

Diocese of Kalamazoo

November ~ 2017

Newsletter



A Fall FULL of Blessings!

It has been a busy fall and an amazing time for the Kalamazoo Cursillo! In October we had our first "Rekindle the Fire" a Cursillo Reunion event. About 40 Cursillistas enjoyed the hospitality of Sacred Heart Parish in Silver Creek. We sang Cursillo songs around the campfire, feasted on good food and fellowship, reflected on the gifts we must treasure as Catholics and how the plan of the Cursillo embraces these gifts and qualifies us as true evangelizers. We closed the evening with a candlelit, musically lead time of adoration in the beautiful Church on the hill.

Mid October we were approached with the idea of looking into a new location for the weekends...we found the Amigo Center! By late October we became aware that a new location was a must due to some families needing to live in the St. Joseph Convent. We booked the Amigo Center! In all honesty, it became quite clear that God provided for us and the families! Praise God!



November was filled with the final preparations for the Women's Weekend! 25 candidates and 22 team members bonded as sisters very quickly! Lead by the Holy Spirit through Erica Santiago, they all fell in love with Jesus and our Spiritual Director Fr. Hyman. Wow what an amazing weekend! Cursillo 68 was filled with so many blessings and even a miracle! The Amigo Center proved to be a perfect location for our Cursillo weekend.

We welcome our new Cursillistas!....Sarah Bailey – St Anthony, **Colleen Brosnan** – Sacred Heart of Mary (SHM), **Betteanne Burnham** – St Augustine, **Diane Chancey** – SHM, **Kristine Collins** – St John-Bernard, **Janet Cox** – SHM, **Nancy Crowl** – SHM, **Therese Guntz** – Immaculate Conception, **Amy Hackman** – Holy Angels (HA), **Cynthia Hitson** – SHM, **Katy Holtz** – HA, **Jeanne Imach** – St. Joseph, St. Joe (SJSJ), **Angela Jasunas** – SHM, **Ann Keely** – St Augustine, **Maureen Kuriata** – SHM, **Alisha McKinney** – SHM, **Joanne Petropoulos**, St Catherine of Sienna, **Pam Ryder** – HA, **Melissa Schultz** – SHM, **Eileen Shue** – SHM, **Susan Szymczak** – SHM, **Cathie Thomasma** – HA, **Theresa Willson** – SJSJ, **Christina Woerdehoff** – Our Lady Queen of Peace and **Sheryl Yesh** - HA

Cursillo 68 Special Thanks...

Thank you to the 22 members of TEAM #68 for saying YES to Christ! Guided by the **Holy Spirit**, **Rectora Erika Santiago**, **Asst. Rectora Grace Richards**, and the spiritual direction of **Father Dan Hyman**, this weekend was truly a "Special Encounter with Christ"!

To all those who prepared and served food, set-up/clean-up, and the countless other odd jobs during the weekend...DeColores!

Praises to ALL for Palanca...

Thank you to all English and Spanish Cursillistas who offered Palanca for the Women's English Weekend. The great weekend proves the power of your prayer and sacrifice. Please continue to offer Palanca for weekends throughout the world and for upcoming weekends in our own Diocese. Follow this link to stay in tune with all Cursillo weekends throughout the world.

<https://www.natl-cursillo.org/palanca-requests/>

New Logo and Banner...Share Cursillo!

After a summer of presentations, our Pre-Cursillo team said we needed some signage to help people know the word Cursillo and about the Cursillo plan! We hope you like what we've come up with! The heading of this newsletter incorporates the banner design (upper right).

Ultreya...Don't Miss It!
Sunday, December 3rd,
2:00pm St. Thomas-More
Kalamazoo

Come welcome our newest
Cursillista's from Cursillo #68

Check out Men's Team #69 – page 2

We must not slow down or stop praying! Team #69 begins Formation NOW!

Plans and preparations have already been underway for our **Men's Cursillo Weekend February 22-25, 2018**. Rector **Bob Matkin** and Assistant Rector **Mike Metzger** have 19 men who have answered the call and said "YES" to serve the Lord on Team 69!!! They will gather together next Saturday to begin their formation process. Please keep these men in your prayers. **Father Dan Hyman-Spiritual Advisor, Bob Matkin-Rector, Mike Metzger-Asst. Rector, Eric Baker, Andy Boyd, Jeff Chancey, Mike Collins, Dave Garwood, Anthony Gettig, Keith Keyser, Jim Lewis, Mitch Martin, Ted Petropolus, Bernie Panone, Bob Rolek, Jeff Swett, Bob Trocke, Gar Wood and Dick Yesh.**



Make a Friend, Be a Friend and Bring that Friend to Christ... Sponsor a candidate NOW!

Twenty-five women attended the Cursillo in November. **The challenge is on...** The Amigo Centre has room for 30 men in February. Do your part by sharing the gift you were given with someone else. **Christ is counting on YOU!** **Tips to remember...** Pray, invite, pray some more, invite again (as often as it takes to win the battle against Satan). Review the application with your candidate, answer their questions and assist them in filling out the application. Help them to understand this is a weekend with Jesus, a whole weekend, beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday and concluding at 6 p.m. on Sunday. It is most effective to invite more than one person from a parish so they can enjoy grouping together after the weekend. Remember...the Cursillo is just another weekend retreat if there is no group to support the NEW you! Our Pre-Cursillo Team is willing to come and support you by helping to give a presentation to your parish. Please contact Jeff Chancey @ jeff.chancey@kendallelectric.com

GoFundGod!

As Christians, we are called to evangelize and bring others to Christ. Cursillistas have been given a gift and a plan to do this through our Cursillo weekends. Thank you to so many who have already made their tax deductible donation to our movement. If you have not yet done so, we ask that you remember the Kalamazoo English Cursillo in your end-of-year charitable donations so that God can continue to use us to do His work. Checks can be made payable to the Diocese of Kalamazoo with English Cursillo on the memo line. Send to our Treasurer:

Diana Godish
1431 Northampton Rd.
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

A Reunion Group is a Gift for YOU!



All Cursillistas need a Reunion Group! We must each invite, help start, encourage, and pray for one another! If you have not found a group yet, please contact: **Mike Metzger or Sharon Matkin**...contact info listed below on 2017 Secretariat. We want you to enjoy the gift of a lifetime!



- **December 3rd** – Ultreya, 2:00 p.m. St. Thomas More, Kalamazoo
- **Januray 14th** – Ultreya, 2:00 p.m. St. Thomas More, Kalamazoo
- **February 22-25, 2018** – Men's English Cursillo, Amigo Centre, Sturgis

2017 Secretariat

Sharon Matkin, Lay Director srmatkin@gmail.com
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