

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a group of people's hands clasped together in a circle. The hands are of various skin tones, and some are wearing jewelry like bracelets and rings. The background is a clear, bright blue sky. The overall mood is one of unity and community.

*A Cursillo retreat offers
you the opportunity for
formation through
talks, meditations,
discussion and prayer,
led by an experienced
local volunteer team.*

Cursillo

What is Cursillo?

The Cursillo Movement has an important role in the Archdiocese, providing an avenue for the continued enrichment and deepening of our adult faith lives. Cursillo provides a sound and practical approach for energising, renewing and enlivening the faith lives of both individuals and parishes.

Cursillo is also an important means of reaching out to people who have had little or no adult faith formation and who are searching. Cursillo provides a method for people seeking to live an authentic Christian life - a blueprint which brings a renewed encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ.

I recognise the gift of Cursillo and commend Cursillo to all who are searching for a renewal and deepening of their faith.



Christopher Prowse
Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn



In the beginning...

Starting in Majorca after the Spanish Revolution, many priests had been killed. A group of lay people began to pray, talk and work together to find a way to bring people to Christ. Their answer was short formation courses; *Cursillo* literally means *short course* in Spanish. The first Cursillo was held in 1944 and soon became a movement recognised by the Vatican. Cursillo soon spread to the Spanish mainland, then to the USA. Cursillos are now held all over the world in the Catholic, Anglican and Uniting churches, under the direction of their Bishop or President. The first Catholic Cursillo in the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn was held in 1966.

"Come Follow Him"

The Cursillo movement is alive and vibrant in our Archdiocese. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the dedication of a willing community, we provide opportunities for people to "Come Follow Him" through the Cursillo experience.

What happens?

Cursillo weekends are residential retreats held over three days, for men and women, separately or mixed, learning, praying, and sharing friendship together.

- A program of short talks by lay people and a Spiritual Director (usually a priest)
- Discussions, music and other fun activities
- Daily Eucharist and prayer

For many, after Cursillo, Christian living takes on a new dimension with a fresh awareness of God's love and purpose for each of us.

What happens after a Cursillo?

It is possible to encounter God in many ways; the encounter is easy, following Christ afterwards is challenging. Cursillo offers Cursillistas the opportunity to continue their formation after the Cursillo weekend, if they wish.

- Regular small-group meetings to share prayer, study and action
- Larger gatherings where all Cursillistas come together for celebration and further mutual encouragement

You're invited!

Cursillo weekends usually occur annually in the Diocese.

Why not consider Christ's invitation to spend time with Him; to learn more about your Christian faith and to deepen your relationship with God?

Need further information?

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AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC CURSILLO MOVEMENT
ARCHDIOCESE OF CANBERRA-GOULBURN