

Twin Cities Catholic Cursillo

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

WHAT IS CURSILLO?

Cursillo is a movement directed by the laity within the Catholic Church. It is dedicated to spreading the Word of God and helping people form a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. Cursillo employs a method that emphasizes the importance of a balanced life of piety, continued spiritual study, and apostolic action. The purpose of Cursillo is not only to give individuals the experience of participating in a Cursillo weekend, but it also enables members to:

- Expand prayer life.
- Grow spiritually through an ongoing study process that increases knowledge about God's word and the Catholic faith.
- Spread God's word to the people we interact with in the natural events of daily life.

As the Catholic Cursillo has grown, it has spread to other Christian Churches. In the Twin Cities there are active Cursillo communities within the Lutheran and Episcopalian churches. There is also a United Cursillo, which is open to Christians of any denomination.

HOW DOES CURSILLO (pronounced Kur-see-o) GET ITS NAME?

The word Cursillo is a Spanish word. It means "short course". Cursillo is a shortened form of "Cursillo de Cristiandad" which means, "short course in Christian living".

WHAT IS THE CURSILLO METHOD?

- The Cursillo Method is based on piety, study, and apostolic action.
- The Method is made up of two parts: Group Reunion and Ultreya. Each part helps to form and develop a supporting Christian Community.
- Group Reunions are informal gatherings of 3 to 5 people who meet weekly to share their faith and to support each other in their daily journey with Christ.
- Ultreyas are gatherings of the Group Reunions. They share experiences, pray together and socialize. The Ultreya creates a larger Christian Community where groups share their Christianity and gain insight and ideas that can enhance their Christian life.

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN CURSILLO?

- Persons wanting to experience their faith and live it in their daily life.
- Persons looking for a Christian Community with which to share their faith journey.
- Persons with a strong Christian conviction who are seeking to enrich their relationship with God.
- Persons seeking to become confident, enthusiastic Christians.
- Christians wanting to share their faith in the secular world.

HOW DOES ALL THIS RELATE TO THE CURSILLO WEEKEND EXPERIENCE?

The weekend is a 3-day experience of living in a Christian Community, beginning on Thursday evening and ending on Sunday evening. It is led by a team of laypersons along with three Spiritual Directors. This team leads discussions emphasizing the meaning of grace, the Sacraments, the need for prayer, and living our daily lives in union with God. The weekend is focused on Christ and is filled with joy, laughter and enthusiasm. It becomes a stepping-stone to a new and fulfilling experience of your Christian faith. Your sponsor will share more about the weekend with you.

DO I NEED A SPONSOR?

Yes, you do. The 3-day Cursillo Weekend is just the beginning. It is what happens in your life after the weekend that is important. Sponsors take a special interest in you before and after your weekend. Your sponsor will do these things for you:

Before the weekend:

- Sponsors explain the weekend format, including eating and sleeping arrangements, the talks and the sacraments given.
- Sponsors support you in prayer, in helping with family arrangements and logistics during the weekend.
- Sponsors provide transportation to and from the Cursillo site.

After the weekend, your sponsor will support you by:

- Helping you get established in a small Christian Community called a Group Reunion. Your sponsor will understand and you should not feel obligated to join the same small group as your sponsor.
- Introducing you to Ultreya and other Twin Cities Cursillo events.
- Helping you with any problems or concerns that arise.

ARE THERE ANY RESTRICTIONS ON WHO CAN COME TO A CURSILLO WEEKEND?

Yes there are some restrictions:

- A sponsor, someone who has attended a Cursillo weekend, is needed to make a Cursillo Weekend. If you do not have a sponsor or know someone that has attended, contact Twin Cities Pre-Cursillo section, @ tc-cursillo.org, so they may help you find one.
- It is suggested, that both spouses of a married couple participate and that both should be Catholic. Personal changes, having attended a Cursillo weekend, are best understood and accepted when both have shared the experience. (If one spouse is not able to attend a given set of weekends or is not Catholic, applications must be referred to the Twin Cities Cursillo Spiritual Advisor.)
- Persons recently divorced or grieving over the loss of a loved one should wait an appropriate length of time before making a weekend. We suggest a period of one year.
- Persons hurting for whatever reason should wait for a less stressful time.
- The Sacraments are an important part of the Catholic Weekend. For this reason, Christians of other faiths are encouraged to attend a Cursillo of their faith.

If you believe that you can benefit from being introduced to the Cursillo Movement, please fill out the attached application and return it to your sponsor.

Detach and keep as a quick reference.

Revised and Approved June 2011

TWIN CITIES CATHOLIC CURSILLO CANDIDATE APPLICATION
(Please print legibly in ink)

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL

Month of Cursillo weekend you are applying for: _____

Name: _____ Male Female

Name as it is to appear on name tag: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary phone: () _____

e-mail address: _____

Parish: _____ City: _____

Single Married Separated Divorced Widowed How Long? _____

Spouse's name: _____ Is spouse Catholic: Yes No

Number of Children: _____ Ages: _____

Type of work: _____ Place of Employment: _____

Educational background: _____

Organizations you are active in (church, civil, professional): _____

Hobbies and interests: _____

Name of sponsor (must have one *): _____

* If you need a sponsor, contact Pre Cursillo

Name of co-sponsor (if one): _____

Has your sponsor reviewed all of the following with you?

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| The "Cursillo Information" page attached to this application? | Yes | No |
| The purpose of Cursillo? | Yes | No |
| General format of weekend activities, including the talks? | Yes | No |
| Sacraments to be given on the weekend? | Yes | No |
| Sleeping and eating arrangements on weekend? | Yes | No |
| The Fourth Day? | Yes | No |
| Group Reunion? | Yes | No |

My Ultreya will be (ask sponsor): _____

What do you hope to gain from the Cursillo Weekend? _____

From your preparation with your sponsor, what do you feel is the purpose of the Cursillo Movement and its method?

Who, among your friends and relatives, is active in the Cursillo Movement? _____

Do you have any special medical or physical needs you require assistance with? _____

List any foods you cannot eat or special dietary needs: _____

In case of Emergency: Day contact: _____ Phone: () _____

Night contact: _____ Phone: () _____

A non-refundable, processing fee of \$25.00 per person is requested for each applicant.
Please make check payable to: "Twin Cities Cursillo".
If married, husband and wife must fill-out separate applications and submit the applications together.

Candidate Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please give your completed application to your sponsor.

Sponsor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor: Send Candidate application(s), Sponsor sheet(s), and non-refundable fee to your Ultreya Rep.

Ultreya Rep. Signature: _____ Phone: () _____

Ultreya: _____ Date: _____

Pre Cursillo: _____ Processing Fee Received: Yes No Amount: _____
Date Received