

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.

September, 2021

Application Forms are on the
Website: www.cursillo419.org

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Upcoming 2021 Cursillo Weekends

Men's Sept. 16-19
Spanish Men's Sept. 30 - Oct. 3
Women's Oct. 14-17

**Please share how Christ is
working in your life.**

Email

Nancy Cook at
nancy750@bex.net

Spiritual Advisor

(Each month, a Spiritual Advisor will write an article)
My beloved sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Praise be God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has called us into His own family and to be His chosen people disciples, ministers and apostles in our day and age.

As many of you know I am one of the Spiritual Directors for our Diocesan Cursillo Movement along with Sr. Edna and Fr. Skip Littellmann. I am also the spiritual director of the MCCR (Ministry of Catholic Charismatic Renewal). We just invited Fr. Kevin Moebius to join our Board. Steve Toth has been a long time director of the MCCR and has retired from that position. We have searched for a new director to follow Steve and recently found a person who was willing to accept that position. His name is David Ordorica. He and his family live in the Toledo area and he served at St Rose Parish in Perrysburg most recently.

The MCCR is hosting a **Praise Worship and Welcome** to officially welcome David and his family to our Ministry. The event is scheduled for Wednesday September 29, 2021 at St Jerome Church in Walbridge, Ohio, from 7-9 pm.
Please see the notice at the end of this article..

In a very special way, I **INVITE** all of you, my Cursillo family to attend, pray with us and support Dave and the Charismatic Ministry. Many of the folks in the Charismatic movement began through the Cursillo experience. So mark your calendars and join us that night.

The second thing:

I participated in a Zoom Conference on June 21-23, from 8 - 10 pm each night. It was sponsored by the National Assembly of the Charis National Service Communion - a Virtual conference with about 68 participants across the country and Canada.

CHARIS. This is an effort by Pope Francis: **First**, to Share the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with everybody- it is a total Catholic thing, not supposed to be sequestered away and only known, expressed by Charismatic experience. **Second**, Build the Unity of Believers -Bring all the Charismatic groups and Ministries together, including Cursillo -as I read it-including other Christian

expressions; and **Third**, to Serve the Poor, reaching out to those who are both physically and spiritually poor. This would include families and youth.

All are called to Evangelization of the world -to witness love- cannot function or thrive without love. "See how they (Christians) love one another."

The call to Communion - Unity - not uniformity - both diversity in worship (including Eastern Right and other Christian denominations. Working for Unity - relational unity by being fully aware of who we are and brothers and sisters to be fully aware of who they are.

Look beyond ourselves and rely on the Holy Spirit

- Real leaders know when it is time to follow
- We have to be team players
- Humility and willingness to learn (know what you don't know and ask for help)
- Make sacrifices (step down as needed)

Our temptation is to take what the Lord gives us and hold on tight to it and never let go - while the Lord wants us to open our hands and hearts.

The Challenges as Leaders and Encouragement.

- Be apostles grounded in the Gospel -witness the life of Christ, lived on our lives.
- Give witness to your encounter with Jesus
- Live the word, proclaim Jesus as Lord,
- Be people of prayer and praise,
- Be close to the poor and needy (get out to meet them in their need) It is not just a "Catholic" thing but also Ecumenical (all sons and daughters in Jesus Christ.)ministries.
- Seek to foster unity among all charismatic.

The First Goal of Charis is to share the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with all people of the world.

Be creative and use new ways to attract people to share the Baptism of the Holy Spirit: go find them. The emphasis is to be a part of the community - that the efforts of the Holy Spirit may continue in the community = growth of the community of believers and use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit (Charisms).

Proper focus on the growth and building of leaders - guiding people to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit but beyond just the practice of the gifts.

What are we doing to further the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and growth? Use of **ALPHA; Life in the Spirit Seminars**, DVDs and weekends; Fr Dave Pivonka's **Wild Goose Series**

The Second Goal: Build the Unity of Believers.

Reflect a CURRENT OF Grace flowing through Christian Communities. Look to the Word of God: Acts 1 "all in one place..." John 7:21 -"all are one"; Acts 10 and "Peter saw the Holy Spirit come upon Cornelius' family and the Gentiles being called by God". Don't get in God's way.

The Holy Spirit works to produce Unity. We must seek a truly Christ centered communication with other religions while valuing and treasuring various Community Ecumenical Groups.

We can learn from each other. Pope Francis sees the vast diversity and we must expand our own horizons. Remember God is in charge.

Be willing to be humble, mistakes happen, repent and repair. Also remember from Revelations the battle in heaven between the good and bad angels. The devil looks to separation and disunity.

The Third Goal: To serve the Poor - physically and spiritually poor.

Part of this goal is also to reach out to the youth. How are we bringing our young people in to experience the Holy spirit and the ministry and life of an evangelist. Be creative.

Remember National Event 50 years ago the people who first experienced the Baptism of the Holy Spirit were young college people. 50 years later they are still involved but where are the young people following. (We can say the same thing for our Cursillo Community.)

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time 29 August 2021

When serving the poor....Matthew 25 ministry. Words and works of mercy, inner healing, finding Jesus in the poor and marginalized. (use the example of St. Mother Teresa, her faith and witness as our model.) Go to the marginalized - the homeless in the streets and other areas and in their own homes.

Finally: Bishop Andrew Cozzens, Archbishop of St Paul/Minn, spoke about the Eucharistic REVIVAL in the Church.

The first year will begin in the year 2023 and focus on the Diocesan level:

The second year, 2024, will focus on the Parish level - also- include personal:

The third year, 2025, will focus on a National Event -City in the Midwest.

Aim is to affect the Church at every level - 6 pillars

1. Foster a persona encounter with Jesus - charismatic adoration
2. Contemplate the Real Presence - the truth that transforms our hearts.
3. Roll out in groups like charismatic renewal;
 - Executive level and groups on a national level
 - Eucharist unites us - the Person we all love.
4. Reach out to smaller communities - literature; distribution of free materials.
5. Embrace multi-culture events.
6. Prepare for the National Event.

I know there is a lot of material here but I think it important that we know it and can reflect on it and share it with others.

I do hope you all can make plans for September 29 and join us to welcome David, our new director. May our God be praised! Lord, what are your plans for us?

Fr Jim Brown



Lay Director

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

As I ponder what best addresses what's in and on my heart these days, it's HOPE. Cursillo weekends are scheduled to take place soon. School of Leaders and Secretariat have met in person. The weather is expected to be more comfortable. Family reunions are occurring again. I've been to my county fair. Such blessings!

In the midst of these blessings, I can also easily be weighed down by the struggles of this world. We are not free from disease, distrust, and disenchantment. But I can turn to the Lord speaking to me from Scripture with the only balanced view: Psalm 42:12 "Why are you downcast, my soul, why do you groan within me? Wait for God, for I shall again praise him, my Savior and my God."

This is the call for the followers of Christ - not to pretend that all is well when it's not, not to proclaim that all is bad because it's not. It's to remember that God is in control, that His plan for us is best. It may not be the easiest, or what we would choose if we were given a choice, but it is the best. One of my favorite Scripture passages that has carried me in tough times, and given more reason to rejoice in celebratory times, is from Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

I am so blessed to have experienced Cursillo - the weekend and the 4th Day. Both have been integral to my life in Christ. I have learned from the witness of my dear friends in Christ to see and appreciate the gift of HOPE that I have received. From Isaiah 40:31, "They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength, they will soar on eagles' wings. They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint."

These are changes for the upcoming weekends:

1. **The weekend will be mask optional.**
2. **The team will be predominantly mask free.**
3. **The team and candidates will be in close contact the entire weekend.**
4. **A form will be emailed to the sponsors for the candidates to sign that indicates that they are aware that masks are optional and distancing is optional. The candidates will have that form when they arrive.**
5. **Team members will be staying together, 2 to a room. The candidates will have separate bedrooms.**
6. **The week before the Cursillo, teams and candidates are to be especially observant of keeping themselves safe, sequestering if at all possible.**
7. **If a team member doesn't feel good, regardless of what their role is, they are asked to STAY HOME. It is better to have a smaller team or delay the weekend, if necessary, than to make people sick.**
8. **The Secretariat will make the decision whether a weekend would be canceled.**
9. **4th Day bringing Palanca to the weekend will be placing it in a drop box outside the building near the Palanca Chapel (at the rear of the building). People who are not candidates or on the team will not be going into the building.**
10. **If the 4th Day wants to spend time in prayer while coming to drop off Palanca during the weekend, they will be directed to the Basilica.**
11. **The Serenade is currently planned to be outside.**
12. **4th Day will be asked to wear masks at the Closing, which will be held in the White Church. There will be no Embrazio.**

May the peace of Christ always disturb your life!
De Colores!

John Lyons lyons5876@gmail.com
Kathy Otermat kotermat04@gmail.com

Pre-Cursillo

As I was reflecting on what I wanted to share this month, the word 'family' kept coming to mind. Over the past few months, the Cursillo family has been there just when they were needed. When I called a Cursillista, there were no questions asked, just 'what can we do' or 'how can we help'. Isn't that what family is all about, being there for each other no matter what. What a wonderful Cursillo family we have!

As of this writing, we have four confirmed candidates for the men's weekend, with a couple more applications that have just come in, and will be invited. For the women, there are more applications coming in, and we have at least 12 to be invited. Deadline for sending applications for the women is Sept. 23. If possible, please scan and email the applications, then they don't get delayed in the mail. If you are not able to scan, please email me that you will be sending the applications, along with the names of the candidates. That way I can be watching for them.

Just a reminder that my term on Secretariat will be ending, and we are looking for someone interested in taking over this position. Please feel free to contact me, or any member of the Secretariat, if you are interested. I will help you to get started. Please continue to pray for our candidates, and for the weekends as they approach. It is exciting to be getting ready for weekends again.
Have a happy and safe Labor Day weekend.
DeColores!

MaryAnn Hohman
Pre-Cursillo Chairperson
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419-681-5892
102 Oakley Meadow Lane
Tiffin, OH 44883

English Men's Candidates Sept. 16-19, Our Lady of Consolation Retreat House, Carey, OH

1. Donald Curtis - Toledo St. Pius; Sponsor Joseph Manner
2. Thomas Soper - Toledo St. Catherine; Sponsor Bryan Blevins
3. Patrick Hanna - Tiffin St. Mary; Sponsor Mike Baltzell
4. Fr. Kevin Mobius - Mansfield St. Peter; Sponsors Mike and Therese Cherry

Spanish Men's Candidates/Sponsors Sept. 30 - Oct. 3, Our Lady of Consolation Retreat House, Carey, OH

1. Jesus Arroyo - Wauseon St. Casper; Sponsor Valentin Bernal
2. Jose Garcia - Fostoria St. Wendelin; Sponsor Mario Diaz
3. David Rodriguez - BG St. Aloysius; Sponsor Ramiro Martinez
4. Manuel Rocillo - Wauseon St. Casper; Sponsor Valentin Bernal
5. Santiago Rafael - Wauseon St. Casper; Sponsor Valentin Bernal
6. Jesus Hernandez Lopez - Wauseon St. Casper; Sponsor Valentin Bernal
7. Luis Arturo - Wauseon St. Casper; Sponsor Valentin Bernal

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

Cursillo

The cold front came through last night and today it will only be 84 degrees. My Uncle Horace (may he rest in cool peace) always said: "When I die I know I'm not going to hell because I've lived in Arizona for 50 years." After this summer, I tend to agree with Uncle Horace. High temperatures and our creature comforts are totally irrelevant, however, in the midst of the trauma in Afghanistan, hurricanes, wildfires and another upsurge of the Covid. It all feels so very overwhelming. It may feel like we are walking through fire. So this is the perfect time to BE on fire for all the things of God. For our Church. For the Sacraments. This is the perfect time to put ourselves in the arms of Jesus and under the mantle of Mother Mary. And the perfect time for our Cursillo family to be joined together again at the Fall weekends! Can't wait for this family reunion!

Thank you to everyone who sent team applications to us. It made our "job" very easy. Come November we'll be after you all again for Spring weekend apps!

In the meantime we pray with fervent fire for the Spanish and English weekends. For all those suffering from the sadness of the world and for the deepest needs of each of your hearts.

There are 2 Men's Cursillos occurring this month. The teams for each are as follows:

English Men's Cursillo weekend is September 16 thru September 19, 2021

Spiritual Directors: Father Chris Bonsack and Deacon Andy McMahon

Rector: Jamie Biddle

Assistant Rector: Don Fritsch, Jr.

Sacristan: Art Ringle

Troubador: Jim Vasko

Ideals: Bill Dukeshire

Laity in the Church: Troy Peebles

Piety: Dave Estep

Study: Jim Vasko

Action: Tim Distel

Leaders: Art Ringle

Study of the Environment: Al Ramirez

Christianity in Action: Mike Ruhlen

Shepherds: Tim Distel (Head), Bill Dukeshire, Mike Kahaleck, Don Swartz

Disciples: Joe Manner (Head), Jamie Southers, Walter Beckford

Spanish Men's Cursillo weekend is September 30 thru October 3, 2021.

RECTOR: Ramiro Martinez – Fostoria, St. Wendelin

ASST. RECTOR: Juan Duran Toledo, Ohio, Our Lady of Lourdes

Spiritual Directors:

Father Richard Notter, Toledo, Oh. Circus Ministry

Deacon Benjamin Valdez. Leipsic, Oh. St. Mary's

Deacon Salvador Sanchez, Toledo, Oh. St. Peter and Paul

Sacristan: Abel Guerrero, Oregon, Oh.

Troubador: Robert Valle, Gibsonburg, Oh.

Rollistas:

Domingo Ortega, Toledo, Oh. St. Peter and Paul— Ideal's

Benny Martinez, Holland, Oh. Our Lady of Lourdes - – Laity in the Church

Juan Duran, Toledo, Oh. Our Lady of Lourdes - – Piety

Valentin Bernal, Napoleon, Oh. St. Mary's – Study
Mario Diaz, Fostoria, Oh. St. Wendelin – Action
Ramiro Martinez, Fostoria, Oh. St. Wendelin – Leaders
Mike Ruhlen, Tiffin St. Mary's/St. Joseph – Study of the Environment
Adolfo Leal, Huron St. Peters - Christianity in Action

Disciples:

Head Disciple – Mike Cherry,
Mike Huffman – Toledo, Oh.
Mike Powers – Toledo, Oh.
Mike Ruhlen – Tiffin, Oh.

Love and Prayers!

The Huffman's

School of Leaders (live and in person!!)

Fall is just around the corner and we can see so many beautiful gifts that God has given to us in the colors, crops, cooler weather, and on and on. This is one of my favorite times of the year. So many things to be thankful for. Take a little time this fall season to admire all of God's handy work around you.

Our next School of Leaders meeting will be held Sat. Sept 25th at St Michaels, 750 Bright Rd., Findlay, Ohio at 9:00 AM. This is a change from the original date of the 18th due to the Ordination of Deacons to be held in Toledo. A lot of our members will be in attendance at this function and some of our Cursillo members will be ordained as Permanent Deacons. Come in the Main office door, at the first corridor turn right and you are at the room we meet in. Feel free to bring a snack to share and a fellow cursillo member who has not been to School of Leaders for a while. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Presenting at the School of Leaders meeting will be

1. Walt Beckford, Scripture reading with reflection.
2. Spiritual Advisor presentation, Sr, Pat , (in place of Sr. Edna) Chapter 10 His Way
3. Lay presentation, Kathy Otermat, Chapter 11 Study of the Charism.

It is so good to be able to come together, in person, to have our Cursillo School of Leaders meetings again. Let's all pray that we will be able to continue in person. Hope to see many of you Sat the 25th.

Walt Beckford has agreed to assume the Rector's position for School of Leaders. He will be taking over those duties beginning Oct. 2021. He will have a team working with him and we are excited about this next chapter for our School of Leaders.

God Bless,
John & Karen Bonen, Rectors

Fourth Day

Hello 4th day,

Just when I thought that time couldn't go any faster, this summer is in super speed. Walking though Menards last night getting another round of supplies for a major home remodel, I see the multiple shelves of Halloween décor. Halloween? It isn't that time already, is it? Yes, it's getting closer. For me I simply see it as an industry has a reason to sell something for a season, and they capitalize on it. Smart for BUSINESS, they turned a lot of heads with the displays of noises and flashing lights.

Well, what does that have to do with 4th day? We are into yet another Cursillo season. The weekends are moving closer. Teams have been building and growing closer together as one to represent Christ to others. Their action will be displayed with a lot of noises and lights (music and Christ's light) Cursillo turns a lot of heads that attend.

Let's look at it as we all have a business of selling Jesus' love? Not just showing others how to act but to put our lives on hold for Jesus and do nothing for ourselves but to go out and sell him to others. How would you sell Jesus to others? Come up with a new wave or tactic, a new route to go home, different store to shop at, different church to attend mass occasionally. You never know where God is going to put someone in your path for only you to show them his love. Be prepared to sell Jesus to the next stranger that you don't know, plant the seed and move on.

Make some noises and turn some heads. Fully be the hands, feet and MOUTH of Jesus. Be fully human and give God the glory that we are built for.

Ultreya from your Fourth Day Team,

Karen and John Reinhart , phone: 419 722-4257, email: kittyrg1967@gmail.com

Luanne and John Welch phone: 419 478-3610, email: john4toledo@yahoo.com

Prayervine

Bonnie - dying of cancer, Nicole - needs prayer, Jim - mitral valve repair surgery, Paul - Covid, Nancy & Paul - resolution of situations they are facing, Gloria - for strength & courage, Linda - health & strength, close friend - stage 4 ovarian cancer, Steve Majer - heart issue, for Fr. Ed to not have Covid, Cooks - Paul's health & to find a home, a lady with cancer, friend with intestinal problems, newborn with neck weakness, friend's baby - left heart syndrome, Julie - brain tumor, for Fr. Joe, Fr. Ron & Fr. Bill, thanksgiving for Mike's clear CT scan, fiance's sister - Covid, Deacon Floyd - passed away, young couple expecting baby, niece - nurse having stress & anxiety due to Covid coming back, Steve - Covid, Fr. Skip - Covid, young woman in need of a kidney, Gloria Currer needs prayers, Linda Boerst - rare form of leukemia.

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

Palanca Requests

Beginning Ending

9/2/2021	9/5/2021	Women's 239 (Spanish)	Austin, TX
9/3/2021	9/6/2021	Men's 124 (Spanish)	Oklahoma City, OK
9/3/2021	9/6/2021	Men's 79 (English)	Honolulu, Hawaii
9/9/2021	9/12/2021	Women's 43 (English)	Belleville, IL
9/9/2021	9/12/2021	Men's 133 (English)	Memphis, TN
9/9/2021	9/12/2021	Men's 26 (Spanish)	Washington, DC
9/9/2021	9/12/2021	Men's 94 (English)	Evansville, IN
9/16/2021	9/19/2021	Men's 115 (English)	Nashville, TN
9/16/2021	9/19/2021	Women's Cursillo (English)	Sacramento, CA
9/16/2021	9/19/2021	Women's Cursillo (English)	Sacramento, CA
9/16/2021	9/19/2021	Men's Cursillo (English)	Sacramento, CA
9/16/2021	9/19/2021	Men's 96 (English)	Fort Wayne/South Bend, IN
9/16/2021	9/19/2021	Men's 18 (English)	Kaposvar, Kaposszentbenedek (Magyarország)
9/16/2021	9/19/2021	Men's 283 (English)	Toledo, OH
9/16/2021	9/19/2021	Women's 185 (English)	Cincinnati, OH
9/23/2021	9/26/2021	Women's 99 (English)	Nashville, TN
9/23/2021	9/26/2021	Women's 124 (Spanish)	Oklahoma City, OK
9/23/2021	9/26/2021	Men's 143 (English)	Atlanta, GA
9/23/2021	9/26/2021	Women's 79 (Spanish)	Denver, CO
9/23/2021	9/26/2021	Men's 64 (English)	Kansas City, KS
9/23/2021	9/26/2021	Women's 75 (English)	Charleston, SC
9/23/2021	9/26/2021	Men's 17 (Spanish)	Charlotte, NC
9/23/2021	9/26/2021	Mens 219 (English)	New York, NY
9/30/2021	10/3/2021	Women's 137 (English)	Atlanta, GA
9/30/2021	10/3/2021	Men's 39 (English)	Belleville, IL
9/30/2021	10/3/2021	Women's 63 (English)	Albany, NY
9/30/2021	10/3/2021	Men's 123 (English)	Lafayette-Indianapolis, IN
9/30/2021	10/3/2021	Men's 255 (English)	Green Bay, WI
9/30/2021	10/3/2021	Men's 285 (Spanish)	Toledo, OH

I am at a loss for words this month. I guess that means I need to sit and listen more. What is God telling me? How is God showing me his mercy? How can I serve him better? Just be. Just forgive. Just love.

DeColores,

Jan Stainbrook, Palanca

Thank You!

A special thank you to everyone who helped out this summer as we prepared for Dad's (Deacon Floyd) passing. So many of you came to visit with him, to sit with him in the hospital, to pray for and with him. All I had to do was call, and you were there. Dad was so grateful to be surrounded by each of you, whether in person, or in prayer. Thank you all for being such a loving family.

MaryAnn Hohman

Secretariat Member openings

Openings effective June, 2021



Pre-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.