

**2012 PASTORAL PLAN
FOR THE CURSILLO[®] MOVEMENT (ENGLISH-SPEAKING)
FOR THE DIOCESE OF ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

This is the pastoral plan of the Cursillo Movement (English-Speaking) for the Diocese of Orlando for the calendar year 2012, as adopted by the Secretariat after prayer and discernment.

MISSION

The mission of the Cursillo Movement, as a Roman Catholic movement, is the apostolic renewal of society and the evangelization of environments. The Cursillo Movement operates in the Diocese of Orlando with the permission and blessing of our Bishop. We are committed to maintaining on-going communication and dialogue with our Bishop as we work with him, support his work in our Diocese and fit what we do within his pastoral plan. It would be hoped that the Bishop would feel comfortable in encouraging the priests of the Diocese of Orlando to be supportive of Cursillo.

As a Movement of the Catholic Church, it is our desire to encourage all Cursillistas to participate actively in this ministry of evangelization. The leaders and Secretariat of Cursillos in Christianity of the Diocese of Orlando seek to strengthen the movement in the diocese. Just as Cursillistas must maintain a strong tripod of piety, study and action, so must leaders of the movement maintain a strong tripod of Pre-Cursillo, Cursillo (the Three-Day Weekend), and Post-Cursillo (The Fourth Day). Establishing a number of working groups or committees, some continuing in nature and some temporary or “ad hoc” in nature, through our School of Leaders will potentially be the best route to accomplishing this task.

As the Secretariat, we must reflect upon and be constantly mindful of our role as servants to this movement in order to be the leaders we have been called to be. We, as a movement in the Orlando Diocese, have obligations to our Regional and National Secretariat. We should also interact and cooperate with Cursillo movements from different cultures, such as the Vietnamese and Spanish cultures within our diocese. We pray for and support Cursillo movements and other Fourth Day movements both nearby and throughout the world with our prayers and, at times, with our interactions.

We should take advantage of technology where it will be helpful, but we should discern carefully as to the use of technology so that the essence of community, fellowship and the essentials of Cursillo are not lost.

In each phase of the Pastoral Plan below, we focus upon the needs we see and attempt to address those needs.

PRE-CURSILLO

In this phase we must first identify those persons whom the Holy Spirit is calling to Cursillo. This identification process must be done prayerfully, sincerely and responsibly. Once identified, we need to prayerfully and lovingly invite those persons to attend Cursillo. Once an invitation is accepted, we need to recognize the importance of doing our sponsorship of these candidates well.

There are numerous areas of ministry in our parishes, such as Why Catholic, RCIA and Christ Renews His Parish, to name a few, from which many of our candidates have come recently. We need to interact with and get to know persons in these ministries who are looking to grow spiritually in a way that Cursillo can help.

We must look to parishes that do not have an active Cursillo presence to determine if there are potential candidates in such parishes that are seeking to grow spiritually, who would be drawn to and who would likely benefit from Cursillo. Our goal should be to be supportive of the pastor of each parish in the Diocese. We need to communicate with pastors, particularly those who do not have an active Cursillo presence. Our pastors in the diocese need to be made aware of the potential benefits of having an active Cursillo movement in their parishes, which usually happens when a priest makes Cursillo himself. Thus, we should encourage more priests to make Cursillo. Hopefully, we can help each parish by making Cursillo available to its leaders and potential leaders. As these parishioners are given the opportunity to live their Fourth Day, they will grow spiritually and will likely do an even better job of living the Gospel and spreading the Good News within their parishes and within the other environments in which they have been placed by God.

We must equip and enable our Cursillistas who will be sponsoring candidates with the tools needed to properly explain Cursillo to a potential candidate, to prepare a person who wants to attend Cursillo and to make sure that everything needed for sponsoring a candidate is in place before the weekend begins. This includes training, support, follow up and materials (printed, digital, etc). A working group that will assist the Secretariat member responsible for Pre-Cursillo should be formed.

CURSILLO (THE THREE-DAY WEEKEND)

We must be constantly vigilant to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and to allowing the Holy Spirit to work through the Cursillo teams on the Three Day Weekend. That being given, it is also our duty to do our part to do weekends well and to maintain the integrity of basic Cursillo principles.

A review of and, where necessary, updating of all the manuals currently used in this diocese for the men's and women's three day weekends is being undertaken. This will include talk packets and manuals for kitchen, setup, and music. Sample talks will be reviewed to assure that we are giving our speakers good examples of how a particular talk should be given. Mentoring speakers needs to be improved. Cursillistas who have

special skills and commitment to the areas of kitchen, setup/facilities and music should be brought in to help. Committees or working groups should be formed that will address these issues.

We need to improve the “book table” that we provide to the candidates on Cursillo weekends, so that they will have information on some of the most beneficial books that are available. A list of suggested reading should also be developed. In addition, we need to streamline or totally overhaul the way books are acquired and brought to the weekends. This may include establishing a pool of used books from other Cursillistas that can be made available for nominal or no cost to candidates. Audio books are available from respected Catholic sources, which should be utilized. A working group should address these book table and reading list issues.

We should make sure that *palanca* for the candidates is sufficient, sincere and appropriate to serve as a spiritual “lever” for each candidate. The sponsors need to be aware of their responsibilities for *palanca* from family and close friends.

San Pedro Center is our “home” as long as we continue to be welcome there. We need to work with San Pedro staff to make sure that the facilities continue to be adequate, properly maintained and utilized knowledgeably by our teams. Establishing a facilities support group should be a priority.

Spiritual directors on a three day weekend are of paramount importance. Establishing a pool of potential spiritual directors, particularly where the leaders of a team do not have strong contacts with spiritual directors for their particular Cursillo weekend will make sure that there is proper coverage and continuity. This should be a priority and needs to be accomplished by working in close concert with our Diocesan Spiritual Director, Father David Kaczmarek.

Maintaining cost controls, minimizing waste and securing advantageous pricing, is something for which we must always strive; however in our current economy it will be of critical importance in 2012. Establishing one or more working groups to deal with this critical area is planned. Establishing a non-profit corporate entity that will be tax exempt is under way. This will allow better flexibility with banking institutions. Recognizing the need for “scholarship” funds to pay for candidates who cannot cover the current projected per capita cost of \$150, the tax exempt status should allow for some contributions to be tax deductible from Federal Income Tax.

POST-CURSILLO

Group Reunions and Ultreyas are what make living the “Fourth Day” for a Cursillista and maintaining the ongoing conversion, *metanoia*, a reality. The sponsors for a candidate have primary responsibility for making sure there is a real opportunity to participate in group reunion following the attendance at the three days. Maintaining strong ultreyas is the responsibility of everyone who chooses to actively live out the Fourth Day, utilizing the Cursillo method.

There are certain things that can be organized to keep ultreyas in our diocese vital and strong. These include communication among the ultreyas themselves, communication with secretariat, training and support for ultreya coordinators, and establishment of new ultreyas in places where active Cursillistas reside and worship.

Keeping a well-maintained database of Cursillistas, including the experience of those serving on teams is essential for many reasons and this must be a high priority. Maintaining a functional, frequently-updated website is also very important. Establishing a prayer chain, a newsletter and an email notification system should also be done as soon as practicable. Social networking, online workgroups and implementation of audiovisual resources should be investigated.

Prayer warriors who provide real prayer and sacrifice as part of general palanca to movements across the nation and around the world need to be sought out.

The concept of the School of Leaders is undergoing a change from a primarily educational organization to one that is more of a support organization made up of Cursillistas who are, in reality, the true leaders, within the Fourth Day Community. Ongoing spiritual development and education of persons interested in learning more about Cursillo should continue to be a focus of the School of Leaders, primarily through annual or semiannual retreats, Fourth Day Reunions and sessions at the Ultreya level.

CONCLUSION

We, members of the Secretariat, must remain open to the Holy Spirit throughout the year, must be sensitive to the needs of those children of God with whom we come into contact, and must be prepared to adjust this plan as the need arises.

Respectfully adopted and submitted this _____ day of December 2011,

The Diocesan Secretariat of the English-speaking Cursillo, Orlando Diocese.