

### ***Cursillo is . . .***

- a Spanish word which means 'short course'. It is a short course in Christian living. Several 'Live-in' courses are usually held during the year in each diocese and these may include Cursillos just for men, just for women, or for both men & women together - usually called 'Combined';
- a time of opening ourselves to the grace and love of God by hearing talks, engaging in discussion, prayer & worship, with music and singing and laughter, along with opportunities for reflection and silence and creative expression;
- a world-wide movement seeking in its own unique way to share over three very special and spiritually invigorating days the experience of living in a Christian community;
- a time for listening and sharing ideas with fellow Christians who encounter the same struggles in following Christ;
- a once-only workshop (not a retreat) to deepen and nourish our faith by exploring the essential aspects of Christian belief within the context of a joyful and supportive fellowship;
- a means of allowing us to review the relationship between what we profess and how we live, launching us back into our church, home, social and work-place environments in order to make a difference with Christ.

### ***Cursillo is an experience of Christian living . . .***

- that over three days can be like a new beginning or a restoring point where we regain our enthusiasm for our Christian journey;
- allowing us to look closely at our world-view and to see what it means to be a disciple of Christ today;
- providing a crucible out of which simple and effective Christian influences on our communities can emerge;
- expressed in a ministry of lay people to lay people with the support and encouragement of the clergy and guided by the precepts of Scripture within the ethos of the Anglican Church.

***The purpose of Cursillo is to strengthen and encourage us as disciples of Christ, equipping us to become purposeful Christians in God's world and helping us to engage more deeply in the ministry and mission of the Church.***

### ***As the focus and strength of Cursillo lies beyond the three days, through living as Christians in our normal day-to-day situations . . .***

- small 'group reunions' meet regularly providing mutual support and spiritual accountability;
- regular gatherings are held for all Cursillistas (those who have been to a Cursillo) within each diocese for fellowship and encouragement;
- opportunities are offered to take part as team members on future Cursillos;
- other occasions may be provided from time to time to deepen understanding of the Cursillo movement.

To make an application to be a pilgrim on a Cursillo you . . .

- need to have a desire to strengthen and extend your discipleship;
- must be a baptised person, active in the Anglican Church and at least twenty years of age;
- are required to be sponsored by a person who has already attended a Cursillo. That person will undertake to explain the purpose of the movement, provide you with, and assist in filling out an Application Form, which is then endorsed by your Vicar, Regional Dean, Local Priest, Enabler or Bishop's Warden.

### ***What does a three day Cursillo cost?***

There is a cost. For each participant there are accommodation expenses, meals, and essential resources which vary between dioceses.

Your sponsor will advise you what the Cursillo will cost. No one is ever denied the joy of attending a Cursillo because of financial stringency.

An Application Fee of \$10.00 is required which is usually paid by your sponsor.

**Key Scriptures** **Discipleship:** Matthew 28: 18-20  
**Leadership:** Luke 22: 26  
**Sovereignty:** Mark 12: 29-31  
**Testimony:** John 6: 68-69

## A DEFINITION OF CURSILLO

Cursillo is a movement of the Anglican Church under the oversight of each diocesan bishop. The goal of Cursillo is to help the Church in its mission to bring all the world and the whole of life under the Lordship of Christ. Its method is to empower Christians through participation in a three-day course which provides the vision and offers an on-going process for achieving this goal. Cursillo equips Christians to live out their baptismal calling to serve Christ in the world.

*It is possible to encounter God in many ways other than Cursillo. Encountering God is easy. It is following Christ afterwards that is the challenge.*

*Will you accept this challenge and join others who desire to make a difference for Christ in whatever situation they find themselves - at church, at work, in social situations or within their family?*

*Cursillo equips all Christians to face the challenge of what it means to be disciples in a world that today is often opposed to Christ and his message.*

*For further information contact your Diocesan Office to find out who would be the appropriate person in the Cursillo movement to speak to; or -*

the following Websites will help:

[www.episcopalcurso.org](http://www.episcopalcurso.org)

[www.cursillo.org.nz](http://www.cursillo.org.nz)



**What is ...**  
**Cursillo**