

# CURSILLO

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

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## Spiritual Advisor Wisdom

### The Two Parts of Lent

Sr. Theresa Ruddy, R.S.M., W19  
Fairport & Spanish Ultreyas  
Spiritual Advisor



When I was a child, on the Fifth Sunday of Lent all the statues and crosses in church were covered with purple cloth. For me this meant just two weeks left before a new dress and hat, a hidden basket of candy and eggs and hopefully a warm sunny day. Well, it does indicate that Lent will end soon but more importantly we can see a dramatic change in the focus of the Gospels of Lent.

Looking at the week-day Gospels during the first part of Lent, we see that it is mostly about us. It's about how God and the Church are calling us to live Lent: prayer, fasting almsgiving. It's about how we are called to live as disciples of Jesus: love our enemies, be merciful, stop judging, deny one's self, forgive others. The greatest is the one who serves. We are held accountable for what we fail to do as well as our evil deeds. It is a time to examine our own way of life.

During the Fifth week of Lent the Gospels all focus on Jesus: who is he? All the Gospel readings are from John's Gospel. The tension between Jesus and the Jewish leaders becomes more overt. Remember Moses and the burning bush? God tells Moses that his name is I AM. So, for the Jews when Jesus is saying I AM, he is blaspheming because only God can say that. But Jesus is telling them who he truly is. "I AM the Light of the World." "I AM going away. Where I AM going you cannot come. You will die in your sins." "If God were your Father, you would love me. I did not come on my own, but he sent me." "Abraham rejoiced to see my day. Before Abraham came to be I AM." Then on Friday we hear that they take up stones to hurl at him, when he says: "The Father is in me and I in the Father." He slips away as it is not his hour. Saturday the leaders have a meeting. "What are we going to do (about him)?" they ask. Caiaphas the high priest, answers: you know nothing, nor do you consider that it is better for you that one man should die instead of the people, so that the whole nation may not perish."

And, this leads us into Holy Week and the events of Jesus' last week leading up to his death on Calvary. We celebrate Palm Sunday, as Jesus enters Jerusalem and the people rejoice. We witness the anointing of Jesus. We hear Judas making a deal with the leaders. We participate in the Last Supper. We read the Passion of Jesus and mourn his Death.

Let us live these last two weeks of Lent focusing on Jesus; living his Passion with him.  
Then Easter will be more than Easter baskets, eggs and chocolate bunnies!

DeColores!

# 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 8, 2022 Meeting:

- Treasurer's Report: Report is upcoming next month.
- School of Leaders: Sue shared the monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday meetings are a success; she publishing the recording of the rollos for those who missed the meetings. Sue is planning a Rector's Guide Training for April 23 and 30 via zoom. Region III Service Team will present the guide. Gail Terrana is rectora.
- Pre-Cursillo: Tim Flynn has accepted co-chair position. He is looking for a partner to co-chair the responsibilities. Applications are available for the upcoming weekends from Ultreya leaders.
- Cursillo: Neal Combs is starting to organize the details for the upcoming W#89 and M#95 at Notre Dame. Notre Dame did announce they will continue to host weekends until their scheduled closure of August 2023. Neil will begin researching alternative venues to host three day weekends.
- Post-Cursillo: Mary Ellen reported on the plans for the Grand Ultreya at St. Dominic's in Shortsville on March 19, 2022. She confirmed the family picnic is July 2 at Seneca Lakes State Park in Geneva. She will assist Region III in promoting the Living the Rector's Guide weekend at Notre Dame, September 8-11, which is an opportunity for Cursillistas to experience the three day weekend using the new guide. Secretariat and people who want to team should attend. Invitations are coming soon.
- Pastoral Plan & Other Business: Mary Liz shared they are finalizing the pastoral plan. She, too, asked for discernment and Palanca for someone to step up for open secretariat roles: Ass't Lay Director, Secretary and co-Precursillo Chair.

## 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?*

### Precursillo Chair:

Tim Flynn, (585) 281-3816  
[ktflynn32@yahoo.com](mailto:ktflynn32@yahoo.com)

### Cursillo Chair:

Neil Combs, (585) 749-4559  
[whitegremlinny@gmail.com](mailto:whitegremlinny@gmail.com)

### Postcursillo 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: *Is the Lord calling YOU?*

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 >>>

### From the Tiniest of Seeds Comes the Largest of Trees



Sue Lorz, W83, Hilton Ultreya  
School of Leaders

I invite you to think back when the *seed* of Cursillo first entered your mind. Who would have thought then that such a simple beginning would develop into a life long commitment to building up the Kingdom of God? I certainly had no such idea in the very beginning of my Cursillo journey.

On my *Three Day Weekend*, I first became truly aware of the power of the Holy Spirit and the unbelievable love that God had for me.

After the Weekend, I was invited to *Ultreya* which would help me to keep the fire burning. At Ultreya, a very kind and observant Cursillista, suggested that a few of us babe chicks make up a *Friendship Group Reunion*. We agreed and moved forward with help and encouragement from individual Cursillistas and members of the Ultreya.

*School Of Leaders* was suggested but the use of the word "leader" sounded like this school was not for me. I wasn't a leader. Then a Cursillista friend said to me, "Of course you are. Everyone who makes a Cursillo is a Leader in Christ." It was at that moment that I recalled the words from the Commitment Ceremony, "Christ is counting on me", Ok, I'll give it a try. I soon discovered that the "School", fed my desire for an increase in holiness and knowledge. I also very much benefitted from the *Leaders' Group Reunion* of all my brothers and sisters in Christ that I experienced at School of Leaders.

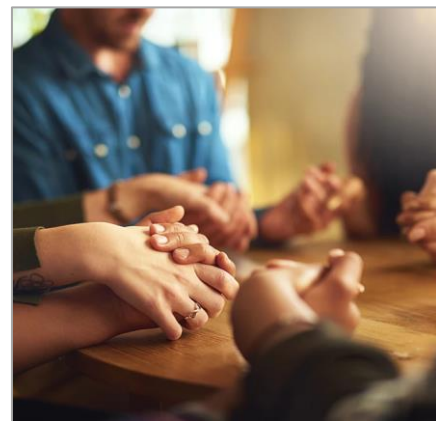
And thus, the journey started out with the planting of that tiny seed, with saying "yes" to the Lord, attending that first of many Ultreyas, entering a Friendship Group Reunion and ultimately attending School of Leaders.

*continued on page 4*

# School of Leaders Sharing

## Group Lectio Divina

Paula Welch, W17, Elmira Ultreya



Although lectio divina as a prayer practice can be traced back to the third and fourth centuries, to the ancient desert fathers and mothers, group lectio is a more recent phenomenon. Group lectio consists of the same four steps as individual lectio, read, reflect, respond, rest. However, because it is done with a group there is time to share.

There are two basic forms of group lectio, Scholastic and Monastic. I will first describe Scholastic. We begin with an opening prayer. The prayer to the Holy Spirit is an excellent beginning. The scripture passage is then read slowly out loud. After a brief pause of two or three minutes, participants are asked to share a word or phrase that captured their attention. No further explanation at this time, just a word or phrase. This is the first step, Read.

Step Two – Reflect: The passage is read a second time slowly followed by a two-to-three-minute moment of silence. After the silence, participants are asked to share what the reading means to them. This is not bible study, but a time to share what we hear God saying to us in the present moment. There are now right or wrong responses. This is not a time for discussion or debate. We listen to each other with the ear of the heart.

Step Three – Respond: Again, the same passage is read. This time our response, after a moment of silence, is a prayer to God or a question or wonder.

Step Four – Rest: After the passage is read the last time, we remain in prayerful silence as we contemplate the reading. After a longer perhaps five-minute period of silence we bring our prayer together with a simple doxology, Glory to the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit.

Monastic Lectio follows the same four steps but instead of sharing we remain in silence after the first and second reading. After the third reading we do faith sharing. Faith sharing allows us to share what we heard God saying to us today. It is not bible study and again there is no wrong answers. We can then end our prayer together with the fourth reading of the scripture passage and a time of contemplation followed by a closing prayer.

DeColores!



## 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*



## Is a Spiritual Advisor different from a Spiritual Director?

Answered by Margi Lash, W11, Geneva Newark Ultreya

A spiritual director is a person trained in guiding a person in spiritual direction, a long-term focused religious experience that deepens a person's relationship with God. Spiritual direction is "help given by one Christian to another which enables that person to pay attention to God's personal communication to him or her, to respond to this personally communicating God, to grow in intimacy with this God, and to live out the consequences of the relationship." (William A. Barry and William J. Connolly, *The Practice of Spiritual Direction*) A spiritual director can also be a spiritual advisor. However, one needs special training to be a spiritual director. In Cursillo, we recommend each Cursillista to find a spiritual director to aide and guide them in their faith life.

A Cursillo Spiritual Advisor can be a priest, deacon or religious who understands the Cursillo charism and methodology. From the article [The Role of Spiritual Advisors in the Cursillo Movement \(natl-cursillo.org\)](http://natl-cursillo.org) by Fr. David Smith, "The movement exists and acts in a diocese only by the approval of the ordinary Bishop of the diocese. Having said that, the Cursillos must remain faithful to the Foundational Charism without ecclesiastical taxation, with the exception of serious theological mistakes, pastoral or moral." The Spiritual Advisor is to monitor the movement that it aligns with the guidelines of the church. The advisor is to promote Cursillo, maintain the spirituality of the leaders, be available on weekends to share the graces, and to actively participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> day activities of Ultreya and School of Leaders. And, to be our friends!

Decolores!



# News from the Secretariat (continued from page 2)

After attending School of Leaders for a number of years and developing the desire to share this gift of Cursillo with others, I realized that this thing called Cursillo was a pivotal part of my journey with the Lord.

School of Leaders fed me both spiritually, with the presentations given by various priests, deacons and religious and academically with the knowledge gained in the lay person's Technique Presentations.

By then I was well aware of the importance of the School in the Cursillo Movement. After Leadership in the School remained unfulfilled for some time, I ultimately agreed to lead the School.

I strongly believed in the importance of the various components of the School: community prayer, Group Reunion, Doctrinal and Technique Presentations followed by comments and feedback, the working of the three distinct phases of Cursillo - Precursillo, Three Day Weekend and Postcursillo (All three of whose needs are met in the "Work By the Sections"). Since all three phases are equally important to the success of the movement, all Cursillistas attending the School are encouraged to join in on the "Work By the Sections" in the section of their choice. The School keeps us informed of the many opportunities Cursillo offers us. We remain cognizant that our Palanca in our daily lives is the lever which keeps the movement going forward. The School always begins and ends with prayer for ourselves and for our brothers and sisters in Christ in our immediate environment, in our Church and diocesan environment and in our worldwide environment.

From the School come the members of the *Secretariat*. The Secretariat is responsible for all aspects of the Movement's functions. It is responsible for the correct functioning of the School, which is the working arm of the Secretariat.

Both the School and the Secretariat, as well as all Cursillistas, are, by essence, Christ's servant leaders, living what is fundamental for being a Christian and being the vertebrae of Christianity in society.

That tiny seed of searching for one's *Ideal* has brought an awareness of the largest of trees - that is the love and service of the Cursillo Movement in our community, our Diocese, our country and our world environments.

As Cursillistas we live the gospel in our daily lives and spread the Good News to as many people as possible through the witness we give to our family, our neighborhood, our Church, our diocese, our country and our worldwide environments.

"Christ is counting on us"!

DeColores!

## Cursillo Rector's Guide

Join School of Leaders to discover the Gifts of Eduardo Bonnin  
in his Rector's Guide.

The Rector's Guide, A Step-by-Step Guide to the Cursillo Weekend, will be studied over two sessions. Please join us on this journey of discovery. All Cursillistas are welcome to attend. Be prepared to join in the *Living of the Rector's Guide* in September or to possibly team on future weekends.

Saturday, April 23, 9am-2pm EDT  
Saturday, April 30, 9am-2pm EDT

To register and receive a link to the Rector's Guide and study materials,  
and for the for Zoom invite, contact Sue Lorz

(585) 704-4988

[suelarry5644@gmail.com](mailto:suelarry5644@gmail.com)

# Region III Spring 2022 Encounter



## Awareness A Bridge to the Cursillo Weekend

Sisters of St. Ann Retreat Center, 1120 North Center St., Ebensburg, PA

**Friday, May 6, 2022**

Arrive 3-5:30pm  
Opening Prayer & Group Reunion 6:30pm  
Fiesta 9:30pm (bring something to share!)

Dinner 5:30pm  
Presentations & Prayer 7:10pm

**Saturday, May 7, 2022**

Morning Prayer 7:30am  
Rollo and Discussion 8:50am  
Rollo and Discussion 1:30pm  
Dinner 5:00pm

Breakfast 7:50am  
Lunch 12:30pm  
Mass 4:00pm  
Farewell 6:00pm

\$105.00 Full Participation with Room Friday Night \_\_\_  
Roommate's name \_\_\_\_\_

\$60 Commuter \_\_\_ Zoom \_\_\_

If you cannot join us in person, please join via Zoom Meeting  
Zoom information will be forwarded to you upon registration, email to:  
[waynefleckenstein@gmail.com](mailto:waynefleckenstein@gmail.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Diocese \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Any allergies or issues: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail registration with payment to: Wayne Fleckenstein, Region III Treasurer, 2313 Banker St, McKeesport, PA 15132 Make checks payable to: Region III Cursillo. Kindly register by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

For information or questions contact Bobbi LaVoie at 585-727-4866 or [notestobobbi@yahoo.com](mailto:notestobobbi@yahoo.com)

# Witness by a Friend of Christ!

Bobbi LaVoie, W71  
Fairport Ultreya

Since I made my weekend in 2002, I have been active in Cursillo by regularly grouping, attending Ultreya, going to School of Leaders, working on the weekends, and participating in diocesan events. But a few years ago, the Lord told me that my primary apostolate was to be Cursillo. From that moment on, I best describe it using a dog analogy especially since I am a big dog person, God put a leash on me and starting taking me where he wanted me to go! The Lord has called me to do things that I felt I am not trained for... I was asked to be on the Region III service team, and I was like ME? But, I heard Him tell me that he will put people around me who will know the answer. I trusted the Lord and discovered a world of amazing people who love Cursillo and spend their life studying the movement.

Then the Lord asked me to be the Region III coordinator. And I questioned him again... yet, he told me to keep trusting him. Once again, my burden has been carried in part by friends who are just a phone call or email away! I truly discovered that Cursillo is about Friendship. We are sisters and brothers-in-Christ holding each other during this faith journey that we take together. Next, I was asked to serve on the Executive Committee of the National Secretariat, first vice chair then chairperson... I was shaking! Amazingly, God had Gail Terrana move down the street and become my group reunion sister! For those of you who don't know Gail, she served on the World Executive Committee, was a friend of Eduardo Bonnin, and helped translate his books! Just today, I was participating in a School of Leaders in California, a question came up I was unsure of... the answer was a cell button away! Not one, but two friends called back with the information. Thank you God for trusting me and teaching me to trust in you, always. 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  
St. Leo's Church  
Tim Spinelli, (585) 755-6252  
[TSpinelli@aol.com](mailto:TSpinelli@aol.com)

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

**Elmira Area** - 4th Thursday  
IN PERSON /Virtual Ultreya at 7pm  
St. Mary's Faith Formation Center  
Deacon George & Paula Welch  
(607) 738-3959  
[pwelch@tqcp.com](mailto:pwelch@tqcp.com)

**Hornell Area** - 1st Thursday  
IN PERSON & Virtual Ultreya at 7:00pm  
Mary Liz Bartell, (607) 324-0372  
[maryliz@aol.com](mailto:maryliz@aol.com)

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

**Fairport Area** - 2nd Saturday  
IN PERSON & Virtual, Own Meal 5:15pm  
Ultreya 6:00pm  
Kathy Jacobsen, (585) 755-9578  
[kjacobson046@gmail.com](mailto:kjacobsen046@gmail.com)

**Rochester SPANISH** 3rd Saturday  
IN PERSON (tbd) 4:00pm Ultryea & SOL  
St. Michael's Office Building  
Sr. Theresa Ruty, (585) 325-4041  
[truty46@yahoo.com](mailto:truty46@yahoo.com)

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

*This Ultreya is currently not meeting due to Covid-19. Pray to reunite soon!*

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

## Upcoming Events!

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

Coming Soon >>>

Check your  
Flocknotes messages  
for details on events!



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

School of Leaders – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month  
at 7:00pm via Zoom.us - Next meeting is April 21st  
For Zoom invite, contact Sue Lorz, (585) 704-4988  
[suelarry5644@gmail.com](mailto:suelarry5644@gmail.com)

Region III Spring Encounter, St. Ann's, Ebensburg, PA  
May 6-7, 2022

Women's #89  
Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua  
June 2-5, 2022

Cursillo Picnic, Seneca Lake State Park, Geneva  
July 2, 2022

Cursillo National Encounter **Plan to attend!**  
Chapman University, Orange, CA,  
July 21-24, 2022

Living the Rector's Guide Cursillo Weekend Experience  
Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua  
September 8-11, 2022

Region III Fall Encounter, Stella Niagara, Buffalo, NY  
October 28-29, 2022

Men's #95  
Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua  
November 3-5, 2022

