



July 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:

Grand Ultreya:	August 5 th , 2023 at the Picnic Shelter at the Church of the Annunciation at 7540 Clinton St, Elma, NY 14059	
Fall 2023 Weekends:	Men's Weekend #232:	September 21-24, 2023
	Women's Weekend #233:	October 26-29, 2023
	Support Masses:	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:

Ultreya, Ultreya, GRAND ULTREYA! Jesus declared, "wherever two or more are gathered in My Name, I AM present in their midst". The gathering of two or more Cursillistas is what we call the Friendship Group, or "grouping". The gathering of the Groups is what we call the Ultreya. And the gathering of the Ultreyas is called a Grand Ultreya. That is precisely what we are looking forward to just one month from now: the Grand Ultreya to be held on August 5th, 2023 at Annunciation Church in Elma, NY. All this month the Secretariat is asking every group and Ultreya to pray for and spread the word: come to the Grand Ultreya! Complete details can be found in the Post-Cursillo section of this newsletter. To prepare for such a momentous gathering we are asking ALL Cursillistas, old and young, babe-chicks, cluck-hens and roosters alike to pray for the success of our Movement and for a joyous gathering. To that end, please join us in praying the Novena for the Restoration of Friendship starting on Thursday, July 27th and continuing every day for nine days until Friday, August 4th. It takes less than five minutes per day and can be found on the Pray More Novenas website www.praymorenovenas.com or by searching Friendship Novena. Pray the novena for the days leading up to the Grand Ultreya and then come and share your friendship story with us.

Are you still wandering in the desert looking for the perfect group to join? There's no such thing. You have the freedom to group with anyone you choose. If you're completely new to grouping, start with your sponsor, someone on your weekend or someone at your Ultreya. Don't give up. Sometimes it takes a few groupings (or a few years) for some groups to form. Once you're at it, keep at it. The enemy of your soul wants nothing better than to keep you isolated and defeated.

Teams are forming for our Fall Cursillo® Weekends. Are you interested in serving on a team? Prospective team members should be involved in some or all of the following: group reunion, Ultreya, spiritual direction, etc. You know, Cursillo® stuff. If you feel led to serve and no one has asked you, talk to your Ultreya coordinator or one of our fine Team Selectors: Alice Appenheimer, Catherine Freidman, Paul Johnson, Jeff Parisi, Tony Shilen.

St. Paul, Patron of the Cursillo® Movement, Pray for us.
Our Lady of Guadalupe, Pray for us.

Terry Johnson #191

(716) 908-9055

twjrex@gmail.com, buffalocursillo@gmail.com

Spiritual Director Report:

There is a passage in Matthew's Gospel where we hear of Jesus freeing two people who were possessed by demons, sending the demons into a herd of pigs who leap to their deaths in the sea. (Mt 8:28-34). The men are restored, and the demons are gone. The people in the town are amazed. But then they ask Jesus to leave their town!

If you think about it, I suppose that someone had to pay for the 2,000 or so pigs that died. The fact is, when Jesus is in town, things can get messy. We have all experienced it as Cursillista's. It is easier to live without always having Jesus around to remind us to do the right thing, to pay any price to help others as He teaches. For example, imagine that you are late for work and driving along, and you see a teenager on a bicycle swerve, hit the curb and fall to the ground. Do you want Jesus around telling you to pull over and help the kid? Or, another example, maybe you are aware of an old neighbor moving into a nursing home. With Jesus around, you know that it would be really nice if you went to see them. Sometimes it can seem easier to live without Jesus around. However, I doubt that the men possessed by demons minded having Jesus around one bit!

As we live out our 4th Day we are striving to put Jesus into our lives and developing an ever increasing closeness to him. We accept the "messiness" that often comes with that. May we tolerate the challenges that this involves and keep front and center in our minds, the miracles Jesus is working in us.

Summer is moving fast, and things are getting busier. Give your relationship with Jesus a lift by joining us at the Grand Ultrea on Saturday, August 5th!

Keep praying, meeting in groups, making friends, being a friend and bringing a friend to Christ so that Jesus is clearly welcome in our town!

Peace,

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

Historian Report:

Buffalo Cursillo History #19 July 2023 “Pastoral Plan” – Part II

In April 1974, the Buffalo Secretariat received a questionnaire from the National Cursillo Office regarding the Second National Encounter to be held in Findley, Ohio in July. The questions were: What would your movement expect to gain? and What do you wish to share?

The Secretariat answered by sharing the progress made in the recent Leaders’ School Curriculum Course 501, which studied the reality of the Cursillo movement in Buffalo compared to the “ideal” of what Cursillo was meant to foster. The major conclusion of the study group was that in Buffalo “personal spiritual renewal” seemed to be emphasized rather than the Cursillo “ideal” of Christianizing the world by bringing Christ to all environments through the work of Christian leaders. Many local Cursillistas used the method of Piety and Study to sustain their life in Grace. Many Cursillistas were involved in the twelve Ultreyas in WNY, as well as in permanent groups and spiritual direction. “Action” was more of an involvement in Church ministries, family and work.

The report of this Leaders’ School group was then the subject of the Leaders’ Workshop held in January 1974. The result of this workshop was twofold. First, placing more emphasis on the “ideal” purpose of Cursillo, i.e., Christianizing one’s environment. Secondly, formulating practices and activities that were needed in Pre-Cursillo, the Three-Day Weekend, and Post-Cursillo to achieve this objective.

The results of the workshop carried over from March to July 1974 in such activities as articles on the purpose in the newsletter, as a program of Ultreya meetings to explain the purpose and visits by the Lay Coordinator to the Ultreyas to hold open forums. The Buffalo Movement had evolved to the point where it could and should shift its emphasis to Cursillo as an instrument of evangelization. Findley would hopefully give insights, answers and direction.

Twelve delegates from Buffalo went to the Second National Encounter in July 1974: six delegates from the Secretariat, including Lay Director Ralph Roll and Spiritual Director Fr. Pete Szafran, and six from the Spanish Cursillo community.

The theme of the Findley Encounter was “Evangelization of Environments.” The Cursillo Movement, nationally and locally, had evolved through the necessary period of understanding and implementing the mechanics of Cursillo (Weekends, Ultreyas, Leaders School). Cursillo had been part of the post-Vatican Council journey toward Church and personal renewal. Now it was time to begin the true objective of Cursillo – evangelization – bringing the world to Christ and Christ to the world.

At the end of the Encounter, the National Leadership urged each local movement to go home and formulate plans for evangelizing environments within its diocese. Some model planning techniques were presented, as well as guidelines about what generally were key environments currently affecting American life such as peace and justice for all, education, communication, medicine, advertising, and politics.

The leaders of the Buffalo Movement, both those who attended the Encounter and those to whom the attendees reported (the Secretariat and Leaders’ School members) agreed to formulate a

Pastoral Plan. Since the plan emphasized the mission of Christianizing their environments, the shift in emphasis had to be adequately explained and presented to the leadership and the entire community. A formal, written document would provide this.

A Pastoral Plan for the Buffalo Cursillo Movement, June 1975.

“This call to re-examination and openness to change (and sometimes painful growth) brought one important need to light – the need for a better understanding of the purpose and method of Cursillo by all of us working in or using the Movement to bring others to Christ. This meant more education for all of us, having a better understanding of the Movement (reading the materials already in English) in order to be more effective sponsors, participants in group reunions or leaders within Cursillo itself.” Ralph Roll, Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter May 1974.

The Secretariat worked on the Pastoral Plan from September 1974 through January 1975, formulating eight specific goals to be accomplished towards meeting these objectives.

“The Buffalo Movement recognized the need to really get down to the serious work of being apostles... Many Cursillistas have and are doing much individually to Christianize their environments. And in a few instances, small groups of Cursillistas locally are working together. This kind of action surely has had an impact on Western New York. But have we as a Movement in a significant way realized our potential as apostles?” Ralph Roll, Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter September 1974.

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:

We are in summer and enjoying all that it can bring. Look around you and see if there are friends to be made that would like to do a Cursillo weekend. It is still important for us to keep the movement growing.

Many times when change is happening within the church and our lives, we find fellow parishioners or friends that need a closer walk with Jesus. Be a friend, make a friend, bring a friend to Christ.

With the Grand Ultreya planned for August we can plan to invite those who you know would enjoy meeting other brothers and sisters.

The next important step is application for the weekends. Men , September 21st to 24th and the Women are October 26th to 29th.

The applications are on the Cursillo website and can be printed. We are counting on you and you are counting on Christ.

Many Blessings,

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

Cursillo Section:

As our name, Buffalo Cursillo MOVEMENT, suggests there is always movement going on in our lives and the Cursillo Section is no different. Our Palanca Team coordinator, **Lisa Johnson**, has decided to step down from her position. She has put her heart and soul into this position, and we appreciate her many years of dedication to this position. Her organizational skills helped us (the Cursillo Community) return the building back to St Vincent's in the same way it was given - clean and orderly. We are blessed that **Diane Reese** has agreed to take over as the head of the Palanca Team Co-coordinators. Tom Felong is also a co-coordinator. Please help us in welcoming **Diane Reese** to this position. She has worked numerous palanca teams alongside Lisa and brings a wealth of experience.

On a personal note - if you have never worked a Palanca Team or are new to the Movement, I want to strongly encourage you to sign up to be part of a Palanca Team. It is another way to get to meet new people. You get to see more of the larger community as they come in to prepare meals. Contact Diane Reese, Denise Daniels or myself for more on what is involved in working a team.

Our men team selectors have been busy calling gentlemen to work the upcoming weekend September 21-24. Please prayerfully consider saying yes, should you be asked. God won't be out done in generosity. You will be blessed.

Again, our fall weekends are September 21-24 for the Men's and October 26-29 for the Women's. Should you be called, please seriously take it to prayer. I am sure YOU have gifts to bring to the weekend that no one else has. There is that slogan "I WANT YOU!" Imagine that when the team selector calls, it is Jesus on the other end, saying, "(insert your name), I want you!!

I mentioned in last month's newsletter, but it is worth repeating - our Action is always making a friend, being a friend and bringing a friend to Christ. While we are at summer parties or as the Parish of Families are implemented, let us use these opportunities to bring others to Christ. When possible and appropriate, we bring them to Cursillo.

See you at the Grand Ultreya –

Until then – ULTREYA

Cursillo Section, Co-Coordiators:
Diane Putt: 716-380-0187
Denise Daniels: 716-823-5453

Post-Cursillo:

We hope you are enjoying our summer weather! Please save Saturday August 5th from 5 PM to 8:30 PM for a Grand Ultreya. This will be held at the Annunciation Parish Picnic Shelter (Elma)

which is kitty corner from the current church and behind the Amigone Funeral Home at [7540 Clinton St, Elma, NY 14059](#) (use this address to map directions).

What is a Grand Ultreya? It is an Ultreya for all Ultreyas, so everyone is invited, even immediate family members who have not made a Cursillo weekend yet. Please see the following agenda:

Proposed Agenda:

- 5:00 Mass with the Annunciation community in the Church of the Annunciation (7580 Clinton Street, Elma, New York 14059)
- 6:15 Potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass and serving utensils)
- 7:15 Welcome, opening prayer, song, recognize each Ultreya
- 7:20 Break up for grouping (non-Cursillo family members may partake or not)
- 7:50 Witness by Diane Reese, Echos
- 8:15 Doctrinal by Deacon Dave Clabeaux
- 8:30 Closing prayer/blessing, sing DeColores

Hang out and clean up.

What to bring:

- Potluck food to share. It may be dropped off at the picnic shelter kitchen before or during mass. Volunteers will watch anything dropped off before mass and refrigerate items or plug in crock pots (no grilling will be available).
- Serving utensils for dishes you bring.
- Games to entertain little ones.

Where to park:

- If there are no services or wakes at the Amigone Funeral home next to the picnic shelter you may park there.
- If there are services or wakes at the Amigone Funeral home:
 - You may park along the furthest edge of the Girdle Rd side of the parking lot, so as not to interfere with Amigone's use of their parking lot, or
 - Park in the school parking lot across Girdle Rd from the picnic shelter, or
 - Park across from Amigone Funeral home on the north side of Clinton St.

What will be provided:

- Bottled water, soda pop, and ice for drinks.
- Paper plates, plastic silverware, cups, and napkins.
- Power strips for crock pots
- Refrigerators for cold food

If you sponsored a babe-chick or were a table leader on a recent weekend, please call the newbies to personally invite them to the Grand Ultreya ... maybe you can carpool with them too. Please also continue to encourage them to attend Ultreyas and to join a small group. Let us know if any assistance in finding/forming a small group is needed.

Since the Grand Ultreya is new to most we've tried to address the anticipated questions, but if we missed something, please contact us.

In God we Trust,

Your Post Cursillo Coordinators,

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

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

School of Leaders:

Opportunities for study come in many forms. Reading books, listening to talks, noticing and learning from other people's actions, observing the world around you and listening as the Holy Spirit instructs your heart in moments of joy or struggle. If you sit on the porch in the morning, with a gentle rain falling or a cool breeze blowing, allow yourself to meditate as nature soothes you and you can ponder many things.

So, as our School of Leaders is taking a break for the summer, let us welcome the other opportunities for study that present themselves this summer and make the most of them.

Marty Ruhland

Call/Text: 716-481-0662

Email: rdservices@roadrunner.com

Treasurer:

Enjoy the summer months, DeColores.

Ed Hackett

Call/Text: 716-863-9851

Email: ehbanker@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Happy Summer!

Mary Bitka

Call/Text: 716-984-0664

Email: marybitka@gmail.com

Prayer Request:

Entered into their 5th Day:

Mike Matayas (Men's #221) - Died 3/16/23

Rev. Msgr. Leo McCarthy (Men's # 14) – Died 5/21/23

Agnes Forcucci (Women's #56) – Died 6/14/23

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

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

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