

## The Picnic Is Coming! The Picnic Is Coming!



**Hey Boo Boo,  
“Did you Hear about the July Cursillo Picnic?  
It’s going to be lots of Fun!”**

Our annual July 20<sup>th</sup> Cursillo Picnic will be held at the St. Joseph Parish Rose Center in St. Joseph, MI

We are planning on an afternoon of family fun with activities, **including a Corn Hole Tournament** (winning team gets (2) tickets to the Kalamazoo Growlers “Cursillo Night” game on August 7<sup>th</sup>) and **Cursillo B-I-N-G-O!**

Bonus: There will be a **guided church tour** of the newly remodeled St. Joseph Catholic Church, one of the (5) Jubilee pilgrimage sites in the Diocese of Kalamazoo, which will begin at 2:45 pm.

**Cursillo will provide Hot Dogs and Pulled Pork, Water and Coffee feel free to bring your own non-alcoholic beverages.**

**Please bring a dish to pass:**  
**(A-K) Salads and Side Dishes**  
**(L-Z) Fruits and Desserts**

**When:** July 20<sup>th</sup> 1:00 – 5:00 pm

**Where:** St. Joseph Parish Rose Center  
301 Wayne St.  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Please bring your family and... and feel free to bring **A friend** or potential candidate, this is a great time where they can experience the **JOY** of Cursillo and the **FRUIT** of Cursillo, which is...our Reunion Groups!

Please RSVP to [kalamazoo.palanca@gmail.com](mailto:kalamazoo.palanca@gmail.com) before July 11, 2025



**Live It!**

## Upcoming Events

### Candle Fundraiser

Date: Now until End of Year  
(See Details on pages (7- 9 )

### Book Study – Jesus and the Jubilee

Tues. 7/15/25 (See Details on Page 4)  
Contact Sharon Matkin 269-689-9087  
Or [srmatkin@gmail.com](mailto:srmatkin@gmail.com)

### Cursillo Picnic

Sun. 7/20/25 – 1:00 - 5:00 pm  
St. Joseph Parish Rose Center  
220 Church St.  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

### Kalamazoo Growlers Game

Thurs. August 7, 2025 - 6:35 PM  
Kalamazoo, MI (See flier page 2)

### Kalamazoo Diocese Jubilee

#### Cursillo Mass

August 24, 2025 – 2:00 PM  
St. Augustine Cathedral, Kalamazoo  
(Flyer on Page 5)

### Women’s Cursillo #80

October 16-19, 2025  
Amigo Center, Sturgis (See Flier Page 6)

### Men’s Cursillo #80

February 26 – March 1, 2026  
Amigo Center, Sturgis

## Join Our Prayer Line on Facebook!

This is a **Private Group** for **ONLY** Kalamazoo Diocese Cursillistas. Join on Facebook at the following link for the invitation to join our prayer-line

<https://kalamazoocursillo.com/prayer-line>

If you need help or have any questions, please contact:

Eric Baker – [ericbaker1958@gmail.com](mailto:ericbaker1958@gmail.com)  
Beverly Stevens – [tootie003@gmail.com](mailto:tootie003@gmail.com)

**REMEMBER THE POWER OF PRAYER  
IS STRONG**

July 2025



## TAKE ME OUT TO THE OLD BALL GAME!



Are you ready for some baseball? The Kalamazoo Growlers will be hosting the Kalamazoo Cursillo at the ballpark on Thursday, August 7th and we are inviting **ALL** cursillistas to bring your family, bring your friend, invite perspective candidates to come and enjoy a fun evening at the ballpark!

### **Kalamazoo Growlers vs Royal Oak Leprechauns At Mayor's Riverfront Park**

**Date:** Thursday, August 7th

**Gates Open:** 5:30 pm

**First Pitch:** 6:35 pm

#### **Seating in the Pepsi Grandstand (210 GA)**

**Cost: \$15.00 p/p Reserved Bleacher ticket including a Growler Hat  
picked up at Guest Services**

**Or**

**Purchase \$25.00 Bleacher Buffet to include ALL-You-Can Eat Food and drink  
from 5:35 -7:35 pm**

\*(Hat not included in this promo)

### **HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS!**

Scan the QR Code or visit

[growlertickets.com](http://growlertickets.com)

enter Promotions:

**Cursillo**

to access our group  
tickets access.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE  
GAME!



JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OUT AT THE BALLPARK!

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 7**

GROWLERS VS. ROYAL OAK LEPRECHAUNS

FIRST PITCH 6:35 PM GATES OPEN: 5:35 PM

#### **WHAT'S INCLUDED?**



Seating in the Pepsi  
Grandstand!



FREE Growlers Hat!  
(\$15 Ticket)



Purchase Bleacher Buffet  
(\$25 Ticket) for Food and  
Drink Included!



#### **HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS**

Scan the QR Code or visit  
[growlertickets.com](http://growlertickets.com) and enter Promotion:  
**Cursillo** to access your group tickets page

SCAN HERE!



QUESTIONS? | BRANDON CAMP | 269.492.7965 | [BRANDON@GROWLERSBASEBALL.COM](mailto:BRANDON@GROWLERSBASEBALL.COM)

## KALAMAZOO DIOCESE JUBILEE CURSILLO MASS

### LET'S CELEBRATE THIS SPECIAL MASS TOGETHER!

On Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 pm the Diocese of Kalamazoo Cursillo, English and Spanish cursillistas will join together to celebrate the Kalamazoo Diocese Jubilee Cursillo Mass at St. Augustine in Kalamazoo. A Reception will follow in the Crowley Center.

We are looking for cursillistas to bake cookies for the reception, please contact Marie Koole at:

[mariebkoole@yahoo.com](mailto:mariebkoole@yahoo.com)



## Reunion Group Highlight



### Cursillo Zoom Group and Men's Bible Study Group "The GODfellas"

St Joseph Parish, St. Joseph, Michigan

Zoom Grouping Meets: Tuesday at 6:45 am until finished on Zoom.

Host Jeff Chancey. Members: Eric Baker, Kevin Russell, Mike Doherty (Traverse City), John Spear (North Carolina), Mike Marino (Richland), Jeff Chancey (Ave Maria, Florida) and Silver Creek/Dowagiac, Michigan), Mike Metzger, John Martin, Mike Cronauer, Deacon Ed Nickel, Erick Diaz.

GODfellas (Men's Bible Study Group)

Meets: Thursday at 6:30 am – 7:30 am in person and via Zoom at Saint Joseph South.

Most Recent Apostolic Action: Distributed 550 copies of "33 Days to Eucharistic Glory" throughout the 4 parishes in our collaborative at all Christmas Masses.

Current GODfellas Study: The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, presented by That Man is You (TMIY).

Names are next to each photo

**Matthew 18:20: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."**

★ Please send in a photo of your group, along with a summary, names, meeting day and time, to Beverly Stevens [tootie003@gmail.com](mailto:tootie003@gmail.com)  
Also, if you are looking for a group to join, we can help you find a group that works for you! Please contact Mike Metzger [mlm1976nd@gmail.com](mailto:mlm1976nd@gmail.com)

Don't forget the **Reunion Group Challenge**. Each Group is challenged to bring (2) candidates to Cursillo. Love living the 4<sup>th</sup> Day!



## Summer Book Study - Jesus and the Jubilee

### “Jesus and the JUBILEE”

The Biblical roots of the Year of God's Favor

Jubilee means joy—a joy that's not fleeting, a joy that lasts.

In biblical times, a jubilee was a time to rejoice. And this is still the case when the Church announces a jubilee.

In *Jesus and the Jubilee*, biblical scholar John Bergsma gets to the roots of the jubilee, showing how this practice was established in order to preserve freedom, family, and the fullness of God's blessing for the ancient Israelites.

But what the Israelites were promised by God—and experienced partially—was truly fulfilled by Jesus.

As *Jesus and the Jubilee* reveals, the Catholic Church is the perpetual jubilee, offering redemption, release from spiritual bondage, return to our true home and family, and rest in God's fullness.

Discover how the jubilee is the very center of Jesus's mission and how we can fully participate in this ongoing “year of favor.”

Contact: Sharon Matkin @ [srmatkin@gmail.com](mailto:srmatkin@gmail.com) or Cell # 269-689-9087

Note: While you are reading the book it would be a great time to light our “Year of Hope Prayer Candle”!

### READING PLAN

**JESUS and the JUBILEE**  
The Biblical roots of the Year of God's Favor



July 15 to July 22	Introduction – Our Need for Jubilee Chapter 1 – Back to the Garden: Creation as the Model of the Jubilee Chapter 2 – The First Jubilee	Pages 1-7 Pages 9-17 Pages 19-29
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Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Online Discussion – 7 PM via Microsoft Teams

July 23 to July 29	Chapter 3 – Laws of Liberation: The Structure That Sustains Freedom Chapter 4 – Liberty Lost and Regained (Foreword): The Call and the Jubilee Laws Chapter 5 – Jubilee in Theory...and Practice: Did the Israelites Actually Observe the Jubilee?	Pages 31-37 Pages 39-47 Pages 49-59
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Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup> – Online Discussion – 7 p.m. via Microsoft Teams

July 30 to August 5	Chapter 6 – Miracle at Qumran: Hard Evidence for the Jubilee Chapter 7 – A Year of Favor: The Coming of Christ, the New Melchizedek Chapter 8 – Freedom from Sin: Liberating Power of Confession	Pages 61-69 Pages 71-87 Pages 89-107
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Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> – Online Discussion – 7 p.m. via Microsoft Teams

August 6 to August 12	Chapter 9 – Perpetual Jubilee: A Spirit-Led Lifestyle of Liberty and Liturgy (Conclusion): Concomitant: The Heart of Jubilee (Epilogue): The Jubilee and Me	Pages 109-133 Pages 135-137 Pages 139-152
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Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> – Online Discussion – 7 p.m. via Microsoft Teams

Check out these video interviews with author John S Bergsma about why we need a jubilee.  
<https://www.cursillo.org/YouTube>  
<https://www.cursillo.org/YouTube>

Order book from Amazon for \$17.95

[www.bknbooks.com](http://www.bknbooks.com)



### Open Mike



The heat of summer has arrived, and with it a full agenda of Cursillo activities, designed to bring everyone closer to each other and Christ, and to bring others to Christ:

1. **Cursillo Picnic** - Sunday July 20, St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph RoseCenter, 301 Wayne Street, from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. There will be a tour of the newly remodeled church, one of the 5 Jubilee pilgrimage sites in our Diocese. Families, friends and potential candidates are welcome!
2. **Cursillo Night at the Ballpark** – Kalamazoo Growler's Baseball Game on August 7. Gates open at 5:35 pm, game at 6:35 pm. Bring a friend!
3. **Cursillo Jubilee Mass** - St. Augustine Cathedral, August 24, 2025, at 2:00 pm

I would love to see a big turnout for all of these events. Bring a friend and let them see and experience the friendship, love, and joy of the Cursillo Community, so they can say “YES” when you invite them to attend the next Women's or Men's weekend. De Colores!



Mike Metzger,  
Lay Coordinator, English Cursillo

**DeColores!**

## COME AND OBTAIN A JUBILEE INDULGENCE!

BISHOP LOHSE HAS DESIGNATED THE FOLLOWING AS DIOCESAN JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE SITES

St. Mary Parish, Marshall – Mass with Bishop Lohse Fri. August 15<sup>th</sup>

St. Augustine Cathedral, Kalamazoo = Mass with Bishop Lohse Thur. August 28<sup>th</sup>

Sacred Heart of Mary, Dowagiac (Silver Creek) – Mass with Bishop Lohse Mon. September 8<sup>th</sup>

St. Therese of Lisieux, Wayland – Mass with Bishop Lohse Wed. October 1<sup>st</sup>

St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph – Mass with Bishop Lohse TBD

How to Obtain a Jubilee Indulgence for 2025, click on the following link:

[Obtaining a Jubilee Indulgence in 2025](#)



**KALAMAZOO DIOCESE  
ENGLISH/SPANISH  
JUBILEE CURSILLO MASS**

LET'S CELEBRATE THIS SPECIAL  
MASS TOGETHER

 Along with  
Cursillo Bishop Lohse 

Sunday, August 24, 2025  
at 2:00 PM

St. Augustine Cathedral  
542 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo,  
MI 49007

Reception to follow in the Crowley Center  
with Music, Cookies, salty snacks, water,  
lemonade and coffee.

Come join us for this Jubilee Year  
Celebration!



Contact: Amy Hackman 269-625-1512 or  
Marie Koole 269-506-3636 or  
Michael Metzger 269-849-5453

**Ladies...**

## **LIVE a Cursillo Weekend!!!**

Supported by the Pope, Bishops and Priests throughout the world, a three-day Cursillo weekend helps you experience your Catholic faith more fully. It will motivate you to engage in a spiritual life filled with joy, laughter and enthusiasm.

Cursillo also provides a method for you to sustain a life close to Christ! Discover an enhanced relationship with God. Discussions led by a team of Catholic lay people and Spiritual Advisors will emphasize:

- ❖ The meaning of Grace and the Sacraments
- ❖ The need for prayer and scripture to strengthen our union with God

**WOMEN'S WEEKEND: OCT 16-19, 2025**

**AMIGO CENTRE, 26455 Banker St, Sturgis, MI 49091**

Scan code for



application



## *Candle fundraiser*

De Colores Cursillista Friends,

Here we go...our first-ever fundraiser for the Cursillo of the Diocese of Kalamazoo, the **Year of Hope Prayer Candle!!!** This fundraiser will offer help to defray higher costs of offering a Cursillo Weekend for guests and team. Being a Jubilee Year and “The Year of Hope” our candle can encourage deeper prayer as well as opportunities for apostolic action to offer Hope!

We’re offering the beautiful Hope Prayer Candle (8.5oz) for \$20 and the candle Pilgrim Pack (three 3.5oz candles) for \$24. With over 300 individuals in the Kalamazoo English Cursillo, imagine how close we could get to our goal of raising nearly \$5,000—just by each person selling two candles or packs!

We encourage you to purchase a candle for yourself to enjoy during your prayer time and to have as a sample. But don’t worry—selling is easy, even without a sample, thanks to the attached flyer and QR code. **Use the attached flyer to hang at your parish or send to friends and family, add your own name as the contact! You can take orders and collect money or have them use the QR code and order direct! Details are on the attached order form below.**

The fundraiser will run throughout the year but with the Lenten season upon us, it’s the perfect time to share a little HOPE with everyone we meet, interact with, and pray for. By becoming an active seller, you’re not only spreading hope through these candles, but also raising funds to offer future Cursillo weekends.

Your participation is vital to the success of this fundraiser, and together, we can ensure a bright future for Cursillo within our diocese. We’re counting on you! Let’s make this a meaningful and successful campaign. Thank you for your support! Please do not hesitate to contact Amy Traxler 574-329-3097 or Sharon Matkin 269-689-9087 if you have any questions.

## THE YEAR OF HOPE PRAYER CANDLE



Illuminate your space with the **Cursillo, Diocese of Kalamazoo Year of Hope Prayer Candle**. This hand-poured soy wax candle carries a fresh, airy scent, evoking the peace of a sunrise over the ocean. Created for **Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope**, it features an elegant glass jar and an engraved lid with the Jubilee 2025 logo. A cherished keepsake for pilgrims and prayer warriors, its gentle glow serves as a reminder of faith, renewal, and the boundless hope found in Christ.

**ORDER HERE!**

**\$20**



## YEAR OF HOPE PILGRIM CANDLE PACK SHARE THE LIGHT!



Bring hope to others with this set of three hand-poured soy wax candles, infused with a fresh, airy scent reminiscent of a sunrise over the ocean. Created for **Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope**, each candle comes in a travel-friendly tin. Give one, bring one, keep one—share faith and renewal with others. Light them in prayer and let their glow remind you of the boundless hope in God's love.

**ORDER HERE!**

**\$24**



**This fundraiser will help defray costs so more can attend a Cursillo Weekend -an encounter with Christ!**

**To order, please contact:**



Jubilee 2025 Pilgrim of Hope - Cursillo Candle Fundraiser

"Year of Hope" Prayer Candle in an elegant 10 oz. glass jar with an engraved lid featuring the Jubilee 2025 logo. A cherished keepsake for Pilgrims and Prayer Warriors.



"Year of Hope" Pilgrim Pack - Bring hope to others with this set of 3 hand-poured soy wax candles in travel friendly tins. Give One, Bring One, Keep One and share the boundless hope of God's love.

Name - First/Last, Phone	# Large Candles \$20	# Pilgrim Packs - \$24	Total \$\$	Amt Paid	Amt Owed

Candles are hand-poured 100% soy wax infused with CleanScents (essential oils) offering a fresh airy scent.

Cash & Check orders  
send to Amy Traxler @ 574-329-3097  
amy.traxler@comcast.net

Online Credit Card Orders:



Questions?...Contact Sharon Matkin @ 269-689-9087