



## **When and Where Do the Cursillo Movement Meet?**

The ultimate goal of Christians is to become living proof of God's love and act as a catalyst for change in our society.

It is evident that this cannot happen by simply attending a three day Cursillo weekend. The Cursillo weekend represents the first essential step along the way. The key is what happens after the weekend, during the post Cursillo period known as the fourth day. During the three days of the Cursillo the attendees discover that the essence of our faith and our lives is contained in the light of God and shines in our hearts. They leave the Cursillo with the desire to live their lives illuminated by this light and to transform this light into a beacon of love which will consume their entire lives and will light the way to God for others. But we do not live our lives in an unending Cursillo weekend. We live our lives one day at a time and every day we must renew our acceptance of Christ's invitation to "Come and see the goodness of God".

The Cursillo Movement recognises that the revelations and the enthusiasm of the weekend need to be nurtured and deepened so that the individual and the community gain maximum benefit. It is for this reason that the Cursillo Movement provides regular meetings known as Ultreyas. "Ultreya" is a Spanish word derived from the original Latin meaning onward! It was commonly used by pilgrims to greet and encourage one another along the way. This word is now used by the Cursillo community to signify the regular meetings, usually weekly which are held after a Cursillo experience. The Ultreya provides continuity by contributing to the maintenance of the Cursillo spirit and by revealing the reality of the living Church.

The agenda for each Ultreya can vary quite significantly from one to another, but they all typically include a period of time for group reunions. Often the Cursillo Movement celebrate Mass together or organise a Eucharistic Adoration session, in other sessions there are guest speakers or members of the Team of Leaders with a short talk on matters of interest.

The group reunion is a small group usually 3 to 6 people, of Cursillo friends that meet on a regular basis. In a climate of friendship, members share their experiences based on the three pillars of Cursillo life, Prayer, Study and Action or based on a passage from Scripture.

The sharing of these real life experiences serve as examples to all of the challenge which Jesus lays before his followers. As its name implies the Ultreya is a call to move forward and to keep the flame of the Cursillo burning brightly. As we attempt to bring Christ into our various environments, we will sometimes feel frustrated. The Group Reunion provides the continual support we need in order to persevere as a part of God's plan. To help spread the Kingdom, there is nothing which can compare to the sharing of God's graces among friends.

Our weekly meetings are held every Monday (except public holidays) at 9pm at St Theresa's Church. Everyone is welcome, why not join us next week?

God Bless

Cursillo Team of Leaders