

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.

December 2016

Application Forms are on the Website:
<http://www.toledocursillo.org/Download.html>

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Please share how Christ is working in your life.

**Email
Chris Powers at**

**Chripowers1952@
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with your witness.

Beloved Sisters and Brothers,

We're on the launch pad for another year of Evangelization! We're proudly and excitedly in a kind of "preface" as we help others look forward with hope and longing for the telling and re-telling of the greatest story of all time. We've got not only the Good News to share, but it's the BEST news there is - and ever will be.

I'm thinking that with all that's going on in our world right now from fighting in the very place on earth that Jesus set foot, and war in the first big Christian nation where there are innumerable refugees and people being forced to go to other parts of the world just to stay alive, to our own nation where we are in the midst of a new leadership launching that has us all wondering: some hopefully, some fearfully, some repentantly, some carefully, and all looking forward to promises -- and all of us tied together on the same planet, we have an excellent opportunity (and challenge) to share astounding GOOD NEWS that is out of this world but meant entirely for it. [How's that for a sentence?! Might be good to read it again s l o w l y.....]

Two things to get in touch with: the meaning of the last paragraph, AND the Savior of the World. Each year Advent gives us the time and the opportunity to get yet closer to Our Savior in order to live and tell the story even better than we ever have so far. We ask "Who is Jesus for me?" and get a richer, deeper answer to share with family, friends, acquaintances, even enemies -- and even ourselves. Get in touch with *that* effort so that you can share even *that* when it's appropriate! That's evangelization; it's what we're all about and get to practice in grouping, ultreyas, weekends, closings, school of leaders and one-on-one. The Savior comes to be in touch with our messy world and our pure hearts, to put them together to last joyously forever!!! Isn't that WONDER-FUL??? LOVE is the answer, eh?

DeColores!!!...???...!!!
Fr. Skip

From the Lay Director.....

All my brothers and sisters in Christ,

Toledo Diocese Cursillo Highlights for Fiscal Year 2016

- School of Leaders

School of Leaders meets each third Saturday of the month. It's held at St. Michael's Church in Findlay, Ohio. It runs from 9:00 to noon, with the last 20 minutes being prayers and petitions in the chapel. Attendance is on the rise, averaging (20-30) participants. Come, see and enjoy.

- Secretariat

The Secretariat (15 members) meets each fourth Thursday of the month at Our Lady of The Pines in Fremont, Ohio. The meeting runs from 7:00 to 8:30/9:00 p.m.

- Cursillo Weekends - 63 new Cursillistas in 2016

English speaking weekends were held at Our Lady of The Pines in Fremont, Ohio.

Men's spring weekend #261 - March 10-13, (15) Candidates

Women's spring weekend #262 - April 24-27, (8) Candidates

Men's fall weekend #263 - September 15-18, (6) Candidates

Women's fall weekend #264 - October 13-16 (7) Candidates

Two Spanish Speaking Weekends were held at the Basilica & National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Cary, Ohio.

Men's #S265 - October 20-23, (7) Candidates

Women's #S266 - November 3-6, (20) Candidates

- Friendship Grouping and Ultreyas

Many, many Friendship Groupings (weekly) all over the Diocese, and monthly Ultreyas are happening in 7-8 different locations throughout the Diocese. Please go to our website www.toledocursillo.org for all the particular information.

- Communications

The Prayer Vine is published as needed via email for prayer requests; and The ARK, our wonderful newsletter, is published monthly. All members of the Secretariat are asked to submit articles for the paper, and we encourage that Cursillistas submit witnesses on how God is working in their lives to be shared with the 4th day.

- Grand Ultreya

Each year we have three special events that bring all the Cursillistas together from the Toledo Diocese in place of our monthly School of Leaders.

June 18, 2016, we had a Cursillo Focus Day Annual Retreat to deepen our understanding of Jesus, enhance our relationship with Him, and encounter Him in one another. The Focus day was called *Rediscover Jesus* and was held at St. Wendelin in Fremont, Ohio.

The annual Grand Ultreya summer picnic for all Cursillistas was at 4:00 pm on July 24th at Bernie and Joan Rumschlag's home.

On October 15, we had our second Focus Day of the year at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Findlay, Ohio. It was a POSTCURSILLO WORKSHOP from the book *Forming Intentional Disciples* presented by the author Sherry Weddell. The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus was the main objective of the workshop.

- Region V Encounters

Region V Spring Encounter April 29th and 30th, Sacred Heart Parish Center, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Region V Fall Encounter October 21st and 22nd, Sacred Heart Parish Center, Notre Dame, Indiana.

- National Encounter

26th National Cursillo Encounter August 4th - 7th, Lewis University in the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois.

- Summary

In summary, I just want to let everyone know all the activities that go on in our movement, and they are all for one reason - to build up the kingdom of God, get to heaven, and take as many of our friends as possible. The movement has so many activities going on that there is something for everyone who wishes to be involved - a little or a lot there is a place for you.

- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

The Toledo Diocese Cursillo Movement personnel wish you and your loved ones a Blessed Advent Season, a Merry Christmas, and a New Year filled with God's love, friendship, and joy!

De Colores!

YBIC,
Dale Fair



Pre-Cursillo News....

May this Holy season fill each of you with the peace of knowing that God has a plan, the joy of the Holy Spirit filling you fully and above all the love of Jesus within each of your hearts and your loved ones! Let us celebrate Christ in Christmas as we journey through Advent.

Save the dates:

2017 Weekends

Men's #267: March 9 - 12, 2017

Women's #268: April 20 - 23, 2017

Men's #269: Sept. 14 - 17, 2017

Women's #270: Oct. 12 - 15, 2017

2018 Weekends

Men's # 271: March 8 - 11, 2018

Women's #272: April 12 - 15, 2018

Men's #273: Sept. 13 - 16, 2018

Women's #274: Oct. 11 - 14, 2018

Mary Beth Lavey, Pre-Cursillo Chair

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Make a Friend - Be A Friend - Bring a Friend to Christ

From the Cursillo Chair....

May God bless all of you during this Advent time as we wait for the coming of the Christ child. I pray all is well and I especially pray for all those on our Prayervine right now.

Monday Dec. 5th I was reflecting on the gospel reading that day from Luke 5:17-26, about the paralyzed man who was lowered through the roof to be healed by Jesus. The reflection was a quote from Mother Teresa and she said, " I am very sure of God. I trust His love. I hope many things, or rather everything from Him, this is what made me dare so far..." I pray that we are full of hope and dare to reach out, to get closer to Him like the paralyzed man, during this advent season. Peace and love to all of you.

The spring teams are being formed. The men's team is formed, the first meeting is Jan. 5th. Mike Powers and John Bonen are rectors. The women's team is just

starting to prepare. Betty Obringer and Therese Cherry are rectors. Their first meeting is Feb.9th. If anyone would like to be on the women's team, please send a team app to me soon.

Have a blessed and merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

YBIC

Bill Obringer
3930 E. Co. Rd. 50
Tiffin OH 44883
419-447-6410

School of Leaders

The next School of Leaders at St. Michael, Findlay is **January 21, 2017**.

Bible reflection: Joan Alge

Spiritual Advisor Presentation: Sr. Edna

Lay Presentation: Dale Fair

School of Leaders is **not** scheduled this month on December 17th. Enjoy quality time that day with your family and celebrate this Holy Season. Maybe you can use the time on Dec. 17th from 9 a.m. until noon to pray for Cursillistas, family members or friends who are in need of extra prayers. Maybe visit/call someone you know who is ill.

We are sad to inform you that Jim Powell has requested to be removed from the School of Leaders Team for various reasons, especially since he spends his time in Florida during the winter months. He will continue to attend School of Leaders when possible and is willing to help at the meetings he can attend.

Last month Chris Powers presented the Lay talk for the **first** time and did an excellent job inspiring all of us. Thank you, Chris. Also, thanks to all the Cursillistas who attend School of Leaders and inspire all of us during our discussions. For those Cursillistas who haven't been able to attend SOL for various reasons, we MISS YOU!

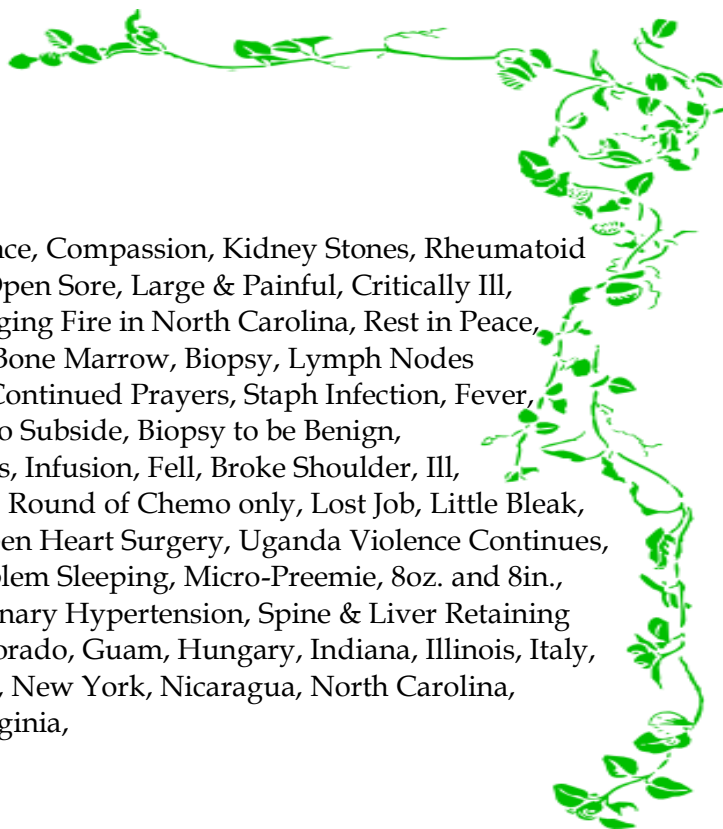
Peace and Blessings to all,

Carol Miller, SOL Rector
Team: Joan & Bruce Alge, George Miller, & Sharon DeCant

Prayervine

November Prayers

Spinal Surgery, Progressive Scoliosis, Alcoholic, Patience, Compassion, Kidney Stones, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Bone Cancer, Lungs, Mass on Hip, Nasty Open Sore, Large & Painful, Critically Ill, Hospice Care, No Life Support, Chemo, Leukemia, Raging Fire in North Carolina, Rest in Peace, May not have a Home or Business, Internal Bleeding, Bone Marrow, Biopsy, Lymph Nodes Tested, Remove Part of Thyroid, Surgery Went Well, Continued Prayers, Staph Infection, Fever, Infection, Spine Surgery, Job Opportunity, Afib, Pain to Subside, Biopsy to be Benign, Emergency Surgery, A lot of Pain, Magnesium, Spasms, Infusion, Fell, Broke Shoulder, Ill, Needs Prayers, Knee Replacement, Cancer in Spleen, 1 Round of Chemo only, Lost Job, Little Bleak, Stability in Marriage, Heart Cath, Many Blockages, Open Heart Surgery, Uganda Violence Continues, Came Home, Anxiety Attacks Medication, Stress, Problem Sleeping, Micro-Preemie, 8oz. and 8in., Lung Problems, Permanent Trach., Rhinovirus, Pulmonary Hypertension, Spine & Liver Retaining Fluid, Cursillo's and Palanca: California, Canada, Colorado, Guam, Hungary, Indiana, Illinois, Italy, Kansas, Massachusetts, Mexico, Michigan, Mississippi, New York, Nicaragua, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Prince Edward Island, Texas, Vietnam, Virginia, Merry Christmas and the Best New Year yet!!!!!!



Utreya

Location

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

Tiffin, St. Francis Home
No December Meeting

Lima St. Charles Gathering Space
No December Meeting

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

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

Contact

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Faithful Witness... (Quoted from the October 2016 issue of Give us This Day, a monthly publication for Today's Catholic.)

Madeline Delbrel
Missionary and Activist (1904-1964)

Madeline Delbrel was the daughter of a French railroad worker. In her youth she considered becoming a nun, but decided her vocation was in the world, among "ordinary" people. "We, the ordinary people of the streets, believe that this street, this world, where God has placed us, is our place of holiness." In the secularized world of the working class she conceived the need for a new type of missionary – a "missionary without a boat" – not traveling overseas, but crossing the borders of faith to bear witness to the Gospel in friendship and solidarity.

With several friends she established a small lay community in Ivry, a working-class city near Paris and a stronghold of the Communist Party. Over time they won many friends. During World War II the city government even asked Delbrel to over-see social services. Later, she served as lay advisor to a new movement of "worker priests" who worked in factories alongside the poor. (The movement was eventually suppressed.)

She called her spiritual discipline the "Prayer of the Agenda" – a heightened awareness of the presence of God in all the ordinary activities of life, whether meeting people or answering the phone. In this awareness, a person could experience the deepest spiritual dimension of life.

She embraced Vatican II and its affirmation of the vocation of the laity, but did not live to see its conclusion. She died on October 13, 1964.

"Each tiny act is an extraordinary event, in which Heaven is given to us, in which we are able to give Heaven to others." Madeleine Delbrel



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.