

**SECRETARIAT
MEMBERS**



YOUNGSTOWN CURSILLO MOVEMENT

DECEMBER 2025

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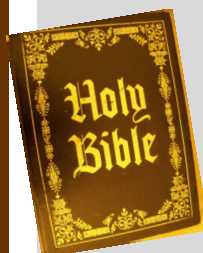
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Luke 2:8-14 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, may we be thankful of the wonderful gift of salvation that He has given to us. May the light of Christ shine brightly in your heart and home this Christmas.

We are very happy to report that the Team for Women's Cursillo #67 has been discerned, and the team roster is printed below. Thank you to all the members of the team. May God bless you as you work to bring our candidates to a closer relationship with Christ, and offer them the tools to Christianize their environments.

It's not too early to get together with your candidates and fill out an application to attend the weekend.

Applications, Sponsor Forms and Instructions can be printed from our website: www.YoungstownCursillo.com

Look for the paged titled "**Candidate and Team Applications**"

Our Spiritual Advisor, Father Edward Brienz has a special message for us this Christmas. You'll find it on page 3 of this newsletter.

Have a blessed and joyous Christmas

DeColores! *Bill Joyce*



TEAM OF WOMEN'S CURSILLO #66

Here's the Team Roster:

Spiritual Advisor:	Father Edward Brienz and Father Francis Muriithi
Asst. Spiritual Advisor:	Deacon Mark Izzo
Rector:	Tina Thompson
Assistant Rector:	Renita Mintus
Head Guide:	Linda Susany
Guides:	Heidi Fekety, Lori Wojton, Michelle Spagnoletta
Sacristan:	Kim Molek
Musical Director:	Loretta Nagel
Professors:	Peg Elston, Sharon Hummer, Melinda Kopnisky, Laurie Kramer, Cecelia Lange, Kathy Riggle, Maureen Walsh, Teri Wilson

Formation meetings begin Monday, January 19th in the Martha/Mary Room in Saint Luke Church 5235 South Avenue, Boardman OH 44512. We will begin promptly at 7pm.

These Formation meetings are open to the community. See page 4 for more information.

NEXT ULTREYA

January 8th, at 7pm in the basement of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Youngstown



A Message from our Spiritual Advisor—Father Edward Brien



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Advent greetings to you and your families! Please help our Church to observe the sacred season of Advent in the fullness of its reality.

Ancient Christians cried out, ***“Maranatha!”*** We say, “Come, Lord Jesus!” But how can He enter our hearts before we make room for Him? Let us unburden the obstacles of sin through the Sacrament of Reconciliation? In these days of clergy spread thin, far and wide, please be assertive and proactive about engaging in the refreshment of soul at a scheduled penance service, or at scheduled hours available in the confessional, or else by appointment.

After many fruitful years of hearing confessions I am humbled especially upon receiving penitents who for reasons of health or other circumstances realize that this is their last opportunity to do so. Perhaps we might take a moment to reflect on what that must be like to reasonably expect this to be the last opportunity before we are called from this life. None of us know the hour. May our resolve to live in holiness please God. May our hearty penances help prepare the way for the Lord in our days.

De Colores,

Fr. Ed Brien



Email Notification

We are asking if you have an updated email address to please send it to us at:

Youngstown4thDay@gmail.com



We have cut costs on the newsletter by sending it now only through email. Please, if you have an email address, let us put you on the list. Thanks!

SCHOOL OF LEADERS

Don Shilling has been hosting the **School of Leaders** meetings on the third Wednesday every other month. We would like to encourage more Cursillistas to become involved with the School of Leaders, as there are many things to discuss and work to improve within our local movement. We welcome your input. All Cursillistas are welcome to participate. Please join us!



The next meeting is set for **January 21, 2026** at 7pm, in the **Rectory of St Columba Cathedral:**
At the corner of Elm Street and West Rayen Avenue, Youngstown, OH 44503

Team Formation Schedule For Women's Cursillo #67

Meetings held 7pm on Mondays in the Martha/Mary Room, St. Luke Church, 5235 South Avenue, Boardman OH 44512

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting Agenda</u>
Jan. 19	Introductions and Assignments and Commitment Talk
Jan. 26	Five Minute Summaries & How to Write and Give a Talk
Feb. 2	OFF (Professors write their talks)
Feb. 9	OFF (Professors write their talks)
Feb. 16	Ideal & Laity
Feb. 23	Piety & Study
Mar. 2	Action & Leaders
Mar. 9	Environment & Christianity in Action
Mar. 16	Fourth Day and Total Security
Mar. 30	Role of the Auxiliary & Mock Tables
Apr. 6	Second Round Talks
Apr. 20	Guides and Sacristans Meeting
Apr. 22	Weekend Set Up at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hall



How long has it been since you have heard one of the **Cursillo talks?**

The team will begin their formation meetings January 19th. You can to come support the Women's Team during Formation and listen to these great speakers deliver the Cursillo message. The team would love to have encouragement from our community.

Formation will be held in the Martha/Mary Room at St. Luke Church

5235 South Avenue, Boardman OH 44512

. The Formation meetings begin **Mondays promptly at 7pm.** Hope to see you there!



Trailer Update!

The following photos illustrate some of the improvements that have been made to our new Cursillo trailer. Thank you to all that have contributed!



Storage racks have been built by Ken Wohlwend to easily identify and store bins containing materials that are used during the Weekends. Don DeFluiter fixed the front of the trailer, and enhanced the lighting and battery. Candice DeFluiter painted the floor with three coats of non-slip surface. More photos will be published as the work is completed.



Lou Fusillo, Don DeFluiter, Thom Godward, John Schiavone, Ken Wohlwend

YOUNGSTOWN CURSILLO SPONSOR GUIDELINES

Make a friend. Be a friend. Bring your friend to Christ.

The Cursillo is a method for living, sharing and spreading Christianity. For this method to be effective, there are specific requirements that must be met. Therefore, sponsorship is a serious responsibility. Before you fill out an application, consider these two questions:

1. **Will my candidate benefit from the weekend ?**
2. **Will my candidate be capable of and likely to use the tools of Group Reunion, Ultreya and spiritual direction to persevere in their Fourth Day?**

In selecting a candidate, seek out individuals who would exert a positive influence in their environments. The ideal candidate isn't necessarily active in his/her parish already. Consider potential candidates who express a deep desire and hunger for spiritual growth and contentment, and who are currently living their Catholic faith to the best of their ability.

Bible Vigils

BIBLE VIGIL REQUESTS

Can be made for a Cursillista or an immediate family member.

To arrange for a Bible Vigil, please call:

Jim & Laurie Kramer

(Cell phone) 330-720-7987

CURSILLO MOVEMENT OF THE YOUNGSTOWN DIOCESE

PO Box 3196

Youngstown, OH 44513-3196

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

If you would like to submit articles, notices or "thank-you's" to be printed in the newsletter, please send them to the attention of:

Youngstown Cursillo, P.O. Box 3196, Boardman, Ohio 44513-3196

Or email them to: Youngstown4thday@gmail.com

The Secretariat makes the final decision on newsletter content.

Your suggestions on improving the newsletter are welcomed.

DeCOLORES !

Thank you for your help!

As you may know, we incur expenses throughout the year not just for our Cursillo Weekends, but also for National and Region III membership dues, storage of our weekend materials and other necessities. Thank you for helping defray our costs. Any size donation is greatly appreciated. Please mail your donation to:

Youngstown Cursillo Movement

P.O. Box 3196

Youngstown, Ohio 44513-3196



REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR:

January Ultreya:

Jan. 8th in the basement of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Basilica

**Women's Team
Formation:**

Jan. 19th at St. Luke Church, 5235 South Avenue, Boardman

School of Leaders:

Jan. 21st at St. Columba Rectory, Youngstown OH

All events begin at 7PM