

# The 4<sup>th</sup> Day Journey

Erie Diocesan Cursillo Newsletter

August 2019

## 2019 Cursillo Dates

The Dates for Cursillo in 2019 are:

Women's #256 August 15-18 at St. Philip, Linesville

Men's #250 October 17-20 at OLM, Harborcreek

Women's #257 November 21-24 at OLM, Harborcreek

PERHAPS THIS IS  
THE MOMENT  
FOR WHICH YOU  
HAVE BEEN  
CREATED.

ESTHER 4:14

## Upcoming Cursillo – Women's Cursillo # 256

Women's #256 will begin on Thursday, August 15, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. at St.

Philip's Church, 401 South Mercer Street, Linesville, PA 16424. **Directions to St.**

**Philip:** I-79 North/South toward Erie/Pittsburgh. Take exit 147B to merge onto

US-19 S/US-322 W/US-6 W through Conneaut Lake. Follow US-6 into Linesville. Turn left at light. St. Philip will be on the left, about 0.3 miles. **Closing** will begin at 4:30 p.m. on **Sunday August 18, 2019.**

The **emergency phone number** for this Cursillo will be **814-683-4275.**

## Team

### *Spiritual Directors*

Fr. Jeff Lucas (St. Agatha – Meadville)

Fr. Johnathan Schmolt (St. Michael – Greenville)

Deacon Denis Coan (St. John/Holy Rosary – Erie)

### *Team Leaders*

Rector Marianne Behlmaier (Queen of Martyrs -- Cheektowaga)

Asst. Rector Darci Schoenfeldt White (St. Hippolyte – French Town)

Ch. Steward Maryann Lukowich (St. Peter – Conneautville)

### *Stewards*

Megan Green (St. Titus – Titusville)

Peggy Slezak (Notre Dame – Hermitage)

Diane Beam (St. Julia – Erie)

Mary Ellen Stumpf (St. Titus – Titusville)

### *Auxiliaries*

Linda Wasson (Our Lady Queen of the Americas – Conneaut Lake)

Penny Corklin (St. Thomas – Corry)

Jeanett Kitch (St. Agatha – Meadville)

### *Steward/Co-Troubadours*

Janet Wasserman (Our Lady Queen of the Americas – Conneaut Lake)

## Holy Hour

Holy Hours in support of this Cursillo will occur on Saturday August 17, 2019 throughout the Diocese at the following locations and times:

Crawford County: St. Philip, Linesville 9:00 p.m.  
Elk/Cameron Counties: At the Elk/Cameron County Picnic

## Palanca

Palanca should be dropped off by Thursday, August 15, 2019 by 10:30 a.m. to allow time to take the items to the Cursillo site. **After Thursday night, palanca should be taken directly to St. Philip. \*\*Note that this is a general statement if your county has a different routine it will be noted below next to their pick-up sites.**

### *Erie County*

1. The Teacher's Apple Basket, 9 West Main Street, North East, PA 16428 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Mon. - Tues. and 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Wed.
2. St. Mark the Evangelist Church, 695 Smithson Ave. in Lawrence Park 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Mon. – Wed.
3. Al's Awning Shop, 1721 West 26th Street in Erie 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Mon. – Wed.
4. Kelly's Sewing Corner, 3330 West 26th St. in Erie, Village West 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Mon. – Wed.
5. Hofmann's Church and Religious Goods, 420 East 26th St. in Erie 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Mon. – Wed.
6. The Cursillo Office, 429 East Grandview Boulevard in Erie 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Mon. – Wed. and Thursday before 10:00 a.m.
7. Rudy's Shoe Repair, 263 West 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie 9:00 a.m. – 6 p.m. Mon.- Fri, Sat 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Thursday before 10:00 a.m.
  - Please note that For Art's Sake is closed therefor no longer takes Palanca we are working on a new West County pick up site. Thank You for your patience.

### *Cameron County*

1. St. Mark Parish, 235 East Fourth Street in Emporium, by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday before the Cursillo

### *Crawford County*

1. St. Brigid Church 383 Arch Street in Meadville, by 12 noon Thursday of the Cursillo.

### *Elk County*

1. St. Marys Church Parish Center, 325 Church Street in St. Marys, by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday before the Cursillo
2. Ken and Terri Bish's House, 365 N. St. Marys Street, St. Marys by Wednesday before the Cursillo
3. Mark and Kellie Martinez's House, 43 West Cardott St., Ridgway by Wednesday before the Cursillo

### *Mercer County*

1. St. Joseph Parish, 79 Case Avenue in Sharon, By Noon Thursday of the Cursillo
2. Notre Dame Parish, 2325 Highland Road in Hermitage, By Noon Thursday of the Cursillo
3. St. Michael Parish, 85 North High Street in Greenville, By Noon Thursday of the Cursillo

## Weekend Schedule

Set up will be Wednesday, August 14, 2019 starting at 5:30 p.m. Come meet and encourage the team while getting the site ready for the next Cursillo!

**Meals: We are always looking for men to prepare and serve meals. Serving times are listed below. Please come early to assist in the kitchen, as needed, and stay a little later to help clean up. Come join in the fellowship.**

Thursday Night Snack: the assigned committee.

For all other meals please arrive at the times listed! Thank You in Advance!

Friday Breakfast: at 7:15 a.m.

Friday Luncheon: at 12:45 p.m.

Friday Supper: at 6:45 p.m.

Saturday Breakfast: at 7:15 a.m.

Saturday Luncheon: at 1:00 p.m.

Saturday Supper: at 6:45 p.m.

Sunday Breakfast: at 7:30 a.m.

Sunday Luncheon: at 12:00 p.m.

Special thanks go out to all those who bring food to the closing luncheon. We would like to encourage everyone to please bring a dish to share to insure there is plenty of food for all. Please use disposable containers and drop your food off at the kitchen before the closing. Thank You in advance for your support!

### Updates and Information

Call the Cursillo office at 814-824-1119

Check the web site at <http://www.eriecursillo.org>

CALL A FRIEND – Great things can happen when we talk with each other!

### Ultreyas

Upcoming Ultreyas will occur at the following locations and times:

<u>Erie County:</u>	August 2, 2019 St. Andrew Parish 7:00 p.m. September 6, 2019 St. Andrew Parish 7:00 p.m. October 4, 2019 St. Andrew Parish 7:00 p.m.
<u>Crawford County:</u>	August 9, 2019 St. Philip, Linesville 7:00 p.m. September (None) October 11, 2019 St. Peter, Conneautville 7:00 p.m.
<u>Elk/Cameron County:</u>	August 22, 2019 St. Joseph, Force 7:00 p.m. September (None) October 24, 2019 St. Leo, Ridgway 7:00 p.m.
<u>Mercer County:</u>	June & July – None scheduled

### Prayer Department

If you know of someone who has passed away, someone who is ill or serving in the military, please notify the office so their names can be placed on the prayer list.

#### *Our recently deceased:*

Our deepest sympathy and prayers go out to the loved ones and friends of all departed Cursillistas and their families.

#### *Our sick and recovering*

Best wishes for a quick recovery Linda Tolhurst, Mike Giannamore, Pete Tolhurst, Tom Straub, Tim Lynch's sister Patricia, Roy Maloney, Jim Hamilton, Dave Wilkinson, Ann Flick, Jerry Bukowski's Brother, Moose Fuhrman, Mark Divecchio, Mike Tarquinio, Frank Quattrone Jr., Heidi Arnold and Daryl Cruz's daughter Annie Smardz and all those of whom we are unaware of their illness.

### *Our troops and military*

To, Tech Sgt. Michael A. Wagner, SMSgt Darin Beckes, Fire Chief, Sra. Michael J. Brown II, Msgt Joshua T. Brown, Joey Garvey, Matthew Gredler, Military Specialist Evan S. Hornick, TSGT Mitchell Smardz, Pvt 1st Class Nathaniel Staff, Stefan Treacle, and all those of whom we may be unaware - Thank you for your service.

### *Our Religious*

As always, keep our seminarians (Ben Dagher, Luke Dagher, Christopher Wheeler), women and men religious candidates, as well as our deacon candidates and their wives in your prayers.

## Upcoming Events:

1. Please note that there is no Cursillo in September therefore there will also be no Newsletter until October.
2. Even if you have not registered you can still attend the Annual Cursillo picnic. It will be held on August 3, 2019. Please see the website for details.
3. The Elk/Cameron County picnic will be held August 17, 2019

## FOR THE GOOD OF THE MOVEMENT:

### **Erie Gives Day Tuesday August 13, 2019**

### **Help us reach our 55 thousand for 56 years goal!!**

**You can check out all the information at: [www.eriegives.org](http://www.eriegives.org)**

### **What you need to know:**

**Day and Time:** August 13. You have 12 hours to make your donation between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. EST.

**Gift Amount:** The minimum gift is \$25. There is no limit to the amount of money you may give. There is no limit to the number of organizations you can donate to in a transaction.

**Credit Cards:** Only Visa, MasterCard and Discover will be accepted. The credit card processor charges a nominal fee per transaction. The Erie Community Foundation does not receive any fees. Sorry, credit card gift cards will not be accepted.

**Checks:** New to Erie Gives 2019, donors can write a check for their Erie Gives donation.

Checks must be made out to The Erie Community Foundation.

All check donations must be accompanied by a Check Donation Form. Checks must be delivered to The Erie Community Foundation (459 West 6th Street, Erie, PA 16507) no later than Monday, August 12, 2019.

**Prorated Match:** The Erie Community Foundation and our sponsors will enhance donors' gifts by providing a prorated match to each gift made to a nonprofit.

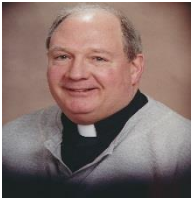
**Your Receipt:** You will receive an email receipt of your gift, which you should retain for tax purposes. Unless you choose to remain anonymous, your donor information will be sent to the appropriate organizations.

**When will the Nonprofits receive your donation:** The nonprofits will receive your donation, plus The Erie Community Foundation's prorated match, on Tuesday, August 27, 2019, at our Erie Gives Check Distribution Day.

**You do not have to be from Erie County to give on this day. Donations may come from anywhere. Above is one way you can give on that day. THIS YEAR WE WILL BE OFFERING A FEW MORE WAYS FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE. We will be having a tent located at St. Andrew's Church (1116 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie, Pa 16502) for those that may want to give cash instead of giving their card number out. It also works great for those that want to give but are not able to meet the \$25.00 minimum. The tent will be available from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.! Feel free to stop and donate or just to say hello. You may also send**

*in a check to the office with Erie Gives in the memo and we will donate that amount on August 13, 2019 for you!!! So many ways to give and have your donation go further!!!*

## Fr. Dan's Comments:



### **The Fear of the Slippery Slope is the Slippery Slope Itself**

A lesson I learned from the four Cursillista "Town Hall Meetings" we held in various locations of our diocese recently is this: passions can be full of grace.

You may recall that the meetings were held to hear Cursillistas' opinions about amending a long-standing policy that husbands make their Cursillo before their wife can make hers. The outcome after listening to you was to change the policy. A wife need not wait for her husband to make his Cursillo before she makes hers. It is from this experience that I now know experientially what I knew theoretically before the meetings: passions can be full of grace.

The gospel reading for the fifteenth Sunday this year (Lk. 10: 25-37) was about the discussion between Jesus and a scholar of the law. In the parable about the Good Samaritan, Jesus describes the Samaritan as a traveler who came upon a victim of robbery and was moved with compassion at the sight. Jesus' use of the word "compassion" set an alarm off in my head.

The English word compassion is rooted in two Latin words, cum and passio, meaning with gut-felt energy. Recall the passion narratives of Holy Week. From the moment Jesus is arrested on the Mount of Olives, everything else in the account is what happens to Jesus. He is no longer the active witness. He becomes the victim, the one acted upon. We can say that passions overtake us. We are acted upon by some other person or force of nature.

Cursillo needs your passion, your willingness to be overtaken by the awareness that Cursillo, this beautiful method of spirituality, is becoming irrelevant in this sense; it is not appealing the current culture of young Americans. This does not mean that what we are doing is wrong, just unappealing and therefore easy to dismiss. We're not speaking their language. We are offering a dynamic encounter with Jesus revealed in his divinity to people who are overwhelmingly "spiritual, just not religious." So, they do not see a need for organized religion. It does not matter to them that Cursillo is one of the widest front doors of Christianity. It should matter to us who supposedly have been transfigured by our encounter with the transfigured Christ that the Gen Zers consider Cursillo to be another benign manifestation of organized religion.

Cursillo is being acted upon by persons and forces of nature that are drowning our ecumenical voice under the chaos of moral relativism (the philosophy that there is no objective truth). We can bemoan that Catholic culture does not enjoy the high degree of acceptance it had until recently, but those days have passed. We cannot expect the current culture to build the bridge to unity. That is up to people like Cursillistas who have been transformed by the transfiguring love of Christ.

The fear that may cower Cursillistas that we are going to lose this gem of spirituality may appear to be fear of a slippery slope: why change what works or fix what is not broken? Unwittingly, that is the slippery slope. The fear of the slippery slope is the slippery slope itself. Cursillo is becoming irrelevant because it does not speak to the felt needs of young adults today.

Here is why I am proposing another round of Town Hall Meetings:

1. Cursillo looks old. We use white boards for presentations, don't use social media to communicate and we offer a message that is countercultural.
2. We can seem to be interested in maintaining our tribe rather than building God's Kingdom.
3. We bemoan that the young do not want to listen to our message when we haven't listened to their message.

God's admonition to us throughout scripture is be not afraid. We ought not be afraid of questions like who are the Gen Zers and what are their heart and soul felt hungers, how can we communicate meaningfully with them in channels they use already? What changes are necessary?

I'm enlisting the insights most especially of grandparents who are heartsick that their grandchildren haven't been baptized yet, parents of children who have conscientiously indoctrinated their children in religion but who have somehow not yet been formed by it, young adults who feel isolated because they don't own membership in either their Church or their culture. I believe that the time is right for us to enter fruitfully into a relationship with the future of Christianity, the Gen Zers, that they are discovering that owning the world only satisfies momentarily while the heart longs for what satisfies eternally. Cursillistas know what and who satisfies eternally. Don't you?

My next Comments column will list the dates for (probably) eight Tuesdays when you and your county coordinator can schedule a town hall meeting in your area. I'll travel to you with members of the committee to listen and converse as we did in the past about this problem. I believe our passion is Spirit energy waiting for direction.

We cannot be like the priest and levite who passed by the victim without compassion.

**Fr. Dan Arnold**

## Candidates for Women's Cursillo #256

1. Megan Bochy, Good Shepherd – West Middlesex (Steven Durda)
2. Mary Ann Francic, Our Lady of Lourdes – Cochranon (Fran Greathouse)
3. Linda Hajtol, St. Michael – Greenville (Deacon Marty Aubel)
4. Sharon (Wolfe) Mahoney, St. Peter – Conneautville (Patrick Mahoney)
5. Annie Moks, Our Lady of Peace – Erie (Janet Chandley)
6. Becky Rizzonelli, Sacred Heart – Erie (needs a sponsor)
7. Hope Samler, No Parish Affiliation (Marianne Behlmaier)
8. Sari Schultz, No Parish Affiliation (John Hess)
9. Karen Slywczak, Our Lady Queen of the Americas – Conneaut Lake (Janet & Arco Wasserman)
10. Hope Sullivan, Good Shepherd – West Middlesex (Theodore Schleifer)
11. Susan Weaver, St. Michael – Greenville (Deacon Marty Aubel)
12. Cynthia "Cindy" (Prochowski) Weber, Our Lady of the Lake – Edinboro (John Weber)
13. Paula (Strama) Verisek, St. Peter – Conneautville (Dan & Maryann Lukowich)

\*\* Please watch the website for updates to this list. I will continue to post and makes changes right up till the day of the Cursillo if needed. They can be found on the front page on the left-hand side.

### **Erie Cursillo Office**

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