Buffalo Cursillo

November 2026 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 2026 Weekends: Women's Weekend #243, Nov 12-15, 2026

Second Touch Weekend: January 29 – 31, 2027. (see article below for more details)

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

********** **Please see the end of the newsletter for calendar of events** **********

Buffalo Cursillo Second Touch 2027

An Invitation to Explore the richness of the Cursillo movement.
January 29, 2027 – January 31, 2027

All Cursillista's are invited to participate in the upcoming Second Touch weekend at the Stella Niagara Center of Renewal in Lewiston, NY. This program offers an opportunity to engage in periods of reflection and prayer, share experiences, foster new connections, and enjoy quality time together. Meals will be provided throughout the weekend.

Theme:

"Let God Speak to you"

Registration Options & Costs:

- $240: Full weekend (includes two nights' accommodation and six meals)
- $110: All day Saturday only
- $45: Dinner and Ultreya only

Scholarships are available to support participation.

Weekend Schedule:

- Friday:
  - Registration 3:00 – 7:00 PM
  - Dinner 5:30 PM

    - Reconciliation: 7:00 – 8:00 PM
    - Program Begins at 8:00 PM
- Saturday: Full day ending with Ultreya
- Sunday: Breakfast, Mass, Lunch
- The weekend ends at approximately 1:00 PM

For further information or to register, please contact:

- Carol Palesh: call 716-694-0942 or grannypalesh@gmail.com
- Karen Trimper: call or test716-867-8962 or karentrimp@gmail.com

A $50 deposit is required to reserve your place. Please make checks payable to Buffalo Cursillo and mail to:
Karen Trimper
101 Werkley Rd.
Tonawanda, NY 14150

Lay Coordinator Report:

Welcome to the Men of Weekend #242



Candidate		Parish	Sponsor	
First Name	Last Name		First Name	Last Name
Michael (Mike)	Anderson	Immaculate Conception	Joe	Morcelle
Harold (Harry)	Becker	St. John the Baptist (Kenmore)	Dave	Foley
Arcangelo	Capozzolo	Nativity of BVM	Mike	Cucinotta
Anthony	Casilio	St. John DeLaSalle	Jesse	Smith
Eric	Johnson		Paul	Johnson
Gerald (Jerry)	Karlnoski	St. Johns (Alden)	Pat	Mahaney
David	Mucica	St. Amelia	Anne	Mucica
Todd (TJ)	Pignataro	St. Stanislaus	Mike	Emery
Christian	Sexton	St. Philomena (Franklinvile)	Etna	Sherwood
Nathaniel (Nat)	Simon	St. Christopher	Marty	Ruhland
Enrico (Rico)	Tomasello	Nativity of BVM	Joe & Brittani	Tomasello
Colby	Vanvoorhis	14 Holy Helpers	Otto	Misso

Ultreya!

Chuck Stephan
Lay Coordinator
cstephan@twc.com
716 817-3969

Assistant Lay Coordinator Report:

PALANCA - - a reminder of what it is may be in order.

PALANCA is the Spanish term for a physical “lever” or “crowbar” to lift a heavy object beyond normal human strength. PALANCA is our way of spiritually lifting up someone to the Lord, through grace, for a specific purpose.

It is a spiritual ACTION of voluntary prayers, sacrifices, and works of mercy offered to God to support someone on their Cursillo Weekend. Types of PALANCA include prayers (rosaries, novenas, Masses, Holy Hours, Eucharistic Adoration), sacrifices (fasting), and acts of service. It is intangible.

A PALANCA LETTER is the tangible writing in the form of a physical note or letter describing the spiritual actions taken to support a Candidate on their Cursillo Weekend, or anyone for that matter. It is written to express encouragement, friendship and love for the person experiencing the Weekend, or someone with needs.

PALANCA actions may be performed any time, not just shortly before or during a Weekend. It could be offered for Cursillo Candidates in general before you know the name of anyone committing to a Weekend. Due to periodic add-ons and deletions to the Candidate list, the Secretariat has decided that the list of Candidate names will not be

published until one week before the Weekend. This will eliminate the need for multiple revisions and updates. In addition, the amount of information on the Candidate list will be limited to the Candidate's name, parish and sponsor name. Out of security concerns, no longer will addresses, phone numbers and emails of Candidates be provided. Should you need this information, you may reach out to Sherry Misso, Pre-Cursillo Section Coordinator. Names of Team members will appear in the newsletter as part of the Cursillo Section report once the Team assignments are completed.

Your understanding of this procedure is anticipated and appreciated. Your personal notes of PALANCA can be drafted well in advance of the Weekend, and finalized when the list of Candidates is circulated, and Team names appear. For those who are eager for the lists as soon as possible, the wait could be offered as PALANCA.

Denise Daniels, Assistant Lay Coordinator
danielsdeej@gmail.com

Spiritual Advisor Report:

November is a month in which we celebrate All Saints Day and All Souls Day at the beginning of the month. I encourage you to call to mind the saints this month, and every month- especially those whom are meaningful to you, and the examples they are for us in our faith journey. On All Souls Day remember those who have gone before us, remember them in your prayers this day and whenever they come to mind, please do not assume "they are in a better place," even though we think they have lived a good life, pray for them and when they are in heaven they will pray for us.

November is also a month in which we give thanks for all the blessings we've each been given, including our Cursillo community. On this 250th anniversary of the founding of our nation it is fitting I think to include the Thanksgiving Proclamation from President Grover Cleveland in 1885:

"The American people have always abundant cause to be thankful to Almighty God, whose watchful care and guiding hand have been manifested in every stage of their national life, guarding and protecting in time of peril and safely leading in the hour of darkness and of danger: it is fitting and proper that a nation thus favored should on one day in every year, for that purpose especially appointed, publicly acknowledge the goodness of God and return thanks to him for all his gracious gifts.

Therefore, I, Grover Cleveland, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate and set apart Thursday, the 26th day of November (1885), as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, and do invoke the observance of the same by all the people of the land. On that day let all secular business be suspended, and let the people assemble in their usual places of worship and with prayer and songs of praise devoutly testify their gratitude to the Giver of every good and perfect gift for all that he has done for us in the year that has passed...

And let there also be on the day thus set apart a reunion of families, sanctified and chastened by tender memories and associations; and let the social intercourse of friends, with pleasant reminiscence, renew the ties of affection and strengthen the bonds of kindly feeling. And let us by no means forget while we give thanks and enjoy the comforts which have crowned our lives that truly grateful hearts are inclined to deeds of charity, and that a kind and thoughtful remembrance of the poor will double the pleasures of our condition and render our praise and thanksgiving more acceptable in the sight of the Lord."

Happy Thanksgiving!!
Deacon Marc Leaderstorf

Treasurer Report:

Mike Cucinotta
Treasurer

Historian Report:

BUFFALO CURSILLO HISTORY
HISTORIAN'S REPORT #45 -NOVEMBER, 2026
"FINANCIAL STEWARDS" PART III

While I may not be able to enumerate what each Treasurer did to raise funds for the Buffalo Cursillo, I will consider the fiscal creativity of several and their dedication to the Movement. These Treasurers became involved in other aspects of Cursillo as well.

Dave Hesketh, who made Men's #22 in 1971 served on ten Men's Cursillo Weekends before becoming Treasurer from 1988 to 1989. When numerous parishioners from his parish, our Mother of Good Counsel, made their Cursillos in the 1970's,Dave began an Ultreya in the basement of the new rectory, which became New Hope Ultreya. This later merged with the Southtowns Ultreya, meeting in various places.

Jim Mohr (M #118) Treasurer from 1990-1993, was with his wife Pat (W #119) Co-Coordinators of Bethany Ultreya with John Troidl (M # 67) and Sue Troidl (W #68) in the late 1980's. Jim also served on several Men's Weekends and Palanca Teams. Generous contributions enabled Jim to purchase 50 new mattresses for the fairly new Cursillo cots. If the word for a certain need was put out there, the Cursillo Communities were eager to respond. Since the Cursillo and Koinonias continued to share facilities and equipment at this time, Mike Fesmire, Lay Director of Koinonia, sent a check for $300 towards the "Mattress Fund" "Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter," Sept. 1992 (P 1)

The next two Treasurers, John Colvin (M #131) and Mark Duguay (M #147) became involved in Kairos Prison Ministry, as well as serving on many Men's Cursillo Weekends. John Colvin, Treasurer from 1994-1997, almost immediately instituted a memorial gift to Buffalo Cursillo in honor of a loved one, who had entered their 5th Day. A memorial card would notify the family of the sender's thoughtfulness. The sender would receive an acknowledgement of his/her generosity. A donation (in any amount) would be used to continue the Movement's evangelization efforts. "Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter" 1994 (P 4)

In John's "Treasurer's Report" in January 1997, he states that the Buffalo Cursillo is a "non-profit" organization, which allows it to be tax exempt, and grants a reduced postage rate for the newsletter. Any donations someone makes to Cursillo are tax deductible, according to the current tax laws. "As with most 'not-for-profit' groups, Cursillos' checking account basically serves as a 'flow through fund' where all the money collected through the course of the year is spent to cover the expenses. Whatever we take in, we spend just about all of it. Our fiscal year runs from August to August. In August of 1995, we had a closing balance of $177.10. One year later, in August, 1996, our closing balance was $19.28. That is a perfect example of a flow through account." Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter", Jan. 1997 (P 3)

John noted that in 1995-1996, he took in $17,000 and listed the expenses. The newsletter, which had been outsourced to the Printing Post and postage ran about $6,000 a year. Each Cursillo ran about $1,000 (a total of 5

that year) which included $330 donation to the Southeast Community Work Center, $400 in food, $150 for photographs, $100 for materials and supplies. A new Diocesan Insurance Premium cost $1250 each year. Annual dues to the National & Region III Offices ran about $600. Cursillo made a donation to all the organizations that provided them a space to hold meetings and functions including Harvest House, St. Columban Retreat Center, and Our Mother of Good Counsel ($750). Additional supplies, song books, new mattresses, books, materials for Mass and for the Weekend ran about $1500. Any extra money was spent in the form of scholarships for the Second Touch Weekend and other donations. Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter Jan. 1997 (P 4)

John Colvin and his wife Nancy (W #132) were Coordinators of the Rainbow Ultreya in the early 1990's/ and on the Pre-Cursillo Section in 2007 & 2008 . John is currently in the Cursillo Section as the Saturday talks Advisor.

Cursillo and Koinonias continued to share facilities and equipment at this time, Mike Fesmire, Lay Director of Koinonia, sent a check for $300 towards the "Mattress Fund" "Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter," Sept. 1992 (P 1)

Mark Duguay, Treasurer from 1997-1999, stated in several of his "Quarterly Treasurer Reports" that the Buffalo Cursillo Movement depends upon the generosity of our Cursillo brothers and sisters, not only spiritually, but financially to sustain itself. Mark proposed the following: $10 a year towards the newsletter which cost $5600 a month for printing and postage. Secondly, making a regular monthly contribution to cover the rising cost of supplies for the Weekend and the lean attendance at Reunion Masses (a much needed source of revenue) in the summer, or because of cancellation altogether due to bad winter weather. "Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter", Dec. 1998 (P 3) and April 1999 (P 1) Cursillistas remained generous.

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

Pre-Cursillo Report:

The Women's #243 weekend is fast approaching. We are excited to say we have 19 candidates making the weekend. They are a beautiful group of women young and older (mature)' They all are attending the weekend with an open heart.

Please pray for them. List of names, sponsors and Parish will be sent out the week before the weekend. Keep them in your prayers.

Colossians 1:9-10

Asking God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way.

God Bless and De Colores!!!
Sherry Misso
Pre-Cursillo

Cursillo Section:

Women's Weekend #243
November 12th – 15th, 2026

Rectora - Delphine Leaderstorf #156	St. John the Baptist
Asst. Rectora - Mary Kay Schaub #209	Church of the Annunciation
Kathryn (Katie) Black #233	Church of the Annunciation
Amy Bergman #231	St. Teresa of Avila
Loretta Schabel #180	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Peg Barkley #123	St. Jude the Apostle
Catherine Friedman # 158	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mary Ann DeMaria #167	Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
Donna LoVullo #154	St. John the Baptist
Liturgists	
Jennifer Appenheimer #152	St. Mary of the Lake
Kathleen Kita # 240	St. Bernadette
Wardens	
Denise Daniels #200	Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
Mary Bitka #222	St. Gabriel's
Spiritual Direction	
Deacon Marc Leaderstorf #155	St. John the Baptist
Deacon Tom Friedman #155	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

De Colores!

Mark Suchyna (716) 698-9865
Nancy Suchyna (716) 517-0903

Post-Cursillo:

Hello all,

It's not too early to plan to attend the Cursillo 4th day dinner on Saturday, December 5th at St Teresa in Alden's school gym. As of the writing, we had an excellent October Men's Cursillo and expect the same for the Women's Cursillo. But the 4th day dinner is also a time to renew relationships and your association with Buffalo Cursillo.

Are you missing someone from your Cursillo class? Have you not seen your sponsor in a while? Have you not touched base with your candidate lately? The 4th day dinner is a great time to enjoy fellowship, get caught up and meet new Cursillistas .

And if any new Cursillistas need help getting a group started, please let Pat or Greg know.

De Colores,

Pat Mahaney 716-481-3715 pmahaney2@gmail.com
Greg Wiltrout 716-870-7986 gwiltrout74@gmail.com

School of Leaders (Leading others to Christ):

What a blessing to have been a part of these past two school sessions on “friendship”. In addition to the excellent speakers at each of our sessions, is the sharing among all who attend. Listening and learning from each other is what the school is all about.

We have our final session on “friendship” entitled:

Growing Friendships – Thriving in Friendship While Leading Others to Christ

On Saturday, December 12th from 10:00am to about noon, again in the school building (door A) at the Church of the Annunciation, 7580 Clinton St, Elma NY.

How do we go about cultivating a friendship with someone as we nudge them towards a path that leads back to Christ? Come and see!

Marty Ruhland (216)
School of Leaders Facilitator
(716) 481-0662

Secretary:



Karen Trimper
Call/Text: 716-867-8962
Email: karentrimp@gmail.com

Prayer Request:

Entered into their 5th Day:

If you know of a Cursillista who has died, please call Carol Stier at (716) 692-1606 so she can add the person to this column.

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

Jim McNamara	Cole Koons	Patrick Johnson
Don Gill	Lynn Fetes	Jim Youngers
Fr. Eugene Ulrich	Cathy Derrick	Cathy Agugliaro
Chuck Stephan	Mary Mercurio	Tim Hiedle
Bob & Michelle Sessamen	Fr. Joe Badding	Denise Bressette
Audrey DiMaria	Pam Hornung	Diane Coughlin
Carol & John Palesh	Jean Claire Buchbinder	Marcia Moretti
Mary Frank	Chelsea Ellis	Bobby Lovenitti
Ken Drzymala	Laura and Angelo Ciavarella	Linda Orszulak
Jen Mical	Marie Gannon	Elie Wieleba
Kathy Kaminski	Mike Ryan	
Bill Gross	Timothy McCann	
Deacon Gary Terrana	Joan Roberts	
Arthur Ruhland	Mary Flanigen	
Bob Yager	Deacon Joe Barr	

Buffalo Cursillo Ultreya Schedule

Ultreya	Date	Time	Location	Contacts
Bethany Cheektowaga & surrounding area	11/12/26 2nd Thursday & 4th Thursday No Meeting	7:00 PM	Zoom Contact Lynn to be added to the email list	Lynn Lomanto lomantolynn@gmail.com 585-409-4123
Come to the Well Clarence area	4th Tuesday No Meeting	7:00 PM	Member House Contact Chris for location	Jack & Christine Thomann 716-583-2324 (Chris – m) 716-583-2320 (Jack – m) cmtpsalm139@gmail.com
Full of Grace Elma area	Weds. 11/18/26	7:00 PM	Member House Contact Marty for location	Marty Ruhland rdservices@roadrunner.com 716-481-0662 (m)
Pueblo de Paz Warsaw area	3rd Friday 11/20/26	6:00 PM	Ed & Ruth Hackett's 3921 Main Street Strykersville, NY	Ruth Hackett 716-913-6432 hackquak@yahoo.com Maryanne Moore 585-689-0779
Rainbow Vineyard Northtowns area	11/10/26 2nd Tuesday & 11/24/26 4th Tuesday	7:00 PM	Our Lady of Czestochowa 64 Center Ave. North Tonawanda	Carolyn McNamara 716-694-5949 Carolyn Ruhland 716-912-2890 caruhl73@verizon.net
Southtowns Southtowns area	11/16/26 3rd Thursday	7:00 PM	Member House Contact Maureen McCarthy for location	Mike & Maureen McCarthy 716-913-7369 moeyishere.210@gmail.com
St Brandon on the Lake Lockport Area	11/9/26 2nd Monday	7:00 PM	St. Brandon on the Lake Parish	Jesse Smith 716-930-9901 Jsmithjr2@verizon.net

Upcoming Cursillo Dates

Cursillo	Reunion Masses & More
2nd Touch Weekend **Theme: Let God Speak to You** **January 29 – January 31, 2027**	**December 5th** – 4th day dinner

Men's Weekend #244 **October 8-11, 2026**	Women's Weekend #243 **November 12-15, 2026**
2/27 – 4:00 pm Support Mass for men's weekend at St. Teresa of Avila, Akron, NY **3/3 -** Set-up for Weekend 5:30 pm **3/4** - Registration from 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm, Sponsors & community prayer service at 8 pm. **3/6** – Break-in 7:00 pm, arrive by 6:45 pm **3/7** – Las Mananitas – 6 am (Men only) - 3 pm Closura with community Mass	**11/7** – 4:00 pm Support Mass for women's weekend at St. Teresa of Avila, Akron, NY **11/11 -** Set-up for Weekend 5:30 pm **11/12** - Registration from 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm, Sponsors & community prayer service at 8 pm. **11/14** – Break-in 7:00 pm, arrive by 6:45 pm **11/15** – Las Mananitas – 6 am (Women only) - 3 pm Closura with community Mass

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDY

School of Leaders (Workshop)	Other Opportunities
Saturday 12/12 at the Church of the Annunciation, 7580 Clinton St., Elma NY **10 AM – Noon in the school building.** **Topic:** Growing Friendships – Thriving in Friendship While Leading Others to Christ	Palanca Podcast on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Podbean, Google Play, Boomplay, Amazon Music, Iheart Radio, PlayerFM & Podchaser. Just search for "The Palanca Podcast" and look for the image of the OLV Basilica. **2nd Touch –** Let God Speak to You, 1/29-1/31/2027

OutBound Palanca November 2026

Start	End	Event	Location
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's 489 (Spanish)	Dallas, TX
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's 140 (English)	Joliet, IL
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's 334 (English)	Manchester, NH
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's 65 (English)	Palm Beach, FL
11/5/26	11/8/26	Men's Cursillo (English)	Richmond, VA
11/5/26	11/8/26	Men's 201 (English)	Newark, NJ
11/5/26	11/8/26	Men's 118 (English)	Rockford, IL
11/5/26	11/8/26	Men's 60 (English)	Lexington, KY
11/5/26	11/8/26	Men's 112 (Spanish)	Bridgeport, CT
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's 77 (English)	Scranton, PA
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's 122 (English)	Covington, KY
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's 488 (Spanish)	Dallas, TX
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's 270 (Spanish)	Sacramento, CA
11/5/26	11/8/26	Men's 285 (English)	Gary, IN
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's Cursillo (Spanish)	Zamora, Michoacan, Mexico
11/5/26	11/8/26	Men's 125 (English)	Tahhi, Hungary
11/5/26	11/8/26	Men's 1079 (Spanish)	Los Angeles, CA
11/5/26	11/8/26	Women's 32 (English)	Kaposvar, Kaposszentbenedek, Hungary
11/9/26	11/12/26	Men's 145 (English)	Arlington, VA
11/12/26	11/15/26	Women's 51 (Spanish	Allentown, PA
11/12/26	11/15/26	Women's 1265 (English)	Peoria, IL
11/12/26	11/15/26	Men's 1251 (Spanish)	Caguas, Puerto Rico
11/12/26	11/15/26	Women's Cursillo (English)	Hartford, CT
11/12/26	11/15/26	Women's 108 (English)	Rockford, IL
11/12/26	11/15/26	Women's 428 (English)	Detroit, MI
11/12/26	11/15/26	Men's 140 (English)	Springfield/Cape Girardeau, MO
11/12/26	11/15/26	Women's 1080 (Spanish)	Los Angeles, CA
11/12/26	11/15/26	Women's 243 (English)	Buffalo, NY
11/12/26	11/15/26	Women's Cursillo (English)	Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada
11/13/26	11/15/26	Kewanee Men's Prison (English)	Peoria, IL
11/19/26	11/22/26	Women's 217 (Spanish)	Richville Centre, NY
11/19/26	11/22/26	Men's 19 (Spanish)	Colorado Springs, CO
11/19/26	11/22/26	Women's 1 (Hungarian)	Gyor, Tenyo, Hungary
11/19/26	11/22/26	Men's 150 (Spanish)	Raleigh, NC
11/19/26	11/22/26	Women's 136 (Hundarian)	Szombathely, Zalaegerszeg-Boffa, Hungary
11/19/26	11/22/26	Women's 135 (English)	Wichita, KS
11/19/26	11/22/26	Women's 44 (Italian(	Perugia-Citta della Pieve, Italy
11/19/226	11/22/26	Women's 993 (English)	Phoenix, AZ
11/19/26	11/22/26	Women's 389 (Spanish)	Bronx, NY
11/19/26	11/22/26	Men's 1097 (Filipino)	Los Angeles, CA
11/19/26	11/22/26	Women's 141 (English)	Springfield/Cape Girardeau, MO
11/19/26	11/22/26	Women's 91 (Hungarian/English/Spanish)	Tihany, Hungary
11/19/26	11/22/26	Men's 36 (English)	Hargitafurdo, ErdeluTransylvania, Romania
11/19/26	11/22/26	Men's 185 (Spanish/English)	Cleveland, OH

11/26/26	11/29/26	Women's 504 (Spanish)	Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico
11/26/26	11/29/26	Men's 92 (Hungarian)	Tihany, Hungary
11/26/26	11/29/26	Women's 128 (English)	Tahi, Hungary
12/3/26	12/6/26	Women's 78 (Spanish)	Orlando, FL
12/3/26	12/6/26	Men's 78 (Spanish)	Orlando, FL
12/3/26	12/6/26	Men's Cursillo (English)	Springfield/Cape Girardeau, MO