



DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Please print in a clear and easy-to-read manner

CANDIDATE APPLICATION						
Name:				Date of Birth:		
Name on Nametag:				Gender:	F	M
Address:				City:		
State:		Zip Code:		Preferred Phone:		
Email Address (PLEASE PRINT):						
Parish:			Parish Location:			
Occupation:			Sponsor Name:			
Marital Status:			Spouse Name:			
Is Your Spouse Catholic?				Has your Spouse made a Cursillo?		
List religious, civic, recreational activities, hobbies & /or musical instruments you play:						
EMERGENCY CONTACT						
Name:						
Relationship:				Phone:		
ANY HEALTH PROBLEMS, DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, OR SPECIAL NEEDS?						
CURSILLO INFORMATION						
<i>Any friends or relatives who are involved in the Cursillo Movement?</i>						
				YES	NO	
Are you receiving the Sacraments?						
Have you read the booklet "The Cursillo Movement - What is it"?						
Has your sponsor explained 'Group Reunion'?						
Are you currently attending a 'Group Reunion'?						
Has your sponsor explained 'Ultreya'?						
Why would you like to attend a Cursillo Weekend?						
SIGNATURES						
<i>I understand that the purpose of the Cursillo Movement is to strengthen Christianity and enlighten our environments with the Gospel. Further, that the Cursillo Weekend is a "Short Course" in Christianity and that my commitment to Group Reunion and Ultreya can assist me in bringing Christ to the world in which I live, work and play.</i>						
Signature of Candidate:				Date:		
Signature of Sponsor:				Date:		
Signature of Clergy				Date:		
CANDIDATE: Please submit application to your Sponsor		SPONSOR: Please submit Candidate and Sponsor applications to Ultreya Leader		ULTREYA LEADER: Please submit Candidate and Sponsor applications to Pre-Cursillo Chair and retain a copy for your files.		



Cursillos in Christianity

Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of Charleston

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS BY THE CANDIDATE

What is Cursillo?

(pronounced Cur-see-yo)

Cursillo is a movement of the Catholic Church that promotes Catholic ideals, fellowship, and spiritual growth in daily living. It provides an opportunity to deepen your Catholic faith, and to experience the love of God within a supportive and prayerful community. The Cursillo is a method of giving those, who have the potential of influencing others, a personal encounter with Christ and the means to further enhance, support, and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelizing their environments.

What is a Cursillo weekend?

Twice a year, a Cursillo 3-day weekend is held (separately for men and women) to introduce others to Cursillo and provide an experience to enable them to follow Jesus more faithfully and effectively. From Thursday evening until Sunday evening, lay people and clergy live and work together to gain a deep, permanent, living awareness of the treasure and responsibility of their faith. Candidates come with many questions and some apprehensions, but they leave full of joyful enthusiasm as brothers and sisters in Christ, determined to extend His kingdom.

What is the format?

The Cursillo weekend format consists of a series of spiritual talks and discussions, blending seriousness and lightheartedness. The weekend is a personal, lively and informative event with talks, discussions, singing, daily Mass, worship and fellowship. The talks are conducted by lay people and clergy. Although Cursillos are lay-directed and controlled, the clergy assist in this effort most enthusiastically. Confession is available each day.

Is it a retreat?

The *retreat* portion of the Cursillo lasts only from the opening night until the following morning. Thereafter, the basic teachings of Christ are discussed in a more relaxed atmosphere of learning and discussion. You may make a Cursillo only once in your life, but you are encouraged to *build* upon it for the rest of your life. It is not a substitute for a retreat but rather compliments it. The Cursillo will make succeeding retreats more profitable.

Our Cursillo weekends are held at Our Lady of the Hills in Irmo (outside Columbia). Inflatable beds are provided for all candidates and team members. Please bring your own toiletries, sheets, blankets, pillows, and towels. All meals will be provided. Dress is comfortable and casual. Please bring appropriate clothes for Sunday Mass. Remember to pack your medications and reading glasses. You will need a Rosary, but all other material will be provided. With the exception of prescription medication, drugs, alcohol, and other controlled substances are prohibited.

What happens after the Cursillo?

The weekend lasts three days; the *fourth day* is the rest of one's life, and Cursillistas are urged to make some sort of commitment to God to intensify the growth and deepening of their faith. The Cursillo weekend neither pretends nor is able to give a complete Catholic formation in just three days. Cursillistas are by no means *finished products* on the Sunday night of the weekend. So, additional activities are available to increase their knowledge and keep aflame their enthusiasm. Cursillistas are encouraged to form small reunion groups that meet regularly to share their walk with Christ, and their progress with piety, study, and action. Periodically, another larger type of reunion, called an *Ultreya* (Spanish for *Onward*) is held in which Cursillistas give brief talks developing one of the points covered during the Cursillo weekend. School of Leaders is also offered for continued faith formation.

Who should go on a weekend?

A Cursillo weekend is **largely intended for** those who are:

- baptized, committed Catholics
- able to receive the Sacraments of the church
- active in their parishes
- interested in examining what it means to be a Christian in today's world.

A Cursillo weekend is **also of value to** baptized Catholics who:

- live as Catholics, but are not presently involved in the Church
- have slipped away from the Church, but are beginning to move back

Experience over the years, has led to the following **recommendations**, which we ask you to consider. A person may want to wait at least a year before attending a Cursillo weekend, following major life events such as:

- a Marriage Encounter weekend
- change in marital status
- serious illness
- bereavement
- People with acute emotional problems or in psychiatric treatment