

Before talking to someone about attending a Cursillo, talk to God about the individual.  
“ Make a friend. Be a friend. Bring that friend to Christ.”

Don't be totally secretive, tell the potential candidate as much as you can without revealing any of the surprises. Use the brochure you received in the packet at your Cursillo to help explain what the weekend is like.

Meet with your candidate and try to answer his or her questions about all aspects of the weekend that you are free to discuss. Reassure him or her, telling the candidate how you felt as you began your Cursillo weekend. Were you scared, apprehensive, angry, bull-headed, curious?

**MAKE SURE THE CANDIDATE UNDERSTANDS THAT CURSILLO IS A CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE!**

Be a friend to this candidate. Make sure you know what health issues this individual may have. The Cursillo Board and the team for this candidate need to know they are truly ready to deal with whatever issues they may have before this candidate can be accepted to make a weekend. You as a sponsor may need to be responsible to help meet their health needs and if you are a friend you will want to be a part of this. Be sure to highlight this area when you fill out the sponsor's part of the application so the application committee can contact the board to review the issue. Some of these issues involve medication, mobility, sleep disorders, food issues, mental comprehension.

**Once Your Candidate is Accepted**

If your candidate is unable to attend the weekend for which he or she has been accepted, you must see to it that the Applications Committee is notified. This should be done as soon as possible so that another candidate can be notified to fill that space. If the committee is not notified, or your candidate cancels three times, the application will be placed in a “space available file”.

Plan the Palanca you will do both before and during the Cursillo weekend for your candidate. Begin doing your Palanca as soon as your candidate decides to attend a weekend. You can sign up for an hour in the Palanca Chapel either at the Buddy Mass, or on the Thursday night of your candidate's weekend, or prior to that by calling Mike or Sue Holbrook at 217-223-6676.

Some Palanca suggestions are: attending an extra mass each week; visits to the Blessed Sacrament; special prayers or meditation time; Palanca in the chapel; avoidance of sweets, beer, coffee, smoking, television, movies; fasting; reaching out to and helping others or volunteering for committees.

**On the Candidate's Weekend**

Bring the candidate to the Renewal Center yourself or at the very least arrange for someone else to bring him or her.

To help your candidate to get off to a good start:

- 1) Carry the candidate's bags.
- 2) Assist the candidate at the check in table.
- 3) Offer to unpack the candidate's bags.
- 4) Point out where the restrooms and showers are located.
- 5) Take the candidate to the social and stay close to him or her, introducing him or her to your Cursillo friends.
- 6) Attend to your candidate's needs – get coffee, tea, lemonade or whatever is available.
- 7) Stay until you are sure he or she is as comfortable as possible.

**ALERT THE TEAM TO ANY MEDICAL OR DIETARY NEEDS OF YOUR CANDIDATE! THIS SHOULD BE DONE AS A FOLLOW UP TO WHAT WAS PROVIDED ON THE APPLICATION SO AS TO REMIND EVERYONE OF THESE HEALTH ISSUES.**

Attend the Sponsor's Hour in the North Chapel. (8:30 PM on Thursday night) and hang his or her cross.

**Do not plan on serving meals during your candidate's weekend. If you really want to help, you are free to come and wash pots and pans in the kitchen, but you should not have any contact with your candidate, such as in the dining room. Consider this lack of contact with him or her as a form of Palanca.**

Attend the Apostolic Hour (Mass & candlelight at 8:00 PM) in the Main Chapel on Saturday evening. Remember, no children are allowed and Cursillistas or Emmaus Pilgrims only.

Attend the Closing and Mass on Sunday evening in the Main Chapel at 5:00 PM SHARP!

If your candidate is a married man, contact his wife during the weekend to make sure that she is doing okay. Offer to help her in any way that you can. Do not mention that you will be seeing him over the weekend.

**It is part of your duty to help the family resolve problems that may come up. You should give your candidate's family a number where they can reach you. If it is a real emergency you may contact the Lay Director, Cindy Stephens at 217-224-7760 (home); 217-222-5427 (work); or the Assistant Lay Director, David Dodd 217-656-3738 or 217-653-2897 (cell), and they will get the message to the candidate. Please use these numbers only in a real emergency.**

### **After Your Candidate's Weekend**

To help your candidate re-enter "the real world" after the closing:

- 1) Be there to take him or her home.
- 2) Check to be sure that the candidate has cleaned his or her room and removed all personal belongings.
- 3) Help the candidate to pack his or her bags if not already done.
- 4) Carry the bags out to the car.

- 5) Stop for coffee or supper on the way home to allow the candidate to settle down and answer any questions he or she might have.

Call or visit your candidate on Monday to wish him or her a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Day and to see how he or she is doing. Reassure the candidate again by answering any questions.

Encourage the candidate all you can and reinforce the need to get into a Group Reunion, and help him or her to find a group. Check back periodically to see if the new cursillista is satisfied with the group he or she is attending.

Seek and greet the new Cursillista at future Cursillo functions and keep him or her in your prayers.

11.18.2010

THIS PAGE TO BE COMPLETED BY THE "SPONSOR"

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

The Quincy Cursillo Board wishes to Thank You for sponsoring a candidate on a Cursillo weekend. Remember, as a sponsor, you are making a big commitment to your candidate. Being actively involved in your parish, a group reunion, and the Cursillo movement will be an asset for you and your candidate.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Denomination of the Church you are now attending \_\_\_\_\_

When and where did you make your Cursillo? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you feel that this person would be a good candidate? \_\_\_\_\_

The Quincy Cursillo Board would like to make Cursillo available to everyone. However, in some cases, the Cursillo program and the facilities that we use, may not be suited to handling some physical and or mental challenges. The Board's intent is not to turn anyone away, but to insure that the special needs of a candidate can be met which will allow them to have the fullest experience possible.

Does the candidate have the physical and or mental health needed for a Cursillo weekend? \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain why he/she should be considered, and what the Team may need to know to help this candidate. \_\_\_\_\_

Any candidate requiring a personal caregiver will need approval from the Board before they can be accepted. You as the sponsor are responsible for helping to find a personal caregiver, who must be a Cursillista. The sponsor and the caregiver will need to come before the Board and present the candidate and his/her needs. The Board will make the final decision as to whether or not your candidate may attend the weekend. The caregiver will be required to accompany the candidate for the entire weekend. Please contact the Cursillo Lay Director to present the background of his/her needs, or any other concerns immediately.

Will you have a Palanca letter for your candidate on Thursday evening? Are you prepared to attend to the needs of the candidate's family should they arise?

Are you aware of:

The importance of minimal contact with your candidate during the weekend?

This means you are not eligible to serve meals during your candidate's weekend!

That it is your responsibility to provide the opportunity for your candidate to be in a Group Reunion!

**NOTES:**

We will make every effort to get your candidate on the next scheduled weekend that has space available. His or her church affiliation may have an effect on which weekend the candidate is placed due to our limit of 20% non-Catholic Christians on one weekend. Contact Sheldon or Teresa Robinson if you have a question about this.

If the candidate is a married man we encourage you to send his wife's application in at the same time, since all applications are accepted on a first come first served basis. If the candidate is a married woman it must be verified that her husband has already made a Cursillo or Walk to Emmaus, if not, the woman's application MUST be brought to the attention of the Cursillo Board for approval.

As the sponsor, YOU will receive a letter of acceptance for your candidate, which YOU are to DELIVER to him/her, and then arrange to BRING the candidate to the Cursillo weekend and back home on Sunday evening.

Sponsor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL THIS APPLICATION ALONG WITH THE CANDIDATE APPLICATION, AND THE DEPOSIT PAYABLE TO "QUINCY CURSILLO N.F.P." TO:

Sheldon and Teresa Robinson  
818 Joshua Street  
Quincy, IL 62305 (217)-228-2201