

February 2024 Newsletter

MAKE A FRIEND, BE A FRIEND, BRING A FRIEND TO CHRIST.



Due to an unfortunate accident and injury, we need a Troubadour for Women's Cursillo # 261 at Our Lady of Mercy on April 5-7.
Contact the office if interested.

ULTREYA

Crawford County
St. Hippolyte Church
March 8, 2024, at 7 pm

Erie County
Our Lady of Mercy
April 12, 2024, at 7:00 pm

Elk County
To be announced

2024 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President:
Steve and Deb Patterson

Vice President:
Mike and Deb Tarbell

Sunday Coordinator:
Tom and Kathy Pearson

First Past President:
Jeff and Lily Hickin

2024 CURSILLOS

Our Lady of Mercy:
Women # 261 on April 5-7

Elk County:
Men # 254 on June 20-23

Crawford County:
Women # 262 August 9-11
@ Our Lady of Mercy

Our Lady of Mercy:
Men # 255 on October 18-20

Welcome to 2024. Please review all the presented information in this newsletter as several changes within the movement have resulted from the January Executive officer meeting, January Finance Council Meeting, and January Secretariat Meeting.

We are blessed by the collaborative efforts and "out of the box" thinking of all who share their time and talents as consultive members of the important committees within the Erie Diocese Cursillo Movement.

As we journey forward, please keep us all in your prayers. We continue to face change as our efforts to keep the movement alive become our focus. The fruit of our labor in 2024 will play a major role in the planning for the future.

**"THE GREATER DANGER FOR MOST OF US LIES NOT IN SETTING OUR AIM TOO HIGH AND FALLING SHORT, BUT IN SETTING OUR AIM TOO LOW AND ACHIEVING OUR MARK."
-MICHELANGELO**

2024 Cursillo Fund Drive

Because of your support over the years, our Cursillo movement has led thousands of people to a new life in Christ.

Think back to how energized you were after your Cursillo weekend.

Cursillo needs your support in three matters. We need your time and talent to work a team, your commitment to sponsor a family member or friend to make a Cursillo, and your financial support.

A onetime gift, or a monthly recurring donation of \$10.00, \$20.00, \$25.00, or \$50.00 each month, will help us move Cursillo into its next 60 years.

If you need help with donation questions or concerns, contact the Cursillo office, or any of the officers.

God Bless and DeColores!
Steve Patterson Cursillo President 2024

Event times for Cursillo Weekends

Weekend set up in Harborcreek: 6:00 PM on the Wednesday prior to the weekend.

Friday registration:

8:00 am Welcome and Continental Breakfast

8:30 am Sponsors depart.

Saturday:

7:00 pm Serenade / DINNER / Chorale

9:00 pm Holy Hour / Serenade

Sunday closing schedule:

1:25 pm **BREAK IN** (Sunday Liturgy)

1:35 pm Sunday Liturgy

2:30 pm **CLOSING**

The Cursillo Group FACEBOOK Page is the best source of Social Media information about the movement along with the Cursillo Web Page.

Ctrl/Click on the link for the FACEBOOK page to join the group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/eriecursillo>

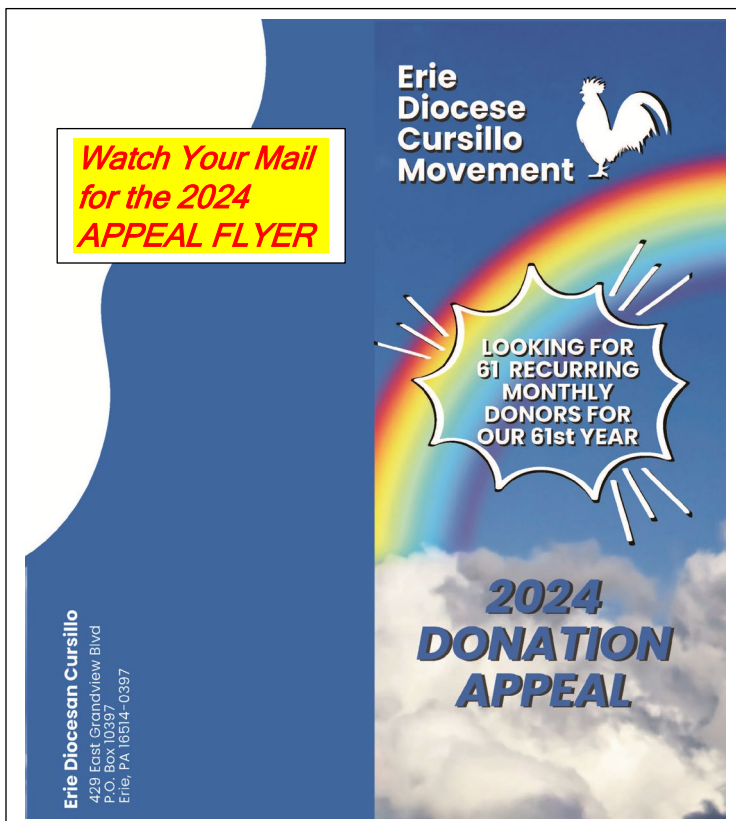
Cursillo Web Page: <https://eriecursillo.org/>

Cursillo Team Members Women's # 261

Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek, PA

April 4-7, 2024

Co-Spiritual Director	Fr. Tom Brown
Co-Spiritual Director	Deacon Paul Barko
Co-Spiritual Director	Deacon Denis Coan
Rector	Kathy Pearson
Assistant Rector	Cheryl Krolczyk
Chief Steward	Maggie Santiago
Steward	Laura Merritt
Steward	Jessica Ahlschlager
Steward	Julie Wittman
Steward	Sue Gluvna
Auxiliary	Kimberly Chase
Auxiliary	Alice Ballentine
Auxiliary	Linda Russell
Auxiliary	Brenda Evan
Troubadour Steward	Unfilled position Anyone interested?



Candidates for Women's # 261 CURSILLO as of 2/16/2024

April 5-7, 2024, at Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek

Candidate Name	Sponsor	Parish
Diane Ahlschlager	Darlene Williams	St. Patrick
Julie Brieger	Magdalena Santiago	St. Mark
Jane Culmer	Angie Felicity	Beloved Disciple (Grove City)
Carrie A. Galbreath	Irene Lucas	Our Lady of Mercy
Laurie Hogan	None indicated	St. Boniface
Janet E. Jawdy	Sue Gluvna	St. Thomas the Apostle (Corry)
Susann E. Lacey	Michelle Peck	Our Lady of Peace
Jane Mallin	Irene Lucas	Our Lady of Mercy
Karolina Niedobecka	Kathy Pearson	None
Katie Young	Mary Beth Whitman	Sacred Heart

From our Finance Council & Executive Committee:

Following a discussion and yearend review at the January 2024 meeting, the recommendation of the Executive officers, a directive by the Cursillo Finance Committee, meetings with the Erie Diocese Finance Department, a meeting with the Assistant Manager of the Bank of Northwest, and a review of best practices for accounting with non-profit agencies, the following changes have been recommended to the Cursillo movement in terms of fiscal management and fiduciary responsibility.

- 1. All individual county checking accounts need to be merged into the Erie Diocese Cursillo checking account to provide the movement with a precise accounting of expenditures and revenue throughout the Diocese of Erie.*
- 2. Our Quick Book accounting system will establish account ledgers (CLASSES) for each county listing individual revenue and expenditures.*
- 3. All expenditures throughout the diocese will be paid by the signatory of the Erie Diocese Cursillo Movement through the Cursillo office and in line with the process for reimbursements as defined in the Cursillo By-Laws.*
- 4. Each County will receive Erie Diocese Cursillo Bank Deposit slips for deposit of any funds collected through various social or county activities.*
- 5. A Debit/Credit card will be issued to one county coordinator to provide access to Cursillo funds as needed for events, supplies, and mailings.*
- 6. Financial status on County classifications will be available each quarter following combined Finance Council and Executive Officer meetings which will include all county coordinators.*
- 7. All Cursillo weekend expenses will be paid by the Erie Diocese office regardless of location.*
- 8. Tax exempt information will be provided as needed for expenses incurred.*

We are "ONE DIOCESE MOVEMENT, NOT A COUNTY-BY-COUNTY MOVEMENT," and the hope is that we can unite in this and other activities which will be discussed in the upcoming Newsletters.

From our January 2024 Secretariat Meeting:

- *The new accounting change will decrease the amount of effort and responsibility of local Cursillistas while maintaining the same availability of funds for all county activities. We are hoping that the 2024 Fund Drive will include donations from all diocese members, so we are able to maintain the funding for county newsletters and other Cursillo activities that you are so good at planning and conducting.*
- *The next newsletter will be the first of combined newsletters from all the counties that wish to be included. We are moving to a QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER that will be available through E-mail, posted on the Cursillo Website, available by link on the Cursillo Group Facebook Page, and available by mail to those who do not have access to electronic communication. Pat Espin has stepped up to manage the Newsletters for 2024. The office will be contacting the hard copy recipients to again reduce our volume and cost of hard copy mailing and update email addresses for inclusion in our e-mail data bases. We will also incorporate the use of Crawford and Elk County e-mail lists to distribute information to all. Please assist us by responding to Vicky while she is updating census information.*

Updates to Cursillo weekend teams and candidates will be emailed and posted separately from the quarterly newsletters.

- **Erie County Ultreyas** will also now be held on a Quarterly Basis. Deacon Paul Barko is the coordinator of the Erie Ultreyas. Location and times will be posted as schedules are finalized. Our next Erie Ultreya will be on April 12 @ 7:00 pm at Our Lady of Mercy. **E-mail blasts will be sent to all to announce the upcoming Ultreyas.**
- 2024 FUND DRIVE flyers will be sent near the beginning of March.
- The current Secretariat openings include:
 - Finance Council members from other counties*
 - Men's advisor to Auxiliaries and GR*
 - Erie County Set Up committee chair and or committee*
 - Saturday evening serenade and chorale coordinator*
 - Erie Ultreya Music coordinator*

Contact Deacon Tom if you are interested in any of these positions.

- *We are looking for interested Cursillistas who would like to be part of a committee to assess and redevelop the schedule and activities for Cursillos in 2025. The goals are to reach a new and younger demographic, increase our levels of participation with team and candidates, reduce the days involved in a Cursillo weekend, work in conjunction with pastoral planning and restructuring to develop vibrant small communities within the new parish configurations, and re-ignite the passion for Cursillo and lay ministry that we all experienced following our weekends. Meetings will include both ZOOM and in person interactions and thinking out of the box as collaborative committee members will be our mission.*

Contact Deacon Tom or the Office if you are interested in this adventure.

Our ministry and participation levels in 2024 will determine the future of the movement in 2025.