



# Leicester Anglican Cursillo – Newsletter March 2022

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A reflection and prayer      by Thomas Merton

My Lord God,  
I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.

Nor do I really know myself,  
and the fact that I think I am following your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe that the desire to please You  
does in fact please You.  
And I hope I have that desire  
in all that I am doing.

And I know that if I do this,  
You will lead me by the right road  
although I may know nothing about it.

Therefore will I trust you always,  
though I may seem to be lost  
and in the shadow of death,  
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,  
and will never leave me  
to face my perils alone.

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**7.30 pm**

**Ultreya**

**Christchurch  
Smeeton Westerby  
LE8 0RT**

*Do join us as we come  
together face to face for  
the first time in many  
months*

**LAC#49 is due to take place from 19<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022**

Please pray for the Vivienne and the staff team and be thinking and praying about who you might sponsor to attend this weekend as a few spaces are still available.

If you are thinking of becoming a sponsor some guidance notes are detailed overleaf:-

## General Responsibilities of Sponsors

### A. - Pre-Cursillo

- Assure participants that they may ask anything they want to know about the weekend. Give them truthful answers and a chance to read the information leaflets for themselves. There are no secrets on Cursillo.
- Continue to pray for the participant
- Seek the agreement of their parish priest or clergy team member. Assist, as necessary, with completing the application form.
- Ensure the participant has everything required for the weekend, including necessary medication etc., that they have details of the venue and the means to get there. Sponsors can offer to drive them there or make other arrangements as necessary.

### B. During the weekend

- Pray continually for the participant and send Palanca - remembering that, first and foremost, Palanca is prayer.
- It is essential that the sponsor attends the Closing Service of the 3-Day weekend to provide the link between the participant and the fourth day community.

### C. After the weekend

- Contact the participant soon after the weekend assuring them of your continued prayer and concern. Listen to their experience!
- Consider sending a simple piece of Palanca in the week afterwards.
- Ensure the participant is introduced into a Group Reunion
- Offer to share transport to their first Ultreya after the Cursillo Weekend, making sure they are familiar with the format.
- Continue to support the participant. Sponsorship is a very special ministry. sensitively applied, it is the key to a strong and active Fourth Day, which in turn is essential for the healthy development of an active Cursillo Movement.

## Ultreyas

Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	7-30pm	Christchurch, Smeeton Westerby
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	7-30pm	Christchurch, Thurnby Lodge
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	7-30pm	AGM & Ultreya - Barrow on Soar (TBC)

*Date for your Diary We plan to hold our next Day of Deeper Understanding on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2022 so please keep this date free, Further details to follow*

### Future Weekend dates:

#50 – 9-12 Feb 2023

#51 – 23-26 Nov 2023

# 52 – 15-18 Aug 2024

*When a great moment knocks on the door of your life, it is often no louder than the beating of your heart, and it is very easy to miss.*

*Boris Pasternak*

## **National**

### **Cursillo Conference & National AGM**

Swanwick 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> May (See Details and booking form)

**Ultreya GB 2022** is to be held in London on Saturday 3rd September 2022 at Southwark Cathedral

### **BACC – Elections**

At the AGM in May BACC will be electing the new National Spiritual Director, to serve from May 2023 - May 2026, with a preliminary year (2022-3) shadowing the current NSD, Rev Stephen Bowring, they will also be electing a New Treasurer to replace Cheryl Goddard and a Secretary to replace Richard Tabberer. Should anyone be interested nomination forms and job descriptions are available from Richard Tabberer. [secretary@anglicancursillo.org.uk](mailto:secretary@anglicancursillo.org.uk)

Could this be you? Please think prayerfully if this is a role you could undertake.

## **Communication**

How we communicate as an organisation has been at the forefront of our minds recently, as one or two people have commented that they have not been receiving any notifications from Cursillo. Sadly, with the cost of postage being as high as it is and needing to serve a large database, postage is not an option. Important dates are added to our website, but as that is in the public domain we are limited as to what personal information can be added. Cursillo has a closed Facebook page to which information is added, but it is only available to those who are familiar with and wish to use Facebook and covers only a third of our membership.

Our primary means of communication has therefore been email. A database is maintained and information will be emailed to you on a regular basis. In all probability you have received this Newsletter by email.

Sadly, the database and email does not reach everyone ..... email addresses change, people move, people can unsubscribe, and under data protection regulations we have to have your permission to contact you.

In an attempt to improve our communication, and to reach those of the 4<sup>th</sup> Day community with whom we have lost touch, the secretariat would like to try some alternative options.

We would like to put in place a number of deanery and parish representatives, who are prepared to serve as a conduit for communication in their area. Is this something you could help with? Would you be willing to pass on information to those currently being missed?

We are not allowed to supply anyone with a list of Cursillistas in their parish without their permission, but if as a new rep. you are willing to allow us to release your details, we can ask Cursillistas in your parish to contact you, thereby allowing you to keep them informed. It would also be our hope to reintroduce a hard copy of the Forethoughts publication every 9 months which would be available to everyone, not just those on email, but to do this we need a system in place to

distribute it and again the parish or deanery representatives could let people know where to pick them up locally or distribute them to any who are housebound.

A new contact details form will be available to pick up at Ultreyas, and will be added to the website shortly. Please do complete one of these, even if you have filled in a GDPR form previously. This is so we can double check the accuracy of the information and update our database so that we do not miss anyone inadvertently.

## **The Servant Community**

Recently I had the opportunity to make a presentation on Cursillo to the Gartree Deanery, something which I hope to repeat to other deaneries around the Diocese. From my talk I became aware of how little is known about Cursillo in certain parishes, and that it would be beneficial to seize every opportunity and medium to talk about Cursillo. To date we have not made good use of Diomail, which is a weekly publication in the Diocese – it could be used to publish details of Ultreyas, to advertise Cursillo weekends and provide a point of contact.....  
We could do better and we could do more, but not without your help.

Within the wider Cursillo movement is the concept of the Servant Community, which comprises members of the 4<sup>th</sup> Day Community who share some of the tasks of running Cursillo. As a purely voluntary organisation, we do not have a paid secretariat to undertake administrative functions for us, but rather individuals take on specific roles which quietly go on in the background. At this point I must say **Thank You** to those of you who do just this, whether it is co-ordinating national or international Palanca, storing items of equipment between weekends or managing our database and circulating emails. **Thank You.** Cursillo could not run without your assistance. I am sure many of us have been unaware of just what you do for us but now I hope they will and some might also be willing to join you!

There are other functions with which we could do we some additional help.....

- Could you help administer the Website?
- Could you issue news bulletins to Diomail?
- Could you be a Parish or Deanery Representative alongside members of the secretariat who will also take on that role?
- Could you help organise our Day of Deeper Understanding in October?
- Could you host an Ultreya in your parish?
- Could you write some copy or articles for Forethoughts?
- Would you be willing to take on the storage of equipment between weekends?
- Could you help with communication?

*I am also delighted to announce that the Revd. Elaine Wykes has agreed to join the Spiritual Director team for LAC and will join the Revd. Clive Watts and the Revd.Noel Colley on the secretariat.*

## Lac #50

Leicester Cursillo will reach a landmark in February 2023 when it holds its 50<sup>th</sup> Cursillo weekend. We would like to mark this event in 2023 with a gathering for the 4<sup>th</sup> Day Community and the secretariat are at the early stages of thinking what might be appropriate, so if you have any ideas or thoughts do let me know. Initial thinking is that May might be a better time of year to mark this event than February!

Leicester Cursillo #50 is also going to be different, as the secretariat have agreed to trial a shorter course which will take place from Friday to Sunday, as opposed to the usual Thursday to Sunday. The content of the course remains the same, based around 15 talks and 5 meditations but other aspects of the weekend will have to be “fine tuned” to fit into the time available. The Weekend is still called Cursillo and the participants will not be in anyway “short changed” in terms of the content.

So why are we doing this?



This approach has been adopted by a number of other Dioceses, and has been available to us as an option for some time. Our decision as a secretariat to “trial” a shorter weekend is driven by our desire to make Cursillo more accessible. At present the requirement to take time off work to attend has an impact on those who can attend and on those who can staff a weekend. I hope Cursillo will now be accessible and available to a wider public. However, if we do not reach a

different public and it does not make a material difference, it may not be adopted on a regular basis going forward.



## Something to be thinking about - Technology

Love it or hate it, technology is now a big part of the world we inhabit, and it has been invaluable during the last two and a half years when we have been in lockdown to maintain contact. Many of us have enjoyed watching services which have been live streamed from outside our own parish. Indeed, many parishes have recognised the need to continue to live stream services as an option for those who cannot physically be present.

Is there any reason why an Ultreya should not be live streamed for the benefit of those who cannot attend in person?

Could Cursillo make more use of podcasts?

The technology is out there, and if Ultreyas are being held in Churches which have the technology to live stream, is this something we should be doing? If so does your church have the technology and could you host an Ultreya complete with a live streamed option?

How can we make technology our friend, and use it to make Cursillo more accessible? If you have any thoughts on this or any other issue raised in this Newsletter, please do get in touch with [laydirector@leicestercursillo.org](mailto:laydirector@leicestercursillo.org)





NATIONAL CONFERENCE #8 AND 2022 AGM

# RECONNECTING

*and moving forward*

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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



**We look forward to welcoming you to the BACC Conference. It aims to inspire and encourage through sharing, teaching, workshops, worship and prayer.**

The theme of the weekend will be how we connect with Cursillistas - existing and potential, lay and clergy, young and mature. Sessions will include the sharing of best practice and new ideas for each diocese to consider with optional workshop choices and opportunities to socialize and share with friends old and new.

**Whilst it is primarily for Diocesan Lay Directors, Spiritual Directors & BACC Reps and all Standing Committee members (all of whom will have priority booking) other Cursillistas will be very welcome to come if there is space.**

The Hayes in Swanwick, Derbyshire, has been a Christian Conference Centre since 1911. Set in beautiful Derbyshire countryside with easy road, rail and air links, the Centre is comfortable and well equipped. You can get directions via the Hayes web page. [www.cct.org.uk](http://www.cct.org.uk)

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**The full cost is £185 per person.**

(This covers accommodation and all meals from Friday evening dinner to Sunday lunch)

**Saturday Day Visitor £45.00.**

(9:30am-5pm Saturday includes lunch and refreshments. Spaces are limited so please reserve early).

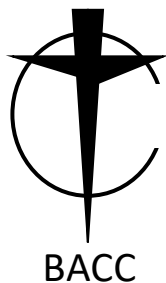
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**BOOKINGS ARE NOW OPEN.**

**The deadline for Council member bookings is 31<sup>st</sup> March.**

**After that it will be opened up to all cursillistas.**

**Final bookings by Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April. See the website for booking forms.**



# The British Anglican CURSILLO® Council

[www.anglicancursillo.org.uk](http://www.anglicancursillo.org.uk)

ANGLICAN CURSILLO NATIONAL CONFERENCE & AGM

**RECONNECTING**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

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

## Attendance Options:

### 1 Full Conference (Friday – Sunday): Cost £185.00

A non-refundable deposit of £60 to secure a place to be paid on booking and the balance by 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022, or you can pay the whole amount on booking (see below). (Registration is from 5.00; Dinner at 6.30 on Friday)

### 2 Saturday Only (9:30am - 5:00pm): Cost £45.00

A non-refundable deposit of £10 to secure a place to be paid on booking and the balance by 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022, or you can pay the whole amount on booking (see below). Includes lunch and refreshments - spaces limited so please reserve early.

## Your Details:

Name and Address			
Email*		Phone*	
Diocese and Post Held (e.g., SD, LD)			
Approx. time of arrival			
Dietary and Personal Requirements			
Name for Badge			

## Your Booking:

All bedrooms are ensuite. We have disabled access and single rooms but these need to be booked early.

Please place an "x" against your preference:

A room for a couple		If you need a single room	
If you are willing to share twin room		If you would prefer a ground floor room	
If you need a disabled access room		No room (Saturday only)	

## Your Payment:

- **Cheque:** please make payable to 'BACC'
- **Bank Transfer:** Sort code: 20-29-68; a/c no: 70425907. Please put your name and 'AGM' as your reference.

Priority bookings (LD; SD; BACC Reps; Standing Committee) to be received by **31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**.

Bookings from other Cursillistas to be received by Thursday **14<sup>th</sup> April 2022**.

***If you cancel then the costs incurred are not refundable.***

I enclose a cheque for the sum of:	£	I have paid by bank transfer	£
Date:		Signed	

**Post to:** Miss Beth Roberts, 11 Maisterson Court, Nantwich, CW5 5TZ

**Or scan and email to:** [conference@anglicancursillo.org.uk](mailto:conference@anglicancursillo.org.uk)

*You will be contacted nearer the time to choose your workshop options.*