

How do I Sponsor a Candidate for Cursillo in the Gaylord Diocese???

(each candidate needs a sponsor; a sponsor has to have already made the Cursillo weekend)

Speak to God about man before speaking to man about God.

Sponsoring a candidate for Cursillo is a serious, year-long commitment and should not be taken lightly. Candidates should be prayerfully and carefully selected. A sponsor is strongly advised to sponsor no more than one person per year. The only requirement for candidates is that he or she be Catholic, but sponsors should also consider candidates for strength of character, maturity, an open mind, an ability to listen, friendship, and willingness to change. Candidates should be emotionally healthy and seeking a deeper spiritual life. The Cursillo weekend is not designed to be a cure-all for those experiencing personal problems. Prayer is an important part of sponsorship and sponsors should pray for candidates before, during and after the Cursillo weekend.

Sponsors are also expected to:

-Explain the Cursillo weekend

-Answer ALL questions that your candidate might have. You cannot tell him/her too much.

-Explain what the facility at the Augustine Center is like.

-Explain dress for the weekend is casual, with most people dressing up more on Sunday.

-Make sure the weekend application is totally completed.

-**Give the first page of the application form to your candidate.** Ask him/her to fill out of the Application section, sign it, and return it to you.

-Ask the candidate's pastor to complete the Pastor section, including his signature. Be prepared to explain the Cursillo weekend to clergymen not familiar with the program.

-**Complete the Sponsor section, sign it and attach the \$10 sponsor fee. In the comments section, please indicate whether you would recommend your candidate as a Table Leader or Table Secretary and why? Return the application and the sponsor form with the fee to the address on the bottom of the second page.**

-Keep in close contact with your Candidate before the weekend.

- **Make sure he or she has transportation to and from the Augustine Center.** If you cannot transport the candidate yourself, try to pair him/her up with another candidate. Please make every effort to make sure the candidate has someone to ride with.

- Try to ease any fears or anxiety that the candidate might have before, especially the week before the weekend and if a spouse has attended shortly before.

-Make certain that a candidate's family is informed and knows the candidate will probably return rather late on Sunday. You may want to contact the candidate's family during the weekend as well. Support your candidate during the weekend.

-Do palanca (pray and sacrifice) for your candidate and write a letter that will secretly be handed in just before the weekend. Letters from non-Cursillistas (including family members) are not necessary (or appropriate).

-Attend the Sunday closing. Help your candidate participate in follow-up Cursillo activities. Make sure he or she finds a group.

- Bring your candidate to your next Ultreya.

- Remind him or her to attend the next closing.

-**Your commitment to your candidate does not end when he or she completes the application, or even after the Cursillo weekend. It is your responsibility to make sure your candidate feels welcomed at all Cursillo activities and is supported in his or her apostolic endeavors for at least a year.**

I am happy to help with your questions, Pauline Viall; petepaul@charter.net

Make a friend, Be friend, Bring a friend to Christ