

# CURSILLO SPONSORSHIP HANDOUT



Make a friend,  
Be a friend,  
Bring a friend to Christ.

*\*Depending on your Secretariat guidelines*

## Characteristics of a Cursillo Sponsor

1. I attended a Cursillo weekend & I participated in a Sponsor's Workshop.
2. I am active in a Reunion Group, or I will begin a Reunion Group with the new Cursillista.
3. I attend Ultreyas consistently.\*
4. By God's Grace, I follow a Rule of Life.
5. I have discussed the applicate with the priest to assure this is a good time in the participant's life to experience Cursillo.
6. I pray, and am willing to continue to pray, for the person(s) I am sponsoring.
7. I will arrange transportation for the Pilgrams/Candidates for the Cursillo Weekend. \*
8. As needed, I will arrange for appropriate family/pet needs of the applicant during the Cursillo weekend.
9. I will answer questions from the applicant concerning the Cursillo Ministry and the Cursillo Weekend. Answering all questions honestly.
10. I may be responsible for arranging for part of the cost of the Cursillo weekend and understand that all deadlines are adhered to by all including the candidate/pilgrim and the home church. Checks should be payable to your Diocese or your Secretariat. \*
11. I have suggested what things to pack for the Cursillo weekend. Such as but not limited to Comfortable clothes, medicines, jacket, bug spray etc.
12. I will write personal palanca to the Pilgram/Candidate and attend Clausura. \*
13. I will reach out to family/friends to also write palanca to send with me to the venue and invite them attend Clausura. \*
14. I reach out to the Pilgrams/Candidates Home Church to send palanca and invite them to attend Clausura. \*
15. I will bring the new Cursillista to the Day of Deeper Understanding (DDU). \*

## Identifying a Pilgram/Candidate

1. Should be a baptized Christian. \*
2. Should be over the age of twenty, and reasonably stable and mature. \*
3. Does this person show a desire for a closer relationship with God?
4. Have they been experiencing a spiritual yearning?
5. Do you see Christ in this person?
6. Will this person(s) read and study the Bible or Christian books to increase knowledge of God's longing to be close to them?

### Prior to approaching the Pilgram/Candidate

7. Talk to God about the Pilgram/Candidate before you talk to your Pilgram/Candidate.
8. Discuss the Pilgram/Candidate with the home church priest to assure this is a good time in their life to experience Cursillo. Be a friend if this is not the right time.

Once Pilgrim/Candidate is approved to attend Cursillo Weekend

9. Visit about the impact Cursillo had on you and your walk with Christ.
10. Share ideas of Christian Action, and how to commit to working with others to help those in need.
11. Discuss Make a Friend, Be a Friend, and Bring a Friend to Christ. This means sometimes going out of our comfort zone and normal group of friends to reach all people God's is calling to Cursillo.
12. Share the impact that a 4<sup>th</sup> Day Reunion Group has had on you. Explain that you will assist them in getting established in your group or one more suited for them.

## Sponsorship in Action – Training the Trainer

*Note:* This Training contains several methods of learning. Power Point components, handouts, sample of Sponsor, interactive responses listed on white board, presenters sharing key elements, personal witness, small group sharing ideas and challenges.

### Welcome

1. Introductions of presenters. Ask if all participants have signed in at the front table.
2. Come Holy Spirit Prayer on PowerPoint
3. Our **purpose** today is to reinforce potential sponsors with the responsibilities of being good sponsors. Authentic sponsors rise to the ideals of Cursillo ministry. You are a key to the health of the ministry. What does an ideal sponsor look like? Ask each attendee to name a key trait for being a great sponsor. (Use your own word)
4. Your attendance here qualifies you as a Cursillo Sponsor and trainer to other potential sponsors in your diocese.
5. Each presenter will share a short story of the impact your sponsor has had on your spiritual growth.
6. Your attendance here qualifies you as a Cursillo Sponsor and trainer to other potential sponsors in your diocese.
7. Option Ice Breaker "Brainstorm what a sponsor might be" share responses on White Board/Flip Chart

### PowerPoint Presentation

1. 15 Characteristics of Cursillo Sponsor (3 pages)
2. Identify Pilgrim/Candidates (4 pages)
3. Weekend Checklist for Sponsor (1 page)
4. Weekend Checklist for Pilgrim/Candidate (1 Page)
5. 4<sup>th</sup> Day Sponsor Checklist (1 page)

*Note:* Be sure to reference the note pages during the PowerPoint slides Presentation.

### Group Discussion Points after PowerPoint Training (Use your own words)

The history of Cursillo proves that the 4<sup>th</sup> Day came first. Group Reunions and Ultreyas developed the weekend so more people would experience Jesus up close and want to join the 4<sup>th</sup> Day. Authentic sponsors make the ministry healthy by sharing their 4<sup>th</sup> Day with others. What a beautiful way to serve God.

Sponsorship is the heart of a healthy Cursillo Ministry. Any ministry is only as strong as its members. We are committed to the ideals of Cursillo and want others to join us.

The Cursillo Weekend is a spiritual bootcamp. It is an intentional, intense immersion into authentic Christianity.

Sponsors are to raise up and equip more active leaders and servants of Christ. When we see Christ in the person, we want to be as Christ to them. Pray for them and share your faith with them as your friendship grows. As Cursillo is discussed, be open and honest to assure them they can ask anything about the weekend.

4<sup>th</sup> Day principles are follow the rule of life that includes prayer, worship, fellowship, study, service, spiritual direction, recreation, witness and leadership. ***To live the 4<sup>th</sup> Day, we all need to be active in a Reunion Group and Ultreya. They are the life blood of the heart of Cursillo.*** Accountability among your group helps with your growth.

Cursillo & the 4<sup>th</sup> Day give them tools and support systems to change their world for Christ. The Cursillo Weekend is a spiritual bootcamp. It is an intentional, intense immersion into authentic Christianity. Group Reunion & Ultreyas are vital. Staying accountable is key.

If you do not have access to a group reunion in person, do it by phone, email, zoom. If you are not in a group right now, pledge to start one with your candidate. We can only share what we have.

***Optional Activity:*** Break out in small groups to discuss sponsor training and assistance available in your Diocese. (10 minutes) Regroup and share strong ideas and improvements for your Cursillo future. (Be prepared to write down the group's answers on a whiteboard.) Have the group then review the list of attributes and then prioritize them.

Any further questions or comments?

You have received a Cursillo Sponsorship Handout as well as a certificate of completion for Cursillo Sponsorship Training just insert your name. The training document and PowerPoint will be added to the ECM website for download in the next few weeks.

***Closing Prayer:*** We give you thanks, Almighty God, for our Cursillo Ministry and those called to be sponsors. Amen.

