

Sponsor Guidelines for Ely Cursillo



Sponsorship should never be undertaken lightly.
It requires

Time

Love one's heart

Thought one's mind

Prayer essential at all stages

Pilgrims *should be people who*

- Accept the doctrine and liturgy of the Anglican Church and are communicants in their own church, and are over 18.
- Are already living and deepening their Christian life.
- Are seeking renewal and growth in their discipleship.
- Are prepared to approach the Weekend with an open mind and a willingness to respond to what it offers.
- Are open to full participation in the Fourth Day.
- Have access to an active Cursillo community.

★ It is important that the pilgrim's minister is involved from the beginning.

Among those who should **NOT** make a Cursillo *are any who*

- ✗ Are seeking the Weekend experience as an end in itself, ie, the Weekend is not a retreat.
- ✗ May have difficulty in adjusting to and working in a group situation.
- ✗ Are unable, for whatever reason, to make a commitment to Fourth Day participation.
- ✗ A person who is going through some current crisis or is facing personal problems will need to consider carefully, with the help of the sponsor and their minister, whether Cursillo is appropriate at this time.

Sponsors *should*

- Know the goal of Cursillo – to empower and equip Christians to be better witnesses for Christ.
- Be familiar with who should and who should not make a Cursillo.
- Be an authentic witness to the Christian life and be actively involved in the Fourth Day, especially Group Reunions and Ultreyas.
- Encourage the pilgrim to join your group reunion and to accompany you on Ultreyas before the weekend.
- Prayerfully consider whether the pilgrim is suitable.

- ☑ Inform the pilgrim's priest that if they have any reservations about such pilgrim attending a weekend, they should contact the Spiritual Director named below to discuss the matter in confidence.
- ☑ Know the pilgrim well and support him or her at every stage. The pilgrim should be made aware that Cursillo is not an alternative to church, but is to enable them to grow through prayer, study and action to serve their church.
- ☑ Prayerfully guide the pilgrim's decision.
- ☑ Ensure that he or she is able to share fully in the Anglican Eucharist.
- ☑ Answer questions openly and honestly, including about the structure of the Weekend.
- ☑ Address, sensitively, the matter of finance. If there seems to be any problem, talk to the Secretariat.
- ☑ Complete the application form front page and make sure that the pilgrim's minister also signs before the pilgrim completes the second page.
- ☑ Help with practical family needs related to the Weekend, eg school run or feeding pets. Delivering and collecting the pilgrim on the Weekend is strongly recommended - the end of the three days can be a powerfully emotional time.
- ☑ It might also be helpful to find out whether the pilgrim would like relatives and friends at the Wake-up or Clausura, or if they would rather stay 'in the moment' and simply have their sponsor there. This found out in advance could save any embarrassment on the day.
- ☑ Follow up a day or two after the Weekend to share impressions and to deliver the Fourth Day palanca, confirm details for the first Group Reunion and Ultreya.
- ☑ Keep in close touch until the new Cursillista is clearly integrated, encouraging them to remain active in Group Reunion, Ultreyas and Fourth Day activities to enrich their Christian witness as a disciple of Christ.
- ☑ Only exceptionally should you sponsor more than one pilgrim or couple for a Weekend. If you do sponsor more than one pilgrim, or if you are staffing on the same Weekend, you should try to find a co-sponsor to share duties, including Wake-up and Clausura.
- ☑ Pray for those considering making their Cursillo and, of course, at all times before, throughout and after the Weekend.

ALL SPONSORS' PARTICIPATION IN THE CLAUSURA IS EXPECTED AND AT THE WAKE-UP IF POSSIBLE

The Lay Director and the Spiritual Director will be very happy to try and allay any doubts that you, a Pilgrim's parish priest or a Pilgrim may have.

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