



# 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.

## August 2025

Application Forms are on the Website:

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

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## Spiritual Advisor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May the Lord bless you hugely with His peace. In this jubilee year of HOPE, we tap our many blessings received from the powerful gift of Cursillo. We need to claim those blessings because we need them. In many situations, whether in our own lives or in the lives of our loved ones or in the lives of strangers to us, we find a definite challenge to the new life our Lord calls us to live. We might find unrest in our own souls, minds and bodies, little areas of darkness that nag at us and whisper that we are on the wrong path. We might experience sadness related to our own struggles and apparent losses or are sad because these struggles are in the lives of our loved ones. No matter the source, we can experience challenges, sufferings, struggles that can seem to make us want to give up, just quit the journey of Faith, or make us, briefly, ponder, "Is my Cursillo connection not real?" This is when we wake up and

realize, "No, I am on this journey of the Jubilee Year of Hope, and I am going to imitate St. Paul who told his friends, 'I add my sufferings to fulfill those of Christ.'" We are Cursillo! We are a people of Hope; let's use it; let's share it.



## Fall 2025

**Mens -- September 4-7th**

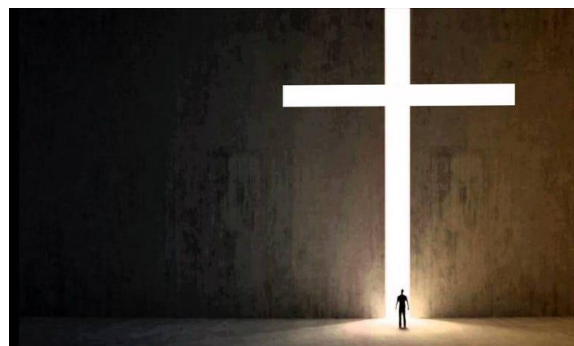
**Women's --October 16- 19th**

As we walk this Jubilee path of hope I offer some tidbits from St. Luke's Gospel on the Sundays of August. These words of Jesus really struck me as a Cursillista called to live a life full of HOPE. May they touch you deeply.

August 3 - One's life does not consist of possessions. Do not store up treasures for yourselves; rather, be rich in what matters to God. August 10 - An inexhaustible treasure in heaven where no thief can reach nor moth destroy is waiting for you. Be

careful; where your treasure is there also will your heart be. August 17 - Jesus said, "I have come to set the earth on fire and how I wish it were already blazing! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division."

August 24 - Jesus said, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." You will stand outside the door knocking and saying, "Lord, open the door for us." He will say to you in reply, "I do not know where you



are from. Depart from Me..." August 31 - Jesus told the crowd, "When you hold a party or have a special meal, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you."

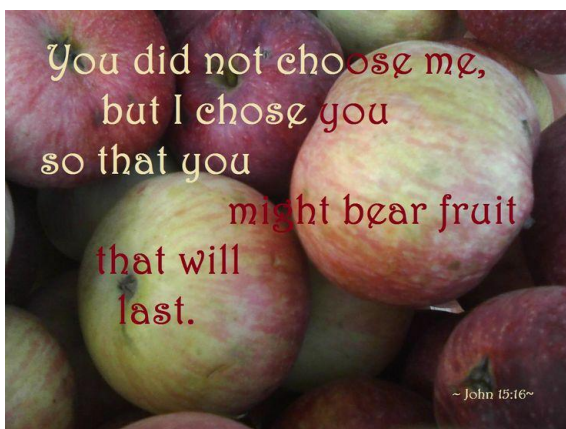
Sisters and brothers, we are called to hope in the One who is extravagant and generous in love. Let's cling to Him and follow His example. De Colores! Fr. Jim Morman



from our  
Community  
Lay Director

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. This I command you, to love one another. John 15:16-17

God chooses YOU and me every moment of every day. He chose you to be where you are, doing what you are with whoever you are, at this time in the world. It's not by chance that you made Cursillo, as God was calling you. Yes YOU! We are all chosen and called to bear fruit and be his witness to all in our lives. Is it easy? Sometimes more than others if I'm being honest. He never said it would be easy, he simply asks us to do it. To be his hands and feet, heart and voice to everyone in our lives.



It's through my piety and spending quiet time with God in particular and my study by reading the daily readings and listening to Christian music that I find myself strengthened and ready for action. In "feeding" myself in this way I find myself ready to be Christ to the world. Choosing to be Christ to the world through my hands, feet, heart and voice. Again, is it easy? Not everyday, or every moment or with everyone. But without my piety and study, allowing God's Spirit to guide me, I would fail miserably. Keep your heart and mind open and he will guide you!

We'd like to ask for continued prayer for two men in our Cursillo community who have chosen to serve our Lord as Permanent

Deacons. After four years of intense study, and much devotion to prayer Don Fritsch and Chris Solly will be ordained Permanent Deacons on Saturday, September 13 at 10:00 am at the Rosary Cathedral in Toledo. Until then the prayer and study continue along with a week long retreat at Maria Stein in August.

Don and Chris feel called by God to serve as Permanent Deacons for the Diocese of Toledo. Mind you this is not for everyone. But where or to what are you feeling called? God has chosen you! Are you listening with your heart open to his Spirit? How are you bearing fruit for his kingdom?

Blessings,

Karen Fritsch and Troy Peebles



The Men's weekend #299 is September 4th thru September 7th. We are on team meeting five this week. As of now I have 2 mens candidate applications. I have also been told about other possible applications headed my way. As you are aware I cannot count on possibilities. So please keep those applications coming! The men's weekend will be here before you know it. The women are beating the men in applications by more than 2-1 at this point. We have plenty of beds men. Let's fill them up!

The Women's weekend #300 is October 16th thru October 19th. Their team meetings will be starting soon. As of now I have 5 womens candidate applications. Keep them coming! We have plenty of room.

Summer is always such a busy time for everyone. Even if you have made a friend, and are being a friend, between your schedule and theirs it can be hard to find time to invite your friend. Much less getting the application filled out and turned in. If you've prayed about inviting your friend, and you believe Jesus wants your friend invited, don't let Jesus down. Make the time to invite your friend and get the application turned in. Don't let busy schedules get in the way of bringing your friend to Jesus for the weekend. Jesus is using you, for a reason.

Keep in mind when sending candidate applications in, I need the corresponding sponsor application as well. Also please keep in mind that once we receive the candidate's application we need time to review them, send out the invitations, and receive a response. Cut off dates to send invitations by email are 1 week before the weekends and by mail are 2 weeks before the weekends.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 419-654-3604. You may need to leave a message, but I will return your call.

May God give us a bountiful harvest of candidates to sit at His weekend tables!

Applications should be sent by email to:

Pat Montgomery  
at [patmontgomery411@gmail.com](mailto:patmontgomery411@gmail.com)

By mail: Pat Montgomery 155 E. Keegan St. Deerfield, MI 49238  
DeColores, Pre-Cursillo Chairperson

## Cursillo

Happy summer to all.

Already we are bumping up against August.

Wow! time seems to move faster with every year that passes.

Seems like I was a young father just a few years back. Now I get up in the morning and my body reminds me that I am 70.

Now for some great news. The men's Cursillo #299 team is now meeting as we approach the fall weekends. We have a good number of first timers on the team. Even better, many are giving talks. As always, the professors seem nervous. I was always told when nervous, God was trying to shake the truth out of me. I'm sure the guys will do fine and I know the Holy Spirit will be present to guide them.

Don't forget that the ladies #300 team will soon be meeting also.

Please remember to pray for all.

God bless all!

Dave Zaborski

If you are interested in working a Cursillo in the future, Robert Drewior and I need your applications. Send them to [Dzaborski411@gmail.com](mailto:Dzaborski411@gmail.com) and/or [robertdrewior774@gmail.com](mailto:robertdrewior774@gmail.com).

### The Fourth Day

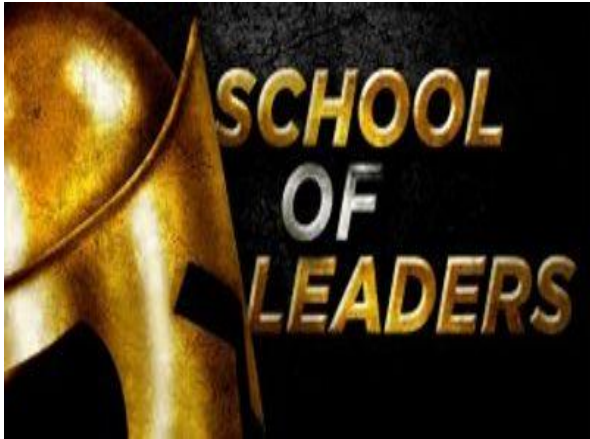
- Specific support for prayer, study, and action through:
  - Ongoing small groups to encourage one another
  - Larger gatherings to hear encouraging examples of Christian action (Ultreya).



Hope everybody is enjoying this hot summer. The Men's team 299 is meeting in preparation for the fall Cursillo on Sept. 4-7 at St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin. The women's team is complete and will begin meetings on Aug. 14th. Continue to pray for both teams and candidates. Becky Smeltz, Bill and I are on each team and if anyone would like to give a witness on either Holy Hours or Closings, please let us know. We would be glad to hear how Christ is working in your lives. God bless all of you and hold you in His loving arms. Bill, Betty and Becky

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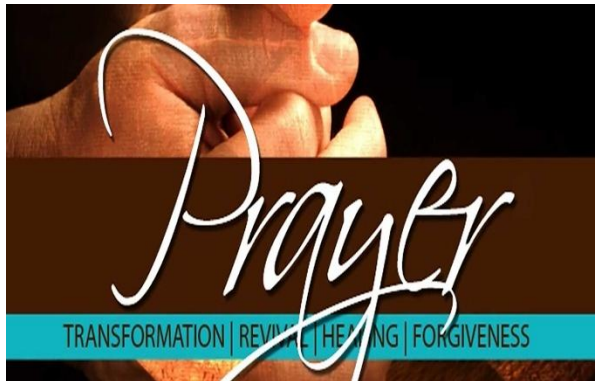


Hello fellow Cursillistas,

It's hard to believe it is August already. School will be starting soon and that is true for School of Leaders as well. We are back on August 16<sup>th</sup> in the Marian room at St. Michael's in Findlay. Walt Beckford will be presenting the scripture reading. Monsignor Tad Oxley will guide us through "What Nobody Ever Told Me" pages 69-87. Bill Obringer will present "Rediscover Jesus" by Matthew Kelly Chapters 1 and 2.

For those who still need the book, they will be available at SOL for \$4.00. We look forward to seeing you on August 16th. If you wish, bring a snack to share.

Shirley Fitz  
[safnccrn@hotmail.com](mailto:safnccrn@hotmail.com)  
 Walter Beckford  
[Wbeckford@bex.net](mailto:Wbeckford@bex.net)



Paula - brain tumor issues, Laurie - needs prayer, Colton - DUI, need prayers, Barb - pulmonary embolism & blood clots, Margaret Boltz - knee surgery, Ron, cancer with infection & sepsis, Dcn. Stan Pryblek - passed away, Jessica - pregnancy complications, Greg - serious tooth problems, Pat - joint pain.

# ultreya

## 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-- August 24th at St. Joseph Activity Center, Tiffin at 7pm

Area 8 - Area 8 August 11, 2025 at St Joe's in Galion from 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. All are welcome!



# PALANCA

As we move through the heart of summer, the sun reminds us of its strength. The long, hot days can wear us down. In many ways, this season mirrors the Cursillo journey—challenging, refining, and full of unexpected beauty.

Try embracing the heat without complaint and offer it up as Palanca. This may seem like a little thing, but offered in love and prayer, it becomes a powerful tool in God's hands. That's what Palanca is—spiritual effort offered so that others may be lifted up.

Let the summer heat be a reminder of the fire of the Holy Spirit, burning not to exhaust us, but to refine us—so we may go forth and bring the light of Christ to every corner of our world.

In love and prayer, Bob & Alicia

## De Colores!

8/7/2025	8/10/2025	Men's 123 (English)	San Diego, CA	<a href="mailto:lsigarlaki@gmail.com">lsigarlaki@gmail.com</a>
8/7/2025	8/10/2025	Women's 394 (English )	Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN	<a href="mailto:EnglishWomenPalanca@tc-cursillo.org">EnglishWomenPalanca@tc-cursillo.org</a>
8/7/2025	8/10/2025	Men's 41 (English)	Belleville, IL	<a href="mailto:bellevillewomencursillo@gmail.com">bellevillewomencursillo@gmail.com</a>
8/7/2025	8/10/2025	Men's 778 (Filipino)	San Francisco, CA	<a href="mailto:lchin53@yahoo.com">lchin53@yahoo.com</a>
8/7/2025	8/10/2025	Women's 780 (Filipino)	San Francisco, CA	<a href="mailto:lchin53@yahoo.com">lchin53@yahoo.com</a>
8/14/2025	8/17/2025	Women's 26 (Spanish)	Memphis, TN	<a href="mailto:Cursillomem901@outlook.com">Cursillomem901@outlook.com</a>
8/14/2025	8/17/2025	Men's 147 (English)	Birmingham, AL	<a href="mailto:greg.pollard@gmail.com">greg.pollard@gmail.com</a>

8/14/2025	8/17/2025	US National Encounter (All)	Seattle, WA	<a href="mailto:roostersregion2@gmail.com">roostersregion2@gmail.com</a>
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8/14/2025	8/17/2025	Womens's 1079 (Vietnamese)	Los Angeles, CA	<a href="mailto:gt@yahoo.com">gt@yahoo.com</a>
8/14/2025	8/17/2025	Men's 16 (Spanish)	Guaviare, Colombia	<a href="mailto:a@yahoo.">a@yahoo.</a>
8/21/2025	8/24/2025	Men's Cursillo (Vietnamese )	San Jose, CA	<a href="mailto:haiducnguyen1407@gmail.com">haiducnguyen1407@gmail.com</a>
8/21/2025	8/24/2025	Men's 82 (English)	Charleston, SC	<a href="mailto:amarcella1206@yahoo.com">amarcella1206@yahoo.com</a>
8/21/2025	8/24/2025	Men's 50 (Korean)	Los Angeles, CA	<a href="mailto:Koreancursillo.la@gmail.com">Koreancursillo.la@gmail.com</a>
8/21/2025	8/24/2025	Men's 1080 (Vietnamese)	Los Angeles, CA	<a href="mailto:marynhuongt@yahoo.com">marynhuongt@yahoo.com</a>
8/21/2025	8/24/2025	Men's 148 (English)	Mobile, AL	<a href="mailto:@gmail.com">@gmail.com</a>
8/21/2025	8/24/2025	Men's 265 (Spanish)	Sacramento, CA	<a href="mailto:mccsacramento@outlook.com">mccsacramento@outlook.com</a>
8/21/2025	8/24/2025	Women's 66 (English)	Albany, NY	<a href="mailto:i82muchmandms@g mail.com">i82muchmandms@g mail.com</a>
8/28/2025	8/31/2025	Women's 246 (Filipino)	San Jose, CA	<a href="mailto:fsjcursillopalanca@yahoo.com">fsjcursillopalanca@yahoo.com</a>
8/28/2025	8/31/2025	Women's 107 (English/Filipino)	Oakland, CA	<a href="mailto:nvamedoff@aol.com">nvamedoff@aol.com</a>
				<a href="mailto:haiducnguyen1407@gmail.com">haiducnguyen1407@gmail.com</a>

8/28/2025	8/31/2025	Women's Cursillo (Vietnamese )	San Jose, CA	
				<a href="mailto:Maryvazquez42@gmail.com">Maryvazquez42@gmail.com</a>
8/28/2025	8/31/2025	Women's 14 (Spanish)	Springfield, MA	

**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.