



Lincoln Cursillo
IMP SHEET
Issue #89
September 2017



LAY DIRECTORS REPORT

Welcome to the Imp Sheet for our new Cursillistas. I know from speaking to you that you had a powerful weekend. The Holy Spirit was certainly at work.

In July, I found myself feeling in need of a break. I realised that when Eddie was alive we spent a lot of time in the caravan. Eddie loved fishing so, about every six weeks we would get in three to four days away. Which meant a break for me too, a space for quiet walks a time for oneness with God. Those periods have gone and I know I need to make time to find some space. I felt a little spiritually drained.

Looking in my diary I had some free days from 20th -28th August. I found a break with National Holidays to go to the Rhine and Castles so booked it.

The journey started on the P & O ferry from Hull. It felt a bit lonely sitting eating on my own in such a big restaurant, but being a people watcher made it easier.

I had my first early night in months, being in bed for 10.30pm so I felt quite refreshed in the morning.

We arrived in Rotterdam and travelled through Holland into Germany arriving at a small town called Boppard which is on the Rhine. We had some free time there. I walked with a group of people into the centre. After looking around the town I headed back to the coach, walking along the side of the Rhine.

I spotted an unusual shaped church. It was the Carmelite Church, I went into this large church, after looking at some of the beautiful art work I sat down to focus on life size statues of the Madonna and Crucifix. As I looked at that crucifix I was reminded that whatever I was feeling, Christ went through such agony for me. I sat for a long time feeling a stillness and calm.

Back on the coach we headed for our hotel, which was on the other side of the Rhine, in Kamp - Bornhofen. To my surprise the hotel was the former Augustinian Convent and the old St Nikolaus Parish Church dating back to the 1100's, which had been converted into the hotel. The Chapter Hall, tower and steeple all still in place. I was taken up the old staircase to my room, as I sat down there was a feeling of peace. You could sense that the walls of this building were steeped in the prayer of hundreds of years.

On our visit to Rudesheim I found myself in a church St. Jakobs. Once again there was a great sense of peace and oneness with God.

On Wednesday evening wanting to enjoy some peace I walked down to the Rhine which runs in front of the hotel. It is a busy river with barges and river cruise boats constantly travelling up and down it. I sat and gazed at the river traffic. A barge came past named Mediation, the thought went through my mind that as Christians we are constantly called to mediate, intercede on behalf of others.

The next barge was called Serenity, my thought this time was, 'is God talking to me, in barges?'

The next barge was called Arizona II, so no link there I thought. Then I saw that Arizona II was being pushed by another barge Arizona. The two linked together, working together as one, Arizona guiding Arizona II. As we live out our Fourth Day, we are called to work with one another and those we come in contact with. Sometimes, we need to guide others but, we always need to be guided by God. To do that we need to have those times of serenity, that state of being calm, peaceful, and untroubled, to allow God to speak to us.

So, I thank God for those times of oneness with Him.

Ultreya

Sandra

PALANCA

The following Weekends have been sent a Palanca Poster from Lincoln Cursillo.

Please support them with Palanca prayer.

Date	Cursillo
14-17 September	<u>Peterborough #11</u>
21-24 September	Leeds #2
28 September -01 October	<u>Ely #33</u>
19-22 October	<u>Norwich #10</u> , <u>Southwark #42</u>
26-29 October	<u>Blackburn #65</u> , <u>Chelmsford #35</u> , <u>Chester #55</u> , <u>Durham #27</u> , <u>London #32</u> , <u>York #26</u>

BACC PAGES

The last edition was the Winter 2016 edition and is available from:

http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk/BACC%20Pages/bacc_pages_winter_2016-17.pdf

SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS REPORT

It was never between you and them anyway.

When I was growing up, now & then in the news, would appear the diminutive figure of Mother Teresa of Calcutta. I can't even pronounce the name given to her at her birth on August 26, 1910 in Skopje, Macedonia. It was Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu; she was the youngest of three children of an Albanian builder.

Clad in a white, blue-bordered sari, she along with her sisters of the Missionaries of Charity, became a symbol of love, care and compassion for the world.

She was probably one of the most inspirational figures of the last century. She was respected by those of different faiths and of no faith. She put her faith into action and never just talked about 'religion', she actually lived it. She lived grace.

What is grace?

Well, the grace I'm referring to isn't a Christian name, like Grace Kelly the actress; or a surname, like W.C. Grace the cricketer; not the Grace said before a meal; nor that seemingly effortless charm of movement, the grace of a ballet dancer; not a disposition to be generous or helpful; not a period of grace, as in a reprieve.

Grace has been defined as: "the love & mercy given to us by God, because God desires us to have it, not because of anything we have done to earn it".

In other words 'Grace is getting what we don't deserve.'

Mother Teresa's view was simple, it was : God loves us, and it is our duty to show that love to others, however undeserving and undesirable that may be"

She never turned anyone away; her response was always "Send them to me, I'll take them in."

She did not only serve people of her own Roman Catholic faith, but people of every denomination.

Mother Teresa brought dignity to the dying and desperate. She gave love to those who were unloved or deemed to be untouchable. This didn't always win her friends, she said some uncomfortable things to people in power, and wasn't afraid to challenge so called wisdom when it went against God's grace, love and acceptance to all.

Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, at the time of her death, had 610 missions in 123 countries including hospices and homes for people with HIV/AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis, soup kitchens, children's and family counselling programs, orphanages and schools.

Can this wonderful woman still inspire us today? Was she just too perfect for people like you and me?

In spite of being deeply religious, she frequently questioned her own belief in God.

Analysing her deeds and achievements, Pope John Paul said: "Where did Mother Teresa find the strength and perseverance to place herself completely at the service of others? She found it in prayer and in the silent contemplation of Jesus Christ."
What was the secret of her life of grace? When asked, she replied: "My secret is simple - I pray!"

The following is one of her meditations from 2001:

If you're kind, people may accuse you of being selfish with ulterior motives; be kind anyway.
If you're successful, you'll win some false friends and some true enemies; succeed anyway.
If you're honest and frank, people may cheat you; be honest and frank anyway.
If you spend years building, someone may destroy overnight; build anyway.
Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough; but give the world the best anyway.
You see, in the final analysis, it's between you and God; it was never between you and them anyway.

And as Tiny Tim said in Dickens' novel,
"God bless us, each and every one."

Jeff.

Summer Event

In June Lincoln Cursillistas gathered at St Vincent's Church Caythorpe for an uplifting Eucharist followed by a walk through the village to the Village Hall and a splendid summery lunch. This was followed by chat, friendship, fun and games. The new National President Trevor King joined us for the day and admitted that we were the first Cursillo event he had been to since his commissioning. One up to us!!



The enjoyable day ended with walk back to the church with a host of clues for a treasure hunt on route and finished with Compline. Thanks to all who put on a wonderful day.

Lincoln Cursillo #33



Another wonderful Cursillo weekend has taken place. Lincoln #33 was absolutely brilliant led by the wonderful Jude Scott. August 4th saw us all gathered at Bishop Grosseteste University.

The seven pilgrims were young and very enthusiastic. They all gelled so quickly and were chatting together as though they had known one another for years.

As always with Cursillo we were so uplifted and hopefully our faith shone through.



St Frances

The team worked together so well and the pilgrims all had their faith strengthened.

This was shown so movingly by a letter which Donna wrote. It reduced me to tears but it revealed exactly what the Cursillo movement is all about.



St Thomas

Ultreya.

Angela Sims

A Thank you Letter

The following is the letter sent to Angela Sims by Donna after Lincoln #33:

Dear Angela,

I just needed to write to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for the most incredible, memorable and moving weekend. As most of you are aware I really did not want to come! I was so insistent upon driving so I could escape at any moment! But you will be glad know this thought never crossed my mind. Although, I love my job as a teacher I don't like studying so I never understood why I became a teacher. The thought of rollos sent shivers down my spine and was a dreaded thought. However, each talk was an inspiration and brought a little more hope to my life. The courage you all showed through sharing your personal stories and memories opened up my heart and mind and I was constantly reflecting on my personal life and my relationship with God. I know in the forthcoming days, weeks, months and years I will continue to reflect upon the rollos and mediations.

In October 2012, Scott and I got married and were so excited about our future. To add to this excitement we were expecting our first child and we were over the moon. Then in December I

had my 20 week scan and our world was turned upside down. Our beautiful boy had a severe grown defect so 12 days before Christmas I gave birth to our beautiful boy and now he rests in heaven in God's hands. It was meant to be the best year of our lives but looking back now I realise that wasn't God's plan for us. Since then we have struggled to conceive and this year I was diagnosed with endometriosis which cause infertility. In the 5 years we have been married there have been so many ups and downs and has really tested our relationship.

However, I strongly believe now Cursillo has been a turning point in my life and has changed me. The moment closer to God really has to be the service of light. It was such a moving and powerful experience and I felt called to kneel at the foot of the cross. I had to leave all the hatred, pain and anger that I've caused to myself and others at the cross. I will be eternally grateful for the kindness and generosity of Jacqui, Michelle and Rosemary for their healing prayers afterwards. The weekend has empowered me with God's love and given me freedom from the devil.

As for the wake up on Monday, all I remember is the shock and emotion on my face and Liz saying to me "Don't even try and speak" as the words just wouldn't come out of my mouth. Some of you described me to Scott as a puddle and this nickname will stick forever! When I thought you couldn't surprise me anymore, there was the Clausura; a celebration of our achievements this weekend. I cannot thank you all enough for the time you've spent planning, preparing and praying for this weekend. As a pilgrim I felt the whole weekend ran so smoothly. Nothing was ever too much for the staff to do and your kindness was an expression of God's love which I will never forget.

Each of you has taught me something and I will treasure my memories of this weekend forever. The Cursillo experience was a magical, powerful and a life changing experience and has now taken my faith to another level and brought me closer to God. I know from this moment on my life will never be the same again. With God's grace and the forever love of all the Cursillistas my life has been transformed.

Since even writing this I have been constantly reflecting on everything and reading a book Scott gave me 'Through the eyes of hope' has added to this reflection. I now know and understand that God gave us our son as he needed us and it brought us to the church. Scott reminded me to look at the difference being a Christian has made to our lives. God said "I need you!" Without, this tragedy in our lives we wouldn't be where we are today and we have met so many wonderful people along the way including you. So again, I will be eternally grateful for God leading us down this path.

Then my final reflection came last night when Scott made me a drink in a new cup which I've been using since Monday and it finally clicked. I hadn't read the message on it only seen the beautiful butterfly with the word Grace. Then I read:

"It is by grace you have been saved". Ephesians 2:8

That's when I responded I have been saved my God's and love! I can truly say I am at peace within myself now and know the feeling of joy. I will continue to pray for each one of you and may God bless you all. I will hold each one of close in my heart forever.

With all my love, Donna



National Ultreya Southwell 2017

Lincoln Anglican Cursillo were well represented at the National Ultreya, this year hosted by the Diocese of Southwell in Nottinghamshire on Saturday September 2nd. The day commenced with registration and coffee at the splendid Minster School, allowing Cursillistas a chance to renew acquaintances and browse the assorted stalls. Participants had travelled from as far afield as St. Asaph's in Wales, Edinburgh, and the south coast of England. Trevor King, the National President, who was at our Summer Event welcomed everyone.



The morning session included 'Floating' Group Reunions, a witness talk, worship songs and news of the National Ultreya to be held in Chelmsford next year.

After lunch Cursillistas assembled on what was a beautiful warm and sunny afternoon ready for the procession through town.



Roads were closed and banners were held high as we made our way towards the imposing Minster for the celebration of the Eucharist. The banners formed a 'Guard of Honour' for the congregation to walk through before being paraded down the aisle.

Rousing hymns were sung and a wonderful address was given by the Bishop of Southwell who spoke about using our talents well - it was a truly uplifting service.

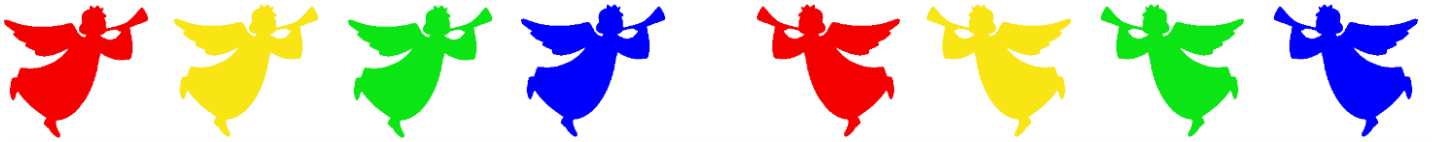


With spirits high, the Minster school beckoned for tea, cake and 'goodbyes' before, in some cases, the long journey home.



Some of the Lincoln Cursillistas who enjoyed the Ultreya, ready for home after an uplifting day.

Jenny Ferns
Lincoln #32



Ultreya

14th October

Alford

St Wilfrid's Church

17 High Street, LN13 9DS

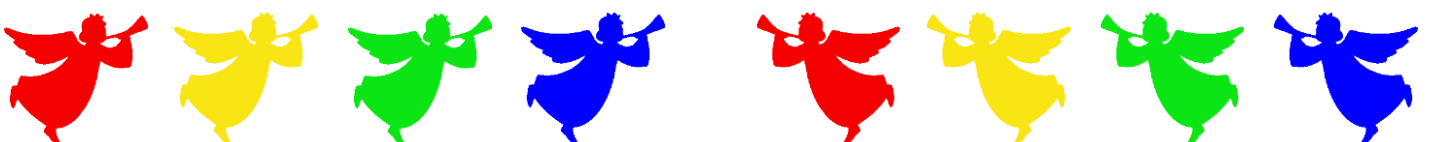
Please arrive for 11:30am Eucharist.

Followed by lunch served in the hall.

A donation of £5pp would be gratefully received.

Gift aid forms will be available on the day for any eligible donors.

Please let [Scott Gardiner](#) 01507 477100 know if you are attending



PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI IN THE STEPS OF SAINTS PETER, PAUL AND FRANCIS WITH EXTENSION TO FLORENCE AND PISA



This Pilgrimage tour with Chris Lilley is to Rome and Assisi. We initially follow the final footsteps of Saint Peter and Saint Paul to Rome with a visit to the catacombs, a tour round the Vatican museum, including the Sistine Chapel, and, of course, St Peter's Basilica.

After two full days in Rome seeing all the Roman antiquities, we follow St Francis in Assisi and then travel to his mountain retreat at La Verna.

There is then a choice whether to return home or to opt for a two day extension to visit the glorious city of Florence and the amazing Leaning Tower of Pisa.

The dates are 29 October - 3 November 2018 (or 5 November with the extension.) Depending on the numbers booking the cost for the main tour will be £1090 per person for a shared room with the extension £320.

When we last ran this trip fourteen years ago it booked up very quickly and we ended up taking a second group a few months later. If you are interested or wish to book a place please contact Rev'd Canon Chris Lilley, The Chrysalis, 12 Hillside Avenue, Sutton on Sea, Mablethorpe LN12 2JH. Tel 01507 440039 mobile 07932 971537 email c.lilley@btinternet.com

The Pilgrimage is provided through Ace Cultural Tours and their air holidays are atol protected by the caa.

Publicity Rep

At the next AGM the position of Publicity Rep will become vacant. This is not a difficult job and as with all secretariat jobs only last for three years (which will fly by).

You will need to produce an article for 'Crosslinks' twice a year (before and after a weekend) or occasionally more often if there is something happening that could be of interest to the diocese.

You need to encourage all Cursillistas to keep all posters and leaflets up to date with correct details on and replace them if they look scruffy. Also encourage Cursillistas to talk about Cursillo at their PCC's, Deanery Synod and any other meeting they can think of.

Attend Secretariat meetings.

Please do not wait till the AGM to think about this. There are a couple of simple checks that have to be done prior to the AGM. More details can be found on the website or by contacting the publicity rep.

POLO SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS



Please order through Janet Shephardson.

7, Saddle Close, Goxhill, N. Lincs. DN19 7GB. Tel. 01469 530896.

Email to janetshephardson217@gmail.com for an order form or

Go to <http://lincolncursillo.btck.co.uk/Downloads>

FACEBOOK



Lincoln Cursillo Facebook is a closed Group for members of Lincoln Cursillo.

If you wish to join the group please contact your Reunion Group Leader or a member of the Secretariat and they will pass on the request.

CURSILLO LEADERS WORKSHOPS

20th - 22nd October 2017 [Shallowford House](#), Stone, Nr. Stafford
 23rd - 25th March 2018 [Shepherds Dene](#), Riding Mill, Northumberland.
 28th - 30th September 2018 [Purely Chase](#), Atherton, Warwickshire.

If you are interested in attending a weekend please contact the BACC Rep Rosemary Spray (see below) and she will make the necessary arrangements. Please don't contact the venue directly.

The Lincoln Cursillo website:

<http://lincolncursillo.btck.co.uk/> includes all the articles in this Imp Sheet which can be found in the [Imp Sheet Page](#).

Items from previous editions can be found in the [News & Articles Resource](#) page.

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Lawres & Lincoln	Sally Turnbull	01673 862764
N. Hykeham	Hetty Naylor	01522 681984
Scunthorpe	Stuart Duff	01652 652120

incoln Cursillo Dates

2017

14 October	11.30	Ultreya	St Wilfrid's Church Alford
21October	9.30 for 10.00 - 12.30	Secretariat	Bailgate Methodist

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