

- ◆ Where a pilgrim is married, the Companion should recommend that both husband and wife make a Cursillo, either together, or as soon as possible after each other.

**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.*

**Your Commitment as a Cursillo Companion . . .**

1. Fill out the Application Form with the pilgrim. Have their Vicar endorse the application. [A priest's application is endorsed by the Bishop.]
2. Invite the pilgrim to attend your own 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group, or another appropriate one.
3. Ensure the pilgrim will not be travelling alone to the Cursillo.
4. Enquire about possible needs within the family while the pilgrim is at the Cursillo.
5. Attend the Mananita and Clausura, or arrange for another Cursillista who knows the pilgrim to fulfil this role.
6. Pray for the pilgrim and send Palanca.
7. Following the Cursillo, encourage the pilgrim in their 4th Day, especially in any follow-up programme e.g. A Day of Deeper Understanding, and attendance at Mananitas, Clausuras, and Ultreyas.
8. A separate document (Cursillo Companion's Checklist) listing these responsibilities will be forwarded to you when your pilgrim registers for a 3 Day Cursillo Weekend.



Diocese of Christchurch  
Anglican Cursillo

***Being a  
Cursillo Companion  
Supporting a Pilgrim  
to a 3 day Cursillo  
and beyond....***

Previously known as "Sponsorship"

**A companion** is “a necessary guide or aid to a particular pursuit; a person who associates with or accompanies another.” (Shorter Oxford English Dictionary). **A Cursillo Companion** is “a necessary guide” who “accompanies another”.

The Cursillo Companion is the one who invites another person (a pilgrim) to a Cursillo Three Day Weekend, transports their pilgrim to the venue (if possible), prays for them while the weekend is in progress, and who guides the pilgrim as they move into their 4<sup>th</sup> Day. Being a Cursillo Companion for a pilgrim is a great gift to them. It is not an onerous task, but rather is a pleasure and a privilege.

A Companion would not normally be expected to pay for their pilgrim to attend a weekend, but it is advisable for a Companion to be aware of the methods of financial assistance available through the Cursillo community. The Christchurch Secretariat also has funds available for assisting pilgrims to attend a Three Day Weekend. Please contact the Diocesan Lay Director.

**Being a Cursillo Companion** is a loving, prayerful responsibility. It should never be undertaken lightly. Companionship should be sensitively carried out as it is the key to a strong and active 4<sup>th</sup> Day, which in turn makes for a healthy Cursillo Movement.

Because of the commitment involved it is suggested that an individual be a Companion for only one pilgrim (or married couple) each year. A 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group however, may act as Companion for more than one pilgrim.

#### **A Companion needs to . . .**

- have been a Cursillista for at least six months
- be active in 4<sup>th</sup> Day activities
- understand the purpose and goal of the Cursillo Movement
- be aware of any needs or limitations which may affect the pilgrim’s full participation at the Cursillo.

Ideally a Cursillo Companion will be in a 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group themselves.

#### **It is desirable for the pilgrim to be . . .**

- at least 20 years of age and baptised
- a member of an Anglican parish
- active in their parish
- free of crises at the time of application
- a person likely to encourage others in the Christian faith
- a person suited for the mission of Cursillo – not simply someone who will enjoy a weekend ‘holiday’
- in a position to attend 4<sup>th</sup> Day activities

#### **Please Note**

1. *Where the Anglican Church is one of the partners in a Co-operating parish, a non-Anglican member of that parish, with the consent of the Bishop, is eligible to attend a Cursillo.*
2. *Where a non-Anglican Christian worships regularly in an Anglican Church s/he may attend a Cursillo at the discretion of the Vicar (or equivalent).*
3. ***Cursillo is not intended to be a conversion experience. It is for those who already have a Christian commitment and desire to renew and grow in that commitment***

#### **To begin the Companionship process . . .**

- ♦ Pray about the step you are about to undertake and talk it through with your 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group members. They will help you decide if the person/s would benefit from attending a Cursillo.
- ♦ Talk to the Vicar of the pilgrim’s parish before approaching the pilgrim if you have any doubts about their readiness.
- ♦ Talk with the pilgrim about the purpose and goal of the Cursillo movement, what to expect during the Three Days, and the place of 4<sup>th</sup> Day Groups and 4<sup>th</sup> Day activities following the Cursillo.
- ♦ Assure the pilgrim that they may ask and be told anything they wish to know about a Cursillo.
- ♦ Talk over with the pilgrim what costs will be involved before filling in the Application Form. If there are any apparent difficulties, discuss this with members of your 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group or the potential pilgrim’s Vicar. [No one should be prevented from going to a Cursillo because of the cost.]