



Cursillo in the Diocese of London

Summer Bulletin 2020



Greeting from our Lay Director, Martin Carr

I last wrote in Holy Week, at the peak of the lock-down. In some ways things have changed much since then, in other ways not so much. It is good to be able to get out more now (though I realise for those shielding less is possible), and to begin meeting with friends and colleagues outdoors. Shopping is back too.

One of the things I have learned from lock-down is that no time is wasted. The beautiful image I have included above, by Croydon artist Chris Shea, shows a face-masked boy pouring a rainbow. The image has appeared all over my area of town, and has raised money for the NHS. We all know about how Captain Tom used his lock-down of course, and at my own church we read the entire New Testament on Zoom during Christian Aid Week in support of that charity (if you're wondering, it took 19 hours).

The time has also come for Cursillo in London to flex its muscle again. Things won't be back to normal for a while, but the secretariat met recently via Zoom to reconnect and discuss plans. We want to develop more dynamic ways of communicating via social media, and our next Ultreya (on 7 July) will be held via Zoom. I'm aware many group reunions have also been taking place on Zoom, and some via email.

We are sad to have cancelled the GB National Ultreya in September, but have secured a date in 2022 to host this event in London. And #35 is now scheduled for October, and #36 for May 2021.

The lock-down has shown us that despite restrictions, new technology makes us closer than ever before. Our homes have become places of prayer, and we are conscious that God meets us not only in consecrated buildings, but wherever we are, and however we may be feeling. His Spirit and presence never leave us. Ultreya!

Martin

<https://www.londoncursillo.org.uk>

A Reflection from Fr Ken Buckler, our Spiritual Director

For us as Christians this time has been rather strange. Not being able to worship, physically, together and therefore greet each other as we are prone to do with a hug. The last time we were able to worship we were not allowed to touch each other at the peace, which is strange for us as Christians especially Cursillistas. For me along with many other clergy and laity it has been a time to look at new ways of worship for all of us. I know that many people have been on different church websites and followed other styles of worship.



It had also given us more time to spend alone with God. Many times we read in the Gospels that Jesus went off on his own to pray. It is very rewarding to spend time alone with God. Some will now be able to go back to church buildings for private prayer, others for practical reasons will not be able to. Whichever is the case for you remember that God is always there to listen to our prayers.

I hope and pray that when we are able to worship together again that we will not forget the new ways we have found during this time.

God bless all of you. Ultreya, Ken

News from London Cursillistas

You will be delighted to know that Anna Dias and Helen Hutchins are to be licensed (initially as lay ministers) for their curacies, along with 6 other ordinands from Willesden Area, by Bishop Pete on Tuesday 16 June, via Zoom. Shana Maloney will be licensed as a Curate at St John of Jerusalem, South Hackney on 1 July.

Please pray for them as they take up their new ministries in these strange times - Anna will be serving her title at St Mary's and St Richard's Northolt, and Helen at St Edmunds, Northwood. At present, ordinations are planned for Michaelmas, 26 September.

Group Reunions

Recent experience has shown that Group Reunions can work well using Zoom, and have the advantage that we can all join in from our homes and distance is no object.

This might be especially important if you are relatively isolated - maybe you're the only Cursillista in a church or you find it hard to get out or get around - and you would like to join a Group Reunion. This is now possible thanks to Zoom!

If you're interested in connecting with other Cursillistas to form a Zoom Group Reunion, please contact our Fourth Day Rep, Father Michael Bolley, by email to vicar.htsouthall@gmail.com or by text/WhatsApp to 07768 042238, and he'll see what he can do to help.

Cursillo in London, 2020

Summer Ultreya, Tuesday 7 July, 7-8pm via Zoom

Further details will be made available soon, but here are the joining details:

Meeting ID: 847 0717 0457

Password: 183907

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84707170457?pwd=OU5LYmJQeW45ci9JTmMwQ29QMmkuQT09>

To dial in from a landline, phone one of these numbers:

020 3481 5240

020 3051 2874

020 3481 5237

and then enter the Meeting ID and Password (as above) when requested.

Please join from 6.45pm to be ready for a prompt start at 7pm.

National Ultreya, Saturday 5 September 2020

We regret that due to continued social distancing the decision has been taken to cancel the GB National Ultreya in 2020. Next year the event will take place in Norwich, and we will have our turn to host on Saturday 3 September 2022.

London #35, 22-25 October 2020, Felden Lodge

The rearranged weekend is an opportunity to share Cursillo with new pilgrims whom God is calling. Please continue to pray for, and sponsor, potential pilgrims. We will follow all necessary guidance to ensure the safety of those on the weekend.

Ultreya and AGM, Saturday 28 November, St Cyprian's Clarence Gate