

Rooster Crows Winter 2014

NY Cursillo English



A Message from the Spiritual Director

Dear Cursillistas,

A most happy New Year to you all! May the gift of time, which God gives us, be offered back to Him as worthy praise in the coming months.

As you probably know, the month of January is named after the Roman god Janus who was pictured with two heads, one looking back and one looking forward. Perhaps that image mirrors our own feelings as we move into a new year. Part of us wants to hold onto the past and look back to pleasant memories, and part of us, knowing that the future beckons and will not be delayed, is eager to move on and see what blessings lie ahead.

I think Christians care more for the future than for the past. Most of all they care about the present. They have a special attitude toward time and grace. Toward time: they see it as a gift from God. Each moment is a gift. God has created it anew for each one of us. God gives us this moment of time, many moments really, to join Him in the creative act, creating mercy, justice and peace where there was none. Shall we use our moments, our time, to let God perfect His love in us?

Christians also have a special attitude toward grace. They see it as being totally undeserved and life-giving. It is a pure gift from God, this love of His. It transforms us and raises us to a supernatural level. And this gift comes to us each day and each hour and each minute.

There is a beautiful blessing recorded in the Book of Numbers which is always part of the liturgy on January 1. It is said to be among the most ancient texts of the Bible. It is God's wish for us and our wish for each other as we start a new year:

***The Lord bless you and keep you!
The Lord let His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you!
The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!***

Msgr. George Thompson
Spiritual Director

Please visit our Website for the New York Cursillo (English):
www.cursillo.org/newyork

To contact our Webmaster, Joe Lysonski:
<mailto:jlyso@yahoo.com>

Please welcome Tom Kane as the new editor of **Rooster Crows** starting May, 2014.
Forward any contributions for Rooster Crows by email:
mailto:thomas_kane@verizon.net

Message from the Lay Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In Pope Francis' first Apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, His Holiness encourages all of us to be spirit-filled evangelizers:

who are fearlessly open to the working of the Holy Spirit and who have the courage to proclaim the newness of the Gospel with boldness in every time and place, even when it meets with opposition

The Pope's words align so well with our Cursillo evangelical charism which is directed to the person through friendship, telling all in our "square meter" that God in Christ loves us!!

I want to express my thanks to all of you for your understanding and patience as we unite the Archdiocese of New York's Cursillo into one movement of dedicated leaders. In 2013, after over 30 years, we had our first two united weekends, men's #206 and women's #208, successfully led by Gino Lucadamo and Carol Vuoso. We are again planning four weekends this year with teams formed from the whole Archdiocese led by Joe Bisesto, Marianne Rouis, Larry Malone, and Grace Ross. Please begin to do Palanca for their teams and potential candidates.

As we look forward to an exciting, yet challenging year, for our beloved Cursillo movement, I would like to particularly thank Sue Tornatore as she plans with her team of leaders for the opening of the united School of Leaders on June 14, 2014 and every second Saturday thereafter at St. Augustine's in New City. All Cursillistas are invited to attend. Father Bill Cosgrove and Deacon Bill Castellane have kindly consented to be the Spiritual Advisors for the School. And of course, my continued thanks to Monsignor George Thompson, our Spiritual Director, for his guidance and support as we make this transition.

The Pope's exhortation concluded with a prayer to Mary, Mother of Evangelization!

There is a Marian 'style' to the Church's work of evangelization. Whenever we look to Mary, we come to believe once again in the revolutionary nature of love and tenderness.

Please continue to pray for our Movement on the first day of every month.

Wishing you many Blessings in the New Year.

DeColores,
John DeJulio
Lay Director

Women's Weekend #208
Mount Alvernia
October 17-20, 2013
Rectora: Carol Vuoso



Irene Altenburg	Unionville, NY
Josefina Anderson	Yonkers, NY
Aleen Barrington	Yonkers, NY
Clementine Bridge	Staten Island, NY
Lorena Carlo	New York, NY
Patricia Dresch	Staten Island, NY
Roserita DuFrense	Walkill, NY
Tracey Kane	Carmel, NY
Carol Ann Kenny	Cortlandt Manor, NY
Patricia McCafferty	Staten Island, NY
Kathleen Meacham	Liberty, NY
Prasida Newman	New York, NY
Carol Ordy	Staten Island, NY
Erin Raymond	West Point, NY
Helen Ryser	Cross River, NY
Kathleen Scott	Carmel, NY
Pamela Soriano	Yonkers, NY
Michelle Spignardo	Pine Bush, NY
Diane Troccoli	Carmel, NY
Gina Viebrock	Carmel, NY

Rob Ryser's public expression of his gratitude to Msgr. Thompson, his Weekend Sponsor

Monsignor George,

This is more than a note of thanks and an expression of gratitude for your role bringing me to the Men's Cursillo 206 on Mount Alvernia.

Something like a deep internal compulsion to proclaim the good news of this weekend has been driving me in my fourth day. I wanted to share my joy with someone who understands exactly what it feels like.

I am seeing my whole life in Christ in the context of my experience with Gino and the men and women who put the weekend together.

It was as if I went to the weekend with the closed-fist vessel of my heart extended to God expecting a measure of his love but no more than a measure because I trust God to give to me what is mine, and for years I have accepted dryness in prayer as His will.

What happened over the weekend is God said to me 'I am happy to fill up your little vessel, but some of my love is going to spill over, which is okay.'

He was right. Not only was I full before I knew what hit me, but it was coming out of my eyes in tears and out of my mouth in song and praise and testimony. It was coming out of my hands in embraces and out of my feet in dance.

I realized that the everlasting ocean of God's love is so enormous that no one who receives it can contain it.

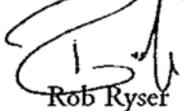
I came to the Cursillo weekend thinking I had a full life. I came to the weekend thinking there was no more room for anything else.

But I realized as soon as Thursday night that I did not have fullness. In fact I had emptiness.

This is what fullness feels like. The only feeling better than this is seeing Christ's fullness in everyone else around me.

Thank you for helping me see Christ in others and feel Christ in me.

De Colores,



Rob Ryser

Men's Weekend #206
Mount Alvernia
September 26 – 29, 2013
Rector: Gino Lucadamo



Robert Bridge	Staten Island, NY
Len Caputo	Mahopac, NY
John Carson	Pound Ridge, NY
Frank Cullen	Saugerties, NY
Chris DalCeredo	Yorktown Heights, NY
Walter Doherty	Mahopac, NY
Raymond DuFrense	Walkill, NY
Charles Edkins	Staten Island, NY
Bernard Gerrity	Mahopac, NY
Patrick Griffin	Middletown, NY
Steven Jacklett	Carmel, NY
Tom Kane	Carmel, NY
Jerry Lutkenhouse	Groton, NY
George Massey	Mahopac, NY
Kevin Modena	Peekskill, NY
David Padilla	Yonkers, NY
David Riggio	Pawling, NY
Rob Ryser	Cross River, NY
Joe Squeo	Carmel, NY
Michael Ugenti	Staten Island, NY

Edwina Hassi's Retreat Reflection: Re-Ignite the Flame

On a magnificent fall day Cursillistas gathered at Mt. St. Francis for a retreat day. The view of the Hudson from the Rollo room was breathtaking. Spirits were high as we came from all corners of our (now one) diocesan movement - points north, south as far as Staten Island, west to Pennsylvania and east (our North East Westchester Ultreya). The day began with much excitement as we greeted one another. Over 60 people had registered, some not having seen one another for very many years. We enjoyed coffee and delicious pastries imported from Staten Island. As usual, we were warmly welcomed by the sisters. We all introduced ourselves, giving the year we made our weekend (if you added up the number of years in Cursillo in that room...).

Fr. Bill Cosgrove, pastor of St. Augustine's in New City, was very generous with his time and energy, spending the entire day with us and entertaining questions and facilitating discussion following his thought provoking presentations, and presiding over the Eucharist, which was enhanced by three wonderful musicians.

As we were digesting the copious meal provided in the sisters' dining room, we were treated to an entertaining and yet meaningful skit by Janna Gaudiuso and John Buonviaggio.

Fr. Bill led us in prayer to the Holy Spirit. He spoke of the flame that is ignited in Baptism but which, if not fanned, can easily smolder and die. He likened the Holy Spirit to the wind which, though it cannot be seen, its effects can. John the Baptist said of Jesus: "He shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." In the Hebrew scriptures fire was a 2-fold symbol: to purify and to set ablaze. It is understood in the latter sense in the New Testament. In The Acts of the Apostles we see the Church guided by the Holy Spirit. With that fire all fear is cast out. At the giving of the Baptismal candle we hear: "*Receive the light of Christ. Keep the flame of faith alive in his heart.*" It doesn't take much to extinguish the flame of faith kindled in a child's heart. Faith has to be stirred up. If you don't feed faith it dies. We live in a secularistic society. God is not permitted to influence aspects of our life and culture. Father spoke of looking at the statue of Atlas holding up the world in Rockefeller Center from across the street at St. Patrick's Cathedral where Jesus, who is the one who in reality carries the world, is present.

We were reminded of the monastic communities which arose because the culture was too pagan. St. Anthony the Hermit led people to the desert. The Benedictines, Franciscans Dominicans and Jesuits all worked for renewal of the church. Prior to Vatican II, Cursillo and other ecclesial movements were instruments of renewal. The Council spoke of the Church as institutional and charismatic. Its soul is the Holy Spirit. John Paul II spoke of the new evangelization, i.e. new in its ardor, methods, expression. We were reminded that every one of us is a new expression of God's love. Pope Francis has spoken of getting rid of clericalism, turning over a few tables (as Jesus did), calling forth something radically new. God is alive today working in our church. We were told that 95% of the people in their 20s and 30s don't connect with the church. Fr. Bill challenged us to try to bring these people back into the fold. A spirited discussion ensued. Father recommended a book entitled *Rebuilt: Awakening the Faithful, Reaching the Lost and Making Church Matter* by Fr. Michael White. Following sharing at the tables we were invited to present highlights of it with the community. Much of what was said centered on our responsibility to evangelize. Many witnessed to their efforts. A great deal of concern for the future of the church was expressed. Relativism abounds (your truth is fine for you; there is no one truth). We need to draw others to Christ who loves them through us.

It was a very rich and fruitful day. More will be planned. Stay tuned!

Fall Retreat: November 9, 2013
Retreat Director: Fr. Bill Cosgrove
Mount St. Francis, Peekskill, NY



Fr. Bill Cosgrove giving one of his retreat presentations to the over sixty Retreatants

2014 - 20 Week Raffle

Our annual **Twenty Week Raffle** for the ENTIRE New York Archdiocese will commence shortly. This fund raising Raffle is critical for our Cursillo Weekends to continue. The Raffle proceeds allow us to maintain our low \$165 donation for the Weekend, providing support for candidates who cannot afford this amount and most important keeps New York Archdiocese Cursillo solvent in support of other expenses.

The tickets are \$20.00 and are being distributed at the upcoming Ultreyas. There are two weekly winners, for 19 weeks: one \$25.00 and one \$50.00. The winning tickets are returned to the pot for the next week's drawing! The final drawing is on week 20 which includes one \$100.00, two \$250.00, one \$500.00 and one \$1,000.00 prizes.

The first drawing is at the Spring Ultreya and the following 18 at various Ultreyas and Schools of Leaders. The final drawings will be at our Annual Harvest Social in October.

Please purchase as many tickets as you can and sell even more to your friends as well. We are counting on you for a successful Raffle.

Al Lett
Treasurer

NEW YORK CURSILLO (ENGLISH) CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014

March 20-23, 2014	Men's Cursillo Weekend #207, Rector Joe Bisesto Mount Alvernia, Wappingers Falls, NY
April 3-6, 2014	Women's Cursillo Weekend #209, Rectora Marianne Rouis Mount Alvernia, Wappingers Falls, NY
May, 2014 TBD	Archdiocese-wide Spring Ultreya, 5:00 pm Pot Luck dinner, Mt. St. Francis, Peekskill
June 14, 2014	School of Leaders opening meeting, 10:00am All Cursillistas are invited to attend St. Augustine's, New City
September 25-28, 2014	Men's Cursillo Weekend #208, Rector Larry Malone Mount Alvernia, Wappingers Falls, NY
October 23-26, 2014	Women's Cursillo Weekend #210, Rectora Grace Ross Mount Alvernia, Wappingers Falls, NY
November 1, 2014	Harvest Social, 7:30 pm St. Mary's, Marlboro, NY
December 6, 2014	Staten Island, Mass 10:00 am and Communion Breakfast Contact: Tom Castaldo, 718-967-3473 Guests are asked to bring an unwrapped gift for a needy child.
December 13, 2014	Archdiocese-wide Advent Ultreya Mount Alvernia, Wappingers Falls, NY

In Memoriam: Sister M. Caroline Bachman

My Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ

It is with great sadness that I tell you of the passing of Sister M. Caroline Bachman on Wednesday November 6th to her Fifth Day. Sister Caroline just returned to the Staten Island Cursillo family about eight months ago after a long absence. She brought so much joy and happiness to our Community in this short time, and was one of the Spiritual Directors on the Women's Weekend #208 in October. All those who came to know her recently fell in love with her humbleness, her joy, and her welcoming smile. She will be greatly missed.

Tom Castaldo

2013 - 20 Week Raffle Final Winners

\$100	Michael Martin, Jr.	Bullville
\$250	Bernadette Devanny	Carmel-Mahopac
\$250	Mike Faso	Pine Bush
\$500	Joan Greene	Hyde Park
\$1000	John Ackermann	Poughkeepsie

Cursillo de Cursillos
November 14 – 17, 2013
Mount St. Francis, Peekskill, NY



Joe Bisesto—Valhalla-**Spring Rector**
Rosemary DeCaro-Pine Bush
Jennifer Nicosia-Montgomery
Tom-Streppone-Bronx
Tom Castaldo-Staten Island
Lisa Castaldo-Staten Island
Grace Ross-Staten Island
Nancy Heller-Yorktown Heights
Jean Dayton-Marlboro
John Hanley-New Windsor
Laurie Hanley-New Windsor
Dave Tolentino-Staten Island
Carole Tolentino-Staten Island
Ed Shimansky-Bronx
Frank Cullen-Saugerties
Gladys Ann Adams-Lourdes Valley,PA
Barbara Benedict—Shelton, CT
Diane Traynor-Manchester, NH
Marianne Rouis- Pine Bush- **Spring Rectora**

Archdiocese of New York Cursillo (English) Secretariat

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>Term End</u>
Spiritual Director	Msgr. George Thompson	St. Patrick's Bedford, NY	2015 June
Lay Director	John DeJulio	St. James the Apostle Carmel, NY	2015 June
Secretary	Jeanette Fitch	St. Kateri Tekakwitha LaGrange, NY	2015 June
Treasurer	Al Lett	St. John the Evangelist Mahopac, NY	2014 December
Pre-Cursillo Chairperson	Karen Tunney	St. James the Apostle Carmel, NY	2015 June
Post-Cursillo Chairperson	Gino Lucadamo	St. Mary of the Assumption Katonah, NY	2014 December
Cursillo Chairperson	Ginger Fisher	St. Kateri Tekakwitha LaGrange, NY	2014 December
School of Leaders Chair	Sue Tornatore	St. Mary's Wappingers Falls	2016 June

MANANITAS: GATHER 7AM; CLOSINGS 4 PM

Palanca: Yolanda Leavy
310 S Centerville Road
Middletown, NY 10940
mailto:nypalanca@hvc.rr.com

Kitchen Palanca: JoAnn Vignini
845-561-7674

19th Staten Island Mass and Communion Breakfast December 7, 2013



Fr. Tom Devery & Grace Ross
the 50/50 raffle winner

I would like to thank all of those who attended the Communion Breakfast held on December 7th at Holy Child Church's School of Religion in Staten Island. Although it was our 19th Annual Breakfast, I also see it as our first Annual "One Community" Breakfast. Over 160 people were in attendance and a wonderful time was had by all. As a fundraiser it was a big financial success for the Community and a contribution check will be presented to Secretariat at our next monthly meeting.

I would like to thank Father Tom Devery, Deacon Steve Tobon, Deacon Bill Castellagne, and Deacon Bob Gatto for the beautiful Mass prior to the breakfast. I would also like to thank the Staten Island Community who helped in setting up and cleaning up afterwards, along with the group reunions who contributed so many beautiful gifts for the raffle drawings. The 50/50 topped out at \$500 to the winner (Staten Island's own Grace Ross), and many bags of unwrapped toys were collected for the annual toy drive held by Lou and Fran Diodati. The Community from upstate (and as you know anywhere north of the Bronx is upstate as far as I am concerned) was especially well represented and several of them stayed around and were a great help in the cleanup process. It was such a wonderful way to kick off the Christmas season, and I hope to see you all again next year.

God Bless and have a Happy New Year!!!
Tom Castaldo. Lay Coordinator for Staten Island



Fr. Tom Devery and three deacons celebrating Mass



Cursillistas enjoying breakfast



View of Raffle Prizes



Donated Christmas Gifts for needy families

10th Harvest Social
St. Mary's of Marlboro
October 26, 2013



Utreayas

ULSTER COUNTY

Saugerties
St. John the Evangelist
Second Thursday, 7:30
Judy DeFino (845) 246-4113
Brian Kimlin (845) 245-6688

SULLIVAN COUNTY

Liberty
St. Peter's Church
Fourth Saturday, 6:30
Joan Paddock (845) 292-5548

Bloomington
Our Lady of the Assumption
Third Thursday, 7:00
Kathy Harris (845) 367-1964

ORANGE COUNTY

Bullville/Goshen/Middletown
St. Paul's Church
Third Saturday, 7:30
Rich & Julie Ozurilla (845)-457-4893

Pine Bush
Infant Saviour
Second Thursday, 7:30
Rosemary De Caro (845) 744-3323

Walden
Most Precious Blood
First Thursday, 7:00
Kathy Livingston (845) 778-0320

Minisink
Holy Cross, South Centerville
First Saturday, 7:00
Peg & Ed Lazarri (845) 355-2203
Gladys Ann Adams (845) 699-7100

Newburgh
St. Joseph's
Route 9W & Union Ave., New Windsor
Second Thursday, 7:00
John & Laurie Hanley (845) 562-6503

BRONX COUNTY

The Bronx
St. Francis Xavier
Fourth Tuesday, 7:30
Ed Shimanski (718) 931-8373

NEW YORK COUNTY

Upper Manhattan
St. Charles Borromeo, 211 W. 141st Street
Second Thursday, 7:00
Norma Marshburn (212) 410-1974

Utreayas

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Poughkeepsie
Mt. Alvernia, Wappingers
Fourth Monday, 7:30
Terry Tornatore (845) 297-0347

Hopewell Junction
Saint Kateri
Second Thursday, 7:00
Ginger Fisher (845) 297-4711

Northern Dutchess
Joan Greene (845) 229-2539
Second Saturday 7:00
(Jan, Mar, May, Aug, Oct.) Regina Coeli, Hyde Park
Pot Luck following 5:00 Mass
(Feb, Apr, June, Sep, Nov.) St. Stanislaus
Pleasant Valley
Pot Luck following 5:30 Mass

WESTCHESTER COUNTY

N E Westchester
St. Patrick's Cenacle, Bedford
Fourth Wednesday, 7:30
Diane and Bob Goldbach (914) 720-5221
Gino and Cyndi Lucadamo (914) 763-0480

White Plains

St. Bernard's, White Plains
Third Saturday, 7:30
Don Jones (914) 948-1090

Valhalla

St. Bernard's, White Plains
Third Saturday, 7:30
Joe Bisesto (914) 948-4489

Peekskill/Putnam Valley
Susie Caras and John Keck Home
Third Wednesday, 7:30
Alice Parisi (914) 490-4489
Susie Caras (914) 737-6889

Yonkers

St. Bartholomew Mcmanus Center, 2nd floor
15 Palmer Road
Last Saturday, 6:30
Lourdes Blanco (914) 564-3243

PUTNAM COUNTY

Mahopac/Carmel
Our Lady of the Lake, Lake Carmel
Third Friday, 7:30
Diane Trabulsky (845) 661-1276

RICHMOND COUNTY

Staten Island
Holy Child School of Religion
Third Thursday, 7:30
Ginny Buonviaggio (718) 356-3966