



Leicester Anglican Cursillo – Newsletter July 2021

Extract taken from *Gift from the Sea* by Anne Morrow Lindbergh

The tide of life recedes. The house begins little by little to empty. Most people by middle age have attained, or ceased to struggle to attain, their place in the world. That terrific tenacity to life, to place, to people, to material surroundings and accumulations: is it as necessary as it was when one was struggling for security. Many of the physical struggles have ceased, due either to success or failure. Does the shell need to be so welded to its rock? Many of us are apt to find ourselves in middle age, high and dry in an outmoded shell, in a fortress which has outlived its function.

Perhaps middle age is, or should be, a period of shedding shells: the shell of ambition, the shell of material accumulations and possessions, the shell of ego. Perhaps one can shed, at this stage in life one's pride, one's false ambitions, one's mask, one's armour. Was that armour not put on to protect one from the competitive world? If one ceases to compete, does one need it? Perhaps one can at last in middle age, if not earlier, be completely oneself; and what a liberation that would be!

So beautiful is the still hour of the sea's withdrawal, as beautiful as the sea's return when encroaching waves pound upon the beach, pressing to reach those dark rumped chains of seaweed which mark the last tide.

We have so little faith in the ebb and flow of life, of love, of relationships. We leap at the flow of the tide and resist in terror its ebb. We are afraid it will never return. We insist on permanence, on duration, on continuity: when the only continuity possible, in life as in love, is in growth, in fluidity – in freedom in the sense that dancers are free, barely touching as they pass, but partners in the same pattern. The only real security is not in owning or possessing, not in demanding or expecting, not in hoping even. Security in a relationship lies neither in looking back to what it was in nostalgia, nor forward to what it might be in dread or in anticipation, but living in the present relationship and accepting it as it is now.

My prayer for you as we emerge from our isolation and we begin to re-engage with the world, is that we can be alive to the moment, trusting in God to draw out our true potential.

Know that you have been in my prayers.

Adrian – Lay Director

The Secretariat has not been able to meet face to face but has continued to meet “online” and I would like to provide you with an update.

News

As announced at the recent Ultreya and as posted on the website The AGM for 2021 will be held by Zoom on **Tuesday 22nd June 2021 at 7-30 pm**. Reports will be circulated in advance of the meeting by email along with the passcodes.

LAC #48 is being held from 28th – 31st October 2021. Bookings are now being taken.

LAC#49 is due to take place from 19th -22nd May 2022

Please pray for the staff team and be thinking and praying about who you might sponsor to attend these next two weekends.

Ultreyas

I am delighted to inform you that the secretariat is currently in conversation with Leicester Cathedral who have offered to host our first “Face to Face” Ultreya in 2021. Provisionally this has been booked for Saturday 2nd October 2021 at 3-30pm. Book this date now and more details will follow shortly.

National Cursillo Ultreyas

The Dates have been announced for the next two National Ultreyas.

Ultreya GB **2021** Saturday 4th September 2021 at Norwich Cathedral

Ultreya GB **2022** Saturday 3rd September 2022 at Southwark Cathedral

Website –

The new website has been operational now for several months, and the feedback to date has been good, but what is missing? What would you like to be able to find on the website that is not there? If you have any comments, do please let us have your feedback.

New Member joins Secretariat

At our last meeting we were delighted to co-opt Jacqui Johnson to the secretariat, as our new Baccs Representative. Jacqui brings a wealth of knowledge to this particular role.

Situations Vacant –

We still have a vacancy on the Secretariat for a **Secretary**. Is this something you could help with or a role you might be willing to share with someone else? If so we look forward to hearing from you.

Website Can you help?

If anyone would like to be more involved with the website and willing to maintain it and post up to date news items and content it would be good to hear from you. Please email adriantrotter.trustee@gmail.com

Beware of Fraudsters

I received an innocent text message this morning confirming that the payment request I had asked for from the Cursillo bank account had been set up.....

This came as something of a surprise, as I was not aware I had asked for any payments. A quick call to the treasurer established a fraudster had hacked my email account, and the transfer was halted before any damage was done.

Sadly, having attempted to improve communication by adding my email address and that for the treasurer to the website, some unscrupulous individual or individuals have sought to exploit that openness to their financial advantage.

The moral of the tale, if you get an unsolicited email from me asking for money, ring me to check that the request is genuine!

Topics to be thinking about

A small task group working with the Lay Director and the Spiritual Directors to research how we can make Cursillo more accessible has been instigated. We are grateful to Julia Mann for giving her time to join with members of the secretariat working on this, and we will be exploring ideas over the next few months. If you have any ideas, we would love to hear from you.



“How Cursillo can be made more accessible”

PRAYER, STUDY & ACTION – JUNE 2021



Over 30 members of the 4th Community spent the day at Launde last week as we launched our 4th Day Community Day Retreat. Taking advantage of the glorious sunshine, we spent time exploring afresh the parable of the lost son, which in the morning formed the basis for both study and prayer.

In the afternoon we were joined by Bishop Martyn in a pre-recorded video, and by Liz Rawlins, Discipleship and Vocations enabler for the diocese to explore life in a post pandemic church. In smaller discussion groups we were able to explore how parishes across the diocese have been coping through lockdown, to share ideas and provide encouragement. As ever we ran out of time for discussion

However wonderful it has been to keep in touch via "zoom", it was a delight to see people face to face, and at our closing service we had the opportunity to move outside which enabled us to sing. It was a blessing appreciated by us all. A particular thank you to all of our Spiritual Directors who made the time to attend.



May the Lord bless us and keep us, May the Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us, and give us peace. Amen

