

**SECRETARIAT
MEMBERS**



**YOUNGSTOWN
CURSILLO MOVEMENT**

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Hello Brothers and Sisters!

Great news! Women's Cursillo Team #67 has begun their Formation meetings.

The weekend will be April 23- 26, 2026 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Hall.

Women's Cursillo Team #67 Roster

Spiritual Advisor:
Asst. Spiritual Advisor:
Rector:
Assistant Rector:
Head Guide:
Guide:
Guide:
Guide:
Sacristan:
Musical Director:
Professors:

Father Edward Brienz
Deacon Mark Izzo
Tina Thompson
Renita Mintus
Linda Susany
Lori Wojton
Heidi Fekety
Michelle Spagnoletta
Kim Molek
Gina Love
Ideal—Maureen Walsh
Laity—Teri Wilson
Piety—Kathy Riggle
Study— Peg Elston
Action— Laurie Kramer
Leaders— Sharon Hummer
Environment— Cecilia Lange
Christianity in Action—Melinda Kopnisky
Fourth Day— Renita Mintus
Total Security— Tina Thompson

Formation meetings are Mondays in the Martha/Mary Room at St. Luke Church, 5235 South Avenue, Boardman OH 44512. We begin promptly at 7 pm.

The Team formation schedule is on **page 2**.



Fr. Edward Brienz
Spiritual Advisor



Deacon Mark Izzo
Asst. Spiritual Advisor



Tina Thompson
Rector



Renita Mintus
Assistant Rector



Team Formation Schedule For Women's Cursillo #67

In the Martha and Mary Room in St. Luke Church, 5235 South Avenue, Boardman OH 44512

Meetings begin promptly at 7 pm

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Agenda</u> |
|--------------------|---|
| Jan. 19 | Introductions and Assignments How to Write and Give a Talk and Chapel Talk |
| Jan. 26 | Five Minute Summaries & Commitment Talk |
| Feb. 2 - OFF | (Professors write their talks) |
| Feb. 9 - OFF | (Professors write their talks) |
| Feb. 16 | Ideal (<i>Maureen Walsh</i>) & Laity (<i>Teri Wilson</i>) |
| Feb. 23 | Piety (<i>Kathy Riggle</i>) & Study (<i>Peg Elston</i>) |
| Mar. 2 | Action (<i>Laurie Kramer</i>) & Leaders (<i>Sharon Hummer</i>) |
| Mar. 9 | Environment (<i>Cecilia Lange</i>) & Christianity in Action (<i>Melinda Kopnisky</i>) |
| Mar. 16 | Fourth Day (<i>Renita Mintus</i>) & Study (<i>Tina Thompson</i>) |
| Mar. 23 | Second Rounds |
| Mar. 30 | Role of the Auxiliary & Mock Tables Team Party |
| Apr. 6 | Easter Break |
| Apr. 13 | Team Party |
| April 20 | Guides and Sacristans Meeting |
| Apr. 22 | Set Up at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hall (5pm) |
| April 23-26 | Women's Cursillo Weekend #67 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hall |

Thank you to our Talk Mentors:

Mike Hripko, Loretta Nagel, Sandy Joyce, Linda Smrek, Linda Susany, Bill Joyce

FROM OUR SPIRITUAL ADVISOR FATHER EDWARD BRIENZ



My Dear Friends,

Time flies!

Our professors are praying and composing their inspirational talks for the benefit of our upcoming Women's Weekend. Potential sponsors are helping various women discern their path regarding participation in our upcoming Women's Weekend. Lou Fusillo and friends are ramping up their kitchen program because the Cursillo weekend marches on it's collective stomach. Thom Godward and crew are champing at the bit to set up all materials and support equipment and tear down afterwards in the reliable fashion that we have grown accustomed to.

So what's left? Well, you still have a little bit of that time that moves so swiftly. For instance, composing Palanca, volunteering for chapel cover, volunteering for kitchen duty, financial gifts toward the weekend expenses, and prayer commitments, other things, too. It's not too late to identify potential candidates. So please, ***make a friend, be a friend, and bring your friend to Christ!***

Everybody can add something. If in some fashion you may feel less close to the Cursillistas then you'd prefer to be, now's your chance to reset your pace, your path, and your prayers, share your heart with the Lord.

Many pray for Cursillo. You also can pray to the Lord about Cursillo. Then, after fixing your attention on God, look around and rediscover the joy of finding the Pearl we all know as Cursillo. I'm hopeful that our Ladies' Weekend receives strong support in terms of prayer, palanca and presence.

De Colores!

Cordially,

Fr. Ed

Reverend Edward Brienz



ISAIAH 41:10

“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

*I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous
right hand.”*

Thank you for your help!

As you may know, we incur expenses all during the year... not just for our Cursillo Weekends, but also for National and Region III membership dues, purchase of our weekend materials and other necessities. Thank you for helping to 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

Thank you!

IMPORTANT!

In order to have a successful Women’s Cursillo Weekend, we need candidates.

Father Brienz reminds us to *“Make a friend, Be a friend, and bring our friend to Christ.”*

To print out copies of the candidate application forms, please go to our website:

www.youngstowncursillo.com

Click on “Team and Candidate applications”

You will find the Sponsor Guidelines on page six of this newsletter.

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 **March 18** at 7 pm, in the **Rectory of St Columba Cathedral:**
At the corner of Elm Street and West Rayen Avenue, Youngstown, OH 44503

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: YoungstownCursillo@gmail.com

The Secretariat makes the final decision on newsletter content.
Your suggestions on improving the newsletter are welcomed.

DeCOLORES !

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

This edition of the Cursillo Newsletter is being sent out by email only.

If you know someone who does not have access to email, please make a copy of this newsletter and give it to them. Thank you!



Secretariat positions are opening up!

(The terms for Pre-Cursillo Chair, School of Leaders Chair, and Lay Coordinator are ending soon)

Please consider stepping up to serve our Cursillo community.

Our Cursillo Center is supported by a **Secretariat**. The Secretariat is responsible to guide and coordinate all phases of the Cursillo Center. Responsibilities of the Secretariat include compliance with National Cursillo Movement documented policy, procedures, and methodology, and to work within the parameters of our Pastoral Plan which has been approved by the Bishop.

- **The Secretariat guides the Cursillo Center** according to that which is essential and fundamental as outlined in the official literature of the Cursillo Movement.
- Secretariat Members may be nominated by anyone within the Cursillo Community.
- Secretariat Members should be from a diverse group of parishes and group reunions.

Qualifications for Secretariat Members

- Practicing Catholics in Good Standing
- Living the Cursillo Method
- Have worked at least one Three Day Weekend team.
- Currently in a group reunion.
- Committed to all leadership responsibilities of the Secretariat, including attendance and active participation at Secretariat meetings.
- **Consistent** participation at Ultreya, School of Leaders, and other Cursillo functions.
- **An additional qualification for Lay Coordinator:** is that they must have previously served as a Cursillo Weekend rector.

If you are interested in being considered for any of these positions, or would like more information, please contact the current Chairs of these positions:

Peg Elston: Pre-Cursillo
Don Shilling: School of Leaders
Bill Joyce: Lay Coordinator

Their contact information can be found listed in the left column on the front page of this newsletter.



REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR:

- Women's Team Formation:** 7pm Mondays Feb., March, and April at St. Luke, Boardman OH
- February Ultreya: (Youngstown)** 7pm Feb. 12 in the basement of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Basilica
- February Ultreya: (Columbiana)** 6:30pm Feb. 24 at St. Jude Church, Columbiana
- School of Leaders:** 7pm Mar. 18 in St. Columba Rectory, Youngstown OH

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 both benefit from the weekend AND be faithful to the expectations of the Fourth Day?**
- 2. Is my candidate capable of and likely to use the tools of Group Reunion, Ultreya and spiritual direction to persevere in his/her 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 expresses a deep desire and hunger for spiritual growth and contentment, and who are currently living their Catholic faith to the best of their ability.

Other guidelines to follow when selecting a candidate:

If you have been an active Cursillista for less than one year, please ask either your sponsor or an experienced Cursillista to co-sponsor your candidate. Obtain permission from the Pre-Cursillo chairperson and/or Lay Director to sponsor more than two candidates for the same weekend. Seek out the advice of the Youngstown Cursillo Spiritual Advisor and/or your candidate's Parish Priest if he/she has experienced any of the following in the past two years:

- Divorce or separation
- Death in the immediate family
- Treatment of any kind for emotional or mental issues
- Rehabilitation or a recovery program for drug, alcohol or other addiction
- Serious legal issues

As a sponsor, your responsibilities before, during and after the Cursillo weekend are as follows:

- Explain the Cursillo as a short course in Christianity, as well as the expectations of the 4th day.
- Bring your candidate to your Group Reunion or to Ultreya prior to the weekend.
- Tell your candidate that the **\$100** cost is a suggested donation and should not be a deterrent.
- Complete the application **WITH** your candidate. Complete the Sponsor Confidential Sheet on your own and submit both forms to your Parish Representative or the Pre-Cursillo Chairperson.. If at all possible, fill out both the candidate and spouse applications simultaneously for all married candidates.
- Provide transportation for your candidate to and from the Cursillo weekend. This is very important as your candidate will be tired at the end of his/her weekend. **NOTE:** If you are on the team and sponsoring a candidate, arrange for someone to drive your candidate to and from the weekend.
- Make yourself available to your candidate's family for church, shopping, meals, babysitting, or any other personal need that may arise. If your candidate has few or no outside needs, be sure to be there to help during the weekend. There is always a need for help!
- After the weekend, accompany your candidate to the post-Cursillo seminar and to Ultreya.
- Be available to answer any and all question regarding the Cursillo Movement that your candidate may have. There are excellent brochures available to help you in this matter. Contact the Lay Director for a copy if your parish does not have one.
- Help your candidate utilize the Cursillo tools to persevere in his/her environment.

De Colores!

Download the Sponsor Form and Candidate Application from:

<https://youngstowncursillo.com/application-for-candidates-and-application-to-work-a-team/>