

The Ark



Toledo Diocesan Cursillo Mission Statement: Cursillo is a Catholic Lay Movement embraced by the Diocese of Toledo to bring hearts closer to Jesus Christ in order to transform society and be of service to the whole church. It is our to form small Christian Communities to deepen Spirituality in ourselves and in others.

October 2016

Application Forms are on the Website:

<http://www.toledocursillo.org/Download.html>

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Pope Francis and The Rosary

Ten years ago I read about Our Lady's request at Fatima that we say a daily rosary. At first I flinched at the notion of saying one every day. I thought it impossible; I'd never have the time, the concentration or the patience to meditate on five decades each day. But it got easier. Now, even if I have worked for 12 hours, and struggle to fit in the five decades, I still manage it, even if I forfeit sleep or a social occasion or have to eat a late dinner and pray the rosary at the same time.

But I'd never measure up to Pope Francis. Our Pope recites 15 decades of the Rosary every day, three times that which Our Lady asked for at Fatima. Two days ago he tweeted that the month of May is dedicated to Our Lady and it is "fitting" to start the habit of a daily rosary now. The rosary is a time-honoured prayer, but difficult to say, but by promoting it, Pope Francis is giving people the means to win graces that will enable them overcome their problems. One of the 15 promises given those who recite the rosary is that "they will never be conquered by misfortune". I often tell my friends of mine to say a rosary when they are in-between jobs, stumped with a huge bill or they have been reminded of their student debt.

The Pope's confidence in Our Lady developed because of two key personal awakenings that happened in the mid-1980s. In 1985 he attended a rosary that was being led by St John Paul II. The sight of the Polish Pope on his knees greatly moved him. He did some acute soul-searching as to how much he trusted Our Lady, and he later reflected: "I became aware of the density of the words of the Mother of Guadalupe to St Juan Diego: 'Don't be afraid, am I not perhaps your mother?'"

From that day forth, he said 15 decades of the Rosary.

In 1986, the then Padre Bergoglio finished as rector in the seminary, and was sent to Germany for six months. At the time, to borrow modern parlance, Fr. Bergoglio was not in a good place - the Dirty

Please share how Christ is working in your life.

Email

Chris Powers at

**Chripowers1952@
yahoo.com**

with your witness.

War had exacted a heavy toll on his nerves and he worried that the Jesuit community would never recover from the many mutinies that had taken place in their ranks. But it was here in Germany that he would find solace when praying before the painting of Our Lady, Undoer of Knots, in Augsburg. He carried the devotion from Germany back home to Argentina.

A copy of the original German painting was done in an ordinary Argentinean church, San José del Telar. As Archbishop of Buenos Aires, he would stroll into this modest church and pray before the painting.

Now as Pope, he has used the symbolism of Our Lady, Undoer of Knots, to explain matters of the faith. For Pope Francis, the knots represent the sins that separate us from God, and Our Lady, in untying them, brings us closer to God. As the Pope has said: "Mary, whose 'yes' opened the door for God to undo the knot of the ancient disobedience, is the Mother who patiently and lovingly brings us to God, so that he can untangle the knots of our soul by his fatherly mercy."

Excerpted from an article by Mary O'Regan in the online Catholic Herald, Comments and Blogs section, dated May 19, 2014.



From the Lay Director.....

All my brothers and sisters in Christ,

This month I wish to share with you a trip that Karen and I had taken in August of this year to visit a fellow Cursillista in our movement who decided to join an Abbey and become a Monk. Many of you will know him and many will not. His name is Matthew Joseph Meyer, and he lived his Cursillo weekend March of 2010, of which I had the honor of being Matt's sponsor. Matt worked a few weekends after living his weekend in capacities such as shepherd/professor and Sacristan.

Notes from the Visit with Brother Matthias (Matt Meyer) on August 14, 2016

We left home approx. 7:45 a.m. on Sunday, August 14, 2016, and arrived at the Abbey of Gethsemani, 3642 Monks Road, Trappist (new name is New Haven), Kentucky 40051-6102 (Nelson County) about 1:15 p.m. We stopped a few times at Rest Areas and had lunch on the way. One town that we went through was called Bardstown, and we would like to visit again and spend more time in the shops, etc. It has a very classy atmosphere, and there is a Jim Beam Bourbon Whiskey Distillery right downtown.

What an interesting, faith-filled afternoon. We know Matt Meyer from a group of men who meet at St. Charles Church at 6:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays. He came to the funeral home for my dad's visitation, and I asked him to attend a Cursillo weekend. He accepted and really enjoyed the weekend and the two times he's worked on a team. When he entered the Monastery, his name changed to Brother Matthias. He's been there for 14 months and is considered a novice Monk. He is 53 years old and has six sisters and two brothers, besides his mom and dad, who reside in Bluffton, Ohio.

Brother Joachim (he has Jesus' grandpa's name - Mary's dad) greeted us as we came to the welcome area that Br. Matthias lined up with us. He was very kind and informative about the Abbey. He mentioned that Br. Norbert Meier is their "Senior" Monk, who has been there longer than anyone else. He entered in 1949...67 years ago.

Br. Matthias gave us an hour tour of the buildings, including where the Monks meet many times a day for worship - seven times minimum, starting at 3:15 a.m. They utilize many different chapels, etc. for benediction, masses, prayer, meditations, etc. They also work hard at the abbey, including making different kinds of fudge, fruit cakes, other candy, cheese and more. After making the products, they package them right there. They have a gift store that features all of their products that are for sale to visitors, plus they are also for sale in local stores and on line. When something isn't quite right with the packaging, etc., they hold them in a cooler and can give them away to friends and family. Br. Matthias gave Karen and I a large box of 'goodies' that we didn't open until we got home about 9:00 p.m. We were surprised at how much he gave us. They eat very healthy, with no meat....except very special occasions.

After our tour of the buildings, Br. Matthias gave us a ride on a Polaris 4 X 4 through some of the beautiful woods of the 2500 acre property. We went across Monk Road to enter the woods and passed their hotel where many people stay. They also have outsiders who stay in their retreat house at the Abbey. What a wonderful, joyful ride Br. Matthias gave us....quite exciting with up and down hills, ponds and beautiful nature. He had to put the Polaris in 4-wheel drive many times to get through the unlevel, muddy, and bumpy paths. This was a most exciting venture for Karen and me...faith-filled, informative, exciting....wow!

Br. Matthias told us while we were in the forest that a Br. Hanekamp, a German, was a Monk for many years at the Abbey, then decided not to live in the monastery; instead, he lived in the woods on the property by himself. They let him live there mostly in solitude until he died.

We hope that Br. Matthias enjoyed our visit as much as we enjoyed our time with him. His family can only visit one time per year. When we were about to leave, we ended the same way we started when arriving with a great big Cursillo hug. God speed, Brother Matthias!

YBIC,
Dale Fair

They have a website you can visit if interested - The Abbey of Gethesemani - www.monks.org

Pre-Cursillo News....

Dear Fourth Day:

There are 7 Candidates for Women's Cursillo #264. Please hold them and the team members in your prayers and Palanca.

Becky Grau
Most Blessed Sacrament- Toledo
Sponsor: Krista Gonzales-Luce

Barb Hankenhof
Most Blessed Sacrament - Toledo
Sponsor: Mary Lyons

Donna Laubie
St. Joseph Crestline
Sponsor: Karen Bonen

Marianne Lewis
St. Joseph Galion
Sponsor: Annie Blum

Jeanne McCale
St. Mary's Vermilion
Sponsor: Sr. Claudia Bronsing

Karen Reinhart
St. Michael Findlay
Sponsor: Jane Distel

Amy Smith
Holy Trinity Bucyrus
Sponsor: Deacon Jerry Gubernath

Upcoming Dates to remember:

Spanish Men's Cursillo #265 - October 20-23, 2016
Spanish Women's Cursillo #266 November 3-6, 2016
Both will be held in Carey Ohio.

The spring 2017 dates are Men's March 9-12, 2017 and Women's April 20-23, 2017.
Please NOTE: the cost of a Cursillo weekend will be \$195.00 starting in 2017.

Mary Beth Lavey, Pre Cursillo Chair
1014 Shorewood Dr.
Fremont Ohio 43420
419-704-9507

Make a Friend – Be A Friend – Bring a Friend to Christ!

From the Cursillo Chair....

Hello to all of my Cursillo Family!

Don't you just love October?! The colors of the leaves are beginning to show this week, the nights are cooler, but we have so much nice weather to explore the change of seasons whether in our cars or hiking around our favorite places. Add to that our Women's Cursillo and Focus day coming soon, and we are blessed indeed, right?

This is my last note to all of you as Cursillo Chair. I have completed my term and turn the reins over to Bill Obringer who has accepted the call to lead this piece of our Cursillo movement in the Toledo Diocese. I have no doubt he will do a wonderful job in this position and I am grateful to him for his "yes" to this commitment! Please keep Bill and all our Secretariat leaders in your prayers as they go the extra mile for us.

It has been an honor as well as a wonderful blessing to me to work with the Secretariat and so many of you for these 3 plus years for the benefit of our Cursillo Movement. I thank each of you for your prayers and support from the bottom of my heart.

So it is with a joyful heart of gratitude that I say I hope to continue to see you at the Closings, Holy Hours, SOL and Focus Days!

Blessings and Hugs,
Annie Blum

Please pray for our Women's Team #264, October 13-16

Spiritual Directors-Fr. Chris Bohnsack and Sr. Mary Jo Szpila

Rector-Jane Distel Assistant Rector-Mary Lyons

Joan Alge, Denise Biddle, Karen Bonen, Nancy Cook, Ellen Doran, Barb Grycza, Joyce Haney, Kathy Huffman, Judie Kelley, Marie King, Kay Lavey-Kruzell, Barb Lovell, Judy Owens, Peggy Pauley, Judy Ruhlen, Sr. Wanda Smith, Beth Swecker, Jane Thompson, Joan Wise.

Please pray for our Spanish Men's and Women's Cursillos

Spanish Men's Cursillo 265:

Candidates:

Roy Hernandez
Leipsic, St. Mary's

Nicholas Zepeda
Toledo, St. Peter & Paul

Guillermo Garcia
Plymouth, St. Francis Xavier

Gregorio Cortez
Toledo, St. Peter & Paul

Jesus Alvarez
Norwalk, Oh., St. Paul

Jose Yepes
Adrian, MI St. Mary's

Francisco Jimenez
Adrian, Mi. St. Mary's

Sergio Viveros
Toledo, St. Peter & Paul

Geraldo Garcia Alvarez
Norwalk, St. Paul

Alonso Colmenares
Norwalk, St. Paul

Juan Lorenzo Martinez
Norwalk, St. Paul

Team:

Al Ramirez - Rector
Domingo Ortega – Asst Rector
Fr. Kneuveu – Spiritual Advisor
Dcn Ben Valdez – Spir Adv
Dcn Salvador Sanchez – Spir Adv
Ramiro Martinez – Hd Shepherd
Adan Duran - Shepherd
Hector Salcido - Shepherd/Rollo
Mario Diaz - Shepherd/Rollo
Ray Flores - Shepherd
Juan Jesus Cortez - Shep/Rollo
Jesse Rodriquez - Hd. Disciple

Sergio Triana – Disciple
Mike Huffman - Disciple
Mike Cherry – Disciple
Joe Coleman – Disciple
Abe Ledesma – Disciple
Robert Valle - Musician
Juan Duran - Rollo
Gerardo Gonzalez - Table
Mike Ruhlen - Sacristan
Rosario Medina- Hd. Kitchen
Mille Valle - Kitchen
Gloria Ramirez - Kitchen

Spanish Women’s Cursillo 266

Candidates:

Gracie Salcido
Fostoria, St. Wendelin

Gina Delarosa
Fostoria, St. Wendelin

Alicia Roberts
Findlay, St. Michael’s

Alma Varela
Bowling Green, St. Aloysius

Martha Garcia
Bowling Green, St. Aloysius

Maribel Perry
McClure, St. Aloysius

Petra Mattison
Toledo, St. Peter & Paul

Kathy Gonzales
Toledo, St. Peter & Paul

Emma Urbina
Toledo, St. Peter & Paul

Lucia Arellano
Genoa, Our Lady of Lourdes

Elizabeth Garcia
Plymouth, St. Francis Xavier

Monica Montoya
Toledo, Regina-Coeli

Juanita Saldovar
Wauseon

Shelly Flores
Leipsic, St. Mary’s

Imelda Ortega
Norwalk, St. Paul

Beatrice Colmenares
Norwalk, St. Paul

Martha Mariana Acosta Ortega
Norwalk, St. Paul

Rocio Saucedo
Norwalk, St. Paul

Juana Yepez
Adrian, MI St. Mary's

Patricia Cabrera
Adrian, MI St. Mary's

Maricela Jimenes
Adrian, MI St. Mary's

Olga Moreno
Fremont, St. Ann's

Petra Mancha
Gibsonburg, St. Michael's

Janie Garcia
Gibsonburg, St. Michael's

Team:

Juanita Ybanes- Rector
Fr. Richard Notter – Spir. Advisor
Sr. Mary Jo Toll – Spir. Advisor
Maria Ybanes – Sacristan
Socorro Juarez – Cha Cha
Felicitas Jackson – Cha Cha/Rollo
Anita Almaguer – Cha Cha
Lilly Orozco – Music
Annabel Swint – Professor
Gloria Martinez – Hd. Disciple
Lydia Diaz – Disciple
Marty Ledesma – Disciple
Rufina Becerra – Kitchen

Susanna Sepeda – Asst. Rector
Fr. Jerry Knueven – Spir. Advisor
Sr. Mary Elizabeth Garcia – Spir. Advisor
Carol Martinez – Head Cha Cha
Yolanda Arellano – Cha Cha
Christina Delarosa – Cha Cha
Santos Orozco – Music
Dora Sanchez – Professor
Mona Duran – Professor
Mary Fonseca – Disciple
Olivia Ramos – Disciple
Mary Lou Cardona – Hd. Kitchen

Come, Holy Spirit
Fill the hearts of your faithful
And enkindle in us the fire of your Love!
Send forth your Spirit
And we shall be created
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Palanca..Palanca..Palanca..

Palanca has been coming in for the Women's Weekend. Much was received for the Men's weekend last month. It is wonderful to see so many countries praying for us as we continue to pray for them and their weekends.

Deb Bartlett-Karbowiak
Palanca Chair

School of Leaders

Cursillo Fall Study Focus Day – October 15, 2016

Sherry Weddell Workshop, author of the book “Forming Intentional Disciples” - The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus.

St. Michael the Archangel Main Church, 750 Bright Road, Findlay, OH 45840

Registration begins at 8:15 a.m.

Workshop is from 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Lunch on your own (bring a bag lunch or grab fast food) Cursillistas will meet in the Teachers’ Lounge so we can eat lunch together.

If you are interested in attending the workshop (even if you can only stay for part of the presentation) please register at: gleibfarth@findlaystmichael.org (Geri Leibfarth)

School of Leaders

Saturday, November 19, 9:00 a.m.

St. Michael the Archangel Main Church, Teachers’ Lounge, 750 Bright Road, Findlay, OH 45840

- Scripture reading and reflection: Deacon George Miller
- Spiritual Advisor’s Presentation: Fr. Jim Brown, “Laudato Si,” Chapter 3: I, II, III; pages 69-91. Pope Francis Encyclical Letter on care for our common home
- Lay Presentation: We Need a Volunteer. *Anyone interested in volunteering?* Please call 419-986-5793

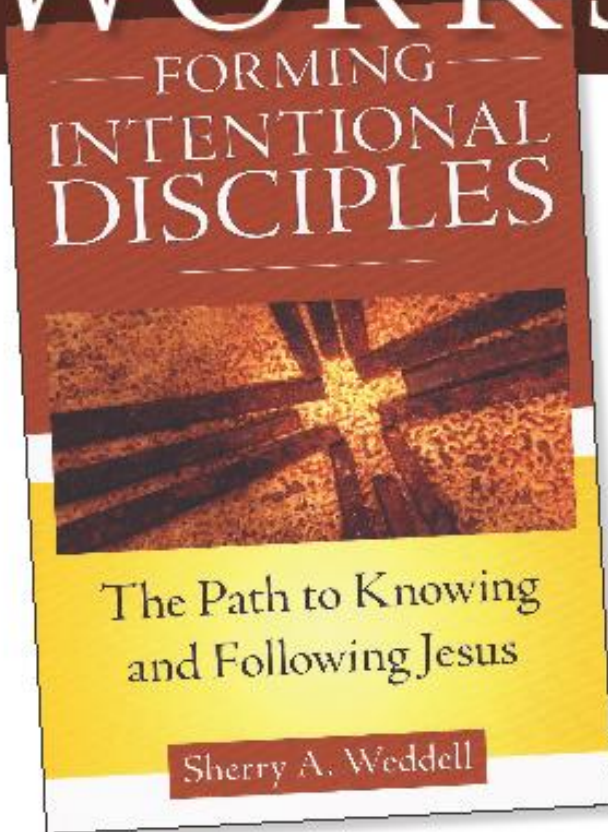
“The Fundamental Ideas of the Cursillo Movement” Ch. 8; Section 1-2; The School:
Pg. 199-205; #527 - #555

Coffee and tea is provided...**feel free to bring a snack to share**. We end the morning with prayer in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Carol Miller, SOL Rector/Secretariat Member

Team: Joan & Bruce Alge, George Miller, Jim Powell & Sharon DeCant

WORKSHOP



presented by
**Sherry
WEDDELL**

October 15, 2016 • 8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
(registration begins at 8:15 a.m.)

St. Michael the Archangel Main Church
750 Bright Rd. • Findlay, OH 45840



Lunch on your own.
(bring a bag lunch or grab fast food)

NO COST to attend, however a Free-Will Offering will be taken.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

IMPORTANT – Please register at: gleibfarth@findlaystmichael.org

Prayervine

September Prayers

No Surgery, Device with Velcro Closures to Keep Hand, Wrist & Fingers Immobile, Prostate Cancer, G-tube, Drug Addition, Alcohol & Cocaine, Eviction, Impatient Drug Rehab, Breast Cancer, Good support Group, Abdominal Pain, Tests, Need Prayers, Rest in Peace, Bad Car Accident, Grandma, Lump in Thyroid, A fib, Ablation of Heart, Pace Maker, Grief, Liver Issues, Liver to Mature, Total Knee Replacement, Abdominal Pain, Find Problem, Neck Surgery, Lump on Thyroid, Knee Surgery, Emergency Surgery, Critical, Seizure Left Side, MRI, Cat Scan, Approval Insurance, Sedated, Lump on Left & Right Neck, Biopsy, Thyroid, Back Surgery, Pray for Peace, Healing, Mammogram, Trust, Double Pneumonia, Thanksgiving, Temperature 106, Antibiotic not Working, Cursillo & Palanca: Alabama, Arizona, Australia, California, Connecticut, El Salvador, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Hungary, Illinois, Indiana, Italy, Kentucky, Mexico, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Paraguay, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Spain, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin,



Utreya

Location

Contact

St. Clement Parish, Jeager Hall
2nd Sunday of the Month, 2:00 PM

Ron and Carol Plenzler
carron@buckeye-access.com

Tiffin St. Francis Home
September 25th, 7:00pm
Holy ½ Hour and Palanca Party

Betty and Bill Obringer
wobringer@woh.rr.com

Lima St. Gerard's Spirituality Center
To Be Determined

Dale Fair
kfair@woh.rr.com

Bucyrus/Crestline/Galion/
New Washington/Bethlehem
2nd Wednesday of the Month 7:30PM

Connie Kehres
blessedarewe37@gmail.com

Spanish Utreya/SS Peter & Paul Church
728 S. St. Clair St., Toledo
1st Saturday of the Month, Noon

Juan & Ramona Duran
camposduran54@yahoo.com

Words of Wisdom...



“As I have walked with God in life and ministry I have grown to appreciate that every life is a gift of God, and because He loves and cares for us all, I must do the same.” *Dr. Stephen A. Gammon, Walking With God*

“Without a life of the Spirit our whole existence becomes unsubstantial and illusory.” *Thomas Merton*

NATIONAL CURSILLO INFORMATION:

www.natl-cursillo.org. Read about Cursillo news, palanca requests from around the world, or read the national newsletter.

CURSILLO WEBSITE: www.toledocursillo.org

Go here to view news of upcoming events, read the current month's Ark or download forms.

To request prayers from our fourth day community, email Barb Grycza: faith2co57@bex.net or faith2co57@buckeye-express.com.