



Cursillo

Movement within the Anglican Church of Canada



Enlivening the mission of the church

What is Cursillo?

- Movement within the Anglican Church of Canada
 - Functions under authority of its Bishop
 - Community based and structured
 - Involves clergy and laity
- Originating in the Roman Catholic Church
 - Now ecumenical and international
- Supports Anglican Marks of Mission

Goal of Cursillo

Enlivening the mission of the church



Goal of Cursillo

To bring the world to Christ

By empowering adult Christian leaders

Through use of a specific method which equips and encourages them

To participate in parish, community and independent action

To live out their Baptismal Covenants.

Cursillo Strategy

- **Pre-Cursillo**
- **Three-Day Weekend**
- **Fourth Day**



Cursillo Strategy: **Pre-Cursillo**

- Diocesan structures for:
 - leadership
 - continuing education
- Inviting potential Christian leaders to 3-Day Weekend

Cursillo Strategy: **Three-Day Weekend**

- Series of talks and meditations
- What is fundamental for being a Christian
- Realizing all have a ministry of witness
- Learning tools to be a witness

Cursillo Strategy: **Fourth Day**

- Rest of Christian life in active discipleship
- Tools to live out Baptismal Covenant
- Outreach
 - In own parishes and
 - Communities



Cursillo Strategy: **Fourth Day**

- Specific support for study, prayer and action through:
 - Ongoing small groups
 - Larger diocesan gatherings to hear encouraging examples of Christian action.



Cursillo and Baptismal Covenant



Cursillo and Baptismal Covenant

Covenant

- *I believe in God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son of God, and God the Holy Spirit.*

Support

- Weekend helps Christians discover new depths of faith.

Cursillo and Baptismal Covenant

Covenant

- *Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?*

Support

- Encourages regular church attendance, sacramental living, and a discipline of prayer and study, action and mutual support.

Cursillo and Baptismal Covenant

Covenant

- *Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?*

Support

- Teaches and encourages the “*Rule of Life*”.

Cursillo and Baptismal Covenant

Covenant

- *Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?*

Support

- Through small groups, examines how we can bring friends to Christ.

Cursillo and Baptismal Covenant

Covenant

- *Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?*

Support

- Inspires Christians to heed God's call to serve Christ and others in the places where they live, work and play.



Cursillo and Baptismal Covenant

Covenant

- *Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?*

Supports

- Goal to connect Christians in activities that “change environments for Christ”.



Anglican Marks of Mission:

Framework to describe and encourage ministry in the Anglican Communion

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptize, and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Anglican Consultative Council 1984

What does the Primate say?



The Most Rev. Fred Hiltz

What does the Primate say?

I believe the Cursillo Movement is a blessing in our Church. Indeed many women and men attribute their experience of a Cursillo to the kindling or rekindling of their faith. The movement contributes much to spiritual discipleship, abiding friendship in Christ and a lively witness to the gospel. I have always believed that like other great spiritual movements Cursillo exists not unto itself but for the good of the whole Church, like salt that flavors...

Archbishop Fred Hiltz

29th NS/PEI Cursillo Weekend 2007

Primate, The Anglican Church of Canada, 2012

What Does a Bishop Say?





What Does a Bishop Say?

+Greg

“Having been involved with Cursillo since 1983, I have experienced first hand how small group ministry (enabling a more personal and \ immediate context for sharing in prayer and study with one another), outreach and evangelism are strengthened by this movement....



What Does a Bishop Say?

Cursillo is not a new teaching, an alternate church experience or a competitor to our parish and diocesan life, but rather a tool, a method by which our life as disciples of Jesus is nurtured and strengthened within our congregations and we are enabled to carry out the mission and ministry of the Church both for its members and for the world."

+Greg

Gregory Kerr-Wilson, Bishop of Qu'Appelle, 2009

What Do Priests Say?





- Cursillo helps people to claim their ministries and to become enthusiastic and charged up about their faith in God.
- People have a higher level of commitment and church stewardship has much more meaning for them.
- Having encountered God in a deeper way, folks often thirst for fresher ways to praise and worship God.



- The reflection questions in Cursillo small groups help people to get in touch with how God is speaking to them.
- Small groups provide encouragement for study, prayer and clear support for discipleship, outreach projects and evangelistic sharing of faith.
- There is more energy for outreach into the community, when dynamic lay people share about how they have encountered God in caring for those who are struggling.

What Does a Rural Priest Say?



- Music ministry is more dynamic.
- There is more prayer support and a shared biblical reflection with the priest.
- Higher level of financial commitment.
- Lay Leaders who take morning prayers and reflections are more focused in their faith sharing.
- Enlivened lay people engage in active ministry.

What do Parishioners Say?



Cursillo is the place I first learned what it truly meant to be part of the Body of Christ.

Cursillo meetings provide an intense yet balanced time of communication and reflection, renewing my awareness of God's love in attitude, study, action.

Through Cursillo, for the first time, I came to realize the truth and reality of the Body of Christ. My involvement in the Cursillo community has given me a place where I have grown, celebrated, been challenged and been refreshed in my walk with our Lord and His church.

Amazing people guided me to learn how to implement Christian values into action everyday.

I found the Cursillo weekend to be practical in that it was the beginning of the strengthening of my faith and my trust in Him to step out and make some much needed changes in my life.

I went seeking direction and a clear call for my life, and found myself being shown my utter dependence on the Lord who wants to love and be loved by me in a truly intimate way. Once I allowed these truths into my heart, I heard a clear call and am now pursuing it!

The Cursillo weekend re-awakened the love and compassion God has for me. This made me realize the need to love and serve in a genuine way in return, and not just go through the motions. I recommitted to God, to serve him and to try to show that in my everyday life to others.

Cursillo has been such a rewarding experience for me. I have grown in knowledge of God and his words from the Bible. As a result I have been able to participate more in my Church's activities.

I knew that Jesus expected us to reach others for Him, but I was frustrated because I was so unsuccessful. Cursillo showed me how a Christian team can transform their environments by working together. (Cursillo is a method).

The most important part came after the weekend. Being part of a Group Reunion that meets regularly and has shared deeply over many years has strengthened my walk with Christ, and continues to challenge me.

Cursillo has become a spiritual discipline for me. I am now more intentional about Christian piety (drawing closer to God), focused study, and action (both individual and corporate).

The monthly Ultreyas have been so wonderful - it is good to get together with others, share in small groups, sing and pray together. We have our common bond in our relationship with Jesus Christ. This gives us renewed courage to live out our faith in our homes and workplaces.

My Cursillo weekend brought to me a far greater understanding of who Jesus is for me, and how we are all called to become servant leaders in our own environments. I have come to see Jesus in the people and world around me. I have recognized the call of God to serve in many opportunities since my weekend, and have had the courage and faith to say "yes", knowing that Jesus would walk beside me and guide me. I have been in a permanent group reunion since my weekend, and this has also given me the support I need for my life in piety, study and action.

Cursillo for me brought God and the Church together as one body and for the first time I really saw God's love for his Church. I met "REAL" men who gave of their time unselfishly, showed love for a brother and willingly gave strong, useful biblical direction. As a guy, its tough to say, but Cursillo touched my heart on so many levels.

God now has me pursuing non-believers in our faith in the inner city, and with His message of love, hope and grace (we) have brought another six followers to the faith. This is the power of God through Cursillo.

In Conclusion

- Cursillo is a movement of the Anglican Church of Canada
- A part of Diocesan Pastoral Plans
- Reinforces scripture and Anglican church teachings
- Enables parishioners to find their mission call
- Develops a life of Christian discipleship
- Develops parish, community and individual action plans to change environments and people for Christ

Questions?





Developed and approved by the
Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat

anglicancursillo.com

2012

Reference: CACS. 2009. *Words & Expressions Used in Cursillo Movements Around Canada*
All testimonial quotes provided by clergy and parishioners who are members of Cursillo