

How can Cursillo serve the Oxford Diocese?

The objectives & methods of Cursillo complement the basic principles of



Cursillo says:

"Let Go and Let God!"

Individuals are encouraged to have a rule of life based on prayer, study and action. The church benefits because each individual means business with God

Cursillo says:

"Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Jesus"

Individuals are encouraged to be the church in the world. The church benefits from people who are active in their immediate environment and have a viewpoint that extends beyond the domestic

Cursillo says:

"Christ is counting on you"

Individuals are encouraged in their ongoing growth in faith through the Cursillo support mechanism. The church benefits because this ongoing process provides mutual support, and encouragement to build leadership

Cursillo is active in many parts of the Anglican Church in the United Kingdom and was launched formally in Oxford Diocese in April 2005. The next Cursillo weekends will take place on the following dates:

2012: 26th – 29th April at Douai Abbey

2012: 25th – 28th October at Douai Abbey

2013: 11th – 14th April at Douai Abbey

2013: 24th – 27th October at Douai Abbey

Cursillo activities take place throughout the Diocese, and are open to any Christians, regardless of whether or not you have been on a Cursillo weekend. We would be glad to introduce you to individuals in your part of the Diocese so that you may learn more about Cursillo from them.

Since Cursillo exists to support diocesan mission and strategy, we would also be glad to help you explore how Cursillo could help you to put "Living Faith for the Future" into practice.

If you would like to discuss any of these options, or have any other questions about Cursillo, in the first instance please contact the person who gave you this leaflet or visit at our website:

www.oxfordcursillo.co.uk

Thereafter, for further enquiries and bookings, please contact

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Anglican Cursillo[®] in the Diocese of Oxford



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What is Cursillo?

Cursillo is a movement of the Church, providing a method by which Christians are empowered to grow through prayer, study and action, and enabled to share God's love with everyone.

Cursillo, the Spanish word for a short course, originated in Spain in the 1940s. The movement spread to the USA and from there to many countries throughout the world.

Cursillo is a way of Renewal in the Church. It draws on the rich heritage of faith and experience to help us to know that God loves us and that we are to love one another.

Its purpose is to strengthen Christians to a deeper relationship with God and to help them to understand and grow in the development of their gifts.

The goal of Cursillo is nothing less than to bring Christ to the world through the apostolic action of Christians in all areas of human activity.

What does Cursillo offer?

Cursillo offers an opportunity to grow in faith and to discover the meaning of life in Christ, sharing in the creative process of becoming the people God intends us to be... a means of encouraging Christian action in the world and a continuing experience of Christian community life. Cursillo is one expression of the love Christ has shown through his redemption.

The Three Day Cursillo weekend

People are introduced to Cursillo by a three day residential weekend, which normally runs from Thursday at about 6:00 p.m. until the Sunday afternoon at about 4:00. The intention of the weekend is to be a preparation for the full life that God promises.

There is a daily Eucharist, morning and evening prayer and time for silent reflection, though it is not a conventional retreat.

During the three days, lay people and clergy give a series of short talks that offer a concentrated course in Christian living. These talks are intermingled with a series of meditations.

You are encouraged to take part in discussions in small groups of people like you, laity and clergy, who are searching, discovering and growing in their faith.

The participants and the presentation team form a Christian community lovingly enfolded in prayer throughout the weekend – a community learning, praying, talking, sharing, singing, eating, living and laughing together.

"On my Cursillo weekend I gained a fresh and wonderful insight into God's infinite and unconditional love for me. I have been building on this ever since"

After the Cursillo weekend

The three day Cursillo weekend is only the beginning. Cursillo provides you with a clear support structure to motivate and encourage you in your Christian life after the weekend.

This is done mainly through meeting regularly in a small group with others in your locality. There are also occasional area gatherings where you may gain inspiration from hearing the experiences of others, and encouragement to enrich your own life of prayer, study and action.

The ongoing support mechanism, which has always been at the heart of Cursillo, is available to people of any Christian denomination, and it is not necessary to have participated in a Cursillo weekend to become involved. The three day Cursillo weekend exists to provide impetus and is not an end in itself.

Cursillo does not seek to replace the many cell and home groups in parish churches, or other church activities, but rather to complement them. Cursillo seeks to equip and encourage Christians to offer their lives and gifts in God's service wherever He puts them.

"A Cursillo weekend is not a spiritual retreat. The movement through the weekend is rapid and the programme is varied. We do not fast nor do we have much time for solitude. The weekend is a mystery of Christ's love for us played out through Christian Community."