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FROM THE YOUNGSTOWN CURSILLO SECRETARIAT

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ -

We of the Youngstown Cursillo Secretariat come to you with an urgent request.

We are concerned about the future of our beloved Cursillo Movement in the Youngstown area. We come to you and are begging you to become active in the Cursillo movement. We have been putting off having the Men's weekend for years. Every year there have been fewer and fewer people coming to Ultreya and fewer still who have sponsored candidates. We don't want to see Cursillo die! And we need your help... NOW.

The Pittsburgh Cursillo Center found themselves in the same situation as our Center. They were able to overcome the issues and became much stronger by working together. Pittsburgh Cursillista Andrea Zientara shared part of their story:

"A few years ago, Pittsburgh Cursillo went through some dark days... spiritual attack for sure... and faced a time of great pessimism and lack of energy. One of the biggest and most active Ultreyas dissolved and received guidance from the National Cursillo on how to make the weekend more authentic. We accepted reality that since the weekend is an encounter with the Risen Christ, who were we to think we could IMPROVE on that with skits, serenades, etc.? We also learned that we don't need a cast of thousands to form a team. The whole CDC was done with 5 people. Each one giving 2 talks. So we decided that the fluff and the big teams were not necessary and now we go with 6 veterans who give talks and 2 relatively new Cursillistas who work as stewards and learn the weekend format.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

ULTREYA SCHEDULE

Ultreya will be in the basement of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Basilica church in Youngstown on the 2nd Thursday of each month

Ultreya begins at 7:00 pm.

Here are the dates scheduled:

July 13th,
Aug 10th,
Sept. 14th,
Oct.. 12th

Ultreya Hosts Needed!

We are in need of small groups who would like to host Ultreya .

Please pray and talk to your group about hosting Ultreya one week a month. To get on the schedule, please contact Rosie Hollen at 330-718-2818 or

RoseMaryHollen@Outlook.com

The last hurdle we overcame was the hard and fast number of candidates we would accept to make doing the Team Formation and Weekend “worth it” and we stuck with the number 10 for a number of years. If we didn’t have 10 candidates, we had to cancel weekends. This we found, negatively impacted those who were thinking of sponsoring because they didn’t want to be embarrassed to their friends to build up the weekend and then say it wasn’t happening. We prayed really hard... and took a leap of faith. We would not cancel weekends ever again and would accept those that the Lord sent to us. What happened was amazing... our weekends, though small in team and candidates, were extremely powerful in the Spirit.

Many of the new Cursillistas from those smaller weekends enjoyed more one-on-one time with the team and catching their enthusiasm for the Movement have stayed engaged in Ultreyas and are working on teams. The effect on the greater Cursillo Community has also been very positive because they love coming together for closings and have been re-energized to attend other Cursillo functions and now sponsor candidates with confidence in the Weekend. Recently, a long-time Cursillista who was around during Pittsburgh’s golden years said, “it feels like the old Cursillo again!”

We have gone through a lot of changes in the last few years and rely on prayer to the Holy Spirit for guidance and grace. We believe we are on the right track and are enjoying joyful secretariats, team formations and Leader’s Schools, not attended by great numbers, but those there are happy and enthusiastic. The pessimism has lifted and hope for the future has replaced it.”

The success that their Cursillo center has experienced can be duplicated here in Youngstown.

We are going to have a Men’s Cursillo weekend, August 10-13, and we need your support!! The weekend will be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hall. We will run this Men’s Cursillo with the team that has been in formation, but going forward teams will be smaller.

We thank you for your past support, but now is the time to ask yourself a question:

Do you want to be a part of this movement or not?

If you do want to be part of this movement, thank you! We will continue working with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Please don’t let this movement die! When you made your weekend, you were given a necklace with a cross attached to it. On the back of the cross are the words: “Christ is Counting on You.” It has never been truer than now.

We need your help NOW to continue the Cursillo here in Youngstown. Get involved. Come to Ultreya, Sponsor a candidate, work on a weekend, and get involved in a committee. Do it now, don’t put it off. We’ve all said “I’ll get involved someday.” Well, the someday is now. We need help now. Christ is counting on you.

DeColores !

The Secretariat

Cursillo Movement of the Youngstown Diocese





Candidate Application

All information on this form will be kept confidential and will be used by the Youngstown Cursillo Center only to help us prepare your weekend.

Last Name		First Name		M.I.	Nickname for badge	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F
Address				City/State		Zip
Phone	Alt/Cell Phone	Email (for Cursillo use only)		Parish/City		
Occupation		Birthdate		Level of Education: <input type="checkbox"/> High school <input type="checkbox"/> Trade school <input type="checkbox"/> College <input type="checkbox"/> Post-grad		
Hobbies/Interests: _____ _____ _____						
Community/Church Activities: _____ _____ _____						
Do you play a musical instrument? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Which instrument? _____						
Please indicate all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Priest <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Married (Spouse Name: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Separated If Married, is spouse Catholic? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Has your spouse attended a Cursillo? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <u>The Cursillo method strongly emphasizes full participation in the sacramental life of the Church.</u> Can you receive the sacraments? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Can your spouse? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No						
Why do you wish to attend a Cursillo? _____ _____ _____						
Has your sponsor explained Group Reunion, Ultreya and the 4th Day to you? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No A Cursillo Weekend is three very full days, programmed with many activities and opportunities for spiritual growth and community building. If you have any adverse health conditions, or if you are taking any medications, discuss them openly with your sponsor and list them on the back of this application. Also, if you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions, please list them on the back of this application. <i>There is a <u>suggested</u> donation of \$75 for all Cursillo participants.</i> <small>(more accepted, less never turned down)</small>						
Candidate Signature _____				Date _____		
Sponsor(s) _____						
Parish Representative Signature _____						

Sponsor Confidential Form

MUST ACCOMPANY CANDIDATE APPLICATION*.

Name of Candidate _____

How long have you known him/her? _____(years)

What is your relationship? _____

What environment(s) do you share? _____

- Have you brought your candidate to your Group Reunion or to Ultreya? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Have you explained to your candidate the Cursillo movement and the expectations of the 4th Day? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do you recommend your candidate as table secretary? ☐ Yes ☐ No

As a sponsor, it is very important that you know your candidate.**

Talk to God about your candidate BEFORE you talk to your candidate about God.

Because this is an intense, emotional experience, we urge you to consider any serious issues in your candidate's life, and suggest that your candidate waits at least two years have passed if he/she has recently experienced the following:

- separation or divorce · death in their immediate family · treatment of any kind for emotional or mental illness
- rehabilitation or recovery programs for drug, alcohol or other behavioral addiction · serious legal troubles

Has your candidate experienced any issues as listed above within the past two years? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, explain on the back of this form, or on a separate sheet of paper. Please list any physical conditions as well.

Sponsors, please discuss these issues with the Youngstown Cursillo Center's Spiritual Director and his/her parish priest before inviting this candidate to participate in a weekend.

SPONSORS ARE OBLIGATED TO ASSIST WITH THESE ISSUE(S) DURING AND AFTER THE WEEKEND IF NECESSARY.

To the best of my knowledge, this candidate should be able to receive the sacraments of reconciliation and/or Eucharist.

Parish Priest Signature _____

As a Sponsor, your duties include: Reading the sponsor guidelines.

- Providing transportation to and from the weekend for your candidate.
- If candidate's spouse is non-Catholic, inviting the spouse to participate in all community activities surrounding the weekend.
- Contacting and encouraging relatives and friends of your candidate who are Cursillistas to participate in all community activities surrounding the weekend.
- Providing Palanca for your candidate and the rest of the candidates, the team and the Cursillo community before, during and after the weekend.
- Bringing your candidate to post-weekend Ultreyas and to the Post-Cursillo Seminar. · Staying in touch with your candidate.

Sponsor Name _____ Date _____

Cursillo Attended _____ Diocese _____ Year (optional) _____

Mailing Address _____ email _____

**This form is to be filled out by the SPONSOR ONLY. Do not give to your candidate to fill out.*

***We suggest that you are an active Cursillista for at least one year before sponsoring a candidate. See sponsor guidelines for more details.*

YOUNGSTOWN CURSILLO SPONSOR GUIDELINES

The Cursillo is a method for living, sharing and spreading Christianity. For this method to be effective, there are specific requirements that must be met. Therefore, sponsorship is a serious responsibility. Before you fill out an application, consider these two questions:

1. Will my candidate both benefit from the weekend AND be faithful to the expectations of the Fourth Day?

2. Is my candidate capable of and likely to use the tools of Group Reunion, Ultreya and spiritual direction to persevere in his or her Fourth Day?

In selecting a candidate, seek out individuals who would exert a positive influence in their environments. The ideal candidate isn't *necessarily* active in his or her parish already. Consider potential candidates who express a deep desire and hunger for spiritual growth and contentment, and who are currently living their Catholic faith to the best of their ability.

Other guidelines to follow when selecting a candidate:

If you have been an active Cursillista for less than one year, please ask either your sponsor or an experienced Cursillista to co-sponsor your candidate. Obtain permission from Pre-Cursillo chairperson and/or Lay Director to sponsor more than two candidates for the same weekend. Seek out the advice of the Youngstown Cursillo Center's Spiritual Director and/or candidate's Parish Priest inviting your candidate if he or she has experienced within the last two years any of the following:

- divorce or separation · death in the immediate family · treatment of any kind for emotional or mental issues
- rehabilitation or a recovery program for drug, alcohol or other behavioral addiction · serious legal troubles

As a sponsor, your responsibilities before, during and after the Cursillo are as follows:

- Explain the Cursillo as a short course in Christianity, and also explain the expectations of the Fourth Day.
- Bring your candidate to your Group Reunion or to Ultreya prior to the weekend.
- Explain to your candidate that the \$75 cost is a suggested donation and should not be a deterrent.
- Complete the application with your candidate—do not hand the application to your candidate to fill out and mail in. Complete the Sponsor Confidential Sheet on your own. Submit both forms to your Parish Representative. If at all possible, fill out both spouse applications simultaneously for all married candidates.
- Provide transportation for your candidate to and from Cursillo. This is very important, as your candidate will be tired at the end of his/her weekend. NOTE: If you are on the team and sponsoring a candidate, arrange for someone to drive your candidate to and from the weekend.
- Avail yourself to your candidate's family for church, shopping, meals, babysitting, or any other personal needs. If your candidate has few or no outside needs, be sure to be there to help during the weekend.
- If your candidate's spouse is not Catholic, it is your responsibility to invite him or her to participate in all community activities surrounding the weekend.
- After the weekend, accompany your candidate to the post-Cursillo seminar and to Ultreya.
- Be available to answer any and all questions regarding the Cursillo Movement that your candidate may have.
- Help your candidate utilize the Cursillo tools to persevere in his or her environment.

**YOUNGSTOWN
CURSILLO MOVEMENT**

P.O. Box 3196
Youngstown, Ohio 44513-3196



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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

**If you would like to submit articles, notices or “thank-you’s”
to be printed in the newsletter, please send them to
the attention of :**

Bill Joyce, 6611 Appleridge Drive, Boardman, Ohio 44512-5010

Or email them to: *wjoyce1701@aol.com*

**The Secretariat makes the final decision on newsletter contents.
Your suggestions on improving the newsletter are welcomed.**

DeCOLORES !

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED...

We mail approximately 1,400 newsletters for each edition. Consequently, we incur a substantial expense in paper and mailing costs. If you can help defray our costs with any size donation it would be greatly appreciated. Please mail your donation to:

**Youngstown Cursillo Movement
P.O. Box 3196
Youngstown, Ohio 44513-3196**

If you have an address change, or if you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please contact:

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330-501-4611

lorettanagel@gmail.com

**REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
Men’s Cursillo Weekend: August 10, 2017**

