

THE SCRANTON CURSILLO PASTORAL PLAN

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the growth of servant leadership; seek friendship with others in our environments, become a friend by being of service, promoting respect, hospitality, inclusion and stewardship to bring friends to Christ through ongoing growth, by gathering to share in our piety, study and action.

We will *“align all of our resources, activities and energies with three evangelization goals: to live our faith fully, to share it freely with others, and to transform the world in Christ”* as per Bishop Bambera’s Pastoral Plan 2011.

VISION STATEMENT

The Cursillo movement “urges those who have made a Cursillo to live out their basic Christian commitment within their own environments,” “...to seek out freely a specific community to join,” and “...to work within their own parishes as instruments of Christian renewal.” (Fundamental Ideas #695.)

This vision corresponds with Bishop Bambera’s 2011 Pastoral Plan calling for reflection and study on the following:

- Nurture the personal relationship of our members with God;
- Deepen everyone’s knowledge of God’s saving ways;
- Encourage and empower members to be evangelizers at home, school, in the workplace, neighborhood, marketplaces and the places of leisure;
- Reach out to the un-churched, inactive and alienated, inviting them to join in the Church’s belief and worship and life of discipleship;
- Strive to promote the consciousness that we are all part of a global community and our actions often have broader implications than just within our local community.

PREAMBLE TO THE PASTORAL PLAN

The goal of a Pastoral Plan is to assist the Movement in moving closer to its ideal – an authentic Cursillo Movement (Leaders Manual page 79)

The Cursillistas in the Scranton Diocese are very fortunate because the mission and vision of the movement integrate well with the diocesan pastoral plan. This plan is *entitled WOUNDED AND LOVED, REGATHERING THE SCATTERED, A Pastoral Vision for the Church of Scranton*, Issued June of 2011 by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera.*

The Secretariat recognizes that the diocesan pastoral plan may need to be revised and changed as the needs of the Bishop's pastoral plan may change. We will continue to assure that our movement fulfills the needs of our Bishop's pastoral plan through ongoing review.

PRECURSILLO

Purpose of Precursillo

- To target environments
- To select candidates
- To sponsor candidates
- To prepare candidates

Precursillo Objective

- 1) To target diocesan environments so that the Bishop's actual plan can be implemented where appropriate. *"I call us to be servant leaders who are people of the WORD, preaching, teaching, evangelizing and cherishing the Gospel message throughout our entire lives" **
- 2) To select candidates who satisfy the basic requirements to participate in the three-day Cursillo weekend through authentic friendship.
- 3) To sponsor each candidate following the process described in the National Cursillo Movement's "Sponsor's Booklet."
- 4) To prepare candidates by providing personal contact to each candidate by sponsors and Cursillo leaders.

Precursillo Recommendations

1. To penetrate the environments of our diocese.
2. To make ongoing efforts to develop authentic sponsorship using *'make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ;* using Ultreyas, newsletters, School of Leaders and the sponsor's booklet as vehicles to emphasize the role and responsibility of sponsors, extending to the postcursillo phase.

THE THREE-DAY CURSILLO WEEKEND

Purpose

1. To provide an atmosphere of piety, study and action so the candidates may more fully realize their Baptismal Commitment, to evangelize in their own environment, *“Evangelization is not a program, but a way of life for each member of the Church.” **
2. To change each person from within, or bring about the renewal of mind and spirit.
3. To help discover and fulfill their personal vocations.
4. To provide a transition from the Precursillo to the Postcursillo

The Three-Day Weekend Objectives

1. To provide an atmosphere that is conducive to the “metanoia” experience necessary to develop Christian evangelizers, utilizing the current three day manual, Fundamental Ideas of the Cursillo Movement, the current Leaders Manual and centered on the Eucharist. *“I call us to be servant leaders who worship our God and celebrate the sacraments in union with the Universal Church.” **
2. To provide each individual with the tools and the method to fulfill their baptismal responsibilities as well as an opportunity to fulfill their role as laity. This role is set forth by Vatican II. We are to share an awareness of a personal relationship with Christ.
3. To further enhance the candidates understanding and application of the postcursillo tools of group reunion and Ultreya. **This will assist in the Christian transformation of their environments.**

The Three-day Weekend Recommendations

1. To maintain authentic weekends, closely following the 3 Day Manual.
2. To solicit general Palanca commitments of a SPECIFIC nature, e.g. daily Mass, daily Rosary, fasting, meditation on a specific scripture passage, etc.
3. To ensure that those invited to assume weekend leadership roles are dedicated to keeping the weekend’s AUTHENTICITY by adhering to the resource publications. These leaders need to prayerfully select an appropriate number of ACTIVELY GROUPING individuals from a representative cross-section of parishes within the Diocese of Scranton. Team members are to attend School of Leaders regularly.
4. Team meetings will be held in conjunction with School of Leaders sessions as much as possible, and team selections should come from those who attend School of Leaders regularly.

POSTCURSILLO

The Purpose of the Postcursillo

1. To facilitate the penetration and transformation of environments through, and for, Christ.
2. To nurture the Cursillistas in persevering in the living of the Fourth Day.

Postcursillo Objective

To provide, through Group Reunions and Ultreyas, gathering places for Christians who are searching for a way to find holiness, using the method of the tripod, i.e. Piety, Study and Action; to bring about Christian transformation of each Cursillista, and their environments. "I call us to be servant leaders who build community through hospitality, respect, inclusion and holiness." *

Postcursillo Recommendations

1. To increase the number of Ultreyas available on a regular basis.
 - 1a. Have Ultreya leaders in various parishes throughout the Diocese in order to obtain the ideal goal of a weekly Ultreya throughout the Diocese.
2. To assist the new Cursillistas in getting into group reunions.
 - 2a. To maintain an updated list of group reunions with location and contact information.
3. To keep Cursillistas notified of events and happenings (Ultreyas, School of Leaders, social events, etc) through email, quarterly newsletters and the website.

SCHOOL OF LEADERS

Purpose of the School of Leaders

- 1) To maintain the effectiveness and authenticity of the Cursillo Movement.
- 2) To provide ongoing education, training and spiritual growth for the leaders of the Movement.
- 3) To intensify the living of what is fundamental to being a Christian.

School of Leaders Objectives

- 1) To provide a gathering of Christians who have set out in search of holiness and who are finding their way by following and imitating their one and only teacher -- CHRIST.
- 2) To provide a community of Christians who unite in the atmosphere of a group reunion, seek every day to become more centered, more committed, and more united.
- 3) To provide a response to "the call to growth and a continual process of maturation, of always bearing much fruit." (Christifideles laici, #57)

School of Leaders Recommendations

- 1) To encourage attendance at the School of Leaders sessions, especially for those interested in serving on a Cursillo Team.
- 2) Doctrinal presentations are to be given by clergy on a regular basis.
- 3) Team meetings should be held in conjunction with School of Leaders.

SPIRITUALITY

Purpose of Spirituality

To foster growth in our capacity to live with, and through CHRIST.

Spirituality Objectives

- 1) To nurture a desire for a person to seek his/her own form of Spirituality among the many available in the Catholic Church. The Cursillo Movement does not adopt a specific form of spirituality.
- 2) To integrate the kerygmatic approach into the Scranton Cursillo Movement as a method of spiritual development and growth, (Fundamental Ideas, #671-686) focusing on awakening a hunger for God.

Spirituality Recommendations

- 1) To integrate spiritual formation into all phases of the Scranton Cursillo Movement.
 - 1a. Precursillo selection of candidates will concentrate on those men and women who have demonstrated a desire to grow in their spiritual life.
 - 1b. The leadership of each weekend team will use team meetings to develop a spiritual bond among its members.
 - 1c. The leaders of Ultreyas and group reunions will nurture a metanoia experience in their groups.

2) To encourage Cursillistas to seek spiritual direction.

2a. A list of spiritual directors from the Diocese of Scranton will be maintained. The list will be used for referrals for this spiritual service.

* From “*WOUNDED AND LOVED, REGATHERING THE SCATTERED*”
A Pastoral Vision for the Church of Scranton, Issued June of 2011 by
Bishop Joseph C. Bambera.