



Leicester Anglican Cursillo – Newsletter July 2020

Knowing God without knowing our own wretchedness makes for pride. Knowing our own wretchedness without knowing God makes for despair.

Knowing Jesus Christ strikes the balance because He shows us both God and our own wretchedness. Jesus is a God whom we can approach without pride and before whom we can humble ourselves without despair.

Blaise Pascal

Our Church Buildings may have been closed, but the church is very much alive, and so is Cursillo! Sadly, we have not been able to meet face to face, but the secretariat has been meeting “on line” and I would like to provide you with an update.

A prayer for our times

As I write this Leicester has just gone into a further lockdown, and our thoughts and prayers must be with those immediately impacted by the Covid Virus. My prayer is that, as we emerge from lockdown and a “new” normal is established, we take with us the best of the compassion and concern for neighbour that we have seen develop in these challenging times. So as we seek to help build The Kingdom of God, here on earth, we pray that justice, truth and compassion may be at the centre of all leadership, be it in national, international or local, be it government, business, the church or the charitable and voluntary sector. Many of us have commented on seeing creation afresh this year, as we have been forced to slow down, and have voiced a desire not to lose that connection, which has been God-given and special. So *May the Lord bless you and keep you, May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you, and give you peace.* Amen

News Update

For those who might not have heard, **LAC #48 due to take place at Launde Abbey from the 13th – 16th August 2020 has been postponed** until the 22nd – 25th April 2021.

I have written to all those from whom a completed booking form had been received by the Booking Secretary and explained the situation. If, however, you or someone you know was planning to attend the weekend and had not yet got their booking form submitted, they will not have been contacted, so please spread the word.

New Spiritual Advisor Appointed to LAC I am delighted to announce the Revd. Clive Watts has been appointed by Bishop Martyn to serve as one of our three Spiritual Directors. Clive is well known to our Cursillo community and has previously served on the secretariat in a lay capacity. Clive replaces the Revd. Jane Wood who has completed her term of office, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jane for her service to Cursillo and all she has given to help build our community over the years.

Ultreyas by Zoom Earlier this month we trialled our first Ultreya by Zoom, and whilst not without technical issues, the format was on balance well received. We were treated to an inspiring witness talk by Janet Harding, and we were able to meet in break out rooms for Group Re-Union. The words to the Chorus which Janet chose are below and worthy of reading again.

*Come and find the quiet centre
In the crowded life we lead
Find the room for hope to enter
Find the frame where we are freed
Clear the chaos and the clutter
Clear our eyes that we can see
All the things that really matter
Be at peace and simply be*


*Silence is a friend who claims us
Cools the heat and slows the pace
God it is who speaks and names us
Knows our being touches base
Making space within our thinking
Lifting shades to show the sun
Raising courage when we're shrinking
Finding scope for faith begun*

*In the Spirit let us travel
Open to each other's pain
Let our lives and fears unravel
Celebrate the space we gain
There's a place for deepest dreaming
There's a time for heart to care
In the Spirit's lively scheming
There is always room to spare*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mpb_nHwex-A

Link to YouTube for Music & Video

The Secretariat has agreed that the next 3 Ultreyas will be by Zoom. Thereafter, we hope to be able to hold an Ultreya in a more conventional fashion.

<p>Ultreyas by Zoom. To be held on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuesday 14th July 2020 at 7-30 pm• Wednesday 26th August 2020 at 7-30 pm• Thursday 8th October 2020 at 7-30 pm <p><i>Codes and passwords to follow</i></p>	
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Technology is a wonderful thing, when it works – but as we all know, when it does not it can have a serious impact on the flow of our worship. Leading worship, and being responsible for the technical aspects are tasks which are better shared. I was pleased to receive one offer of help after the last zoom service, but it would be good to build up a team to share the workload. If you would be willing to help with the technical hosting of these Ultreyas it would be good to hear from you. Contact adriantrotter.trustee@gmail.com

Date for your Diary

**ANGLICAN CURSILLO NATIONAL CONFERENCE # 8
WHO DO WE THINK WE ARE?**

Where were we, where are we, and where are we going?

Friday 13th to Sunday 15th November 2020

The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Alfreton, Derbyshire. DE55 1AU



The full cost is £185 per person. (This covers accommodation and all meals from Friday evening dinner to Sunday lunch) **Saturday Day Visitor £35.00.**
(Includes lunch and afternoon tea. Spaces are limited so please reserve early).
Given the current Covid-19 pandemic we are not taking bookings yet.

The National GB Ultreya 2020 Please Note: this was to have been hosted by Southwark and London on Saturday 5 September, beginning with a procession from St Paul's cathedral to Southwark cathedral, with the ultreya following, and an afternoon Eucharist. This event has also now been cancelled and the next National Ultreya will be in Norwich in 2021



Website – Its time for an update !

Our website was built with technology which is no longer supported, and it is time for a new look and an update. The Secretariat has been looking at other Cursillo websites and would appreciate your input. What should our website look like, and how would you like to use it? Why not visit the York Cursillo website and let us know if that is a suitable template for us to follow, and enjoy the Cursillo Commercial?

<https://www.yorkcursillo.org/>

If you are interested in helping draft the specification for the website, or have any ideas, please let us have your feedback.

Email. adriantrotter.trustee@gmail.com

AGM

Along with many other organisations Cursillo has been unable to host its AGM for 2020 and the existing secretariat members remain in office. I am particularly grateful to our Secretary Julie Rock, who is due to stand down at the AGM and who continues in office as a consequence of the delay. We hope to be able to convene an AGM in October 2020 and will publicise details when they are available.

Situations Vacant – Would you be willing to serve on the Secretariat as Secretary. Julie has updated the Job Description which is as follows: -

Leicester Anglican Cursillo Job Description for Secretary

The role of the Secretary is to provide administration support to the Lay Director and the Secretariat and to ensure that LAC records are always kept up to date

Duties include: -

- Attend Secretariat meetings and to take the minutes.
- Minutes to be circulated to members as soon as possible, usually by email or by post if required.
- Keep Secretariat members informed of any developments between meetings.
- Correspondence and amending/creating of any documents as and when required, resulting from a Secretariat meeting or request from the Lay Director.
- Ensure that records of Secretariat members are kept up to date, confidential and when appropriate deleted/destroyed in accordance with the GDPR policy.
- The Charity Commission is kept up to date with Secretariat Members (Trustees) and the annual report is completed. Ensure that Trustee Forms are completed by members and filed appropriately. Any amendments to the Constitution should also be uploaded to the Charity Commission.
- BACC are kept up to date with change of officers of LAC.
- Write to the Bishop prior to the weekends requesting him to send greetings to participants.
- Any other administration tasks, as and when required.

Updated May 2020

Topics to be thinking about

At our last secretariat meeting we were keen to explore “**How Cursillo can be made more accessible?**” What are the barriers we need to overcome – is it finance, is it the time commitment, is it the location? What do you think?

Group Re-Union - Have you had difficulty sustaining membership of a seed group or getting one started or even joining one? **Would you be interested in joining an Online Seed Group?** If so, contact Derek Forster dwforster@btconnect.com



Welcoming Christ Statue – Launde Abbey

The length of the outstretched arms of this figure have always captured my imagination and tugged at my heart. What was the artist saying? How do you respond? Do your eyes look first to the face of the figure, or the outstretched arms and the hands?

How might you use this image in your prayers today?

And finally something I was introduced to only today, a link to a lockdown choir’s rendition of **Is He Worthy?** By Andrew Peterson. Happy listening <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2QgcgDDt9F4>