



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.

March, 2022

Application Forms are on the

Website: www.cursillo419.org

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Spiritual Advisor

(Each month, a Spiritual Advisor will write an article)

Dear Brother and Sister Cursillistas,

We are at a precious time in the liturgical year of our faith; the beginning of the celebration of Jesus' love for us in being willing to give His life for our salvation! This comes to celebrate yearly because of its importance for all eternity. It's a most beautiful time for prayer from the head and heart to get closer and closer (every year) to Jesus - all of us and each of us....

I haven't had these thoughts I'm now sharing ever in my life before. I find myself growing in faith because of all the things happening in our lives right now including challenging weather and possible war breaking out that might have greater consequences than just Russia and Ukraine. There have been other times in the past when serious things like this were happening pretty much at the same time, and Scripture has captured God's place in it, so we can learn from that. Our sharing of prayers with one another gives the Holy Spirit a great avenue to teach the world how to have faith and hope and love to conquer it all.

Hopefully the concept of synodality is a gift from the Holy Spirit to bring our worlds together in the love of Jesus that is echoed in so many other religions and organizations. It's a chance for growth pretty world-wide in our faith understanding of Christianity in its many expressions that can eventually meet with other faith conceptions in the human condition. A LOT to pray about, eh? And it can also help us handle weather and war and epidemics and other health conditions....

A best sense of Lent is handing up our own thoughts and feelings and experiences and dreams and challenges and hopes and placing them all in the lap of the Lord with his Holy Spirit (however each of us wants to make that happen) so that we can capture a deeper sense of the Love of God!!! I'm going to love hearing good stories as a shepherd of fantastic sheep....

DE Colores!
Fr Skip

Upcoming 2022 Cursillo Weekends

Men's March 10 - 13
Women's March 31 - April 3

Please share how Christ is working in your life.

Email
Nancy Cook at
nancy750@bex.net

Lay Director

(Each month, one of our Lay Directors will write an article.)

Happy Lent!

Our friend Sister Edna Michel introduced me to the phrase, “Happy Lent”. It certainly took me by surprise the first time I heard that! Lent, to me, was a time for fasting, abstaining, making sacrifices, finding more time to spend in prayer, looking at myself more critically for the ways that I fall short in my journey with Jesus. Not exactly what I’d call a joy-filled time with lots of reasons to be happy!

But, brothers and sisters in Christ, we all know that the closer we follow Jesus and the more we amend our lives to what the Savior has called us to be, the happier we are! Winter is a hard time for many of us. Less sun, more time indoors, limitations on our activities due to the weather and other factors. Lent gives me an opportunity to jump start my faith life, to go from stagnant to refreshed! Over time, I have come to appreciate and embrace a Happy Lent! What could be better than finding myself loving the Lord more, experiencing the presence of Jesus more, becoming more at peace with myself and others?

What an opportunity we have this Lent with the men’s and women’s Cursillos!! Along with what Lent’s practices can do for our own faith journey, we can lift our prayers and sacrifices for those attending these weekends as well. I’m thankful to be a part of the team for the women’s weekend. As a result, I’ve started some practices that are helping me to find more time to pray (deleting games off my phone!) and not putting sugar in my hot tea (also helping me to pray when I taste the tea!).

I encourage you to find your own individual path to a more fruitful Lent. In addition, I also ask that you share the gift of yourself with these Cursillos through the offering of palanca and attending the Holy Hours and Closings. I am so thankful that we have candidates (and sponsors) for these Cursillos! Let’s support these candidates as they live their Cursillo weekend and enter into their 4th Day!!

De Colores!

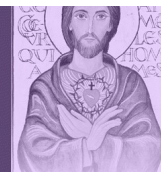
May the peace of Christ always disturb your life!

John Lyons lyons5876@gmail.com

Kathy Otermat kotermat04@gmail.com

“During this Lent,
let us all ask the Lord:
Make our hearts like yours.”

-Pope Francis



Pre-Cursillo

Cursillo #285

Candidate List as of 2/26/2022

Candidate	Parish	Sponsor
Charles Scally	Most Blessed Sacrament	John Lyons
Daniel White	Most Blessed Sacrament	John Lyons
Chuck Dobson	Most Blessed Sacrament	Mike Cherry
Greg Lonsway	St. Michael the Archangel	Ric Smith
Brian Gernert	Holy Trinity, Bucyrus	Deacon Greg Kirk
Alan Bishop	Holy Trinity, Bucyrus	Deacon Jerry Gubernath
David Rodriguez	St. Aloysius, BG	Rami Martinez



There are currently 6 applications received for the women's. Please send any applications as soon as possible to us.

Thank you! De Colores!

Gary & Helen Keel
4236 Woodmont Rd
Toledo Oh 43613
419.476.9347
hkeel@buckeye-express.com
DeColores!

Make a Friend – Be A Friend – Bring a Friend to Christ

Cursillo

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, the men will be just about ready for Cursillo 285, and the women will be deep into team formation for Cursillo 286. We don't have longevity by any means, but having lived Cursillos 169 & 170, it is sometimes beyond comprehension that those weekends were over 100 Cursillos ago! Praise God for that life-changing and faith-changing event in our lives so many years ago. So much time has passed since then, but always in my heart is the knowledge that without my Cursillo family I would often be a bumbling pile of mush. Thank you.

With Lent and the reminder of Jesus' suffering for us foremost in our hearts, this came to mind. I have been helping with the church laundry. Nothing labor intensive like laundering albs ... just doing the finger towels Father uses at Mass and the purificators. I asked the person who was in charge exactly how I should do the laundry. The response was ... "just pretreat the stains and throw it into the wash...". When I had everything laid out to pretreat it, I couldn't get out of my head how much the red wine stains on that white linen looked like dried blood. I heard Jesus saying ... "... of course it does. It IS." I found it impossible to just throw those cloths into the weekly laundry. Working on the stains has become a time of prayer. Ironing each of those cloths is also a bit of prayer time. Something so mundane has become something very prayerful. I suppose I should take a deeper look into my life and see that EVERYTHING that seems mundane should be prayerful.



As soon as these next 2 beautiful weekends are concluded and we usher our new family into Fourth day, it will be time to think about team formation for the Fall weekends! The cycle keeps going! Please contact us if you are interested in serving. It may be a chance to see some "stains" and pray over them.

Blessed Lent to each of you!
Love and Prayers
The Huffmans
3823 Willys Parkway
Toledo Oh 43612
419.476.5589
mrhottsmom@outdrs.net

**NOTE THAT FOR MEN'S CURSILLO #285, BROTHER DAN HALL
WILL NOW BE SHARING THE PIETY TALK**

Women's Team 286

<u>Position</u>		<u>Assigned</u>
Spiritual Directors		Father Kevin Moebius Deacon Jerry Gubernath
Rectors		Judy Ruhlen Kathy Otermat
Sacristan		Jan Stainbrook
Musician		Jeanne Badik
Disciples	Head	Barb Grycza Patti Kreilick Joanne Kosta Beulah Horn Linda Gubernath
Shepherds	Head	Karen Reinhart Elaine Sweet Barb Stager Chrissy Vasko
<u>Talks</u>		
Ideals		Barb Stager
Lay Person in the Church		Elaine Sweet
Piety		Annie Blum
Study		Chrissy Vasko
Action		Deb Karbowskiak
Leaders		Jane Distel
Study of the Environment		Therese Cherry
Christianity in Action		Jan Stainbrook
The Cursillista Beyond the Cursillo		Kathy Otermat
Total Security - Group Reunion, Ultreya		Judy Ruhlen

School of Leaders

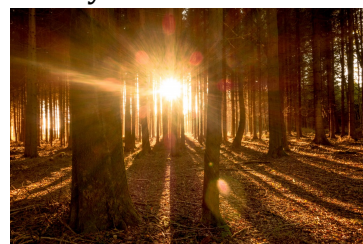
Greetings to all of our Cursillo family!

Today I am reminded of a story of light. Picture a bright light (similar to the sun) with rays coming out. The farther the rays are from the sun, the less bright they are and likewise, the closer they get to the center, the brighter they shine.

Let's all stay as close to the Son as we can so we can lead others to Him as well! School of Leaders is a great way to do that and we are always open to growing our team. Let us know if you are interested or hear that call.

Our March SOL will be on Saturday, March 19 from 9AM-noon. Doors open at 8:30 AM. We will be in the Marian room at St Michaels in Findlay. That is the first room on the right after you turn right at the first hallway.

Our Scripture reading and reflection will be done by Mike Cherry.



Chapter 1 of "From Christendom to Apostolic Mission" will be done by Sr. Edna.
Chapter 2 of "Into His Likeness" by Edward Sri will be done by Dale Fair.

We do have a few extra books for purchase if you don't have a copy.
We had great fellowship and discussions in February and look forward to learning and growing closer to the light of Christ with you through song, prayers, dialogue, sharing food and of course, hugs!
All are welcome! We have plenty of space in this room.
We will have the hot water & coffee on. Feel free to bring a snack to share.

See you on the 19th!
DeColores, friends!
Annie Blum annieblum516@gmail.com
Walter Beckford wbeckford@bex.net

Fourth Day

From the Fourth Day Team

Isaiah 43: 18-19 *Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In the wilderness I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers.*



Remember the warm events of the past. Now look forward. In life change comes. We find ourselves in a new place and a new way to do things. This is so true for all of us during this pandemic. Now a new beginning is taking place. We have a new home for our Weekends. A new way to do things and rejoice in all things God has blessed us with. With great anticipation I look forward to this new place, the St. Francis Spirituality Center on the St. Francis Campus in Tiffin.

We are so blessed that the Tiffin Franciscans, Sisters of St. Francis have opened their home to us. When one door closes God opens another. This is truly a blessing for us. Both the Men's and Women's English-speaking weekends will be held in their Spirituality Center. Our Holy Hour and Closing will be held in the St. Francis Convent chapel, next to the Spirituality Center. We will not have a Fourth Day Chapel to drop in and pray here this Spring. Please pray at home or in your parish church for the success of these weekends. You may drop off Palanca just inside the "north" door of the Spirituality Center. There will be a boxed marked for your letters.

Holy Hour and Closing Information:

Holy Hour. We will meet in the St. Francis Convent chapel next to the Spirituality Center at 8:00 PM Saturday. We will be serenading outside for the protection of the candidates and sisters.

Closing will also be held in the St. Francis Convent chapel. We will meet at 5:30 PM. At both events you will be required to wear a mask. If you are unable to use stairs we have made arrangements to use the elevator inside convent to reach the chapel.

We will have fourth day members to help guide you. For GPS the address is:

Sisters of St. Francis, 200 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin, OH 44883

De Colores! Karen Reinhart, John and Luanne Welch, Toledo Cursillo 4th Day



Prayervine

Mike Wise - heart surgery, Mike - passed away, Goddaughter's son - heart surgery, Bob Drewior - radio frequency ablation, Ava - cancer, CJ - brain aneurysm, a son - died from leukemia, friend's son - addiction, CJ - doctor's visit, Joe Coleman - infection, Nancy - afib procedure, Debbie - stroke & peace of mind, Matthew - court appearance, friend's nephew - seizures, Melina -

molested & pregnant, family whose daughter committed suicide, for Ukraine conflict, Mike Wise - heart surgery, Mike - passed away, Goddaughter's son - heart surgery, Bob Drewior - radio frequency ablation, Ava - cancer, CJ - brain aneurysm, a son - died from leukemia, friend's son - addiction, CJ - doctor's visit, Joe Coleman - infection, Nancy - afib procedure, Debbie - stroke & peace of mind, Matthew - court appearance, friend's nephew - seizures, Melina - molested & pregnant, family whose daughter committed suicide, for Ukraine conflict.

Please send your prayer requests to Jane Distel at prayersaregoingup@gmail.com.

Palanca Requests

“March” to the beat of a different drum. “March” madness. Beware, the ides of “March”. Processional “march”, “March” 17th, a wedding “march” or even a “march” for peace. We often hear about the word “march” (or some form of it), probably almost every day.



When I think of the word “march”, in relation to Lent, I think of the long, laborious “march” that our Lord Jesus took on Calvary. When there are programs on the Passion you sometimes hear the beat of the drum to keep

Jesus and the other men on track as they walk- like a march. How difficult that would have been to watch this march, more or less walk it, carrying a heavy tree, besides. Just for a moment, put yourself at the scene. How would you have reacted on that very day? Would you have been one of the crowd saying, “Crucify him”? And as Jesus’ friend, would you have turned away and denied Jesus? I ask you to take some time this Lenten season to reflect upon His Passion. Put yourself there. Feel the anger, the helplessness, the sorrow. Then, put yourself at the foot of His cross and pray for forgiveness. He did IT, because He loves YOU.

There are 47 Cursillos in the month of March. That is up amazingly from last month alone (only 11 in Feb). Thanks be to God. Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Maybe recite the Stations of the Cross for them this month. God bless and happy Lent.

DeColores,
Jan Stainbrook, Palanca Chair



Notice to Fourth Day About upcoming Cursillo weekends at St. Francis in Tiffin

Palanca can be dropped off just inside the north entrance to the spirituality center (by the deck). There will be a box just inside the door.

Holy Hour on Saturday evening and **Apostolic Holy Hour on Sunday** will take place in St. Francis Convent chapel, next to the spirituality center. Parking is available in the stone parking lot off the drive to the right as you enter the property. Continue up the drive to the right for closer parking at the west end of the convent, or the south side of St. Francis Spirituality Center. All capable walkers and climbers are asked to enter the chapel by the outside stairs on the front side of the convent, far left(east) side).

Elderly and handicapped individuals are asked to follow the drive past the spirituality center and go around to the south parking lot. Then enter the building by the south portico door and take the elevator up to the chapel level.

There will be Fourth Day people helping to direct traffic.

Masks are required inside chapel, including while entering the building (for those using the south portico door).

Secretariat Member openings

Current Openings



Cursillo
Post-Cursillo (4th day)
Hispanic Representative
Communications

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 Read about Cursillo news, palanca requests from around the world, or read the national newsletter.

CURSILLO WEBSITE: www.cursillo419.org Go here to view news of upcoming events, read the current month's Ark or download forms.

CURSILLISTA AND FRIENDS GATHERING

WHEN: MARCH 26TH

WHERE: MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH TOLEDO OHIO
IN THE DONNELLY NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER KELLY
ROOM, CORNER OF BELLEVUE AND GRANTWOOD

TIME: 2 - 5 PM

FOOD: MEXICAN FARE DINNER

COST? NO CHARGE!! FREE WILL OFFERINGS WILL BE
ACCEPTED TO HELP DEFRAY FOOD COSTS

WHO? FOR CURSILLISTA'S AND FRIENDS (THOSE WHO WE
WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE TO THE CURSILLO
METHOD)

**PLEASE RSVP BY MARCH 19TH
TO JOHN OR MARY LYONS @
lyons5876@gmail.com
OR mary.lyons0716@gmail.com**

IF YOU ARE SO INCLINED, PLEASE BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE !!