



## The PRISM - A Monthly Insight into the Catholic Cursillo Community of Rochester, NY

### March 2021 In this issue >>>

- Spiritual Advisor Wisdom
- The Secretariat Page
- School of Leaders Sharing
- Ask the Three Wisemen...
- Witness by a Friend of Christ!
- Upcoming Events
- Meet our Ultreyas

## Spiritual Advisor Wisdom

### Reflection on Palm Sunday

Fr. Tom Galvin, Region III Spiritual Advisor, Diocese of Pittsburgh

You had started the Palm Sunday liturgy singing “*Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*” It’s the same as what we sing during every Mass. We’re not going to do anything with this at this moment. But keep it in the back of your head.

The prophecy from Isaiah is the third of four such “Servant Prophecies” found in this book. The true servant recognizes that God has acted on behalf of the servant, and provides strength for what lies ahead. Confidence in this is a necessity if a servant is to fulfill the will of God. The servant has faith that God will be faithful in providing something greater. Now in Isaiah, Jesus is at the center of this prophecy as He is of all Old Testament prophecies.

St. Paul’s Letter to the Philippians reminds Jews and Greeks alike of the humanness of Jesus. It was Jesus who “*emptied himself*” as would be expected of any servant. It wasn’t enough that He took on human form and weakness, but He did so to the point of death. [Reminder: It was not for himself.] He did this to serve the Father, and us. Humility is shown as an essential element of servitude.

The account of the Passion and death of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark is concise and to the point. The servant has come to the final act of life. Yes, it is giving over a desire for this life for the fulfillment of all that has been promised by our faithful God. Does it bring support from others? Well, when we look at Mark’s Gospel the only ones who remained faithful servants were a handful of women. Betrayal is found in Judas, Peter, the crowds and all the apostles. They were there when all sang “Hosanna,” and then they acted in their humanness.

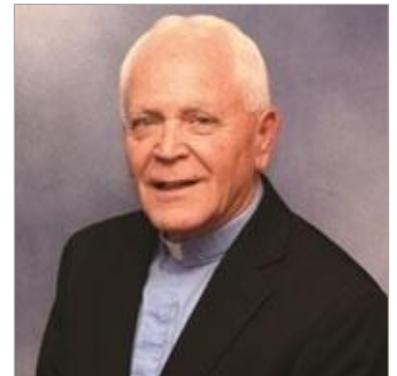
Brothers and sisters, the “*Hosanna*” has to be sung in our lives — in what we say, and in what we do day-in and day-out. As we enter into Holy Week, we must examine our faith as it is placed on the line. We’ve all sung “*Hosanna to the king!*” Now we must choose to either follow and act as a faithful servant, or side-step our call to be servant in announcing the goodness of God’s gifts and His presence. Does the fulfillment of the prophet come alive in our lives or does it reveal the human frailty in which we exist? Far too often we are among the “betrayers” of Jesus, as we have the ability to act in the gifts from the Holy Spirit, but opt to do otherwise. Even our silence, when we are presented opportunities to speak of God’s life being shared with us, is a betrayal of the promise “*not to be put to shame.*” Joseph of Arimethea is an example of this silence in his life as was Nicodemus who we hear of in the Good Friday Gospel from St. John.

*continued on page 4*



[Link to the Palm Sunday Readings:](#)

[Mark 11:1-10; Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1-15:47.](#)



# The Secretariat Page

## What about these Meetings?

Secretariat Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. Visitors/Cursillistas are welcome to join the Secretariat meetings. Currently, the meetings are being held virtually. Please contact Allan Stone for the meeting information if you want to join in!

## Notes from March 2021 Meeting:

- Treasurer's Report: We began with a balance of \$1870.68. Allan paid out \$58.00 for Flock Notes, \$12.00 for our Google domain, and \$5.00 for the PayPal test deposit of which we received \$4.55 after fees. We received donations of \$135.00 last month. Our Closing balance is \$1940.23.
- School of Leaders: The last School of Leaders had 22 in attendance. Sue Lorz discussed her focus for the School of Leaders. Her goal is that the School of Leaders provides information and methodology for members to develop Cursillo mentality. She mapped out the plan through October 2021. Sue also has attended many of the Ultreyas to get to know people better.
- Precursillo: There is a new Weekend Application that will be sent to all the Ultreya leaders who then can provide them to sponsors who need one. Still looking for a person (s) to step up to learn and take over as Precursillo Chair.
- Cursillo: Bob confirmed Notre Dame can host the June weekend with safety precautions (*see below article for details.*) We have until May 1<sup>st</sup> to cancel. Bob is donating a large piece of art to Notre Dame in the name of Rochester Cursillo.
- Postcursillo: Mary Ellen Darling reported that we have several active Ultreyas. Five are meeting on zoom with one meeting face-to-face. Three Ultreyas are not meeting due to Covid (*see Ultreya column on last page for more information.*)
- A discussion was held about the updated Pastoral Plan. Mary Liz was in contact with Fr. Tomasso who stated there hasn't been a rewrite in two years. The areas we need to focus on are evangelization, catechesis and sacraments.
- Spiritual advisors, Fr. Mickey and Dcn. David, offered spiritual guidance around St. Joseph and the Year of St. Joseph.

## Who are we?

### Lay Director:

Mary Liz Bartell, (607) 324-0372  
[maryliz@aol.com](mailto:maryliz@aol.com)

### Assistant Lay Director:

*Is the Lord calling YOU?*

### Pre-Cursillo Chair: *Is the Lord calling YOU?*

Donna LaDuca, (585) 342-3234  
[donnapecur12@rochester.rr.com](mailto:donnapecur12@rochester.rr.com)

### Cursillo Chair: *Is the Lord calling YOU?*

Bob LaDuca, (585) 943-2427  
[laduca8@rochester.rr.com](mailto:laduca8@rochester.rr.com)

### Post-Cursillo Chair:

Mary Ellen Darling, (315) 521-8771  
[maryellendarling@gmail.com](mailto:maryellendarling@gmail.com)

### School of Leaders:

Sue Lorz, (585) 704-4988  
[suelarry5644@gmail.com](mailto:suelarry5644@gmail.com)

### Secretary:

Doreen Gala-Hebert, (585) 236-6049  
[dgalahbert@gmail.com](mailto:dgalahbert@gmail.com)

### Treasurer:

Allan Stone, (585) 269-4640  
[astone@rochester.rr.com](mailto:astone@rochester.rr.com)  
Donations make out to Rochester Cursillo  
Mail to Allan Stone, 35 Cindy Lane,  
Rochester, NY 14626

### Spiritual Advisors:

Fr. Mickey McGrath, (585) 325-4041  
[Fr.mickey.mcgrath@dor.org](mailto:Fr.mickey.mcgrath@dor.org)

Dcn. David Paluskiewicz, (585) 281-1390  
[davidpaluskiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:davidpaluskiewicz@gmail.com)

## News from the Secretariat >>>

### The Three-Day Weekend

Bob LaDuca, M84, Cursillo Chair

Bob LaDuca here! Three-day chair. Basically, I set up Notre Dame...solve problems during the weekend. At the end of the weekend, I take all the Cursillo things and pack them away. I am there from Thursday afternoon until Sunday afternoon.

I have been doing this for approximately 8 years. I have also been on secretariat for the same number of years. I pray that a fellow Cursillista or two will step up to take the leadership of this vital role in our movement. I will mentor you and support you in every way.

This weekend will be very different from past weekends. It will be using the original format developed by Eduardo Bonnin. Covid 19 has led to strict rules for everyone's safety. Notre Dame has also added the following rules that MUST be followed for safety.

- Temperature check upon arrival.
- Sign off on sheet stating no exposure to Covid-19 in last 4 or 7 days.
- Must wear a mask when in transit around the facility.
- Not mandatory, but highly suggested, that groups of more than 20 get a Covid-19 test by Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. Any attendees from out-of-state should be Covid-19 tested. Nancy will check CDC Guidelines regarding testing requirements if individual has received both vaccinations.
- Limit of 25 persons. All attendees must have their own room; they cannot share any accommodations.
- Social distance at tables in meeting and in dining room.
- All meals must be plated in kitchen and served by ND staff. ND staff cannot pass off meals to Cursillo Team Member to serve to candidates.

So, this weekend will be quite the learning curve for everyone. Be safe and enjoy.

GOD BLESS

DeColores!



# School of Leaders Sharing

## Precursillo

Sue Lorz, W83, Hilton Ultreya



When we look up Precursillo in the Leaders Manual, we find on page 83, paragraph 2, the definition of Precursillo, “the study of environments and the searching of influential persons within these environments. Precursillo is also responsible for the preparation of the persons who will attend the 3-day Cursillo, with a view toward a perennial living of the Cursillo in the Postcursillo.”

When we reflect on the words of our founder, Eduardo Bonin Aguilo in the book, “The Thinking of Eduardo Bonin I” (pages 74 and 75), Eduardo himself has this to say about the Precursillo, “In the Precursillo phase, we try to identify, befriend, and then help the person who is “searching” for that “something” that he identifies as his happiness, or fulfillment or his ideal and that we know is really that “somebody” - Christ. In doing so, we broaden and accelerate his search and direct it toward these three essential encounters. By doing so, we endeavor to make his previous unrest, which is so often repressed, surprised and silenced, become the very motivating force for his new-found enthusiasm for a sound, upright, sincere and hopeful conversion.”

As leaders in the Cursillo, our lives are designed to be apostolic in always reaching out to others. In the Precursillo, as we reach out, we are helping others on their journey with the Lord through the living witness of our lives and through the Palanca of prayers, sacrifices and works of mercy offered on their behalf. We are called to make a friend, be a friend and bring a friend to Christ.

As we study the various environments in which God has placed us, we are constantly in search of those individuals who display leadership in their environments, a sense of responsibility, an openness to the Gospel message and a commitment of service to God, self and others. We perceive in them the knowledge of the Truth and the capacity for convincing others of it. Does the individual show promise of transforming the environments within which they are living? Are they a likely candidate for the conversion process? Do they demonstrate the ability to do what may benefit self and others are they encounter self, God and others? Do they show openness to friendship and internal conversion?  
*continued on page 4*



*On their 5<sup>th</sup> Day*

*Ann Evans, W26*

*Jack Evans, M26*

*Mary Jane Robie, W16*

*Rose Ann O'Connell, W34*



## Ask the Three Wisemen (and women) . . .

*Ask a wise Cursillista who has been around forever!*

*Send in your questions about Cursillo... anything and everything!*

*Send questions to: [notestobobbi@yahoo.com](mailto:notestobobbi@yahoo.com) Attn: Ask the Cursillo Wisemen*

## What is the Best Book to Learn about Cursillo?

Answered by Margi Lash, W11, Geneva - Newark Ultreya

For guidance on the Movement, there is one book that contains the who, what, when, where, why and how of Cursillo. It is called *Fundamental Ideas* and is published by the Organismo Mundial de Cursillos de Cristandad (OMCC), the World group, and can be purchased on-line at the National website. This book has gone through three editions, and the last was worked on by Cursillistas from around the world for almost seven years to ensure its correctness and completeness. The book consists of eleven chapters addressing: the history, the charisma, the mentality, the purpose, the strategy of the movement, the method, the precursillo, the cursillo, the postcursillo, the Cursillo movement in the church, and the service structures of the movement. The book concludes with a great glossary of Cursillo terms and a chronological history of the movement. Both are very interesting reads! One of my favorite sentences is on page 193 in the definition of witness, “All action of the Cursillo Movement is based on the existence of witnesses who in their everyday life let shine through the experience of salvation which starts from the encounter with the Lord.” This 200-page book is written in an outline format making it an easy read to digest short sections at a time. As the book jacket states, “This book is not a “bible” . . . and can be completed and supplemented by other contributions.” However, it is a must read for Cursillistas to truly understand the movement, and it is a great resource to support you in writing a witness, rollo, article or when inviting a candidate to join the movement. [Link to Fundamental Ideas](#)



DeColores!

## Precursillo School of Leaders Sharing (continued from page 3)

Once a solid friendship has been established, we let the individual know that we have been praying, and offering up sacrifices and doing works of mercy on their behalf. We request that they pray and discern about making a commitment to Cursillo.

Following this encounter we are then ready to present the individual with the booklet, “The Cursillo Movement-What is it?” After reading the booklet and praying and discerning about it, the individual, if need be, is guided to the awareness that Cursillo is about life, the person, the Church and the community and the environments within which they find themselves. New friends are invited to join in Group Reunion and Ultreya. They become open and willing to make a Cursillo. They are then given an application, which is signed by the candidate, the sponsor and a priest or pastoral administrator.

After viewing the application, the Precursillo Chair follows up on the individual and, if the Precursillo Chair finds the individual to be a suitable candidate to make the 3 Day Cursillo Weekend, the candidate is invited into the 3 Day Cursillo. The sponsor and the Cursillo community are now ready to take on full responsibility for the candidate as they live the 3 Day Weekend, and enter into the Postcursillo. The sponsor continues to be there for them as the Cursillista enters into their own Christian community and beyond.

In addition to the focus on the candidate and the candidate’s sponsor, much additional work is taking place in the Cursillo community. Cursillistas throughout the world and, in particular in the diocese in which the Cursillo is held, are offering Palanca on behalf of the candidates as well as the Cursillo Team, the Rector or Rectora and the Spiritual Directors for the Weekend, who have been meeting, working and doing ongoing Palanca for all persons involved in the upcoming Cursillo.

A successful Precursillo, 3 Day Cursillo and Postcursillo depends on the work of many. It is driven by the movement of the Holy Spirit and the Palanca of Cursillistas in both the local and worldwide community. A well planned, fully prepared selection of candidates and committed sponsors to these candidates is equally necessary along with a fully committed Cursillo team of Cursillistas, including priests or religious.

DeColores!

## Reflection on Palm Sunday Spiritual Advisor Wisdom (continued from page 1)

So, when we sing “Hosanna” will we be grouped among those who find human frailty a reason to back away when confronted by others? Are we ready to take any charges made against us from others for anything we say or do to fulfill God’s plans as a faithful servant and come to all that is promised?

Through baptism into Christ Jesus — His life, His passion and death, and His resurrection — the servant of today is called to become humble, taking on the weaknesses of faith that others may be living so to lift them to a new awakening of the love God has for us and them. There needs to be a giving over for something greater. When we live this life given through the “Suffering Servant” we live lives worthy of others singing “Hosanna” in reference to our acting in God as Jesus did.

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord” can refer to you and me. Those who live in Christ can never be counted among the betrayers, the ones who go back to living life as if nothing has happened — or is happening in our lives. Faithful followers will go to the cross if need be. Faithful servants will go to the cross if need be — again and again!

In every Mass we are called to offer ourselves with the gifts of bread and wine so that our lives may be transfigured into new life being shared, so we may become Eucharist in the world — not simply for our sake, but for the many others God places in our lives. Servitude is always for the “other.”

“Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!” That kingdom was a dream of a human kingdom. The kingdom Jesus was revealing, and has called us to reveal as well, is the eternal kingdom of God. That’s why we have been gifted to endure beyond the human struggles that bog so many down in the world. Faithful servants will reveal that a divine sharing is being offered to all people who dare to humble themselves to live in the divine life Jesus as brought to us. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus changed their lives, gave over their positions and humbly lived in the Early Church, ready for whatever may be thrown at them. Peter and the Apostles found humility their strength as the power of God worked in and through them. The same can be true for us.

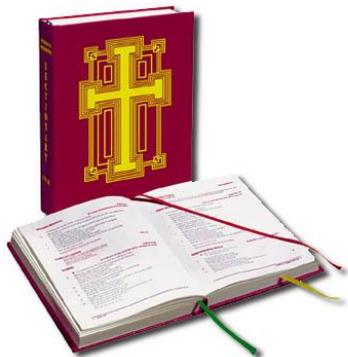
As the Suffering Servant gave of Himself for our sake — and does so today at the altar, so too are we — who come to the cross at the altar — called to offer ourselves, taking from the cross, the altar, the life to be humbly shared as promised by the One who calls us into Himself.

Have a blessed Holy Week! DeColores!



# Witness by a Friend of Christ!

Tim Flynn, M84  
Hilton Ultreya



I have lectured at St. Leo's for several years. I feel that it is piety, study, action and a close moment with Christ all in one. I try to be enthusiastic when I am reading. Sometimes it can be particularly challenging when I am reading something that the Lord says. Who am I to know how the Lord presents himself or how He speaks to others? I do know that certain readings speak to my heart. I think one of the greatest moments in the Bible is when David confesses his sin before the Lord. I like to star gaze, so it is a joy to me when I lector the Genesis reading

when God asks Abraham to count the number of stars in the sky! Can anyone? When Stephen, the first martyr of the church, is stoned, I imagine being there as the last stone is thrown. I seek ways to use different inflections in my voice when lecturing. I do this by reviewing the readings during the prior week. When recently reading about Moses giving the Jewish people the Ten Commandments, I stressed on the word "Not" every time I read it. Also, I try to pace myself when reading. Finally, and more importantly, I never look for compliments after Mass. While it may mean that my reading is having an effect on someone, it is Jesus doing the work on the hearts of others, not me. I am only the vessel that God is using. DeColores!



You are Welcome  
to attend any Ultreya!

**Hilton Area** - Last Saturday (4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup>)  
IN PERSON at 6:45pm  
Tim Spinelli, (585) 395-4510  
[tspinelli@aol.com](mailto:tspinelli@aol.com) -OR-  
Randy Campanaro, (513) 314-2999  
[rayjaycamp@yahoo.com](mailto:rayjaycamp@yahoo.com)

*Please contact Ultreya Coordinator for  
an invite with the Zoom info!*

**Hornell Area** - 1st Thursday, 7:00pm  
St. Ann's School  
Mary Liz Bartell, (607) 324-0372  
[maryliz@aol.com](mailto:maryliz@aol.com)

**Caledonia Area** - 1st Saturday  
Virtual Ultreya at 7:00pm  
Beth Bullen, (585) 538-9406  
[beth.bullen1@gmail.com](mailto:beth.bullen1@gmail.com)

**Fairport Area** - 2nd Saturday  
Virtual Ultreya at 7:00pm  
Kathy Jacobsen, (585) 755-9578  
[kjacobson046@gmail.com](mailto:kjacobsen046@gmail.com)

**Geneva - Newark Area** - 2nd Monday  
Virtual Ultreya at 7:00pm  
Margi Lash, (315) 548-5164  
[lashmb59@gmail.com](mailto:lashmb59@gmail.com)

**Elmira Area** - 4th Thursday  
Virtual Ultreya at 7:00pm  
Deacon George & Paula Welch  
(607) 738-3959  
[gwelch@tqcp.com](mailto:gwelch@tqcp.com)

*These Ultreyas are currently not meeting  
due to Covid-19. Pray to reunite soon!*

**Rochester SPANISH** 3rd Sunday  
1:30pm Ultreya & School of Leaders  
St. Michael's Church  
Sr. Theresa Rutty, (585) 325-4041  
[trutty46@yahoo.com](mailto:trutty46@yahoo.com)

**Dansville Area** - 2nd Sunday, 11:00am  
Sacred Heart Parish, Kennedy House  
Bonnie Olsen, (585) 335-5971  
[summersky252@aol.com](mailto:summersky252@aol.com)

**Owego Area** - 2nd Sunday, 2:00pm  
St. Patrick's Church  
Jerry & Dodie Ward, (607) 786-0339  
[grr.ward@gmail.com](mailto:grr.ward@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Events!

More info on our website [www.rochestercursillo.com](http://www.rochestercursillo.com)

School of Leaders - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month  
at 7pm via Zoom.us  
Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>  
Watch for Invite on Flocknotes

Virtual Region III Spring Encounter  
Saturday, May 8, 2021  
9:00 - 11:00 am Business Meeting  
12:00 - 4:00 pm Rollos, Prayers, Discussion

Women's #89  
Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua  
POSTPONED... *new dates are TBD*

Virtual National Cursillo Encounter  
July 22-25, 2021  
Registration opens April 2 [www.natl-cursillo.org](http://www.natl-cursillo.org)

Region III Fall Encounter  
Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua  
November 19-20, 2021

Men's #94  
Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua  
December 9-12, 2021

*For information on the PRISM, please contact:  
Bobbi LaVoie at 585-727-4866 or [notestobobbi@yahoo.com](mailto:notestobobbi@yahoo.com)*

Coming Soon >>>

Check your  
Flocknotes messages  
for details on events!

