

## What is CURSILLO?



Cursillo is a movement of the Church, providing a method by which Christians are empowered to grow through prayer, study and action, and enabled to share God's love with everyone.

Cursillo (pronounced kur-see-oh) is a Spanish word for "short course". The movement originated in Spain, spread to the USA and to many countries throughout the world.

Cursillo is a way of Renewal in the Church. It draws on the rich heritage of faith and experience to help us to know that God loves us and that we are to love one another.

Its purpose is to strengthen Christians to a deeper relationship with God and to help them to understand and grow in the development of their gifts.

The goal of Cursillo is nothing less than to bring Christ to the world through the apostolic action of Christians in all areas of human activity.

## What Does Cursillo Offer?

† An opportunity to grow in faith and to discover the meaning of life in Christ, sharing in the creative process of becoming the people God intends us to be.

† A means of encouraging Christian action in the world and a continuing experience of Christian community life.

## The Three Day Weekend

People are introduced to Cursillo by a three day residential weekend which normally runs from Thursday at about 7:00 pm until Sunday afternoon at about 5:00 pm. The intention of the weekend is to be a preparation for the full life that God promises.

There is a daily Eucharist, morning and evening prayer, and time for silent reflection, though it is not a conventional retreat.

During the three days, lay people and clergy give a series of short talks that offer a concentrated course in Christian living. These talks are intermingled with a series of meditations.

You are encouraged to take part in discussions in small groups of people like you, laity and clergy, who are searching, discovering and growing in their faith.

The participants and the presentation team form a Christian community lovingly enfolded in prayer throughout the weekend - a community learning, praying, talking, sharing, singing, eating, living and laughing together.



## After the Cursillo Weekend:



*The three day Cursillo weekend is only the beginning. Cursillo provides you with a clear support structure to motivate and encourage you in your Christian life after the weekend.*

This is done mainly through meeting regularly in a small group with others in your locality. There are also occasional area gatherings where you may gain inspiration from hearing the experiences of others, and encouragement to enrich your own life of prayer, study and action.

The ongoing support mechanism, which has always been at the heart of Cursillo, is available to people of any Christian denomination, and it is not necessary to have participated in a Cursillo weekend to become involved. The three day Cursillo weekend exists to provide impetus and is not an end in itself.

Cursillo does not seek to replace the many cell and home groups in parish churches, or other church activities, but rather to complement them. Cursillo seeks to equip and encourage Christians to offer their lives and gifts in God's service wherever He puts them.

## How Can Cursillo Serve the Diocese of Qu'Appelle?

Cursillo says...

***“Let go and let God.”***

Individuals are encouraged to have a rule of life based on prayer, study and action. The church benefits because each individual means business with God.

***“Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ.”***

Individuals are encouraged to be the church in the world. The church benefits from people who are active in their immediate environment and have a viewpoint that extends beyond the domestic.

***“Christ is counting on you.”***

Individuals are encouraged in their ongoing growth in faith through the Cursillo support mechanism. The church benefits because this ongoing process provides mutual support, and encouragement to build leadership.

### The Next Three Day Weekend:

2016 October 27-30, Co-Ed Weekend

Place: Wood Acres Conference Facility  
Moose Jaw

Cost: \$250  
Finances, however, should not dictate whether or not you attend a weekend, as sponsorship is possible. On the weekend, you are given an opportunity to make a tax deductible contribution toward the future attendance of others.

## A Note from the Bishop

“As a movement of the Anglican Church, Cursillo is under the authority of the diocesan bishop. It has leadership roles for both laity and clergy and is structured to play an important part in the Diocesan Mission Action Plan and is, I believe, a vital component for the renewal of the church. For example, in the Diocese of Qu'Appelle we have been directing our focus on four pillars or building blocks to live out our faith – Three of these: small group ministry, outreach, evangelism are strengthened by using the Cursillo method and the fourth is fulfilled in the enriching way we gather for worship.

“The Goal of Cursillo is to make Saints and Apostles. The focus is the world and our mission is to spread the love of Jesus Christ. What greater task and privilege is there than this! So let us continue to make sparks in the stubble for Christ.

“Forward and onward. *Ultreya!*”

*Rob Hardwick †*  
Bishop of Qu'Appelle

### Interested?

Discuss the possibility of attending a Cursillo weekend with your parish priest, or with someone in the Cursillo community.

For further information, contact  
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