

## WHO SHOULD GO TO EMMAUS?

Emmaus is open to members of any Christian denomination. Emmaus is for the development of people who:

- Wish to strengthen their spiritual lives;
- May have unanswered questions about prayer, study and sharing their faith;
- Wish to explore their gifts for Christian service;
- Need space to look again at the Christian faith;
- Understand that being a Christian involves responsibility;
- Are willing to dedicate their everyday lives to God in an ongoing manner.
- Have positions of responsibility in the church and the world.

## ARE YOU INTERESTED?

We invite you to join in a refreshing weekend spent meeting Jesus as He comes to you through other Christians.

For more information on Emmaus and the Programme of future weekends in Ireland, contact the Registrar:

**Stephen Barrington**  
38 Bellevue Park  
Greystones, Co. Wicklow  
Ireland  
[registrar@emmauswalks.ie](mailto:registrar@emmauswalks.ie)



**Information  
Brochure**



**A Development  
Programme for  
Christian Growth and  
Leadership**

## A JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

The Gospel of Luke relates the story of the risen Christ appearing to two disciples of Jesus who were going along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. As these two friends were walking together, they shared their hearts' deepest concerns about the death of Jesus. An unknown person joined them and explained the scriptures as they walked. Towards the end of the day's travel, they urged the stranger to eat with them. As the stranger took bread, blessed, broke and shared it with them, their eyes were opened and they recognised the risen Christ. Then they rushed back to Jerusalem to share the good news with others. (Luke 24:13-35)



## WHAT IS THE WALK TO EMMAUS?

The above story provides the background for the Walk to Emmaus, a programme that develops and renews Christian discipleship. Originating from *Cursillo de Cristiandad* (Spanish for 'short course in Christianity'), the Walk to Emmaus is a three-day experience, which helps participants to explore the Christian faith and ways of putting faith into action. It is a structured weekend designed to strengthen and renew the commitment of Christian people, and through them their families, congregations and the world in which they live. Emmaus is a combined effort of laity and clergy towards the renewal of the Church.

## HISTORY OF EMMAUS

Originating in Spain in the 1940's, Cursillo moved to America in the late 1950's. In 1981, the United Methodist Church of America formed the twin organisation called "The Walk to Emmaus", which now has branches throughout the world. Through the combined efforts of a small international group and the Methodist Church in Ireland, the Walk to Emmaus was made available to Irish Christians, with the first Walks being held in Dublin in February 2005.

## WHAT HAPPENS ON THE EMMAUS WEEKEND?

The Walk to Emmaus is a 72-hour experience of Christian spiritual renewal and development. The weekend normally begins on Thursday evening and ends Sunday evening. You will enjoy three busy days singing, learning, laughing, praying, worshipping and participating in small group's, usually at a retreat centre. Discussions centre around fifteen short talks given by laity and clergy. These talks present the theme of God's grace, how that grace comes alive in the Christian community, and expresses itself in the world. You'll also discover how grace is real in your life, how you live a life of grace, and bring grace to others. You'll have the opportunity to participate in the daily celebration of Holy Communion, and to begin to understand more fully the presence of Christ in his body of believers. You will experience God's grace personally through the prayers and acts of anonymous service offered by the Emmaus community. You will leave with an experience of Christian love in action that will equip you for new levels of grace-filled service and leadership.

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTERWARDS?

One of the primary strengths of Emmaus is the follow-up. The weekend lasts only three days, but we are invited to build on it for the rest of our lives. Those who attend a Walk to Emmaus are encouraged to servant-leadership and to:

- Expand their own spiritual lives through Worship, study, and active participation in their local church.
- Become more active Disciples of Christian service to the world.

To help us to do this, there are links to other members of the Emmaus Community who will pray for us and support us. People who have found Emmaus helpful may be invited to join a team to plan and lead a Walk for others.

## THE PURPOSE OF EMMAUS

The purpose of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, and places of work.

It will expand your spiritual life, deepen your discipleship, and rekindle your gifts as a Christian leader in your church and community.