*ROLLOS FOR FRIDAY: The five talks on the first day are intended to present the life of grace as the Christian ideal.

ROLLO # 1: THE CALL TO BE FULLY HUMAN

SETTING

This is the opening Rollo of the Cursillo. It lays the foundation for the rest of the weekend. The Cursillo is meant to give men and women a new direction for their lives—the Christian direction. This Rollo begins the process by asking, “What are we doing with our lives?”

PURPOSE

➢ to convince the candidates that they need to be conscious of the direction of their lives
➢ to inspire the candidates to discover their current direction
➢ to set the stage for the Grace Rollo
➢ to prepare the candidates to ask what it means to have a Christian direction in their lives

KEY POINTS

1. What is going on in the world around us?
   This talk emphasizes the world of change all about us and the confusion of values as institutions collapse. From many points of view the world has changed more in the past twenty years than in the previous 200 years. We have a world of changing moral and social ideas and a world of collapsing values. This Rollo asks, “Who are we, and what is our identity in this changing world?”

2. What is going on inside us?
   Although we are at the center of creation, we often feel dissatisfied and empty. Everything around us is changing. Sometimes we seek happiness in false values (e.g., money, power, self) which, instead of satisfying our anxieties, leave us with a sense of failure and worthlessness.

   Is our external life in order so that people will see an “all-together” us and like us? Humans are carefully trained to make sure that the world sees a person that is together, who has it all figured out, and who can function in a socially acceptable manner. But there truly is more to us than this image we portray. What is happening on the inside? Do these images that are seen by the outer world accurately reflect our inner selves? Is there a difference between who we really are and what we pose as being? We often wear masks. Some of us never take them off or may not be aware we have them on.

3. What is the purpose of human life?
   We know ourselves better by being introspective. We must look behind our masks, find the real us, and determine what is really important to us (recognizing that becoming a Christ-centered person is a life-long process).

   As we examine ourselves, we ask, “What do we want to accomplish with our lives?” Humanity is the unfinished work of God. As humans, our destiny is growth, not perfection. We know that life is not a goal in itself. It is a process through which God shapes us, giving purpose and meaning to our lives. Something to live for and a sense of individuality are needed in order to become truly ourselves. If we are anything as persons, it is because of what we think, feel, value, hope for, believe in, are committed to, and live.
4. What is the direction of the candidates’ lives?

We need to take time to pause and think, “What is the meaning and direction of our lives?” The question is not addressed to what we think we stand for, but for what we really live and try to live on a day-to-day basis. Therefore, we need to decide what we want our direction to be so that we can make our decision and our daily living consistent with that direction. The candidates should be challenged to find out where they are currently directing their lives. They should assess where their time, thoughts and money go. What are their priorities, ideals and responses to life’s challenges?

**STYLE OF PRESENTATION**

This Rollo is best as a dynamic talk. It is a keynote speech that asks the question fundamental to the Cursillo. This is the start of the proclamation of the gospel message. It does not have a specifically religious tone, although it does leave the candidates open to God’s saving plan. It is not a biographical sketch of the speaker, although witness can be used to illustrate this and other Rollos. *Call to be Fully Human* is the shortest of the Rollos and asks questions rather than giving answers.

The speaker should remember that the candidates would not yet be at ease with each other. They have spent the time before in silence and introspection among strangers. The speaker should not assume a willingness to share at a feeling level. She/he should appeal more to the mind than the heart in this Rollo.

One method to conclude this Rollo might be to have candidates write answers to questions you have specifically prepared beforehand. Ask them to put their answers into a sealed envelope and let them know the envelope will be returned on Sunday—as part of the response to Rollo #11 *Being Christ in our Environment* or #12 *The Christian Life*. Sample questions might be:

1. What are your money priorities?
2. How do you spend your free time?
3. What are your commitments?
4. What are your ideals?

A highly emotional talk with vivid witness may inhibit discussion and may raise defenses instead of promoting sharing at this point. This Rollo has three possible dangers: Being too theoretical or philosophical; being too personal with too much witness and sharing; answering questions rather that asking them.