

On Wings  
On Wings  
On Wings



# Like Eagles

*'Those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar like eagles.'* Isaiah 40.31

**Anglican Cursillo  
Movement - Brisbane  
Diocese**

**OCTOBER 2019  
SPRING EDITION**



*The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything;  
they just make the best of everything they have.*

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## ~ A Message from the Diocesan Spiritual Advisor ~

### Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

By the time you read this the 3 day Cursillo weekends will have been held and hopefully many of you were able to share in the Mananita and Clausura and remember your own Cursillo, the blessing it was and hopefully still is, to your faith journey.

When I write my messages for “*On Wings Like Eagles*” I think about parish life and my Cursillo journey. Recently I received the Parish Profile based on the Annual Return we send in at the beginning of the year. My parish is a ‘very small’ parish and attendance was down last year so the parish was listed as “in severe decline”. I have to say I felt bad and questioned my ministry in the parish. The purpose of the information is to help the parish to engage with what is happening. If there is growth then keep going - something is going right. If you are declining it is an opportunity to look at why, and to see if there is something that can be done to bring about growth.

I have to say though that through my Cursillo experience my first thought was to pray to God – to seek God’s perspective. I also thought about, “Let go and let God.” I looked past the numbers to see relationships. Was the parish a positive place? Were we growing in our understanding and relationship with God and our relationship as community?

Cursillo helped me to feel passionate about how I lived out my faith and how loving and Godly parish communities can be. I became a priest because I didn’t want to just be part of a God centred parish - I wanted to help lead other parishioners to experience this and to take what I had experienced at my Cursillo to others.

How are you feeling about your Cursillo? How are your experiences in your parish strengthening or challenging you? It is easy to let the reality of this world dictate how we see our parish and our faith journey. The question is not about size – it is about a heart, a relationship, about a passion to see people meet God and know God’s love.

My thoughts and prayers are with you. Know you are not alone and that we are the body of Christ no matter where we are.

**De Colores**  
Iain



## ~ A Message from The Editor ~



### Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Unfortunately, we do not have a column from our Diocesan Lay Coordinator as she is in hospital. **Please keep her in your prayers.**

In addition, as Bishop Cam is overseas, his column is also not available for this edition.

### THE FORK

There was a woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So, as she was getting her things “in order,” she contacted her pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes.

She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in. The woman also requested to be buried with her favourite Bible. Everything was in order and the pastor was preparing to leave when the woman suddenly remembered something very important to her.

“There’s one more thing,” she said excitedly. “What’s that?” came the pastor’s reply. “This is very important,” the woman continued. “I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand.”

The pastor stood looking at the woman, not knowing quite what to say. “That surprises you, doesn’t it?” the woman asked. “Well, to be honest, I’m puzzled by the request,” said the pastor.

The woman explained. “In all my years of attending church socials and potluck dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, ‘Keep your fork.’ It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming...like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance! So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder, “What’s with the fork?” Then I want you to tell them, “Keep your fork....the best is yet to come.”

The pastor’s eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the woman goodbye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She KNEW that something better was coming.

At the funeral, people were walking by the woman’s casket and they saw the pretty dress she was wearing, her favorite Bible and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the pastor heard the question “What’s with the fork?” Over and over he smiled. During his message, the pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. The pastor told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either. He was right.

So, the next time you reach down for your fork, let it remind you, oh, so gently, that the best is yet to come.





## Notes from M79 Cursillo

M79 held at Brookfield this year saw 5 men join the Movement which was very encouraging. One of these was from Bundaberg but the other 4 were from parishes which also provided members for the team.

The weekend was enjoyable, informative and spiritually uplifting as is normally the case. Although there was an age range of 50 years between team members we bonded together and did form a fine example of an active Christian Community hence satisfying one of the desired conditions of the Movement. This was particularly noted during the lead up to the weekend when a team member was hospitalised with a serious infection and the Lay Director's brother passed away.

We were blessed to have an outstanding musician who was complemented by two guitarists, but the presence of a piper provided the exceptional musical input. People were awakened to the tune of "A Scottish Soldier" or "Over the Hills and Far Away", but on the Sunday morning to have a piper begin the service with "Morning Has Broken" really tugged at the heart strings.

The talks were of a very high standard and the fellowship memorable. The bonds of brotherhood that have been forged between team members are strong and each one has learned something from the other and knows there are new brothers who can be relied on when and if the need arises.

The theme, "OBSERVE, UNDERSTAND, RESPOND" reflects an approach which is applicable to so much in our daily lives and was present in most of the talks; the passages of scripture supporting the theme are –  
Mark 9:7 *This is My Son whom I love, listen to Him.*  
1 Samuel 3:10, *Speak, for your servant is listening.*

May the Holy Spirit be in your lives as He was for the fellows of M79.

In fellowship,

Gerald Shannon,  
**Lay Director M79.**



### Men's 79 Cursillo QCCC, Brookfield, 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2019



- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Row 1 (Top)    | Rev Ross Cameron, Ian Franklin, James Pula, Peter Krause, Geoff Lingard, Peter Victor, |
| Row 2          | Bruce Moy, Alan Gray, Jim Condon, Peter Harley, Barry Cathcart, Tony Shellshear        |
| Row 3          | Bazza Harwood, Laurie Hull, Rev David Snape, Gerald Shannon, Greg Blundell,            |
| Row 4 (Bottom) | Ian Carr, Chris Rohde, Adrian Petersen, Bob Randle, Nick Crisp, Rev Scott Gunthorpe    |

## Notes from W79 Cursillo

### ***“Love one another as I have loved you”***

W79 was a group of amazingly beautiful women with so many gifts and talents all of which were needed, given, used to advantage and cherished. Amazing love flowed in abundance throughout; from start to finish during training and the W79 weekend. It was the coming together of women in the name of God with the delightful purpose of witnessing to each other. We discovered the power of the Holy Spirit at work in the midst of us and could almost taste the love.

“There was a tsunami of love throughout the three days.”

The new Cursillistas were so engrossed in the talks delivered by each beautiful team member, totally engaged in the discussion and produced posters worthy of display at GOMA.

Comments from women of W79 Cursillo:-

- ✦ I didn't know what to expect from W79 , but what an amazing experience it was to witness what the Holy Spirit can do. Robyn Lawlor
- ✦ A big thank you to the wonderful team of W79 for your commitment, presentations, love and support. We were truly blessed and felt very special. I'm still feeling the love. Yvonne Memon
- ✦ W79 truly was a journey of faith and love. We were "companions on a journey", this remarkable group of women, walking together with Christ amongst us throughout training and our 3 days. The deep, heartfelt insights and experiences shared, were a testament of how God was working in us and through us all, to grow the communion of Cursillo. Kay Self
- ✦ I loved the welcome and the support of my sponsors, David and Kaye Thomas. It was truly a week-end soaked in love. Tricia B
- ✦ I was absolutely blown away by the depth and speed of connection between candidates and team. It was as though we all arrived hungry and ready to receive something special - and we did! We went from introductions to deep sharing, questions and wondering within the first 24 hours - and God truly blessed us in our time together. Rev Shan
- ✦ The fruit of the Spirit is evident in my W79 Cursillo. From early focus on the application process, now I can see how God was ahead and in all the actions to bring to kingdom fruition my Cursillo. Work leave, home care (pets and husband), travel without a sponsor, room/team allocation and bonding to move from strangers to family, laughter, prayer support through a personal tragedy, ongoing liberation from self-doubts and negative habits. JOY! While I have colourful reminders to encourage my Ultreya, it is the observation of a colleague that encapsulates my ongoing change. As we left from a week of slamming workload, she said, "You are so calm. What has happened?" Cursillo has been the turnaround, the spiritual experience and education to bring essential change in me, and to my environment. God was always present, but now I am conscious of this, and call on him to make me His instrument, using His armour to stand and witness to Him right there. Susan
- ✦ **“Going to the chapel and we're gonna get married. Going to the chapel and we're gonna get married. Gee, I really love you Jesus and we're gonna to get married. Going to the Chapel of love.”** The singing of this song was so spontaneous. God moment! W79 member
- ✦ A very loving environment. I don't think you could ever feel as loved as at Cursillo. Anne Martin

✈ Love, encouragement, appreciation and acceptance of gifts were hallmarks of W79. Marilyn

We came together as strangers and left as friends in Christ.

The purpose of consciously living in God's grace, engendering the feeling of community with other Christians; assisting with empowerment and the development of our Christian experience was certainly upheld. The theme of "Love one another as I have loved you" certainly provided nourishment and equipped all involved to embrace and enjoy the fullness of Christian life.

Irene Moy

**Lay Director W79**

### Women's 79 Cursillo QCCC, Brookfield, 29<sup>th</sup> August – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019



- Row 1 (Top) Vivienne Jones, Rev Donna Petersen, Katie Flynn, Susan Cruickshank, Nancy Shannon, Anne McAlister, Rev Shan Vierow, Isobel Rohde, Ann Martin-Victor, Fran Spring
- Row 2 Desley Randle, Lynne Day, Anne Martin, Caroline Macdermott, Margaret Carr, Jennifer Crisp, Elaine Smallwood, Cryssi Flynn, Tricia Bawtree.
- Row 3 Sandy Lee, Kay Self, Irene Moy, Rev Brenda Davis, Tara Pinsker, Maria Dvomicich, Robyn Lawlor, Nola Woods.
- Row 4 Yvonne Memon, Marilyn Moore, Patricia Ferguson, Jo Dunbar, Anne King, Alison Condon, Sharyn Gray.

God does not give us everything we want, but He does fulfil His promises, leading us along the best and straightest paths to Himself – **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

The best and most beautiful things in this world cannot be seen or even heard but must be felt with the heart. – **Helen Keller**



## ~ Post Cursillo News ~

### *Ultreyas 2019*

#### **Peninsular:**

Date: 2 November 2019  
 Location: The Church of the Risen Christ, 43 Park Road, Deception Bay  
 Details: 12 noon BYO lunch, Ultreya at 1pm. Afternoon tea to follow.

Contact: Doug Frith  
 Email: family.frisco@gmail.com  
 Mobile: 0412 573 210



#### **Diocesan:**

Date: 23 November 2019  
 Location: St Marks Slacks Creek, 41a Winnetts Road, Daisy Hill  
 Details: 12 noon BYO lunch, Ultreya at 1.00pm, followed by Afternoon Tea

Contact: Jan Corcut  
 Email: jcorcut@gmail.com  
 Mobile: 0431 246 248

#### **Hervey Bay:**

Date: 8 February 2020  
 Location: St John's, Cnr Doolong Rd and Gilston Rd, Hervey Bay  
 Details: 12 noon BYO lunch, Ultreya at 1.15pm. Afternoon Tea provided.

Contact: Jill Crane  
 email: maxwell.crane@bigpond.com  
 mobile: 0428 245 652

### **REFLECTION: IDEAL**

The way we habitually imagine ourselves, our fellow men and what we call God is one of the most formative factors in life. Let anyone picture in his or her imagination the kind of person they long to be, and view that picture frequently and steadily enough, and they will be drawn towards it. Within the imagination resides much of the power to control our health, achieve our goals and develop our characters.

Christ knew the power of a fired imagination to motivate people. He enrolled as learners a group of individuals whose horizons were bounded by a country lake. He led them to visualise themselves as the salt of the earth and the light of the world. He filled their imaginations with pictures of themselves carrying his message to "the uttermost parts of the earth".

*The Age, Saturday Reflection: 10 August 1985  
 From A Canopy of Stars: Some Reflections for the Journey by Fr Christopher Gleeson SJ*



### **BRISBANE CURSILLO WEB PAGE**

How about trying out the Brisbane Cursillo's Web page – [www.cursillo-brisbane.com](http://www.cursillo-brisbane.com)



## How is your Fourth Day?

Do you remember how it felt after your Cursillo? Have you had that experience since? When was the last time that you reviewed your Commitment Card? Are you continuing in the life of grace and seeking ways to be an effective apostle for Christ among the people you know?

Have you discerned God's purpose in your life? Or is He still working to accomplish His purpose in you, and through you in others?

As Christians, we are to live a life in grace. God gives us the grace to respond to His purpose for our lives.

We are all members of the Body of Christ and as members of His body we have work to do. Although we may encounter obstacles to a life of grace, we are to live so that it is clear we know Jesus Christ and want to make him known to others.

God calls us to serve Him where we live and work. It is not work we undertake alone because authentic Christianity in action means Christians together, in community with Jesus Christ.

Do we have a community of support that we meet with regularly? We are called to nurture our life in grace by acts of piety, prayer and study. Our perseverance is reinforced by meeting together regularly, in church, in Group Reunion and in Ultreyas.

Do you feel that your Fourth Day needs some leaven? Why not consider attending some of the upcoming Ultreyas or plan to attend the Diocesan Pilgrimage next year (more details to come).

Christ is counting on us.

Ultreya

John Corcut

**For the Diocesan Servant Community**



Reference: Handout "The Fourth Day" Brisbane Anglican Cursillo Movement



**ARTICLES FOR OWLE** are always welcome. Please give generously. Folks ... This is YOUR newsletter. If you have articles of interest ... poems ... reflections ... your Fourth Day Story ... please send to: [kceesmq@bigpond.com](mailto:kceesmq@bigpond.com)

Or: The Editor, 21 Zeus Drive, Burpengary. 4505

Thank You ... Kay, Ed.

**Cut-off date for January 2020 Edition – Friday 6 December 2019**

## A REMINDER ABOUT CONTRIBUTIONS

Are you up to date with your contributions?

Contributions can be made by cheque using the form below. You can also pay by Direct Deposit or at a Westpac Branch remembering to email the Treasurer advising her of your payment and any changes to your details eg email address, mobile number etc.

Please post the form to the Treasurer, (not the Database Coordinator or Editor). Please help us maintain accurate records by including all information on the form. Note: the name of the Parish (location) is required, not the name of the church.

PLEASE MAIL TO THE TREASURER

Many thanks

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**Cursillo Treasurer**  
**4 Turner St**  
**Goondiwindi, QLD 4390**

*Email: [gjwarden5@bigpond.com](mailto:gjwarden5@bigpond.com)*

Below is my contribution advice towards Cursillo.

I / We understand this is a totally voluntary offering, and is made with love towards keeping the vibrant Ministry of Cursillo open to Candidates and Cursillistas.

**Annual Contribution** \$ .....

*Suggested Contribution \$15.00 per person towards operating costs etc*

**One Off Donation** \$ .....

*Your Generosity is Appreciated*

### ***Payment Options:***

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- *Direct Debit (Internet Banking) Use Direct Deposit a/c below*
- *Cheques, Money Orders, send to Cursillo Treasurer, detail below*
- *Deposit at Westpac Bank - Note the different bank a/c*
- *Please, NO CASH in mail - sometimes it doesn't arrive*

**Direct Deposit (via Internet) BSB: 704 901 a/c no. 00002640**

**Deposit at Westpac Bank BSB: 034 844 a/c no. 000026408**

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PARISH..... EMAIL .....

PHONE NUMBER..... Mobile .....

## REFLECTION

Life is but a stopping place,  
A pause in what's to be,  
A resting place along the road  
To sweet eternity.

We all have different journeys,  
Different paths along the way,  
We all were meant to learn some things,  
But never meant to stay.

Our destination is a place  
Far greater than we know.  
For some, the journey's quicker,  
For some, the journey's slow.

And when the journey finally ends,  
We'll claim a great reward  
And find an everlasting peace,  
Together with the Lord.

*-Author Unknown*

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## Silence

(taken from 2019 Religious Calendar, pp.31-2)

When you pray, be like the mountain in stillness, in silence;  
Thoughts rooted in eternity. Do nothing; just sit, just be;  
And you will harvest the fruit of your prayer.

When you pray, be like the flower reaching up to the sun,  
Straight stemmed like a column.  
Be open, ready to accept all things without fear  
And you will not lack light on your way.

When you pray, be like the ocean with stillness in its depths,  
The waves ebbing and flowing.  
Have calm in your heart,  
And evil thoughts will flee of their own accord.

When you pray, remember the breath that made us living beings,  
From God it comes; to God it returns.  
Blend the Word and prayer with the flow of life  
And nothing will come between you and the Giver of life.

When you pray, be like the bird,  
Endlessly singing before the Creator,  
Its song rising like incense.  
Pray like the turtle dove and you never lose heart.

*(St Seraphim of Sarov, Russian Orthodox saint, d.1833)*



# Like Eagles

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**POSTAGE  
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