

PASTORAL PLAN
for the
CURSILLO MOVEMENT
in the
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

PREAMBLE

The Cursillo Movement of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida seeks to effect a change in people's lives so that they may be empowered to change their environments for Christ. The strategic plan to accomplish this transformation of persons and environments begins with Christian leaders dedicated to an apostolic ideal. These leaders are willing to give of themselves and to seek, through their own example, to influence and challenge persons to change themselves and their environments to follow the teachings and footsteps of Jesus Christ. These leaders need to be identified and directed in accordance with an apostolic plan. For maximum effectiveness, it is necessary that Christians work together in teams, mutually supporting and encouraging each other.

It is the goal of this Movement to make a change within the environment of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida, keeping in mind the goals set forth in the Vision for the Diocese of Central Florida 2000 - 2010. It particularly applies to the goals dealing with:

- an intentional program of evangelism (# 1)
- strengthening and supporting ministry of existing missions and smaller, rural churches (#4)
- equipping laity for ministry (#5)

The Cursillo Movement can offer a proven strategy and method for apostolic action that can support and enhance the Vision of the Diocese.

IMPLEMENTATION OF PASTORAL PLAN

- I. In order to support and enhance the Vision of the Diocese, the Cursillo Movement, through the Cursillo Commission and members of the Movement, will:
 - A. Consult with the Bishop for direction to implement his pastoral concerns and to ensure that the Cursillo Movement activities are consistent with the mission of the Diocese, and provide him with information as to what he can ask of the Movement.
 - B. Maintain a close relationship with the Bishop, Diocesan Council, departments, commissions, deaneries, and committees; being present whenever possible as active participants in diocesan planning programs so that the Movement may be fully aware of the needs of the Diocese and coordinate its activities to enhance the Diocesan Vision/Pastoral Plan.
 - C. Maintain close cooperation and communication with all of those mentioned above, and with the clergy and vestries of the various parishes and missions in the Diocese,

so that the Movement may work apostolically within the Church in a coordinated effort.

- II. The Cursillo Commission, coordinating with the Bishop, will be responsible for an annual review of the geographic and social environments of the Diocese in order to identify one or more environments which the Cursillo Movement will strive to influence to become more Christian in its life and work. Initial areas of focus will be:
 - A. Vestries.
 - B. Younger adults who are exhibiting Christian leadership.

- III. Once an environment is selected, the action plan for the Cursillo Movement will be:
 - A. To discover those persons in the environment who will be able to initiate and bring about a transformation through the graces given them and through their personal influence within that environment.
 - B. To prepare those persons for attendance at a Cursillo Weekend by:
 - 1. Helping them to understand the promises they made, or which were made for them, at their baptism.
 - 2. Helping them to understand their citizenship within the Body of Christ.
 - 3. Helping them to be aware of the special problems and possibilities within the environments to which they belong.
 - C. To invite those persons to a complete enrichment of Christian understanding, to the formation of a Christian community, and to an opportunity for renewal of their Christian lives through a Three-Day Weekend experience and continuing involvement in Fourth Day activities.
 - D. To plan, prepare for, and provide enough Three-Day Weekends to fulfill this pastoral plan, ensuring that those persons invited are prepared for the Weekend and that Weekend Team members are well prepared and have formed a Christian community prior to the Weekend.
 - E. To support those persons following the Three-Day Weekend through Fourth Day Activities of Group Reunion and Ultreyas, enabling them to grow in their Christian lives and encouraging them to persevere in their commitments to bring the world to Christ.

- IV. The Cursillo Commission will be responsible for providing support and guidance in Christian growth and apostolic commitment to those persons who have completed the Three-Day Cursillo Weekend by:
 - A. Sponsorship of each person attending a Three-Day Weekend by a person who has previously attended a Weekend; this sponsor will assist the new member until he/she is comfortable and firmly established in a Group Reunion and other programs of the Movement.
 - B. Active promotion, encouragement, and assistance enabling all members of the Movement to be involved in Group Reunion (weekly meetings for mutual support and development, founded on Christian friendship and dedicated to encouraging piety, study, and apostolic action). Group Reunions will be open to all persons interested in the Cursillo Method, whether or not they have attended a Three-Day Weekend.
 - C. Active promotion, encouragement, and assistance of regular Ultreyas at the diocesan,

deanery, and parish level, following the format set forth in the NEC Library. Ultreyas will be open to all persons interested in the Cursillo Method, whether or not they have attended a Three-Day Weekend.

D. Development of a group of Cursillistas, directed by the Cursillo Commission, to be a Servant Community. These people will provide support as needed, in all areas from Weekend Preparation to the Three-Day Weekend to Fourth Day activities.

V. This pastoral plan will be reviewed annually by the Cursillo Commission and the Bishop. It will be evaluated and revised as necessary to continue its goal of implementing the Bishop's overall mission for the Diocese.

Approved by: _____ Date: 2004

The Rt. Rev. John W. Howe
Bishop of the Diocese of Central Florida