



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.

November, 2021

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

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Upcoming 2022 Cursillo Weekends

Dates coming soon!

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)

Dear Brother and Sister Cursillistas,

After a wonderful ladies' weekend and a shocking event in the lives of our Reinhart family, my prayers are bringing some powerful thoughts to my mind and soul! I see a POWERFUL connection of life, faith, hope, religion, care, promise, friendship, trust, love, family, presence and our active Holy Spirit.... And I can go on even more as I lift up the grace-filled sense of the nature of Cursillo bringing people together in life and death, hope and care, love and presence never ending! I can see it all working together and the hope that brings to present activities and future ones as we help one another cope and even flourish

I see all this and more as I ponder each person involved (especially John in a multitudinal way that he demonstrates in his person) as we keep our lives together and as we look forward to helping a whole world as our faith example fits right into wonderful examples and very challenging ones. We have good examples to follow and chances to be good examples to a lot of others in our lives as we open our minds and hearts in prayer to the presence of the Holy Spirit -- in Past, Present and Future moments in lives of faith. The Movement brings all this to us so preciously for the rest of our lives here on earth and at last in heaven. We can see it unfolding right now! Isn't that great??? And it's not just because we experience John's LIFE so preciously, but also because we get to mold our lives with his good example and share that growth with a lot of others, one day at a time, one gathering at a time, enjoying it as we do so in grouping, in Ultreyas and on weekends. And we're helping one another do this forever!!!

That's our faith, and we're rightfully proud of it. We can ask John to give us some more people to be friendly to, be friends with, and to bring them to our Jesus as often as we can. Tell the story,

De Colores,
Fr Skip

Lay Director

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

I love this time of year. The air is crisp, the leaves are beginning to change, the crops are being harvested. There is a sense of completion. The hard work has been done. It is appropriate that this is the time of year when we look at our lives and offer thanks to God for the many gifts we have received.

I think that my favorite gift from the Cursillo movement is awareness of God's presence in my everyday moments. Not that I don't appreciate grouping with friends, discovering more about God and my Catholic faith, and learning to become more involved in God's plan for the world. What helps me to put my Catholic faith first and foremost in my life is the realization that God is with me every step of the way. Deut 31:8 "The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

It's amazing when God works mighty deeds for us and for our loved ones. It's even more amazing to me when God works in small ways in my life. We know that there are no "coincidences", but there are "God-instances". Like the woman (not in the choir) from my parish who saw a copy of the list of hymns I had left at my church for a funeral at our sister parish that I was playing the organ for. She had felt that God was nudging her to come and sing but hadn't made the decision yet. Seeing the list of hymns encouraged her to come. I needed her to be there for a variety of reasons but didn't ask because it wasn't at her parish. God knew I needed her participation, and He took care of it. We all have these "God-instances", and we are aware of many of them, and thank God for them. And there are so many more that we don't notice!

I am reminded often that this is not heaven. I am overwhelmed sometimes by difficult circumstances. I take such comfort and gain so much peace from the realization that God is always at my side, providing direction, support, insights, and love directly and also through His many disciples who are listening to His call. 1 John 4:16 "So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him."

I am so thankful!

De Colores! Love you! KO

May the peace of Christ always disturb your life!

John Lyons lyons5876@gmail.com

Kathy Otermat kotermat04@gmail.com



[This Photo](#) by

Pre-Cursillo

Happy November everyone! We start the month with All Saints and All Souls Days, end with Thanksgiving, and many other things in between. In my family, we have several birthdays to celebrate as well. It is a month to be thankful for all the gifts that God has given us. What are you thankful for this year?

This month brings to a close my time on Secretariat. Our terms are for three years, and that time has gone by quickly. It has been a pleasure to serve as the Pre-Cursillo Chairperson, getting to know all of you a little better, and having one of the first contacts after the sponsors with our candidates. It is exciting when the weekend comes, and I can put a face with the name. These fall weekends have been such a joy as the candidates often commented how much they were looking forward to the weekend when they replied to the invitation. Even the ones who were not able to make the weekends this time had a sense of excitement about attending in the future. Now is the time to start looking for those people in your environment who would be good candidates.

Secretariat is in need of a person, or persons, to take over the Pre-Cursillo position. Everything is in place, and I am willing to help the new chairperson with the Spring weekends. Are you looking for a way to become more involved with Cursillo? This may be just that way. Please feel free to contact me, or any member of the Secretariat for more information.

Happy Thanksgiving to each of you!

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

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

Cursillo

God so greatly blessed the Fall Cursillos. With fellowship and love, the absolute presence of His Holy Spirit and with the presence of our dear gentle, sweet friend John Reinhart. It is impossible to fill this space with any words, but hopefully and prayerfully Karen and Dany and Amanda and all their family know how very much they are loved and prayed for as they journey through their sorrow.

At the beginning of the pandemic -- when we were unable to attend Mass, receive the Holy Eucharist -- or spend time with Jesus in adoration -- my mind continued to be drawn back to this reflection. A professor used it as a meditation to close her Piety Rollo many years ago. It is a poor reflection on my organizational and housekeeping skills - to say it has taken me 1-1/2 years to find it! Only Jesus and St. Anthony know how I finally came upon it. As we also reflect on John's going to Jesus -- I hope it might bring to mind how great is the gift of the Eucharist and the gift of each of our places in the beautiful and holy Body of Christ. It was so powerfully witnessed at his funeral. We know, too, that in the last couple of months it has become so painfully apparent to us that Christians are suffering brutally in the Middle East for their love of Jesus. Here is the reflection.

"The missionary returned to China for a visit. He had previously served there for 40 years. Because of the problems existing in China, no one knew that he was a priest. On the second night of his visit, he was awakened in the middle of the night by the noise of people moving about the house. A little frightened, he got up out of bed and went to the door. Opening his door, he asked a man living in the building what was going on. The Chinese man replied, "We're going to the wall." He inquired further, "What is the wall?" The Chinese man replied, "Come with us and we will show you."

There were many people living in the house and while none of them knew that he was a priest, they knew he could be trusted. Not satisfied with the answers he had received, he went downstairs and found one of the older ladies whom he had known from 40 years earlier and asked her, "What's going on? Where are you all going?" She gently replied, "We're going to the wall." He persisted, "What is the wall?" She replied with the same gentleness, "Come with us and we will show you." He got dressed and ventured out into the night with this group of people; walking for miles -- and then they were joined by two other groups until they numbered 120.

They came to a forest and before long they came to a clearing. There in the middle of the clearing was a small half-built wall left from an old building. The old woman turned to him and smiled with all the love she had in her heart. He looked up to notice that there was a circle of men from their group surrounding the clearing in the trees above. The group walked into the clearing -- walked toward the wall -- and fell down on their knees before the wall.

Moments later, one man got up and walked toward the wall. Reaching forward with one hand, he took one brick out of the wall and behind that brick was reserved the Blessed Sacrament. They adored the Blessed Sacrament for one hour in silent prayer. Then the same man got up and approached the wall. He replaced the single brick. The men came down from the trees and they went home. The next day he told them that he was a priest and he in turn was told that they had not celebrated Mass in 10 years and that the host that had been hidden in the wall had been there for 10 years. Two or three times a week, they would go to the wall in the middle of the night, risking their lives to spend one hour with Jesus, their greatest friend. The priest said Mass at the wall the next night and replaced the host.

Do we appreciate Jesus in the tabernacle? If discovered that evening, those 120 people would have been imprisoned and quite possible killed. You and I can visit Jesus freely whenever we desire. We don't have to risk our lives. Jesus is our greatest friend. He has all the answers, and He is waiting for us in the Blessed Sacrament -- as He has waited for 2000 years."

Love & Prayers
The Huffmans



School of Leaders (live and in person!!)

Greetings to all our Cursillo family!

What a blessing to have the Fall colors later this year! Whenever I see them, I think of our DeColores song.

What wonderful celebrations we had in welcoming our new Cursillistas at the men's and women's closings! My heart is full with the joy of being in the presence of the Holy Spirit and so many of you who were able to be there praying with us in that holy place.

School of Leaders is a great way to stay in touch with the Cursillo community between weekends, and our mission is very much working on the formation (or study) aspect of our faith lives. We read great books together (not too much homework), group, sing, pray, and share our stories.

We meet in the Marian room at Findlay St Michaels from 9-noon on the third Saturday of most months. That said, we won't be meeting in November because we will have our semi-annual Focus Day this month. See the flyer in this newsletter and the Fourth Day note for details on that. We also take off for December (Christmas!) but we will be back in January.

We have a team of folks who help with School of Leaders. If you are interested in being a part of our team, just let Walter or myself know. There's always room for one more!

We hope to see many of you at the Focus Day in a couple of weeks!

Blessings and Hugs,

Annie Blum annieblum516@gmail.com

Walter Beckford wbeckford@bex.net

Fourth Day

Focus Day: ***"Toledo Cursillo the Musical"*** (see flyer on last page)

- Saturday, November 20, 2021, 8:30AM to 3:00PM
- St. Wendelin Church, 323 North Wood Street, Fostoria Ohio

We will be holding our Fall Focus Day, Saturday, November 20, 2021, at St Wendelin Church in the main hall on the first floor. We will gather at 8:30 AM and begin our program about 9:00 AM. Our theme this year is Toledo Cursillo the Musical. Come and hear what it is all about. Maybe even sing a little! Light breakfast and snacks will be provided. For lunch we will have some soups available and ask you bring your own drink and a bag lunch. Come share and enjoy the fellowship and love of Cursillo.

We, Luanne and John, wish to share our love, sympathy and sense of loss to our teammate and friend, Karen, on John's unexpected entering his Fifth Day. We ask God to wrap His arms around Karen and shower her with His love.

John Reinhart has been such a fire to this team and our work not to mention Cursillo itself. We can't express what missing him will be like on this team. What missing our dear friend means to us? May God grant him his heavenly reward. Let John see Jesus whom he had such a fire for here on earth.

With Love your Post Cursillo Team,
 Karen Reinhart , phone: 419 722-4257, email: kittyrg1967@gmail.com
 Luanne and John Welch phone: 419 478-3610, email: john4toledo@yahoo.com

Prayervine

"Putt" Hoffman - passed away, Cory - continued prayers for recovery, couple - just had twins, Greg Miller & wife - Covid, new Cursillistas, young man - biopsy, John & Karen Reinhart family - John's death, friend having breast cancer surgery.

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



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Palanca Requests

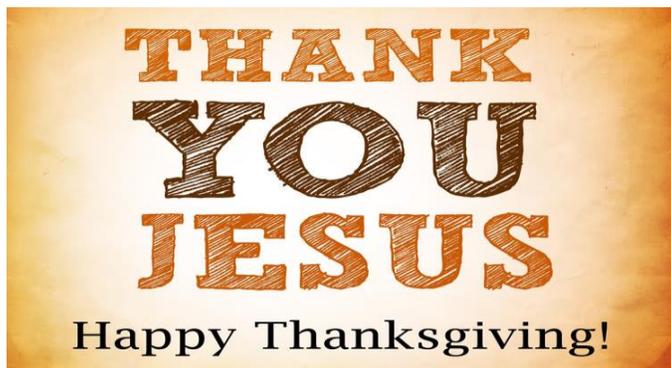
11/4/2021	11/7/2021	Women's (Spanish)	<u>Dallas, TX</u>
11/4/2021	11/7/2021	Men's 938 (English)	Phoenix, AZ
11/4/2021	11/7/2021	Women's 77 (English)	Jefferson City, MO
11/4/2021	11/7/2021	Women's 53 (English)	Knoxville, TN
11/4/2021	11/7/2021	Men's 286 (English)	Biloxi, MS
11/4/2021	11/7/2021	Women's 380 (English)	St Paul and Minneapolis, MN
11/4/2021	11/7/2021	Men's 13 (Spanish)	Lafayette, IN
11/4/2021	11/7/2021	Women's 112 (English)	Covington, KY
11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Women's 74 (English)	Fort Wayne, IN
11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Women's 65 (English)	Kansas City, KS

11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Men's 86 (English)	Worcester MA
11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Women's 174 (Spanish)	Detroit, MI
11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Women's 74 (English)	Fort Wayne/South Bend, IN
11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Men's 113 (Spanish)	Cd. Juarez, Chi (Mexico)
11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Women's 21 (Spanish)	Washington, DC
11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Mens 120 (Spanish)	Cd. Juarez Chih (Mexico)
11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Women Cursillo (English)	Gary, IN
11/11/2021	11/14/2021	Women's 13 (Spanish)	Lafayette, IN
11/18/2021	11/21/2021	Women's 409 (English)	Detroit, MI
11/18/2021	11/21/2021	Women's 939 (English)	Phoenix, AZ
11/18/2021	11/21/2021	Women's 113 (English)	Springfield -Cape Girardeau, MO
11/18/2021	11/21/2021	Men's 140 (Spanish)	Raleigh, NC
11/18/2021	11/21/2021	Men's 61 (Spanish)	Tyler, TX
11/25/2021	11/28/2021	Men's 135 (Bilingual)	Abasolo, Gto (México)
11/25/2021	11/28/2021	Men's 159 (Spanish)	Chihuahua, Chih (México)

Do you know what the word “Eucharist” means? It means “thanksgiving”. The Eucharistic prayer at Mass is about thanksgiving and praise for all creation and the wonderful works of God. St Paul says that the Eucharist was often celebrated within the context of a common meal to which many were invited, regardless of status - to name a few: the wedding feast at Cana, the Sermon on the Mount event, or the parable of the banquet to which many invited guests sent excuses and the master sent his servants to invite the poor and lame, and many others. But the one most remembered was the Last Supper where Jesus broke bread and drank wine with his disciples (friend and foe) and for all of us (no matter our status) so that we may partake in the true meaning of his “body and blood”. And as you receive Communion, be aware that you are joining with others throughout the world and becoming one with Christ, as with our sisters and brothers throughout the world. May you all enjoy your “Eucharist” with God and with those you break bread with this Thanksgiving.

DeColores,

Jan Stainbrook, Palanca Chair



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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.





Toledo Cursillo the Musical



**When and
Where?**

**Saturday November 20, 2021
8:30 AM to 3:00 PM (in person)**



**St. Wendelin Catholic Church
323 N. Wood Street, Fostoria Ohio**

**Soups will be provided please bring a bag lunch and drink.
We will have a light breakfast and snacks.**