



The Cursillo Movement

Diocese of Hamilton, Ontario

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

A Cursillo Weekend is the focus of a lay movement of Christian Renewal begun by Catholics in Spain in the 1940's. The word Cursillo is Spanish for "short course". The Cursillo weekend gives us a short course in Christian living and is the beginning of a new and fuller awareness of what Christianity can mean in our daily lives at home, at work, with our neighbors, and with other members of our church. During these three days the Sacraments are stressed; therefore all candidates for a Catholic Cursillo must be Catholic and in a position to receive the sacraments or become so.

The Church of today needs lay people who can be strong Christian witnesses, thereby bringing about change in our world. To be effective witnesses, we need to be formed and informed. We can't do this on our own but need the help and support of other Christians.

The weekend program will consist of a number of talks given by both lay people and clergy. You will be at a table with 4 or 5 others and will have the opportunity to discuss the talks. There will be prayer times and times for reflection, time to socialize and time to discuss – a truly activity-packed weekend. Cursillo continues after the weekend by providing each of us with the opportunity to grow in faith and Christian commitment.

For the weekend you will require casual, comfortable clothing, bath towel, toiletries and any needed medication. You are also required to bring a sleeping bag and pillow or bedding for a single bed, whichever you prefer. In order to respect each person's quiet time, we ask you not bring a radio or cell phone. Don't worry, if you forget anything or run out, there will be people there to look after your needs. The cost of providing the weekend could be approximately between \$ 180.00 & 220.00 depending on the facilities we are able to reserve. It will include your accommodation, food, and all materials needed. It should be noted however, that no one would be refused because of money. Your sponsor can clarify any of these needs for you.

The Cursillo weekend begins on Thursday evening at 7:30 PM and ends on Sunday sometime between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Your sponsor will make sure you are driven to and from the weekend.

In order to provide everyone with the greatest of views and opinions during table discussions, attempts will be made to put people in groups with different ages, occupations, and life situations. Therefore, we ask for some personal information, which will be used for the administration of the weekend. All forms will then be destroyed.

If you have **ANY** questions, please contact your sponsor.



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CANDIDATE APPLICATION

NAME _____

Male _____ Female _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____

PHONE #'S: HOME (____) _____ WORK (____) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

MARITAL STATUS (circle): Married__ Single__ Widowed__ Separated__ Divorced__

AGE: _____ OCCUPATION: _____ SMOKER _____

DENOMINATION _____ PARISH _____ LOCATION _____

SPONSOR'S NAME: _____

In order to help us prepare for your special needs, please list any health/dietary/allergy needs for which you may require assistance on the weekend.

Do you have any impairment of sight, hearing or movement, which may require special arrangements to be made? Please indicate type of arrangement required.

Please read carefully the **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES** on the reverse side of this application.

If you have further questions please contact your sponsor.

Do we have permission to share your name, address, phone & e-mail information with others on the weekend? Yes _____ No _____

Applicant's Signature

Date



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INFORMATION FOR SPONSORS

As a sponsor you are responding in a very concrete way to Christ's call to spread His good news in our environments. It is a special blessing to be the instrument in providing someone with the opportunity to learn that through Christ we can be truly alive. We all know that our weekend was a very moving experience but perhaps we can also remember the apprehension we felt.

Your candidate will often need a lot of encouragement and support to make what might seem like a sacrifice. Some information is enclosed for your candidate but there will probably be many more questions that you may be able to answer. Please be there for your candidate and be open and honest with your answers. Remember that you can give any information about the weekend but we ask that you not disclose the letters, Palanca chapel and closing. These were very powerful experiences for you and will hopefully be the same for your candidate.

There are some things that you should discuss with your candidate. One is the matter of the cost of the weekend. It is not fair to leave the candidate with the uncertainty of the amount that he/she may be asked to pay. No one need feel embarrassed to talk about the cost. The major source of funds for the Movement is the financial contributions of everyone who attends the weekend – team and candidates. These funds are necessary to cover the cost of the weekend. However, please let your candidate know that no one is turned away because they are unable to pay. If your candidate needs assistance covering the cost of the weekend, it is suggested you request assistance from your local Ultreya or the parish your candidate worships in. Cursillo is a Diocesan Movement and well supported by the Bishop, moreover the candidate will return to the parish as leaven within the parish community. If you would like to make a contribution on behalf of your candidate, please tell him/her and put your contribution in an envelope when you bring your candidate to the weekend.

You are also responsible for doing Palanca for your candidate. This should start before you even approach him/her about making a Cursillo weekend. It is so important to 'talk to God about your candidate before talking to your candidate about God'. Although writing a Palanca letter to your candidate is very important and necessary (this should be left at the registration desk specifically labeled 'Candidate name and Palanca letter – Sponsor'), please remember that more powerful Palanca is the offering of prayer, fasting and acts of self-sacrifice. In addition, as part of preparing your candidate, you may wish to invite him/her to join you at your Group Reunion or Ultreya as Pre-Cursillo preparation.

As a sponsor, you are responsible for getting your candidate to/from the weekend; and are asked to remain at the facilities with your Candidate until they are settled in. If you are on team then let you candidate know ahead of time as you will be late in leaving and consider asking a friend to take your candidate home. It is the team's responsibility to clean up after the weekend. You are also responsible for journeying with your candidate in the weeks and months that follow. Please don't leave him/her without the necessary support of Group Reunion and Ultreya.

Please also remember that the Cursillo is not a cure-all for personal problems. It is your duty as a sponsor to help to remove any major obstacles and to dispose the candidate for the total message of the weekend. All candidates must be Catholic and in a position to receive the sacraments or become so or are going through the RCIA process.

Please keep this sheet for further information.



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SPONSOR IDENTIFICATION

As a sponsor you should belong to an active Group Reunion and/or Ultreya, be willing to remain actively involved with your candidate throughout the Pre-Cursillo and the Post-Cursillo stages, and if the candidate is married, try to sponsor the couple at the same time.

SPONSOR'S NAME _____
(Male _____) (Female _____)

ADDRESS _____ APT _____

CITY _____ PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____

PHONE: HOME () _____ WORK () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

WHEN AND WHERE DID YOU MAKE YOUR CURSILLO? _____

WHAT ULTREYA ARE YOU A MEMBER OF? _____

CANDIDATE'S NAME _____ DENOMINATION _____

In confidentiality, is there anything about your candidate's relationship with the church and with the receiving of the sacraments that we should know? (If yes, please check__) Give information on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this application.

Please identify any Church related activities in which your candidate is active (e.g.: Charismatic Renewal, Alpha, Marriage/Engaged Encounter, RCIA, SVDP etc).

How would you rate your candidate's ability to communicate with others?
Talkative _____ Quiet _____ In-between _____

Sponsors please note: It is your obligation to fully prepare your candidate and to be aware of any problems that could hamper him/her from experiencing the weekend fully (e.g. recent bereavement, medical problems, etc) and to inform the weekend co-ordinator.

* The National Secretariat restricts the participation of non- Catholics in Catholic Cursillo activities in favour of their participation in renewal programs, including Cursillo, available to them within their own denominations.

Please read carefully the INFORMATION FOR SPONSORS on this application.

Thank you for responding to Christ's call to reach out to those around you and to bring them to Him.

Completed forms should be returned to Weekend Coordinator:

David Milne
98 Cedarwoods Crescent, Kitchener, Ontario. N2C 2J8
Email: weekenddirector@4thday.ca
Phone: 519-894-0657