

Canadian Anglican Cursillo

Words & Expressions Used in Cursillo Movements Around Canada



(In response to the frequently asked question: "Do we need to use all the Spanish words?" The short answer is NO! The only indispensable Spanish words are "Cursillo", "Palanca" and "Ultreya".)

- 1) Action—one of the three legs in the tripod in the Cursillo Method. See also Apostolic Action, Study and Piety.
- 2) Action Coordinator—person in charge of logistics and smooth flow of the Weekend, has overall responsibility for Palanca, Kitchen, finances, etc.; see "Proctor"
- 3) Affirmation Response (to a Witness Talk [q.v.])~remarks after a Witness talk that affirm the witness' experience, e.g., "I've heard that works for others. I'll try it in my situation." (p. 67 "Spiritual Advisor's Workbook", NEC Library).
- 4) Agape [ah-ga-pay]—the highest form of selfless love, such as the love of a parent for a child, or God's love for us.
- 5) Agape supper~a special meal shared among Christians, often more symbolic than substantial
- 6) All Saints—the Core Team (q.v.) of the Weekend (see also, "back table")
- 7) All Saints Table—where the leaders of the Weekend sit
- 8) Apostles—people sent by God to spread the Gospel.
- 9) Apostolate—the apostles as a group (contemporary)
- 10) Apostolic Action—one of the three legs of the tripod in the Cursillo Method, as laid out in the Group Reunion card: ("Piety, Study & Action", q.v.)
- 11) Assistant Coordinator—a member of the Weekend Core Team (q.v.), assistant to the leader of the Weekend; also called "Detail", "Proctor" (q.v.) or "Gofer".
- 12) Authentic Three-Day Weekend—the Cursillo Weekend, following the flow of the Weekend, using all the talks and services prescribed in the NEC booklet, outlined in CACS Guidelines, and described by the Founders of the Movement in their literature.
- 13) Back Table—where the core leaders of the Weekend sit, see "All Saints' Table".
- 14) Break-in—see "Clausura"; also called "Invasion" (q.v)
- 15) Breath Prayers—also called "arrow prayers"; brief prayers, usually said silently; may be said with inhaling and exhaling normally, such as the Jesus Prayer. (The Jesus Prayer is a popular form of breath prayer: [inhale] Lord

- Jesus, Son of God; [exhale] have mercy on me. [repeat as many times as possible].)
- 16) **Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat (CACS)**—an elected body of representatives of all active dioceses, providing support and unity for Anglican Church of Canada Cursillistas. CACS consists of ten people, 2 representatives for each Ecclesiastical Province, including 2 priests. This number includes the officers of CACS, i.e., the national lay director, a Spiritual Director (a bishop), a secretary, and a treasurer. CACS members are elected at the National Seminar, held once every three years. Candidates for CACS are nominated by Cursillistas in each diocese.
- 17) **Candidate Selection**—a process sometimes referred to as: studying an environment to be targeted, then making friends in that environment, praying about one of these friends, then if called to do so, inviting this friend (together with spouse, if married) to a Cursillo Weekend.
- 18) **Candidate Support**—prayerful and practical assistance while the candidate is preparing to attend the Weekend, during the Weekend, and after the Weekend. See Sponsorship Guidelines.
- 19) **Candidates**—sponsored people attending, or preparing to attend the Three Day Weekend.
- 20) **Cha-Cha**—a member of the Core Team (q.v.) sometimes called "Detail", "Proctor" (q.v.), "Gofer", "Assistant Coordinator".
- 21) **Chapel Visits**—before the talks, or at any other time of need during the Three Day Weekend, people may visit the area set aside as the Palanca Chapel for special prayers.
- 22) **Chairperson**—may be Lay Director of the local movement or of a Weekend; also called "Coordinator" or "Rector" (m) or "Rectora" (f). See "Coordinator".
- 23) **Clausura** [klo-su-ra]—the closing ceremony of the Cursillo Weekend; sometimes called "break-in", "invasion", "walk-in" because this is where the Cursillo community comes unannounced to greet the new Cursillistas.
- 24) **Clergy Workshop**—a training session for clergy involved with Cursillo
- 25) **Community**—all Cursillistas, (q.v.)
- 26) **Commissioning**—a ceremony to bless and commission the Cursillo Weekend leaders (the Core Team and others) prior to the Weekend. See also "Moonlight".
- 27) **Compline** [kom-plin]—a late evening prayer service
- 28) **Conference Room**—the room where the talks take place during the Weekend, sometimes called the Rollo Room. (See "Rollo")
- 29) **Confirmation Response**—After a Witness Talk, remarks such as, "I tried something like that and it worked well."
- 30) **Coordinator**—also called "Rector" or "Rectora", "Weekend Lay Director", see also "Chairperson".
- 31) **Core Team**—the leaders of a Cursillo Weekend; also called "Back Table" or "All Saints".
- 32) **Critique-feedback** for Weekend talks (rollos) as they are prepared (i.e., before the Weekend)
- 33) **Cursillism** [kur-see-yism]—over-

- emphasis on Cursillo strategies; clique-forming
- 34) Cursillista [kur-see-yees-ta]~someone who has experienced an authentic Three-Day Weekend.
- 35) Cursillo (de Cristianidad) [kur-see-yo]~ "a short course in Christianity"
- 36) Cursillo Learners' Workshop (CLW)-an all-day seminar put on by members of CACS to assist local movements clarify their application of the Cursillo Method in their diocese. (Formerly called "Cursillo Leaders' Workshop")
- 37) Cursillo Method-tools for living the Christian life, using Group Reunions (q.v.) and Ultreyas (q.v.) and Servant Community (q.v.) to sustain them
- 38) Cursillo Movement-a movement of the Church, to sustain and encourage Christians in their faith journey
- 39) Cursillo Strategies-Methods of leavening the environments (q.v.) where Christians live and work, to make friends, be friends and bring these friends to Christ.
- 40) Cursillo Weekend—three days of study, prayer, and worship, where the Short Course (Cursillo) takes place—may include special surprises
- 41) Day of Deeper Understanding-a one-day refresher course in the Cursillo Method.
- 42) De Colores-a Spanish folksong, associated with the founding of Cursillo, and often sung at Cursillo Weekends. Some people use the words "De Colores" as a greeting.
- 43) Decuria—small table groups
- 44) Detail—also called "Cha-Cha", "Proctor" (q.v.), "Gofer", or "Assistant Coordinator".
- 45) Devotional literature-books of Prayers or stories that illustrate the Christian life and inspire worship of God
- 46) Director—see "Lay Director", Rector/Rectora", or "Chairperson".
- 47) Environmental Group Reunion—the regular gathering of people where they work or meet on a regular basis for the purpose of supporting one another as Christians in a non-Christian world. (See also "Group Reunion")
- 48) Environments~the situations in which people live and work and play.
- 49) Escriba [es-kree-ba]— Secretarial position in the Palanca Room on a Cursillo Weekend, charged with keeping records and prayer requests.
- 50) Evaluation of a Cursillo Movement- see Guidelines for this process.
- 51) Fiesta—a party sometimes held on the Second evening of the Cursillo Weekend.
- 52) Floating Group Reunions—small group reunions held at Ultreyas, as opposed to "Permanent Group Reunions" (q.v.) or "Environmental Group Reunions" (q.v.)
- 53) Flow of the Three Day Weekend -the order of events and talks that take place during an Authentic Three Day Weekend; sometimes called "vertebration" (q.v.).

- 54) **Food Coordinator-** the team Member responsible for arranging that food be supplied and prepared for all the meals and snacks required during the three day weekend. Also called "Kitchen Chief, "Kitchen Coordinator", "Kitchen Rector/a", or Hospitality Chief.
- 55) **Founders~**Bishop Juan Hervas, Eduardo Bonin and others.
- 56) **Fourth Day—**Post-Cursillo, life led following a Cursillo Weekend
- 57) **Fundamental-**basic and indispensable
- 58) **Gofer—**also called "Assistant Coordinator", "Cha-Cha", "Proctor" (q.v.) or "Detail".
- 59) **Grace-**benevolence and loving assistance
- 60) **Group Reunion** (see Environmental Group Reunion, Floating Group Reunion, Permanent-Group Reunion, and Leaders' Group Reunion)—An essential component of the Cursillo Method, where a small group (maximum 5) meet to support one another in their piety, study, and apostolic action.
- 61) **Guidelines—**a binder of Guidelines produced by CACS for use by the Canadian Anglican Cursillo movement. The Guidelines are based on information found in NEC (q.v.) and other Cursillo literature, especially that written by the founders of the Movement
- 62) **Hospitality Chief—**also called "Kitchen Rector/a", "Kitchen Chief, "Kitchen Coordinator" or "Food Coordinator" (q.v.).
- 63) **Invasion—**also called "Break-in" or "Clausura" (q.v.)
- 64) **Kitchen Chief-**also called "Hospitality Chief or "Kitchen Rector/a" or Kitchen Coordinator. See Food Coordinator.
- 65) **Laity-**people of the church, as distinct from clergy
- 66) **Las mananitas—**see "mananitas"
- 67) **Lay Director-**the lay leader of a local movement, or of a Cursillo Weekend, or of CACS.
- 68) **Lay Witness talk~**a short talk at an Ultreya, sharing how one Cursillista is witnessing for Christ in his or her environments. (Contrast with "Testimonial", [q.v.])
- 69) **Leaders' Group Reunion—**a secretariat or Cursillo Weekend Core Team may wish to meet as a group reunion, following the pattern of a Permanent Group Reunion card (sample in CACS Guidelines for "Permanent Group Reunions) or of a Floating Group Reunion card (see NEC library for sample in "Ultreya" booklet).
- 70) **Leaders' School-**a term used in the founders' literature and in the Roman Catholic literature to denote the Servant Community (q.v.).
- 71) **Leavening—**raising up for God, as in targeting an environment for prayer by sponsoring a leader in that environment for Cursillo.
- 72) **Library-**a binder of manuals published by the National Episcopal Cursillo in the U.S.A. Usually referred to as "The Library" or "The NEC Library". (See "Guidelines" and "CACS")
- 73) **Mananitas** [man-ya-nee-tas]—a Spanish custom of serenading early in the morning.
- 74) **Moonlight—**see "commissioning". The Moonlight service is an evening commissioning of the teams prior to the Weekend, also—

- "the send off"
- 75) **Musica**—the musical director for an Ultreya or a Weekend
- 76) **Musical director**-the person responsible for the music at an Ultreya or Three Day Weekend.
- 77) **National Seminar/National General Meeting**-Once every three years: a gathering of Cursillistas from all Canadian dioceses for the purpose of electing CACS representatives for the next three years; also consisting of workshops and corporate worship.
- 78) **NEC**-The National Episcopal Cursillo in the U.S.A.; also used as a short reference to a binder of explanatory booklets produced by NEC. (See also, "Authentic Three-Day Weekend" and "Guidelines".)
- 79) **Palanca** [pa-lan-ka]-a Spanish word meaning "lever"; the Cursillo practice of prayer and sacrifice evidenced by notes for candidates and others participating in a Cursillo Weekend, or other activity requiring prayer. There is "General Palanca" for the Weekend as a whole, or for other groups requiring special prayers, and "Personal Palanca" for individuals, especially candidates and Weekend team members.
- 80) **Palanca chief**—leader of the Palanca team serving on a Cursillo Weekend. Also called "Palanca Coordinator".
- 81) **Permanent Group Reunion**—one of the basic tools of the Cursillo Method; the regular meeting of a small group of people to encourage one another in persevering in Christian life, especially in apostolic action, study and piety (q.v.). This group may include non-Cursillistas.
- 82) **Piety**-one of the three legs in the tripod in the Cursillo Method, as laid out in the Group Reunion card. See also Study and Action.
- 83) **Pilgrim's Guide**-a booklet giving guidance for the Fourth Day (q.v.)
- 84) **Post-Cursillo~Fourth Day** (q.v.)
- 85) **Pre-Cursillo**-time spent studying environments, and prayerfully selecting potential Cursillo candidates, and sponsorship preparation.
- 86) **Proctor**-The person in charge of all logistics, scheduling, etc., for the Weekend; see "Action Coordinator", "Cha-Cha", "Detail", or "Gofer".
- 87) **Professor**-former Weekend director or rector/a (etc.) working in an advisory capacity.
- 88) **Reconciliation**- confession and absolution or assurance of forgiveness
- 89) **Rector/Rectora**—lay leader of the Weekend, see also chairperson, or lay director.
- 90) **Reunion Card**—Guidelines for discussion of Piety, Study and Action
- 91) **Rollista** [ro-yees-ta]— a person giving a rollo (q.v.) at a Cursillo Weekend
- 92) **Rollo** [ro-yo]- "a long boring talk", one of the fifteen talks given by lay Cursillistas during the Cursillo Weekend, usually about 10 or 15 minutes in duration.
- 93) **Rollo Room**- the room where the Rollos are given during the Cursillo Weekend. See also "Conference Room".
- 94) **Rosary**—a device for focusing during prayer and timing (limiting) prayer, often associated (but not limited to) Roman Catholic practice.
- 95) **Rule of Life**—a plan for including regular prayer and Bible reading and apostolic action in one's life.
- 96) **Santiago de Compostela**—a town in northwestern Spain; see St James of

Compostela

- 97) School of Leaders—another name for "Servant Community" (q.v.).
- 98) Secretariat—administrators of a Cursillo Movement, one per diocese, responsible to the bishop of that diocese.
- 99) Servant Community—the working arm of the Secretariat, and the source of team members for Cursillo Weekends. See also "School of Leaders" and "Leaders School".
- 100) Silent Table Leaders—also called Table enablers; Cursillistas whose task it is to sit at each table on a Weekend, and ensure that discussions are kept on track and that the talks are being understood. Candidates are not aware that these people have already experienced a Cursillo Weekend.
- 101) Spiritual Aids—any devices found to be useful to assist focusing on God during prayer, such as music, icons, rosaries, pictures or objects from nature, so long as they do not detract from God or become objects of worship in themselves
- 102) Sponsorship Guidelines—found in CACS binder of Guidelines
- 103) St. James of Compostela (Santiago de Compostela)- a destination in Spain for pilgrims, where the founders were inspired to begin the Cursillo Movement.
- 104) Stations of the Cross—a series of fourteen pictures with devotions, relating to Christ's progress from condemnation to the Cross.
- 105) Study—one of the three legs of the tripod in the Cursillo Method, as laid out in the Group Reunion card. See also

Piety and Action.

- 106) Studying an Environment—the process of selecting candidates for Cursillo based on the sphere of influence of the person being considered; also referred to as Targeting an environment (q.v.)
- 107) Targeting an environment—the process of prayerfully considering a candidate for Cursillo, considering in particular the candidate's sphere of influence in an environment (q.v.) See also "Candidate Selection".
- 108) Table Leader—see Silent Table Leaders
- 109) Testimonial—a talk on how Christ is active in one's life. (This is not a Cursillo talk.) See "Lay Witness Talk" for Cursillo talk.
- 110) Three-Day-Weekend—see "Authentic Three-Day-Weekend".
- 111) Ultreya [ul-tray-a]—an old Spanish word meaning "Carry on to the end", traditionally shouted to Santiago pilgrims to encourage them on their journey; in Cursillo, the word refers to a regular gathering of the Cursillo community for mutual support, following a format laid out in the Guidelines, and especially including floating group reunions and a witness talk with two responses (one from a lay Cursillista and one from an ordained Cursillista)
- 112) Vertebration—the Flow of the Three Day Weekend (q.v.)
- 113) Vice-Rector/Vice-Rectora-Assistant coordinator
- 114) Witness Talk—See Lay Witness Talk.