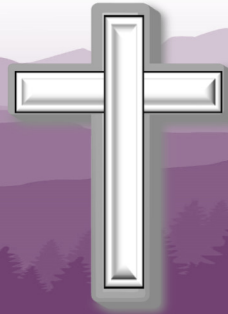


The Encourager



Print Post 100003354 December, 2019 - Number 104 Magazine of the Newcastle Cursillo Movement

SUMMER
2019

Peace

"We work for peace
- because Jesus is
the 'Prince of Peace'
and he calls
his children to work
for peace in his
name."

Love

"We show love
- because Jesus
gave everything
for us and led
us to know the
forgiveness
of God."

Christ

"to remember the
birth of our Lord and
Saviour Jesus Christ.
As the prophets
promised so long ago,
you have come to us
once again; and with
the shepherds, we
are filled with
wonder and
amazement."

Hope

"We speak of hope
- because
God keeps
his promises
to us."

Joy

"We share joy
- because the
Holy Spirit
fills our hearts and
minds with the
presence
of God."



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Please pray for SECRETARIAT MEETING
1st Tuesday of each month @ All Saints New Lambton
4th February, 7th April 1st, June 2nd 2020

FROM OUR DIOCESAN SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

RESPONSE TO WITNESS TALK – DIOCESAN ULTREYA –
2nd November, 2019



Thank you Gary, and thank you to your wife for dragging you along to Church and sending you to Cursillo.

Psalm 46 is a wonderful psalm. I looked it up in the Passion Translation of the Bible and it was headed up as 'GOD ON OUR SIDE'. That's always a good start.

Allow me to share the first 3 verses from this translation:

¹ God, you're such a safe and powerful place to find refuge! You're a proven help in time of trouble—*more than enough* and always available whenever I need you. ² So we will never fear even if every structure of support were to crumble away. We will not fear even when the earth quakes and shakes, moving mountains and casting them into the sea. ³ For the raging roar of stormy winds and crashing waves cannot erode our faith in you.

Then we are told to '*Pause in his presence.*'

How comforting and re-assuring are these words? Words that have led you, Gary into a deeper relationship with our LORD and Saviour. When your kidneys began to fail it was your faith that pulled you through – it was one of those times in your life that is described in no better way than in the Footprints prayer:

The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child. I love you, and I would never, never leave you during your times of trial and suffering. When you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

You trusted GOD to find you a new kidney and He did. You needed to touch the hem of JESUS' garment in the same way as the woman in **Matthew 9:20** did: Again, from the Passion Translation:

²⁰ Suddenly, a woman came from behind Jesus and touched the tassel of his prayer shawl *for healing*. She had been suffering from continual bleeding for twelve years (and here's the important bit) *but had faith that Jesus could heal her*. ²¹ For she kept saying to herself, "If I could only touch his prayer shawl I would be healed." ²² Just then Jesus turned around and looked at her and said, "My daughter, be encouraged. Your faith has healed you." And instantly she was healed!

Gary, you told us: "That morning, GOD told you to trust Him with all your heart, mind and soul. Nothing else matters – and – to love your neighbour as yourself." Thank you. You certainly have a faith relationship with your kidney specialist these days.

You also are aware that we all need to continue to work on our relationship with JESUS because there are those who will try and move us away from Him. Acts 20 teaches us that we need to look out for each other and ensure that we all find our refuge in Him. We need to continually read the Bible so

that we continue to transform so we become more and more like JESUS.

²⁸ So guard your hearts. Be true shepherds over all the flock and feed them well. Remember, it was the Holy Spirit who appointed you to guard and oversee the churches that belong to Jesus, the Anointed One, which he purchased and established by his own blood. ²⁹ "I know that after I leave, imposters who have no loyalty to the flock will come among you like savage wolves. ³⁰ Even some from among your very own ranks will rise up, twisting the truth to seduce people into following them instead of Jesus.

In the final chapter of the Bible at Revelation 22 we are told:

¹³ "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the Completion." ¹⁴ Wonderfully blessed are those who wash their robes *white* so they can access the Tree of Life and enter the city of *bliss* by its *open* gates.

GOD invites us to trust Him for everything. Thank you, Gary for showing us how you have learnt to do this.

De Colores

Fr Steve



Have you ever wondered who made your lovely cross that was placed around your neck and was told "Christ is counting on you" or who used their gift of calligraphy in prayerfully writing your name on what would become your name tag, let me tell you how thankful we are to God for Reverend Ruth Brand and husband John Francis, who's dedication has brought so much to the Cursillo Movement in this Diocese over many years. Within their commitment they have shown great diligence, wiliness to serve with all their heart, soul and love.

In Ecclesiastes 3.1 we read: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."

Ruth and John have decided that their season and time is to cease preparing name tags and crosses.

We give thanks for their Apostolic Action and for all of their dedication they have shown to the Cursillo Movement, even though they are putting down their tools, I know they will continue to serve our dear Lord and we wish them well in their chosen ministry.

"May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of His hand." Traditional Celtic Blessing.

De Colores and Ultreya

Lyn Carter and Bill Nicolle – Diocesan Co -Lay Directors

MONTHLY CURSILLO PRAYER DIARY

Pray everyday for Bishop Peter along with our Assistant Bishops Sonia and Charlie and our Diocese as we move to our healthy future remembering our past.

- Day 1 National Lay Director - Jim Warland
- Day 2 National Secretary - Paul Doyle
- Day 3 National Treasurer - Marea Niland
- Day 4 National Episcopal Advisor - Bishop Ian Palmer
- Day 5 National Spiritual Advisor - Reverend Steve Niland
- Day 6 National Webmaster - Allan Grey
- Day 7 National Meeting in Raymond Terrace 4th June, 2020
- Day 8 Diocesan Co-Lay Directors - Noelene Lentfer
- Day 9 Diocesan Co-Lay Directors - Bill Nicolle
- Day 10 Diocesan Spiritual Director - Reverend Steve Niland
- Day 11 Diocesan Spiritual Advisor - Reverend Michelle Hazel-Jawhary
- Day 12 Diocesan Secretary - Rosemary Allen
- Day 13 Diocesan Treasurer - Colleen Read
- Day 14 Fourth Day Applications/Promotion – Lyne Parsons
- Day 15 Prayer Coordinator - Reverend Chris Bullock
- Day 16 Servant Community Co-ordinators - Brian Taylor and Jeanette Deaves
- Day 17 Diocesan Proctor - Steve Parsons
- Day 18 'The Encourager' Editorial Team
- Day 19 Palanca Co-ordinator - Lynn Dunnicliff
- Day 20 Central Coast - Clergy, Servant Community, Deanery Contact, Noeline Darcy
- Day 21 Lake Macquarie - Clergy, Servant Community, Deanery Contact, Brian Taylor
- Day 22 Maitland - Clergy, Servant Community, Deanery Contact, Wendy Brack
- Day 23 Paterson - Clergy, Servant Community, Deanery Contact, Chris and Lewis Palmer
- Day 24 Manning - Clergy, Servant Community, Deanery Contact, Billie Baillie
- Day 25 Upper Hunter - Clergy, Servant Community, Deanery Contact, Tony Farmer
- Day 26 Newcastle - Clergy, Servant Community, Deanery Contact, Fr Chris Bullock
- Day 27 Lay Directors - W49 Lorraine Phillips
- Day 28 Lay Directors - M49 David Koch
- Day 29 Prospective Sponsors and Potential Candidates
- Day 30 30th Birthday Celebrations 5th-6th June 2020 and Fourth Day Community
- Day 31 World Cursillo Community, Kairos, Torch and Kairos Outside/Inside/Juvenile

FROM OUR
DIOCESAN CO-LAY DIRECTOR -
LYN CARTER



It has been my delight, honour and privilege to serve our loving God in this wonderful ministry as Co-Lay Director of Newcastle Diocesan Cursillo over the last 3 years.

At the start of my position I felt it to be very daunting but I know with prayer and God's help I believe I have tried to fulfilled my role to the best of my ability and have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of the journey. God as given me blessings in abundance.

For me, Cursillo is to help create opportunities for all individuals which by its own unique method lead them to a personal relationship with Jesus. For me it is imperative that the Cursillo Movement continues to function authentically to keep the flame of faith burning with enthusiasm and with the power of the Holy Spirit.

I give thanks to God for all the support I have received especially from the members of Secretariat, they are one of the most enthusiastic and dedicated members I have had the pleasure of working with and I pray all future Secretariat members will continue in this way. I also give thanks for the work of the Deanery and Parish contacts and Servant Community for their dedication and commitment to which enables Cursillo to work so effectively.

I have relished working alongside Co-Lay Director Bill Nicolle and offer my encouragement to Bill and my replacement Noelene Lentfer in their task ahead. Being Co-Lay Directors can be a very time consuming yet very rewarding role, please continue to pray and support them in their positions.

I pray the Holy Spirit will continue to work within us in the future of Cursillo within Secretariat, Servant Communities, Group Reunions and Ultreya.

May we all continue to pray and sustain our beloved Cursillo in its mission in the Diocese.

Blessings, De Colores and Ultreya

Lyn Carter

W14a



NATIONAL SECRETARIAT MEETING

This year's meeting was held in Sydney, and also incorporated an Ultreya, with Cursillistas of the Diocese of Sydney, celebrating their 25 years of Cursillo in that Diocese.

The venue chosen was Lutanda Conference Centre, Yarramundi River Park, near Richmond. What a blessing and encouragement to us all, the three days were!

Those attending from our Diocese were, Jim and Barb Warland, Fr Steve and Marea Niland, Lyn Carter and Bill Nicolle

The Theme chosen for the National Secretariat meeting, was from
Hebrews 12:1-2:

"Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us".

The meeting sessions, activities and reflections, given by the Curisillo Diocese in Australia, were diverse and inspirational, showing the creativity that the Holy Spirit brings in the many different gifts, we all have been given. What a blessing and encouragement!

Saturday afternoon we all attended the Ultreya at the Richmond Anglican Church for a BBQ lunch and that evening back at the Conference Centre we had a celebratory dinner of the 25th year of Cursillo in the Sydney Diocese.

On Sunday morning at our final Eucharist, Marea Niland was commissioned as our new treasurer of the National Cursillo Movement.

The next National Secretariat meeting will be in Newcastle, leading up to the June long weekend 2020, when our Diocese of Newcastle, will celebrate 30 years of Cursillo in Newcastle, and the life changing experience an encounter with Christ brings.

De colores and Ultreya!,

Lyn Carter and Bill Nicolle



DIOCESAN ULTREYA SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER @ St James, Wyong Theme "Make us instruments of your Peace"

Another wonderful gathering of Cursillistas from all over our Diocese were in attendance.

With Assistant Bishop Sonia Roulston, we celebrated, yet another year of Christian community in Action in our Diocese.



We were welcomed by Leonie Toovey on behalf of Wyong Parish Cursillistas and experienced the hospitality which was the making for a perfect way to spend a day.



The Ultreya was led by our outgoing Co LD Lyn, and her wonderful stewardship of Cursillo was evident as Lyn organised the Ultreya, to make the celebration truly inspiring, with our "voices lifted to God", singing our hymns to the gifted accompaniment of our muso, Rosemary Allen.



The Cursillo report was read by Lyn and Bill, highlighting all the blessings of 2019, including Men and Women's 48, Men's weekend, Kairos Inside and Outside, and the events to come in 2020, such as Men's Weekend, our 30 year anniversary of Cursillo in our Diocese, Men and Women's 49.



Our witness speaker Gary Yates shared with us a wonderful talk on trusting God which encouraged and challenged us all. Gary's songs were "Here I am Lord" and "As the Deer Pants for the Water". What a blessing these moments are in our Ultreyas.



We had our "floating Group Reunions" using the chosen theme.





Assistant Bishop Sonia decommissioned from Secretariat: Lyn Carter - Co LD; Barb Hayes - Servant Community Coordinator; Doug and Julie Roberts - Lake Macquarie Servant Community.



A rousing applause was given by all, for their selfless dedication and service they have given to Cursillo, the Church and Christ.



Bishop Sonia commissioned Noelene Lentfer as our new Co LD; new Servant Community members Anne Clark - Newcastle Servant Community and Jeanette Deaves - Lake Macquarie Servant Community; Jeanette as a member of Secretariat.



Next year's Weekend Lay Directors for W49 and M49 were announced and commissioned by Bishop Sonia. They are Lorraine Phillips and David Koch. I'm sure that they will bring together great teams and their weekends will be perfect for the next candidates. Let us keep Lorraine and David in our prayers, for their teams and the future candidates.



It is always special to celebrate the Eucharist together. Bishop Sonia celebrated for us and her sermon challenged and reminded us of the "Upside down Kingdom" values that Jesus taught God's Kingdom. Versus from the "The Winner Takes if All" from Mumma Mia were used as reference of our western world.

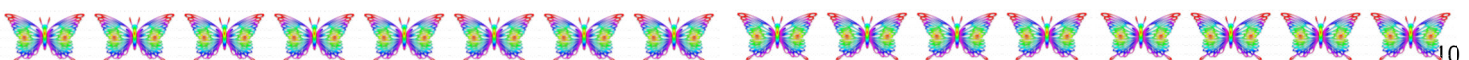


Thank you to the many Cursillistas who paid their contributions. Remember it is never too late and your contributions help to subsidise the weekend cost.

Working together we will continue to serve our God by living our fourth day, and being friends and bringing new friends to God. What a privilege.

The Ultreya finished around 12.30 and many stayed for lunch to continue to fellowship.

Lyn Carter and *Bill Nicolle* – Diocesan Co -Lay Directors





Secretariat organised a 'Recharge' day, which was run on Sunday 8th September, the final day of Men's 48 Cursillo. The day was open to all and, held @ South Lakes Anglican Church, Morisset, after Mananita and finishing before the Clausura of Men's 48.

We celebrated Holy Communion with the 8:00 am service, with all vets suitably attired in our colours, (this received wonderful reception and enquires from the congregation) followed by a BBQ breakie of a bacon and egg roll and cuppa, with congregation and vets fellowshiping together.

During the day, interspersed with morning tea and BBQ lunch we had 3 short presentations and then followed discussions on:-

- ☩ "Who is the Church" by Jim Warland on
- ☩ "Bringing a friend, Gently to Christ", given by Noelene Lentfer and Brian Taylor

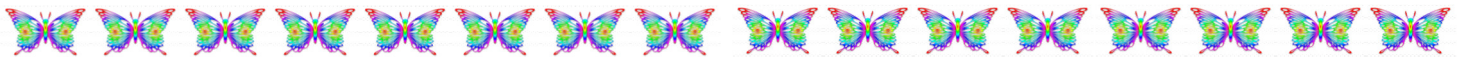
and to wrap up the day

- ☩ "Getting real with God" presented by Fr Chris Bullock.

The day ended with the blessing @ 3:30pm, time enough to prepare food and attend Clausura @ 5:00pm.

A big thanks to all who helped make this day a special blessing for all.

A similar will be planned for next year, the weekend to be advised.



THE BEACON

Open my eyes to see the light
that you send me, so strong, so bright
as you watch over me from heaven above
Lord fill my heart with your unending love.

Give me the strength to face each day
and to accept whatever comes my way
allow me the grace to understand
the beliefs of all people in your great land.

May we all live in peace and harmony
no conflict, no sickness, no poverty,
Lord keep your beacon bright
that I may feel safe, in the veil of night.

REPORT FROM HONG KONG #2 – REVEREND WILL NEWMAN

Theme:

'Here I am Lord, Send me!'



Both the Team and the new Cursillistas of HK#2 were truly overwhelmed by the wonderful messages of encouragement, prayers and love pouring out from all of you, our Australian Cursillo friends and mentors. We cannot thank you enough.

HK Cursillo #2 was a joyful time, full of fun and laughter, learning, sharing, and spiritual growth for us all. Evelyn our Lay Director, Alison our Proctor, Aron and John our musicians, Andrea who led us in morning exercises, Maddy, Rosanna, TK and Saki our table leaders, Kate and Rita made a fantastic team, with Robert and myself as Spiritual Advisers.

The men's table (St Francis) were all HK Chinese and they naturally conducted all their discussions in Chinese, which was fine, although all of them are also quite fluent in English and well able to understand and join in everything. The women's table (St Clare) included Rese (Theresa) who is English, so they did everything in English which was also fine.

continued →



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CURSILLO MOVEMENT
SECRETARIAT 2020

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A SPECIAL PRAYER FOR DAILY USE

*(Written by Reverend Jan Deaves)
Diocesan Spiritual Adviser 2006-2009
Newcastle Cursillo Movement*

Gracious God,
we thank you for all the colours of your love.

We hold before you
our Cursillo community
and ask for your continuing
love and guidance.

As you keep your promises to us,
may we be true to the promises
we have made to you.

Through piety may we feel
your presence and
identify the vision
you have for each one of us.

Through study may we gain new insights
and explore the vision we seek.

Through apostolic action
may we share your love with others
as we live the vision before us.

This we pray in the name of your Son
and through the power
of the Holy Spirit within us. Amen

DATES for 2020

"Encourager" Deadlines

1st March - 1st July - 1st November

Newcastle Cursillo 30 year's Celebrations
6th and 7th June @ Raymond Terrance

Men's Weekend
May @ ANeW

MW49 Teams Commissioning
9th May @ Raymond Terrace

National Secretariat Meeting
5th and 6th June @ Raymond Terrance

W49 Cursillo

Lorraine Phillips 13th-16th August @ Catalina

M49 Cursillo

David Koch 27th - 30th August @ Catalina

MW49 Welcome Day
12th September @ Raymond Terrace

Diocesan Ultreya
7th November @ Christchurch Cathedral



The retreat house on Cheung Chau Island is a place of such peace and beauty that it's easy to forget the hard beds and pillows! Last night there was a huge thunderstorm around 2am and many of us lost an hour or two of sleep. But we were still up for Mananita and Andrea's morning exercises.

Being on Cheung Chau we felt far away from the troubles in Hong Kong. One of our new Cursillistas, Esme, said it was like being in paradise. But we all have to come down from those mountain-top experiences, back to the 'new normal' in Hong Kong – MTR stations smashed up and closed, not knowing how or when we might get home, and the weekend – now almost daily – violent confrontations between protesters and police.

We slightly shortened the programme so that we could finish with Clausura before lunch, to avoid the trouble that always comes in the afternoon and evening. Thankfully everyone reached home safely. We pray all the time for peace in Hong Kong, and we also committed ourselves to bring the peace and hope of Christ into our environments – family, work, church.

And now we're starting to make plans for HK#3! We may have this in May next year, rather than wait until next October. Hopefully now we've done it once, the second time will be easier.

Thank you all so much again.
Ultreya!

Will





CENTRAL COAST ULTREYA AT KINCUMBER The Witness of a Cursillo Life

As Cursillo is an important part of our Christian life we were privileged to host a gathering in our education facility on Saturday 10th August. Servant

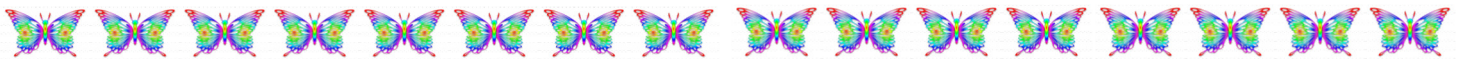
Community met beforehand for preparation of the Ultreya and Weekend jobs.

There were 15 Cursillistas, including Libby Harvey who was our musician, and 2 invited guests, from Woy Woy and Kincumber. Marian was MC, Bruce was SD, Helen gave the Witness Talk, Christine managed the kitchen. Vernon was invited to lead in singing "God is our Strength" and read John 4:31-38.

The theme of our Ultreya was "What Nourishes Us?" Following on from Jesus' example of withdrawing to pray, and his words to his disciples that he had food to nourish him which was 'Doing his Father's will and finishing his work', the theme carried into the Witness, the Spiritual Direction and the floating Group Reunions. As our reading said, 'Open your eyes and look at the fields. They are ripe for harvest!' We are nourished to play our part. It was a very enjoyable time and everyone was excited at being with each other.

We are looking forward to supporting the Cursillo Three Days in prayer and palanca, and celebrating at the Diocesan Ultreya in November at St James Wyong, where we may have a new Servant Community member to be commissioned.

Bruce and Helen Fraser



*The love
of family and friends,
a renewal
of faith and hope,
and happiness that lasts
through the new year—
may these be your gifts
at Christmas.*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW VETERANS FROM WOMEN'S AND MEN'S 48

The Women and Men's 48 Cursillo weekends were followed up with a very joyful welcome day, at All Saints, Morisset, on the 28th September, and new veterans were welcomed and encouraged to become involved in their local Deanery Servant Community groups where their skills and talents can be encouraged to grow toward becoming participants in the ongoing Cursillo program with some eventually becoming our future leaders.

The Lake Macquarie Deanery organised the wonderful day which was well attended with some 80 people, and all were encouraged by the enthusiastic singing and great fellowship.

So welcome to the new veterans.

M48

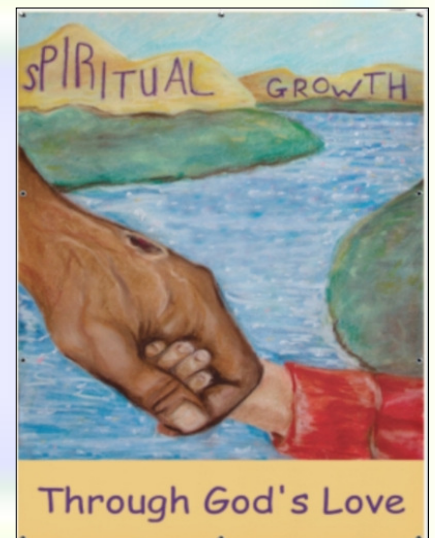
Theme:

SPIRITUAL GROWTH THROUGH GOD'S LOVE

Song: 'How Deep is the Fathers Love for Us'

Passage - Ephesians 3:14-21 [Int]

Bill Baker	Muswellbrook
Roch Shamley	Kotara
John Doyle	Raymond Terrace
Glen Walker	Tea Gardens
Peter Adkins	Tea Gardens
Jamie Young	Anew



W48

Theme:

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Song: 'The Lords My Shepherd'

Passage – Psalm 23



Jennifer Humphries	Woy Woy
Lyn Wardle	Windale
Anne Cocking	Belmont
Edwina Levack	Tea Gardens
Bethany Wooden	Morisset
Yvonne Harris	Charlestown
Henny Vanderpol	Living Word Lakeside

WOMENS 48 - 2019 TABLE OF LYDIA - ANNE COCKING

Having returned to the congregation of All Saints Belmont this year I was approached about joining the Cursillo weekend at Rathmines on the 22nd August 2019.

After much thought and prayer, I accepted the offer of support and attended this spiritually awakening weekend.

What an experience this turned out to be. I was dropped off by my sponsors Helen and Ruth, I was seamlessly made feel a part of what was to become a very closely linked unit with my fellow Cursillistas, both old and new.

The weekend began with drinks, dinner, Chapel and an evening of silence and quiet contemplation in preparation for the days to come.

From this beginning friendships grew and fellowship became a part of my life as I listened to the considered, thoughtful, meaningful and inspirational words of speakers over the ensuing days under the very professional leadership of Glenda Grono.

My days were made up of sadness, joy, love and sharing, the fun of poster making and the joy of singing as I was able to glorify our Lord with much enthusiasm.

What a joy the music brought to my heart and soul.

Should I mention the sustenance that kept appearing on the table of Lydia!!

This weekend gave me strength in myself to continue my life with a more positive attitude. I realize that fear and anxiety are not the same thing and if I have faith in our Lord he will guide me through troublesome times.

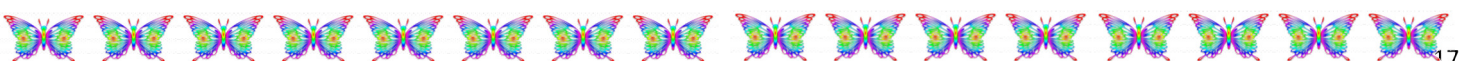
The Palanca which arrived daily and the prayer cover over those three days gave me a unique feeling of total support.

Mananita was both overwhelming and humbling with so many loving people who had been and continue to support me.

PS:- God is listening - He **does** hear - and he is all encompassing.

De Colores.

Anne



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DEANERY CONTACTS
and
PARISH CONTACTS**



IMPORTANT!

*Please notify
Diocesan Lay Director's
and*



Editorial Committee if details change.

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THE ENCOURAGER

the Magazine of the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Newcastle
Published three times per year:

2020 EDITIONS AND DEADLINES:

AUTUMN/APRIL - SUNDAY 1ST MARCH, 2020

WINTER/AUGUST - WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY, 2020

SUMMER/DECEMBER - SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER, 2020



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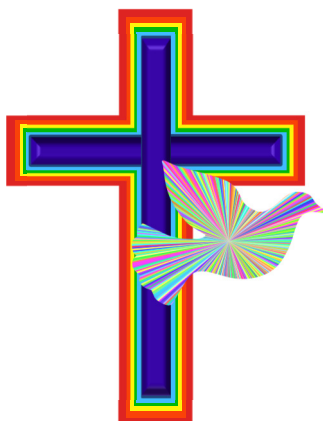
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