

September 2024 Newsletter

Check out our website at <u>https://www.buffalocursillo.com/</u> You will find dates and information on Ultreya, Weekends, Reunion mass schedule, Newsletters, Applications, and much more.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Fall 2024 Weekend	1: Men's Weekend #234 – October 10-13, 2024 Women's Weekend #235 – November 7-10, 2024
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
****	Please see the end of the newsletter for calendar of events ************************************

Lay Coordinator Report:

Praise be to the Lord who supplies all our needs through His riches and glory in Christ Jesus! We now have a new home for our Cursillo weekends and other gatherings. St. Teresa's Parish in Akron, NY has welcomed us and as of Labor Day weekend we will be completely moved out of St. Vincent's. I want to thank Fr. Karl and everyone at St. Vincent's for their hospitality over the years. For many of you, St. Vincent's has been the only Cursillo you've known, and it may be a sad goodbye. For some of us 'older' Cursillistas, moving every couple of years has been the norm so this is not a big deal. We are pilgrims, after all. Also, I want to thank the Secretariat members, led by Chuck Stephan who worked tirelessly to search for and evaluate many parishes before being led to St. Teresa's. If you lived a Cursillo weekend at Holy Spirit in North Collins I think you will find our new home quite familiar looking. The layout of the parish buildings is strikingly familiar. Almost a carbon copy.

Men's Weekend #234 is only a few weeks away and the team has been meeting and getting to know each other in a common spirit of joyful expectation. Candidate applications are coming in but there's always room for more. I was having lunch with a longtime friend recently and when I said that I was to be the rector for the men's weekend she lifted up her hands and prayed, "Lord, give Terry 100 men for this Cursillo!" Hey, anybody can ask for a small favor from the Lord, but I truly believe He honors prayers for a BIG favor.

In other news, our good friend Mike Cucinotta has said 'yes' to becoming the new treasurer for Buffalo Cursillo. Mike will be replacing Ed Hackett when Ed's term ends on December 31, 2024. Thank you, Ed, for your many, many years as treasurer and THANK YOU Mike for stepping up. Sherry Misso is our new Pre-Cursillo Coordinator, effective immediately, replacing Lynn Lomanto. Thank you, Lynn and Sherry. And Karen Trimper is replacing Mary Bitka as Secretary when Mary's term ends on December 31, 2024. Thank you Mary and Karen. We still need to fill the office of Post-Cursillo Coordinator(s) and we need a Region III representative for Buffalo Cursillo as Jerry Casillo is stepping down from that position. Is Jesus calling you? You better answer.

Our September Reunion Mass will be celebrated in Lockport as part of our outreach there. See the 4th Day section of this newsletter for all the details.

School of Leaders is also starting back up in September. Back to school, everyone! Marty has some great plans for the school this year and I encourage everyone to come and get some of that good study for themselves.

Please continue to pray for our priests, deacons, teams and candidates.

De Colores!

Terry Johnson #191 (716) 908-9055 twjrex@gmail.com, buffalocursillo@gmail.com

Assistant Lay Coordinator Report:

A new home.

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

As you may know by now, our "season" as guests of St. Vincent de Paul has come to an end. A number of reasons were given not the least of which was the problem with the septic system backing up at the last women's weekend. Although we offered solutions for all the cited issues, there was no changing the decision by the couple who run the facility. The result then is Cursillo will no longer hold weekends or any other activity at what has been our home for over the past 10 years.

Finding a new home proved itself to be a challenging endeavor as our options were limited with the downsizing and right sizing of the Diocese. First we had to determine which churches would remain open in the greater Buffalo area; then which had schools or parish centers; of those which did not have an active school or a building being rented to a third party; then which had a large enough and equipped kitchen, spaces for sleeping, dining, palanca, and chapels; from those which could accommodate or have showers; and finally which could work with us to schedule 2 weekends in the spring and 2 in the fall; So, from the 54 potential sites we narrowed it to 12, contacted or visited 9, and finally chose St. Teresa of Avila in Akron as our new home.

In addition to the building at St. Teresa's having the facilities needed for a weekend, the priest in residence and former pastor, Fr. Art Mattulke, is excited to have us there as can be seen below in the email he sent when we let him know:

We are so blessed to be able to work with Cursillo! WELCOME HOME!!! I will talk to Steve (facilities manager) and Margie (religious education director) and see when it will be possible to get your stuff moved in. I will be in touch. Peace always, Fr. Art

The facilities manager, Steve Flumerfeldt, is a fellow Cursillista and part of the next men's weekend team, the religious education director is not only ok with us but shares Fr. Art's excitement, and finally the Director of Catholic Education for Family 15 is totally on board asking how she can help make Cursillo known in Clarence and Akron.

St. Teresa's offers us a well-kept and maintained home, a church connected to the school building, classroom space for talks, chapels, and palanca, a separate outside entrance to the good sized and equipped kitchen, plenty of space in the bathrooms for showers which can be left in place, multiple entrances to the building, and ample parking. It's location in the approximate center of the diocese makes commute time more acceptable from just about anywhere including Lockport and Niagara County.

Change is never easy but as it is written in Philippians 4:6-7:

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Throughout this whole process we have been praying for the right place to call home. Our prayers have been wonderfully answered at St. Teresa's.

I would like to thank those who contributed to finding our new home: Diane Putt, Denise Daniels, Otto & Sherry Misso, Mary Bitka, Diane Reese, Mike Emery, Terry Johnson, and the Secretariat for guidance and confidence that a new home could be found.

All we have to do now is make more friends, be a friend, and bring those friends to Christ.

De Colores

Chuck Stephan <u>cstephan423@gmail.com</u> (716-817-3969)

Spiritual Advisor Report:

"Do SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL for God. Do it with your life. Do it every day. Do it in your own way. But do it!" St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

As a Cursillista, in your prayer, small groups, Ultreya's, Reunion Mass's, Palanca, you are doing something beautiful for God!

In the Gospel of Matthew (19:16), a wealthy young man asks Jesus what he must do to enter eternal life. Jesus instructs him to adhere to the commandments and the man attests that he does and asks what else must he do. Jesus tells him that if he wants to be perfect, sell what he has and give to the poor.

I have wondered about this. Is the message that we are to give away all that we have to the poor? But if you give away all that you have, all your savings, all of your sources of income, you will likely need to go on public assistance in order to rent a home and pay for food. That does not sound like a message Jesus would be sending us. And I don't believe that the message is that if we have enough money and give it to the poor, we can buy our way into heaven.

As it turns out, most people are not being called to detach themselves from any and all financial wealth and live in poverty. So, what is the message that Jesus is trying to get across? I believe Jesus is calling us all to internal detachment to the things of this world. To have as our single possession, the love of God and to do his will. To respond to God with generosity!

Isn't that exactly what we are currently accomplishing as we detach ourselves from the comfortable location of St. Vincent's? Isn't this move all about allowing ourselves to detach from the physical world and focus internally on our love of God? Isn't the work of Chuck Stephan, members of the Secretariat, and so many others during this transition the most generous response to God? Every one of us, as brother and sister Cursillistas, through our prayers, physical actions, and faith have all accomplished something VERY beautiful for God!

Prayer for intercession

We ask the intercession of Eduardo Bonnin to guide us so that we will be touched with the same Spirit that guided him to develop a method to bring us closer to Christ and our neighbor in the Cursillo Movement. Help us Lord to a deeper understanding of the true and authentic method of Cursillo and the Foundational Charism. Amen

De Colores!

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

Historian Report:

Buffalo Cursillo History, September 2024 #29

Historian's Report

"Cursillo, Ecumenism and Koinonia," Part III

In embracing a new Apostolic Action, the zeal of Cursillistas often impels them to jump in with both feet. Buffalo Cursillo and the Western New York Koinonia Movement became somewhat of an interdenominational group for the next six years. Firstly, both Cursillistas and Koinonians worked Koinonia Weekends. The Koinonia community insisted on incorporating Cursillistas in each team, since they had the necessary knowledge and experience of the of the Cursillo method and movement. Some Koinonians attended Cursillo Ultreyas, monthly Reunion Masses, and Leaders' School. Some Cursillistas were present at monthly Koinonia Prayer Services. It was the Cursillistas' way of supporting their Protestant Brothers and Sisters. In four years, twenty Cursillos and eighteen Koinonia Weekends were held at Bishop Gibbons High School until March, 1979, when the building was sold.

Fr. Pete Szafran, Diocesan Spiritual Director, wrote: "In sharing with fellow clergymen and people of different denominations, I've discovered that we have belief in the same Lord. The sense of community that we strive for is the same for all. Our faith unites us, enables us to support another in the Lord. It has been a very enriching experience for me." "Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter" May, 1976 (P. 2)

"The WNY Koinonia Movement was planned to be as nearly Cursillo-like as the mixture of Protestant sects and denominational disciplines would allow. Still, emphasis was being directed at developing a Koinonia identity and growth of a "corps of leaders" who would put on their own weekend and carry on their Movement without Cursillistas involved."

"The basic need for separation of the two movements (the limits of intercommunion) was recognized, but the plan was to keep as much interrelationship as Christians as possible. The ULTIMATE goal was to create a loving, sharing, supporting community of Christians who accepted the apostolate to bring Christ into all places." Dick Guyette, Koinonia Update, "Buffalo Cursillo Newsletter", June/July, 1977 (P. 2) The way that WNY Koinonia was somewhat integrated into the Buffalo Cursillo was not that unusual at the time. In the Midwest, it became common for Cursillistas to invite non-Catholics to the 3-day Cursillo "retreat". This was their way of exercising ecumenism, which led to some problems that non-Catholic participation created, such as intercommunion. Some policies needed to be established.

The National Secretariat was continually monitoring the ecumenical activity in the Movement, because several bishops had requested it. Finally, a definite policy provided uniformity throughout the Movement in the U.S.: "There is to be no ecumenical activity within the Catholic Cursillo Movement. Secretariats, leadership schools, Ultreyas and weekends are to be strictly Catholic." Leaders' Manual, 1981 (P. 39)

The 1981 Leaders' Manual sought to help correct this amalgamation by stating that "weekends should be strictly Catholic or strictly denominational so they can be true to the teachings and traditions of their own Church bodies." (P. 32)

Protestant offshoots of Cursillo such as Koinonia were encouraged to become denominational for the same reasons. "Experience shows that when they are not, they eventually suffer from lack of clergy support, and become oriented around the weekend experience...they are not really integrated into the life of the church community...for the same reasons, Ultreyas should be denominational." Leaders' Manual, 1981 (P. 32-33) The Leaders' Manual goes on to state "Basically the work of ecumenism is a work of interior renewal within each denomination. Therefore, the best contribution the Cursillo Movement can make to the work of ecumenism is to assist in the work of interior renewal (a) in the Catholic Church and (b) within the other denominations that express an interest in Cursillo... The Movement is at the service of each denomination in terms of its renewal efforts; provided the Movement is used correctly."

"There has been great fruit as the result of renewal taking place within some of the other denominations. We've seen this particularly within the Episcopal Church since there is an established Episcopal Cursillo Movement within that denomination." Leaders' Manual, 1981, (P. 32)

In February 1981, the WNY Episcopal Cursillo Movement was formed separating from the WNY Koinonia Movement. This occurred with the approval of Bishop Harold Robinson of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York.

To date, this retreat is used by Episcopalian/Anglican Cursillo, Presbyterian Cursillo Pilgrimage, Lutheran Via de Cristo, Mennonite Way of Christ, the United Methodist Church's Walk to Emmaus, various interdenominational communities, and many other renewal movements adapted from Cursillo. National Cursillo (http://www.natl-cursillo.org/), 2024

Carol is looking for Secretariat Minutes from 2005 to 2008

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

Pre-Cursillo Report:

Pre Cursillo has 10 registration forms for the upcoming Men's Weekend #234, seven of which were collected at the men's info night hosted by Mike Cucinotta. Clearly these info nights work! We will be following up with these applications to see if this weekend fits into their schedule. There are also 3 other applications to be followed up on.

We have 3 definites for the Women's Weekend #235 and 3 call backs to confirm for the weekend. Dixie Andrews will be hosting a woman's info night on September 25th at 6:30 at 12118 Anne Dr., Alden 14004. Feel free to bring anyone who may be interested in hearing more about Cursillo. Let's keep praying for new candidates who are looking for a deeper relationship with God.

Lynn Lomanto will be hosting a meet and greet as well in Lockport on September 25th at The Bosco Center next to St. John the Baptist Church in Lockport on 168 Chestnut St., Lockport. Roast beef will be served.

God Bless and De Colores!

Sherry Misso Pre-Cursillo Coordinator 716-984-0163 shermiss@hotmail.com

Cursillo Section:

As many of you are probably aware, Buffalo Cursillo has a new home. Our new home is at St. Teresa of Avila in Akron. The address is 5771 Buell St., 14001. We thank Father Art Mattulke and the staff for welcoming us to their home.

Our summer has been full of working with the Secretariat in securing a new site to host weekends. As this article is being written, we are gearing up for our move on August 31. Denise and I have been working with the members of our Cursillo Section to box up and move the small items; along with making arrangements for volunteers and transportation to move the "big" items.

Denise and I hope to visit St. Teresa's in the weeks prior to the fall weekends with Diane Reese, our Palanca Team Coordinator and Peter Adornetto, our Building Coordinator and Steve Flumerfeldt (St Teresa's building & grounds maintenance) to make sure we are ready to run Men's Weekend #234 in a little over a month. Our kitchen crew of Otto Misso and Mike Cucinotta - along with their helpers have done an amazing job of packing up and moving out all of our kitchen gear.

This endeavor has taken a community to get us this far. We thank YOU, the community for your prayers for wisdom and direction, along with your help in moving us. We thank the Secretariat and, in particular our Assistant Lay Coordinator, Chuck Stephen.

And while all this has been going on, our Team Selectors have put together (2) great teams (aren't they always great Teams!)

Listed below are the names of the Team members for #234 and #235. Please remember them in your prayers and palanca.

<u>Men's #234</u>

Terry Johnson - Rector & Total Security Marty Ruhland - Asst Rector, Piety & 4th Day Pat Mahaney - Ideals Jess Smith - Laity Tom Bergman - Study Matt Reinbold - Action Steve Flumerfeldt - Leaders & Warden Dave Calveric - Environment Joe Tomasello - CCA Ryan Mahaney - Warden Dave Young - Warden Dave Clifford, MD - Liturgist Deacon Dave Clabeaux Deacon Alex Manunta

Women's #235

Denise Daniels - Rectora & Total Security Donna LoVullo - Asst Rectora & Piety Therese Hahn - Ideals Maria McLaughlin - Laity Kate Emery - Study Karen Trimper - Action Lauri Hahn - Leaders Mary Kay Schaub - Environment Carolyn McNamara - CCA Christine Shilen - 4th Day Mary Lou May - Warden Marie Bukowski-Hehr - Warden Michele Schubert - Liturgist Cheryl Clifford – Liturgist Deacon Mike Quinn Deacon Peter Walders

Father Ron Sajdak will say Mass and hear confessions for both the Men's and Women's weekend.

In Christ,

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

Post-Cursillo:

The next Post-Cursillo event will be a Reunion Mass at 7 PM on Friday September 27th hosted by the Come to the Well Ultreya at All Saints Roman Catholic Parish, 76 Church St., Lockport. **Please note that the Reunion Mass Save the Date email sent to Ultreya Leaders included a different location for the Reunion Mass.** <u>The new location is All Saints Roman Catholic Parish in Lockport.</u> If you sponsored a Cursillista or were a table leader in the last 24-months, please personally invite recent Cursillistas to the Reunion Mass. A personal invite can go a long way!

A date for a fall 4th Day Dinner has not been selected yet since Cursillo is moving to a new location. The date of the 4th Day Dinner will be shared in future newsletters and through Ultreya Leaders.

It was great to see everyone who attended the Buffalo Cursillo Picnic on August 4th that was hosted by the Southtowns Ultreya at Mike and Dawn Quinn's house. Approximately 50 people showed up for mass, fellowship, swimming, and food. Father Adolph from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Orchard Park said mass under a tent while we sat under the shade of a beautiful tree.

Our term leading the Post-Cursillo Section will conclude at the end of the year. Please consider supporting the Buffalo Cursillo Movement by getting involved with the leadership committee, also called the Secretariat. The Post-Cursillo Section is responsible for organizing the 4th Day Dinners, Reunion Masses, and assisting the Ultreya leaders as they may need it. If you are interested or would like to learn more, please ask us. We are very open to recommendations too. It can be someone, a team, or a couple who may fit the role, please let us know and we can reach out. Our contact information follows.

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

Your Post Cursillo Coordinators, Kate Emery – 716-598-5073, <u>emeryinbuffalo@roadrunner.com</u> Mike Emery – 716-207-2834, <u>memery289@gmail.com</u>

School of Leaders:

Pope Francis consecrated 2024 as a Year of Prayer "A Great Symphony of Prayer." Buffalo Cursillo School of Leaders will follow that lead by spending this next school year in the study of prayer. We will kick things off in September with an introduction by Deacon Dave Clabeaux along with a brief lay witness on an individual's evolution of prayer over a lifetime. I hope you will join us. The date for the school is not yet firm. But I am anticipating holding the first school this fall on Saturday, September 21st pending Secretariat approval. So watch the website and an upcoming email announcement once that date is secured. And may the Peace and the Joy of Christ be with you all.

Marty Ruhland School of Leaders Facilitator Call/Text: 716-481-0662 Email: rdservices@roadrunner.com

Treasurer:

As we complete our move to our new Cursillo home in Akron and prepare for our upcoming Fall Weekends, please keep in mind that there are many costs that Cursillo faces. Supplies, prepping a new sight for weekends, kitchen supplies and much more will be needed. In addition to all our prayers for the work performed by so many of our members, there is also a need for any financial support that can be provided. We all look forward to the excitement of a new home, new weekends and new members of our Cursillo Movement that the Lord Jesus has blessed in so many ways.

In addition to donations made on the weekend, donations can be mailed to the Treasurer attention:

Edward Hackett 3921 Main St Strykersville NY 14145

As Always, God Bless and DeColores

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

Secretary:

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

Prayer Request:

Entered into their 5th Day:

John Cinquino (Men's #22) - Died 4/29/24

Ethel Krahling (Women's # 7) – Died May 6th, 2024

If you know of a Cursillista who has died, please call Carol Stier at (71) 692-1606 so she can add the person to this column.

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

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

Upcomina C	Cursillo Dates
Informational Meetings	Reunion Masses
September 25 th meet and greet the Lockport Community at the Bosco Center, next to St. John the Baptist church at 6:00pm (168 Chestnut St, Lockport). Contact Lynn Lomanto for details – lomantolynn@gmail.com September 25 th informational meeting for women about Cursillo at 6:30 PM. Hosted by Dixie Andrews at 12118 Anne Dr. Alden NY 14004. For more information call Dixie at 716- 316-8686 or Sherry Misso at 716-984-0163	 September 27, 2024, Friday at 7 PM at All Saints Roman Catholic Parish, 76 Church St. in Lockport, followed by a Cursillo social sponsored by the Come To The Well Ultreya. Fr. Daniel Ogbelfun will be the celebrant, and Ron Rubino will witness. October – none, Men's Weekend November – none, Women's Weekend
Men's Weekend #234 October 10-13, 2024	Women's Weekend #235 November 7-10, 2024
 10/5 - Support Mass for Men's Team at TDB place 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 @ TBD doors open at 5:30 pm. Dinner at 6:00 pm - Entire Community Welcome 	 Date TBD - Support Mass for Women's Team 11/6 - Set-up for Weekend @ 5:30 pm, 11/7 - Registration from 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm, Sponsors & community prayer service at 8 pm. 11/9 - Break-in, arrive at a time 7 pm 11/10 - Las Mananitas - 6 am (Women only) - 3 pm Closura with community mass Date TBD - 4th Day Dinner; Potluck @ TBD doors open at 5:30 pm. Dinner at 6:00 pm - Entire Community Welcome
OPPORTUNITI	ES FOR STUDY
School of Leaders (Workshop)	Fall Woman's Retreat
 Topic: See the School of Leaders article Speaker: Date: Saturday, September 21 (tentative) Time: 10:30 am – 12 noon(ish) Location: Church of the Annunciation school, 7580 Clinton St., Elma Organizer: Marty Ruhland (716)481-0662 	Topic: Facing the Changes in Our Lives Organizer: Betty Reiter When: Saturday, October 19, 2024 Registration: more information to come Where: Ss Columba-Brigid Church, 75 Hickory St, Buffalo, NY 14204

	В	uffalo C	Cursillo Ultreya Sc	hedule
Ultreya	Date	Time	Location	Contacts
Bethany Cheektowaga & surrounding area	9/10/24 2 nd Tuesday	7:00 PM	Zoom Contact Lynn to be added to the email list	Lynn Lomanto Iomantolynn@gmail.com 585-409-4123
Come to the Well Clarence area	**10/1/24**	7:00 PM	Member House Contact Chris for location	Jack & Christine Thomann 716-583-2324 (Chris – m) 716-583-2320 (Jack – m) <u>cmtpsalm139@gmail.com</u>
Full of Grace Elma area	9/25/24 Last Wednesday January - June Sept. – October	7:00 PM	Member House Contact Marty for location	Marty Ruhland <u>rdservices@roadrunner.com</u> 716-481-0662 (m)
Pueblo de Paz Warsaw area	9/28/24 Last Sunday	7:00 PM	St. Michael's Church 171 N. Main St, Warsaw	Liz Wascak 585-237-5155 <u>ewascak@yahoo.com</u>
Rainbow Vineyard Northtowns area	9/10/24 2 nd Tuesday	7:00 PM	St. Jude the Apostle Parish 800 Niagara Falls Blvd North Tonawanda	Carolyn McNamara 716-694-5949 716-867-8962
	9/24/24 4 th Tuesday			Carolyn Ruhland 716-912-2890 <u>caruhl73@verizon.net</u>
Southtowns Southtowns area	9/5/24 1 st Thursday	7:00 PM	Member House Contact Mary Ann for location	St. Andrew's Permanent Group Mary Ann DeMaria
	9/19/24 3 rd Thursday			716-512-4765 mdemaria@roadrunner.com
Spirit of the City City of Buffalo	No_Meeting (inactive)			