

February 2024 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:

Spring 2024 Weekend: Women's Weekend #233 - April 25-28, 2024

Support Mass: 4:30pm at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, OP

Fall 2024 Weekend: Men's Weekend #234 – October 10-13, 2024

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 ***********

Lay Coordinator's Report:

By now I suppose almost everybody has packed up the Christmas decorations and is settling in for what appears to be the beginning of a long, cold, wet, extended spring. Winter came and went in a week unfortunately. It doesn't even seem accurate to refer to seasonal southbound travelers as snowbirds anymore since there's hardly any snow to run from. But that's just the gloomy outlook of a wannabe skier. One more attachment to this world that I will eventually let go of. That, and football.

Instead of that dreary image, think of yourself in sunny, warm Long Island, NY in July, basking in the glow and friendships of this year's Cursillo® National Encounter. The 34th of its' kind, it will be held at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY from July 25-28. If that's a free weekend for you pencil it in now. The annual National Encounter is open to all Cursillistas and is a great place to experience and in a way, relive your Cursillo weekend on a grand scale.

We in Buffalo Cursillo have been asked to share our charism with the Central Niagara Catholic Family of Parishes in Niagara County. Fr. Matt Nycz has heard about Cursillo and wants very much for his Family to meet us and to hear about how the Holy Spirit has moved in our lives. This is a challenge and an opportunity for us to make friends, be friends and bring friends to Christ. Fr. Matt has asked for Cursillistas to come, speak, meet and greet parishioners at all weekend masses on April 13th and 14th this Spring. We are looking for a few more people willing to speak after masses and for several more to be Cursillo Ambassadors. There are 10 masses that weekend between the four parishes, so we need lots of help. Everyone, please pray for the success of this effort and if you want to participate in person, please contact Lynn Lomanto at (585) 409-4123.

Lastly but not least-ly (where has my grammar gone?) Please join me in welcoming Chuck Stephan to the Secretariat as our new Assistant Lay Coordinator. Chuck lived Men's Cursillo #206 in 2012 with 17 other Cursillistas! Along with his wife Tere, Chuck is very involved in parish life at Nativity of the BVM and is a regular at Come To The Well Ultreya. Thank you Chuck for your 'yes' to serving Buffalo Cursillo.

De Colores,

Terry Johnson #191

(716) 908-9055 twjrex@gmail.com, buffalocursillo@gmail.com

Spiritual Advisor Report:

Dr. Will Mayo, one of the brothers who founded the world-famous Mayo Clinic said, "I have seen patients that were dead by all standards. We knew they could not live. But I have seen a minister come to the bedside and do something for them that I could not do, although I had done everything in my professional power, but something touched some immortal spark in them and in defiance of medical knowledge and materialistic common sense, that patient lived!"

We know that the kind of healing described here by Dr. Will was God's healing. And, as he describes, it is brought to those who need it by other people, "ministers." God's healing is powerful and works through YOU! Especially during these gloomy short days of Winter, spend time with someone who might be struggling and allow God's healing to touch them.

Stay warm and think of Spring.

Peace,

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

Historian Report:

Buffalo Cursillo History #25 February 2024 Cursillo and Renewal Movements

After Vatican II, the Holy Spirit continued to breathe new life into the Church in the form of Renewal Movements. Rome and the Church in the U.S. were well aware of many of them.

Besides the Buffalo Cursillo Movement, the 1960s saw the growth of the Charismatic Renewal (Catholic Pentecostal Prayer Groups), Christian Family Movement, Marriage Encounter, SEARCH-Youth Retreat Program, and Christian Social Action Groups. Christian Life Communities or Catholic communes emerged like Cana Grace House Community in Alden (comprised of several families and religious) hosting retreats and workshops.

"The necessity for renewal is all around us, and it must begin "at home". By this I mean that it is the obligation of every one of us to renew ourselves and to do our part toward the renewal of the total Christian community...We are not in competition...different forms appeal to different types of people. The main thing is Church and Christ." - Fr. Barry Smith, "Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter", July, 1972

The 1970's were the heyday of Catholic Renewal as the Buffalo Diocese sought to meet the needs of over 900,000 Catholics in eight counties. Parishes numbered 300, Catholic Schools 200. Scripture classes for adults were being offered at some churches, colleges and at St. John Vianney Seminary. Better World Retreats were being offered to clergy and lay people locally and nationally.

In 1972, members of the Buffalo Cursillo Leaders' School made a Movement for a Better World Retreat instead of the annual Leaders' School Workshop.

In February 1973, the Secretariat sought to bring together several renewal groups to share their vision and future plans for renewal in the Diocese with each other and with Bishop Head. In June, a Better World Retreat was planned for the priests of the Diocese of St John Vianney Seminary.

The Secretariat was hoping for a deeper involvement in renewal movements (especially Cursillo) of the 300 pastors, over 2,500 religious and over 1,000 clergy-especially those in the Chancery, pastoral council members and board consultants. The Secretariat also sought to set up a list of all the local renewal groups and what they offered. Secretariat Minutes, Feb. 15, 1973

In 1970, Mother of Mercy Retreat House on Delaware Avenue was closed and sold by the Diocese. In 1971, the Sisters of St. Joseph opened O'Hern Center of Renewal at Main and Riley in Buffalo (former Bishop O'Hern Convent) now the Little Portion Friary for the homeless. O'Hern was the first religious intercommunity house in Buffalo. All founding members made Cursillo-six Sisters of St. Joseph and one Franciscan; Sr. Mary Ann Martin (W #5), Sr. Charlotte Riley (W #6), Sr. Therese Kinsel, OSF (W #7), Sr. Carol Norwalk (W #7), Sr. Martha Froning (W #8), Sr. Joan Wagner (W #8), and Sr. Leo Xavier Mesmer (W#19).

The sisters offered scripture classes, days of prayer for housewives and senior citizens, overnight retreats for adults and other events. O'Hern Center of Renewal closed in 1975.

In 1974, the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity converted their novitiate building into Stella Niagara Center of Renewal in Lewiston. Founding members were St. Therese Kinsel, (W #7) and Sr. Mary Michael Hill (W #54). The Center offered directed retreats, group retreats, spiritual direction and a special program on Spiritual Formation of Lay Leaders in the Church with an emphasis on renewal. Fr. Pete Szafran (M #15) was the Center's first Spiritual Director.

The 1970's offered many vibrant opportunities to grow in Piety and Study. It was truly an embarrassment of riches for Catholics who sought to take advantage of these resources.

Buffalo Cursillo's Annual Second Touch Weekend, open to anyone who made a Cursillo, has been held at Stella Niagara Center of Renewal since 2017.

- 1. Statistics from "The WNY Catholic Way: By the Numbers", "The Buffalo News", May 1, 2005 (Rotogravure Supplement p. 10)
- 2. Sr. Mary Serbacki, OSF, Stella Niagara Archivist

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

Pre-Cursillo Report:

The focus for the next several months will be evangelization of the Western New York Catholic Family. Applications for the upcoming Men's and Women's weekends should be forwarded to the Pre-Cursillo Coordinator, Lynn Lomanto. The Buffalo Cursillo website provides an application form found under resources.

The Women's weekend is set for April 25-28 at St Vincent de Paul. We presently have eight candidates and anticipate more applications will be coming in. More candidates are needed so start making friends.

Both Lynn Lomanto and Jerry Casillo met with Fr. Nycz from the Central Niagara Catholic Family of Parishes in Niagara County to discuss a timeframe for our Lay Coordinator, Deacons, Pre-Cursillo and Post-Cursillo Coordinators to celebrate and speak with parishioners after masses the weekend of April 13tha and 14th. Plans are in the early stages and with Father Nycz's guidance it is hopeful that Cursillo can be brought to the Lockport-Niagara Community.

The Central Niagara Catholic Family of Parishes masses that we are looking for volunteers for the following masses:

Saturday Vigils:

4:00pm All Saints (76 Church St Lockport, NY 14094)

4:00pm Immaculate Conception (4671 Townline Rd Ransomville, NY 14131)

5:30pm St. Brendan on the Lake (3455 Ewings Rd Newfane, NY)

5:30pm St. John the Baptist (168 Chestnut St. Lockport, NY 14094)

Sunday:

7:00am St. John the Baptist 8:00am St. Brendan on the Lake 9:00am All Saints 9:30am Immaculate Conception 10:30am St. John the Baptist 11:00am St. Brendan on the Lake

The Pre-Cursillo Committee would like some volunteers to set up on Wednesday and meet and greet candidates on Thursday. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lynn for more information.

It is up to each of us to know and share the Love of Jesus. Make a Friend and bring a Friend to Christ. The Buffalo Cursillo Community is evangelizing in so many ways. As we listen in mass to our priests you will hear the words "it is up to you as members, parishioners and friends to bring Jesus out in the community." More importantly, we should be listening to our Lord.

Let's keep the Buffalo Cursillo community strong.

Lynn Lomanto
PreCursillo Coordinator
585-409-4123
lomantolynn@gmail.com



Cursillo Section:

In the January Newsletter we shared about one arm of the Cursillo Section; that being Team Selectors. This month the topic is the role of the Talk Advisors. There are three (3) Talk Advisors for both the Men's Weekends and Women's Weekends. The current advisors are as follows: Joe Rebisz and MaryAnn Moore (Friday), John Colvin and Patty Evans (Saturday), Joe Beinhauer and Denise Hodur (Sunday). Their job is to review the talks/rollos that will be presented on the days of the Weekend to assure the rollo speaker has covered the necessary ideas and strategies that are pertinent to their rollo, along with any witnessing that might be required. After the talks are approved, they are then given to one of the Spiritual Advisors on the Team, to be sure that any teachings are in accordance with our Catholic doctrine. We are blessed by their dedication to this position and we appreciate the guidance they give to the speakers on the team.

The Women's Team No. 233 that was in formation for the postponed Fall 2023 Weekend is currently in formation for the upcoming Spring Weekend No. 233, which will be held April 25 - 28. It is a blessing that ALL the women who were selected to work in the Fall committed to working the Spring Weekend. Praise God!!

The women who will make up the team and their respective rollos are as follows:

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
Shannon Niesyty - Liturgist

Now that the Team is back in formation, we encourage all Ultreyas and small Friendship Group Reunions to consider doing communal palanca and writing a General Palanca note to the team and candidates on the Spring Weekend. There is such power in our prayers, yet when we join our prayers together with other believers, the power is magnified. In my (Diane Putt's) permanent group, there are six (6) members, so you could almost say our prayers are magnified to the 6th power!

DeColores -

Cursillo Section, Co-Coordinators:

Diane Putt: 716-380-0187 Denise Daniels: 716-823-5453

Post-Cursillo:

Are you investing in your 4th Day? and I don't mean Thursdays. Our 4th Day is all of the time after Cursillo weekend, also known as the rest of your life.

In early January I (Mike) considered a class listed in the bulletin that was described as 'Falling in love with the Mass, understand more fully the Last Supper and the Eucharist. Your experience of Mass will never be the same.' The class sounded interesting but to attend the evening session I'd have to skip a favorite class at the gym. At 10 AM the day of the first class I registered. Talk about being last minute! During that first class I was actually surprised that it was a Bible Study class, even though I later discovered that Bible Study was part of the bold title in the bulletin. I clearly missed that part. Class has been interesting and enjoyable. Why am I sharing this? Well, I stepped a bit out of my comfort zone to learn more about the mass, and apparently the Bible too. This is a way that I'm investing in my 4th Day. What are you doing?

As we mentioned last month, a few parish families have requested that we bring Cursillo to those new parish families. Lynn Lomanto has taken the lead on this and is assembling a team to make presentations at all 10 masses of the Central Niagara Catholic Family Church the weekend of April 13-14. She is looking for Cursillistas to help. Please let Lynn know if you are interested in assisting with spreading Cursillo in WNY at lomantolynn@gmail.com.

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, memry289@gmail.com

School of Leaders:

Snow has been flying again of late. Our January session happened on the morning of the most recent winter blast. Deacon Dave and Kay Clabeaux arrived early to help set up. Kay brought some of her wonderful baked goodies again. As we stood around talking and looking outside at the snow and wind we thought it might just be the three of us attending that day. But soon, one by one, people began to trickle in. By start time, we had an amazingly full attendance. Thank-you from the bottom of my heart to all who braved the weather to join us that day. Deacon Dave gave another wonderful "10 Topics" talk on "Life". Our follow-up techniques discussion with witness sharing on the act of sponsoring from the perspective of both the sponsors and candidates was enlightening to say the least.

Our February School of Leaders will be our Second Touch 2024 retreat event at Stella Niagara in Lewiston starting on Friday, February 2nd and continuing through to Sunday morning, February 4th. I hope to see many of you in attendance there. We will resume our regular sessions again in March.

May God's Peace and Joy be with you, today and always,

Marty Ruhland

Call/Text: 716-481-0662

Email: rdservices@roadrunner.com

Treasurer:

Ed Hackett, Weekend 189 Call/Text: 716-863-9851 Email: ehbanker@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Mary Bitka

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

Prayer Request:

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

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

Lois Weber	Jean Claire Buchbinder	Cathy Agugliaro
Randy Rakoczynski	Chelsea Ellis	Tim Hiedle
Jerry Frisicaro	Laura and Angelo Ciavarella	Kathy O'Keefe
Dcn Gary Terrana	Marie Gannon	Denise Bressette
Arthur Ruhland	Mike Ryan	Diane Coughlin
Bob Yager	Timothy McCann	Gary Banas
Cole Koons	Joan Roberts	John Agugliaro
Karen Trimper and Family	Mary Flannagan	Marcia Moretti
Cathy Derrick	Bill Hiedle	Cheryl Besant
Mary Mercurio	Corinne Giermek	Bobby Lovenetti
Fr. Joe Badding	Dcn Joe Barr	Linda Orszulak
Pam Hornung	Patrick Johnson	Elie Wieleba
	Jim Youngers	

Upcoming Cursillo Dates		
Second Touch Weekend	Reunion Masses	
Date: February 2-4, 2024 Times: Arrive Friday 4 pm – 7 pm Ends 1pm Sunday Place: Stella Niagara Center of Renewal, Lewiston, NY Details: See the Second Touch article	February 2024 – no mass due to 2 nd Touch Weekend March 2024 – date and location TBD April 2024 – no mass due to Woman's weekend May 2024 – no mass due to 4 th Day Dinner June 2024 - Pueblo de Paz Ultreya hosting (Warsaw)	
Women's Weekend #233	Men's Weekend #234	
April 25 - 28, 2024	October 10 – 13, 2024	
 4/20 - Support Mass @ 4:30pm at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Orchard Park 4/24 - Set-up for Weekend @ 5:30 pm, 4/25 - Registration from 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm, Sponsors & community prayer service at 8 pm. 4/27 - Break-in, arrive at a time TBD 4/28 - Las Mananitas - 6 am (Women only) - 3 pm Closura with community mass 5/18 - 4th Day Dinner; Potluck @ St. Vincent's, doors open at 5:30 pm. Dinner at 6:00 pm, Entire Community Welcome 	Date TBD - Support Mass for Men's Team 10/9 - Set-up Men's Weekend @ 5:30 pm, 10/10 - Registration from 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm, Sponsors & community prayer service at 8 pm. 10/12 - Break-in, arrive at a time TBD 10/13 - Las Mananitas - 6 am (Men only) - 3 pm Closura with community mass Date TBD - 4th Day Dinner; Potluck @ St. Vincent's, doors open at 5:30 pm. Dinner at 6:00 pm - Entire Community Welcome	
School of Leaders (Workshop)		
Topic: 2 nd Touch Weekend, Feb 2-4 Speaker: n/a Date: March Time: 10:30 am – 12 noon(ish) Location: Church of the Annunciation, 7580 Clinton St., Elma Organizer: Marty Ruhland (716)481-0662 Details: See the School of Leaders article	Catholic Men's Fellowship of WNY 22nd Annual Men's Conference "This is My Beloved Son, Listen to Him" Saturday, March 9, 2024 Cardinal O'Hara High School 39 O'Hara Rd, Tonawanda, NY 14150 Info and register at https://www.cmfofwny.org Doors open at 7:30, conference from 8:30 to 3:00	

	Buffalo Cursillo Ultreya Schedule				
Ultreya	Date	Time	Location	Contacts	
Bethany Cheektowaga & surrounding area	2/13/24 2 nd Tuesday	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	2/20/24 3 rd Tuesday	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	2/28/24 Last Wednesday January - June Sept. – October	7:00 PM	Member House Contact Marty for location	Marty Ruhland rdservices@roadrunner.com 716-481-0662 (m)	
Pueblo de Paz Warsaw area	1/24/24 Last Sunday	7:00 PM	St. Michael's Church 171 N. Main St, Warsaw	Liz Wascak 585-237-5155 ewascak@yahoo.com	
Rainbow Vineyard North towns area	2/13/24 2 nd Tuesday 2/27/24 4 th Tuesday	7:00 PM	St. Jude the Apostle Parish 800 Niagara Falls Blvd North Tonawanda	Carolyn McNamara 716-694-5949 Carolyn Ruhland 716-912-2890 caruhl73@verizon.net	
Southtowns South towns area	2/1/24 1 st Thursday 2/15/24 3 rd Thursday	7:00 PM	Member House Contact Mary Ann for location	St. Andrew's Permanent Group Mary Ann DeMaria 716-512-4765 mdemaria@roadrunner.com	
Spirit of the City City of Buffalo	No_Meeting (inactive)				

February, 2024 Palanca

Start Date	End Date	Event	Location
1/29/			
2024	2/3/2024	Woman's 223 (Spanish)	Lubbock, TX
2/1/2024	2/4/2024	Women's Cursillo (Portuguese) (Portuguese)	Newark, NJ
2/1/2024	2/4/2024	Men's 143 (English)	Ottawa, Ontario (Canada)
2/1/2024	2/4/2024	Women's Cursillo (English)	Windsor-Essex, Ontario (Canada)
2/1/2024	2/4/2024	Men's 1226 (Spanish)	Caguas , Puerto Rico
2/1/2024	2/4/2024	Women's 127 (English)	Savannah, GA
2/8/2024	2/11/202 4	Men's 118 (English)	Nashville, TN
2/8/2024	2/11/202 4	Women's 555 (English)	Richmond, VA
2/8/2024	2/11/202 4	Cursillo de Cursillos (Spanish)	Sacramento, CA
2/15/202	2/18/202 4	CDC (Spanish)	Region 6, Kansas
2/15/202	2/18/202 4	Cursillo De Cursillos R-6 (Spanish)	Kansas City , KS
2/15/202	2/18/202 4	Men's 40 (English)	Belleville, IL
2/15/202	2/18/202 4	Womens 294 (English)	Biloxi, MS
2/15/202	2/18/202 4	Women's 121 (English)	Little Rock, AR
2/15/202	2/18/202 4	Men's 03 (Filipino & English)	Pasig, Philippines
2/15/202	2/18/202 4	Men's 291 (Spanish)	Miami, FL
2/15/202	2/18/202 4	Woman's 68 (Spanish)	Tyler, TX
2/22/202	2/25/202 4	Men's 29 (Spanish)	Washington, DC
2/22/202	2/25/202 4	Men's 77 (English)	Kalamazoo, MI
2/22/202	2/25/202 4	Men's Cursillo (Spanish)	Orange, CA
2/22/202	2/25/202 4	Men's 29 (Spanish)	Washington DC

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	2/22/202	2/25/202		
	4	4	Men's 208 (Spanish)	Rockville Centre, NY
Ī	2/22/202	2/25/202		
	4	4	Women's 115 (English)	Memphis, TN
Ī	2/22/202	2/25/202		Springfield-Cape
	4	4	Men's 125 (English)	Girardeau, MO
Ī	2/22/202	2/25/202		
	4	4	Women's 184 (English)	Newark, NJ
П	2/22/202	2/25/202		
	4	4	Men's 99 (English)	Evansville, IN
П	2/22/202	2/25/202		
	4	4	Men's 147 (English)	Atlanta, GA
	2/29/202			
	4	3/3/2024	Men's 265 (English)	Green Bay, WI
	2/29/202			
	4	3/3/2024	Women's 606 (Spanish)	Orange, CA
	2/29/202			Springfield-Cape
	4	3/3/2024	Women's 126 (English)	Girardeau, MO
	2/29/202			
	4	3/3/2024	Women's 102 (English)	Harrisburg, PA
	2/29/202			Perugia Città della Pieve
Ц	4	3/3/2024	Men's 49 (maschile) (Italiano)	(Italy)
	2/29/202			
Ц	4	3/3/2024	Women's 266 (Spanish)	Miami, FL
	2/29/202			
Ц	4	3/3/2024	Women's 103rd (English)	Harrisburg, PA
	2/29/202	- 1- 1		León, Gto. (Centro Silao)
Ц	4	3/3/2024	Men's 489 (Spanish)	Mexico
	2/29/202			
	4	3/3/2024	Men's 76 (English)	Owensboro, KY
	2/29/202			
	4	3/3/2024	Men's 159 (English)	Fargo, ND