

## Lay Rector

Cursillo is a praying community and warm wishes to everyone as we move through Lent, the time of heightened awareness of God who **gave His only Son,**

A time, we hope of richer piety, study and action as churches everywhere hold study sessions, serve lunches and celebrate additional services. I'm sure Cursillistas are leading the way in many of these activities throughout Cumbria. Keep shining.

Tim

## CURSILLO WEEKEND 37

Our weekend at the URC Centre Windermere will begin on Thursday April 20<sup>th</sup> but loving prayer is vital all the time.

[Please hold in your hearts the team for 2017.](#)

### Lay Rector

Rev Susan McKendrey	Spiritual Advisor 1
Rev Michael Manley	Spiritual Advisor 2
Pat Conlan	Lay Rector
Jenny Wright	Observing Lay Rector
Pat Porter	Music Gofor
Allison Lee	Head Gofor
Tim Barker	Table Leader
Jane Conlan	Table Leader
Reg Metcalfe	Table Leader
Alison Wells	Table Leader
Duncan Stuart	Chapel Gofor
Richard Stewart	Rollo Room Gofor
Anne Humphrey	Fourth Day
Martha Walker	Fourth Day
Christine Young	Fourth Day

### **and the pilgrims they will be serving**

Clare Collinson  
Annie Grey  
Caroline Kennedy  
Jan Knight  
Lucie Lunn  
Richard Platt  
Graham Potter  
Sarah Potter  
Peter Wardle

**Clausura Service on Sunday April 23<sup>rd</sup>** We would like to see as many friends as possible to welcome the new Cursillistas so do try and find time to make the journey. The service begins at 3pm in Carver Church, next to the Centre.

Packing and storing. If some vigorous people could spare time after the service to help the team pack up and heft crates it would be appreciated. Also we still have no central storage place to store the boxes and material. If you could take away and store one or two small plastic crates, that would be very helpful. Please contact the Head Gofor Al Lee. 01228 538573

**Sunday Morning.** There is no Wake-up service on this weekend so sponsors and visitors are asked to come along only for the Clausura.

**Welcome Home.** The reuniting of pilgrims, team and as many fellow-cursillistas as can join them will be on **Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup>**, beginning with bring-and-share lunch at 12.30 in **Penrith URC Church - Lowther St, Penrith.**

**PALANCA** Please prayerfully consider contributing Palanca for Weekend #37. There will be three distributions to pilgrims - on Friday and Saturday and with the 4<sup>th</sup> Day pack they will receive after the weekend.

So please have your material sorted into three marked sets for the pilgrims and one set for team. If possible send palanca to Cumbria Cursillo's Palanca Secretary Lyn Radcliffe before the weekend. Preferably by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Post to The Stables, 9 Beechwood Close, Maryport CA15 7BZ. If you can't make the deadline, perhaps give your palanca to one of the team or, as a last resort, post directly to Cursillo c/o the Windermere Centre, Lake Road, Windermere, LA23 2BY. Remember Palanca stands for prayer. It should be inexpensive and compact. The prayer which you put into it may be as extravagant as you like !

#### DINING ROOM PALANCA

**Enter His  
gates with  
thanksgiving**



Cumbria # 36

Welcome from Solway Plain Group Reunion

Once again could group reunions or creative individuals make some place mats to be used on Weekend 37 ? Above is an example. Just A4 sheets of paper decorated with images and/or messages (maybe a biblical text) as you wish plus a note of the weekend and who it's from. One from each group would be good but .the more the merrier. We give them to our pilgrims as keepsakes. As with personal palanca please send them to Lyn or give them to a member of team.

#### Welcome Al and Kelvin

Bishop Robert of Penrith joined us after the first Weekend Training Day at Penrith URC church to commission Cumbria Cursillo's new Secretary Allison Lee and even newer Treasurer Kelvin Knight. Many will know Al who actually took over the duties of Secretary from Lyn Radcliffe at last year's AGM. Kelvin came to us at last year's Weekend 36 and was moved to volunteer as Treasurer when we appealed for a successor to Margaret Scott. He's a writer and has put down some of his feelings in this magazine.

Not very many were able to join us at Penrith as Bishop Robert performed a brief act of commission but those who came were moved by his tribute to the work of Cursillo and heartfelt prayer for all those working for mission in our diocese.

The opportunity was also taken to present a new Cursillo cross to Davy Jones who had somehow lost his original one at last year's National Ultreya in York.

Graham Tate makes those crosses. Praise God for the gifts and skills He bestows.

### **A message**

*Annie Garden found this on the web:*

'Prayer is something that has always been a part of me. I prayed when I needed to hear my Father's heart, when I was baptized by John, when I chose the twelve, when I did mighty works, when I broke bread, and when I blessed the children. I prayed when facing my darkest hour, and I prayed as I gave my life upon the cross. I prayed in public before others, and I prayed alone. I prayed in the daytime, and I prayed at night. When I prayed with my disciples just before I was arrested in the garden, you were included in that prayer. When I taught my disciples how to pray, it was for your understanding as well. I know that I am not physically present with you today as I was with my disciples so many years ago, but my heart of prayer has not changed. I am praying for you now because you are mine. My love for you today is great, and my heart for you is full. I pray peace over you and blessings upon you. I pray that your life will bear much fruit, that you will grow in grace, that your faith will increase, and that you will stand strong until the day that I see you face to face'. (signed by Jesus)

### **TODAY**

Today I walked in shining reaches  
of meadow grass, beside a river;  
where every plant and every leaf  
glittered in the frost.  
Tiny iced chandeliers  
hung everywhere in the field,  
each flower a thing of beauty.  
The winter sun shone out of a blue sky  
and my companion and her dog  
were the only living creatures to be seen.  
The broad river flowed endlessly onward  
past tall pines on the bank, and the peace  
was indescribable.

No sound broke the stillness.  
Will heaven be like this?  
Or will humans demand noise?  
There will be music and singing in the worship  
and all will be caught up in praising God.  
But this morning  
the Son of God himself  
left footprints on the frosted grass  
amidst the flowing, shining beauty  
of that morning in January.

Elizabeth Jackson Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017.



It's been a year since my pilgrimage on Cumbria #36, and what a year - so much has transpired. From the moment my wife picked me up at Windermere on that fourth day, I knew I was different. I also knew this difference was not transitory, that I would never be the same old me again.

Now, I see God's grace everywhere. It is a wave washing over me, buoying me, and others, those close to me and those not so close. This wave has always been in my life, but Cursillo helped open my eyes.

Eyes to see His grace and unconditional love. Knowing this love, embracing this love, sent me on a journey to

which Revd. Clive Shaw, on a group reunion, remarked, 'You're on fire, Kelvin!' Perhaps, but I am always wary of making a fuel of myself. With this in mind, let me highlight three main stepping stones on my journey:

1. Being moved to attend the Revd. Les Isaac's Street Pastor address in Carlisle's branch of the Salvation Army. During Les' address, I was compelled to sign up, not as a Street Pastor, as a Prayer Pastor, whose prayerful duties it has been a pleasure to be involved in most Friday and Saturday nights.
2. Being moved to attend an open day for the Whitehaven branch of Samaritans, after which I was compelled to enrol for an interview, then delighted to be selected for training. The initial phase of which began in October, with my first shift occurring on the eve of Christmas eve. Throughout my training and subsequent Listening shifts, prayer has been my backbone.
3. Being moved to attend a Vocation's day with Bishop James. In a subsequent meeting with Peter Clement, I was encouraged to marry my faith with my love of storytelling. These two vital parts of my life I had subconsciously kept separate.

No more. Over the last year I have written a prayer book called Prayer Stones (My Prayer Journey) capturing my story. Because prayer underpins everything we do in Cursillo. Because our faith stories are important.

Abba Father

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to share my prayerful experiences. Thank you for giving every Cursillo pilgrim an opportunity to know your grace and experience your unconditional love, so they might discover your purpose for them.

Amen.



