

DIOCESE OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY SOUTH JERSEY CURSILLO BYLAWS



PREAMBLE

The purpose of the Movement is the leavening of environments with the Gospel. This leavening of environments strives to make Christian community possible in families, neighborhoods, work situations, and other places where people live the greater part of their lives. It attempts to make it possible for anyone in the world to live a Christian life in a natural way.

The ultimate goal of our Cursillo movement is that on the Day of Judgment there may be more saints. This can be accomplished if the purpose stated in the preceding paragraph has been achieved.

Its immediate purpose is to provide an understanding and conviction concerning what is fundamental for being a Christian. Our Cursillo Movement strives to strengthen individuals so that they might live out that understanding and conviction, supported by Christian community life.

Unity of purpose is essential if there is to be a courageous and total service to Jesus Christ through our Cursillo Movement. Individualism halts the advance of the movement and, in fact disintegrates it. The Secretariat unifies the movement on all levels and indicates the path to be followed in essential matters of practical details as indicated in the official literature (all publications of the National Secretariat of the Cursillo Movement). However, in all questions of importance, the Secretariat listens to the leaders before deciding what should or should not be done.

The members of the School of Leaders will be in constant dialogue with the Secretariat. The members of the Secretariat, for their part, should recall that the Lord, through his bishop, has given them a most serious responsibility for the implementation of the authentic Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Camden. Conscious of each one's talents, the Secretariat should coordinate individual contributions into total effort in support of the movement in its Precursillo, Cursillo, and Postcursillo phases. Making decisions is a formidable charge for the Secretariat. All cursillistas must support it by prayer and palanca. In guiding the movement, the Secretariat must be watchful not to create subservience but to build up the whole Body of Christ. The Secretariat must determine the potential of the entire diocesan movement so that each person may be led to discover his individual potential and contribute to the building up the Kingdom of God. This it should do in love, at the same time demanding a just response from each leader.

The Secretariat should not be dictatorial, but must view its authority as one of service to the total movement. It must remember that the movement's direction has been entrusted to it by Christ through the bishop, to whom it will have to give an account for this charge. The Secretariat, as a service unit, is not established to be served but to serve those who serve most and best, namely the leaders. In this sense, the Secretariat cannot be thought of except as a group reunion whose apostolic plan is the promotion of our Cursillo Movement itself, programmed and carried out with the ideal of the greatest service to all.

Just as on the 3-Day Cursillo, priests bear the responsibility for spiritual guidance and laymen regulate its overall functioning, so priest, religious and lay members of the Secretariat will cooperate for furthering the aims and objectives of our Cursillo Movement as a whole.

ARTICLE I – In the Diocese of Camden, New Jersey, there shall be only one (1) English speaking South Jersey Cursillo Secretariat, which shall be a functional and autonomous organism under the immediate direction of the bishop and dependent upon him.

Note: At such a time as other language groups become present in the Diocesan Movement, adjustments will be made in the bylaws for adequate representation to help meet bilingual and bicultural needs.

ARTICLE II – As a group, the members of the Secretariat shall guide and coordinate all phases of our Cursillo movement in the Diocese of Camden within the itspastoral plan, as presented to the bishop.

ARTICLE III – Members of the Secretariat shall be elected by the Secretariat itself. Only actively participating members of the School of Leaders shall be eligible for appointment.

ARTICLE IV – The Secretariat shall be composed of lay people and religious spiritual advisor(s) as appointed by the Bishop. Each member of Secretariat shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The members and their duties are:

1. Officers – There shall be a Lay Director, Co-Lay Director/Director of the School of Leaders, Treasurer, and Secretary. These and all other representatives of the movement will be chosen by a simple majority vote of the members of the Secretariat.

- a. The Lay Director, in consultation with the spiritual advisor, will convoke, preside at, direct and prepare agendas for all meetings of the Secretariat. He/She will do everything possible to promote a spirit of unity, not only among the members of the Secretariat, but in the School of Leaders and throughout the whole diocesan Cursillo Movement. He/She will see to it that each fellow member of the Secretariat fulfills his assigned duties. He/She will present a pastoral plan and interim report if necessary to the bishop in the name of the Secretariat. The Lay Director shall serve a three (3) year term and may be re-elected for an additional one (1) year term for a maximum of four years. The Lay Director will assume duties of any Secretariat vacancy until such vacancy is filled.
- b. The Co-Lay Director/Director of the School of Leaders will convene, preside at, prepare and direct all activities relating to the School of Leaders. The Director of the School will ensure that all the essential elements of the School are maintained, for continual growth of its participants. As Co-Lay Director, assist the Lay Director and prepare agendas, convene and preside at any meetings where the Lay Director will be absent. The Co-Lay Director shall serve for three (3) years and may be re-elected for an additional one (1) year term of office for a maximum of four years.
- c. The Treasurer shall handle the financial matters of our Cursillo Movement. He/She will do whatever is necessary to ensure that the movement is financially sound at all times, that local, regional and national financial obligations are met and that funds are available for the Lay Director's attendance at the Cursillo National and Regional Encounters. He/She will see to it that required books, publications and other supplies, which are needed by the movement, are always available. The term of office shall be three (3) years and may be re-elected for an additional one (1) year term for a maximum of four years.
- d. The Secretary will keep the minutes of all meetings and see to it that they are distributed promptly to all whom should receive them. He/She will see to it that mailing lists are up-to-date and assume responsibility for all mailings sent out by the Secretariat. He/She will perform other duties usually connected with this office. The Secretary is responsible for the mail and telephone messages and the distribution of said information to the appropriate representative. This term of office shall be three (3) years and may be re-elected for an additional one (1) year term for a maximum of four years.

2. Representatives– There shall be one representative for each of the three phases of the movement. However, Secretariat may approve, on a simple majority vote, two people to fill the one representative position. The representative position will only have one vote, even if the position is held by two or more people.

a. The Precursillo representative shall study and propose to the Secretariat the plan of establishment and extension of ourCursillo Movement in the diocese; maintain a file of all applications; assist all leaders in implementing the Precursillo phase of the movement according to the official literature, especially in the study of environments to be evangelized. The term of office shall be three (3) years and may be re-elected for an additional one (1) year term for a maximum of four years.

b. The Cursillo representative shall present to the Secretariat names of prospective rectors/rectoras and help all leaders to carry out perfectly all that is required on the 3-Day Cursillo according to the official literature. The Cursillo representative is responsible for the Palanca Committee of ourCursillo Movement. The term of office shall be three (3) years and may be re-elected for an additional one (1) year term for a maximum of four years.

c. The Postcursillo representative shall for the benefit of all Cursillistas promote the essential means of perseverance (Group Reunion and Ultreya) and establish fundamental standards for managing the same according to the official literature; working with the secretary, publish or distribute pertinent material for the information and orientation of the Cursillistas; gather the necessary statistical data to supply for the Secretariat opportune information concerning the progress of the movement in the diocese with particular reference to the environments to be evangelized. The Postcursillo representative is responsible for the News/Information Committee of the Cursillo Movement. The term of office shall be three (3) years and may be re-elected for an additional one (1) year term for a maximum of four years.

d. Representatives of the Secretariat may appoint individuals to oversee committees respective to the work of that section. (i.e., Preparation committee for the Precursillo section, Palanca Committee for the Cursillo section, News/Information Committee for the Postcursillo section). The individuals of these various committees report directly to their respective Section representatives. The individuals are not members of the Secretariat. The individuals appointed to the sections will serve only during the term of the representative of that section.

3. Spiritual Advisor(s) - The bishop shall appoint a spiritual advisor(s). In addition to the general responsibility for the whole Cursillo Movement which he shares with the other members of the Secretariat, it will be his specific responsibility to provide for the apostolic formation of the leaders, to advise the movement in spiritual matters and to secure the service of priests and other religious to work in the various phases of the movement in their capacity as spiritual advisors. In the absence of a priest spiritual advisor, the Secretariat may seek and nominate a priest for appointment by the bishop.

ARTICLE V - In the event that the office of the Lay Director is vacated, the Co-Lay Director/Director of the School of Leaders will assume duties of the office of Lay Director until a meeting of the Secretariat is called to elect a new Lay Director. Said election shall take place at the next regularly scheduled Secretariat meeting. A vacancy in any other position shall be filled by the Secretariat at their next regular meeting after the vacancy occurs.

ARTICLE VI- The School of Leaders shall submit nominations for expiring terms on the first week of October. Elections will take place at the November Secretariat meeting. Those elected at this meeting shall take office on January 1st of the following year. All transitions between the outgoing representatives and the new representatives will be completed by the December Secretariat meeting.

ARTICLE VII -Voting shall be viva voce unless any member of the Secretariat requests a written vote. Absentee voting shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE VIII – The School of Leaders is the cornerstone of ourCursillo Movement, the complement and extension of the Secretariat. The School will be its instrument for the realization of its works. The School will supply the Secretariat with teams of leaders technically and spiritual prepared that they may be the ferment of ourCursillo Movement in the diocese, since it is on the leaders that the responsibility rests for vitalizing the Group Reunions and the Ultreyas, the specific means of perseverance in the Postcursillo.

ARTICLE IX – Liaison shall be established and maintained with the national and regional Secretariats which bodies shall be supported by our Cursillo movement, spiritually, by way of prayers and palanca, materially, by way of financial contributions to the degree required, and by sponsoring the Lay Director’s attendance at the Cursillo National and Regional Encounters.

ARTICLE X – The Secretariat shall implement ourCursillo Movement in the Diocese of Camden according to that, which is essential and fundamental as outlined in the official literature of the movement. All Secretariat representatives shall submit an activity report regarding their section’s responsibilities for the current month at least one week prior to each monthly Secretariat meeting. The report shall be submitted to all Secretariat members and allows time for their review and comments. Furthermore, all Secretariat representatives shall submit a yearly comprehensive report regarding their section’s fiscal year activities no later than September 1, to the Lay Director.

ARTICLE XI– Since the Secretariat is itself a group reunion, there shall be a sharing of piety, study and action on the part of each member at every Secretariat meeting.

The Cursillos in Christianity of the Diocese of CamdenSecretariat shall meet at least once a month. The dates and sites for meetings of the Secretariat shall be fixed by the members of the Secretariat. Special meetings of the Secretariat may be called in one of two ways and will be held within 5 working days of the request:

- a. from a majority vote of the members thereof;
- b. from the Lay Director with the concurrence of the Spiritual Advisor.

No meetings of the Secretariat may be held unless at least 50% of the members are present.

ARTICLE XII– Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by any member of the Secretariat and may be made, at its regular meeting by a majority vote of the entire Secretariat provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Secretariat at least one month in advance of the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be discussed and voted upon. All proposed amendments must be in accordance with the official literature of the Cursillo Movement.

ARTICLE XIII – Upon the completion of each representative’s term (maximum of four years), they will accept at least a one year waiting period prior to accepting a position on the Secretariat. If no qualified members of the School of Leaders are available to fill a position on the Secretariat, the one year waiting period may be waived for a representative who held a different position of the Secretariat than the one needing to be filled.

ARTICLE XIV– The name of the English speaking Cursillo Community of the Diocese of Camden will be referred to as South Jersey Cursillo.

ARTICLE XV– The Lay Director and two other members of the Secretariat will sign and date all Secretariat documents approved by the Secretariat to ensure the authenticity and direction of the movement in the Diocese of Camden.

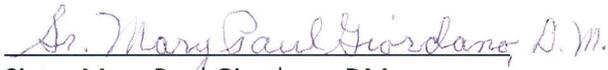
Having reviewed the final draft of these Bylaws, the below signed members of the South Jersey Cursillo Secretariat do hereby agree to adopt them. Adopted 3/2/2013.



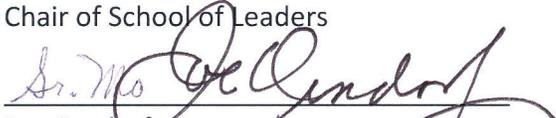
Deacon Joe Garozzo
Spiritual Advisor



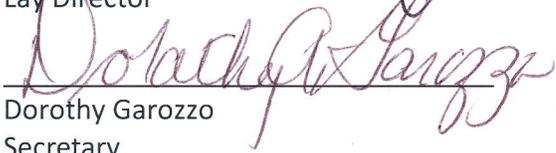
Deacon Bill DeLiberis
Assistant Spiritual Advisor



Sister Mary Paul Giordana, DM
Chair of School of Leaders

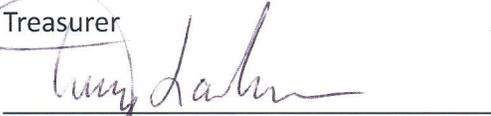


Joe Orndorf
Lay Director



Dorothy Garozzo
Secretary

Mary Welsh
Treasurer



Terry Larkin
Post Cursillo



Deb Ayars
Cursillo



Val & Tom Vassallo
PreCursillo