



# 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.

Dear Cursillo friends,

## March 2023

Application Forms are on the website

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

Spiritual Advisor	Page 1
Lay Director	Page 2
Pre-Cursillo	Page 3
Cursillo	Page 4
School of Leaders	Page 5
Prayervine	Page 5
Fourth Day	Page 6
Ultreya	Page 6
Palanca	Page 6
Witness	Page 7
Secretariate Openings	Page 8

In a book entitled, **LIFE OF THE BELOVED**, by Henri Nouwen, Henri reminds me of the scripture passage: "**You are my beloved, on you my favor rests.**"

Henri is speaking to each of us as we live our lives becoming more and more aware of our **belovedness**. How do you and I become more aware of this unique and very special truth?

Henri and many of my friends have reminded me that I became **BELOVED** through the grace of my Baptism. I believe this is true for each of us.

*As I prepared to write this reflection, I recalled Henri saying that we are empowered through the graced life of the Holy Spirit. We do not earn this life; we have been chosen.*

I am graced and **happy** that I am **blessed** to be God's **BELOVED**.

On the fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Matthew's account of the eight Beatitudes was proclaimed at our Sunday Liturgy.

Matthew uses the word BLESSED and...while Mark uses the word HAPPY to convey the result of the **Beatitudes** in our lives.

I googled the word: BEATITUDE. Both words, **HAPPY** and **BLESSED** are from a Latin word, **BEATUS**.

As I thought of the word **BEATITUDE** and its original meaning, I was struck by the first two letters **B** and **E**.

To **BE** is what I am called TO **BE**. I am called **TO BE God's BELOVED, God's CHOSEN one.**

I've also been touched with the reality that each Beatitude has its own beauty and depth.

### UPCOMING 2023 CURSILLO WEEKENDS SPRING

MEN # 289  
MARCH 9-12

WOMEN # 290  
APRIL 20-23

**FALL**  
MEN #291  
SEPTEMBER 7 - 10

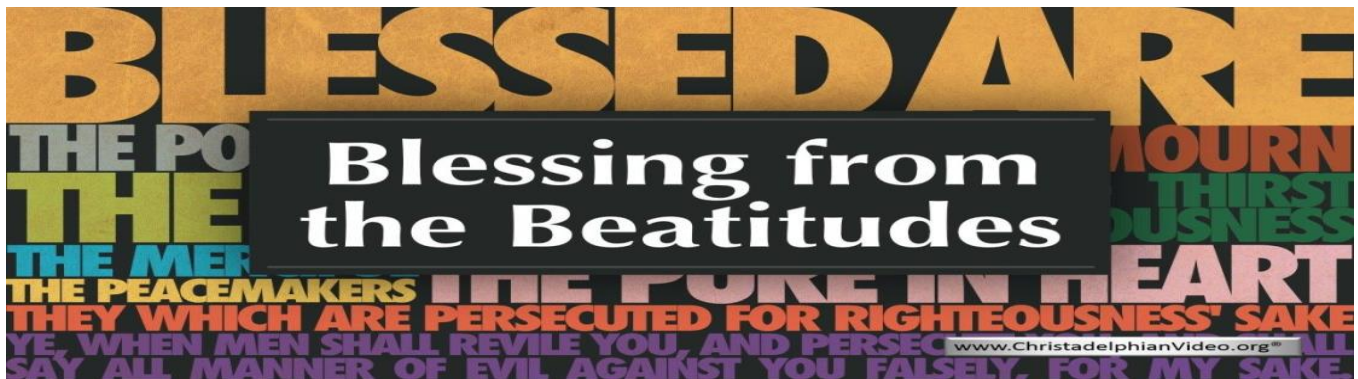
WOMEN # 292  
OCTOBER 12 - 15

And so as I reflect even more on **BEATITUDE**, I realize I am invited to "**BE**" kind, to "**BE**" helpful, to "**BE**" generous, to "**BE**" welcoming, to "**BE**" merciful", to "**BE**" a peacemaker and to "**BE**" clean of heart.

The word "BE" makes all the difference in what it means to "**BE**" **God's BELOVED** and to **LIVE** the **BEATITUDES**.

**YOU AND I ARE GOD'S BELOVED!!!!!!**

*Sister Pat Meyer, OSF*



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

It's that time of year again when we are called to look at our lives more closely and see what improvements can be made to our lives. Deacon Jerry encouraged us to look ahead to Lent a couple of months ago. "Anything worth doing is worth preparing for", he wrote. I thought at the time that it was a fine idea, but unfortunately, I came into Lent without much preparation.

Now that Lent is here, what improvements can I make to my life? I appreciate how we are given different ways to make Lent a time of growth. When I was little, giving up something was my common practice, thinking that a Lent without chocolate or all candy would be a good way to "do" something for Lent. And it is when we accompany our sacrifices with prayer. I don't remember doing that as a kid. I just remember being sad about the loss of sweets.

A blessing about being a part of the Cursillo movement is a heightened awareness of sacrifice. We joyfully sacrifice for the candidates, for the movement, for the intentions of others. Being a part of a team adds to that awareness. I am blessed to be a part of the Women's team for Cursillo #290. As a result, I have been offering palanca in a variety of ways since I made the decision to join the team. This awareness helped me to have some preparation for Lent. I know the value of sacrifice. I understand that sacrifice (palanca) is a tool for growth for both the person who is sacrificing and the intention that is being offered up.

How am I growing this Lent? I must admit that I didn't make a concrete plan for Lent before it was Lent! I am more comfortable with making sacrifices for others than making sacrifices in my own life for my own benefit. Making changes that will stretch me. Making changes that will help me to follow Jesus more closely. Making changes that I will want to continue when Lent is over for this year. I came to the decision that I need more Study in my life and am using this Lent to know Christ better through extra time with His Word. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 tells us that "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may



be competent, equipped for every good work.” I’m looking forward to coming to the end of Lent with a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the Word of God, and a better understanding of what Jesus is calling me to do. Ultreya!!

Kathy Otermat [kotermat04@gmail.com](mailto:kotermat04@gmail.com)

John Lyons [lyons5876@gmail.com](mailto:lyons5876@gmail.com)

### Pre-Cursillo

List of confirmed candidates for the upcoming Men's Cursillo #289 (March 9th thru March 12).

We currently have 3 applications for the Women's Cursillo #290 (April 20th thru April 23rd). Looking forward to more applications soon!

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

#### *Candidates mens # 289      March 9-12 2023*



Timothy Barrett	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Temperance Mi
Raymond D'Aguanno	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Temperance Mi
Fr. Don LaCuesta	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Temperance Mi
Andrew Ricks	St Peter's, Mansfield
Michael Winters	St Peter's, Mansfield
Mick Tridico	St Peter's, Mansfield
Ralph ( <b>LeRoy</b> ) McCall ( <b>GOES BY LeROY</b> )	Transfiguration of the Lord, Upper Sandusky
Gerard Michael	Most Blessed Sacrament, Toledo
Alan Lortz	Transfiguration of the Lord parish, Upper Sandusky

#### *Team 289      March 9-12*

Spiritual Dir.	Fr. Tom Extejt Deacon Kevin Wintersteller
Rectors	Tim Distel Troy Peebles
Sacristan	Brother Dan Hall
Troubadours	Jim Vasko
Disciples	Art Ringel (H) Deacon Andy McMahon Bob Drewlor Mike Cherry
Shepherds	Jeff Hammer (H) Mike Kachelek Mike Roth Ron Leopold Patrick Hanna
Table Leaders	Stan Heitkamp Jamie Southers



Table leaders	Bill Dukeshire Chris Witt
Rollos	
Ideal	Ron Leopold
Laity	Patrick Hanna
Piety	Chris Witt
Study	Stan Heitkamp
Action	Jamie Southers
Leaders	Bill Dukeshire
Study Environment	Mike Roth
Christian Action	Br. Dan Hall
Cursillista Beyond	Rectors
Group Reunion	Rectors
Ultreya	Rectors



Gary & Helen Keel E-mail: [hkeel@buckeye-express.com](mailto:hkeel@buckeye-express.com)  
 Pre-Cursillo  
 4236 Woodmont Rd.  
 Toledo, Ohio 43613  
 Phone: 419-476-9347

## Cursillo

### Womens Team #290 April 20-23

Spiritual Director	Father Richard Notter
Spiritual Director	Sister Mary Jo Szpila
Rector	Kathy Otermat
Rector	Annabell Swint
Troubadour	Joani Wise
Troubadour	Marie King
Head Disciple	Elaine Conley
Disciple	Jane Lopez
Disciple	Sue Bishop
Disciple	Debbie Santini
Disciple	Tina Mira
Sacristan	Juanita Ybanes
Ideals	Barb Lovell
Laity	Marilyn Hinegardner
Piety	Susan Sepeda
Action	Helen Coleman
Leaders	Lori Kamelesky

Study of the Environment	Karen Reinhart
Christianity in Action	Marie King
Head Shepherd	Jan Stainbrook
Shepherd	Juanita Ybanes
Shepherd	Marilyn Hinegardner
Shepherd	Marie Stanhope
Shepherd	Helen Coleman



The team . candidate and sponsor forms can be found on our website: [www.cursillo419.org](http://www.cursillo419.org).  
 The dates are: Men's March 9-12, 2023; Women's April 20-23, 2023.

Love and Prayers, The Huffmans 3823 Willys Pkwy, Toledo, OH 43612 [mrhottsmom@outdrs.net](mailto:mrhottsmom@outdrs.net)

## School of Leaders

I ask for strength.

God gave me difficulties to make me strong.

I ask for wisdom.

God gave me problems to learn to solve.

I ask for prosperity.

God gave me a brain and brawn to work.

I ask for courage,

God gave me dangers to overcome.

I ask for love,

God gave me people to help.

I ask for favors,

God gave me opportunities.

I received nothing I wanted.

I received everything I needed.



Our next School of Leaders will be March 18 9am. in St. Michaels In Findlay.

We meet in the Marian Room. Enter the office door/turn right/first door on right.

Scripture : Brother Dan Hall

Chapter 1 from “ Living With Real Presence Eucharist As An Approach To Life” :

Deacon Ron

Into His Likeness pages 99-113 : Deb Karbowiak

Doors open at 8:30am. We will have the coffee pot on. Bring a snack or dish if you wish to share. We welcome your hearts and voices, and of course your smiles.

Rectors : Annie Blum [annieblum516@gmail.com](mailto:annieblum516@gmail.com)

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

**Prayervine** *Prayer request for this month*



Brandon – tumor in his head, Brandon – seizure after surgery, Bob Drewior – radio frequency ablation on lower back, Pat Miller-gallbladder surgery, covid, Gus Miller –Covid, Sara – broken wrist, friend – rectal & liver cancer, friend – bladder cancer surgery, niece-having a difficult pregnancy, Brandon-malignant brain tumor, Mike & Therese Cherry – exposed to covid, Patrick Steyer & family, finished chemo need higher platelets.

## Fourth Day

Greetings to all from Post Cursillo. Hope your Lent is going well and you are living the three disciplines of Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Alms giving. Prayer is so important as we listen to God and what He wants us to do. Fasting helps us to grow closer to Him and Alms giving helps us to live out our faith. One way to give alms is to give of our time to help others and witness our faith to each other. Some people have come forward to help us as witnesses for the Men's and Women's weekends. If you feel called to give a witness, please call Bill or Betty Obringer at 419-447-6410 or text at 419-618-5132.

We have begun to plan for Focus Day in June. We will let you know the date in the April Ark. Thank you to Becky Smeltz and Angie Mehling for agreeing to be part of our team. Please continue to pray and do Palanca for Cursillo 289 and 290. God Bless and DeColores  
Bill and Betty Obringer



Area 8 ultreya is Monday, March 13 from 7-9 PM at Bethlehem Sacred Heart of Jesus in the old rectory. (Building to the east of the church)  
All are welcome!

Area 10 is Sunday, March 19 in the Upper Room at St. Josephs, Tiffin

## Palanca

As I was looking up "march" on Google it came to state that "March's theme for scripture quotes is confession and forgiveness". Isn't that appropriate for the season of lent? It allows us the opportunity to ready ourselves for the joy we will receive at Easter? Then I can't wait to say that "A" word.

There are almost 60 Cursillos listed for the month of March. I only listed the first week- the first week. Isn't that great? Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ, this

DeColores,

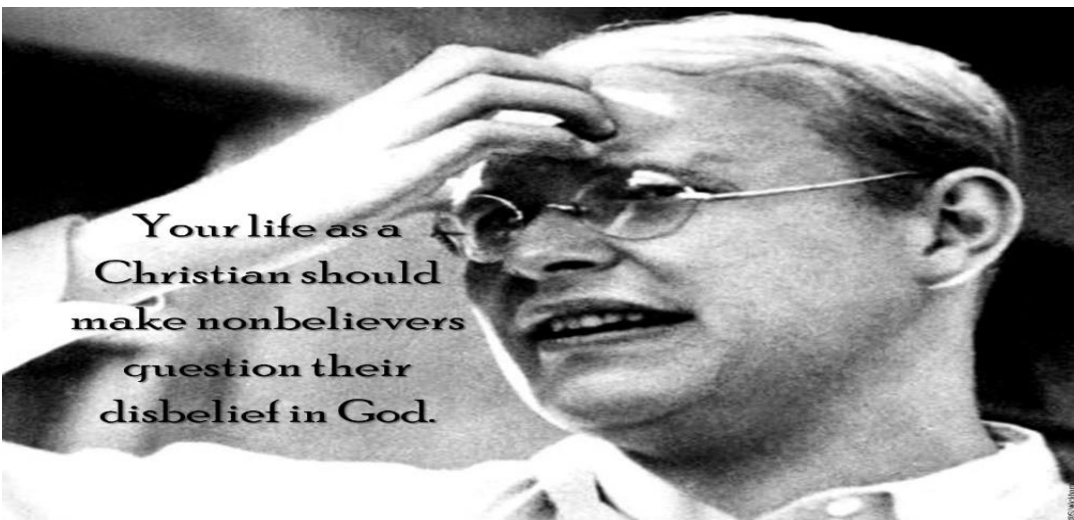
Jan Stainbrook, Palanca Person

# Lent



	3/5/23	Men's 188	<u>St. Louis, MO</u>
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 75 (English)	Kalamazoo, MI
3/2/23	3/5/23	Women's 275 (English)	Kansas City/St Jospeh, MO
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's Cursillo (English)	Baltimore, MD
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 106 (English)	Orlando, FL
3/2/23	3/5/23	Women's 264 (Spanish)	Miami, FL
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 75 (English)	Owensboro, KY
3/2/23	3/5/23	Women's 139 (English)	Atlanta, GA
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 65 (Spanish)	Tyler, TX
3/2/23	3/5/23	Women's 101 (English)	Harrisburg, PA
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 203 (Spanish)	Rockville Centre, NY
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 33 (English)	Bismarck, ND
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 106 (Spanish)	Bridgeport, CT
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 71 (English)	Jefferson City, MO
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 950 (English)	Phoenix, AZ
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 115 (English)	Covington, KY
3/4/23	3/5/23	Cursillo de Cursillo Workshop	Oakland, CA
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 126 (English)	Lafayette-Indianapolis, IN
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 116 (English)	Nashville, TN
3/2/23	3/5/23	Women's 287 (English)	Corpus Christi, TX
3/2/23	3/5/23	Men's 476 (Spanish)	Dallas, TX

**Witness :** share how God is working in your life == email to = = [judbrick616@gmail.com](mailto:judbrick616@gmail.com)



## Secretariat Member openings

### Current Openings

Cursillo

Post-Cursillo (4<sup>th</sup> day) - additional persons for team

Palanca



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.

**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.