

# 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.**

## January 2020

Application Forms are on the Website: [www.cursillo419.org](http://www.cursillo419.org)

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

**Email  
Nancy Cook at  
[nancy750@bex.net](mailto:nancy750@bex.net)**

Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus, our Lord.  
Happy New Year!

Just think, we are offered another opportunity to give praise and glory to our God by being His instruments of bringing the glad tidings and Good News of salvation into the world once again.

Cursillo is our methodology of accomplishing this awesome mission.

The Christian Community celebrates and honors Mary, Theotokos – the Mother of God as our model on how to live out our task. First, she pondered her call by Gabriel then said “YES!” As her yes unfolded in so many unexpected ways: the hard journey from Nazareth down the ninety miles or so to Bethlehem only to find no respectable room to give birth except in a cave among the animals. Experiencing a surprise visit from shepherds, who confirmed their message from the angels. Then the visit from strangers from different countries who came to see her Son, the newborn king of Israel. The frightening journey down into Egypt to protect and save her son, Jesus from slaughter by the ruthless Herod. And the return trip that took the Holy Family back to Nazareth.

We celebrate these events now as our Christmas story. But imagine what each event was like for Mary, that is was indeed real and it was of God. From the encounter with Elizabeth, to the shepherds and the magi and the political turmoil caused by the governments. Luke tells us that Mary reflected on these things and pondered them in her heart. There in the silence God continued to reveal Himself to her with courage and insight and confidence to continue the mission she was given.

So we can learn from her, our Mother and our Queen as she stands at the entrance to this new year and new decade 2020. What is going to unfold for our world? It is a census year, an election year that seems to be politically charged and divisive. What will the weather bring? What will the economy bring?

Whatever the events and whatever transpires, which we have no control over, our faith in our Savior Jesus and the presence and power of the Holy Spirit can take us through if we rely on them and allow them to work in us and through us to accomplish our mission.

It is these things that we too must reflect on and ponder in our hearts as we bravely journey through this new uncharted year and the beginning of a new decade.

The one phrase that was recorded in all the angelic encounters: “Do not be afraid.”

The Men’s Spring weekend in March is beginning our Team Meetings this week. The Women’s Team will follow shortly. I ask for your PALANCA for us beginning right now. Also, we need candidates for the weekends, at least twelve for each weekend. Work on the applications by first “make a friend, be a friend and then introduce them to Christ (through the Cursillo.)” Continue to group and attend or create ultreyas in your areas.

*As therefore you receive Christ Jesus the Lord, so live in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. (Colossians 2;6-7)*

A Call to Prayer:

*Lord, you call us to ministry to serve others but first you call us to be your sons and daughters. You know each of us by name and you never stop pursuing, seeking, and calling us. You desire our holiness so that we may live with you eternally in heaven. Remind us today of the first time we encountered you and the many ways we continue to encounter you. Reveal to us where our ministry has taken precedence over our relationship with you and give us the grace we need to refocus our hearts and minds on our continued call in our lives. We ask this in your holy name Jesus. Amen*

May each of you be blessed in this New Year and may you always BE a blessing to all you serve.

Love ya,

Fr Jim Brown

## Lay Director

Sisters and Brothers in our Jesus:

How is your 2020 vision? I was blessed and honored to proclaim the following at today’s Eucharistic Celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family...

“Put on, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” [COL 3:12-17](#)

This shorter version of the Feast of the Holy Family, second reading seems to be a decent road map for the challenges of 2020 and perhaps the touch of life itself. As our Cursillo approaches the 2020’s, there is much before us in the way of opportunities. There are so many friends to be made. There is so much friendship to practice and share. Then again there are those who we love, that we wish to invite to “come and see” the Love of and from Jesus Christ in a way that brings them to the Kingdom. All of our other challenges or concerns take a back seat to the method of friendship that brought us to the Cursillo and now in it is our turn to share and invite.

I also entreat you to seriously consider how you can be of service to our Movement. There are so many necessary and splendid gifts in this part of the Body of Christ. Some of us may need an invitation. Yet it is

difficult to discern our giftedness if we don't at least take a small step forward to offer the talents the Lord has grown in our hearts, minds and shared spirit. Time, treasure and talent are all we have to give and there are so many other requests and demands on all three. Still, my hope is that if your life has been graced by Our Lord through the vehicle of the Cursillo, then you have the ability to respond in an action of thankfulness.

Prayers and Palanca are the living water of our Movement, a decade of the Rosary each day is so very helpful. This has been my personal lead into night prayers, and I am so grateful for the simple suggestion from Pat and Gus Miller. For me this helps to initiate all that is needed to do with the Lord in mind rather than just the personal thoughts as to what should occupy His business.

Spring weekends are coming. Teams are getting set for formation. To honor the Lord and the efforts of these sisters and brothers in Christ, invitations to "come and see" are necessary. Who is that friend you have been praying for to present to Jesus? Now is the time to get the application in their hands. Perhaps the Spring is not the best, but no time is best without the application in hand. Keep also in mind that the Hispanic Cursillo of our Diocese has weekends this Spring. Their "Three Day Weekends" are at Wide Water near Liberty Center, and their formation and efforts need our Palanca support.

As the joke is traveling around right now, I pray that in 2021 you can look back and marvel at your 2020 vision.  
Ultrea!!!

Tim Haney

## Pre-Cursillo

Happy New Year to all! May it be a year filled with all God's blessings.

With the new year upon us, it is time to start thinking of the spring weekends, as they will be here before we know it. Do you have candidates in mind for either the men's or women's weekends? Have you *'made a friend, be a friend, bring that friend to Christ'*? Do you already have applications in hand, but have not turned them in yet. Now is the time! Please send those apps in so that they can be processed. Candidate invitations will be sent out no less than 1 month from the scheduled weekend. The men's weekend is March 12-15, and the women's is April 23-26.

Just a few reminders before sending in the apps:

- Have you downloaded the new candidate applications? They can be found on the new Cursillo website ([www.cursillo419.org](http://www.cursillo419.org)), click on 'The ARK and Forms', and scroll down. Both the candidate app and the sponsor app can be found here. If you do not have access to the website, please feel free to contact me, and I will send you copies.
- Are the forms filled out completely? Have the candidate, pastor, and you signed the forms? If any of these signatures are not completed, the app will be returned, and processing of it will be put on hold until the signatures are completed. This could then delay the candidate being invited.
- Have you filled out and included your sponsor app?
- All applications need to be sent in no later than 3 weeks prior to the weekend. For the men's weekend, the last day to accept apps is Feb. 20, and for the women's weekend is April 2.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Happy New Year!

MaryAnn Hohman  
Pre-Cursillo Chairperson  
102 Oakley Meadow Lane  
Tiffin, OH 44883  
419-681-5892  
[mahohman59@gmail.com](mailto:mahohman59@gmail.com)

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

## **From the Cursillo Chair....**

Another year has passed, and a new year is upon us. Admittedly I am very poor at keeping New Year resolutions. Fortunately, I have a Father who loves me and who consistently gives me second chances. I wonder if I am His only problem child! He also consistently gives us the chances to make a friend, be a friend and bring a friend to HIS ARMS.

The Men's Spring weekend will begin team meetings next week. It is our chance to renew a commitment to do palanca for them, the candidates which the Holy Spirit has in mind, and for our Cursillo movement. There will be a team list available soon, and hopefully one with lots of candidate soon!

In the meantime be blessed in this new year and be grateful for second chances.

Love and prayers,  
The Huffmans

## **School of Leaders...**

Our next School of Leaders meeting will be Jan. 18, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. at St. Michael's (750 Bright Road) Findlay, Ohio. We meet in the Teacher's Lounge. Enter through the office door, turn right at the first corridor then left at the next corridor, Teacher's Lounge is on the right.

We will have Bible reading with reflection followed by Sr. Edna presenting chapter 8, of The Joy of Discipleship. The Lay presentation will be a continuation of Chapter 7, Perfectly Yourself, with Gus Miller.

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 a while, or one of the new members of our movement to experience the joy we have in our fellowship at these meetings. We will end our morning in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for a decade of the Rosary and individual prayers.

Since our last School of Leaders meeting we have had our Fall Focus Day. What a fantastic day it was and very well attended. A big thank you to the Welch/Reinhart leadership for once again making this day a success. Then we had Thanksgiving. One of my favorite holidays for many reasons: we all have so many

things to be thankful for, from our wonderful faith to the many family and friends that we all have. (Not to mention the turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, pies, cookies, cranberry sauce, etc.)

And now comes the Advent/Christmas season. The coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Candle light Midnight Mass, the decorations at home, church, other houses, sharing Love so many different ways with one another. And the New Year celebration; beginning another year and another decade of loving Christ.

Karen and I look forward to seeing you all attend our School of Leaders meeting(s). in the future.

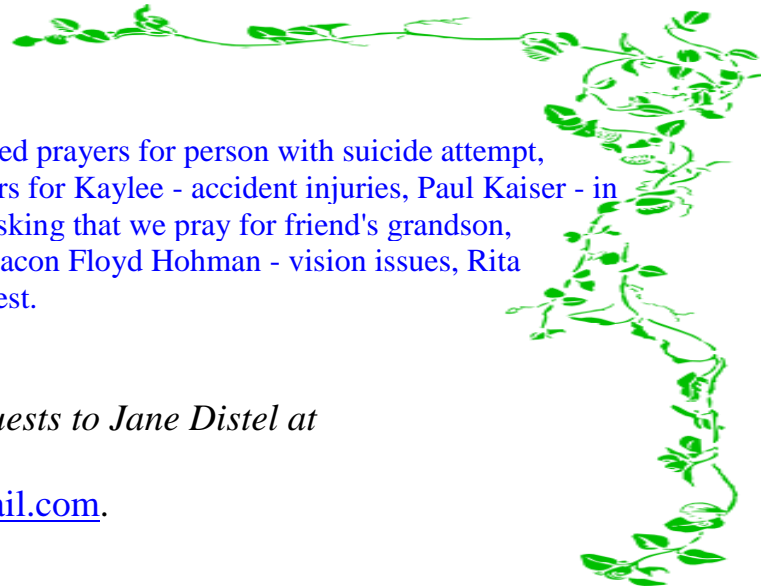
God Bless,  
John & Karen Bonen, Rectors  
Team; Carol & George Miller, Joan Alge Sharon DeCant

### Prayervine:

Vasko daughter-in-laws - safe deliveries of babies, continued prayers for person with suicide attempt, granddaughter - rollover accident injuries, continued prayers for Kaylee - accident injuries, Paul Kaiser - in nursing home, Nancy Daniel - serious health issue, Mary asking that we pray for friend's grandson, coworker - mass at base of her skull & coming surgery, Deacon Floyd Hohman - vision issues, Rita Morman - tests and suspicion of cancer, Lynn - cardiac arrest.

*Please send your prayer requests to Jane Distel at*

[prayersaregoingup@gmail.com](mailto:prayersaregoingup@gmail.com).



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

Cursillo weekends for the month of January 2020

Start Date	End Date	Event	Location
1/9/2020	1/12/2020	Men's 55 (Spanish)	Ica - Perú
1/16/2020	1/19/2020	Womens 180th (English)	Newark, NJ
1/16/2020	1/19/2020	Men's 667 (English)	Orange, CA
1/16/2020	1/19/2020	Men's 929 (English)	Phoenix, AZ

1/16/2020	1/19/2020	Women's 55 (Spanish)	Ica - Perú
1/23/2020	1/26/2020	Cursillo de Cursillos (Spanish)	Fort Worth, TX
1/23/2020	1/26/2020	Men's 171 (English)	Brownsville, TX
1/23/2020	1/26/2020	Men's 284 (English)	Biloxi, MS
1/23/2020	1/26/2020	Men's Cursillo (English)	Chatham, Ontario (Canada)
1/30/2020	2/2/2020	Women's 668 (English)	Orange, CA
1/30/2020	2/2/2020	Men's 99 (Italiano)	Ragusa, Italia (Italia)
1/30/2020	2/2/2020	Women's 930 (English)	Phoenix, AZ

### **MARCH FOR LIFE**

The Bucyrus, Ohio Knights of Columbus is again sponsoring a bus to the March for Life in Washington D.C. The contact person is Jeff Reser PH.# 419-569-2810 We will depart Holy Trinity Campus in Bucyrus on Jan. 23 at 9:30 pm with return on Sunday Jan. 26th around noon.

Trip includes Transportation from Holy Trinity to March and return, Hotel, and an all-day pass on the DC Subway, while in DC you will have time to tour Historical sites, Arlington Cemetery and attend the changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. for cost and additional details please contact Jeff

De Colores

Richard Miller  
Grand Knight  
Council 711  
Holy Trinity Parish  
Bucyrus, Ohio

## Ultreya

### Location

### Contact

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

Ron and Carol Plenzler  
[carron@buckeye-access.com](mailto:carron@buckeye-access.com)

Tiffin, St. Francis Home

Betty and Bill Obringer  
[wobringer@woh.rr.com](mailto:wobringer@woh.rr.com)

Lima St. Charles Gathering Space  
To be determined

Dale Fair (419-339-1516)  
[kfair@woh.rr.com](mailto:kfair@woh.rr.com)

Bucyrus/Crestline/Galion/  
New Washington/Bethlehem  
Galion  
Wednesday, January 8  
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Karen Bonen  
[karenbonen@yahoo.com](mailto:karenbonen@yahoo.com)

Findlay Ultreya  
St. Michael School- 723 Sutton Place  
Enter the using main school doors  
On the west side of the complex.  
Monday January 20 at 7PM

John and Karen Reinhart  
[jreinhart2911@gmail.com](mailto:jreinhart2911@gmail.com)

Spanish Ultreya  
Resume in spring

Susanne Sepeda  
[Sepedaj@aol.com](mailto:Sepedaj@aol.com)

### 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

**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.



[www.thelearningsite.info](http://www.thelearningsite.info)