

## PEORIA CURSILLO SPONSOR'S REMINDERS

*Before* Thursday night of your candidate's Cursillo weekend:

- If your candidate's spouse has not made a Cursillo, invite her/him to fill out a Cursillo application form. At this time, explain to the candidate's spouse about the Spouse's Hour on Thursday night (available for women only).
- Let the candidate (and spouse) know that arrival time on Thursday evening of the Cursillo weekend is between 6:30 and 7:15 PM. Let the candidate know that you will bring him/her to the Cursillo Center that night, stay for the social hour, and then take the spouse home afterwards.
- Go over in detail what your candidate needs to bring for the Weekend.

All bedding, including pillow, sheets, blankets, mattress cover.

Towels, shower "shoes," robe or clothing to wear from room to shower

Casual Clothing (except maybe something less casual for Sunday Mass)

All medications

All toiletries

- Explain the variable heating/cooling in the building. Dressing in layers is best. Bring a sweater for air conditioned areas even in the summer.
- Assure the candidate that they can be reached if needed just by calling the Cursillo office. Emphasize that they should not bring a cell phone, pager, recording device or computer. If they must make an essential call, phones are available.

- Find out if the candidate has special needs (such as child care) that you might be able to help make arrangements for.
- Find out if your candidate is on a special diet or has any physical limitations, such as climbing stairs or sleeping on a top bunk. If your candidate is in a wheel chair or on oxygen, a Cursillista may need to spend the weekend with the candidate. You can double check with the Cursillo office that the needs of your candidate are known and in the weekend plans.
- Explain that everything at Cursillo is completely **CONFIDENTIAL**.
- Discuss the Cursillo weekend format in general terms: You arrive on Thursday, register, get your room assignment, make your bed, attend a cookie social, get to meet others attending the weekend, and get ready for an early turn-in.

Over the weekend, you will hear 15 talks, given by lay people and by clergy. One of the clergy will be a non-Roman Catholic. The talks are usually very interesting.

There is a lot of good food, and they even provide some entertainment. You even get some sleep.

- **Stress that there are no expectations for your candidate.** Explain that everyone gets something different from Cursillo and that you want him or her to be open to the experience. No two people have the same experience in making a Cursillo. Sponsors have learned not to try to predict what their candidate will experience. That's up to the candidate and God.
- Inform the candidate (if he/she is not Roman Catholic) that Roman Catholic practices will be explained during the weekend. Emphasize that no one will ask them to do anything or say anything that makes

them uncomfortable. All individuals are welcome to make Cursillo, no matter what denomination (if any) they are a part of.

- Help your candidate understand that from Thursday night on, you will have no contact with him or her other than a friendly "hello" should you run into each other at the Cursillo Center during the weekend.
- Explain that the weekend is for the candidate to experience apart from you, family, friends, and any other outside influences. This is designed to help the candidate focus on the Cursillo experience.
- Let the candidate know that there is a follow-up meeting on Tuesday and explain that you will accompany him or her to it.
- Be sure to involve the candidate's spouse in all of these discussions. The candidate (and spouse) should never feel that there is anything secret about the Cursillo experience.

## Saturday

- Attend the Apostolic Hour at **8:00PM**

## Sunday

- Attend the Clausura at 6:00PM
- Plan to take your candidate home.
- Consider if he or she is eager to get home or if he or she seems to want to talk. You might offer a stop to get something to eat on the way home. Sometimes candidates are hungry; sometimes they want to talk; sometimes they want to do both!
- Do NOT pressure the candidate to talk on Sunday evening. Some candidates are eager to talk, but others are very quiet and reflective. They are still processing their Cursillo experience. It is important that sponsors give them "space."

## Monday after the Cursillo Weekend

- Call your candidate in the late afternoon or evening to see how their Fourth Day went.
- Listen, listen, listen.
- Remind the new Cursillista about the Tuesday follow-up meeting and plan to accompany him or her to the Center.
- Stress the importance of Group Reunion and explain what Group means to you.
- Pledge to help the person get into a Group.

## Beyond Tuesday night

- Invite your candidate (and spouse) to the next Ultreya.
- Call your candidate and invite him or her (and their spouse) to other Ultreyas, Apostolic Hours, Clausuras.
- Invite your candidate to be in the palanca chapel with you.
- Invite your candidate to work in the kitchen with you.
- Make your candidate feel an ever closer relationship to the members of the Cursillo family.

*6/2008*