

ARTICLES OF OPERATION FOR  
CURSILLO IN CHRISTIANITY IN THE  
DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

PREAMBLE:

With a sincere desire to live a life in grace in union with Jesus Christ, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Secretariat of the Cursillo in Christianity sanctioned by the Bishop of the Diocese of Harrisburg, will endeavor to bring about a rededication of Roman Catholics in the Diocese of Harrisburg to his life in grace in union with Jesus Christ by the implementation of the authentic means as prescribed by the National and Regional Cursillo Secretariats and to transform environments for Christ through the efforts of the rededicated Roman Catholics with the support of the total Cursillo community.

ARTICLE 1: PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. To be the policy-making body for the Cursillo in Christianity in the Diocese of Harrisburg.
2. To foster the essence and purpose of Cursillo in Christianity among the working sections.
3. To provide coordination for the development and strengthening of the Cursillo in Christianity in the Diocese of Harrisburg.
4. To study problems in the Cursillo in Christianity peculiar to the Diocese of Harrisburg and to formulate possible solutions.
5. To provide administrative, communicative, technical and spiritual services to promote solidarity and oneness in purpose.
6. To follow the authentic norms of the Cursillo in Christianity method and guard against additions, subtractions or modifications that would change its doctrinal content or its natural features.

ARTICLE 2: MEETINGS

1. This Secretariat shall meet at least once each month. One meeting each year, after a Day of Renewal, shall be designated as the Annual Meeting.
2. The purpose of the Annual Meeting shall be:
  - A. To review and evaluate the goals and performance of the previous year and to confirm the goals for the new year.
  - B. To review and approve the annual budget.

3. Additional Secretariat meetings may be called:
  - A. At the request of a simple majority of the members present and voting at a meeting of this Secretariat.
  - B. At the discretion of the Lay Director or Spiritual Director.
  - C. At the request of one or more Committees.
4. Each member of this Secretariat shall have one vote.
5. Parliamentary Authority
  - A. This shall be exercised by the meeting's presiding officer.
  - B. Robert's "Rules of Order" shall be used.

### ARTICLE 3: VOTING MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. Each standing committee will be presented on this Secretariat by the chairman of the committee. Committees shall be six in number:
 

1. Pre-Cursillo	4. Communications
2. Post-Cursillo	5. Administration
3. Cursillo	6. Study
2. The Lay Director and the Spiritual Director shall be members of this Secretariat, each with voice and vote.
3. The Lay Director Elect shall be a member or past member of any committee within the Cursillo Movement. Said Lay Director Elect shall have voice and vote.

### ARTICLE 4: LEADERSHIP FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Lay Director, after serving two years as the Lay Director Elect, shall assume the office on July 1.
  - A. The duties and responsibilities are:
    1. Shall preside at all meetings of the Secretariat.
    2. Shall be an ex-officio member of all working sections and committees.
    3. Shall appoint committees as deemed necessary.
    4. Shall represent or send a representative of the Harrisburg Cursillo Movement to all Regional and National meetings.

5. Shall be responsible for the implementation of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan and the completion of the Charter of Accountability for the Cursillo Movement, Diocese of Harrisburg.

2. At the May meeting this Secretariat shall begin to choose the Lay Director Elect. The Lay Director Elect should be a member or past member of any committee within the Cursillo Movement.

A. The duties and responsibilities are:

1. Shall serve two years in preparation for becoming the Lay Director.
2. Shall preside over the Planning Committee invoked to prepare the coming year's Charter of Accountability.
3. Shall preside at meetings of the Secretariat in the absence of the Lay Director.
4. Shall have such duties as the Lay Director may direct.

3. Committees:

A. Committees shall implement the Cursillo philosophy as it pertains to them under the direction of the Secretariat.

B. Committee chairpersons of the Secretariat shall be selected from its members and/or nominated by the School of Leaders, Group Reunion members, or Ultreya members and shall be submitted to and selected by Secretariat for a three (3) year term.

The transition from the current 2 year terms to 3 year terms will be completed over 3 years.

- Year 1 (June 2013) Post-Cursillo and Study Chairperson for 3 years and Communications Chairperson for 2 years.
- Year 2 (June 2014) Pre-Cursillo for a 1 year term, Cursillo and Administration Chairpersons for 3 year terms.
- Year 3 (June 2015) Communications and Pre-Cursillo Chairpersons for terms of 3 years.

After the initial transition to 3 year terms, 2 committee chairpersons will be elected for 3 year terms each year over a three year cycle.

1. Church cycle year A, Cursillo and Administration Chairpersons
2. Church cycle year B, Pre-Cursillo and Communications Chairpersons
3. Church cycle year C, Post-Cursillo and Study Chairpersons

C. Nominees for chairmen of Committees will meet the following criteria:

1. A member of an active permanent Group Reunion.
2. Have the Cursillo in Christianity as a primary apostolate.
3. An active participant in Ultreyas.
4. A member of Leader's School.
5. Has a working knowledge of the Cursillo Movement and of the official literature.
6. Shall have served on a weekend team.
7. Sufficiently free of other responsibilities to be able to make the commitment of time and effort required by this position.

D. Adequate representation of men and women, and the various geographic areas of the Diocese is expected.

E. Confirmed chairmen of the committees will assume their duties as a member of the Secretariat on July 1, coinciding with the schedule in "B" above. They will be expected to faithfully attend Secretariat meetings; two unexcused absences disqualifies them from Secretariat.

F. Vacancies on the Secretariat for any cause shall be filled for the balance of the term from within the affected committee when possible or by the Lay Director in consultation Spiritual Advisor and Spiritual Director.

G. Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Shall review and coordinate through Christian Spirit their working responsibility for the growth and development of the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese.

2. Shall be responsive to the direction of the Secretariat, and actively communicate their Christian commitment.

3. Pre-Cursillo Section:

- a. Members shall be recruited from active cursillistas, i.e., group reunions and ultreyas.

- b. Addresses itself to selection of persons and environments and the preparation of the candidates for the three-day Cursillo with a view toward a commitment to the Post-Cursillo.

4. Post-Cursillo Committee:

a. Members shall be recruited from active Cursillistas, i.e., group reunion and ultreyas.

b. Addresses itself to the communitarian means, (group reunion and ultreyas) designed to increase and assist the conversion and Christian living initiated in the Cursillo.

5. Cursillo Committee:

a. Members shall be recruited from active Cursillistas, i.e., group reunion and ultreyas.

b. Addresses itself to the creation of a climate which will facilitate encounter with Christ by removing barriers and obstacles that would prevent the message from reaching the Cursillista's mind and heart by the prudent selection and ardent training of those who will compose a weekend team and all other matters that affect a weekend.

c. Shall preserve the authenticity of the weekend as documented-by official Cursillo literature.

6. Communications Committee:

a. Members shall be recruited from active Cursillistas, i.e., group reunion and ultreyas.

b. Shall publish the monthly publication of "A New Day".

c. The Chairman of this section shall keep the minutes of the Secretariat meetings and shall distribute same to all members and spiritual advisors.

d. Shall keep the Articles of Operation current.

e. Shall solicit palanca for weekends and provide palanca to other dioceses.

7. Administration Committee:

a. Members shall be recruited from active Cursillistas, i.e., group reunion and ultreyas.

b. Addresses itself to the financial and administrative needs of the Movement.

c. Shall prepare a budget for submission to the Secretariat annually.

d. Shall inventory and stock all materials required for Leaders School, Weekends, Workshops and as the Secretariat may direct.

e. The Chairman of this committee shall be the Treasurer of the Secretariat.

(1) Shall receive and disburse, with approval of the Secretariat all Cursillo Movement funds and keep Accurate records of the same.

(2) Shall submit a financial report at each meeting of the Secretariat.

#### 8. Study Committee:

a. Members are recruited from active Cursillistas, i.e., group reunion and ultreyas.

b. Addresses itself to the needs, the possibilities and the levels of development of the movement in the Diocese of Harrisburg.

c. It is a group of Christians who, united through and in a climate of Group Reunions, seek to be more committed and more united to accelerate the living of what is fundamental for being a Christian in themselves, the Cursillo Movement and in the environment in which they live.

d. Shall prepare the course of study for Leaders School in complete harmony with the Spiritual Director and Secretariat'.

e. The Chairman of this committee shall be the Director of the Leaders School.

#### 9. All Committees:

a. Shall maintain written guidelines approved by the Secretariat to more fully delineate their assigned duties and responsibilities.

b. Shall meet regularly to fulfill their responsibilities.

c. Shall maintain a continuing educational program to train its members.

d. Shall select from its qualified members a chairman and shall submit the name to the Secretariat for confirmation according to the schedule in Article 4, Section 3-B.

e. The term of chairman shall be for three (3) years.

f. In the event the chairman of a committee is selected as the Lay Director Elect, the committee shall select from among its qualified members another chairman to complete the balance of the term and submit the name to the Secretariat at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

#### ARTICLES: SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

1. The Spiritual Director shall be appointed by the Bishop of the Diocese and shall be his representative.

2. The Diocesan Spiritual Director shall be responsible for:

A. The formative and doctrinal guidance of the Cursillo in Christianity Movement in the Diocese.

B. The spiritual, intellectual and technical growth of the Diocesan Secretariat and Leaders School.

C. The preservation of the sobriety and seriousness of the Movement, principally in acts of piety.

D. The authenticity of all lectures which are to be given in the Cursillo and the technique according to which it should develop.

E. The selection and training of Cursillo weekend Spiritual Directors and Committee Spiritual Advisors.

#### ARTICLE 6: SPIRITUAL ADVISORS

1. Spiritual Advisors shall be appointed by the Bishop to the Pre-Cursillo, Post-Cursillo and Cursillo committees. Additional advisors may be appointed as the Bishop may direct.

2. Responsibilities of the Spiritual Advisors are:

A. To foster a vibrant Movement through their esteem for the grace and the gifts of God, their spiritual criteria and optimism, their apostolic zeal and constant concern for the triumph of charity and union among all Christians.

B. To assist the Spiritual Director in the formative and doctrinal guidance of the Cursillo in Christianity Movement in the Diocese.

C. To assist the Spiritual Director in the preservation of the sobriety, seriousness and authenticity of the Movement.

D. Shall have such duties as the Spiritual Director may direct.

## ARTICLE 7: AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments to these Articles of Operation may be proposed at any regular meeting of the Secretariat.

2. Any proposed amendments will be approved or rejected at the regularly scheduled meeting following the one at which they were proposed.

3. Approval of a proposed amendment shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote of voting membership.

## ARTICLES: NATIONAL ARTICLE

Where there is conflict between these Articles and the present or future Articles of Operation of the National Secretariats, the pertinent Section of the National Article will take precedent.

Articles of Operation Approved on: June 9, 1984

Frank Falcone  
William LaCour  
John Orndorff  
Sandy Golesh  
John Baker  
1 Unknown Signature

Revised May 21, 2013

Nancy Keener  
Betty Berry  
Rita Geraci  
Donna Nebastinsky  
Robin and Michael Schriener  
Lois and Tom Wonsiewicz



DEFINITION OF TERMS USED IN  
THE ARTICLES OF OPERATION

LAY DIRECTOR	Lay person selected to lead the Movement, preside over Secretariat meetings and be responsive to the Regional and National Secretariats.
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR	Priest assigned by the Bishop as his representative to spiritually lead the Diocesan Movement.
SPIRITUAL ADVISORS	Priests assigned by the Bishop to spiritually lead the various committees.
LAY DIRECTOR ELECT	Layperson who will become the Lay Director.
COMMITTEE	A committee can and should have sub-committees and a sub-committee chairperson to shoulder a part of the work of the committee.
CHAIRPERSON	Layperson directing the work of a committee.
SECRETARIAT	As defined by the current Cursillo literature.
LEADERS SCHOOL	As defined by the current Cursillo literature.
LEADERS SCHOOL DIRECTOR	Chairman of the Study Committee who will also lead Leaders School.
TREASURER	Chairman of the Administrative Committee.
SECRETARY	Chairman of the Communications Committee.

## History of Revisions

May 21, 2013 Article 4, Section 3, B - Changed terms of Secretariat committee Chairpersons from 2 to 3 year terms, revised the years in which each committee chair would be voted upon and included a 3 year implementation schedule starting in June 2013.