

# Archdiocese of Baltimore Cursillo Sponsor's Commitment

*"Speak to God about your friend before speaking to your friend about God"*

To be a Sponsor is part of your Apostolate, and as such, carries a serious Christian responsibility. Sponsoring a person for Cursillo is bringing your friend to Christ. It assumes that you are their friend, therefore, you must believe in your heart that Jesus is leading you and your friend is ready.

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Cursillo (date and location) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Are you active in a:  Group Reunion  Ultreyas  School of Leaders

Fourth day Friendship Group Reunion meeting time/place: \_\_\_\_\_

How long and how well do you know your candidate? \_\_\_\_\_ How long have you been discussing Cursillo with your candidate? \_\_\_\_\_ Is your candidate free to receive the Sacraments? Yes / No

Has the candidate's spouse made the Cursillo? Yes / No

Has the candidate experienced the death of a loved one, trauma, or severe crisis within the past year or, are you aware of any physical, psychological, emotional problems he/she may have? Yes / No

(If YES, please contact a Pre-Cursillo or Secretariat representative)

In your own words describe this candidate's personality/nature (i.e. leader, follower, quiet):

\_\_\_\_\_

How do you foresee your candidate helping change environments after their Weekend?

\_\_\_\_\_

What other information or observation can you provide us with about your candidate:

\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Address \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

## As a sponsor, you are making the following commitments:

**Pre Cursillo** - Keep in close contact with your candidate prior to the Weekend. Offer Palanca. Encourage & help them cope with the trials that frequently occur as they prepare for the Weekend.

**3-Day Cursillo** - Arrange transportation to and from the Weekend, and see to the needs of your candidate's family. Be there for your candidate's family. Write a Personal Palanca Letter.

**Post Cursillo** - Follow through with your candidate for at least one year after the weekend. Help your candidate find a Friendship Group reunion. Guide them in persevering in the Cursillo Method. Take your candidate to Ultreyas.

I agree with, and understand these commitments I am making as a sponsor to my candidate and the Cursillo movement.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form to: Paul H Gonzalez 1102 Honeysuckle Ln, Annapolis MD 21401

## Archdiocese of Baltimore Sponsor Guidelines

The only requirement of candidates is that they be practicing Roman Catholic, at least 18 years of age and able to receive the Sacraments of the Church. Sponsors should also consider candidates for strength of character, maturity, an open mind, an ability to listen, humility, friendship, and willingness to change. Candidates should be mature and humble and seeking God.

### “Speak to God about your friend before speaking to your friend about God.”

Prayer is an important part of sponsorship and sponsors should pray for candidates before, during, and after the Cursillo Weekend. “Make a friend, BE a Friend, THEN bring your friend to Christ”. Once your friend is ready to come to the Lord, sponsors should ensure that they:

- Explain the Cursillo Weekend and what to expect.
- Answer ALL questions the candidate might have. If you aren't sure, ask someone on the Secretariat who knows.
- Explain what the facility for the Weekend is like and what a typical schedule looks like.
- Make sure the Letter of Interest complete. See the website, <http://www.baltimorecursillo.org/> for a current form. Go over the application with your candidate. Ask them to fill it out and return it to you. Ask the candidates pastor to sign the pastor section. Be prepared to explain the Cursillo Movement and Weekend if the priest is unfamiliar with our Movement.
- Complete the sponsor section, sign it, and return the form, along with the candidate's letter of interest to the Pre-Cursillo chair.
- Keep close contact with the candidate before the weekend. Invite your candidate (if they are ready) to attend group reunion or Ultreya before the weekend. If they are not ready, keep in prayer a possible friendship group for the candidate after the weekend. Consider having the Group co-sponsor the candidate.
- Ensure they have transportation to and from the Weekend. Teaming with another candidate's sponsor is a good idea.
- Try to ease the anxiety the candidate might have before the Weekend. If misfortune befalls your candidate the week before, as often seems to happen, be proactive in helping overcome it and removing any obstacles.
- Assure the candidate that you will watch over any needs of their family during the Weekend.
- Follow up by contacting the family during the weekend. For example: bring meals to spouses who are not the family cooks, offer childcare to those who have children.

- Attend the Palanca Mass scheduled for the weekend. Support the candidate during the Weekend by doing Palanca and writing letter to them.
- Attend the Closures!** The candidate will definitely be looking for you. If you can't make the closing, you should have someone else co-sponsor your candidate.
- Support the "babe chick" after the Weekend. After weekend, the new Cursillista will not survive without continuing nourishment in the Lord. Bring the babe chick to the next Ultreya. Offer to bring them to the next Closures.
- Make sure your babe chick has the opportunity to group. If the one you planned doesn't work out, help start a new one if necessary.

Remember that there are **NO SECRETS** in Cursillo! Please answer any question your candidate has honestly. Tell them about the silent retreat phase on Thursday evening and anything else. However, the witnesses heard on a weekend or at a friendship group are confidential and should not be discussed. And remember there are a few surprises, like Palanca and the Closures. If your candidate asks a direct question, **BE HONEST**. Encourage your candidate to visit the Cursillo web-site.

Your commitment to the candidate does not end when they complete an application or even after the Weekend. It is your responsibility to provide opportunities for the candidate to be nourished by the community and supported in their apostolic endeavors for at least a year. By doing so, you will keep the promises you made on your weekend:

*"Christ is counting on me, and I am counting on Christ".*

*May God continue to bless the Cursillo Movement. De Colores!*