

Rainbow Connection

Anglican Cursillo Tasmania

June 2026

A Reflection from Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Lee Weissel

In Cursillo we often speak about the God who comes close — the God who meets us not in abstractions, but in the very particular details of our lives. That is the heart of this reflection: the God who calls specific people at specific moments for specific purposes. It is what Scripture calls the scandal of particularity — the surprising, unsettling truth that God does not deal with humanity in vague generalities. He calls Abram. He calls Matthew. He calls you.

Genesis 12 reminds us that God's call rarely lands on the people we would expect. Abram was 75, childless, and living in a pagan city. Yet God spoke a single, life-altering word: "Go."

In Cursillo language, this is the moment of prevenient grace — God moving first, reaching into an ordinary life and awakening a new identity. Abram's story tells us that God's call is not based on our qualifications but on His purpose.

God's call is not hindered by your past; it is shaped for your future.

Abram's journey through Shechem, Bethel, and the Negeb mirrors our own Fourth Day. He walked through unfamiliar territory, surrounded by people who did not share his faith, yet he built altars — visible signs of worship and trust.

In Cursillo, we build our own "altars" through piety, study, and action.

We worship even when the promise feels distant. We trust even when the land looks nothing like what God has spoken. We keep walking, not because we see the fulfilment, but because we know the One who promised.

Tasmania has its own spiritual terrain — sometimes rocky, sometimes fertile. But like Abram, we plant our altars here, declaring that God is present in this land and in our lives.

Matthew 9 shows Jesus calling someone no one else would have chosen — a tax collector, socially despised and spiritually excluded. Yet Jesus simply says: "Follow me."

The Reflection Continues....

This is the heart of Cursillo:

Christ sees us, calls us, and welcomes us long before we feel worthy of His invitation. And then comes the woman who touches His cloak — unclean, isolated, desperate. Jesus turns and calls her “Daughter.” Not outsider. Not problem. Daughter.

In Cursillo we proclaim this same truth:

No one is beyond the reach of Christ’s love. No one is too far gone. No one is forgotten. Not in Capernaum. Not in Jerusalem. Not in Tasmania.

The God who called Abram and Matthew calls us still. His voice speaks into our ordinary days:

Follow me, Go where I send you, Take heart, daughter/son

Your background, your wounds, your story — none of these disqualify you. In fact, they may be the very reason God has chosen you for the mission He has placed before you.

Cursillo reminds us that Christianity is not lived in theory but in friendship, community, and daily witness. God’s particular call becomes visible through the way we love, serve, and walk with others.

You are not chosen by accident.

You are not placed here by coincidence.

The same God who met Abram in Ur and Matthew at a tax booth meets you in your home, your parish, your workplace, your Fourth Day.

He calls you by name. He sends you with purpose. And He blesses others through you.

De Colores.

A Message from Ruth Thomas, our DLD

Please Note – CHANGE OF VENUE 4th July Ultreya.

Now to be held at St James' 462 Elizabeth St New Town, 10am for 10.30am start and finishing at 3pm.

We acknowledge the passing of the Rev'd Keith McCoy M24 23.2.26 aged 74 and Lesley Gillie W10, W16, W21 and W24 on 17.5.26 aged 85 years. We give thanks for all they did for their Lord and for others. May they rejoice in glory.

The Ultreya/gathering on 23rd May was at St James with Pip Nielsen as the speaker. It was open to anyone who wished to attend and it was a joy to speak to several visitors who were interested in Cursillo and had come along to learn more. Close to 50 attended in person with 10 online for the 10.30am – 12.30pm time slot with Zoom. Even though some people needed to leave at lunchtime, there were still enough for six Floating Group Reunions in the afternoon.

Alice Cordwell, DLD Elect was well received. It was a positive, uplifting and encouraging gathering. The \$90 in the Rainbow Box was given to the Parish as a donation towards the light and heating costs. Shirley Tongue has written a report with photos for this Rainbow Connection.

The next planned Ultreya/gathering is on 4th July with Bishop Richard celebrating Holy Communion and speaking to us. The location will again be at St James New Town with an online zoom option for the morning.

Mark Cox (MW38) will be the Witness Speaker on 12th September at an Ultreya/ gathering at St Aidan's Launceston.

Bishop Richard has asked Cursillo to pray for the Diocese and to encourage each other in this time of change. There will be a Diocesan Day of prayer and Fasting on Sat 1st August with services at 9am, 12 noon and 5pm to be held in Burnie Anglican, St John's Launceston and St David's Cathedral. There are more prayer opportunities during the Winter Festival June 18 – 21.

De Colores

DATES TO REMEMBER – 2026

June 18th – 21st- Hobart Winter Festival Prayer Coverage

Sat 4th July 10am – 3pm- Ultreya St James Church New Town, Speaker- Bishop Richard

Sat 1st August- Diocesan Day of Prayer and Fasting Ultreya

Sat 12th Sept- Ultreya at St Aidan's Launceston, Speaker- Mark Cox

Sat 24th Oct- Bishop's Training Event Launceston

Sat 31st Oct- Bishop's Training Event Hobart



Report on the recent Ultreya by Shirley Tongue

We had a most enjoyable and well attended Ultreya on May 23rd at St James, New Town. With many thanks to the local Cursillistas who hosted us and to Anne French who was our musician for the day. We had close to 50 in person attendees and 10 more online, via ZOOM. The theme was 'The Transforming Love of Christ'. Our Spiritual Advisor, the Rev Dr Lee Weissel, referred to the challenges the Diocese of Tasmania is facing with ongoing redress claims and urged us to respond to them with concerted prayer and by sharing God's love impartially.

Our witness speaker, Pip Nielsen, spoke of the inexpressible joy of her Cursillo Weekend (MW38) and her subsequent increasing confidence in sharing her faith.

Ruth Thomas introduced our DLD-elect, Alice Cordwell, who revealed how the Spirit prompted her to take on the role. Ruth also farewelled Annette Sims, who is moving interstate and will be greatly missed by both the Cursillo community and the wider Diocese.

Margaret Brodie again highlighted the importance of regular Group Reunions. After enjoying fellowship over lunch, we gathered for floating Group Reunions, then finished with Communion.

The next Ultreya is to be held at St James New Town on July 4th, with Bishop Richard as our witness speaker. We look forward to seeing you there.



From left to right : Pip Neilson, Alice Cordwell, Ruth Thomas, Annette Sims, Lee Weissel, Margaret Brodie.



Ultreya at St James New Town

These verses were from Pip's chosen reading:

Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. | Peter 3:8-9



Everyone is Invited to

a Diocesan Cursillo Gathering (Ultreya)

Speaker: Bishop Richard Condie

Date: Saturday 4th July 2026

Time: 10am (10:30 start) – 3pm

Bring some “finger” food to share for lunch.

Tea and Coffee provided

Where: ST JAMES NEW TOWN

462 Elizabeth Street (corner of Rupert Ave and Elizabeth street)

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE

Public Zoom available for morning only – Link emailed closer to date

Please park on the street – limited off street parking

Bring your friends and come along for a day of fellowship and sharing.

DE COLORES!