



# Anglican Cursillo® in the Diocese of Oxford

## Cursillo encourages individuals to be leaders, whether in a formal sense or simply by bringing others to Christ

“As a result of my involvement with Cursillo, I have taken leadership roles in my church and been called to grow in ways I would never have imagined” (*D, Canada*)

“My Cursillo weekend was the beginning of my journey to ordained ministry” (*Rev'd E, Oxon*)

“On my Cursillo weekend, I discovered Jesus really does love me. As a result, I am now a Reader in the Anglican Church” (*L, Cumbria*)

“I am not a natural leader but have been encouraged to take on leadership roles. As a result of my involvement with Cursillo, I have gained confidence in my own Pastoral Ministry with the elderly” (*A, Oxon*)

“For all of them it has been positive. For some it has been life-changing and they have become serious disciples and taken up leadership positions: they have a new sense of responsibility, which is not to me, but to God and to themselves. They have received something that cannot be taken away from them” (*Rev'd A, London*)

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about Anglican Cursillo in the Diocese of Oxford, please go to our web site [www.oxfordcursillo.co.uk](http://www.oxfordcursillo.co.uk) or contact the Lay Director, Mrs Alison Shaw  
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## GLOSSARY

**Cursillo** – A short course of Christian living, reflecting the Spanish origins of the movement

**Cursillista** – Someone who has been on a Cursillo weekend

**Ultreya** – A Spanish word of encouragement, used also as the name for periodical area meetings for encouragement, worship and learning

**Reunion Group** – The heartbeat of Cursillo: regular local meetings of a small number of Cursillistas in which they share their life of piety, study and action



What difference does Cursillo make to individual Christians?  
*How does Cursillo support Living Faith?*



“One ‘tool’ for renewal that fits in very well with the Living Faith vision is Cursillo... I have so often seen it bring people to life spiritually and in their commitment to their church.”

*Bishop John*



“I am fully committed to encouraging and fostering personal spirituality and a personal commitment to mission. I understand that this lies at the heart of the purpose and approach of Oxford Anglican Cursillo, and I look forward to discovering more about Cursillo as I settle into my new role.”

*Bishop Andrew*

“Cursillo gives an opportunity to focus practically on what being a Christian is really all about — following Jesus in prayer, community and faith in action... I'd recommend Cursillo to anybody who really wants to go firm about their faith, and access classical Christian spiritual resources in community.”

*Bishop Alan*



“I was very conscious of and grateful for the prayer support that upheld my weekend, and I am glad to commend Cursillo in the Dorchester Area and in the Diocese as a whole.”

*Bishop Colin*



## Sustaining the Sacred Centre



See glossary on back page for explanation of Cursillo terminology

### Cursillo encourages individuals to engage with their spirituality and to develop a rule of life based on piety, study and action

“When I went on my Cursillo weekend I already believed that Jesus had died for me and was resurrected, and that God loved me; but I couldn’t really grasp that I was forgiven everything... at the weekend I learned that I really could be forgiven and make a fresh start, whatever I had done” (A, Berks)

“On my Cursillo weekend, the whole basis of my Christian discipleship was questioned and challenged at the very root. I emerged with a faith more clearly focused on the fundamentals of what it means to be a follower of Jesus” (H, Bucks)

“I am someone who has always been very busy in the church, very much the Martha. Cursillo has encouraged me to identify the Mary in myself, to nurture it and make *that* the basis for all that I do” (M, Berks)

“The team members probably get as much out of the weekends as do the guests. The reminder of the centrality of prayer – every talk is accompanied by a prayer partner praying throughout” (W, Oxon)



## Making Disciples



### Cursillo seeks to make disciples. More than that: Cursillo seeks to turn disciples into apostles

“Cursillo has brought meaning and purpose into what I had previously seen as ‘jobs or being on a rota’, transforming them into work that leads others to Christ” (H, Bucks)

“Cursillo is about making disciples; it transforms people’s lives and empowers them for service” (Archbishop of York)

“I have been shown such love and friendship, patience and understanding by my fellow Cursillistas that it has empowered me to move forward at my own pace and with much more confidence” (B, Oxon)

“Cursillo helps keep me up to the mark. Reunion Groups form a reason and an encouragement to reflect on my prayer life, to read devotional books and to think about my activities” (V, Oxon)



## Making a Difference in the World



### Cursillo encourages individuals to identify environments in which they may make a difference, whether homes, workplace or their church congregations

“Cursillo has shown me that when I do the possible God will do the impossible” (G, London)

“From being a passive member of our church I now am heavily involved with working with families and children. I started a monthly group for under 5s in church and a bible study group made up of younger parents” (V, Berks)

“My life has changed so much through God using me and others through the network of Cursillistas across the world” (F, Coventry)

“The planning aspect of Reunion Groups also gives me the prods I sometimes need to go and do something e.g. making a particular phone call, trying a new way of promoting our Bible Study Group or World Day of Prayer” (M, Scotland)

“Ultreyas are the greatest encouragement that I ever get on my spiritual journey, giving me confidence to use my talents, rather than burying them for safekeeping” (H, Bucks)



## Creating Vibrant Christian Communities



### Cursillo seeks to energise and encourage individuals through Ultreyas and Reunion Groups, so that they can share that vibrancy in their daily lives

“I have always gone to church and been part of my church family. However, what I’ve found in Cursillo is a family of faith whose members love, challenge and support me. This is played out in my Reunion Group” (S, Berks)

“Cursillo has been powerfully used by God in the renewal of Christians and Christian communities of all styles and backgrounds” (Archbishop of Canterbury)

“I am constantly being supported and encouraged in my walk with Christ and have had the opportunity to support and encourage others” (D, Canada)

“I see the Cursillo movement as a major tool for parish growth and focused on Christians already within a parish family as a means of re-invigorating their spiritual life and building up the Body of Christ” (Ven P, London)