



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.

October 2023

Application Forms are on the Website:

www.cursillo419.org

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Our Spiritual Advisor October

De Colores! My Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

Have you ever considered the difference between the secular calendar versus the Church's Calendar? The two calendars are vastly different because the secular calendar centers our lives around it. We use the secular calendar to help organize our lives. It helps us make and keep appointments and know where we are to be on a specific day and time.

I often wonder how aware people are of the Church's calendar. Do you ever give much thought to where we are in the life of the Church at any given time? We know the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. We know of the Major celebrations of Ash Wednesday, the Ascension of the Lord, Pentecost Sunday, and the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (corpus Christi). The Church calendar starts with the first Sunday of Advent on December third this year and ends with the Thirty-fourth week of Ordinary time. Are we aware of the different feast day of Mary, the Saints, and the Angels we celebrate yearly? The Church invites us to celebrate these special people for who they were and what they did. I encourage you to read and learn more about these people of faith in October.

During the Sundays of October, we celebrate the Twenty-Sixth through the Thirtieth Sundays of Ordinary time. Do you know that I write a short daily reflection on the Gospel daily on Facebook?

WOMENS CURSILLO 292

SATURDAY OCT. 14 8PM HOLY HOUR

SUNDAY OCT. 15 4:30 CLOSING

In the **ST. FRANCIS CONVENT CHAPEL**

On October Second, we celebrate the Holy Guardian Angels. Our faith teaches us to believe that each of us has an angel to help guide us through life. Do you know your special messenger from God?

October Fourth, the Church remembers St. Francis of Assisi, celebrate St. Faustina Kowalska, a Polish Religious Sister known as the messenger of Divine Mercy.

Also on this day, I observe a Redemptorist, Bless Francis Xavier Seelos, a priest who served throughout the United States and died in New Orleans in 1867.

On October Sixth, the Church celebrates St. Bruno, a priest who founded the Carthusian Order in Germany. In North America, we celebrate Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, a Canadian religious sister who founded the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary to educate children in Canada. She is also known as a patron for those who are sick.

On many Saturdays, we celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary. On October seventh, we remember Our Lady of the Rosary.

On October Ninth, we have St. Denis and Companions who became martyrs for the faith. St. Denis was a bishop in Paris, France, in the third century; also, on the Ninth of October, St. John Leonardi, and Italian Priest and Patron of Pharmacists.

On October Eleventh, we remember St. John XXIII, the first pope I remember in my lifetime, who initiated the Second Vatican Council that brought many changes to our Church. Another Pope we celebrate on October Fourteenth is St. Callistus, a martyr who emphasized God's mercy in his ministry.

October Sixteenth is a special day for me as a Redemptorist Brother where the Church remember St. Gerard Majella, the patron of mothers and their unborn children. Also, on that day, the Church remembers St. Hedwig, a Religious Sister who died in 1243, and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a French nun whose visions of Christ helped to spread devotion to the Sacred Heart.

Seventeenth of October, the Church celebrates Sat. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr; on the Eighteenth, St. Luke Evangelist is celebrated. On October Nineteenth, in North America, the Church celebrates Saints John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues, companions and Martyrs. These men were members of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). the first missionaries to the North

American Indians. On October Twentieth, the Church celebrates St. Paul of the Cross, who founded the Passionist Congregation.

October Twenty-Third, the Church celebrates St. John of Capistrano, a Franciscan Priest in the 15th century and leader of an army that liberated Belgrade from the Turkish invasion.

October Twenty-Fourth, the Church remembers St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop of Santiago, Cuba and founder of the Claretians.

Saturday, October Twenty-Eighth, the Church celebrates the Apostles Simon and Jude. There are so many beautiful things we can learn this month.

Let us also continue to remember the women working and living their Cursillo weekend on the weekend of October 12-15.

Brother Daniel Hall, CSSR

brodanielhall@gmail.com



LAY DIRECTOR

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

What is your picture of Christ that you carry in your mind? How do you picture Him? Is he laughing? Or maybe smiling? How about contemplating? Is he crying?

I think we all have different views or pictures of Christ. And they are all correct. If we think about it, Jesus went through everything that we do. Everything that we have gone through in the past and everything we will go through in the future. But it doesn't stop there. He walks beside us each and every day. Every minute, step, jump, hop. He is there with us. I believe the hard part is accepting that. We want to think and believe that we need to live some days or parts of the days alone. But God wants to be part of our everyday lives. The little decisions and the big ones too.

I was talking with a young man about when he knew and how he knew that he was being called by God to be a priest. He had been struggling with the decision of whether to continue on the path to become a physical therapist or stop that and go to the seminary. He had sought out the advice from many priests that he looked up to. He didn't share what they all had told him, but he did share that he ended up in an adoration chapel praying for an answer. He said he prayed "God, what do you want me to do"? He felt God answer in his heart that it was up to him. He (God) would be with him no matter what he decided. But he persisted. "God, I want to follow your will for my life". God seemed to answer again in his heart, "Look at your life, and how you have gotten to where you are. Think of all the people involved. Look at the high points in

your life up 'til now." He remembered his sacraments, 1st reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion, Confirmation. Those really stuck out and he knew then that God was calling him to the priesthood. He put aside what he wanted to do and followed the call from God.

We sing that at every closing; "What do you want of me Lord? Where do you want me to serve you?"

I think of this often. Am I following what God is calling me to do? And allowing Him to guide my feet, mouth, and hands? Or am I doing what I want to do. As we celebrate the Eucharistic Revival I know I need to spend more time in front of the Eucharist and really listen to what He is saying to me. How about you? Maybe listen to 'The Summons' (Will you come and follow me).

John Lyons and Kathy Otermat

Pre-Cursillo

We have 3 confirmed candidates for the upcoming Women's Cursillo #292 (October 12th thru October 15th). Awaiting responses from 4 or 5 more applicants. Will post candidate names on the Prayer Vine as we have updates. Please contact us if you have a last minute candidate that we might be able to add.

Confirmed Candidates Women's # 292

Janice Burns-Watson-All Saints, New Riegel

Alicia Swartzmiller -All Saints, New Rigel

Judy Schroeder- St. Anthony, Col. Grove



Helen & Gary Keel

Pre-Cursillo

hkeel@buckeye-express.com

WOMENS TEAM # 292

Fr. Jim Morman	Spiritual Director	Kathy Huffmam	Troubadour & Professor
Sr. Edna Michel	Spiritual Director	Angie Mehling	Head Shepherd
MaryAnn Hohman	Rector	Betty Obringer	Disciple
Barb Stager	Assistant Rector	Kathy Otermat	Professor
Jean Auer	Disciple	Debbie Santini	Head Disciple
Annie Blum	Professor	Maureen Sharrock	Professor
Helen Coleman	Professor	Chrissy Vasko	Professor & Shepherd
Shirley Fitz	Shepherd	Jessica Witt	Professor & Shepherd
Joyce Haney	Troubadour	Monica Zaborski	Disciple
Marilyn Hinegardner	Sacristan & Professor	Jenny Theis	Security

**Cursillo**

DeColores Everyone,

This month I would like to briefly report on the men's Cursillo weekend #291 which was just completed.

As always it was a great success and the Holy Spirit was moving throughout the candidates and Cursillo team. All the candidates were moved by the witness, palanca and genuine love of one another. We had a great team and great candidates.

That brings me to a very important aspect of the Cursillo which sometimes seems to be left behind or forgotten. If you were a sponsor for one of the men (or soon) women that is participating in the fall weekends, remember that it is our responsibility to keep the fire burning. Please get these folks involved in group reunion and Ultreya. Help them to integrate into the 4th day community.

If you are interested in being on a team next spring, please feel free to fill out the team app. available on the Toledo Cursillo website. There is no hurry at this point of course. Sponsors, please encourage our new Cursillistas to work a team. Prayer, Encouragement, Support, continued Palanca.

Thanks and God bless!

Dave Zaborski Thezaborskifamily@hotmail.com or Dzaborski411@gmail.com

Robert Drewior robertdrewior774@gmail.com



School of Leaders :

Hello to all my Cursillo family!

I just love the fall, and October in particular. The rainbow of colors in the trees as they change each day, along with the mostly blue skies remind me of the DeColores song we sing together. The weather is generally sunny and mild so it's perfect for getting outside and enjoying the colors as we walk around God's beautiful creation or take a drive to our favorite spots; perhaps where the trees reflect on waters or a hilly area where we can get a birds-eye view of the splendor of God's paintings!

I urge you to find your favorite spot in nature and get away with Him at least once for a bit this fall. Bring a friend or 2 along. It's good for the soul!

Our next School of Leaders will be on Sat., October 21 from 9 AM to noon. Doors open at 8:30 AM. We will be in the Marian room which is the first door on the right just after you turn right at the first hallway from the entrance.

Roger Brickner will do the scripture and reflection.

Sr. Edna will present our next chapter in "Living with Real Presence" by S. James Meyer. We are on chapter 2.4, "He Took Bread and Wine", which includes pp. 57-62.

Tom Russell will lead us through chapter 1 of "Rescued" by Fr. John Ricardo.

This is "The Whole Story", pp. 17-26. We have a few copies remaining for purchase at \$10.00 or you can order online if you prefer.

We always have a great time learning, discussing, singing and praying together.

Don't let the title of this group scare you. There are no tests and no requirements to speak or take a leadership role. This is just a way to keep growing in your faith walk.

We learn so much from each other! The hardest part is getting up in the morning to be there, but once you do, you will be glad you did.

So bring a snack to share and bring a friend! All are welcome! We will have the coffee and hot water on for tea.

Blessings and Hugs,
Annie Blum (annieblum516@gmail.com)
Walter Beckford (wbeckford@bex.net)

Prayervine *Prayer request for this month*



Sr. Barbara - dying of cancer, travelers on Labor Day weekend, Laura Stewart's daughter-in-law - pregnancy issues, Cursillo #291/292 - candidates & team, Todd Clear - continued prayers after liver transplant, for those fighting illness, Roger - cancer, Laura Stewart's daughter-in-law - pregnant & on bed rest in hospital, Ed Bockrath - pacemaker implanted, Brian - cancer.

Fourth Day

Greetings to all.

Hasn't this been a glorious fall so far! The men's weekend in Sept. was a wonderful experience for all those in attendance. We are excited about the upcoming women's weekend. All sponsors, encourage your new Cursillista to attend as many Cursillo events as possible. Keep the Spirit alive by staying involved. Be part of groupings and Ultreyas. Show your support for others by attending the Holy Hours and Closings.

And if you are asked to give a witness, prayerfully consider sharing your journey with the rest of us. Prayers and blessings to all of you!

Bill and Betty Obringer and Becky Smeltz

4th Day
Living in a world
after the resurrection



Next Ultreya for areas 7 and 10 will be Oct. 22nd at 7pm in the Upper Room at Tiffin St. Joseph Activity Center.

Area 8 Ultreya will be @ Bucyrus Holy Trinity on Monday, October 9 from 7-9 PM.

We will begin with a holy hour in the church since it is the week of the Womens Cursillo. All are welcome!



**Please pray, fast, say rosaries, do
“palanca” etc. for the Cursillistas and teams as they ready for their events.**

De Colores, Jan Stainbrook, Palanca Chair

Witness : share how God is working in your life = email to = judbrick616@gmail.com

Note: On October 4th, the first Vatican assembly for the global Synod on Synodality will open, bringing together clerics and laity alike for nearly one month of discussions focusing on the question, “What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our journeying together?”

As the universal church awaits this event with much anticipation, we invite Cursillistas to join together in prayer, asking that the Spirit guide all those participating and their conversations and deliberations. Will you make an effort to pray this daily throughout October? We believe that our unity in prayer can make a difference. The prayer can be found below.

Prayer for the Synod

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

Do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever.

Amen.

Secretariat Member openings

Current Openings

Facilities

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

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



WATCH FOR YOUR INFORMATION ON FALL FOCUS DAY NOVEMBER 18TH