



# THE ARK

Toledo Diocesan Cursillo Mission Statement: Cursillo is a Catholic Lay Movement embraced by the Diocese of Toledo to bring hearts closer to Jesus Christ in order to transform society and be of service to the whole church. It is our mission to form small Christian Communities to deepen Spirituality in ourselves and in others.

## June 2025

Application Forms are on the Website:

[www.cursillo419.org](http://www.cursillo419.org)

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## Spiritual Advisor

We are called to witness Christ to others and bring them into relationship with Him. More specifically, we are called to make a friend, be a friend and bring a friend to Christ. If we want to succeed at that, we must be focused on Jesus and others and less on ourselves. That means we need to continually be working on the virtue of humility.

In one of the Sunday gospels just before Easter, we heard the story of the Pharisees who were intending to stone a woman who had been discovered in adultery. In their lack of virtue and prideful, judgmental perspective, this was the only thing to do. Their hearts of poison and narrow, arrogant attitudes caused them to judge others but blind to their own sinfulness and arrogant behavior. Jesus taught them a lesson by telling them that whoever was sinless among them should cast the first stone. As we know,

they dropped the stones and walked away. And Jesus, showing how He desires us to live, forgave her. God is love and mercy.

All of humanity has a large disfigurement from birth called original sin. It causes us to have something very ugly – human pride. It is the most fundamental of sins and the mother of all vices. It feeds all other sins, worst among them being envy and pride. We need to seek virtue and work daily to rid ourselves of these sins, or our pride will ultimately destroy our spiritual lives, and eventually bar us from eternity in heaven with the Holy Family.

## 2025 FALL WEEKENDS

**Men's -- Sept. 4- 7**  
**Women's - Oct. 16 - 19**

Pride is the most horrible of human vices and inherently against of human nature of God given goodness and ultimately makes us anti-human and destroys our souls. It blinds us and fools us into thinking we are above God and all others. If we want to grow in holiness, we must start by working to eliminate self-pride.

This is a spiritual improvement project that we must all work on. Continuously. When you recognize this in yourself (we all have it), pray about it and seek God's help. He is always there to assist you in seeking virtue. Pray the Litany of Humility often. The Holy Spirit works powerfully through that prayer. Do not always look to be first. Look for ways to serve others. Be extra patient with others. Examine your thoughts and actions daily before bedtime, looking especially for that behavior in your life that day. Go to confession often.

Most of all, remember always that God created us, loves us and in His endless, tender mercy, forgives us if we but ask Him. His spirit is always there to assist us as we seek to grow in His likeness.

DeColores, Deacon Denny Scherger, Cursillo 115

## Lay Director

June tends to be a month of beginnings and endings. Graduations have just occurred or will be occurring soon. There are many weddings. June can be a time for the end of one way of life and the beginning of a new way of life.

I love that we have several opportunities to begin anew a fuller way of living our Christian lives through special feasts this month. We start off on June 1<sup>st</sup> with the Feast of the Ascension, Christ's returning to heaven with the promise of the sending of the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8 "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." What a promise!

And then it happens on the Feast of Pentecost. As Jesus foretold in John 14:26 "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." We may not think that we know the Holy Spirit as well as we know the Father and the Son, but I know that I certainly experience the Holy Spirit the most!

June's feasts also include the Feasts of the Holy Trinity and Corpus Christi. The Feast of the Holy Trinity reminds us of the mystery of three persons in one God. From Jesus' time on earth, we learn from John 16:15a "Everything that the Father has is mine." And although it was so difficult for the apostles to see Jesus go to heaven, he tells them in John 16:7b "For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you."

I was blessed to attend the Eucharistic Congress last year which brought me a deeper appreciation of the Eucharist. What a transforming gift to receive Our Lord, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, every time we attend Mass! Christ becoming a part of us, strengthening us in our vocation as disciples for Him!

June ends with the Feast of the Solemnity of Peter and Paul on June 29<sup>th</sup>. This feast isn't usually assigned to a weekend Mass, but since the date coincides with a Sunday this year, we have the gift to celebrate it when we usually attend Mass. St. Peter encourages us to "get out of the boat" of our comfort zone and step out in faith. St. Paul is the patron saint of Cursillo, leading us to speak of Jesus wherever our environments are.

Both of us want to thank all those who have supported the Cursillo movement in the Toledo Diocese, and us in our position as lay directors for the past 5 years, taking the time and energy to keep Cursillo moving forward. And it is! Please keep our new lay directors Karen Frisch and Troy Peebles in your prayers as they begin this role on July 1.

What a gift the Cursillo movement has been to all of us! We encourage each other in our faith journeys, opening our eyes and lifting our hearts and minds to God in thankfulness for all the blessings that are bestowed on us every day. May your June be filled with many new beginnings in your walk with Christ! Ultreya!

John Lyons  
Kathy Otermat

## Pre-Cursillo

The Men's weekend #299 is September 4th thru September 7th. Team meetings are starting soon and as of now we have no candidate applications. Please keep in mind we need the corresponding sponsor application as well.

The Women's weekend #300 is October 16th thru the 19th. As of now we have 4 candidate applications along with their sponsor applications (Thank You).

Are you planning to be out with friends? (dinner, shopping, fishing, etc.) Are they Catholic? Have they lived a weekend yet? You could be 1/3rd to 2/3rds of the way to bringing your friend to a weekend. You've already made a friend, and are being a friend. Now what about that last step of bringing that friend to Christ, on a weekend? Pray on it!

Please keep in mind also that we need time to send out the invitations and receive a response.

Applications should be sent to Pat Montgomery at [patmontgomery411@gmail.com](mailto:patmontgomery411@gmail.com)

DeColores,  
Pat Montgomery  
Pre-Cursillo Chairperson  
Gary & Helen Keel  
Pre-Cursillo Co-Chairpersons



## Cursillo

Welcome to Spring/Summer. If you would like to be on Mens/Womens Cursillo team please get your Applications to Robert ([robertdrewior774@gmail.com](mailto:robertdrewior774@gmail.com)) or Dave ([dzaborski411@gmail.com](mailto:dzaborski411@gmail.com)) and please put in the Subject Line Team App. we would like some of the newer Candidates to consider being on team. God is good

Sincerley

Bob Drewior & Dave Zaborski

## School of Leaders

Greetings fellow Cursillistas,  
With summer officially just around the corner, school is out. This includes SOL which will not meet again until August 16th. In the meantime, enjoy all those wonderful summer activities!

DeColores,

Shirley Fitz [safnccrn@hotmail.com](mailto:safnccrn@hotmail.com)

Walter Beckford [wbeckford@bex.net](mailto:wbeckford@bex.net)

## Fourth Day

Happy June!! Hope everyone is enjoying this warmer weather. June Focus Day is fast approaching on June 21st and we hope all are planning on attending. As in the past, we will have soups available for lunch and several breakfast items to get the morning off to a great start. Coffee and water will also be available. You may bring a sack lunch also. The day will begin at 8:30am and conclude at 3:00pm. The Tiffin area will not be having an Ultreya in June. Hope to see all of you!

See attached flyer for more details. God's Blessings and Peace to all.

## Spring Focus Day 2025

Come join us as we celebrate 80 years of the Cursillo Movement and 60 years in the Toledo Diocese!



# A History of the Cursillo Movement and other Fascinating Trivia!

**Sat. June 21, 2025 8:30 am – 3:00pm**

**Registration, breakfast and fellowship from 8:30-9:00am**

**St. Wendelin Parish, 323 N. Wood St. Fostoria, OH**

## Schedule for Focus Day, June 21, 2025

8:30-9:00	Breakfast and registration.
9:00-9:10	Song- # 45, Just a Closer Walk
9:10-9:15	Prayer-
9:15-9:30	Introduce yourself to someone you don't know.
9:30-10:00	History – Spain and Beyond – <b>Bill Obringer</b>
10:00-10:30	Discussion
10:30-10:40	Break
10:40-10:50	Song- #20 Companions on the Journey
10:50-11:30	Eduardo Bonin, Who is He – <b>John Lyons</b>
11:30-noon	Discussion
Noon-1:00	Lunch
1:00-1:10	Song-#25 Everyone Moved by the Spirit
1:10- 2:30	Q & A or Snippets, Approx. 15 Min. each.
	How is Cursillo organized? – <b>Bernie Rumschlag</b>
	Toledo Cursillo changes over the years, places, food, funds, closings, walk through, Spanish and English weekends, etc. – <b>Sr. Edna</b>
	What makes Toledo different i.e. Disciples? – <b>Roger Brickner</b>
	How many Cursilloisms can we name?
2:30-3:00	Prayer and Song #21 DeColores
	DeColores! Becky Smeltz, Bill and Betty Obringer





### Prayer request for the month:

Amy - kidney biopsy, Nathan - newborn in the NICU, Kylar Gillig - passed away, Camille - attempted suicide, friend - rough divorce, Cassidy Paige - surgery & in hospital, for foster families, Bill Owens - in hospital, Rick & Evelyn Lenox - car accident, Danielle - possible thyroid cancer, Bill - esophageal cancer, Dave & Monica Zaborski - safe trip, cousin - passed in car accident, Ryan Lee - coming prostate cancer surgery, Charlotte - cellulitis.



# PALANCA

Bob & Alicia Swartzmiller  
De Colores!



### Area Ultreya Information

Area 2 - Ultreyas are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, 2-3p.m. Jaeger Hall, St Clements Church.

Area 7 & 10--Tiffin, Fremont and New Riegel area –Not this month

Area 8 - June Ultreya will be held on June 9, 2025 at Holy Trinity in Bucyrus from 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. All are welcome!

**Witness:**

***Let us know how God is working in your life email to – [judbrick616@gmail.com](mailto:judbrick616@gmail.com)***

***Current openings on Secretariat***

***For your information and reflection -- there are several positions on Secretariat that will be opening for replacements—***

***Co-School of Leaders    / / / /    Co- Pre-Cursillo***

***The current position holders will be with you one year to familiarize you with the service position you assume/step into.***



**Please** reflect on these openings and hear the Holy Spirit to be the Hands, Feet and Voice of Jesus, you can continue to grow in your faith!

*'What a shame it would be if someone came looking for Christ and only found us! But what a blessing if they came looking for us and found Christ!!'*

Eduardo Bonnin, Founder Cursillo Movement

**NATIONAL CURSILLO INFORMATION:** [www.natl-cursillo.org](http://www.natl-cursillo.org) Read about Cursillo news, palanca requests from around the world, or read the national newsletter.

**TOLEDO CURSILLO WEBSITE:** [www.cursillo419.org](http://www.cursillo419.org) Go here to view news of upcoming events, read the current month's Ark or download forms.