

Secretariat
Members



**CURSILLO MOVEMENT
OF THE
YOUNGSTOWN DIOCESE**

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NEWS FROM OUR LAY COORDINATOR



Hi, Brothers and Sisters in Christ

We are at a **critical point** in the development of our upcoming Women's Cursillo weekend, and we need your help. Frankly, we need **candidates**. As of now, we don't have enough to be able to have a weekend.

We are asking you to please **sponsor a candidate**.

If you know a woman that is interested in seeking a better understanding of her Catholic Faith, and developing an enriched relationship with Christ, the Cursillo method may be the very thing she is looking for. Please consider sponsoring her to the Women's weekend which is scheduled for April 23-26, 2026.

Now is the time to speak to God about your candidate, and then speak to your candidate about God. An application form is attached to this newsletter. Please help your candidate fill it out, and you should fill out the Sponsor's form. Give the completed forms to **Peg Elston**. Her contact information is listed in the left column on this page.

We hope that we get enough candidate applications submitted quickly, as we only have three weeks to decide if we can go forward, or will have to postpone our Women's weekend (and we really don't want to have to do that).

Please get the candidate applications and sponsor forms to Peg Elston before Tuesday April 14th. As a Cursillo community working together, we can bring enough women to have a weekend. We can do it.

Please begin to pray and offer Palanca for the team as well as our new friends, the candidates. Remember, ***Christ is counting on you.***

Yours in Christ,

Bill Joyce

-DECOLORES-

Jeremiah 29:13

*"And you shall seek me, and find me,
when you search for me with all your heart"*



From Post-Cursillo Chair - Gina Love



Ultreyas in Mahoning County are on the second Thursday of each month in the basement of **Our Lady of Mount Carmel Basilica in Youngstown**. The address is; 343 Via Mount Carmel, Youngstown OH 44503. Ultreya begins promptly at 7pm.

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Columbiana Ultreyas are the fourth Tuesday of the month after the 6pm Mass at: **St. Jude Church, 180 Seventh Street, Columbiana OH 44408**



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 **May 20** at 7 pm, in the **Rectory of St Columba Cathedral**:
At the corner of Elm Street and West Rayen Avenue, Youngstown, OH 44503



Email Notification

We are asking if you have a new email address, 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 electronic list. Thanks!

youngstown4thday@gmail.com



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) 330-720-7987

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:

**Will my candidate both benefit from the weekend AND be faithful to the expectations of the Fourth Day?
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 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.

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 Director 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 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.

SPONSOR CONFIDENTIAL FORM

Must accompany candidate application

Before you fill out this form, you must read the attached guidelines to see whether or not your candidate is ready/capable to attend the Cursillo weekend.

Name of Candidate _____

What is your relationship? _____ How long have you known him/her? _____

What environments do you share? _____

- Have you read the attached **Youngstown Cursillo Sponsor Guidelines**? Yes No
 - Have you brought your candidate to your group reunion or to Ultreya Yes No
 - Have you explained the Cursillo movement and 4th Day? Yes No
 - Do you recommend your candidate as table secretary? Yes No
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**As a sponsor, It is very important that you know your candidate.
Talk to God about your candidate BEFORE you talk to your candidate about God**

Because this is an intense, emotional experience, we urge you to consider any serious issues in your candidate's life. We want them to be able to experience the Cursillo weekend to its fullest, so if they have experienced any of the following in the past two years, we suggest you confer with the Youngstown Cursillo Spiritual Director and/or your parish priest before inviting this candidate to participate in the weekend.

Has your candidate experienced any of these issues within the past two years? Yes No

- Separation or divorce
- Death in their immediate family
- Treatment of any kind for emotional or mental illness
- Rehabilitation or recovery program for drug, alcohol or other behavioral addiction
- Serious legal trouble

Can this candidate receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation? Yes No

Sponsor Name _____ Date _____

Cursillo Attended _____ Diocese _____ Year (optional) _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Parish _____



Candidate Application

All information on this form will be kept confidential and will be used by the Youngstown Cursillo Center only to help us prepare your weekend.

Last Name		First Name		M.I.	Nickname for badge	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F
Address			City/State		Zip	
Phone	Alt/Cell Phone	Email (for Cursillo use only)		Parish/City		
Occupation		Birthdate	Level of Education: <input type="checkbox"/> High school <input type="checkbox"/> Trade school <input type="checkbox"/> College <input type="checkbox"/> Post-grad			
Hobbies/Interests: _____ _____						
Community/Church Activities: _____ _____						
Do you play a musical instrument? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Which instrument? _____						
Please indicate all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Priest <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Married (Spouse Name: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Separated If Married, is spouse Catholic? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Has your spouse attended a Cursillo? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>The Cursillo method strongly emphasizes full participation in the sacramental life of the Church.</i> Can you receive the sacraments? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Can your spouse? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No						
Why do you wish to attend a Cursillo? _____ _____						
Has your sponsor explained Group Reunion, Ultreya and the 4th Day to you? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No A Cursillo Weekend is three very full days, programmed with many activities and opportunities for spiritual growth and community building. If you have any adverse health conditions, or if you are taking any medications, discuss them openly with your sponsor and list them on the back of this application. Also, if you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions, please list them on the back of this application. There is a suggested donation of \$100 for all weekend participants. <i>(More accepted, less never turned down.)</i>						
Candidate Signature _____				Date _____		
Sponsor(s) _____						
Parish Representative Signature _____						

(See Reverse side for more)

Mail application and check to: Youngstown Cursillo, P.O. Box 3196, Youngstown OH 44513-3196

(Back page of Candidate Application)

Do you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions? Y N
Please list them:

Are you taking any medications that we need to be aware of? Y N
Please list them:

Do you have any medical conditions that we need to be aware of? Y N
Please list them:

Do you need any special assistance on the weekend (i.e. access to electrical outlet for CPAP) Y N
Please describe:

What is your preference for sleeping? Please check one.

Inflatable air bed

Folding cot

I prefer to bring my own