Mullen	Marcia Moretti	Mike Ryan	Giermek
Shirley Barone	Cheryl Besant	Timothy McCann	Dcn Joe Barr
Cathy Derrick	Quinn children	Joan Roberts	Bill Heidle
Lynn Lomanto	Dcn Mike Quinn	Mary Flanigan	Patrick Johnson
	Mary Mercurio	Bob Yager	Audrey Dimaria

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

Please note: in an attempt to keep the sick list current, we will be removing names after they have been listed for three months. In cases of long-term illness, please notify Marty that a name needs to be kept indefinitely.