

Please print clearly, submit applications as soon as possible – space is limited
Cursillo Application
Los Angeles Archdiocese - English Cursillo

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____

Religion _____

Baptism First Communion Married: Catholic Church Civil Single Divorced

Parish _____ Business/Occupation _____

Age _____ Name of Spouse _____ Number of children _____

Educational Background: High School College Other _____

Any health problems that you think might affect your attendance on the weekend? If yes, please let us know: _____

Have you had a nervous breakdown? YES NO If yes, when? _____

Has your sponsor answered all your questions and been available in your preparation for Cursillo? YES NO

Please state why you wish to attend Cursillo _____

Signature _____ Date _____

THIS IS NOT AN ACCEPTANCE
ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE DONE THROUGH YOUR SPONSOR
A DONATION OF \$100 WILL BE REQUESTED AT REGISTRATION TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST
OF THE WEEKEND

***** THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR SPONSOR *****

Sponsor's Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Email _____

Parish _____ Date of your Cursillo _____

Have you attended a Post-Cursillo? _____ How regularly do you group? _____

Please give some endorsement of candidate _____

Mail application to: **LA English Cursillo in Christianity – Application**

c/o Sharon Bell

1257 East Kingsley Avenue, Pomona CA 91767

Or Fax to: **(855) 755-5232** Or E-mail to: **sharonbell46@gmail.com**

For Questions concerning the Cursillo Application, please call Sharon at (626) 759-8559

Cursillos in Christianity

Cursillo (pronounced kur-see-yo) is a Spanish word meaning "short course". It begins on a Thursday evening and ends Sunday evening. During those three days the Cursillistas (those attending the weekend) live and work together, listening to talks given by priests and laypeople. They also attend Mass, receive Communion and visit the Blessed Sacrament daily.

The priest, who is the "spiritual director" and the laity who make up the Cursillo "team" spend weeks working and praying together in preparation for the weekend. The Cursillo takes careful planning because the time is short and the subject extensive. The titles of the talks indicate their content: Ideal, Sanctifying Grace, Laypeople in the Church, Actual Grace, Piety, Study, The Sacraments, Action, Obstacles to Grace, Leaders, Study of the Environment, Life in Grace, Community in Action and Perseverance.

Not A Retreat

A Cursillo can be made only once in a lifetime, therefore it is not a substitute for a retreat. Actually the Cursillo makes succeeding retreats more profitable and Cursillistas are encouraged to make regular retreats. The basic atmosphere of a Cursillo differs greatly from the individual solitude of a retreat. The Cursillo weekend is not silent. The teachings of Christ are experienced and shared in a climate of joy and a spirit of community. During the talks the Cursillistas take notes and each talk is followed by a discussion period within a small group.

Instrument of Renewal

The Cursillo is a powerful instrument of renewal in the Church. Its aim is to concentrate closely on the Person and teachings of Jesus Christ. The Cursillo gives those who attend a living understanding of basic Christian truths and a desire to serve the Church. What's more it provides a means to continue the Christian formation which is just begun in the three-day weekend.

The Fourth Day

The "after" activity of the Cursillo is known as the "fourth day", that is the balance of the Cursillista's life on earth. During this time perseverance is important just as in any method of renewal. In the Cursillo Movement the community spirit is continued after the three days through the "ultreyas" or reunions of the community. These are available as a means of growth in understanding and zeal within the Christian community. Smaller groups of friends also come together regularly to encourage and support one another in spiritual growth and the Christian apostolate.

History of Cursillo

The movement began in 1944 on the island of Majorca, birthplace of Father Junipero Serra. Under leadership of a Spanish layman, Eduardo Bonnin, a group of some 30 priests and laymen met to organize some means of countering immorality and indifference to religion. The Bishop of Majorca, Juan Hervas, suggested the program that was finally developed carefully into the Cursillo.

The first Cursillo took place in the United States in 1957. It was

originated by two Spanish Air Force pilots who were training with the U.S. Air Force in Texas.

The Church and Cursillo

The Cursillo movement was given Church approval in December 1963. On that occasion, Pope Paul VI said in part: "This method of Christian teaching commonly called Cursillos in Christianity extends already over a great number of the faithful and it has produced abundant fruit: Christian renewal of family life...and the vitalization of parishes."

In March of 1971, after making his Cursillo weekend, then Archbishop Timothy Manning was quoted in the Tidings as saying, "From my experience I must say this has my 100% plus...not only approval but enthusiasm."

Christianizing Environments

The Cursillo is an encounter with Christ. Correctly applied and overseen the Cursillo Movement can have very positive results in the spiritual revitalization of the world. The Christ-likeness in a few people is contagious. The transference of Christ's values to others in one's family, school, place of business, etc., is the Christianizing of environments the Cursillo promotes. The goal of the movement is that Christ be the prime influence in society. So it is said the PRIMARY OBJECTIVES of the Cursillo Movement are to develop in adult Christians a consciousness of their ability and mission to become leaders in the work of Christian renewal, and to sustain them as they provide a Christian leaven in civic, social and economic life. This "Christianizing of environments" is what the Cursillo movement is about.