

Cursillo 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.

February 2020

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

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Dear Brothers and Sisters

February is a special month all my life because we get to celebrate Valentine's Day. For me it was usually directed toward my mother and family members, but I'm having fun including a lot more wonderful people in the fulfillment of Jesus' command to love one another -- even our enemies. I know it's a more "special" love than that, but I'm energized by the fact that we can and should be more and more conscious of the gift of love than we usually are.

I'm thinking of the value of making the extra effort to show another person respect and a sense of their value in our lives than we're usually conscious of. Valentine's Day *celebrates* this. There are stories of martyrs involved on February 14 from back in 269 AD.... !! (This doesn't mean that we shouldn't be romantic, just **bigger** than that!)

I'm conscious as I write this that we are celebrating the week of Christian Unity at this time each year. We're being encouraged to show love to our fellow Christians. We can do that, and it would be especially helpful as we endure our present political situation!... Let's reach out all over with love -- and keep that going to bring true peace and kindness and justice to the whole world. Let's look for the opportunities to tell some stories as we celebrate this year!

If you're interested (as I hope you'll be), check out all the interesting info on Google. It's really something about our human condition and our religion!

Upcoming Cursillo Weekends 2020

English Men #281 March 12-15

Spanish Men #282 March 26-29

Spanish Women #283 April 16-19

English Women #284 April 23-26

Please share how
Christ is working in
your life.

Email
Nancy Cook at nancy750@bex.net



Lay Director

Sisters and Brothers in our Jesus:

I know a gentleman (might be using this term lightly) whose brother was drafted into the Army in May of 1969. His Dad changed jobs and moved his family from Michigan to Sylvania, Ohio in November 1969. His Sister was killed in a car accident two weeks later. Thanksgiving was spent with friends family's as the funeral services were that week. For his folks and two younger Sisters, Christmas was so very hollow as his deceased Sister was a Christmas baby born early in the morning after his Mother sang at Midnight Mass.

In January, he was one of the first lucky Draft Lottery winners. He got his draft notice in February and was in the Army in March – ten months to the day after his Brother was drafted. The day he was drafted, his Brother came home on leave to go to Vietnam as an Infantry Soldier – they missed each other in the shuffle.

He was hurting in his soul and did not know where to find relief Except....

He was asked to be a “counselor / leader” on a weekend for a non-denominational youth group – Young Life in mid-February 1970. He attended still feeling a bit hollow, but there was the fun energy of the fellow leaders and the High School Youth. The trip by bus to the YMCA Camp Kern outside of Dayton brought a few smiles.

Then all of Heaven began to break loose The first “mixer” was being taken by the shoulders, shaken and told in a scream “This is going to be the greatest weekend of your life...” then he was turned around and needed to find someone who was not in the Conga Line and shout out to them “This is going to be the greatest weekend of your life...”. Other mixers followed and there was a sweet talk about where are you and where are you going. He thought “I don’t know and off to the military...” Not much sleep that night, but lots of smiles of the feeling of generous love that was flowing from the folks and the proceedings.

Next day dawned with more activity and more talks ... Saturday afternoons talk was about falling short in life ... sin, then it was out in the field for a modified crazy game, kind of like capture the flag, and then off to a very nice dinner. After dinner there was a set of absolutely ridiculous skits ... The leaders going to “absolutely no expense” and no pride either, to bring laughter that made the gut ache and the lungs search for air with the “entertainment” with singing and singing and singing.

Just when you thought there could be no more – then the finale was delivered. There was one more “talk”. The speaker offered a walk through the Crucifixion of Jesus through the eyes of Barabbas. This notorious murder and thief literally had his very own nails and cross stolen by this Jesus. Jesus not only died for him ... He died instead of him. And this Jesus was totally innocent, yet he took Barabbas’ place

After the “Cross Talk” the speaker entreated those there to spend 15 minutes outside alone and think and if they wanted, pray about what they heard. The young man heard that Jesus died for and instead of him. He went out into the cold starry night and fell on his knees and prayed for Jesus to be the real Redeemer and Savior of his life and soul. Screaming tears flowed and the realization of what it is to be lovingly born again overwhelmed MY entire being.

In a couple of weeks, “the greatest weekend of my life” will be 50 years ago and I am still chasing and being chased by Jesus. This is all very wonderful for me because since that day, my life has never been the same. I remember two songs from that weekend, one is “He’s Everything to Me” and the other is “King Jesus is My All in All” that about sums it up except for the love of Jesus that I realized that day has placed a love of the Scriptures in my heart. It is a wondrous 50 years, that’s my story and I am blessed in it ...

Praying there is much more joy to come. Hope you get the chance to share your very own salvation history “His story”.

De Colores!!!

Tim Haney

Pre-Cursillo

A few weeks ago, as I was on my way to morning mass, I looked up and saw the full moon. It was huge and bright in the early morning sky. It reminded me of when the priest raises the newly consecrated Eucharist at mass. I continued to watch the moon on the rest of my drive to mass. For a short time, the moon was blocked from my view by the buildings in town. As I neared church, I once again saw it, but this time, a thin layer of clouds was over it. The moon continued to shine bright through those clouds. Going into church, it made me think about my relationship with God. He shines bright for me all the time, but sometimes I let the clouds of my life overshadow him. He is still there shining bright, I just have to part the clouds to see him clearly.

As we prepare for the upcoming spring Cursillo weekends, are we letting the light of Christ shine through us to potential candidates? Or are we covering up that light, only letting through what we want others to see? Now is especially the time for us to let our light shine brightly as we prepare candidates for the spring weekends.

As of this writing, there are only a couple of new applications for both the men’s and women’s weekends, as well as a few that were not able to make the fall weekends. Please remember when sending in applications that they are filled out completely, all signatures are in place, and that you also include the sponsor app. If any of these are missing, it will delay processing the application.

Dates to keep in mind: apps for the men’s weekend are due no later than Thursday, Feb. 20, and the women’s are due no later than Thursday, April 2.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

I hope that you have a wonderful February.

MaryAnn Hohman
Pre-Cursillo Chairperson
102 Oakley Meadow Lane
Tiffin, OH 44883
419-681-5892
mahohman59@gmail.com

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

From the Cursillo Chair....

Dear Friends,

I find it difficult to come up with something spiritual and refreshing each month. Our predecessor was much better at it!

Our middle son has just moved to a beautiful new home and didn't want to move his nearly new queen size bed with a \$1000 mattress. We needed a new mattress but kept putting off the purchase. In conversation he said we could have his new bed because he didn't like the mattress.

Who am I to argue? So, before the arrival of the bed, I needed to get the room scrubbed and painted. Another task we were putting off. Well, the painting didn't happen, but closet and dressers got purged, walls and windows washed, hardwood floor cleaned and waxed, and clean curtains put back up. At one time, that would have taken me about 6 hours. It took a week and a half. But it feels SO good to walk into a clean space that smells like Johnson floor wax! Where am I going with this you ask.

Reflecting on this very mundane project, I think of the general housecleaning of my soul. Another project I tend to put off. I need to purge my bad habits, my rash judgments, my lack of empathy and forgiveness. I need to get back to regularly approaching the Sacrament of Forgiveness, so the window of my soul is sparkling. I need to get myself polished so that when someone walks into my presence, I reflect to that person a mindset that is fresh and spiritually clean and makes them feel good about things around them. This project will surely take longer than a week and a half... But the benefits will be brighter than Johnsons floor wax.

Spring teams are formed. The English and Spanish Men have been in formation. The Ladies will begin soon. Palanca. Palanca. Palanca. We are accepting team applications all the time. Don't wait to send an app for Fall. Following is a list of the Spanish Men's team.

Rommie Martinez and Juan Duran Rectors.

Deacon Jose Garcia Spiritual Advisor

Valentin Bernal.	Adolfo Leal.	Benny Martinez
Aaron Chavez.	Hector Martinez.	Nacho Medina
Mike Cherry.	Domingo Ortega.	Mike Powers
Wayne Davis.	Al Ramirez.	Mike Ruhlen
Epiphania Diaz.	Hector Salcido.	Ben Valdez
Mario Diaz.	Abel Guerrero.	Mike Huffman

Love and prayers,
The Huffmans

School of Leaders...

Our next School of Leaders meeting will be Feb 18, 2020 at 9:00 AM at St Michael's Catholic Church, 750 Bright Road, Findlay, Ohio. Due to the weather in January we were forced to cancel the last meeting. We meet in the Teacher's Lounge. Enter through the main office door, turn right at the first corridor the left at the next corridor. Teacher's Lounge will be on your right.

We will have Bible reading with reflection presented by John Welch. The spiritual presentation will be given by Sr. Edna covering chapter 8 of The Joy of Discipleship. Gus Miller will be doing a continuation of the lay presentation coverage Chapter 7 of Perfectly Yourself.

Coffee and Tea will be provided. Feel free to bring a snack to share. Also bring along a fellow Cursillo member who has not been to School of Leaders for awhile, or a new member to our movement to experience the joy we have in our fellowship at these meetings.

We end our morning in the Blessed Sacrament chapel for a decade of the Rosary and individual prayer.

Karen and I look forward to seeing you all as we begin a new year dedicated to the sharing of our love for Jesus Christ.

God Bless,
John & Karen Bonen, Rectors
Team; Carol & George Miller, Joan Alge Sharon DeCant



Prayervine:

Encounter conference, father in hospital, husband - losing eyesight, Patty Kreilick - in Cleveland ICU, Lauer family - husband/dad in chainsaw accident, Diane - lung cancer, Fr. Mike Dandurand - going overseas, daughter & parent tension, Patty Kreilick - still in hospital, Angeles - in hospice, Sara - knee & hip replacement, Thom - testing, family member - knee surgery, family member - mental issues, Cass Paige - kidney tests, Penny - cancer is back.



Please send your prayer requests to Jane Distel at

prayersaregoingup@gmail.com.

Palanca Requests...Please pray for the success of these Cursillo Weekends.

Cursillo weekends for the month of February, 2020

Start Date	End Date	Event	Location
2/6/2020	2/9/2020	Men's Cursillo (English)	Windsor, Ontario (Canada)
2/6/2020	2/9/2020	Women's Cursillo (English)	Chatham, Ontario (Canada)
2/6/2020	2/9/2020	Men's 48 (Italiano)	Perugia - Città della Pieve (Italy)
2/6/2020	2/9/2020	Men's 123 (English)	Savannah, GA
2/6/2020	2/9/2020	Men's Cursillo (English)	Nashville, TN
2/6/2020	2/9/2020	Men's 85 (English)	Worcester, MA
2/6/2020	2/9/2020	Men's 128 (English)	St. Augustine, FL
2/6/2020	2/9/2020	Men's 261 (Spanish)	Lansing, MI
2/6/2020	2/9/2020	Men's 132 (English)	Memphis, TN
2/13/2020	2/16/2020	Men's 29 (Portuguese)	Newark, NJ
2/13/2020	2/16/2020	Men's Cursillo (English)	Boise, ID
2/13/2020	2/16/2020	Men's 51 (Spanish)	Peoria, IL E
2/13/2020	2/16/2020	Women's 408 (English)	Detroit, MI
2/13/2020	2/16/2020	Men's 375 (English)	Saint Paul & Minneapolis, MN
2/13/2020	2/16/2020	Women's Cursillo (English)	Mabou, Nova Scotia (Canada)
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's Cursillo (Spanish)	Providence, RI
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's Cursillo (English)	Windsor, Ontario (Canada)
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's 36 (Spanish)	Providence, RI
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's 323 (Spanish)	Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's 29 (Portuguese)	Newark, NJ E
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's 376 (English)	St. Paul, MN
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Men's 7 (Spanish)	Baltimore, MD
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Men's 72 (English)	Charleston, SC
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Men's 202 (Spanish)	Rockville Centre, NY
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's 97 (English)	Nashville, TN
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's 99 (English)	Harrisburg, PA E
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's Cursillo (English)	Richmond, VA E
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Men's 93 (English)	Evansville, IN
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Men's 52 (English)	Knoxville, TN
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's 126 (English)	St. Augustine, FL
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's 262 (Spanish)	Lansing, MI E
2/20/2020	2/23/2020	Women's 182 (English)	Cleveland, OH
2/27/2020	3/1/2020	Men's 143 (English)	Atlanta, GA
2/27/2020	3/1/2020	Women's 283 (English)	Corpus Christi, TX
2/27/2020	3/1/2020	Men's Cursillo (English)	Mabou, Nova Scotia (Canada)
2/27/2020	3/1/2020	Women's 172 (English)	Brownsville, TX
2/27/2020	3/1/2020	Men's 954 (Spanish)	Los Angeles, CA
2/27/2020	3/1/2020	Women's 995 (English)	San Francisco, CA
2/28/2020	3/2/2020	Men's 52 (English)	Agana, Guam

Ultreya

Location

Contact

St. Clement Parish, Jeager Hall
2nd Sunday of the Month, 2:00 PM

Ron and Carol Plenzler
carron@buckeye-access.com

Tiffin, St. Francis Home
Sunday, February 23
7:00 p.m.
Holy ½ hour and Palanca Party

Betty and Bill Obringer
wobringer@woh.rr.com

Lima St. Charles Gathering Space
To be determined

Dale Fair (419-339-1516)
kfair@woh.rr.com

Bucyrus/Crestline/Galion/
New Washington/Bethlehem
Holy Trinity Bucyrus
6:00 p.m. Mass
7:00 p.m. Speaker

Karen Bonen
karenbonen@yahoo.com

Findlay Ultreya
No Ultreya in February

John and Karen Reinhart
jreinhart2911@gmail.com

St. Mary's, Millersville
Church basement
1st Sunday of the month
7:00 p.m.

Jan Stainbrook
janicestainbrook@yahoo.com

Spanish Ultreya
Resume in spring

Susanne Sepeda
Sepedaj@aol.com



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.