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AUGUST 2010 CURSILLO NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER No. 69 AUGUST 2010

Don't miss these dates!

**SEPTEMBER /
OCTOBER 2010**

Due to the weekends of M & W 1 for Wangaratta to be held in September there will not be an Ultreya. We would like to encourage you to attend the Clausuras.

Some of us are making weekends of it.

The dates are:
Mens 9th - 12th September &
Women's 23rd - 26th September.

October we have M & W 37 here in Melbourne.
Mens October 14th - 17th &
Womens October 21st - 24th

NOVEMBER 2010

Ultreya - St Paul's Cathedral
Sunday 28th
2.15 for 2.30 start

Remember: We will not be having afternoon tea after the Ultreya. There are lots of lovely places for people to go themselves if they wish.

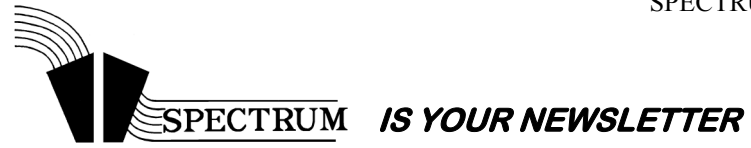


Ultreya - St Thomas,
117 Synnot St.,
Werribee
Saturday 9th
2.15 for 2.30 start

***DON'T FORGET IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AN
ULTREYA AT YOUR PARISH
CONTACT TOM FULTON.
PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ON
PAGE 18***

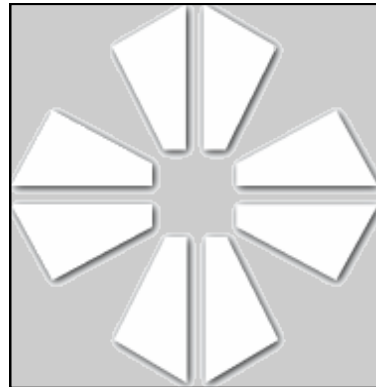
Visitors are always welcome at Ultreyas. Make sure to invite your friends and encourage other Cursillistas to attend.

**Cursillistas always enjoy fellowship over a cuppa.
Please bring a plate of afternoon tea to Ultreyas.**



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Please Note: Check websites for more information about Ultreyas or contact your parish coordinator.

[Visit www.melbourneanglicancursillo.com](http://www.melbourneanglicancursillo.com)

Application forms for Cursillo Weekends are available from the Secretary, Megan Octigan or email adminstrtion@melbourneanglicancursillo.com. When completed, please send them **as soon as possible** to -

The Secretary, Anglican Cursillo Movement,
c/- The Anglican Centre, 209 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE 3000

Melbourne Cursillo is reliant on your voluntary contributions, which fall due in January each year. This includes your quarterly copy of Spectrum.

These contributions are used to assist in funding the substantial *and rising* costs of Spectrum and other necessary administrative items. To check when your last contribution was made, check the year on the address label of this copy. To update, we would be grateful if you would use the form below to forward your voluntary contribution for this year, and fill in all details:

Please indicate if you no longer wish to receive *Spectrum* by mail or you can download it from the website. (your name will stay on the Cursillo roll unless you specifically ask us to remove it).

Note: You may also pass your form and payment on to your Parish Coordinator if you wish. De Colores

Sue Brennan (Editor)

**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SPECTRUM
\$10 SINGLE, \$15 COUPLE DUE ANNUALLY IN JANUARY**

Name: _____
(Christian Name/s) (Surname)

Current Address: _____

Suburb _____ P/Code _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ (M) _____

Email _____

Parish: _____

The above details need to be updated on the Cursillo database

Please find enclosed:

\$ _____ for my (single) / our (couple) Spectrum voluntary contribution for _____
(add year ie: 2009)

\$ _____ General donation for Melbourne Anglican Cursillo

\$ _____ Total Contribution

Any comments: _____

Current Diocesan Cursillo Contacts (as at AUGUST 2010)

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Bishop John Noble - Episcopal Overseer clifton-nfitzroy@bigpond.com | 9481 4342 |
| Dr Alan Smyth - Lay Director dld@melbourneanglicancursillo.com | (Bus) 9598 2651 |
| Marie Brennan - Associate Lay Director mbrennan@mercy.com.au | 9309 8613 |
| The Revd. Graeme Vines Spiritual Director grmvines@bigpond.com TBA - Associate Spiritual Director | 9877 0035 |
| Megan Octigan - Hon. Secretary megan93@optusnet.com.au | 9584 3790 |
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| Sue Brennan - Spectrum Editor & Manual Coordinator brennan.susan.l@edumail.vic.gov.au | 0430 366 073 |
| Tom Fulton - Ultreya Coordinator dentom6@bigpond.com | 5250 6003 |
| Rob Till - Resources Coordinator | 9707 3254 |
| Richard Pennington - 4th Day Coordinator rja.pennington@yahoo.com.au | 0418 579 168 |
| Kerrie Lante - Database Manager Spectrum mailing database contact kerries@vegas.com.au | 0408 501 484 |
| Peter White - Website Coordinator petjamfrog@hotmail.com | |
| Kate Hubbard - Music Coordinator katerinah@optusnet.com.au | |
| Judith Mertzlin Parish Coordinator Liaison (shared) | 9598 0755 |
| Joan Bingham Parish Coordinator Liaison (shared) | 9598 7675 |

FROM THE DIOCESAN LAY DIRECTOR

Sometimes I sit at my computer and being conscious of the deadline for 'Spectrum' I wonder what I will write about – in a sense it like a sort of prayer. Then slowly but surely I am given some inspiration and the ideas begin to flow again - it is true that if we just place things in God's hands then things begin to happen.

While it is not so long since the last publication quite a lot has happened in and around Melbourne Cursillo.

We had the very successful Women's and Men's 36 weekends and Annette and Norm and their teams are to be congratulated for such a great effort which was evidenced in those marvellous Clausuras. Who could forget Lowey's beautiful and inspired composition written in an unbelievably short time during a poster session and then so movingly performed by the team and candidates for our enjoyment. We also had an excellent turnout for the Welcoming Day so thanks to Richard Pennington and his team for organising that day.

Some of us attended the Eucharist which opened the Synod in the Diocese of Wangaratta. It was inspiring and I have written a separate account of this to try to give some sense of how much prominence Cursillo is being given in that Diocese. We had very successful Ultreyas at St.Francis-in-the Fields, Mooroolbark and at St. Jame's, Dandenong. Our thanks to all involved in the organisation and running of these. I was reflecting about the difficulties of planning Ultreyas, getting participating parishes and in particular the need to get a programme stretching fairly far ahead. Imagine the situation for rural parishes – just over the past few months the fledgling Wangaratta Cursillo have had Ultreyas in Shepparton, Albury, Benalla, Echuca and have one coming up in Rutherglen. How about travelling around those !!

We have the Lay Coordinators for Women's and Men's 37, Elsa Phillips and Bill O'Brien with teams almost complete and preparing for the Team Formation Day and the Team Training Weekend. Please keep them in your prayers and pray for a good harvest of candidates for these weekends. We will keep reminding you about Palanca.

During the past months we have had a Cursillo presentation given by Marie and Sue Brennan to a number of ladies at the Parish of Holy Advent in Malvern. We have also been invited to give the presentation at St.Jame's, Ivanhoe and are currently waiting for a date from the parish.

We recorded two items of very sad news during the past month with the passing of two of our Cursillistas – Phillipa Bannister and Dennis Cowden. Phillipa was one of our very early Cursillistas having had her Cursillo weekend on Women's 3A and was on team on W7 and Lay Coordinator on W9. Dennis had his weekend on M9 and served on teams on M14, M19, and M22. They will be greatly missed.

Your Brother in Christ

Alan Smyth

National Secretariat Meeting June 2010

It was again a privilege to represent you all at National Secretariat this year in Newcastle.

It is a chance to meet up with delegates from around Australia and discuss what is happening in the different dioceses. There were new people to meet and others to say goodbye to as they have finished their three year terms. It was great to see Wangaratta in attendance this year and they were warmly welcomed. Bendigo and Melbourne reported on the progress of taking Cursillo to Wangaratta and also Bunbury reported on the progress of taking Cursillo to the Diocese of the Highveld in South Africa.

In April 2011 Rev'd Andrew Covington (Melbourne) completes his three years as National Spiritual Advisor and the Rev'd Ian Mabey (Bunbury) was elected to take over that role.

Since finishing her term as National Lay Director, Ruth Brand has been overseeing the updating of the ACMA Manual which has been a long process and is nearing completion. This should be presented and passed at the next meeting.

After meeting for two days we then progressed to the National Gathering and Celebrations for the 20th Anniversary of Cursillo in the Diocese of Newcastle. There were discussions on the "Prayer to the Holy Spirit" of which there are 12 in varying diocese. The National spiritual Advisor and Episcopal Overseer are looking into producing a "National Prayer" to be used at National meetings and gatherings.

"The Sower and the Reaper shall Rejoice Together"

was the theme and there was a great gathering of Melbourne Cursillista there. I'm sure like me they enjoyed the wonderful hospitality and fellowship we had there.

Bishop Kay Goldsworthy was the keynote speaker and was a joy to listen to. Along with Bishop Brian Farren (Bishop of Newcastle) and Bishop Keith Slater (National Episcopal Overseer) we were filled with enthusiasm when we had to leave Newcastle.

On the first evening there was an interview with the three Bishops which for them may have seemed daunting but was a wonderful start to the conference. On the Saturday night we were entertained by Bishop Kay talking as an after dinner speaker as she spoke to us of "Slowly going purple". There were workshops to attend on Art, Meditation, Future Church, Spirituality and an historic walk around Newcastle.

Those interested in going to the next National Gathering it will be held in Perth in 2012. Try and save up and go as it is a wonderful experience.

Marie Brennan

Visit <http://www.melbourneanglicancursillo.com>

PRAYER POINTS

Please pray for the leaders Elsa Phillips and Bill O'Brien and teams of the next weekends M & W 37 to be held in October.

For sponsors to have wisdom to identify in their parishes who would benefit from Cursillo.

For the continued growth of Cursillo in the Melbourne Diocese.

Melbourne & Bendigo Cursillo as they work to take Cursillo to the Wangaratta Diocese.

For Barbara and Adrian as they and their teams prepare for Men's and Women's 1 in the Wangaratta Diocese in September 2010.

For open Group Reunions.

Those being drawn to Cursillo.

For the work of Kairos & Kairos Outside.

For the Diocese of Rockhampton, Riverina and Northern Territory as Cursillo in these diocese is in recess and other dioceses are stepping in to help revive Cursillo in these areas.

For all those in hospital, the sick, the disabled and the dying and all who care for them.



CANDIDATES SO FAR FOR MEN'S AND WOMEN'S 37

Elizabeth Reid - St.Chad's, Chelsea

John McIntyre - Gippsland Diocese

James Reid - St Chad's, Chelsea

Bryan Leech - St.Stephen's, Bayswater



Palanca

Recently I had the pleasure of presenting the talk on Palanca at the Welcoming Day for Men's and Women's 36. This is a subject close to my heart as palanca is a form of service that is open to all and means so much to those who receive and give it.

The word palanca means prayer and sacrifice or lever and allows us to accomplish more than we otherwise could.

The most easily recognized form of palanca is all the loving letters that we received on our weekend. They represented the support and love of many known and unknown members of the Cursillo family assuring you that they are praying for you as you travel through your weekend.

The whole Cursillo program – the team and the candidates, the training sessions, the 3 days, the fourth day – is empowered by the lever of prayer and sacrifice offered by the Cursillo family.

The letters are one of the many forms of palanca you receive during your three day weekend and, as I help on the faithful team of people who assist with the sorting, I would like to encourage you all to join in this wonderful action. There are a few things to note that will make the job of the team a little easier: there are three drops now, one on each day, so it is very helpful if your letter is for a particular day, if you could mark that day in the top right hand corner, in pencil. If your letter could be received at any time over the weekend then leave it unmarked and the team will use it to balance the distribution.

If you write to a number of people, sort them alphabetically by SURNAME . multiple letters for one person should be banded together in drop order and then placed in alphabetical order with that of other candidates.

Please mark the envelop somewhere with an M or W and the weekend number. It is very important that you get your palanca in on time. Closing dates for the receipt of palanca are published in Spectrum and on the website.

You are invited to write to the candidates and team you know. By all means write to others as they too need to be upheld in prayer. Let them know that you are praying for them but be aware of the emotional stresses of the weekend.

Remember you don't have to write to everyone, or everyday, and we ask you not to include bulky gifts, the real gift is your letter and the prayer behind it.

There are other forms of palanca for each weekend: dish washing, singing at the mananita, serving at the special dinner on the Saturday night, attending the Clausura, being on team and praying for all doing their weekend.

Remember palanca refers to prayer and sacrifice.

What are you prepared to contribute?

De Colores

Janet Young

Representatives from Victoria in Newcastle



Hi Everybody

Isaac Stanley Plant was born yesterday 30.07.2010 at Royal Berkshire Hospital to our Jo & Adrian. Needless to say he is absolutely gorgeous - no we're **NOT** biased - and weighed in at 8lbs 1oz at 02:28. We went to see him & his Mum & Dad yesterday afternoon and also this afternoon. All are doing well and Jo hopes to be home on Monday but is looking forward to a 'quiet' time with just the 3 of them for a few days.

Love from us
both
Linda & David



TRIP TO BENDIGO

On Saturday the 8th of May I traveled with 3 other cursilistas from our parish of St Paul's Westmeadows/Bulla to the Diocese of Bendigo to help them celebrate their 20th anniversary. The trip there was most pleasant stopping for lunch at Malmsbury, what a quaint little town it is. We had a look in a couple of local shops where they displayed their wares.

After lunch we continued on our journey to the Big Hill winery where the celebrations were to be held. It was a very scenic and relaxing venue. Whilst there we caught up with a few old friends and made new ones. We had the Ultreya followed by a delicious afternoon tea; afterwards we had time to spare before dinner. A few of us took this opportunity to investigate the grounds and view all the banners that were on display, the array and colors were a wonder to behold.

As always I had a feeling of belonging among my fellow cursilista's. Before dinner we partook of a delicious glass of wine (made by the winery no doubt).

The lovely meal was followed with more singing and rejoicing. I love that part, and after a most enjoyable day we left for our journey homeward feeling full of not only food but a sense of belonging with the LORD.

De colores

Kath Ford - St Paul's Westmeadows/Bulla

The next issue of Spectrum is to be distributed at the
November Ultreya at St Paul's Cathedral
Sunday 28th November 2010

Therefore, the deadline for submission of articles is:
Friday 29th October

Send your items of interest to
brennan.susan.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

Or **Sue Brennan**
2 Osborne Terrace
Roxburgh Park 3064



People News is most welcome!

All of the members of the small organising committee can be very proud of manner in which they worked in such a caring and effective way to achieve their goal in such a relatively short time. We also are very grateful to them for all their hard work.

Alan Smyth

A LETTER FROM WANGARATTA DIOCESAN LAY DIRECTOR

16th June 2010

Alan Smyth
Diocesan Lay Director
Melbourne Anglican Cursillo
209 Flinders Lane,
Melbourne, 3000, Vic

Dear Alan

The Cursillistas of the Wangaratta Anglican Cursillo express their grateful thanks for the most generous loan of \$3,000.00 to assist us with cash flow in these early days of our development. As we discussed, we will make all efforts to repay the loan over the next three years.

We are humbled by your generosity with this loan and by the many other acts of assistance and support provided by you and your fellow Melbourne Cursillistas.

Please convey our most grateful thanks to all your Cursillistas and assure them of our continued prayers and thanks for this and the many other acts of support as we continue on our Cursillo journey to work for the extension of Christ's light in this troubled world.

De Colores
Yours in Christ
Alan Garside
Diocesan Lay Director

Diocese of Wangaratta – Synod Service

On the afternoon of Friday 28th. May the Diocese of Wangaratta held the usual Eucharist Service that precedes their annual Synod. This was not quite the usual service and a number of us from Melbourne Cursillo were privileged to be present and participate in a small way in this service.

What made this particular Synod Service slightly different was the placing of Cursillo 'front and centre' in that worship.

Most of you would be aware that Bishop John Parkes had been very active in requesting that Cursillo be introduced into the Diocese of Wangaratta. You would also be aware that both Bendigo and Melbourne Cursillos have been working with Wangaratta to advance that introduction and, that after a relatively short time and spearheaded by a very expert and hard-working committee, the first weekends will be under way in September of this year.

What Bishop Parkes has done with the program of the Synod service was to make a very public statement via the Synod of the Diocese that Cursillo is going to play an important part in the life of the Diocese.

He invited Bishop Keith Slater, the National Episcopal Overseer for Cursillo to attend the Synod Service both to commission him as Episcopal Overseer for Wangaratta and to preach the sermon at the Synod Eucharist Service.

The service started with an explanation by Bishop Parkes of the introduction of Cursillo and what the content of the first part of the service would be in relation to his commissioning and then in relation to the commissioning of the Diocesan Spiritual Director and the Diocesan Lay Director.

Bishop Slater then commissioned Bishop Parkes and then Bishop commissioned Fr. Malcolm Halford as Diocesan Spiritual Director and Alan Garside as Diocesan Lay Director

After that the Lay Directors of Bendigo and Melbourne processed the Cursillo Banner and a special Bible which were gifts from Perth Cursillo and these were presented to Bishop Parkes by Allan Reed, National Lay Director. The Banner and Bible were then blessed by Bishop Parkes.

The sermon was preached by Bishop Keith Slater and he took as his theme 'New Directions' and after discussing ways in which the Church was trying to move in 'new directions' he tied the advent of Cursillo in the Diocese of Wangaratta as an important 'new direction' for the Diocese.

After the completion of the service a number of photographs were taken to commemorate the event and then the gift from Melbourne Cursillo of a Chalice and Patten was blessed by Bishop Parkes.

The Bishop expressed himself as being extremely grateful to Melbourne and Bendigo Cursillos for the way in which they had responded to the challenge to bring Cursillo to his Diocese.

Melodious Notes from W36

Music is at its best and most uplifting when it is offered to the glory of God, and this is why music is such an important facet of Cursillo.

What a joyful noise we made at Women's 36! From the moment we first lifted the rafters with our theme song "We Believe," we were truly 'on song'. Our speakers chose such lovely songs and these were enhanced by Marion Boundy playing on her own brand new keyboard with Kate Hubbard giving flute accompaniment. Sometimes our singing became quiet and reflective as on the evening when our Compline was "Taize-style" – the gentle flow of the Taize choruses gave us peaceful hearts as we prayed the Lord to "*guard us through the night, and quieten the powers of darkness.*"

New Cursillista Lowey Johnstone turned out to be a versatile songwriter, and by Day 2 she had completed the inspiring words and music of a beautiful song, which we sang many times with delighted hearts because it had sprung out of the life of our very Spirit-filled W36 community.

On our party night, after all the hilarious frivolity of the usual comic 'items', everything quietened down, and Lowey delightfully played for us again and we sang her song. Then Angela Vicum was prevailed upon to perform for us, and we were transported by her beautiful music.

Holy Spirit deeply touched all our hearts through excellent talks, joyful companionship and lovely music. At our closing session, many spoke of the blessings experienced.

Rev'd Diane Heath

Here is the address for any palanca for W & M1 Wangaratta.

**Wangaratta Anglican Cursillo,
The Bishop's Registry,
PO Box 457
Wangaratta Vic. 3676**

MENS 1 - 9th - 12th September 2010

WOMENS 1 - 23rd - 26th September 2010

“God is my Neighbour”

This year’s Spiritual Refreshment Day, which had to be postponed from February to July 10th, proved to be well worth waiting for. I think each of us who was present went home feeling we had been fed by the sessions Bishop John Noble took us through.*

Within it Bishop John took us through a number of aspects of the theme “God is my neighbour”. Speaking of his own experiences of places where there seemed to be a special reminder of the closeness of God – “thin places” as the Celtic tradition might call them – Bishop John gave us time to recall similar times and places in our own experience, with the opportunity to share them with a partner and, if we wished, with the group as a whole.

Telling us about a program his parish used last year trying to find the ways God is already at work in their surroundings, he urged us to look for God’s work in everything that is good, whether it is overtly Christian or not. He shared simple ways Christians in his area are moving out into their surroundings and trying to ‘be God’ for the people there. A mental ‘prayer walk’ round our own area (to become real at a later date) looking for examples of creativity, healing, care for the environment, concern for truth – even perhaps in the text of graffiti – was an interesting and revealing experience. We were encouraged to think of ways we can celebrate and be part of the good that we find.

In the afternoon we were taken through the Ignatian prayer method of the ‘Examination of Consciousness’. Bishop John pointed out that this review of the events of our day is not intended to be a trip into guilt, but a gentle time spent sitting with God as we look at our day, and where he is to be found in it – calling up gratitude, an understanding of where we need God to change us, thankfulness for God’s pointing out where we need to be sorry, and looking forward to moving on with God.

It was a day about sharing God’s love, of trying to ‘get with what God is doing’ (a.k.a. Mission), and we came home with some ‘tools’ to help us do that.

Thank you, Bishop John!

Elsa Phillips

MMENS 37 OCTOBER14TH WOMENS 37 OCTOBER 21ST TEAM MEMBERS AND TALKS

| | Womens 37 | Men's 37 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Lay coordinator | Elsa Phillips | Bill O'Brien |
| Proctor | Janet Young | Peter White |
| Assistant Proctor | Roxanne Addley | |
| Musician | Val Fugill | Graeme Prowd |
| Spiritual Advisor | The Revd. Jan St.James | The Revd.Jeff Parker |
| Spiritual Advisor | The Revd. Janice O'Gorman | T.B.A. |
| Spiritual Advisor | T.B.A. | |
| Lay Spiritual Advisor | | Ron Bubeck |
| Ideal | Roxanne Addley | Alan Phillips |
| Grace | Lois Truett | Ross Byrne |
| Laity | Julie Lewis | Jim Gibson |
| Faith | Barbara Bubeck | John Mills |
| Piety | Melva Aylward | Bruce Russell |
| Study | Irene Shaw | Neil Chisholm |
| Sacraments 1 | Jan St.James | Jeff Parker |
| Sacraments 2 | Janice O'Gorman | T.B.A. |
| Apostolic Action | Wyn Roper | Des De Klerk |
| Obstacles to Grace | T.B.A. | T.B.A. |
| Leaders | Denny Fulton | John Cherry |
| Changing the Environment | Janet Jenkinson | Joe LaGreca |
| Christian Living | Annette Jager-Glover | Perry Halkidis |
| Christian Community | Penny Swenson | Vic Catt |
| Fourth Day | Elsa Phillips | Bill O'Brien |

FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

“BLOOM WHERE YOU’RE PLANTED”

Where and when to speak up in your own witness is something we all struggle with from time to time. There are times when we remain silent, especially when we feel the tide is against us and people around us are non-believers. Yet this is often just the time for us to speak up – to bloom as a plant in the desert.

A young woman worked as a maid in the home of a very important man. He was a general in the army and was used to being in a commanding position – he was a very imposing figure – not the type you would expect to listen to anything a servant would say.

The man suffered from a wasting disease which was not easily treated. It really distressed him. The maid had heard of a cure for this disease and she wanted to let her boss know about it. She knew he would not listen to her but she thought he might listen to his wife. Maybe the wife would pass the information on to her husband.

So the maid planted a seed which would eventually grow and bloom in the general’s life. The servant told the wife that she believed God could cure the general, that he should go to see the minister and he would pray for him.

The wife did get the general to listen to the idea and finally he decided to go and talk to the minister and ask for healing ...

To cut the story short ... the man of God sent the general to wash in the river and trust that God would cure him. The general did this seven times. He found that as a result of this action he was cured.

The general went back to thank the minister and said, “I know now that there is only one God in all the world.” From then on the general was a new man and his faith in God grew strong.

This happened because an insignificant young woman dared to speak up and speak about the God who heals. She bloomed in the place where she had been planted. As a result others came to believe in God as she did.

Circumstances are not always as we would like them to be. We may not feel that others will necessarily listen to what we have to say. The encouragement this story gives us is found in the Bible in 2 Kings chapter 5. The message is that insignificant people can also bloom where they are planted. God uses all kind of people to build His kingdom.

Graeme Vines (Spiritual Director Melbourne Cursillo)

*(Fed in a more down-to-earth way, too! The Cursillistas at St Michael’s, Beaumaris have always cared for us well whenever we’ve been there, but even so we weren’t expecting a choice of two delicious ‘Soups of the Day’, accompanied by sourdough bread, courtesy of chefs Anthony and Judith Marriott. What wonderful hospitality!)

Quotations from the Spiritual Refreshment Day, courtesy of Bishop John Noble

“Love begets service.” Mother Teresa

“God knows me. God loves me. God has a use for me. God is closer to me than breathing, nearer than hands and feet.”

“God’s aim is to free us from the Kingdom of Me”

“We have been trained to think that God will rob us of life and love. It’s not true.”

“Don’t write it off because it’s not Christian. Look for the goodness – the God-ness.”

Dear Cursillistas in the Melbourne Diocese,

I attended the Clausura for your recent Men’s Cursillo. Sue Brennan collected me (it was completely out of her way) and returned me safely. I was warmly welcomed by everyone and loved every moment of my time with you. I was delighted to be given a gorgeous rainbow scarf by Marie and will wear it often.

The Bunbury Diocese has just started the process of sharing Cursillo with the Diocese of the Highveld in South Africa and it was great to get such encouraging feedback, suggestions, support and offers of prayer from so many at the Clausura.

The whole experience was a beautiful reminder that we are part of a national (and international) fellowship of Christians in the Cursillo movement. I really appreciated my time with you and ask that you will continue to pray for us as we will pray for you.

Praise the Lord that Cursillo is now firmly in the Diocese of Wangarratta.

Jeannie Cornish

(editor New Day and member of the Bunbury Diocese Cursillo Secretariat)

At the June Ultreya at St James Dandenong the discussion topic for the group reunion was Study. We were asked to share any on-going Christian study we may have undertaken, or what study we would like to undertake, and also to share any study opportunities that we knew about.

The responses were varied, ranging from daily devotional studies, small group Bible studies, books, DVDs, to a heart-warming film and even a pilgrimage walk to Santiago de Compostela in Spain.

Books & Studies

Spiritual Gifts – 8 Studies for Individuals or Groups by R Paul Stevens. *“In these studies, R. Paul Stevens helps you to recognize your spiritual gifts and the gifts of others. And he leads you to consider how to practically use these gifts to glorify God in your relationships, your work and your world.”*

The Kingdom of God – Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones. *A compilation of sermons on various gospel passages which “exemplifies the joy of knowing and walking with Christ as sons and daughters who believe that gospel message. With constant references to modern society, the truths seem to echo through history that while all else changes, social, political, or intellectual trends, the kingdom of God remains the same, as does his saving power for those who believe in him.”*

The Purpose Driven Life – Rick Warren. *“A blueprint for Christian living in the 21st century - a lifestyle based on God’s eternal purposes, not cultural values.” You will be guided “through a personal 40 day spiritual journey that will transform your answer to life’s most important question: What on earth am I here for?”*

Understanding the Purpose and Power of Prayer – Dr Myles Munroe. *This book “takes the mystery out of prayer, providing practical answers for difficult questions about communicating with God. The biblical-based, time-tested principles in this book will ignite and transform the way you pray.”*

God’s Fellow Workers – David Mulready, Bishop of NW Australia. *This gives “a view of the early Christians of the 1st Century who were fellow workers with others in God’s service. Some were well known characters such as Paul, Peter and Timothy whilst others were less well known such as Lydia, Demas, Demetrius or Diotrephes. It is a comprehensive group which includes slave and free, Jew and gentile, people of education and high rank as well as those of humble position.”*

Prayer and Worship – C H Spurgeon *A book or study of this name could not be found on the internet; possibly it was “Spurgeon on Prayer”.*

Films/DVDs

Preaching to the Choir – *This story “is set in Harlem and follows two brothers, (one a hip-hop star, the other a preacher) as they make their way in life....Through the intersection of comedy, gospel and hip hop, east coast and west coast, the sacred and the secular, Preaching to the Choir weaves a story of unconditional love and redemption.”*

Prodigal Son - *The story of the prodigal son told by Jesus Christ, sung by Keith Green and filmed by Dean L Bauman. Keith Green was an extraordinarily prolific songwriter and preacher before he died in a plane crash in 1982 at the age of 28.*

As it is in Heaven is a “story of a man trying to find peace and resolution in his life... a world renowned conductor... suffers a heart attack after a performance... returns to his home town in the far north of Sweden... although initially reluctant, he is drawn into assisting the choir then becoming cantor of the church. In this talented but rough and ready group he sees the chance to achieve his life’s ambition - a purity of music that comes straight from the heart...what really sells the picture is the universality of music as the window to the soul and some wonderful moments when the choir hits full voice.”

Tertiary study

Old Testament study at the United Faculty of Theology – *“has been a revelation. Seeing how the Old Testament came into being has made the Old Testament a living and amazing document.”*

Group Bible Study

A small group studying a chosen book of the Bible week by week.

‘...small groups prepare ahead, we are given study notes, and questions to consider by our ministry team. There is so much to learn from the Bible with relevance to our understanding and living as Christians today.’

Daily Devotional Books

Everyday with Jesus - by Selwyn Hughes. *“Each day has its own theme: the page suggests a short Bible reading, gives a devotional explanation (about 300 words), makes suggestions for further Bible readings on the same subject, and includes a short prayer.”*

Quiet Moments for Women - by June Masters-Bacher. *Each day “June Masters Bacher’s practical, often humorous, experiences have a daily message of God’s love for you! Throughout this book you will discover that with every circumstance comes the opportunity to exercise faith in a new, meaningful way.”*

Pat Varga

POSITION VACANT

Megan Octigan is completing her position as Secretary after serving three years on secretariat. This position will be vacant at the end of the year. Megan also coordinates the applications for Cursillo weekends liaising with candidates, sponsors and lay coordinators.. If you feel you have the skills to fulfil this role and are available for the next three to years please contact Alan Smyth (contact details at the back of Sctrum) to discuss the position.