

Date: 18th September 2018
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Dear Leicester Anglican Cursillo members,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I am writing to you ahead of your Annual General Meeting to assure you of my prayers and best wishes for your meeting. I truly give thanks to God for the work of Cursillo which I know has been transformative for many people in this diocese. I am deeply grateful to all who give their time to Cursillo as an expression of their growth in discipleship (to quote from our diocesan vision). I pray that God would strengthen and encourage you in this work.

I know that this last year has been a difficult one for the movement. During the course of the year, I have had a number of meetings with different individuals and with the Secretariat. I also commissioned David Newman, former Archdeacon of Loughborough, to review the governance structures. David's report and my own conversations have led to a number of changes, all of which will be discussed at the AGM.

I do however want to make an appeal to the membership for God's grace and love to rule all your actions and words. There is nothing to be gained by racking over the events of the past year or seeking to blame individuals for what has happened. I believe that everyone has acted with the best of intentions and it is simply unfortunate that there has been a difference of views about the best way forward. I realise that some people have been deeply hurt, and these hurts will not be quickly healed, but I hope that every effort will now be made to ensure that this AGM marks a new start for Leicester Anglican Cursillo.

I am particularly grateful to John Morley for his service as Spiritual Director. I have met with him personally to thank him for his ministry. The announcement of new Spiritual Directors (I am appointing three people to share this role) will be made at the AGM. I am also deeply grateful to the current members of the Secretariat, some of whom have reached the end of their term in office. I want to mention in particular Cynthia Hebden who has supported Cursillo both locally and nationally - I am very grateful to her. And I do hope that a good number of new people will now consider serving on the Secretariat - we need people from a range of churches and traditions, and with a variety of skills to enable the work of Cursillo to grow and flourish in the years to come.

Please be assured of my ongoing prayers. I look forward to seeing some of you at the next weekend (22-25 November) when I will be presiding at the Clausura. I look forward to hearing more stories of God's transformative love at work in lives of individuals and communities.

With warm greetings in Christ,

+ Marty Leicester