

BELLEVILLE DIOCESAN CURSILLO LISTENING SESSION St. Agatha, New Athens

8/20/25

DISCOVERY - What excites you and motivates you? What is going well?

- Having youth services again at Mass
- Variety of ages getting involved in Cursillo
- Pope Leo
- Wine returned to Mass
- Increase in Catholics (even at youth level) across Europe
- Fewer political figures are not afraid to practice or proclaim their faith
- Young families returning
- The effort of this initiative continues
- Communications are building but still need improvement
- Cursillo makes you more likely to be outgoing and able to approach others (Catholic and non-Catholic) about their faith
- Fr. Eva having a positive influence on students and parishioners
- Catholic Social Media
- Meeting people across the diocese
- FORMED groups
- Friendship of group
- Bibles and Brews
- Opportunities and encouragement through Cursillo to learn more about Jesus and our faith

DREAM - What is possible? What big ideas do you have? What opportunities can we build on?

- More priests and deacons to be able to go to hospitals and give patients hope
- Better ways to unite or make everyone in the Diocese of Belleville feel like they are a part of the diocese
- Increase in Catholic school attendance in elementary and high school levels
- Public display of faith in sports
- Better communications – centralized information, have all parishes connected so they can learn from each other and grow together
- Cursillo in every parish
- Belleville Diocesan Retreat Center
- No sports on Sunday's
- Go back to Sunday being God's Day
- Bring prayer back to the public schools
- More young couples/families in church

- Parishes come together as one parish, not just partnership
- Live and dream by the Liturgical Calendar

GROWTH – What are we willing to change and grow in?

- Priorities – put God first instead of where we can fit him in
- The importance of salvation of souls
- Need properly “formed” lay administration, a core support team for day-to-day administration
- Collaboration of parish partnerships
- Tithe
- People need to be willing to change first
- Money/finances
- Strengthening the family unit
- Exciting programs after Confirmation
- Works of mercy
- People to fill ministries
- Seeing joy in the faces of our parishes at Mass
- Reduce ambiguity of priests
- Strong youth groups at parishes
- Understanding the needs of the poor
- Bringing Jesus to others
- Pastoral focus – laity involvement