

# CURSILLO

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

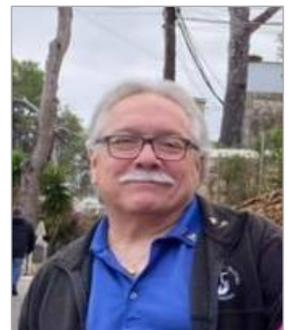
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## Spiritual Advisor Wisdom

### Charity and Cursillo

Deacon Gary Terrana  
Fairport Ultreya  
Spiritual Advisor



Jesus called the practice of Charity the greatest commandment of God. In the gospel of John chapter 15 verses 9 and 12, Jesus says, “As the Father loved me, so I have loved you: abide in my love.” And again: “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

Love and Charity are one and the same. In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, it states: “Charity is the theological virtue by which we love God above all things for his own sake and love our neighbors as ourselves for love of God.” (CCC1822). The three theological virtues (faith, hope and charity) are given directly by God to our souls at baptism. By Charity God dwells in our souls. 1 John 4:16 says, “God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.”

Charity has such a high place of honor because it is the bond between God and man. It is superior to all the virtues. It is the first of all the virtues, because Charity unites us intimately to God and our neighbor. It is true love that goes deeper than feeling good about someone or something. And true love means that we want only what is good for the other person. To love God means that we want to please him by doing good. To love our neighbors means that we want good things for them.

For us as Cursillistas, the Group Reunion is a key to Charity because friendship helps us to love, by inviting our friends to come and see how Christ is present in our lives. Friendship within our group reunion helps us to grow in friendship with God, who is the source of our Piety, Study and Action, enabling us to be charitable to others with the love of Christ. In Eduardo’s presentation on *Friendship* at the First Conversations of Cala Figuera he said, “Friendship is attentive charity communicated with admiration and devotion, detail by detail. Friendship is an art, the art of living and knowing how to love...”

Charity is concerned with the person. Matthew 25:40, “Amen, I say to you, whatever you do for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”

Cursillo is also concerned with the person. Our founder, Eduardo Bonnín, spoke of the specific qualities of the leader being natural and supernatural. Within the supernatural qualities he speaks of charity as a definite assignment to combat all the oppositions we face trying to obtain holiness. Charity lives in the details. He tells us to put these qualities into practice so that they are an acquired habit not just knowledge so that they can easily be put into practice when the occasion arises.

Continued on page 4

# The Secretariat Page

## Notes from September 13, 2022 Meeting:

- Treasurer's Report: Allan reported an opening balance of \$2370.04. Payment to Flocknotes for \$58.00 and pamphlets paid. Closing balance \$1946.54. Next month Cursillo National \$400 and \$150 Zoom. Need to do a year end appeal to get funds and have a donation table at Clausura. All the documentation for each section should be stored in Cursillo Secretariat Drive.
- School of Leaders: Using devotion of the month for talks and technique talks come from National Website. Looking for suggestions for improving attendance and for ideas for topics.
- Precursillo: Tim Flynn getting candidates list to send out sponsor and candidate letters in October for W89. Looking into cost of weekend and if donation should be increased. Tim is has a supply of the pink "What is Cursillo?" and the blue "Sponsor" booklets.
- Cursillo: Neil Combs will be available to serve W89. Organizing the work to be done.
- Postcursillo: Still availability for Cursillistas to attend a Desert Day at Notre Dame Retreat House on Tuesday, October 4, 9am-3pm. Region III Encounter at Stella Niagara Oct 28-29, all are invited. Mary Ellen is checking with Ultreya leaders if any books are needed.
- Other Business: Secretariat terms are expiring this December: Lay Director, School of Leaders, Treasurer, Postcursillo. Need to find replacements from School of Leaders, our Ultreyas and Group Reunions. Discussion about CASE training for Ultreya leaders, team members and Secretariat members. Many already have done through their parish.

## 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!

## Who are we?

### Lay Director:

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

### Assistant Lay Director:

Keith Bunker, (585) 613-8036  
[kbunker@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kbunker@rochester.rr.com)

### 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:

Janice Bradt, (585) 281-1091  
[ljddb@frontiernet.net](mailto:ljddb@frontiernet.net)

### 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 >>>

### A New Note Taker!

Janice Bradt, W28, Hilton Ultreya  
Secretary

When I was asked to take the secretary's task, I was at first overwhelmed, as I do struggle with computer technology. However, I felt a tug inside to help out. I believe it was the Holy Spirit calling me to be more than I am confident to be.

I soon realized with the help of the amazing Sue Lorz, that this task can be done! Following her lead, I was able to get the first draft of minutes completed!

Why did I say "Yes". What is my "Why"? I find myself searching for something that I firmly believe in. My faith in the Catholic Church is the most precious part of my life. As a Catholic, I feel it is our responsibility to bring people closer to Jesus. So much of our world today is secular. Many people have become deaf to what God is trying to tell us. Our mission, as Cursillistas, is to be that force, prompted by the Holy Spirit, to help them return to their faith. We become their friend and bring them to Christ!

As I become more familiar with the Cursillo movement, I have become more aware of those "close moments." Once during a life-threatening experience, He whispered in my ear "I will not let anything happen to you". This year, His Blessed Mother even paid us a visit after I prayed to her be in my dreams. I asked her to watch over my son, who was in need of her protection. She came almost in person, as the beautiful, life size Fatima Statue! It was the closest moment ever! So now, I find myself praying before I attempt any project. As a result, it usually comes out better than I ever expected. I offer these emotionally difficult moments to Him. I know He will take care of it. This closer relationship with Jesus is most definitely related to my involvement in Cursillo.

When we group, I love hearing how the Holy Spirit is working in the lives of others to accomplish this mission. Those moments when He breaks through our earthly lives to bring people together. These are the most beautiful stories that give us hope. I am so thankful and so blessed to be a part of this lifegiving apostolic movement which is doing everything they can to spread the faith to all areas of our fallen world.

DeColores!



# School of Leaders Sharing

## Living the Rector's Guide

Liz O'Keefe, W82, Fairport Ultreya

Come Holy Spirit... The weekend of September 8-11, I got to Experience Living the Rector's Guide ... When asked for the clausura what our table learned, here is what we agreed upon. "We relived our weekend with a better understanding of Cursillo and during the weekend we saw the living Christ in each other. We built "Holy" friendships. I don't think I could give a better synopsis of how I left the weekend.

There were many new things that I heard on the weekend that clarified the charism of the Cursillo movement. These might have been there on my original weekend, but I heard them this time around. One in particular that I'm going to share that freed me in my thinking about Study is that it is not all about reading books. It is discovering God in all areas of life, and this can be through all different means.

There were so many things that I heard, but I want to focus on one in particular that stood out for me. After the weekend, the fire you feel on the weekend can be sustained through Grouping and Ultreya. The woman who gave the Rollo on Total Security talked about how she had grouped with the same women for over 20 years, and they had shared their life and faith journey with each other. They are prayerful support for each other. Through grouping we are living saints to each other.

Grouping should be regular. It is best to meet weekly. It is confidential – What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas. What is said in Grouping stays in the group and is not shared outside of the group. We can share our problems and concerns, and our faith journey. Our fellow groupies can pray for us. It is the communion of saints. There is a set format for grouping and it is outlined on the Group Reunion Sheet we all received on our weekend. Mine was tucked into the Pilgrims Guide and I hadn't really referred to it in ages. The sheet is used in Grouping. Grouping starts with the Holy Spirit prayer, Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be. Each person shares their piety, study, action and a close moment to Christ. We share our problems and concerns and pray for each other.

On Thursday, as I was walking back to my car there was a woman I knew from Buffalo who was sitting in the Rollo Room. I went up to say hello and found her having a major melt down. There was no way she was going to be able to do the stairs and they were going to have to leave. They had a room on the second floor and got off the elevator pushing the button that said 2, which is really the Rollo Room. The second floor is 3 on the elevator. After telling them how to get to the second floor all was much better. This was a close moment.

*Continued on page 4*



## 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 Christianismo?

Answered by Margi Lash, W11, Geneva-Newark Ultreya

This answer was taken from the translator's notes in the Rector's Guide Lay Rollos. Cristianismo – translated as 'Christian life'. There is no English word to replace "Cristianismo" that gives its full definition of the term. 'Cristianismo' refers to the dynamic living content found in the Early Christian community and the Acts of the Apostles, that encompasses the experience of 'being Christian' in every era. In essence, it refers to the 'living content of what is Christian'.

- In the past this word 'Cristianismo' was simply translated as 'Christianity' the same as 'Cristiandad'. However, this distinction of 'Cristianismo' is important to the origins of the Cursillos in Christianity and to the mentality of the founder, Eduardo Bonnín. For this reason, the original word "Cristianismo" remains in Spanish throughout the Lay rollos, wherever it appeared in the original documents along with its translated general meaning of "Christian life".

Note: Future appearances of 'Cristianismo' will be present in the complete full version of The How and the Why (soon to be published) in which its significance to the Cursillos in Christianity is explained by Eduardo Bonnín. Decolores!

## Charity and Cursillo Spiritual Advisor Wisdom (continued from page 1)

It is authentic and true charity, which is needed in order to win the heart of the other person. If we do not win the heart first, we win nothing.

Cursillo is concerned with helping others find their way to the Father. It is not about making it easier for us, it is about making it easier for the others - especially those who are “far away.”

This is how we practice true charity as leaders, inviting others who enter our “one square meter” environment with friendship, accepting the other for who they are, loving God in them and loving them in God.

Eduardo has said that the goal of Cursillo is to enable people, in the existing circumstances and happenings of their life, to learn through loving what can only be understood by loving. This is done in a contagious manner through a vital intercommunication within the atmosphere of friendship, “infecting” each other.

In Cursillo, friendship is the key to Charity. Friendship with God and friendship with others. For it is in Charity that we, “Make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend to Christ.”

I would like to close with a quote from our Holy Father, Pope Francis, “To love God and neighbor is not something abstract, but profoundly concrete: it means seeing in every person the face of the Lord to be served, to serve him concretely. And you are, dear brothers and sisters, the face of Jesus.” *Casa Dona Di Maria* (Gift of Mary) Homeless Shelter, Rome, Italy 5/21/2013

DeColores!

## Living the Rector's Guide School of Leaders Sharing (continued from page 3)

Part of your grouping is what is your plan for the next week and sharing apostolic successes and failures. Apostolic action is bringing Christ to the world. It is a specific plan of how to draw someone to Christ. Helping the old lady across the street to get to the church for Mass. Is that apostolic action? Probably not because anyone could do that. One of the people at my table goes to the nursing home and brings cards to the patients on their birthdays. Every month I get a card making kit and make the cards. I have more cards than people I know to send them to. My plan is to go to the spare bedroom sort out the birthday cards and plan to meet her and bring the cards to her.

In thinking about this ... taking the cards to her is not truly apostolic action, but I'm going to help her action. As a result of the weekend, I realized I need to focus more on the apostolic plan. On my way home from Notre Dame I called a friend who lost her husband in May of 2020 during the height of COVID with no funeral, etc. My plan was to just check in on her, but then shared my God filled weekend with her. We are getting together for a picnic lunch this week on a good weather day. Maybe she might be a candidate for the next weekend?

Your groupies are friends and friends do stuff with each other – activities are part of being friends. My group has been talking about going to a Basilica in Buffalo which we should do before the snow flies. We need to set a date!

The format for ending the group session starts with the Our Father for any member not present. Then the prayer of thanksgiving and Hail Mary to end it. My apostolic action for our next grouping is to explain all this to my groupies and hope we can be better friends to each other and as a result we can grow closer to God.

DeColores!



*Forty-five Cursillistas participated in Living the Rector's Guide from nine US dioceses. The goal to experience the Rector's Guide to maintain its integrity when hosting weekends. Eleven men with 5 team and 1 spiritual advisor met simultaneous yet separately as 21 women with 5 team and 2 spiritual advisors. Photos: the ladies gathered for a friendly lunch; the men played bocce ball after lunch.*



# Region III Fall 2022 Encounter

## Discovery Beyond the Cursillo

Stella Niagara Center of Renewal  
4421 Lower River Rd., Stella Niagara, NY 14144

### Friday, October 28, 2022

Arrive between 3:30-5:30pm  
Ultreya 6:30pm  
Fiesta 9:15pm (bring something to share!)

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

### Saturday, October 29, 2022

Morning Prayer 8:00am  
Rollo and Discussion 9:30am  
Rollo and Discussion 1:00pm  
Dinner 5:30pm

Breakfast 8:30am  
Lunch 12:00pm  
Mass 4:30pm  
Farewell 6:30pm

\$135.00 Full Participation with Room Friday Night \_\_\_\_

\$95 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, food concerns or issues you would like us to know about:

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 **October 14<sup>th</sup>**

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

**NOTE:** As of September 22, Stella Niagara NO longer requires proof of Covid vaccination. Masks are only required around children.

# Diocese of Buffalo Invites YOU to Second Touch!

## BUFFALO CURSILLO - SECOND TOUCH WEEKEND 2023

Welcome to the 29th Second Touch Weekend for Cursillistas. This year our theme is **#3 in the LIVING THE CHARISM SERIES -THE CHARISM OF THE FIRST DAY – FRIDAY**. The weekend will be held at the **Stella Niagara Center of Renewal LEWISTON NY. Phone # 754-7376**

The dates for this weekend are **January 27 - 29 2023**

Here are some details you need to know:

1. The cost of the weekend is \$185 overnight - \$95 for commuters - \$65 for all Day Saturday - \$25 for Dinner and Ultreya. Donations for the Scholarship Fund are welcome.
2. What to bring: Personal items, comfortable clothes (layer for comfort), an alarm clock rosary, musical instruments. Please bring one 2-liter bottle of Pop. Sheets, blankets, and towels are provided.
3. The rooms are on the second and third floor. Elevators are available. For special food needs or handicap needs, let me know when registering.
4. Arrival time and registration is from 4:00 to 7:00 on Friday February 4<sup>th</sup>. We will start at 7PM with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Departure time is about 1PM Sunday February 6<sup>th</sup>. Commuters come Friday evening before 7PM and Saturday and Sunday morning at 7:30 AM.
5. The directions to Stella Niagara - from Buffalo follow I-190 North to exit 25B - Niagara Scenic parkway (Robert Moses). Then follow the signs to the exit marked "Niagara Scenic Parkway (Robert Moses) North/Fort Niagara." Drive down the long hill PAST the Lewiston exit, bearing left at the bottom of the hill to Niagara Scenic Parkway. Take the next exit - Pletcher Road; turn left onto Pletcher Road. Drive about 1/4 mile to the Stella Niagara property on your left. Turn left into the driveway (between the fence posts). Drive straight past the big building on your right and past the "Main Entrance" sign. The **Center of Renewal** is the last building on the right. It has a glass door entrance with black railings. There is plenty of free parking nearby and in the back.



**IMPORTANT - Stella Niagara does require vaccinations for those attending. subject to a change**

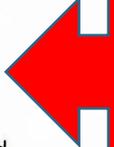
STELLA NIAGARA requires a final count of attendees **2 weeks before** the weekend begins which is **January 13th** - we will have to pay for everyone in the count after that date.

**Therefore your deposit is non-refundable AFTER JANUARY 13TH.** Let me know as soon as possible if there are cancellations.

**Please send a deposit of \$50 for each person** to: Carol Palesh - 65 Dahlgreen Place - North Tonawanda NY 14120 - Make checks payable to: **BUFFALO CURSILLO**

Any questions call Carol Palesh: 716-694-0942 or [grannypalesh@gmail.com](mailto:grannypalesh@gmail.com).

**NOTE - new e-mail for Carol**



UPDATE  
As of  
Sept 22,  
proof of  
Covid  
vaccine is  
NO longer  
required.

# Witness by a Friend of Christ!

Gloria Treis, W28, Fairport Ultreya

Tom and I had a homeless pregnant woman, Trish, from the Margaret Home stay with us because she felt safe at our home during part of her pregnancy. Her baby Jonas was born 8-4-21 addicted to drugs, and then died 9-20-21 at 6 weeks old of SIDS. After his death, she returned to drugs again, went to rehab, half-way house and then asked to stay with us again. We took her back and then had to ask her to leave when she started using again.

I was crushed, felt like a failure and mad at God for all that happened. We wondered if we were not providing a good environment for her. I prayed with her, gave her spiritual books to read, had people pray for her. At my bible group's final luncheon our leader had us choose a journaling book. I picked the one that said: The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in Spirit (Psalm 34:18) This was my state of mind and I realized I was not progressing too well with my grief with Trish and Jonas. Even my doctor suggested I seek out counseling: Christian counseling. I got a spiritual director and was able to come to terms with my grief. Sister had me write a letter to Jonas that I would like to share with you. Dear Jonas, I was so delighted to have your mom stay with us while she was awaiting your coming. I too was looking forward to having an "adopted grandson". I could not believe that you were born addicted and was so angry with your mom I was even more shocked when I got the call about your death! It seemed so unfair!!! The day before you and her were going into Coldwater House, a shelter for moms with children.

Now I truly believed God wanted to spare you all the turmoil we think you would have had to endure. You were so totally loved and cared for and then you had a new beginning with our precious Lord and Savior. I am really at peace for you, dear Jonas. Please watch over your mom. She is a beautiful rose with so many thorns: of drug abuse, poor self image, but full of love for you. Godspeed my Jonas. I am not sad for you but happy you are in the hands of Jesus. I am sad I will not get to enjoy your presence here but am grateful I played a part in your coming into this world.

We will not know why this happened but we do know Tom and I have been called to pray for her and ask you to pray for her too. She calls and keeps us abreast of her journey. She is finishing a short term rehab program and is preparing to go into a long term one in Binghamton. Please pray for her and her brokenhearted and crushed spirit. We pray Trish will hold God's hand and walk with Him through her days. I pray she knows He is her guide and constant companion as He is mine and yours!!

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 7:00pm  
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 at 7:00pm  
Assumption Church  
Kathy Jacobsen, (585) 755-9578  
[kjacobson046@gmail.com](mailto:kjacobsen046@gmail.com)

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

*These Ultreyas are 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)

**Rochester SPANISH** 3rd Saturday  
St. Michael's Office Building  
Sr. Theresa Rutty, (585) 325-4041  
[trutty46@yahoo.com](mailto:trutty46@yahoo.com)

## Upcoming Events!

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

### Coming Soon >>>

Check your Flocknotes  
messages for details on events!



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

School of Leaders – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month  
at 7:00pm via Zoom.us - Next meeting is October 20th  
For Zoom invite, contact Sue Lorz, (585) 704-4988  
[suelarry5644@gmail.com](mailto:suelarry5644@gmail.com)

Cursillo Desert Day  
Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua  
Tuesday, October 4, 2022

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

Women's #89  
Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua  
November 3-6, 2022

Second Touch, Stella Niagara, Buffalo, NY  
January 27-29, 2023

IF GOD IS ALL YOU HAVE,  
you have all you need.  
JOHN 14:8