

The Ultreya begins with a Eucharistic Service and is followed by a “bring-and-share” lunch. After a time of socialising during the meal the Ultreya proper begins with the singing of hymns. Next follows a “Witness talk” intended to encourage the listeners through an example of how prayer and the love of the Lord have changed the life of the speaker. The Witness talk is followed by two responses: firstly an SA responds with a priestly overview of the talk, and secondly a Lay response is given, setting out how the talk may be translated into possible apostolic action in our lives.

Following the responses further hymns may be sung. Then the gathering splits into smaller groups for “Floating Group Reunions” lasting about 30 minutes. The Ultreya closes with a summary from the Chair, some hymn singing and a Blessing.

Since Ultreyas usually coincide with the Training days, the venue is arranged and booked by the Secretariat well in advance of the event. All other details are arranged by the organising Reunion Group.

Typical sequence.

- 11:30 Cursillistas arrive for Eucharist
- 12:00 Eucharist
- 13:00 Bring-and-share lunch
- *
- 14:00 Ultreya proper begins
 - Hymn singing
 - Witness Talk
 - Responses (SA and Lay)
- 14:30 Floating Group reunions (Groups of 5 or 6)
- 15:00 Closing remarks, hymn(s) and Blessing.

** In the case of the Spring Ultreya the AGM (about 30 minutes) takes place between lunch and the commencement of the Ultreya proper.*

There is a “Planning Sheet” overleaf, and there is a separate “Witness Talk” sheet to help the designated person prepare. (Organising Reunion group chooses this person.)

Check with the Secretariat secretary to see if the venue has been booked, which may be the case if the Ultreya is following a training day. The Reunion Group organising the event should write to ask the local incumbent for the use of the church, unless the SD has already done this. Liaise with the SD about who will be celebrant and whether you need to book an organist too.

Liaise with the Weekend Rep if you would like access to the Clausura supplies. These include plastic-cup holders, dishes, tablecloths, flasks, knives and a large teapot. Secretariat recommends the use of Fairtrade drinks!

LINCOLN DIOCESAN CURSILLO

ULTREYA PLANNING SHEET

Date/Time _____

Venue _____

Organising Reunion Group _____

Eucharist: Celebrant _____

Server _____ Chalice _____

Organist _____

O.T. Reading _____

O.T. Reader _____

Epistle _____

Epistle Reader _____

Shared Lunch – please arrange for plates, cutlery and drinks to be available.

Ultreya: Lay Rector: _____

Music Imp _____

Spiritual Advisor _____

Witness Talk _____

Clergy Response _____

Lay Response (optional) _____

Tea/Coffee _____

The Group Convenor may delegate any of these tasks, including Lay Rector for this occasion only.

Readings and hymns for the Eucharist will be chosen by the Celebrant.

A copy of the witness talk should be sent to the SD or SA for approval beforehand.

Service and hymnbooks should be provided by the organising Reunion Group if not from the venue.

The Post-Weekend Rep will arrange for delivery of Group Reunion Cards

ULTREYA WITNESS TALK

Purpose: To encourage Christian brothers and sisters in their action for Christ

How long? 10 minutes. May be shorter but not longer!

About? Jesus Christ!

Why, because you love Him, you are trying to bring others to love Him too.

How, by prayer, study and action, you are working to achieve this in the surroundings in which you live and work.

Use who, how, where, why and when to help you tell your story. Explain how you prayed about it, studied what Jesus said in similar circumstances, and how you carried out your plan. Say what happened as a result. Make your story come alive to your listeners.

Pray about what you are going to say.

Do not think you are unworthy to do this.

Be willing to share.

Questions to ask yourself:

Is this talk about Jesus and the place he holds in my life?

Is the talk centred around Jesus?

Does it show how I strive to follow Him?

Will what I say encourage others to act for Him?

Discuss what you are going to say with your Spiritual Advisor.

Do this a few days in advance if you can so that they can prepare/help you.

Make it simple.

Speak slowly and clearly.

Remember: You are speaking to friends, so make it informal,
and Jesus said, **“Without me you can do nothing.”**