

Apostolic Plan

New York Cursillo (English)

Archdiocese of New York

June 2018

Mission Statement

**To make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend to
Christ**

Vision Statement

**To enable the person to be fully Christian who, in turn,
transforms their environments to be more
Christian**

The Pre-Cursillo

The Pre-Cursillo is the first phase in the Cursillo movement and corresponds to the sphere of our environment or of others. It is an apostolic plan with the sole objective of the effectiveness in souls. Pre-Cursillo includes a process of selection and preparation, with the holy intention that the labor will produce a good and bountiful harvest. A good and abundant harvest depends, first of all, on God's plans and the freedom of each child of God. But the work of the sower (sponsor or leader) is of crucial importance. The sower has to prepare the ground and take care of the seed. The seed can only be born and grow with life, if it falls on fertile ground.

Objectives

- Sponsor new Cursillistas.
- Emphasize the importance of true sponsorship.
- Prepare candidates for their weekend through friendship with a view toward a perennial living of the Cursillo in the Post-Cursillo.
- Inform, awaken and motivate interest, and encourage an attitude of openness and searching.

Action Plan

1. Sponsoring:
 - Select environments and leaders in those environments for Cursillo.
 - Ensure that each sponsor receives, reads and understands the *Sponsor Booklet* with the Candidate Application, which includes the basic requirements to participate in the Cursillo weekend.
 - Ensure all sponsors are active members of Group Reunions and actively participate in Diocesan Ultreyas. If a sponsor is not, they need to get a co-sponsor to help them in their efforts.

- Ensure all sponsors receive training to gain a firm foundation in the purpose of sponsoring, what the Cursillo movement is/is not, and the goal of the movement.
2. Candidate Preparation:
- Ensure that each candidate has personal contact with their sponsor and the Team Leaders of their weekend.
 - Ensure candidates have and read *The Cursillo Movement – What Is It?*
 - Ensure all candidates have a firm understanding of the purpose and goal of the movement, what the weekend involves, and what is involved in the Post-Cursillo.
3. Education and Training:
- Inform and train Cursillistas in all aspects of Pre-Cursillo.
 - Conduct periodic sponsor training workshops.
 - Provide communication and information to our Catholic communities regarding the Cursillo movement through various means, such as, parish representative program, written literature, Rooster Crows newsletter, and website.
 - Remind sponsors and other Cursillo leaders that including candidates in a Group Reunion and/or Ultreya prior to the Cursillo Weekend may be good preparation for understanding the Fourth Day after the weekend. Keep in mind that bringing new persons to Group Reunion must first be given the blessing of existing group members.

The Cursillo (Three-Day Weekend)

The Cursillo Weekend, above all, is the living and sharing of what is fundamental to being Christian in fellowship that is caring and apostolic. In the Cursillo one lives with God by means of prayer, with the Church by means of the leaders, and with the world by means of the rest of the Cursillistas. The Cursillo is the discovery of the proposal, “Come and See”, which the sponsor made to the candidate. It is the experience of a lived reality of the triple encounter with oneself, with Christ, and with our brothers and sisters.

Objectives

- Team selection should be done through those attending the School of Leaders.
- Emphasize on the Three-Day Weekend the importance of group reunion and Ultreya. This is the vehicle used in Cursillo to foster friendship.
- Offer teachings to the community that are original and true to the Movement concerning the three-day weekend, e.g., “Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ” during team formation at School of Leaders, on the website, in the newsletter, and other avenues of communication.
- Emphasize the importance of Palanca for the work of the Cursillo Movement.

Action Plan

1. Encourage the community to attend School of Leaders, National and Regional Encounters, especially the teams in formation.
2. Educate the community about the importance of the closing for the new Cursillistas and for the community. The closing would be the first Fourth Day event they attend.
3. Train Rectors and Rectoras who in turn train team members.

4. Encourage support through the *Cursillo Manual* and *Leader's Manual*.
5. Notify Cursillo community that weekends will only take place once a minimum number of candidates are confirmed to eliminate the need to cancel weekends. Publish a go/no-go date two (2) weeks before each weekend when the decision would be made.

The Post-Cursillo

The purpose of the Post-Cursillo is to see Christ in every moment. It is the effort made so that the candle (that Christ, through the Cursillo Weekend, placed in the center of the movable square meter in each of us) remains lit and illuminates others, especially those far away, in any one of the environments in which we live. The Post-Cursillo is the third phase in the Cursillo Movement, and the KEY to making the trip; the encounter provoked in the Cursillo Weekend, a continuous and progressive reality.

Objective

- Provide authentic Ultreyas that encourage and support the Cursillista in their spiritual journey so in turn they can transform their environments by means of friendship.
- Aid Cursillistas in their efforts to join and maintain a Group Reunion.
- Present workshops to continually educate and remind Cursillistas of the mentality and purpose of Cursillo.
- Present an annual retreat to spiritually nourish Cursillistas.

Action Plans

1. Provide Ultreyas at a time and place that is convenient to the Community. Ensure that the Ultreya is conducted according to the Cursillo format. Assist facilitators and witness speakers by providing documentation and guidance. Conclude with Spiritual Advisor's summation given by a priest, deacon or religious.
2. Encourage authentic Group Reunion through the use of the Cursillo literature. Aid Cursillistas in locating and organizing regular group reunions.
3. Promote the use of the Leaders' Prayer at the School of Leader and Secretariat meetings.

4. Provide an annual retreat for all Cursillistas to provide an opportunity for Spiritual renewal and study through witness, communal prayer and fellowship.
5. Communicate news from the National Cursillo Resource Center and the OMCC (World Organization of Cursillo of Christianity).
6. Encourage Cursillistas to attend Regional and National Encounters.
7. Add the email addresses for the new Cursillistas to the NY Cursillo email list.

School of Leaders

The School of Leaders develops the role of serving Cursillos, in close connection and common vision with the Secretariat, to simplify, facilitate and enable the sharing of what is fundamental to being Christian at any point in all the environments in which we live and engage in.

It is to accelerate the living of what is fundamental for bring a Christian in each of its members as individuals, in the Cursillo Movement as a whole, and in the environments where God has placed us.

Consequently, the School of Leaders is **NOT** established to do things, but to **BE** something-- a community of service to the Cursillistas.

It is the gathering or reunion of leaders, that illuminates, encourages and retrieves our restlessness with the best means possible:

FRIENDSHIP. It is the place where leaders are in tune with the same spirit, following a common criterion, where the truth is foremost because we wish it and we all live it. (*Structure of Ideas* by Eduardo Bonnín and Francisco Forteza}

Objectives

- Have a long-term study curriculum in place.
- Keep doctrinal (Church teaching) and technical (Cursillo teaching) aspects of the School separate.
- Increase Community participation in School of Leaders.
- Provide information to the Cursillo Community on the Movement to help the Community grow, learn and better understand their Fourth Day living.
- Offer Community information and education for Cursillistas to help them grow in knowledge of the Movement.
- Have members of School of Leaders mentor new attendees.

- Form the members of the School of Leaders so that they are adequately prepared to sponsor candidates and serve as team members for Three-Day weekends.
- Increase the membership of the School of Leaders to the point where the teams for Three-Day weekends can eventually be drawn entirely, or almost entirely, from the School.
- Educate Community as to what School of Leaders is.

Action Plan

1. Access the National Cursillo website (www.natl-cursillo.org) for related articles/books for technical teaching information.
2. Access Pope Francis' writings, as well as the Catechism of the Catholic Church, USCCB website, and Vatican website, etc., for doctrinal and Catholic social teaching information.
3. Continue the Study of the Charism.
4. Request support from the priests, deacons and religious in our Movement to provide and support our doctrinal teaching, as well as requesting members of the lay Cursillo Community to support and provide technical teachings.
5. With the support of Secretariat and School of Leaders Committee members, engage in personal contact at all Ultreyas to encourage other Cursillistas to join School of Leaders.
6. Plan and implement Cursillo information sessions (i.e. Weekend Reunions).
7. Continue to meet the second Saturday morning per month at St. Augustine's Church in New City, NY.
8. Provide School of Leaders information to the Community through Ultreyas, emails, website, etc.

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This Apostolic Plan for New York Cursillo (English) in the archdiocese of New York is presented in four sections:

- Pre-Cursillo
- Cursillo (Three-Day Weekend)
- Post-Cursillo (Fourth Day)
- School of Leaders

The plan is submitted to the National Cursillo, Region 1 Cursillo, and His Eminence, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, Archbishop of New York. It is also posted on the New York Cursillo (English) website at: www.natl-cursillo.org/newyork.

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