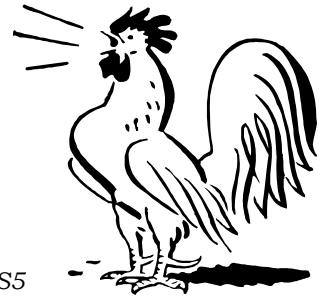




# CURSILLO COMMUNIQUE



Anglican Synod Office – P.O. Box 1965 – Saskatoon, SK S7K 3S5  
e-mail: [anglicansynod@sasktel.net](mailto:anglicansynod@sasktel.net)

## *“Glory to God in The Highest”*



*“And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field keeping watch over their flocks by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, ‘Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign to you, you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace among those with whom he is well pleased.*”

- Luke 2:8-14 ESV

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# Spiritual Director's



## Reflections

By Rev. Peter Norman+

(Otherwise known as "Confessions of a Rooster Booster")

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### MY KING IS...

A very dramatic sermon I heard recently describes the attributes of Jesus using biblical descriptions that complete the phrase "My King is..." Some of those attributes are:

The King of

Righteousness	Immortally graceful
The King of Heaven	Eternally steadfast
The King of Glory	Impartially merciful
The King of Kings	God's Son
The Lord of Lord's	A Sinner's Saviour
A Sovereign King	Unparalleled
Enduringly strong	Unprecedented
Eternally Steadfast	King of the Ages

The list goes on for several minutes but it is not the wonderful descriptions that stir me in this message. Rather, it is the question that comes at intervals in the long and lofty list. The question is, "I wonder, Do you know him?"

Within this Cursillo community, a community dedicated to renewal in the church, we are granted an extraordinary privilege and an awesome responsibility. We have the opportunity to

hold out a precious gift. We invite those who already know Jesus to know him in deeper, more profound ways. We offer to those who claim him as Lord and Saviour to experience him as the one who strengthens and saves, who guards and who guides, who blesses the young and regards the aged, who beautifies the meager and whose promises are sure. In other words, we extend the welcome into a profound and intimate experience with Jesus that they might not otherwise experience. And we trust God to leave with them a hunger and thirst for more, a longing to live in the depths of the knowledge of Christ that can never be plumbed to their limit.

As we approach the Christmas celebration, I pray that each of you will look into the stable and see the babe of Bethlehem again for the first time. And with fresh eyes of faith look to those you know and care for and ask God to show you who is ready to open the gift of Jesus, the King, who is "invincible, irresistible, entirely sincere, imperially powerful, the centerpiece of civilization, the loftiest idea in literature....."

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*Merry Christmas  
& Des Polores!*

## Ultreya Utterings

By Loretta Hartsook

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What a wonderful time of the year – even with the cold temperatures! We have enjoyed the gathering of Cursillistas at the regular monthly Ultreyas. We experienced fellowship and shared our life in Christ through the Group Reunions and the Lay Witness talk of Charmaine Zevena. We were moved by Charmaine's story of faith.

As is typical in the fall, we began with a larger group of Cursillistas than we ended with in November. We hope and pray that all will find themselves at the Ultreyas in January and February to support one another and the upcoming weekend in March.

**In January the Ultreya will be held at St. Mark's and will be hosted by Austin and**

**Joan King. The date is January 16.** The Ultreya will begin at 7:30 pm and will include a Group Reunion followed by an update regarding the Cursillo weekend. At this Ultreya Cursillistas will be reminded of the role of sponsor to others for the weekend. This will be followed by refreshments and fellowship.

**In February the Ultreya will be held at Christ Church and will be hosted by the team members for the Cursillo weekend.** This will be the Palanca evening in preparation for the March Cursillo. It will begin at 7:30 pm. **NOTE: THE DATE: FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR ACCORDINGLY.**

"Ultreyas" continued on page 3





The river of time flows ever so swiftly—wasn't it just yesterday I wrote a Christmas message for 2007 in this newsletter? As I reflect on whether or not I have lost time, the answer is clear for me and, I am sure, for you, too. Joan and I lost a loved one in June when my mother died. I expect some of you suffered similar losses. Our lives were interrupted when Joan broke a wrist this fall. Have you or someone you know experienced disturbing news about your health, work situation, or something else? Personal challenges! I won't bore you with the few other challenges that came our way. Losing a loved one brings its own grace, though, if we dare to listen: the blessing of having had an earthly relationship with that person, and the renewed knowledge that life is indeed precious. Breaking a limb teaches us to be dependant...and it teaches those around us compassion, humility and responsibility around the gift of care giving. Time is not lost, nor is the hope, joy, love and peace that are available to us as we celebrate the coming of the Christ child and what that means throughout the year. And we do have an exciting year ahead!

Plans for the Co-Ed Weekend at the Abbey in Muenster, SK, are coming together. A special thank you to those who have already answered the call to help make the weekend happen, and thank you to those of you who will say yes over the coming weeks when you are approached by Kathy Chase, our Weekend Lay Director, or one of the other team members. Last time I asked you to pray about those in your environment whom you consider would be potential participants for the Weekend. To save you looking up where to find the national guidelines for sponsoring individuals the link again is <http://www.anglicancursillo.com/guidelines.htm>. Applications are available on the Diocese of Saskatoon website under the Cursillo tab, or just send me your email address and I will gladly email you a copy. Completed applications should be sent to our registrar:

Marion Pope  
36 Clark Crescent  
Saskatoon SK S7H 3L9  
Tel. 306-374-3967



Space is limited, so I recommend early registration.

If you would like to have a pulpit presentation about Cursillo at your parish please contact your priest and let one of the following know so arrangements can be made:

Kathy Chase Tel. 306-652-0023  
email [kschase@gmail.com](mailto:kschase@gmail.com)  
Tim Sandell Tel. 306-652-6169  
email [tsandell@sasktel.net](mailto:tsandell@sasktel.net)  
Austin King Tel. 306-33-4007  
email [a.king@sasktel.net](mailto:a.king@sasktel.net)

We are 4<sup>th</sup> Day People so I wish you God's blessing as you gather in your small group, and at Ultreyas. I encourage you to participate in Ultreyas whenever you can so that we can build each other up in faithful support to help us move more confidently into our various environments and spread the love of Christ. It is in these small groups and Ultreyas that we learn of the struggles of fellow Cursillistas and have opportunities to share our own struggles in confidence. My experience is that the Holy Spirit will be with us as we step out in faith to live out our calling.

***May you and your families have a blessed Christmas and a New Year of hope and good health.***  
- Austin

## Ultreyas

*Continued from page 2*

This is the time to prepare aspects of the weekend and to support the team through prayer and participation. The evening will end with refreshments and fellowship.

I will be away during January and February. I appreciate the support of Austin and Joan King and Kathy Chase and John Seib who will welcome you to the Ultreyas. **There will not be an Ultreya in March. HOWEVER, in April we will welcome new Cursillistas to the Ultreya experience. Details will be sent following the weekend in March.**

Watch your email for notices of the Ultreyas- post the notice at your church, share it with other Cursillistas and mark your personal calendars as a reminder to come and participate. If you have questions or concerns while I'm away, please contact Austin King.

See you in April.....

- Loretta



## Palanca

Cursillo weekends are empowered by the Holy Spirit and the fuel by which he is empowered is our prayers.

*(reprinted from Calgary Fourth Day Flyer)*

Please pray for the following weekends in Canada and if you feel led, send Palanca to the listed contacts.

### **Feb 05-08, 2009: Women's Catholic Cursillo, Chatham, ON,**

E-Mail: [atrem2@yahoo.ca](mailto:atrem2@yahoo.ca)  
Mail: Alexis Tremeeer,  
Palanca Co-Ordinator:  
117-550 Berkshire Dr  
London, Ontario, Canada N6J 3S2  
Web Site: <http://www.kentcursillo.org/>  
*Color Graphics Accepted*

### **Other Weekends:**

Men's Cursillo (Jan. 22-25, 2009)

### **Feb 19-22, 2009: Women's United Cursillo**

#6---Eastern Cape Breton Cursillo Movement / Cape Breton Island ,N.S.

E-Mail: Russell Aucoin <[rjauc@seascape.ns.ca](mailto:rjauc@seascape.ns.ca)>

Mail: Russell Aucoin  
451-B St.Joseph Street,  
New Waterford, N.S., Canada B1H4N4  
Web Site: <http://www.cb cursillo.com>  
*Color Graphics Accepted*

### **Other Weekends:**

Girl's Challenge #101 (March 6-8, 2009)

Boy's Challenge #65 (Mar. 20-22, 2009)

Girl's Challenge #102 (April 3-5, 2009)

### **April 23-26: Men's Cursillo weekend**

Calgary Entheos Retreat Centre  
Contact: Bob at [bobtreherne@shaw.ca](mailto:bobtreherne@shaw.ca)

### **April 30-May 3: Women's Cursillo weekend**

Calgary Entheos Retreat Centre  
Contact: Bob at [bobtreherne@shaw.ca](mailto:bobtreherne@shaw.ca)

Edmonton is also planning weekends on these same dates but there is no contact information



## Editor's "Edicts"



By Rosemarie Katzell

The summer is over, fall is long past and winter has shown up with a vengeance. Speaking of fall, I had one, down the front steps at church, broke my wrist, something Joan Austin and I have in common, besides the fact that we are wonderfully perfect human beings that is. My cast is scheduled to be removed on December 31st and I must say typing with one hand is definitely a challenge. However, all things are possible, some things just take a little longer.

My husband and I had a wonderful trip to South Africa this past September/October and did not have to look far to see God's hand at work in our travels. We had conversations we shop owners who were excited to share what

God was doing for and through them, we saw crosses scattered frequently in people's yards, signs in the malls about the need for prayer and on a couple of occasions even standing stones in people's front yards proclaiming scripture verses. It was an experience we will not soon forget and we thank God for giving us this opportunity.

We were also blessed by an opportunity to meet and help a family while we were in Mossel Bay, one which we feel led to continue to assist. The family consisted of a Mom, a 19 year old son, 15 year old daughter, a married daughter and her 3 daughters, one beautiful 3 yr. old

*Continued on page 5*



**Now is the time to plan for the next Cursillo Weekend!**  
**CO-ED WEEKEND – MARCH 12-15, 2009**  
**Is God calling you to be part of the team?**

# Editor's Edicts

Continued from page 4

and 5-month old twins. The son-in-law was in prison for stabbing his wife shortly after the twins were born.

They all lived for a time in a 12x24 house which had been partitioned into two bedrooms and a kitchen/living room. Their hospitality, warmth and love was amazing and I felt very blessed to be able to visit their home. The spirit of joy which these people exhibit, in less than perfect circumstances was overwhelming and put me in mind of Paul's comment in his letter to the Philippians . . . "Not that I complain of want; for I have learned, in whatever state I am, to be content. I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound; in any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and want. I can do all things in him who strengthens me." - Phil. 4:11-13 RSV. Their joy comes from within the heart not from what they have and rather than feel sorry for them I felt very blessed that God had called me to share His riches with them. The people I met had a full, rich spiritual life which many of us in Canada, who have many material blessings, have throw away because it is too hard to walk the path God has called us to walk. Instead of basking in the springs of living water, we have watered our faith down to make it more acceptable to ourselves and others.

My Christmas prayer for us would be that we would truly allow the light born into the world on Christmas morning, to light our

path, fill our hearts with spiritual joy, and the peace of God which passes all understanding would keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

I meet a little three-year-old girl while on holiday in South Africa. Her big brown eyes, embracing hug and her 100 watt smile caused my heart to explode and showed me the face of Christ. May you see the face of Christ in someone this Christmas, or better yet, may someone see the face of Christ in you!

\* \* \* \* \*

## CHRISTMAS IN THAILAND

### SIGNS

Feel  
in the air  
a wind,  
a wind!  
More than  
a breeze  
That blows  
my hair,  
This is a gust  
of holy breath  
Blowing away the  
clouds of death.  
See in the sky a star, a star!  
Wonder aloft  
That seems to fly  
From some remote celestial room,  
Piercing my heart's  
thick shades of gloom.  
Hear in the night a song, a song!  
Sung to my soul.  
Subdue my fright,  
Angel Divine. I hear you sing,  
"Glory to God! The Christ is King."

### Do You Have CURSILLO ON YOUR LIST FOR CHARITABLE DONATIONS??

- \* Did you know it costs approximately \$160 for each person to attend a Cursillo weekend?
- \* Did you know that the Cursillo Secretariat incurs paper and mailing costs for each weekend?
- \* Did you know a gift to Cursillo is tax deductible?

Send all donations to  
Anglican Synod Office  
P.O. Box 1965  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 3S5  
Make cheques payable to  
Anglican Diocese of Saskatoon  
**And clearly mark them  
"For Cursillo"**

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Ken Dobson is a Presbyterian minister who was working in Thailand and sent this as a Christmas message to his brother in the USA..

## Candidate's Application

Rev./Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms.: \_\_\_\_\_ Known as: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age Group: 18-30 \_ 31-40 \_ 41-50 \_ 50+ \_

Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Denomination: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you baptised? \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

Has your sponsor or your priest explained and discussed with you:-

1. The purpose of Cursillo? \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no      2. The form and content of the weekend? \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no  
3. The physical arrangements? \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no      4. The implicit post-Cursillo commitment? \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

Please identify any special needs or physical limitations, eg: diet, allergies, wheelchairs, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you able to attend on short notice? \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no      Date of Weekend: \_\_\_\_\_

Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Clergy's Endorsement

A Cursillo weekend is an intensive three days of renewal for Christians; it is neither a therapy program nor a conversion experience. In this light please answer prayerfully.

- Outline the candidate's involvement in the life of your parish.
- In what way, if any, is the candidate seeking spiritual growth?
- Are there any special concerns the leaders of a Cursillo Weekend should be made aware of to make the candidate's Cursillo more effective?
- If only one member of a married couple is attending, do you see this causing any difficulties? \_\_\_\_\_

I accept pastoral responsibility for the candidate.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

# Sponsor's Endorsement

**NOTE:**

*As a sponsor you must have attended a sponsor 's workshop or obtain permission from the Selection Committee.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_ Priest: \_\_\_\_\_

I made my Cursillo in the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_ in (date) \_\_\_\_\_

I regularly attend: Worship Services: yes no Group Reunion: yes no Ultreya: yes no

Explain your personal association with this candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I recommend because:

\_\_\_\_\_

If candidate has or may have any spiritual, emotional or physical challenges please explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

I have explained the purpose of Cursillo, the form and content of the weekend, and the implicit post-Cursillo commitment to this candidate. \_\_\_\_\_

*In sponsoring this candidate I have sought spiritual guidance. I believe he/she will be an effective leaven in his/her environment. I have read and know my duties as sponsor and I pledge, with Christ's help, that I will do my best to live up to them.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

[Revised December 2008]

Sponsor, please return this completed application to the registrar:

**Marion Pope,  
36 Clark Cres., Saskatoon, SK S7H 3L9  
Tel. 1:306:374-3967**

Questions? Contact: Austin King 1:306:933-4007 e-mail: a.king@sasktel.net

