

Secretariat
Members



CURSILLO MOVEMENT OF THE YOUNGSTOWN DIOCESE

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NEWS FROM OUR LAY COORDINATOR



Hi, Brothers and Sisters in Christ

My term as Lay Coordinator comes to an end June 30th, so at this time I'd like to share that it has been a blessing to work with everyone over the past six years, and I am truly grateful for all we have achieved together. **Thank you** to each of our Secretariat members, and our wonderful Cursillo community.

I am very happy to announce that **Peg Elston** has been discerned by the Secretariat as the new Lay Coordinator. Our movement will be in very good hands. Peg will begin her three year term on **July**

1st. Please give her your prayers and support.

As Peg takes on new responsibilities, **Ray Newman** has been discerned to become the new Pre-Cursillo Chair beginning July 1st. **Don Shilling's** term as the Chair of the School of Leaders has also come to an end. Don did truly great work in this position. **Howard Caskey** will take over as Chair of the **School of Leaders**. We welcome both Ray and Howard to the Secretariat. See more about them on page 4.

More good news... Men's Cursillo Weekend #69 will take place **October 22nd – 25th**, and the team will begin their Formation on August 4th. **Howard Caskey** will be the Rector and **Al Pompeo** will be the Assistant Rector. On page two of this newsletter is a list of team members and the meeting schedule and location. Please begin to pray and offer Palanca for the team as well as our new friends, the candidates. Now is the time to speak to God about your candidate, and then speak to your candidate about God. Then, use the application included on pages 9 & 10 to sponsor your candidate for the weekend. Once signed, please get the application to Peg Elston as soon as possible. Remember... **Christ is counting on you.**

Also, on **August 15th** we will be hosting our **annual Cursillo picnic**. This year it will be held at **Boardman Park**. Hope to see you there! More details on page 4.

Some thoughts as I conclude my term as Lay Coordinator... I'm sure that we have each made a commitment to Jesus... to be appreciative of the blessings He has given to us, and to be His hands and feet in our world. In our Fourth day, let us all offer a promise to **Make a Friend, Be a Friend, and then Bring our Friend to Christ**. I ask you to pray for Cursillo here and everywhere. Pray for peace. Be peace.

To continue our work, Cursillo needs you to become involved. The level of your involvement is up to you... it's your choice. With your prayers, help and support, Cursillo will continue the work of bringing people closer to Christ. Our work for Christ is especially needed now in the world. Jesus needs many "hands and feet." Will you walk this journey with Jesus and your fellow Cursillistas to keep this method alive?

Yours in Christ,

Bill

**De
Colores!!!**

Men's Cursillo Team #69**Spiritual Director:** Father Edward Brienz**Assistant Spiritual Director:** Deacon Ron Layko**Rector:** Howard Caskey**Assistant Rector:** Al Pompeo**Musical Director:** Joe McKim**Head Guide:** Phil Wilson**Guides:** Brandon Benson,
Andy Shenigo, Steve Tarajcak**Professors:**Don DeFluiter, Brian Hammond,
Bill Joyce, Jim Kramer,
Ray Newman**Sacristan:**

Carlos "Charlie" Colmenares

Team Formation Schedule For Men's Cursillo #69*Tuesdays at 7pm in the Martha/Mary Meeting Room at:
St. Church, 5235 South Avenue, Boardman OH 44512*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Agenda</u>
Aug. 4	Introductions, Team Assignments, and Commitment Talk
Aug. 11	Five Minute Summaries & How to Write and Give a Talk
Aug. 18	OFF (Professors write their talks)
Aug. 25	OFF (Professors write their talks)
Sept. 1	Ideal & Laity
Sept. 8	Piety & Study
Sept. 15	Action & Leaders
Sept. 22	Study of Environment & Christianity in Action
Sept. 29	Cursillista Beyond Cursillo (4th Day) & Total Security
Oct. 6	Role of the Auxiliary and Mock Tables
Oct. 21	5pm Weekend set-up at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hall
Oct. 22-25	Men's Cursillo Weekend #69 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hall



How long has it been since you have heard one of the **Cursillo talks**? Now is a great time to come support the Men's Team during Formation and listen to these great speakers deliver the Cursillo message. The team would love to have support by our community. Join us at **7pm** in the Martha/Mary Room at **St. Luke Church, 5235 South Avenue, Boardman OH 44512**

A Message from our Spiritual Advisor—Father Edward Brienz



An historical milestone was achieved this past week as our US Bishops consecrated the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Among the beautiful expressions of aspirations for the good of our society was the plea, “May your holy Catholic Church serve as a sign, pointing all people to your infinite love.”

This message is one more affirmation of the Cursillo call to be a missionary people because God has willed it. Just as missionaries brought the faith to these shores; so from age to age the Church renews and refreshes her missionary spirit so that we have an endless source of God’s grace to reach deep within our communities as well as beyond to the ends of the earth pointing all people to the infinite love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

How fitting we find this consecration as we engage in the discernment of a new slate of leadership in the officers of the Secretariat and the School of Leaders of our Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Youngstown.

We offer our expressions of gratitude to you who are wrapping up your terms of office and handing on the different areas of responsibility this upcoming July 1. And special thanks to Lou Fusillo who has generously agreed to repeat another term as treasurer (and Chef).

Moving forward let us continue to draw our small group reunion brothers and sisters into upcoming projects, may our consultations and listening be genuine and appreciative, and may our membership always hold each other dear so that “All May Be One.”

De Colores!

Father Ed Brienz



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 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) 330-720-7987



Peg Elston

A BIG Thank you to Peg Elston who has been serving as the Chair of Pre-Cursillo . Peg has done a great job organizing and getting everything accomplished prior to the weekends. Her term in that role has ended, and as of July 1st takes on a new job as Lay Coordinator. Peg, we appreciate all that you have done for our Cursillo movement, and look forward to your leadership as our new Lay Coordinator.

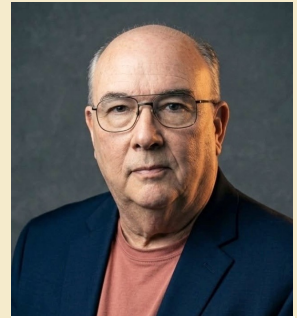
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We welcome Ray Newman to the Secretariat as our new *Pre-Cursillo Chair*.

Ray made Men’s Cursillo Weekend #67 in 2024 and returned to serve on Team #68 in 2025, presenting the Laity talk. Ray is a dual-retired Navy Chief Electronics Technician and Surface Warfare Specialist and former healthcare CEO. After careers dedicated to military service and healthcare leadership, he is now devoting this season of life to writing and ministry.

Ray and his wife, Lisa (Locke), have been married for 35 years and are blessed with two daughters, Morgan and Lauren, four grandchildren—Aspyn, Gianna, Mayce, and a new grandbaby expected in July.

A parishioner of *Holy Trinity Parish* in East Liverpool, Ohio. Ray serves on the parish council, ministers as a Lector and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and brings Communion to homebound men.



Ray Newman

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Don Shilling

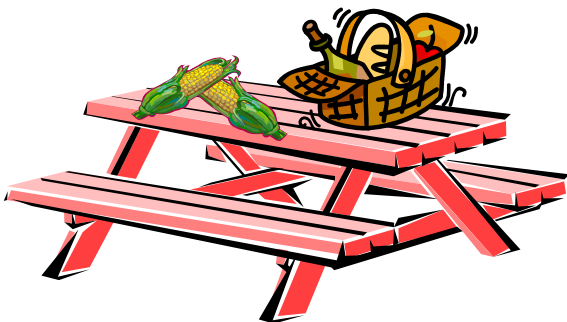
As of June 30th, Don Shilling will complete his term as the Chair of the *School of Leaders*. We thank Don for his dedication in helping to guide new leaders for our Cursillo center. At each meeting he provided Spiritual Direction, provided education regarding the Cursillo Movement, made sure we were following our Pastoral Plan, and worked to hone our weekend schedules to insure that we closely followed the Leader’s Guide. Thank you, Don!

Howard Caskey will be taking over as our new Chair of the *School of Leaders*. Howard worked as an electronic engineer for the last 48 years after first learning the trade in the Air Force. (And will soon retire.) He has been married to Patricia for 37 years, and is the father of 4 girls (Jennifer, Amanda, Laura, Molly) and one son named Timothy. Howard attended Men’s Cursillo weekend #61 and has been part of a group since, comprised of 6 gentlemen whom are like brothers. Howard is a parishioner of *St. Michael’s parish*, where he is active in the homebound ministry.



Howard Caskey

Cursillo Picnic is on August 15th



Our annual **Cursillo Picnic** will be held on August 15th (the Feast of the Assumption).

We have both the *Chester Long* and the *Hoffmaster Pavillions* at Boardman Park. It’s a beautiful wooded setting. Park entrance is located at 375 Boardman-Poland Road in Boardman. Mass will be celebrated there at 1pm. We’ll eat our picnic food afterward.

Bring your own picnic dinner for your family. The Cursillo Secretariat will supply the corn on the cob, as well as cold beverages.



A note from Dr. Deborah Scopacasa:

Thank you to the Cursillo community for your expressions of prayer and sympathy during the time of bereavement when my mother, Mary Scopacasa, was called to Eternal Life. A special thank you to those who helped to coordinate the beautiful Cursillo Bible Vigil for my mother and all those who participated in it in any way as well as all of those who attended. It was truly an expression of our Christian community coming together in prayer and support that was very much appreciated.

A Request from Kathy Riggle:

We would like to start a small group in the East Palestine vicinity on a weekday in the day-time. We don't have a particular day of the week or time in mind, but we are trying to find out how many people would be interested.

Folks can call, text, or email me at:

Phone: 724-462-4933

Email: kriggle@email.com

Spiritual Resources for Daily Reflection

Bible in a Year Podcast by Father Mike Schmitz:

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/category/ascension-podcasts/bibleinayear/>

Very Popular Podcast!



Catholic Online News and Magazines:

EWTN: www.ewtn.com/

Relevant Radio: <https://relevantradio.com/>

Catholic World News: www.cwnews.com/

Zenit News: www.zenit.org/

National Catholic Register: www.ncregister.com

Our Sunday Visitor: www.osv.com/

Catholic News Service: www.catholicnews.com/

Ignatius Insight (Ignatius Press): www.ignatiusinsight.com/

Carmelite (OCD) News: www.discalcedcarmel.com/

Catholic Radio: www.catholic.com/



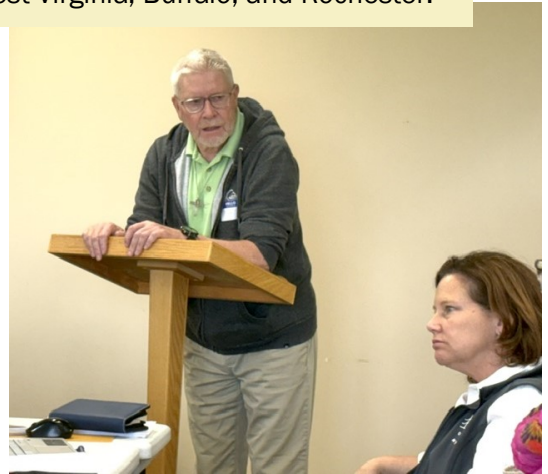
Photos from the Region III Spring Encounter



The Region III Spring Encounter took place at the Notre Dame Retreat Center, in Canandaigua, New York on May 29-31. There were Cursillo representatives there from centers in Youngstown, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Altoona/Johnstown, West Virginia, Buffalo, and Rochester.



Jerry Castillo from Buffalo, NY ponders a point that was made.



Terry Johnson, Region III Coordinator and Peg Lias, Region III Treasurer



Barb Bundy, Lay Coordinator from Altoona/Johnstown



Father William McGrath from Rochester, NY



Terry Johnson and Ray Becker play music for Friday night's Fiesta



A lively table discussion with Father William McGrath of Rochester, Terry Johnson, Region III Coordinator, Peg Elston, incoming Lay Coordinator from Youngstown, and Dan Kubisiak of Pittsburgh

UPCOMING ULTREYAS

Youngstown: July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Nov. 12., Dec. 10

7pm in the basement of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 343 Via Mt. Carmel, Youngstown OH 44503

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Columbiana: June 23, July 28, Aug. 25, Sept. 22, Oct. 27., Nov. 24

6:30 pm at St. Jude Church, 180 Seventh Street, Columbiana OH 44408



Mark your calendars!

Notification from:

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel - St. Anthony of Padua Parish

Dear Family,

We would love for you to join us for a beautiful evening dedicated to celebrating and strengthening marriage!

On **Friday, June 26th**, the Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel - St. Anthony of Padua Parish will host a **CanaNight** for all married and engaged couples.

For the past few years, several couples from our parish have traveled to Cleveland for events hosted by **Marriages of Grace**—a wonderful Catholic non-profit dedicated to strengthening and enriching marriages. Their events have brought joy and growth to our own relationships. We were so excited when they agreed to bring this experience right here to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Basilica, and we cannot wait to share it with you!

It will be a wonderful opportunity to step away from the busyness of daily life, spend quiet time together before the Lord, and enjoy the company of other couples.

Here is what we have planned for the evening:

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM: Confessions available in the Basilica

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM: Holy Hour of Adoration (Featuring a special reflection on the Sacrament of Marriage by Father John Rovnak and beautiful sacred music)

8:00 PM – 9:30 PM: Fellowship reception in the Social Hall (Enjoy appetizers, desserts, and drinks!)

Marriage is strengthened not only by shared experiences, but by shared prayer. Regardless of how long you have been married, it's always a blessing to learn more about this vocation God has given to us. Come enjoy a few hours of peace, beauty, and community.

Please feel free to invite your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors. We would truly love to see you there!

The cost is only \$35 per couple.

To register, visit:

www.marriagesofgrace.org.

With anticipation and prayers,

Michele Berardi,
on behalf of
The **CanaNight Committee**



Join us for an unforgettable date night

CanaNight ADORATION

FOLLOWED BY APPETIZERS, DESSERTS, & DRINKS

FRIDAY JUNE 26
7:00 - 9:30PM

Basilica of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
343 Via Mount Carmel
Youngstown, OH 44505

\$35/COUPLE
register at
WWW.MARRIAGESOFGRACE.ORG

hosted by
MARRIAGES OF GRACE
enriching & strengthening Catholic couples

The poster features a stained glass window on the left, a circular logo for Marriages of Grace in the bottom left, and a golden monstrance on the right.

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
-

**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



Cursillo Movement of the Youngstown Diocese

APPLICATION TO WORK A TEAM

Name: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____
Cursillo Attended # _____ Parish: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

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As a TEAM MEMBER you have a COMMITMENT to both the team and to all the candidates that goes FAR BEYOND the three day weekend. Your ATTENDANCE at EVERY team meeting is necessary for formation and to support your RECTOR and ALL the OTHER TEAM MEMBERS. PRAYERFUL support along with performing your SPECIFIC duties is a MUST at professor school as well as during the weekend.

CURSILLOS were developed for the 4th day. Your contact with the BABE-CHICKS after the CURSILLO is MOST IMPORTANT. Encourage and help the BABE-CHICKS to form GROUP REUNIONS, call them for ULTREYAS, and remind them of the POST CURSILLO SEMINAR.

1. WHY do you want to work this Cursillo Weekend? _____

2. EXPLAIN your understanding of the purpose of Cursillo _____

3. HOW DO you see Your role as a team member? _____

4. WHAT would you work as? Please rank your choices in order:
Guide () Sacristan () Professor () Musical Director ()

5. Have you worked any other Cursillos? Yes () No ()
Please indicate where, when, and what you have done

6. Do you attend Ultreya monthly? Yes () or No ()

7. Are you a member of a permanent reunion? _____

There is a suggested donation of \$100 for all Cursillo participants.

*** SEND THE APPLICATION TO THE PRE-CURSILLO CHAIRPERSON, PEG ELSTON ***

Application Received by: _____ Date: _____