

Rainbow Connection

Anglican Cursillo Tasmania

October 2025

A Reflection from Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Lee Weissel

The Ripple Effect of Kindness

The public death of Charlie Kirk recently had a profound effect on many people, particularly those who follow him on social media. The shock of the unfiltered death of Mr Kirk—delivered on demand to devices that has many people do not know how to properly control, and without context—left some struggling to make any sense of it. The division created in its wake was polarising. And this is but a symptom of where we are at.

Here we can turn to Scripture to seek how we can be at this time in a divided world. We can seek to live in the Spirit, producing fruit such as kindness.

Drop a stone into still water and watch the ripples spread outward, reaching places you never intended. Kindness works the same way. A single act of grace can travel farther than we imagine, softening hearts and shaping communities. The Greek word *chrestotes*, used to describe kindness, means usefulness, excellence in character, and a benevolent heart. This isn't just about being polite; it's about reflecting God's own nature.

Kindness Cultivates Compassion

Paul urges us in Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Kindness, compassion, and forgiveness are woven together, forming a pattern of grace modelled after God Himself. Every small choice—to forgive, to encourage, to listen without judgment—plants seeds of compassion. Just as God's kindness softened our hearts, our kindness can open doors in the lives of others.

Today, ask: Who needs a gentle word or a patient ear from me?

Kindness as a Spiritual Fruit

Paul also reminds us in Galatians 5:22-23 that kindness is a fruit of the Spirit. Like fruit on a tree, it takes time to grow, nourished by the Spirit's work within us. Human niceness runs out, but Spirit-born kindness draws from an endless source—God's love.

This is why we can show kindness even when we are tired, even when others don't deserve it, and even when it's not returned. True kindness flows not from our strength but from Christ living in us.

Reflect: Where in your life do you need to let His Spirit bear this fruit more fully?

The Reflection continues...

Kindness Knows No Boundaries

Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) reminds us that kindness crosses every line we humans draw. The Samaritan's mercy cost him time, comfort, and resources, yet it revealed the very heart of God.

Kindness is not limited to those like us, or to those who will repay us—it is for strangers, for enemies, for all.

Consider: Who is God calling you to see with fresh eyes today?

Like ripples on water, Spirit-filled kindness travels farther than we realize. May we choose kindness daily, trusting God to use it in ways we may never see.

De Colores!

Prayer:

Gracious God, thank You for Your endless kindness toward us. Help us to reflect Your heart in our words and actions. Fill us with Your Spirit so that we might bear the fruit of kindness—even when it's costly, even when it's difficult, even when it goes unnoticed. Use our small acts of grace to create ripples that reach far beyond what we can see. In Jesus' name, Amen.



A Message from Ruth Thomas, our Diocesan Lay Director

We join with many others to congratulate The Rt Revd Dame Sarah Mullally on her appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury. Please pray for her in her new role.

During the National Cursillo Secretariat Meeting to be held in Launceston October 24 – 26th the new National Cursillo Episcopal Adviser, Bishop Carol Wagner, will be commissioned by Bishop Richard. The National Meeting coincides with the 30th Anniversary of the introduction of Cursillo into Tasmania and there will be a celebration dinner at the Grand Chancellor, Launceston at 6.30pm on Sat 25th October.

If you would like to attend the dinner and have not yet put your name down, then please contact me by 18th Oct - by phone 0408287255 or email ruthwthomas@gmail.com. Price is \$70 per person.

The 30th Anniversary of the introduction of Cursillo to Tasmania is an appropriate time to give thanks for the dedicated work of many people in the early years. Two such wonderful Cursillistas were Jocelyn (Joc) Cooper and Margaret Randall. Joc Cooper (W2, W3, W4, W5, W6, W14) passed into eternal life on 3.9.25 aged 84 singing praises to her much-loved Lord. Margaret Randall (W8, W12, W14, W18, W29) died on 14.9.25 aged 94. A life lived for Christ and others. Margaret's life will be celebrated on Friday 27th October at Edge Anglican, Claremont.

The commissioning of the Team of MW38 at Longford on Sat 20th September was a day of fellowship and sharing our joy in the Lord. Shirley Tongue presented an excellent session to the new Team on how to prepare your talk and highlighted the need for prayer in all we do.

De Colores

Dates to Remember 2025/2026

Fri 17th Oct 2025 11am: Celebration of the Life of Margaret Randall at Edge Anglican, Claremont.

Sat 18th Oct 2025: Bishops Training Event Kingston

Fri 24 – Sun 26 Oct 2025: National Secretariat Meeting Holy Trinity Launceston

Sat 25th Oct 2025: Bishops Training Event Worldview Launceston

Sat 25th Oct 2025 6.30pm: 30th Anniversary Dinner Grand Chancellor Hotel Launceston

Fri 27 Feb – Sun 1st March 2026: MW38 Camp Clayton

Sat 14th March 2026: MW38 Welcome Day, Longford church Hall

A Report on the recent Commissioning Service

Team training is now up and running for the MW38 Cursillo weekend at Camp Clayton at the end of February 2026. At the first training day in Longford on September 20th, the Rev Lesley Borowitzka commissioned 10 of the team members; the remainder, who were sadly unable to attend, will be commissioned at their next gathering.

Lesley's reflection was based on the scripture for the weekend, Colossians 3:14-17. She concentrated on verse 17, 'And whatever you do, in word or in deed, **do everything in the name of Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to the father through him'. She reminded us that we use that phrase *In the name of Jesus* quite often especially at the end of prayers. The phrase means: if we were Him. And if we do this, we are speaking as he would, we are speaking on his behalf. If we act in Jesus' name, we are acting as he would, acting on his behalf.

So, if we are taking these words seriously, we need to pause before we speak or act. Ask ourselves, 'Is what I'm about to say the sort of thing Jesus would say or do?' Lesley gave the example of how to react when someone steals your parking spot. There are no rude words, only a blessing.

Lesley concluded with how this verse applies to being on team. Our words would be more like those of Jesus: kind, forgiving, and encouraging. Our actions are likewise. Speaking and acting in the name of Jesus is the best way to bind a team together.

Please keep Naomi and her team in your prayers and also pray for potential candidates for what promises to be another Spirit-filled, life-transforming weekend.

Photos taken at the Commission Service taken by Shirley Tongue and Ruth Thomas

