

The 4th Day Journey

Erie Diocesan Cursillo Newsletter

December 2018

2019 Cursillo Dates

The Dates for Cursillo in 2019 are:

Women's #254 March 14-17 at OLM, Harborcreek

Men's #248 May 16-19 at OLM, Harborcreek

Women's #255 June 20-23 at Elk County Catholic, St. Marys

Men's #249 July 18-21 at Kennedy Catholic, Hermitage

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

THE LORD HAS
DONE GREAT
THINGS FOR US
AND WE ARE
FILLED WITH JOY!

PSALM 12 6-3

Ultreyas

Upcoming Ultreyas will occur at the following locations and times:

Erie County: January 4, 2019 at St. Andrew Church, Erie, 7:00 p.m.

February 1, 2019 at St. Andrew Church Erie, 7:00 p.m.

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 Margie Oglesby, Robert Theiss, Steve Zielonka, Larry Reagle, Stephani Lesser's Mom, John Brady and all those of whom we are unaware.

Our sick and recovering

Best wishes for a quick recovery Linda Tolhurst, Pete Tolhurst, Rudy Rodriguez, Tom Straub, Tim Lynch's sister Patricia, Fr. Larry Richard's mother, Ed Sznajder, Jim Grucza, Phyllis Zack, Roy Maloney, Jim Hamilton, Kathy Bojorquez, Steve Krivonyak, Kathleen Herman, Paul Tettis' Dad, Leona Fitzgerald, Becky, Doug and Jeremy Stefnoski, Dary Cruz and Daryl Cruz's daughter Annie Smardz and all those of whom we are unaware of their illness.

Our troops and military

To, SMSgt Darin Beckes, Fire Chief, Sra. Michael J. Brown II, Msgr 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, women and men religious candidates, as well as our deacon candidates and their wives in your prayers.



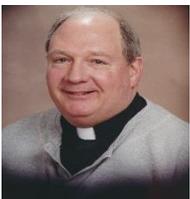
Upcoming Events:

1. The Office will be closed from 3 p.m. December 21, 2018 till January 2, 2019.
2. February 9, 2019 will be the next "Keeping the Longing Holy". Everyone is welcome to attend but will be limited to the first 50 people to respond. The cost will be \$20.00 Reservations will be taken by mail only with check included. Please make check payable to the Erie Cursillo Movement and mail to: Attn. Erie Cursillo Movement 429 E. Grandview Blvd. PO Box 10397 Erie, Pa 16514 It will be held at St. Brigid (383 Arch St, Meadville, PA 16335). It will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end after dinner approximately at 7 or 8 p.m.
3. January 26, 2019 We will be holding our bi-annual Secretariat Meeting. Location to be determined. Please watch email, the website or call the office after the 1st of the year for details.
4. January 26, 2019 will be the Cursillo Choir at Our Lady of Mercy at 6 p.m. mass. It will be a chance to welcome our president for 2019 Tim Lynch. There will be a social to follow. Please bring a dessert to share.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE MOVEMENT:

1. WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE! Have you moved? Did your email change?? Has your phone number changed??? Did you switch parishes???? Do you know someone who is not receiving the Newsletter????? If you answered yes to any of these please contact the office and update your info. The office is open Mon- Fr. 10-3. The number 814-824-1119 feel free to leave a message on off hours. You can also email updates to office@eriecursillo.org. There is also a contact us link on the Website that you can fill out that comes right to the office.
2. WE HAVE ALMOST REACHED OUR GOAL of **55,000**. We are currently at **53,901.61**. We would like to thank all those that have given generously so far. We are hoping that with the Christmas spirit we may hit and exceed our goal. We are so close if you could help us in this season of giving it will go a long way. We are truly excited about this opportunity so that we may continue to bring people to Christ through Cursillo. Is there any money better spent than on bringing Christ into someone's life? De Colores!

Fr. Dan's Comments:



LinkedIn and LockedOut

Especially at this time of the year I savor the most memorable Christmas card message of my life time: it read simply, "Jesus is the Father's answer to all human misery." A conversation I had with two Cursillistas, one of whom lost her job four months ago, brought this to mind. Let me say here that I was confused by her lack of employment because she has been so successful in her career. Why a company would not immediately consider her skills to be an asset and hire her is beyond me. I told her so. Priests, as you know, are at times far removed from the reality of life outside Church environs. Citing LinkedIn™, she patiently explained to this slow-learner that social media is a way of "cutting to the chase." Wikipedia lists the following description: **LinkedIn is a business and employment-oriented service that operates via websites and mobile apps...[LI] allows members (both workers and employers) to create profiles and "connections" to each other in an online social network which may represent real-world professional relationships... intended to build trust among the service's members.**

It took me 15 minutes of listening and the patience of the couple before I finally understood that social media has become a way of engaging in a relationship(s) without all the work and the risk involved in developing them; instant gratification, trust without risk. They went on to explain that businesses have come to rely upon links to suppliers and customers to conduct business without the cost of maintaining the personal touch. When was the last time you called a business and did not have to go through the call-router? In reality, being LinkedIn (and other social media as well) is being LockedOut of the personal contact which enables the nurturing relationship that satisfies souls. This is very

contrary to the sentiment I found so appealing in the Christmas card; Jesus is God with a face. How much more personal can God be with us?

This is not a diatribe against social media. It has a place in our culture. Rather this is my impersonation of John the Baptist who said, "I am 'the voice of one crying out in the desert'" (Jn. 1: 23). We're starving emotionally and spiritually while passing through the aisles of incredible sufficiency because love and hope grow within relationships that accept risk as part of life. What is missing in social media is the sustenance that personal relationships give. We've become disposable, disconnected from the messy, inefficient and expensive relationships that define the difference between a sterile tomb and a messy, lived-in home. Thank you God for choosing the latter.

The difference between passively awaiting Christmas (while being preoccupied with shopping, baking, decorating) until the celebration of the Redeemer's birth and actively awaiting his coming again is this; the kingdom is here. We're one jump ahead of the Baptist because our shopping, baking and decorating is not the preview of what is to come, but rather the unfolding of what already is.

Giving into the temptation to "e-connect" as a way of avoiding the risk of love puts you on a path to isolation and disconnection from love. When it comes to love, mailing it in doesn't work.

I believe you are glad that the Father did not do that.

I hope you have a very, merry Christmas!

Fr. Dan

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! May God Bless you and his favor be upon you in the upcoming year.

De Colores from

Paul Tettis (President), Tim Lynch (Vice-President), Rick Sklandanowski (Sunday Coordinator) Janet Chandley (Office Manager) and Msgr. Dan Arnold (Spiritual Director)

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