

# CURSILLO

## What is Cursillo ?

- Cursillo (pronounced “kur see yo” and meaning short course in Spanish) is a large growing international movement within the Christian churches including within the Anglican, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and United Churches in Canada. Cursillo encourages us to reflect on our faith and values and acts as a supportive community as we live our faith and convictions in our daily lives.
- Individuals become part of the Cursillo community by participating in a three-day faith-sharing weekend (separate weekends for men and women) which is a personally rewarding and enriching experience.
- Cursillo is organized and operated by lay people who are part of the Cursillo community supported by spiritual advisors from the ordained clergy.
- Cursillo is a means of supporting and encouraging us in our lives as Christians. Members of the Cursillo community form lifelong friendships. Many couples both choose to become members of the Cursillo community, which enriches their lives and their relationship.

## What does Cursillo offer ?

- An opportunity to grow in faith.
- A chance to experience the love and the grace of God and the joy of Christian fellowship and sharing with others.

- A way of supporting us as we live out our Christian values in the various environments of our daily lives including family, work situations, our leisure activities, and our life and engagement in our neighbourhoods and communities.
- Provides an understanding and conviction concerning what is fundamental for being a Christian while opening our hearts and minds to others of the Christian and other faiths.
- Strengthens individuals to live out that understanding, supporting one another on our spiritual journey.

## Whom is it for ?

- People just like you – laity, clergy, anyone who is ...
  - curious
  - searching
  - discovering
  - growing and learning
  - wanting to be glad and confident in their faith and open to others.

## What is a Cursillo Weekend ?

- It is a 3-day weekend spent in a retreat setting from Thursday evening until Sunday afternoon. During these three days, those attending live and work together, and engage in talks given by different people, both lay and ordained. There is much sharing.
- Learning, praying, sharing, singing, laughing and living together produces an environment where Christ’s presence is felt and available to all for direction and understanding.
- You will engage in talks on Ideal, Grace, Piety, Faith, Study, Action, Leadership, Sacraments and Christian Community. The talks lead to lively discussion in small groups.
- It is experiencing Christianity in action in community.
- We support and encourage one another as we seek to live and work to God’s praise and glory.

## What is expected of me ?

Just be

open to

what happens !

## Is that really all ?

- Yes. It is difficult to explain such a personal experience. Words are inadequate to explain the deep and meaningful journey just traveled. Come to the weekend. Jesus' yoke is easy and His way is beautiful.
- You aren't expected to **know** or **do** more, just reflect on **being** more!

## And then . . . ?

- The weekend is not an end in itself but very much a beginning.
- After the weekend you will be invited to a short evening celebration (about 2 hours) during the week following your Cursillo at a church close to you.
- Your sponsor\*, the one who invited you to this weekend, and the Cursillo community, will continue to support you on your Christian journey.
- Life will remain pretty much the same as before with all its successes and failures. However, most people seem to become more engaged in their commitment to the church. They tend to be clearer about their commitment to Christ and His mission. Often they become more involved in their church life and some come to a role of increased leadership. All have made new friends and/or deepened existing friendships and relationships and have become part of the Cursillo community.

## What to do if you like to go on a Cursillo weekend :

Men's 32<sup>nd</sup>: Thu Oct 30 – Sun Nov 2, 2008  
(at new Shalom House, Alexandria, ON)

Women's 35<sup>th</sup>: Thu Nov 6 – Sun Nov 9, 2008  
(at Maison Ste-Marie, Vankleek Hill, ON)

### For more information please contact:

\*Sponsor name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

or

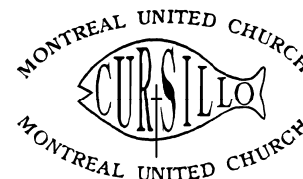
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e-mail: [info@muccursillo.org](mailto:info@muccursillo.org)

### \* Your Sponsor:

Once you decide to attend a Cursillo, your sponsor, who gave you this pamphlet and is named above, will help you to fill out the application form.

A sponsor's name is required on the application form. Your sponsor will also discuss the financial aspects of the weekend (the costs of the weekend are currently \$150, which covers lodging, meals, use of the facilities, etc.) and arrange for your travel both to and from the event.



## **Montreal United Church Cursillo**

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