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|  | **CHRISTMAS ISSUE 2012**  **Your**  **Peterborough**  **Pilgrim** | Description: Description: http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/logo/rgb_vertical_main.jpg |



**Let’s**

***CELEBRATE!***

***The Coming of Our Lord***

**We Wish You A Merry Christmas…**

We know that this is still Advent and that Christmas is some way off, but we really wanted to take this opportunity to wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Hence the cover of this copy of the Peterborough Pilgrim, which is our Christmas Card to you from all of us on the Secretariat.

We hope that you enjoy it.

***Music on the Website!***

We have been lucky to be able to receive permission from the copyright holders to play some videos on the website for your entertainment and pleasure, and to encourage others, including non-cursillistas, to visit the site to find out all about the Cursillo movement.

The first video is Busted Halo’s explanation of “Advent in 2 Minutes” which is simple, easy and informative.

Please encourage everyone at your church to take a look at it. The video will be up until about December 8.

Thereafter, the delightful “Bethlehemian Rhapsody” will hold sway in a sweet and amusing interpretation of the Nativity.

Simply go to the Home Page and click on the arrow and enjoy. In the New Year we hope to bring you a delightful rendition of “De Colores” sung and played by the redoubtable “Pete the Feet” whose contribution to the music of many a weekend has been invaluable.

***May Your Days Be Merry and Bright!***

**Gilly, Colin & Ann**

**“The Comm Squad”**

***THE LATEST NEWS***

***A quick trawl through events of the past few months…***

**We now** **have** more Cursillistas! Peterborough #6 which took place from September 27 –30 was very successful – thanks to all who took part! (*see picture on the next page)…*

**Over thirty** people attended the Welcome Back Ultreya at St Michael’s Kettering on October 18 with a very moving Witness Talk by Tony Walker of Peterborough #5…

**The Peterborough Deanery** Cursillo Gathering took place on Tuesday November 27 at the home of Liz and Eddie…

**Bishop John** made his Cursillo at the Oxford Anglican Cursillo Weekend at Douai Abbey on October 28…

**The last Cursillo Leaders Weekend** of the year took place at Wistaston Hall on October 12, more are scheduled for next year (see website for more details)…

**Peterborough Anglican Cursillo** was represented at the National Ultreya at St Asaph's…

**…*and next year…***

**The Next National Ultreya in 2013** is on September 7 at Wakefield Cathedral…

**Peterborough Cursillo AGM** will take place on March 20…

**The BACC AGM** is on May 11…

**More is available on the website**

As mentioned in our last issue, you now have a dedicated website at:

[**www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk**](http://www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk)



There is also a closed group Facebook page for all

the Cursillistas in the diocese, just ‘friend’ the group and Paula, our administrator, will set you up on the page.

We also have a common email address which is:

[**pbcursillo@gmail.com**](mailto:pbcursillo@gmail.com)

-this means that as members of The Secretariat change over the years, there is still just the one contact email that everyone (including the BACC) can use.

Writing about the BACC, just to let you know that their magazine “BACC Pages” has been issued and is available on their website at:

[**www.anglicancursillo.co.uk**](http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk)

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| ***Data Protection Act***  ***This act entitles you to know what information is being stored about you electronically.***  ***Peterborough Anglican Cursillo stores your name, address, telephone number and email address (if appropriate) and that is all.***  ***These personal data will not be made available to any third party and are only used by us to communicate to you about Cursillo.***  ***From time to time we will print in The Peterborough Pilgrim a request that we may continue to store these data in this way.***  ***If you decide that you no longer wish us to do so please contact us.***  ***Thank You.*** |

**Peterborough #6 –at Offa House September 27 - 30**



*A delighted group celebrate yet another successful Cursillo Weekend*

*(you can see and download this photograph in colour from the website).*

Christmas Memories…

***We asked Cursillistas to tell us some of their memories of an unusual Christmas.***

***Sorry we could not print them all this year…***

***A Thief in the Night…***

*Margaret writes:* During the war my father was a captain of a minesweeper and that Christmas the ship was docked at Portland for ship’s refit. Mother, brother and I plus our Christmas presents went down to share the season with him arriving on Christmas Eve. We shared a bedroom and brother and I were asleep.

My parents had gone out for a while to let us youngsters go to sleep; which we did eventually. Mum and Dad came back later to find that someone had come into the room and taken all our presents. We two had slept through it all. Imagine if you can the scene then and on Christmas Day. NO presents.

Plenty of tears but also a time of sharing.

A Christmas never to be forgotten, but a reminder that presents are not everything; but family tears, laughter and sharing mean much.

**Holey Smoke…**

*Jeffrey writes*: It was a terrible Christmas. Father had been in a bad mood all day and we had crept around the house as if on eggshells. Christmas Dinner had been the quietest ever and we all sat down afterward, my Mother busying herself with household chores, my sister listening to the wireless turned down to a whisper, I played quietly with my Meccano and father had his nose in a book as he chain smoked.

Now to this day we never knew how the lighted cigarette had rolled off the arm of my father’s armchair and slid under his backside. Yet alone how it had stayed alight. He had obviously put it onto his ashtray and then knocked it as he turned the pages of his book.

All we know is that my father suddenly yelled Aaargh!” on the top of his voice “jumped up with the back of his trousers on fire and began ripping them off his body. Maybe it was a tension release, but we all began to howl with laughter. My mother literally rolled in her chair, tears streaming down her face and us children hooted as our father stood there in his underwear wrapping up his trousers in an attempt to put the flames out.

Then he started laughing and soon we were all as one family. The moment we had all calmed down someone began to giggle and we’d start again. After that, we relaxed, laughed and then had one of the best Christmas Days ever.

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| **Judy’s Jottings**  **Dear Friends** | MC900435246[1] |

Christmas is a time when angels get a lot of exposure. The major theme in our house when we

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| C:\Users\Colin\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\GXBQA9OV\MM900283882[1].gif | decorate at Christmas time is angels, in all sorts of shapes and sizes, many quirky, and some who don’t really look like angels at all.  They come in all shapes and sizes, not only as decorations, but in the | |
| biblical accounts and in our lives today. Angels are seen as messengers from God, and they have major roles in the nativity accounts. | | C:\Users\Colin\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\7EWWIEFG\MC900349119[1].wmf |

We have the annunciation, where Mary is challenged to trust and to follow God’s calling. Who in your life does God use to challenge you, to encourage you to trust him, and who is the messenger that helps you to hear God’s voice calling you? When are you a messenger from God, encouraging others to trust him more?

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| We read of the angels appearing to the shepherds, where they proclaim the good news and call the men in the fields to go and worship. Those shepherds had to act and take the risk of leaving the sheep so they could go and find the stable, so the awe and wonder they experienced led | C:\Users\Colin\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\7EWWIEFG\MP900446394[1].jpg |

them not only to worship, but to action.

Who proclaims the good news for you, and does that lead you to worship and action?

Who do you proclaim the good news to and how do you encourage them to worship?

Joseph has three encounters with angels, God’s messengers leading and guiding him throughout the events. Each time he is inspired to trust and to do something.

When he had decided that he wouldn’t marry Mary because she was pregnant, the angel tells him to trust, to go ahead and take her as his wife.

The angel warned him about Herod’s soldiers coming to kill the babies and told him to flee to Egypt, and when Herod died the angel comes yet again telling him to return home.

For Joseph to follow these promptings took courage and faith. Who are the messengers from God who enable you to courageously step out in faith? How do you bring the message of trust and courage to others?   
The most striking feature in the accounts for me is the way all the angels say ‘fear not’, ‘do not be afraid’.

I’m sure it was startling to have God’s messenger standing there talking to you, so no doubt they were afraid in the moment.

But their message of ‘do not be afraid’, is also about a call to all God’s people to ‘fear not’, to have a deep trust that God is present and will protect and uphold us.

Sometimes that is hard to do, when the world seems as if it’s against you, when the call we sense from God seems too challenging, but that’s the underlying message.

We do not need to be fearful, but we can walk in trust. Who are the angels in your life who help you to be less fearful? How are you an angel of hope helping others to be less afraid and more courageous?  
As we celebrate God’s breaking into the world in Jesus, let us take note of his angels ministering not only in the gospel accounts, but in our lives now. Let us be channels for God to bring his message of love and hope to the world today.

Yours in Christ.  **Judy Craig**

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| *Now, Bend Your Brain with:*  **Ann’s Master Mind Quiz for Christmastide**  1. I am best able to answer its whereabouts.  2. My anger does not contain yours.  3. Don’t make an ass out of me.  4. Fingers and cats love making this.  5. Joe’s phrase is complicated.  6. Who goes quietly to be slaughtered?  7. Tate Gallery is renowned for its arts.  8. Cake, choir, market?  9. Fears are met here tonight.  10.Not in my house!  11 What is made while the sunshines?  12. My crook is my helper.  13. Whose delight are you?  14. God’s army is worldwide.  *The clue is in the question.*  *You can check your answers at the end of the BACC Representative’s column…* |

**We Really Do Need Your Help…**

A short while ago Colin went off to a Cursillo Leaders Weekend (a CLW) and on his return, as well as all the fresh ideas that he’d picked up from those running the training programme, we found that he’d learned a great deal from talking to the others on the course.

The Hot Topic raised at the coffee breaks was,

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| surprisingly, the cost of postage.  Or, not so surprising when you consider that it now costs at least 50p to post anything Second Class.  (This has done wonders to the Comm Squad’s personal Christmas Card lists this year which have been whittled down to virtually nothing).  Peterborough Anglican Cursillo is relatively lucky in that as we are fairly new in the history of | ***C:\Users\Colin\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\8H8VWZA3\MC900056773[1].wmf*** |

Cursillo in this country, as we have only around 150 cursillistas with whom to keep in touch.

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| C:\Users\Colin\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\5RG7ZUAM\MC900307556[1].wmf | Some other dioceses have between 400 and 500 and, with a quarterly magazine to send out, that is £1,000 per year being spent simply to stay in touch. And that is not including paper, printing and envelopes…  This is money which could be better spent within the Cursillo Movement. |

***So, you may well ask, why are we mailing you this copy of The Peterborough Pilgrim if it Costs So Much?***

And the simple answer is that at present we do not know just how many Peterborough Diocese Cursillistas are receiving our communications electronically and how many rely on the post.

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Of course, we are hoping that many of you now use the internet in order to keep in touch and are accessing the website, or Facebook and reading



The Peterborough Pilgrim electronically.

But we dare not assume that.

We have been lucky to receive some sponsorship to pay for this mailing to all of our members and we really do need you to help us now, please.

Unlike the enormous Autumn Issue which was designed to be read on a Home Computer, you will find that this magazine is much smaller, to allow for the weight when we post it to you.

You will also notice that we have included an addressed envelope with this issue.

Included in this magazine is a short and simple survey which we’d be very grateful if you would complete and send back to us.

*You do not have to sign it or give any other personal details if you do not wish.*

With your help, we can determine how many Cursillistas need a copy of the Peterborough Pilgrim posted to them, how many are happy to receive emails and how many can download copies and print them off for fellow Cursillistas who do not have a computer.

Sorry that we have to ask you to put a stamp on the envelope but if we included that too, the cost would be ruinous!

Now, please do not worry. Peterborough Anglican Cursillo is not about to go bust. And we do not want to stop those who are unable to access the internet from receiving their quarterly Peterborough Pilgrim by post, but obviously, if we are only in contact with a small number of our Cursillistas through the internet, then something has to be done.

If you would rather save the postage stamp, the survey is also available on the website at:

[**www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk**](http://www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk)

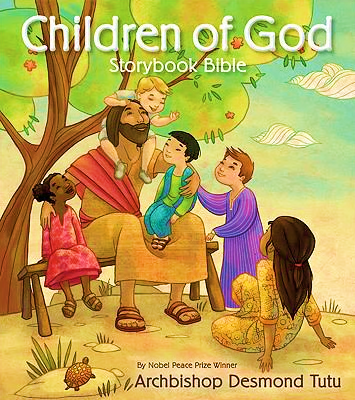
and you can email it to [**pbcursillo@gmail.com**](mailto:pbcursillo@gmail.com)

once it is completed.

***Thank you for your help. You’ll find the Survey form on the back page…***

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***Book Reviews***

**‘Finding Happiness – Monastic Steps for a Fulfilling Life’**

**Abbott Christopher Jamison**

ISBN-10: 0753826097

ISBN-13: 978-0753826096

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| *Judy writes:* Abbot Jamison writes in a beautifully simple and clear style but with depth and wisdom that is inspirational.  His insight into modern living and culture is breath-taking and he suggests long used monastic and spiritual solutions to help us find a more life giving way forward. | http://img.mobcast.co.uk/resize/9780297856894.jpg?width=200 |

His summary of the spirituality of the desert fathers and mothers is concise and accessible, and he not only shares how this inspires monks to find a deeply spiritual path, but invites us all to take seriously the internal spiritual life with very down to earth practical illustrations and suggestions. This is not a blueprint of how to avoid the seven deadly sins (he calls them the eight thoughts – gluttony, lust, greed, anger, sadness, spiritual apathy, vanity and pride) but an invitation to make the choice to pursue the eight spiritual virtues (moderation, chaste love, generosity, gentleness, gladness, spiritual awareness, magnanimity and humility).

I found this a moving, challenging and renewing book, and would recommend it to anyone who has any sense of longing for something to renew their spiritual life.

**Judy Craig Peck**

**Children of God Story Book Bible**

**Archbishop Desmond Tutu**

ISBN 978-0-00-734984-5

In the forward to this Storybook Bible for Children Archbishop Tutu writes: ”In the spirit of celebrat-ing children all over the world, the artists in this book have been invited to draw on their own unique and rich cultural heritage in illustrating these biblical stories. Their art is truly a marvellous reflection of how we are all made in God's image “

This book is a joy for anyone who wants to treat a child they know with a colourful book which gets right to the heart of what our faith is about.

Each two page spread introduces an Old or New Testament Story and ends with a simple one line prayer that is easy to understand. We have used it in our Ecumenical Schools Team and it is highly recommended especially for younger children.”

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| **Gilly Beardmore**  **More Memories of Christmas…**  *Diana writes:* My fondest memory of Christmas involves | C:\Users\Colin\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\5JA0R8GP\MC900363562[1].wmf |

a visit from a very special Father Christmas and one of his helpers.

As a child my Father was disabled and we lived on benefits. Dad had multiple sclerosis and part of his treatment was to attend physiotherapy sessions which taught him the vital skills of basketry.

He eventually taught my sister and me.

After the rustle of stockings being opened in dawn-light; we squealed as we spied two dolls' cradles (basketry ones) and inside were two dolls wearing beautifully knitted clothes.

Both were made by the two people who loved us both. To this day I can clearly see them both, remembering textures, colours and feelings of that special Christmas morning…

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| **If you have any memories to share or articles to write for future Peterborough Pilgrims, please contact us at our email address:**  pbcursillo@gmail.com  Have A Very Merry Christmas! |

**BACC Rep’s Report**

**Hot off the press!**

*Liz Writes:* Information to report on from The Full BACC Council meeting I attended, as BACC representative, with Edwina and Revd Judy on Saturday November 17 2012.

The latest edition of BACC pages can be found on the website [**www.anglicancursillo.co.uk**](http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk)

If you are aware of anyone who is unable to receive this electronically would you please print one for them in PDF with Adobe reader in booklet form, or contact any member of the secretariat to do this.

Our website webmaster has requested that for ALL website matters he is the sole contact and can be contacted at**:** [**www.billyhollis49@hotmail.com**](about:blank)

We are reminded that all new secretariat members should attend a Cursillo Leaders Workshop, (CLW) promoting authentic Cursillo. It is also for anyone in post who has not attended a CLW in the past five to six years.

News is that St David’s is to gift Swansea and Brecon diocese, and that the gifting of Newcastle by Rippon and Leeds is in abeyance at this present time.

Our National Spiritual Director, Bishop Idris, will stand down at the AGM in May 2013. We will be informed of his successor following the meeting of the standing committee in February 2013.

**Forthcoming events!**

BACC pilgrimage in Durham to take place on:

August 20 - 23 2013. All details to be found on [**www.anglicancursillo.co.uk**](http://www.anglicancursillo.co.uk) or on our own website [**www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk**](http://www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk)

National Ultreya at Wakefield on Saturday September 7 2013. Details will be found on [**www.wakefieldcursillo.co.uk**](http://www.wakefieldcursillo.co.uk)

Ultreya!

**Liz Medlock**

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| **Answers to The Christmas Master Mind Quiz**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **1. Stable**  **2.Manger**  **3.Donkey**  **4.Cradle**  **5.Joseph**  **6.Lamb**  **7. Star**  **8. Stall**  **9. Bethlehem**  **10. Inn keeper**  **11.Hay**  **12. Shepherd**  **13. Angel**  **14. Mary** | C:\Users\Colin\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\54LCOGWU\MC900237315[1].wmf | |

**From Your Lay Director…**

Dear Cursillistas

I have had a wonderful Spiritual journey to the Holy Land and you were all in my thoughts and prayers in some of the amazing sites in and around Jerusalem.

I was struck by the coming to life of some of the Bible stories, especially near the Sea of Galilee. John 21 v15

Just being there, I heard again the story of Jesus on the lake shore following Peter's denial.

"Peter do you Love me" Peter could not look into Jesus eyes, he would have felt so guilty, he had previously said that he would die for Jesus. He acknowledges "Yes Lord I love you". I think he loved Jesus as a friend in his reply, so Jesus asks again. For Peter a light dawns, his love must transcend from that of a friend, by God’s grace he can raise his eyes to Jesus. Not only does Peter feel redeemed and forgiven, but has a great commission.

"Feed my sheep" how wonderful is that!

You all, as the servant community, are called to do just that. In Cursillo we are not alone, together we can achieve great things, and because of you all, our numbers are growing.

We welcome Bishop John Holbrook.

Please continue to pray for Bishop John as he continues his 4th day ministry among us.

Pray also for those who attended the Clergy Taster Day at Ely on November 27, where six of our Diocesan Clergy attended (including our own Spiritual Director Judy and Bishop John).

They shared more about Cursillo and its place in the Diocesan Plan and in our Parishes as another tool to help Christians grow in confidence and push the boundaries of their ministry.

One more request.

Your secretariat members are renewed every three years. There are many vacancies to be taken up at the AGM on March 20 in 2013.

I have attached details of the role of Treasurer and Secretary as the most important. Do take time to look at these and if you feel able to fulfil those roles please do contact me through [**pbcursillo@gmail.com**](mailto:pbcursillo@gmail.com)

Within the Servant Community (you) we draw our helpers for the various roles of the Secretariat so that all the work does not fall on one person’s shoulders and the transition from one post holder to another is smooth and supported.

You can ring me at home for more information, on **01733 222539.**

love and prayers

**Edwina**

**Lay Director**

**Role Description:**

**Secretary to the Secretariat**

This is for a term of 3 years

**Activities:**

Attend Secretariat Meetings, Prepare agendas and minutes. Be responsible for contacting and confirming staff for each Cursillo Weekend (letter Performa available).

Prepare Palanca lists, including all the names of all participants and members of staff, needed by secretariat and Palanca Gofer.

Deal with miscellaneous correspondence.

Maintain records in reasonable order.

Prepare staff and participants welcome letters.

**SECRETARIAT MEETINGS**

Secretariat meetings are held approximately every four months.

Those attending are:

Lay Director (chair) Spiritual Director; Lay Director elect (if any) Pre Cursillo Representative; Post Cursillo Representative; Weekend Resource Representative; Treasurer; Secretary; Lay Rector of next Cursillo Weekend (in the run up to weekend).

The date and venue of the next meeting is decided at each meeting and is noted in the minutes, the secretary being responsible for the booking and access to the venue.

**AGENDA AND MINUTES**

**Agenda:** Approximately 10 – 14 days before a Secretariat meeting an agenda should be circulated to all members due to attend.

The Secretary is responsible for working through the previous minutes and noting any items for inclusion on the Agenda.

The Secretary should then liaise with the Lay Director, make any amendments/additions, type and circulate.

**Minutes:** The Secretary is responsible for keeping a true record of matters discussed at meetings. They have the right to be involved in any discussions and decisions.

The minutes should be distributed as soon as reasonably possible. Copies should be sent to each member of the Secretariat and to the Palanca and BACC Representatives unless they are on the Secretariat.

At each meeting the previous minutes (when agreed) should be signed by the Lay Director as an accurate record of that meeting.

**The Servant Community**

It is part of the post holder’s responsibility to assist the Secretariat in finding a replacement Secretary before the post holder time is up. Members of The Servant Community can be asked for a Cursillista to be shadowing for a period before the post holder’s term is up, this can assist in a smooth transition and provide guidance to the new person.

**Role Description**

**Treasurer to the Secretariat**This is for a term of 3 years

**Activities:**  
The Treasurer is a member of the Secretariat and gives a verbal report on the financial state of affairs at each meeting.

The task of the Treasurer is to deal with all the financial affairs of Peterborough Cursillo as follows: Take charge of all monies received -cash and cheques - and pay it into the bank account as soon as possible. Money comes to Peterborough Cursillo from various sources:

Bankers Orders from Cursillistas: Income relating to Cursillo Weekends; Tax relief on Gift Aiding;

Donations; Fund raising activities; Other miscellaneous sources.

(Funds are deposited with Barclays Bank. Two of the three trustees are required to sign cheques).

**Other Activities include:**

Encouraging Cursillistas to donate regularly to Peterborough Cursillo, ideally by Bankers Order, and if possible to Gift Aid such donations.

(This may be done verbally at Ultreya and other meetings, and in writing through Newsletter. Standing order forms and gift aid envelopes should be made available).

Make all arrangements concerning Gift Aiding, which are managed by the Diocesan Trust and Board of Finance Ltd.

Maintain a book keeping or spread sheet system to record all receipts and payments.

Cheques should only be drawn against specific invoices, even though some invoices may be hand written notes of expenses.

Discuss any expense above £100 with Lay Director.

Be responsible with the Secretariat for setting yearly budget in line with income.

Alert the Secretariat to any foreseen expenses that cannot be met.

Annual accounts are produced by the Treasurer as soon as possible after the financial year end on 31st December. The accounts should be audited and presented to the Annual General Meeting. Accounting records and annual accounts are kept for at least the last six completed years.

See Charity Commissioners guidelines regarding their requirements.

**The Servant Community**

It is part of the post holder’s responsibility to assist the Secretariat in finding a replacement Treasurer before the post holder time is up.

Members of The Servant Community can be asked for a Cursillista to be shadowing for a period before the post holder’s term is up, this can assist in a smooth transition and provide guidance to the new person.

If you need to know any more details, please contact Edwina on: **01733 222539**

**Or email:** [**pbcursillo@gmail.com**](mailto:pbcursillo@gmail.com)

**Rooted in Prayer- Peterborough # 7 Oct 2013**

***Winter Wheat sprouting in October 2012***

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| **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to His name: worship the Lord in the splendour of his Holiness (Ps 29:2** ) |

Dear Peterborough Cursillistas,

I am writing on behalf of Revd. Liz Cowley and Revd. Tony Lynett (Spiritual Advisors ) and Cheryl Goddard (Lay Rector's assistant ) to ask that you help us, to root Peterborough #7 Oct 2013 at Launde Abbey, in prayer.

I also want to update you as Lay Rector as to the preparation that has already begun…

We are at this moment forming a Group Reunion of the four of us before we select a team in liaison with the Secretariat and report back to you in the next issue of the Pilgrim as to our progress. Our team needs to be selected from current group reunions and selection of that team will not begin in earnest until our mutual vocation for Peterborough #7 is established. Already we meet monthly for prayer using the telephone and modern technology to communicate.

There are several ways in which you can support us in prayer during these Autumn and Winter months. The following prayers arise from BACC guidance given at Cursillo Leaders Workshops.

Please pray in your Group Reunions for our Peterborough #7 team.

Pray that other Group Reunions arising from Peterborough #6 will blossom and grow. Group reunions of 3-6 are fundamental to the growth of our Cursillo.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us as we assemble our team.

Please pray that formation of this team will give us opportunities for personal sharing and witness.

Please pray that all Cursillistas who eventually staff Peterborough #7 will enjoy commitment to it and be confident and encouraged in using their gifts to carry out their specific tasks.

Thank God for the recent Cursillo weekend made by Bishop John Holbrook.

Oxford #12. Prayer that as a Cursillo our relationships may support not only the growth of our Cursillo but also contribute to the building of God's Church.

Please pray that The Peterborough Pilgrim and our website ([**http://www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk**](http://www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk/)) will be used to inform our prayers together over the next year. .

Thank you ,

**Gilly Beardmore**

(Lay Rector Peterborough # 7)

SOURCE OF INFORMATION:

Apostolic Message and Team Formation Leaflet *British Anglican Cursillo Council 2005*

**THE THREE LITTLE TREES**

***A Tale told to Edwina, by her Guide in The Holy Land…***

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Once upon a mountain top, three little trees stood and dreamed of what they wanted to become when they grew up.

The first little tree looked up at the stars and said:

"I want to hold treasure. I want to be covered with gold and filled with precious stones. I'll be the most beautiful treasure chest in the world!"

The second little tree looked out at the small stream trickling by on its way to the ocean.

"I want to be travelling mighty waters and carrying powerful kings. I'll be the strongest ship in the world!"

The third little tree looked down into the valley below where busy men and women worked in a busy town.

"I don't want to leave the mountain top at all. I want to grow so tall that when people stop to look at me, they'll raise their eyes to heaven and think of God. I will be the tallest tree in the world!"

Years passed. The rain came, the sun shone and the little trees grew tall. One day three woodcutters climbed the mountain.

The first woodcutter looked at the first tree and said, "This tree is beautiful. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining axe, the first tree fell. "Now I shall be made into a beautiful chest, I shall hold wonderful treasure!" The first tree said.

The second woodcutter looked at the second tree and said, "This tree is strong. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining axe, the second tree fell. "Now I shall sail mighty waters!" thought the second tree. "I shall be a strong ship for mighty kings!"

The third tree felt her heart sink when the last woodcutter looked her way. She stood straight and tall and pointed bravely to heaven. But the woodcutter never even looked up. "Any kind of tree will do for me." He muttered. With a swoop of his shining axe, the third tree fell.

The first tree rejoiced when the woodcutter brought her to a carpenter's shop. But the carpenter fashioned the tree into a feed-box for animals. The once beautiful tree was not covered with gold nor with treasure. She was coated with saw dust and filled with hay for hungry farm animals.

The second tree smiled when the woodcutter took her to a shipyard, but no mighty sailing ship was made that day. Instead the once strong tree was hammered and sawed into a simple fishing boat. She was too small and too weak to sail to an ocean, or even a river; instead she was taken to a little lake.

The third tree was confused when the woodcutter cut her into strong beams and left her in a lumberyard. "What happened?" The once tall tree wondered. "All I ever wanted was to stay on the mountain top and point to God."

Many, many days and nights passed. The three trees nearly forgot their dreams. But one night, golden starlight poured over the first tree as a young woman placed her newborn baby in the feed box.

"I wish I could make a cradle for him." her husband whispered. The mother squeezed his hand and smiled as the starlight shone on the smooth and sturdy wood. "This manger is beautiful." she said.

And suddenly the first tree knew he was holding the greatest treasure in the world.

One evening a tired traveller and his friends crowded into the old fishing boat. The traveller fell asleep as the second tree quietly sailed out into the lake. Soon a thundering and thrashing storm arose. The little tree shuddered. She knew she did not have the strength to carry so many passengers safely through with the wind and the rain. The tired man awakened. He stood up, stretched out his hand and said, "Peace." The storm stopped as quickly as it had begun. And suddenly, the second tree knew he was carrying the King of heaven and earth.

One Friday morning, the third tree was startled when her beams were yanked from the forgotten woodpile. She flinched as she was carried through an angry jeering crowd. She shuddered when soldiers nailed a man's hand to her. She felt ugly and harsh and cruel. But on Sunday morning, when the sun rose and the earth trembled with joy beneath her, the third tree knew that God's love had changed everything. It had made the third tree strong. And, every time people thought of the third tree, they would think of God. That was better than being the tallest tree in the world.

*So next time you feel down because you didn't get what you wanted, just sit tight and be happy because God is thinking of something better to give you…*

**Your Survey**

*The purpose of this survey is to find out the best way to keep in contact with you. Your answers are important to us, thank you for taking the time to complete it.*

*If you agree with a statement please tick the* “YES*” Box* [Y] *if you disagree please tick the* “NO” *Box* [N].

*If you wish to make any comments, please write them on the other side of this sheet. Thank you.*

a). I have access to a computer [Y] [N]

*If you answer “No” please go directly to Statement “i)” and continue from there.*

b). I print The Peterborough Pilgrim from my computer and read it as a ‘hard copy’. [Y] [N]

c). I print The Peterborough Pilgrim from my computer for another cursillista. [Y] [N]

d). Someone prints off a copy of the Peterborough Pilgrim for me. [Y] [N]

e). I read my Peterborough Pilgrim on a computer screen or similar device. (iPad, Smartphone etc.) [Y] [N]

f). I have access to the internet. [Y] [N]

*If you answer “No” please go directly to Statement “i)” and continue from there.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| g). I visit the website  [**www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk**](http://www.peterborough-cursillo.btck.co.uk)  Every Day. [Y] [N]  Every Week. [Y] [N]  Occasionally. [Y] [N]  Never. [Y] [N] | h). I visit the  Cursillo Facebook Page:  Every Day. [Y] [N]  Every Week. [Y] [N]  Occasionally. [Y] [N]  Never. [Y] [N] |
| i). I attend a Reunion Group:  Every time one is held. [Y] [N]  Whenever I can. [Y] [N]  Occasionally. [Y] [N]  Never. [Y] [N] | j). I attend Ultreyas:  Every time one is held. [Y] [N]  Whenever I can. [Y] [N]  Occasionally. [Y] [N]  Never. [Y] [N] |

k).Being a member of The Peterborough Anglican Cursillo Movement is:

Very important to me. [Y] [N]

Useful to me. [Y] [N]

Not very important to me. [Y] [N]

l).Please continue to post me a copy of The Peterborough Pilgrim as I have no other way of keeping in touch with what is going on within the Cursillo movement**.**  [Y] [N]

(*If you answer YES, please PRINT your name address and phone number below and we’ll mail you each issue*).

m). I no longer wish to receive information about Cursillo, please delete my details. {Y} [N]

((*If you answer YES, please PRINT your name address and phone number below and we’ll remove you from our contact list).*

n) My personal details have changed. [Y] [N] *(If you answer YES, please PRINT your name address and phone number below).*

*NAME:*

*ADDRESS:*

*TELEPHONE NUMBER:*

*EMAIL:*

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP WITH THIS SURVEY IT IS MUCH APPRECIATED. ALL INFORMATION WILL BE TREATED IN CONFIDENCE. NO INFORMATION WILL BE PASSED TO A THIRD PARTY. PLEASE NOW PLACE THIS PAGE INTO THE ADDRESSED ENVELOPE AFFIX A STAMP AND POST IT BEFORE CHRISTMAS. ONCE AGAIN THANK YOU.*