

Sparks in the Stubble

www.quappellecursillo.org

Sparks in the Stubble by Rev Rob Hardwick – Cursillo 2012 Spiritual Director

- Sparks in the Stubble – the Foundation for our Newsletter

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Every morning at 8.30am staff at St Cuthbert's House gather for morning prayer. One of the Canticles in the Book of Alternative Services said each month is Canticle 10 'The Souls of the Righteous' The Canticle is taken from Wisdom 3:1-8. Towards the end of the Canticle there is a fascinating line that says, " In the moment of God's coming they shall kindle into flame and run like sparks through the stubble."

'In the moment of God's coming' - The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church asks – 'is this the visit of God among the righteous? Or is it an occasion when the saints show up? Because it can be translated both ways. When the saints show up, or when the Spirit makes a home in the saints, then the saints begin to burn and set the world alight. Their leadership, their ministry, their ability to see and influence and pastor the world, is set afire. All the saints are meant to run like 'sparks through the stubble', through all that dead and no longer fruitful stuff, the dross of this world. You and I are

supposed to get lit and set that flame to burning by our willingness, in the presence of God, to be vulnerable change agents.' Imagery here of the day of Pentecost, when the Saints caught fire with the fanning wind of the Holy Spirit, that changed the world.

We have all seen wildfires, fires that are out of control, fires that consume and destroy everything in their path. 'Sparks in the stubble' is not that destructive force, though there may come a day when such a fire may come. No, 'Sparks in the stubble' is an image which, under God's visitation and the fanning wind of the Holy Spirit, is more like a controlled burn. Across the prairies such control burns were used to clean up the fields after the harvest. You can probably remember such burns when clouds of smoke filled the skies, and drifted for miles. These days, due to air quality and carbon footprint issues, other methods are adopted, but many farmers still say that controlled burning is still the best way to sanitize the fields, get rid of the stubble and enrich the soil for the next seeding.

Our shared ministry; or as

Bishop Schori described it, 'the episkopeis of the saints'; is a ministry that cleanses the fields of that which cannot survive in God's dream of shalom, it burns away whatever limits that dream or cannot contribute to it, imagery here of Isaiah 42. It is a righteous burning, one that brings life and one that brings nations back to God.

There is much to be done across our diocese in terms of spiritual renewal and church growth, through our readiness in piety, study and action, through encouragement of one another in grouping, Ultreya's and especially the weekend Cursillo's, let us pray: That the Lord will set us alight with a renewed passion to share the Gospel. That we be fanned into a consuming fire to cleanse away all the dross and stubble. That we be a holy fire for His purposes and fire-lighters in God's mission field.

So, are you willing to 'run like sparks in the stubble'?

Would that we all answer, "Set me on fire! I will, with God's help. Ultreya!"

Archdeacon Rob Hardwick.
Spiritual Director



erful way

to do just that. It is a time of fellowship where we can break bread, share fellowship, ideas, and apostolic successes and disappointments..”

Fourth Day Committee Report

These days we seem to have our fingers in many pots and are juggling way too many balls. One day runs into the next; one project to the other. Mathew's Gospel at 11:28 reminds us that Christ told us: *“Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.”* Where do we find time to rest, to refresh and be with God?

Group reunion is a wonderful way to do just that. It is a time of fellowship where we can break bread, share fellowship, ideas, and apostolic successes and disappointments.

During the past year we have had some wonderful spirit-full Ultreyas in some of the Regina parish as well as in Maple Creek and Yorkton. When we were met in Maple Creek we were blessed with all our brothers and sisters who came to join us from Medicine Hat. It was an amazing Holy Spirit full day of songs and praise. In January we will be back at St. Stephen's, in Swift Current. Please refer to our calendar on our website (www.quappellecursillo.org) for upcoming Ultreyas.

My experience with group reunions has brought me nothing but joy, love, supported and refreshed. Come and join us at an Ultreya and become refreshed and energized!



YSIC,
Linda Kapasky
Fourth Day Chair

Registrar's Report by Lois Nesbit-Wall

. "God's blessings to you all from the Cursillo registrar." Hi everyone my name is Lois Nisbet-Wall and my job on the Cursillo secretariat ti to process the applications of candidates for the women's and men's three day weekends. Because I live a fair distance from Regina I find this position best suited to me. I attend our monthly meetings via telephone and enjoy listening to how Christ is working in everybody's

lives; their ups and downs and we all pray together to ask Christ to let us hear him and do what he asks of us. I have enjoyed the year and hope to be able to continue in this role. Ultreya!!

Blessings to you all

Lois

Third Day Committee Report

Our third Women's Cursillo Weekend is drawing near and we are busy finalizing details to ensure that all the necessary supplies and equipment are available. It is an exciting time! Recently, we reviewed our list of supplies and visited the Synod Office to verify the contents of the boxes in storage. There are a few things to purchase and some administrative duties to attend to, but overall the supplies are well stocked and sufficiently organized for the November weekend.

At one of our Committee meetings, we spent time working through the Detailed Weekend Schedule and made some adjustments as per the

recommendation from Secretariat to simplify the timetable without compromising the message. Though there wasn't much room for change, we did manage to pare some things down to allow more free time and opportunity for social interaction. One major change for the Women's Weekend is the omission of the structured Fiesta time. We hope the new schedule will allow for more relationship building and a relaxed Agape celebration.

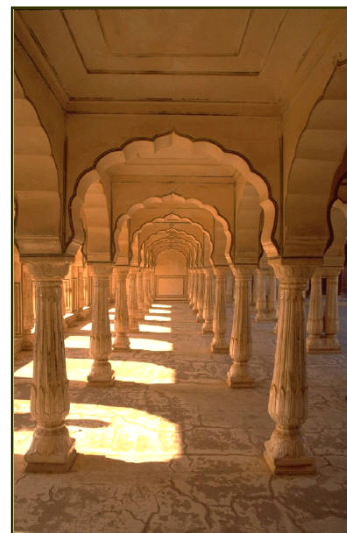
In the spring of this year, we were able to secure a time slot at Dallas Valley Ranch Camp in February of 2013 for the Men's Cursillo Weekend.

Currently there is ongoing discussion and prayer with regard to the Lay Director role and potential team members.

We are looking forward to the wonderful blessings that God provides through the Cursillo weekend experience. We seek your prayers not only for the upcoming weekend, but also for continuing growth in the Qu'Appelle Cursillo Movement and an increasing level of commitment from our Cursillo Community.

Shelley Baron

Three Day Committee Chair



Lay Director's Report

Here we are in the last quarter of 2012. Plans are firmly in place to hold a Women's Weekend – November 15-18, 2012, once again at Dallas Valley Camp, just north of Regina. The theme of the weekend is **John 21:17 – “Do You Love MeFeed My Sheep”**

A Men's Weekend is planned for February 14-17, 2013. Our Cursillo Movement is truly blessed by the volunteering of two Cursillistas from the Edmonton Diocese to be on the Core Leadership Team. Your Servant Community organized a Day of Deeper

Understanding (DODU) focused on acquiring skills to become a Cursillo sponsor held in April at St. Luke's, Regina. Another DODU is planned for February, 2013. Stayed tuned for further details.

We have had some new Cursillistas come out to Ultreyas. Slow, healthy steady growth is being experienced. ButI am deeply concerned that so many of you are missing out by not attending Ultreyas. An Ultreya follows a pattern that was established long ago and provides a framework for fellowship, encouragement, sharing

and worship. How the Holy Spirit moves during a gathering can be as unique as each person who attends. Driving home after an Ultreya finds me feeling uplifted and nourished by the sharing of those present that the Lord is alive and working in the Cursillistas' lives. I look forward to hearing from you as to what Secretariat can do to make Ultreyas more accessible to you out there. Please do call me at 306-332-2874 or email: gwenda@sasktel.net

“God offers us many opportunities to use our gifts and to experience love and fellowship. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Ultreyas and other Cursillo events throughout our Diocese.

*Blessings to you all...
YSIC...Gwenda Watson
Lay Director*

What is the Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat?

"We provide support, education and communication about events across the country.."

The Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat (CACS) is the executive body of the Canadian Anglican Cursillo Movement. It is made up of ten volunteers. Two of which are elected by member from each of the Ecclesiastical Provinces of Canada, Ontario, Rupert's Land, and British Columbia. Additionally there is a Chairperson and Episcopal Advisor elected by all of the delegates to the triennial National General Meeting.

CACS operates under a letter of agreement with the Roman Catholic Cursillo Movement in the United States, and is charged in that agreement with maintaining the "authenticity" of the Anglican Cursillo movement in Canada. In other words, we do our best to assist Diocesan movements to remain true to the founders' vision of what Cursillo is intended to do and how it is

intended to function.

Since each Diocesan Cursillo movement operates under the authority of its Bishop, the role of CACS is not one of authority, but rather one of education and communication, so that the leaders of Diocesan movements will be able to make decisions based on a solid knowledge and understanding of what the Cursillo Movement is intended to achieve.

In Qu'Appelle, I am our representative from and to CACS. The other Rupert's Land representative is Rev. Sean Devlin of Edmonton Diocese. We each communicate with 5 of the Bishops in the Ecclesiastical Province as well as any active

secretariats. We provide support, education and communication about events across the country. We are privileged to meet twice a year in Dioceses across the country. Each diocesan Cursillo movement is asked to donate \$3 per year for each Cursillista on their roster. This funds our travel to meetings and to other dioceses.

I have learned a great deal more about the Cursillo Movement as a result of my time in CACS and have been able to share many ideas from them with our local Secretariat. To find out more about CACS, visit their website.

<http://www.anglicancursillo.com/>

Submitted by Carol Marz,

CACS representative.

Prayer Vigils and Cursillo Weekends

Most of you will have been contacted about "praying an hour with Me" for one of the Cursillo weekends. For many of you, participating in an "hour long" prayer vigil may be a new and intimidating thing. What will I pray about for an hour?

As you know prayer upholds the weekends so that what happens is lead only by the Holy Spirit to the glory of God's name. Community vigil is traditional in all

Cursillo communities and upholds the weekends in even more prayer particularly at night when Palanca team are catching their few hours rest. We use an on line prayer vigil sign up. <http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetComm.phtml>

You just need to go to the link shown and scan down until you find the weekend you wish to pray for. Then click on it and then in the place for sign up. A

notification of your prayer palanca is sent to the Weekend Director. You can also sign up to pray for other Cursillo weekends. Certainly we have had prayers from all over the world.

Through this Vigil, our Cursillo Community provides prayer support for the whole weekend, the participants and the Team. Here is a mini- guide to increase your comfort in participating in the Prayer Vigil.

Prayer Vigils Continued

Consider praying hymns, praise songs, and Scripture. Think about your own weekend and pray about what is likely happening during and after "your hour". The Team welcomes your prayers for Holy Spirit power and for strength and endurance in service.

ADORATION:

- Praise God that his grace is being extended to the Participants and the Team.
- Praise God that His love knows no limits.

CONFESSION:

- Ask for a spirit of humility and servant attitude for yourself as a prayer warrior, for the Sponsors, and for the Team.

THANKSGIVING:

- Thank God for grace exhibited on the Cursillo weekend.
- Thank God for the Holy Spirit that is at work in the lives of the Participants.
- Thank God for the Cursillo talks and method.
- Thank God for the team members and their sacrifice for the weekend.
- Thank God for the vigil prayers and their willingness to be used by God.

- Thank God for the Cursillo Community, and sponsors providing Palanca

INTERCESSION:

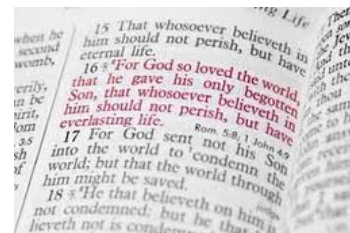
- 1st Peter 3:18, that the Participants will "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."
- 1st John 4:8, that the Participants will "love one another in the love of God and will know that God is love."
- Matthew 10:38, that the Participants will take up their cross and follow Christ
- Luke 24: 31-32, that the "eyes of the Participants will be opened and their hearts burn in the reading of the Scriptures," listening to the talks, sharing in prayer and fellowship around the tables and during worship.
- James 1:22, that the Participants will become "doers of the Word and not hearers only."
- Galatians 6:8-10, that the Participants will "sow to the Spirit, reap a harvest of everlasting life, and not grow weary in well doing." Also, that the Participants will "do good

to all, especially in the Body of Christ."

- Romans 1:16, that the Participants "will not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ, but proclaim the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes" and with whom they associate.
- Pray for each participant and team member as the Holy Spirit directs.
- Pray that all that would be said and done will glorify the Lord.

Submitted by:

Carol Marz



"Praise God that his grace is being extended to the Participants and the Team".

Treasurer's Report

We are still in the early days of our diocesan chapter of Cursillo and as such our finances are a little fragile. We aren't doing too bad, but we need to do better. We operate two bank accounts.

We have a petty cash account, with myself and our lay director, maintaining the account. This account has been built up through the donations we receive at Ultreyas, Days of Deeper Understanding, and training days in preparation for weekends. We plan this year to use these funds to cover incidental expenses such as, fees we pay to the national secretariat of the Cursillo movement, newsletter expenses, and sundry supplies for Ultreyas and other meetings of our Cursillo chapter. This is why we have the 'hungry rooster' at all our meetings.

The main account is handled by the diocese on our behalf. This account was begun with 'seed' money, that is, money was donated by other Cursillo chapters, the diocese, and a couple of individual donations to get us started and enable us to run our Cursillo weekends. This account should keep bouncing back as we first put out money to organize weekends and then recoup the funds through people paying to attend weekends. Ideally we would like to increase the fund to allow us to subsidize the cost of the weekend for people who can't afford to attend and also to cover any addition costs we run into as we grow our Cursillo chapter. We have made a great start and already have 70 Cursillistas in our diocese!

This past year we saw our funds diminish somewhat as we encountered expenses that could not be paid out of the petty cash (as that account was not large enough yet) and so were paid from our diocesan account. These included our annual fees payable to the national Cursillo secretariat (which are based on how many Cursillistas we have in our diocese, whether or not they attend Ultreyas or assist with weekends), updating our written resources (which keep us aware of how to remain authentically Cursillo and not go off the rails doing our own thing), and creating song books to use at Ultreyas.

Maybe you have not been able to attend Ultreyas regularly or be actively involved in running weekends, but possibly you could help by making a donation to our diocesan account. In order to keep our chapter solvent and in a position to grow we would like to encourage charitable donations which would be acknowledged with a tax receipt. To do so make your cheque payable to the Diocese of Qu'Appelle and in the memo section of your cheque write Cursillo account. These donations could be sent directly to St Cuthbert's House (the synod office), or could be given or sent to me.

God willing we will continue to grow in numbers and in our piety, study and action.

Ultreya

Lorraine Hardwick
Treasurer

For all your Cursillo questions
Visit us on the web at
www.quappellecursillo.org

