



Our Lay Director, Jan Watts, writes.

Dear fellow Cursillistas,

In the midst of the chaos of a General Election and so many unanswered questions about the future of our country, it's really good to have this time of Advent to reflect on the coming of our Lord: – not the coming of a new Prime Minister, not the coming of a new relationship with Europe, not the fast approaching devastation of increasing global warming, but the coming of a baby, born to a couple far from home and strangely matched. I find it so helpful to centre on that truth at a time when, otherwise I could so easily feel adrift and afraid for the future.

Even within Cursillo there has been much to be concerned about with a number of our friends struggling with major illnesses or bereavement – and here I want to mention Pat Hardy especially who has lost both her husband and her mum over such a short period of time recently. Pat really does need our continuing prayers. It's a reminder that Christmas is about a deep truth and an amazing miracle – that God came to experience all of our humanity for himself. But for some of us Christmas will be a difficult time. I do hope for all though, that it will be a time of peace and of hope.

There was a wonderful sense of joy and blessing at the Closing Service for York 29 and I know, after speaking to many, that it was a wonderful week-end, truly blessed by God. So thank you Tracey and all your team for all your preparations and we look forward to seeing our new Cursillistas at any or all of the forthcoming Cursillo events.

We had an exciting week-end over the 8th and 9th November in York, where York Cursillo played host to more than 50 people from the BACC Council meeting. We provided refreshments and a hearty lunch for everyone on the Saturday and there was much banter about York living up to the Yorkshire reputation for good hospitality. A big thank you again to all those who offered, soup, cakes, time etc. to make the two days so successful.

By the time you read this we shall have had a Quiet Day at Emmanuel Church Bridlington, the first one we have held away from Wydale. We have a further Wydale Quiet Day to look forward to on Thursday, March 12th at a cost of £30 to cover refreshments for the day and the use of Wydale, both inside and out. After Christmas we shall let you know how to book for that.

Before that however, we have an Ultreya at Strensall, near York, on 1st. February, so put the date in your new diary and we shall be sending out a flyer in January with the details.

Our AGM and Ultreya this year will be at St. Mark's, Bessingby, Bridlington on Saturday, 4th April. We are still looking for a small team of people to share the work of the 4th day. We need someone to book and organise Ultreyas and events, someone to take on board publicity and links with the Diocese, someone to keep a shepherd's eye on all our Group Reunions and someone to produce the newsletter (and Trevor King has already agreed to that job). Do please pray about whether you are being led to be a part of the Secretariat who organises Cursillo within the Diocese. Meetings are friendly, positive, encouraging and most especially there's always cake!

So we have much to look forward to as God continues to use Cursillo to bring people to a closer relationship with him and to use Cursillistas as tools within our churches.



Our next Cursillo week-end, York 30, is from 25th - 28th June. Now is the time to ask God who you should be talking to about it. We are grateful to Brian James who is to lead it and Margaret James who will be his Lay Rector's Gofor. The team is already being formed and there are application forms available now for any sponsors and pilgrims. Just a note about Saturday 5th September 2020. This is the date of the next National Ultreya. It will be jointly run by Southwark Cursillo and London Cursillo. It will begin at the steps of St. Paul's cathedral and there will be a walk of witness with all our banners, across the millenium bridge and on to Southwark Cathedral where the day will take place. I would really love to take a large group from Scarborough – perhaps hire a bus? But we would need to stay in London the night before so does anyone have any ideas about cheap local accommodation? I should be so pleased to hear your feedback if you're at all interested in taking part in this event. I wish you all a Christmas of many blessings and a New Year full of renewed hope

Every Blessing.
Ultreya!

Jan

Our next Wydale Weekend is to be held June 25th (Thursday) until June 28th (Sunday).

Please consider who you will encourage to come. The team is already formed. The Bishop of Selby is booked for the final service. All we need are the guests! Forms can be downloaded from the York Anglican Cursillo website. As a sponsor you would fill part of the form and the guest you are sponsoring the other part. Send the forms off to Margaret James. If you have any questions you can contact her at margaretjames1955@gmail.com



Cursillo.....

Anglican Cursillo is a movement of the Church providing a method by which Christians are empowered to grow through prayer, study and action and enabled to share Gods love with everyone.

One of the pioneers of Cursillo was Eduardo Bonnin Aguilo. With help he developed a three day Cursillo structure which aimed to remedy the 'ignorance of faith, the superficiality of ritualism and the apathy of non-faith commitment in daily life'. This "little course" was to be the doorway to a movement which blesses millions around the world and provides today an essential encouragement to our walk in faith.

A letter from our SD, Jonathan Couper

Dear All,

"The Mindset of heaven. Colossians 3:2 "Set your mind on things above not on things on the earth" (see also Philippians 3:19)

Each season reminds us that our faith demands we change our thinking. **Advent** calls us to be ready to meet God, to be so heavenly minded we become alert to the work of God on the earth and His call to action when we hear it in our hearts. **Christmas** is a reminder of the wonder of Jesus who came to earth to be our Saviour and invites us to walk in the love of God every day we live; **Epiphany** calls us to recognise the revelation of God so the purpose of God unfolds through our lives. Like the wise men of old who saw the star over Bethlehem, we see God's hand in the significance of the timing of an event or in the answer to our prayers. We are created to interact with God but without a mindset change (bible word repentance) we do not see it, seek it, value it or act upon it so God becomes an irrelevancy to us and those we know. May it not be so with us! As we interact with God we will develop a mindset of heaven where we start to see things as God sees them, and as a result those who know us might start to see things differently too. Naturally our thoughts are not God's thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8) but as Christians we have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:12,16). Being heavenly minded affects our well being. Isaiah 26:4 "You will keep in perfect peace those whose mind is fixed on you". Fears, anxieties and lies can rob us of this peace. (see also Romans 8:5,6) We can be so defending a lie that we are not good enough or bearing our past guilt or regret that we cannot look up to God. Jesus who died for us has forgiven us! Look up and be saved! (Isaiah 45:22). Fix your eyes on Jesus the author and finisher of your faith (Hebrews 12:2)



Developing a mindset of heaven

1. Such a mindset makes room for God to act. We are open hearted towards God and no more blindly doing what we think needs to be done without reference to God.

Jesus said "I am the way, the truth and the life" Proverbs 16:3 "Commit your works to the Lord and your thoughts will be established". Proverbs 16:9 "A man's heart plans his way but the Lord directs his steps"

2. Our mindset is strongly linked to our experience.

"Taste and See that the Lord is good" . Ultreyas, Quiet Days, Group Reunions all help this!

3. What we focus on dictates our mindset

"Whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things." Philippians 4:8

4. Our heavenly mindset comes from our position through Christ. "God has raised us up together and seated us in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" Ephesians 2:6; - note Ephesians 1:20 "He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at his right hand in the heavenly places far above all principality and power and might and dominion and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come".

5. Interact with God each day. Trust in the Lord and do good, Delight in the Lord, Commit your way to the Lord, Rest in the Lord, verses Psalm 37:3-8;

Have a great Christmas and New Year

Rev Jonathan Couper

BACC Pages

The Winter 2017 edition is available on the BACC website. We will also have some copies available at Ultreyas or go to <http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk/bacc-pages.php>

Publicity leaflets & posters

Supplies of Cursillo publicity leaflets and posters for your church notice board will be available at Ultreyas or ring Jan.

YORK 29

I sensed the Holy Spirit leading me to come to the York 29 Cursillo Weekend in October 2019. I came not really knowing what to expect, except that whatever it was it would be good because God was leading me there.

When I arrived I soon discovered that Cursillo is a love encounter. God is

love and God is the source of all LIFE! You can be alive in the sense that you're breathing but you're not really alive without the love of God. I know God loves me; I know it by His Word, by His Spirit and by experience. But on my Cursillo weekend it was as if God took a great big bucket, dipped it in the river of life and just dumped it all on top of my head at one go; He washed away some old thinking that had been holding me back and drenched me in His love.

Two days after returning home from the weekend I went to my first group meeting, and Oh, what a joy! The flavour was exactly the same! Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man (or woman) who trusts in Him! Through Cursillo I have a sense that God has opened a door into a whole new place that I never knew existed before.

God is so good, so kind, so gentle, so loving; He knows everything about us, all the pain, all the hurts and He wants to set us free. If we will listen to Him and do what He says He will bring us out into the glorious, free, abundant LIFE He has planned and provided for each and every one of us through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Thank you to everyone who gave so richly to make this Cursillo Weekend happen, but above all to our faithful God who brought us together for such a time as this.

Veronica Govenlock
York 29

Thank you Tracey and all the team for all you did to make York 29 such a success

Jonathan



York Anglican Cursillo in 2020

2020

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**We look forward to meeting together.
Please put these dates in your diary**

Sat 1st February **Ultreya** Spearhead Hall Strensall

Thursday 12th March Quiet Day Wydale hall (£30 as it includes lunch)

Sat 4th April **Ultreya** & AGM St Marks West Hill Bridlington YO16 4RR

Sat 16th May **Ultreya** St James Sutton Hull HU7 4TL

25-28 June **YORK 30 WEEKEND** Wydale

Sat 25th July **Taster Day** Sleights Village hall YO22 5BT

Sat 5th Sept NATIONAL ULTREYA Southwark Cathedral, London

Sat 19th Sept **Day of Deeper Understanding**

Wreyfield Drive Methodist Church Scarborough YO12 6NP

October 24th Quiet day Emmanuel Church Saltburn (£5) TS 12 1LE

Nov 28 Ultreya Shiptonthorpe church or Hull TBC

Any questions contact Jan Watts by email janwatts2@btinternet.com



Thank you!



Thank you to all those who have helped give us the opportunity to offer Cursillo weekends free to guests and staff by making a regular donation each month or with a one off donation to offset our costs. It is much appreciated. Thank you also to those who have given us permission to apply for gift aid on each donation which increases the gift by 25%

Thank you so much

Janet Green (Treasurer) & Lynn Stephenson (Membership Secretary)



Remember!

If you would like to donate directly to York Anglican Cursillo, you can do so through BACS Bank Transfer

York Anglican Cursillo details are:
YORK ANGLICAN CURSILLO
Sort Code: 40-52-40
Account: 00015722

Do you ever shop online? You can help others join Cursillo

'Give as you Live' is an on-line shopping site through which extra funds can be made for Cursillo without any cost to yourself.

All you have to do is register at giveasyoulive.com and enter your details.

When prompted to choose a charity, look for 'York Anglican Cursillo'.



There are all kinds of outlets you can shop with, including airlines, large stores, etc. You do your shopping in the normal way and then Cursillo receives commission at differing levels from the sale.'

Thank you
Janet Green

