

What is Via de Cristo?

Via de Cristo originated as Cursillo[®] in the 1940's in Majorca, Spain. Cursillo[®] (kur-see-yo) is a Spanish word for "short course." This powerful movement spread quickly and has been adopted by many different denominations around the world today and is known by many different names. (<http://cursillos.ca/en/liens.htm>).

The method is a structured three-day weekend designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people and bring them to a new awareness of living in God's grace.

The Lutheran movement is called "Via de Cristo" meaning "Way of Christ" in Spanish. A Via de Cristo weekend begins on Thursday evening and ends on Sunday evening. The participants live, study, worship and commune together daily. Through 14 progressive talks, Via de Cristo gives attendees a living understanding of basic Christian truths. There is music and singing, food and fellowship, a time for laughter and a time for prayer.



Purpose of Via de Cristo

Via de Cristo is based on the fundamentals of Christianity, concentrating on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. The focus is not on Via de Cristo itself, but on the local church. The objective of the movement is to inspire, challenge and equip individuals for Christian action in their homes, churches and communities.

Who should attend?

Via de Cristo is intended for people from every walk of life. It's for church leaders and lay people who live strong and active lives in Christ as well as those who need to be renewed and strengthened in their relationship with Christ and the people around them. Via de Cristo is open to married people and single men and women. The weekends are usually paired and run consecutively, with the men attending the first weekend and the women attending the second.

Keep an open mind and heart in making your decision to attend Via de Cristo. Like you, many attendees wondered if they should go. Once they did go, many have wondered why they waited so long. Now they want others to receive this wonderful gift from God. Please understand that each person's experiences are unique.

During the Weekend:

The Talks

Ideal
Habitual Grace
Laity
Actual Grace
Piety
Study
Sacraments
Apostolic Action
Obstacles to Grace
Leaders
Environment
Life in Grace
Christian Community
Total Security



Music & Singing



Food & Fellowship

For further information contact:

Via de Cristo of Minnesota
9330 Cortland Road
Woodbury, MN 55125-9154
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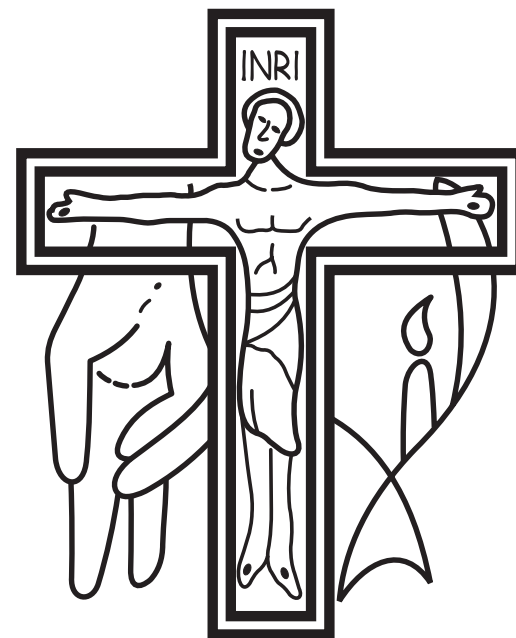
E-mail coordinator@mnviadecristo.org
www.mnviadecristo.org

Via de Cristo Milestones

- 1941 Roman Catholic Church in Spain begins developing Cursillos (“short courses”)
- 1957 The first Cursillo in the United States was held in Texas
- 1972 The first Lutheran Via de Cristo weekends were held in Florida and Iowa
- 1980 The first Minnesota Via de Cristo weekend was held at Normandale Lutheran Church in Edina
- 1981 The National Lutheran Secretariat was formed
- 1985 MN Via de Cristo helped establish the first Papua, New Guinea weekend
- 1995 MN Via de Cristo helped conduct the first Salt Lake City, Utah weekend
- 2001 MN Via de Cristo hosted the National Lutheran Secretariat Convention at Augsburg College
- 2005 Over 14,000 people have attended a MN Via de Cristo weekend
- 2010 MN Via de Cristo hosted the National Lutheran Secretariat Convention at Northwestern College

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Via de Cristo



“Christ is counting on You”