



## CANDIDATE'S APPLICATION

### WHAT IS CURSILLO?

Cursillo is a Christian movement recognized by the Roman Catholic Church (and which has subsequently spread to several other Christian churches). It began in Spain in 1949 and was started by Bishop Juan Hervas and Dr. Eduardo Bonin.

Its name comes from the Spanish word "Cursillo", which means "small course." The original, full name is "Cursillo de Cristiandad", meaning "short course in Christianity."

However, it is neither a theoretical course nor a traditional retreat; it is best described as an experience. It is an experience which leads to discovering a better life and what is fundamental in Christianity.

During the three days of the weekend, participants have a deep and profound experience of Christian life:

- We get to know ourselves better (encounter self)
- We experience the presence and love of Jesus Christ (encounter with Jesus)
- We see the goodness that can be provided by a loving and caring Christian community (encounter with others)

The whole point of the Cursillo movement is that ordinary people can steadily grow in the love and service of God and man for the rest of their lives. The Cursillo weekend represents the first essential step along the way. Christian growth is a life-long process, and Cursillo provides a framework for it, both during the three days and afterwards in the post-Cursillo, where emphasis is on maintaining a vibrant and growing Christian community from which springs the apostolic action required to make ours a better world in which to live.

#### **Sponsors:**

Please mail application to:

**Michael and Christine La Tona  
Pre-Cursillo Chair  
210 Enid Lane  
Northfield, IL 60093**

If you have any questions or comments, please call 847-446-1580.



## Candidate Application for the Chicago Catholic Cursillo

It is important that persons wishing to attend a Cursillo are over 21 years of age, physically fit and emotionally stable. Baptized Christians are welcome. Liturgies are Catholic. To attend, you must be sponsored either by a person who has made a Cursillo or your parish pastor.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Parish and City \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_ Gender M F Marital Status Single Married Widowed Separated Divorced

Children N Y How many, ages? \_\_\_\_\_

Has your spouse attended a Cursillo? N Y When? \_\_\_\_\_

If no, does your spouse intend to attend a future Cursillo? Y N

Place of Employment / Type of Work \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Background \_\_\_\_\_

Talents / Hobbies \_\_\_\_\_

Church / Community organizations / activities \_\_\_\_\_

Other religious experiences / retreats \_\_\_\_\_

Friends who have made Cursillo \_\_\_\_\_

Please give a brief statement as to why you wish to experience the Cursillo \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate any and all physical limitations or special medical or dietary arrangements that you may need \_\_\_\_\_

Are you presently experiencing any significant emotional or personal stress? Explain briefly \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to attend the Cursillo to be held on \_\_\_\_\_. I would / would not (circle one) be available as a short notice standby candidate. (You will be notified in advance of your status. Because of space limitations, you may be asked to wait to make your Cursillo.)

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this completed application, along with the \$10 application fee, to your sponsor. Form should then be forwarded to Michael La Tona, Pre-Cursillo Chair, 210 Enid Lane, Northfield, IL 60093

The information provided herein is for the exclusive and confidential use of the Chicago Catholic Cursillo.



## Chicago Catholic Cursillo SPONSOR INFORMATION

### ***Candidate Selection***

Those who are about to sponsor a candidate for a Cursillo must be aware of the task to which we are committing ourselves and of the **seriousness of our action**.

### ***Requirements and Guidelines***

1. The candidate has the potential to be a leader and is capable of acting as an evangelical leaven in his/her environments.
2. The candidate must be 21 years of age or older and mature enough to assimilate the evangelical message and commit to it.
3. The candidate should be a Catholic (not necessarily practicing) and able to receive the Sacraments.
4. There must exist the opportunity for follow-up and support of the Cursillista by the Cursillo community through group reunion and Ultreya. **(Remember: The main job of the sponsor begins after the candidate has attended the Cursillo weekend.)**
5. The candidate should not be under any unusual stress. (Out of respect for the candidate and in courtesy to other attendees as well, the Cursillo weekend is not to be used as a "cure" for marital or emotional problems, substance abuse, etc. Doing so incurs the risk of causing more harm than good.)

### ***Candidate Preparation***

1. Pray before contacting an applicant.
2. Do not be secretive. Answer honestly any questions the candidate has about the movement or the weekend (with the exception of palanca and the Candlelight).
3. Explain the Cursillo 4<sup>th</sup> Day to the candidate (Group Reunion and Ultreya).
4. Invite your candidate to attend group reunion and Ultreya before the Cursillo, if possible.
5. If possible, explain Cursillo to both husband and wife together.

### ***Candidate Preparation***

1. **Submit completed *Candidate's Form* and *Sponsor's Commitment* (including pastor's approval, if deemed necessary) to the Pre-Cursillo Chair.**
2. If you cannot personally bring your candidate to the Cursillo weekend, arrange transportation. Candidates should not drive to the Cursillo site alone.
3. **Do palanca for your candidate and write a general and/or personal palanca note.**
4. Provide assistance to your candidate's family as needed throughout the weekend.
5. Attend the Clausura and take your candidate home. (Notify candidate and spouse of approximate time of return on Sunday evening.)
6. **After the weekend, help your candidate find a permanent group reunion.**
7. Encourage your candidate to become a member of the Cursillo community by accompanying him/her to Ultreya for the first 12 months.



## SPONSOR COMMITMENT

The Cursillo is not intended to "work miracles." At the time of the Cursillo, your candidate should be free of great personal or family stress, e.g., recent divorce, death in family, etc. If both husband and wife wish to attend, please submit applications together. Return application and sponsor's commitment form to the Pre-Cursillo Chair no later than two weeks before the Cursillo weekend.

Please do not fill out this form without reading and accepting the responsibilities described herein.

After prayerful deliberation, I \_\_\_\_\_, agree to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ as a candidate for a Chicago Catholic Cursillo weekend.

**Name of Sponsor (you)** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Date and location of your Cursillo \_\_\_\_\_ Where do you attend Ultreya? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you Group Reunion? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known this candidate, and what is your relationship? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you explained to your candidate that the Cursillo begins with a retreat, there is a preset schedule to follow, and that there is a cost for the weekend? Y N

Has your candidate ever attended a group reunion and/or an Ultreya? Y N

In what church ministries is the candidate involved? \_\_\_\_\_

To your knowledge, does the candidate have any emotional or physical problems or special needs, or addiction to alcohol or drugs? (If yes, please realize that the Cursillo weekend could be harmful.) If so, please explain:

If spouse has not made a Cursillo, did you discuss Cursillo with both husband and wife? Y N

Is spouse's application pending? Y N

By sponsoring this candidate, you are agreeing to take the responsibility to arrange your candidate's transportation to and from the Cursillo, assist with the candidate's family needs during the Cursillo, and to help your candidate find a permanent group reunion and Ultreya. Have you considered this? Y N

After reviewing the guidelines contained herein, I accept all responsibilities associated with my candidate for the duration of the weekend and to assist my candidate in his/her 4<sup>th</sup> Day commitment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sponsor's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)