

February 2025 Newsletter

Upcoming Cursillo:

What: Men's Cursillo #255
When: February 21-23
Where: Our Lady of Mercy in Harborcreek

Team

Name	Role
Fr. Rich Toohey	Co-Spiritual Director
Fr. Ray Hahn	Co-Spiritual Director
Deacon Ralph DeCecco	Co-Spiritual Director
Mike McLaughlin	Rector
Steve Patterson	Assistant Rector
Joe Tarquinio	Chief Steward
Pete Piotrowski	Steward
Eric Ballentine	Steward/Professor
Dave Bartkowiak	Steward
Scott Barnes	Steward/Professor
Pat Espin	Steward
Pavel Goncharov	Steward
Mark Rose	Auxiliary
Andy Heinlein	Auxiliary/Professor
Joe Rys	Auxiliary
Rick Skladanowski	Auxiliary/Professor
Mike Cross	Auxiliary
Howie Richards	Auxiliary
John Pontoriero	Co-Troubadour
Charles Cochran	Co-Troubadour

Candidates

#	Name	Parish	Sponsor
1	Jonathan Ahlgren Spartansburg, PA	Maria House Project	Joe Tarquinio
2	William Amann Jr. Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Mike McLaughlin
3	James Banister Spartansburg, PA	Maria House Project	Joe Tarquinio
4	Daniel Barbero Erie, PA	St. Marks, Erie	Mike Cross

5	Jason Brendel Spartansburg, PA	Maria House Project	Joe Tarquinio
6	Earl (Tex) Brieger Erie, PA	St. Mark, Erie	Julie Brieger
7	David Butler Spartansburg, PA	Maria House Project	Joe Tarquinio
8	Caleb Casey Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Andy Heinlein
9	Donald Chiodo Edinboro, PA	None listed	Dave Bartkowiak
10	Joshua Cooney Allegany, NY	St. Raphael, Eldred PA	Jerry Mitchell
11	Lawrence (Larry) Daley Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Scott Barnes
12	William (Bill) Dean Falconer, NY	Our Lady of Loreto, Falconer	Dave Bartkowiak
13	Nathan (Nate) Demarest Erie, PA	St. Jude, Erie	Dave Slubowski
14	Michael Elder St Marys, PA	Sacred Heart, St. Marys, PA	Peter Lion
15	Tom Falconer Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Pete Piotrowski
16	Anthony Fitch Spartansburg, PA	Maria House Project	Philip Edwards
17	Brevin Flowers Erie, PA	NONE LISTED	Andy Heinlein
18	Michael Giammarise Erie, PA	None listed	Mike McLaughlin
19	Charles Giuffre Jamestown, NY	St. James Jamestown, NY	Dave Bartkowiak
20	Skyler Gore Frewsburg, NY	Catholic Neighbors in Faith, Jamestown, NY	Dave Bartkowiak
21	Joe Karpinski Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Dennis Deiner
22	Angus Keppel Spartansburg, PA	Maria House Project	Joe Tarquinio
23	Donovan Kozar Spartansburg, PA	Maria House Project	Joe Tarquinio
24	Leonard Kuzma Fairview, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Mike McLaughlin
25	Michael (Mike) Liberatore Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Robin Dever-Liberatore
26	Mike Lotz Waterford, PA	All Saints, Waterford	Mark Rose
27	Robert Miller Erie, PA	None	Bill Kauffman
28	Jason Pamula	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Mike McLaughlin

	Erie, PA		
29	William Potter Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Pat Espin
30	Charles (Chuck) Reinsel North East, PA	Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek	Tom McAraw
31	Michael Restivo Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Pete Piotrowski
32	Philip (Phil) Schmalzried Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Pete Piotrowski
33	Chris Sirianni Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Mike McLaughlin
34	Joseph (Joe) Sparks Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Eric Ballentine
35	Joseph (Joe) Villella Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Rick Lopez
36	Doug Wingenbach Fairview, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Larry Heinlein
37	Edward (Eddy) Wyant Erie, PA	Our Lady of Peace, Erie	Scott Barnes

Holy Hour

Saturday, February 22 at 9:00 PM at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Harborcreek

Ultreya

Saturday, March 12 at 6:00 PM at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Harborcreek.

Palanca

Palanca may be dropped off at Saint Mark Catholic Center at 429 East Grandview Blvd, Erie, until Thursday, March 20, 2024, at 3:00 pm. Palanca should be brought to Our Lady of Mercy after that time.

Update from Cursillo Spiritual Director Deacon Paul Barko

De Colores and a Blessed 2025.

As we journey forward in this Jubilee Year of Hope, let's take a moment to look back and count the blessings of 2024 and thank God for all He has given us.

There are many people that need to be recognized for their outstanding service to the movement, and I would like to share my sincere thanks to Diane Dougan who served as interim office manager in 2024. Diane's dedication to the staff and to the movement is nothing short of exemplary. Diane

will be stepping down as Office Manager shortly and Debbie Patterson will be stepping in to help us streamline our operations.

I would also like to thank Steve Patterson, our 2024 President for his dedicated service to the movement and for all his passion and continued pursuit of bringing people to Christ. Steve isn't stopping there as he is already on the team for the Men's Cursillo in February.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Secretariat who gave so faithfully of their time in 2024 and to those who are staying in their leadership positions in 2025. The Secretariat is posted on our website, and for anyone who may be interested in any of our open positions, please let us know in the office as soon as you can.

We are all very optimistic about 2025 and the joy that we will be spreading to so many people. All of our Cursillo dates are outlined on the website, and we are diligently working to fill all of our teams as soon as possible. (Feb and March are filled) If you would like to work a team, please fill out an application form from the website and submit it as soon as possible.

Please start recruiting candidates for all of our Cursillos. The sooner we receive the candidate applications; the sooner we can get them processed. It's up to us to do Gods' work for Him and He is counting on us to persevere.

God is counting on us to continue the great work that we are doing. Don't ever feel afraid to pursue God's work. Trust in God and let Him lead you. He will lead you to places you never thought you were capable of seeing.

I ask for your prayers and prayers for the entire staff as we move forward bringing the Good News of Christ to all we meet.

De Colores and God Bless You all.

Deacon Paul

Diocesan Spiritual Director

Upcoming Events

Date	Event Information
February 21-23	Men's Curillo #255 , Erie
March 12	Ultreya – Our Lady of Mercy , Harborcreek
March 21-23	Understanding the Human Person , St. Marys
March 21-23	Women's Cursillo #263 , Harborcreek
June 13-15	Women's Cursillo #264 , Elk County
July 18-20	Men's Cursillo #256 , Crawford County hosted in Erie
October 17-19	Women's Cursillo #265 , Harborcreek