

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.

May 2021

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

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Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

R. (Ps. 118:24) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good
for His steadfast love endures forever.

“Let Israel say,
His steadfast love endures forever.”

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

“The right hand of the Lord has struck with power;
the right hand of the Lord is exalted.

I shall not die but live,
and declare the works of the Lord.”

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the corner stone.

By the Lord this has been done;
It is wonderful in our eyes.

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

I have been reading and reflecting on Scripture in my new ESV Bible from the Augustine Institute much since Covid 19 descended upon us. The Psalms have consumed a large portion of my reflection. 2020 and 2021, to date, have not been something that I care to experience again in my lifetime.

Our country has new leadership. Like them or not, it matters not; they are in charge for at least four years. And as loyal Catholic Americans, we owe them our prayers for the Holy Spirit's gifts of Wisdom and Prudence, for each of them while in office, at least!

It was a disappointing election for many and a hard-fought victory for others. Nevertheless our lives go on, and while I was studying and reflecting on Scripture, this Psalm caught my eye, especially verse 24 which is the response for the Psalm in Easter Sunday's liturgy!

Upcoming Cursillo Weekends

Men's September 16-19, 2021

Women's October 14-17, 2021

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

Email

**Nancy Cook at
nancy750@bex.net**

How much better would it be to start our days off by waking up and before leaving our beds, make a Sign of the Cross and say **"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."** We can start each day off on a positive note!

No matter what happens to us during the day, periodically we can repeat this response. In hearing ourselves as we profess it, we can also remember the love our Lord showed to us by dying and rising from the dead for the forgiveness of our sins and to offer each of us the gift of spending eternity with Him in heaven! God bless our country and the people responsible for running it in a fair and charitable manner.

De Colores!!!

Deacon Jim Heyman

Lay Director

(Each month one of our Lay Director's will write an article)

I LOVE MAY!

I love the month of May. More flowers are being planted and blooming. My garden is starting to peek out with early vegetables, and the rest of the garden can be planted with seeds and plants that need more warmth. The temperatures don't surprise us with random freezing, and snow (please God!) is behind us until late in the year. Marty Haugen's lyrics from Psalm 19 comes to mind, "The heavens are telling the glory of God. And all creation is shouting for joy!"

May is a month dedicated to Mary, our mother. Mary understood that her role was to follow whatever God asked of her, knowing that God's ways are not always our ways. When she was told of the conception of Jesus by the angel Gabriel in Luke 1:26-38: "And Mary said to the angel, 'How shall this be, since I have no husband?'" She didn't say to the angel that this event foretold to her couldn't happen, but instead, how could this happen? And Gabriel explained what would happen, and Mary accepted what was asked of her.

Additionally, she hears of her cousin Elizabeth's pregnancy, thought also to be impossible for other reasons. Mary's visit to her cousin early in her own pregnancy brings Mary further affirmation of all that is happening to her through Elizabeth's words in Luke 1:42b-45, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." Further affirmations come from Simeon and Anna.

Mary is the only person called to be the mother of our Savior. That was her unique calling. God is calling each of us to fulfill the unique plans that He has for us. We are blessed in this Cursillo movement for the accompaniment that we give to each other through our group reunions. The feedback and encouragement from our group reunion friends help us to be better equipped to hear and follow God's will.

Perhaps, due to the pandemic and the cold weather, it may not have been possible to meet in person or even at all. Now, with the warmer weather upon us, maybe we could soon be finding a place outdoors to meet and share and support and affirm each other safely.

Also, May is a great time to call upon our mother Mary using the prayer she gave us, the Rosary. This movement, our nation, and our world could all benefit from imitating her wholehearted desire to follow God's will. What understanding and peace that could bring! Ultreya!

Your sister and brother in Christ,

Kathy Otermat John Lyons

John Lyons
lyons5876@gmail.com

Kathy Otermat
kotermat04@gmail.com

Pre-Cursillo

Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers, whether here or in heaven.

What does the month of May make you think of? Most of us probably think first of Mother's Day, First Communions, and May Crowning. I also think of all the spring flowers that May brings, as well as warmer weather. The end of the school year is upon us, as well as thoughts of summer. Spring is a time of new growth, both in our hearts and in our surroundings. How are you cultivating that new growth?

Secretariat continues to work toward having Cursillo weekends in the fall. More information will be coming out, but the dates as of now are September 16-19 for the men, and October 14-17 for the women. It is not too early to begin preparing candidates for these weekends. You can find candidate applications on the Diocesan Cursillo website (www.cursillo419.org). Click on 'The ARK and Forms', then scroll down to find the candidate and sponsor applications. I would ask that you only use these candidate applications. If you have any of the old ones, please dispose of them. There is also an application if you are interested in working a team. Once the forms are filled out, please send only the candidate and sponsor forms to me. (**Please note** that I do not process the team applications, they are to be sent to Mike and Kathy Huffman, mrhottsmom@outdrs.net.) Please be sure to check that all signatures are in place, especially the pastor's signature. If these any of these are missing, it could delay processing the application. My address and email are below.

Also, if you sent in candidate applications last year, especially for the women, please check with those people about the fall weekends. They will have first priority in the fall. We will be in contact as more details are finalized.

Have a very happy May!

DeColores,
MaryAnn Hohman
102 Oakley Meadow Lane
Tiffin, OH 44883
mahohman59@gmail.com

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

Cursillo

With the advent of Spring, we are also excited about the advent of our Fall weekends! Is it true?? Will we finally be able to be together?!? I surely hope so. Joy for us as Cursillo Chairpeople is that in the last couple of weeks we have had six applications from people who wish to serve Jesus on the Fall teams. How awesome is that!!! And one candidate application! Thank you, Jesus! So, call us, email us, snail mail us - but get us your team applications.

We may have written about this before. My memory and I will plead "the 5th". Bear with me. However, it is what come to mind with the feast of Easter and Jesus' Resurrection, Pentecost coming soon, Feast of Corpus Christi. In our parishes we are celebrating Confirmation and First Holy Communion. So many joyful feasts of our faith to look forward to... and the rebirth of our Cursillo weekends!

When I worked with the young people, one of my favorite things was our retreat with the 2nd graders prior to First Holy Communion. We started with prayer, we made bread, we viewed a video which is way out of date at this point but worked at the time. From there we left the school on a "treasure hunt" which took us all over the parish rounds. We ended up very quietly coming into church, removing our shoes, and making our way to the sanctuary to sit before the monstrance exposing the Holy Eucharist. Then we went into a little question/answer thing. Focus being ... what is our TREASURE??? Of course, with seven-year-old that go EVERYWHERE! I will never forget, however, one sweet little guy whose face I can still see suddenly jumping up and raising his arm. "Mrs. Huffman, Mrs. Huffman I GET IT! THE TREASURE IS JESUS. If that is my one claim to fame when I stand at heaven's gate before Jesus, I hope it gets me in! Of all the children I taught, at least one knew that the treasure is Jesus.

De we remember that the treasure is Jesus? Throughout the pandemic when we could not get to Mass, it was/is an ache in the heart not to receive Jesus. He is our greatest treasure. There is not one thing that could ever make us richer than to know and partake of the Body and Blood of our Jesus.

The beauty for us of being part of this Cursillo family is what we are truly "one body in Christ and we do not stand alone". We know where our treasure lies.

Love and Prayers

The Huffman's

School of Leaders...

***** *IMPORTANT NOTICE* *****

GOD LOVES YOU! LET HIM!!!!!!!!!!!!

Our next School of Leaders meeting will be held via Zoom on Saturday, May 15, 2021 @ 9 A.M.

Scripture reading and reflection: Karen Reinhart

Spiritual Advisors presentation: Sr Edna Michel, Chapter 7 of "His Way" by Fr David Knight (available on Amazon and the National Cursillo website)

Lay presentation: Kathy Otermat, Chapter 8 of "The Study of the Charism", OMCC (available on the National Cursillo website. www.natl-cursillo.org)

If you plan to attend this zoom meeting, please contact Karen Bonen via email at karenbonen@yahoo.com by Wednesday, May 12 with your email address. Invitations will be sent out with instructions on how to connect to the Zoom account on Thursday, May 13. We had 23 people in attendance at our last Zoom School of Leaders, and while it isn't the same as being in person with one another, it is still a good way to be able to see one another and share our experience, strength, and hope. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!!

May you feel the love of God today,
John & Karen Bonen, Rectors.



Fourth Day

De Colores!

And we know in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28

No matter what is happening in your lives right now, remember our great, loving God is in control... He alone knows what we NEED. In him alone can we find peace unlike anything in this world! Release control? YES, and allow him to work in and through you. Get out of his way and have faith in his will for you!

We are the only hands and feet God has here on earth to spread his love. You may be the only word of God someone hears today. God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called! Let go and let God! Live your 4th day!

Blessings!

The Welch's and the Reinhart's

Love,

The Welch's and the Reinhart's

Post Cursillo Team:

John and Karen Reinhart

John and Luanne Welch,

email: John4toledo@yahoo.com

Prayervine:

Clara - for patience, Rebecca - healing from Covid, boss - relief from vertigo, Joan - passed away, Tammy - heart catheterization, Mike - continuing health issues, Glenda's sister - in hospital with irregular heartbeat, cousin - car accident, just lost his wife, 18 year old - passed away in his sleep, Sandy - knee surgery, young girl - organ transplant rejection, Jeanne - hip replacement, Isaac - lump on jaw line, Denny - cancer, Ellis - ill & in hospital, Sandy - knee surgery & great pain, Joe Thieman - cancer, young husband & father - died of Covid.

Please send your prayer requests to Jane Distel at

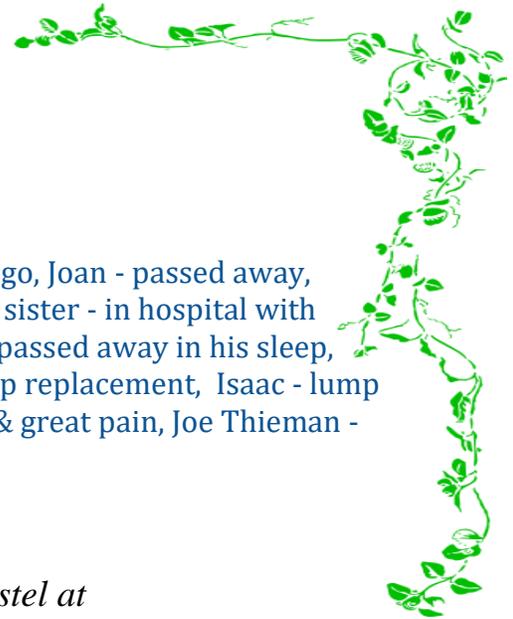
prayersaregoingup@gmail.com.

Secretariat Member openings

When we first went to the School of Leaders, we were so surprised at how comfortable we felt there. It felt like a 3-hour Cursillo weekend. (condensed version) We couldn't wait to go again the following month. Our love for SOL has grown immensely over the years. We were honored to serve as rector for the last 4 years. We have learned so much about our movement and have grown in our faith because of it. The School of Leaders is in need of new Rectors. Please take a moment and prayerfully consider this position within our movement.

John & Karen Bonen

Do you love our Cursillo movement? Do you feel called to be more involved? The School of Leaders is in need of new rectors starting in July 2021. Ask the Holy Spirit if this is something that you could do. Spend some time in prayer and see if this might work for you. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact John & Karen Bonen (karenbonen@yahoo.com) or call/text us at 419-563-5115. We have been blessed beyond measure!



Other openings happening in 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!



Palanca

Where I work, we used to have meetings with the staff every quarter. My staff usually do not cross paths with each other because of the line of work we do - homecare. So, to get to know each other a bit, we would go around the room and introduce ourselves. I have one seasoned caregiver who would give her best introduction as “I know it may be the month of June but I’m Mai”. I’ve heard her introduce herself many times in that way. And I knew what was to come each time and could even finish her line. It always brought a big smile to my face as I would mumble her answer under my breath.

Sometimes it is the simple things people can say and/or do that brings smiles to our faces. What do we do for others that may make them smile? Take some time to think that through. It is as simple as smiling first. Are you one of those people that puts their head down as you walk by someone or do you look at them with a smile on your face. That may be the only uplifting thing they see all day- your simple smile.

Since there are no Cursillo’s listed for the month of May, so I am going to ask each of you to pray for each other within our Diocese of Toledo. Pray for healing, patience, joy, forgiveness, spiritual growth, success, thanksgiving, grace, cures from diseases, togetherness, peace and of course love. Maybe all those prayers will at least help our hearts to smile and in turn return the smile to someone else. Immaculate Mary, pray for us.

Jan Stainbrook, Palanca Chair

OUTPOURING HOLY

Pentecost

5.23.2021

St. Jerome. Walbridge, OH

3:00 P.M. PRAISE & WORSHIP



'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.

