



*Blessings of Our Lord Jesus Christ
to you and your family*

DE COLORES MAGAZINE

BRISBANE ARCHDIOCESE

June 2025

WINTER EDITION



inside this issue

Thoughts from Rosemary, Diocesan President

**Message from our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor
Fr Peter**

**Message from Australian Cursillo Spiritual Director
Fr John**

Pope Leo XIV: A New Chapter

**Pope Leo
"Meeting with the Media"**

Beatitudes

Sponsoring a Candidate

Walking with Your Candidate

To Be On Team

Silence: Prayer

Reflection: Ideal

NATIONAL ENCOUNTER

National President: News in Brief

Thoughts from the President

Here we are, almost halfway through another year. The saying is definitely true, “time waits for no man”. This year we have linked up with the Little Kings Movement in Buranda, whose mission is to bring social and spiritual growth and wellbeing to people with disabilities. They are also including in their vision the opportunity to link up with groups and Movements like ours to support each other in our missions, which are ultimately all for the glory of God.

We held our first event there on 3rd May. It was a Spiritual Day run by Fr Adrian Farrelly on the topic of “Intentional Participation at Mass”. Twenty-five people attended and we had ten apologies which suggests that we are all eager to receive some spiritual input to refill our cups. That is certainly true in my case.

With Pentecost approaching, we see the disciples together in a room when flames of fire descend on each of them. The Holy Spirit gives them the power of speech, the power to preach about God to those gathered from many different areas in their own languages.

It is the Holy Spirit that filled the cups of the disciples, with the belief in and a greater understanding of what the resurrected Jesus had told them. It was this Holy Spirit that nurtured their own faith so that they could spread the Kingdom of God to believers and non-believers alike.

This is what we are called to do as Cursillistas – to let people, both believers and non-believers, know that Jesus loves them. This is the purpose of our great Movement. As we say so often live Cursillo; return to Group Reunion; pray and offer Palanca for the Movement worldwide, but particularly here in Australia; sponsor friends to experience God’s love in a Cursillo 3-days.

We are planning both a men’s and a women’s 3 days in October..... pray, pray, pray. There is a National Encounter being held in Varroville (near Woolloongong) in September..... consider attending. Be open to the work of the Holy Spirit in your life and say YES to his invitation and the power only he can give. “God is counting on you” and me, to use our faith and our talents to help others know the God who loves us.

**De Colores,
Rosemary Haydock**



Quotable Quotes:

God loves each of us as if there were only one of us - Augustine

God will meet you where you are in order to take you where He wants you to go – Tony Evans

God does not give us everything we want, but He does fulfil His promises, leading us along the best and straightest paths to Himself – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The best and most beautiful things in this world cannot be seen or even heard but must be felt with the heart. – Helen Keller

From Our Diocesan Spiritual Advisor

A Pentecost Reflection

(Acts 2:1-11, Psalm 103(104):1,24,29-31,34, Romans 8:8-17, John 14:15-16,24-26)

The readings of Pentecost speak of so much energy and power - fire and enthusiasm.

In the first reading we have a powerful wind - tongues of fire - and the word of God being heard in many languages.

The psalm speaks of the majesty of the Lord and of the marvelous things the Lord has done throughout creation.

The 2nd reading too speaks of the Spirit of freedom - living in each of us.

The Gospel reading also speaks of God dwelling in us - bringing us to life.

Creation and fire and freedom and the word of God being preached and understood.

So much poetry in such a small number of lines.

But it's not just about mighty power is it? The thread over the last few weeks of Easter has been one of love - and peace - and forgiveness. We need to make sure that this forgiveness - this mercy - is not lost in all the flame and the enthusiasm for action.

Jesus gave the apostles a special responsibility to celebrate the forgiveness of sins - with the help of the Holy Spirit. We too are called to celebrate this forgiveness with the help of the Holy Spirit. Remember the prayer of absolution, "God the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son, has reconciled the world to himself, and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins. Through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen." The Holy Spirit has been sent among us - not just for fire and power and enthusiasm - but also for the forgiveness of sins - for pardon and peace.

We celebrate this particular gift of the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Mercy. But the real celebration of mercy and pardon and peace comes when we then go forth and spread God's mercy and pardon and peace in what we say and what we do. Sounds impossible, but the Holy Spirit can help us make it a reality.

Blessings

Fr Peter Gablonski



Pruning

The seasons seem to be out of order. We have skipped winter and gone straight into Spring. Daffodils are starting to put forward their new growth at least two months early. Those who are more attentive to their gardens would also notice subtle changes in the climate and how this can confuse plants, no less than ourselves. Yet we talk about the importance of pruning and tidying up the garden of our lives. There is a need to be aware of where new growth is starting to emerge and what impedes it.

Unlike Lent, this is not just a time to focus on the adverse effects of sin but to notice how we resist meeting the risen Christ in this new springtime of our lives, even as we prepare for winter. This is where we no longer focus on what causes death but on what brings life. This takes a willingness to work in harmony with the Holy Spirit and find ways to share the gifts entrusted to us for the good of others. We start to notice how we are called to resist the temptation to hoard what we have been given for a rainy day or become like bears who hibernate in winter. There can be a secret fear that we will become less if we give anything away. We can start to measure our lives by what we own rather than what we are worth.

This is the gentle encouragement of Easter when we discover the risen Christ in the reality of daily life. God does not wait until we have it but meets us where we most need to be met. We are not called to wait for the perfect opportunity for this to happen, but to be embraced by God's love that enriches and emboldens us to be present to the whole of God's creation. We are Easter people who proclaim that our mission is to meet Jesus each day, as we are not as we think we should be.

¡DE COLORES!

Fr. John Armstrong

In prayer I receive, in serving I give, in being forgiven I am renewed,
and in forgiving others I express the nature of Christ.
Seize the Day with Dietrich Bonhoeffer. © Charles Ringma 1991

Many churches of all persuasions are hiring research agencies to poll neighbourhoods, asking what kind of church they prefer. Then the local churches design themselves to fit the desires of the people. True faith in God that demands selflessness is being replaced by trendy religion that serves the selfish.

Why did the achievers overcome problems while thousands are overwhelmed by theirs? They refused to hold on to the common excuses for failure. They turned their stumbling blocks into stepping stones. They realized that they couldn't determine every circumstance in life but they could determine their choice of attitude towards every circumstance.

John Maxwell

Pope Leo XIV: A New Chapter in the Catholic Church



Pope Leo XIV, born Robert Francis Prevost on September 14, 1955, in Chicago, Illinois, made history as the first American pope when he was elected on May 8, 2025. His journey to the papacy was shaped by decades of missionary work, theological scholarship, and leadership within the Catholic Church.

Before becoming pope, Leo XIV was deeply involved in the Augustinian order, serving as its Prior General from 2001 to 2013. His extensive missionary work in Peru during the 1980s and 1990s allowed him to engage with diverse communities, fostering a reputation for fairness, administrative skill, and a commitment to social justice. In 2015, he was appointed Bishop of Chiclayo, Peru, where he continued his pastoral work before being elevated to the position of Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops in 2023.

Leo XIV's papacy has been marked by a balance between tradition and reform. While he has expressed a desire to uphold the legacy of his predecessor, Pope Francis, he has also signaled a willingness to address contemporary challenges, including the ethical implications of artificial intelligence and labor rights. His commitment to social justice echoes that of Pope Leo XIII, whom he honored by choosing his papal name.

One of Leo XIV's early actions as pope was his visit to the tomb of Pope Francis, where he laid a white flower in tribute. He has also demonstrated a diplomatic approach, offering the Vatican as a venue for peace talks between Ukraine and Russia. His engagement with global conflicts, including the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, underscores his dedication to fostering peace and dialogue.

Leo XIV's leadership style is characterized by openness and inclusivity. In his first meeting with the cardinals, he opted for discussion rather than delivering a formal speech, signaling a collaborative approach to governance. His past efforts to support victims of clergy abuse further highlight his commitment to justice and accountability within the Church.

As Pope Leo XIV embarks on his papal journey, he faces the challenge of navigating the evolving landscape of the Catholic Church while remaining true to its core values. His background as a missionary, theologian, and administrator positions him as a leader capable of bridging tradition with modernity, ensuring that the Church remains a beacon of faith and compassion in a rapidly changing world.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

No matter the storm you face, God's love remains steadfast. His grace is sufficient, His promises unshaken. You are never alone—He walks with you, guides you, and carries you when the burden feels too heavy. Trust in His plan, even when the path is unclear. His light shines in the darkest moments, bringing peace that surpasses understanding. Keep faith, knowing that every trial strengthens your spirit and draws you closer to Him. You are loved beyond measure, created with purpose. Hold onto hope, for God is working all things for good, and His love never fails. Stay strong!

Pope warns reporters against using words to fan 'hatred' in first media address

Mon 12 May

IN SUMMARY

Pope Leo XIV meets the press.

On Monday, local time, the new pope held his first media address with some of the 6,000 journalists who descended on Rome to cover his election.

Pope Leo XIV says the media must disarm itself of prejudice, resentment, fanaticism and hatred.

In his first address to the media, the new pope also called for the release of reporters jailed "for seeking and reporting the truth".

He also warned journalists to use artificial intelligence with "responsibility and discernment".

After his address to the media Pope Leo XIV spoke with well-wishers in Paul VI hall at the Vatican.

The first American pope received a standing ovation as he entered the Vatican auditorium for the meeting.

The 69-year-old missionary, elected in a 24-hour conclave recently, urged journalists to use words for peace, for rejecting war and for giving voice to the voiceless.

Pope Leo, who was active on social media before becoming pope, also reminded journalists of their responsibilities.

Pope Leo XIV appeals for 'no more war'

The new pope appealed to the world's major powers for "no more war" in his first Sunday message to crowds in St Peter's Square.

"Let us disarm communication of all prejudice and resentment, fanaticism and even hatred — let us free it from aggression," he said.

"We do not need loud, forceful communication but rather communication that is capable of listening and of gathering the voices of the weak who have no voice.

"Let us disarm words and we will help to disarm the world."

He also urged those reporting on conflicts, injustice and poverty, to "choose consciously and courageously the path of communication in favour of peace".



VIX 99



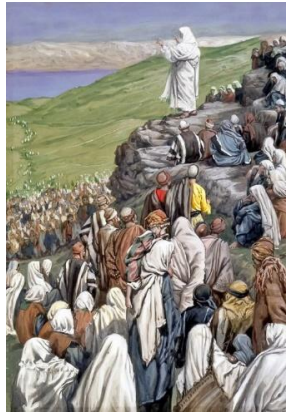
Think about this:

There is simply no way you can describe Christianity as a 'Western religion' any more (nor was there ever!). Christianity is exploding in secret in China, as well as in underground, hidden churches in places like Iran and Nepal. The Christian faith in general is growing fastest on the continent of Africa. We may be a post-Christian country here in Australia, but that says very little about the fortunes of the Christian faith.

BEATITUDES

"Beatitude is a possession of all things held to be good,
from which nothing is absent that a good desire may want.
Perhaps the meaning of beatitude may become clearer to us
if it is compared with its opposite.

Now the opposite of beatitude is misery.
Misery means being afflicted unwillingly with painful sufferings."



THE EIGHT BEATITUDES OF JESUS

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are they who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.*

*Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.*

*Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.*

*Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy.*

*Blessed are the pure of heart,
for they shall see God.*

*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.*

*Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*

Gospel of St. Matthew 5:3-10

SPONSORING A CANDIDATE

The work is accomplished above all through the word and witness of those who have made a Cursillo.

The Cursillo Movement's Fundamental Ideas Book strongly recommends that the PreCursillo should be developed as a function of what is first, last, and always the goal of the Cursillo Movement:

*to make possible the living out,
and the living out together,
what is fundamental for being Christian.*

Eduardo Bonnín, our founding father, focused on the person, but not on the environment. He keeps reminding us of converting ourselves and others, and consequently, the environments will be automatically and naturally transformed.

Friendship is key to Cursillo — friendship of the individual with our self, with Christ, and with our brothers and sisters.

THE APPROACH

1. Make a friend, be a friend. Pray. Build your friendship with your candidate.
2. Tell them about Cursillo; what being in Cursillo has done for you.
3. Look for a group in which your candidate can grow. Consider your own group reunion.
4. Make a time to talk with your candidate. If the candidate is married, speak to both partners together. Take at least the Cursillo Invitation. Read through it with those you are talking to and leave it with them. Tell them again what being in Cursillo has meant for you. Make yourself available to answer any further questions they may have.
5. Endeavour to get a "YES" response from your Candidate.
6. Follow Up!!!

Words can never adequately convey the incredible impact of our attitude toward life. The longer I live the more convinced I become that life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we respond to it. I believe the single most significant decision I can make on a day-to-day basis is my choice of attitude. It is more important than my past, my education, my bankroll, my successes or failures, fame or pain, what other people think of me or say about me, my circumstances, or my position. Attitude keeps me going or cripples my progress. It alone fuels my fire or assaults my hope. When my attitudes are right, there s no barrier too high, no valley too deep, no dream too extreme, no challenge too great for me.

Charles R Swindoll

WALKING WITH YOUR CANDIDATE

1. Complete the application form.
Section 1 - candidate keeps
Section 2 - candidate completes
Section 3 - sponsor completes & hands on to the Coordinator for the Three-Day Weekend.
2. Continue praying for your Candidate.
3. Make opportunities to deepen the friendship.
4. Ensure the Candidate receives the Acceptance Letter from the movement.
5. ARRANGE TRANSPORT. Preferably take the candidate to the venue and introduce him or her to some of the team.
6. Send a Palanca letter for all the team and for the Candidates. Remember to do your own Palanca (prayer and sacrifice) as well.
7. If you think it would be helpful, write a personal letter to your Candidate. This should be given to the Coordinators of the weekend.
8. Be at the Clausura to welcome your Candidate. If this is not possible, arrange for someone to be there on your behalf with your apology.
9. Ensure your Candidate knows the details of the Instructional Ultreya, has transport and is encouraged to attend.
10. Be at the Instructional Ultreya. If this is not possible, send your apology and arrange for someone else to look after your Candidate.
If your Candidate is unable to attend you should do some follow up to ensure she or he understands the purpose of the movement.
11. Do everything you can to get your Candidate into a Group Reunion. This is the Sponsor's responsibility. Your Secretariat and the team member on your Candidate's table will help you if necessary.
12. Continue contact, friendship and prayer for at least 12 months after the Three Days.
13. Encourage your Candidate to read some Cursillo literature. Candidates can start by reading "Keeping It Simple" which is a handout to every candidate on the weekend.

The **4th-Day** begins on the **Sunday Night** at the conclusion of the Three-Day Weekend and it represents the rest of your life.

If you think you are beaten, you are. If you think you dare not, you don't. If you'd like to win but think you can't it's almost certain you won't. Life's battles don't always go to the stronger or faster man, but sooner or later, the man who wins is the man who thinks he can.

TO BE ON TEAM

Now what does it mean to BE ON TEAM, for a Cursillo 3 day Week End, other than preparing a talk and presenting it on the Weekend???

We are a Christian community working together for the purpose of bringing others into having a personal relationship with Jesus

We are all Leaders. No one person or role is more important than another.

We bring ourselves; with our own unique gifts and personal faith journey.

We share God's love with each other in friendship and through Prayer.

We make ourselves available and participate fully in our team training;

That is;

- 1 to build a spirit of community among team members;
- 2 to participate in workshop/critique of talks for content and presentation,
- 3 to fully understand that the Week End is for the benefit of the candidates. It is their personal experience and journey. Giving a talk is less than 50% of our role as team. Developing friendships through "corridor work" should be given priority.

Being part of the formation and journey together as a small community, working with Christ, is very special and one to be treasured. We are a Team until the opening session on Thursday evening when we become part of the greater Cursillo Movement

Finally remember that God loves us and has called us to be here and that we have answered Him by saying "Yes". Together and only together we will achieve what He asks of us.



PRAY FOR THE CHURCH:

Please pray for the Pope, Cardinals and Bishops of the church hierarchy that The Holy Spirit will guide them to make the necessary urgent changes to the culture and structure of the Catholic Church enabling it to regain the trust and confidence of the people it needs to fulfil its mission here on earth

Life Is Beautiful
People Are Important
Life is Worth Living
Eduardo Bonnin

Isaiah 40:28-31

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Silence

(taken from 2019 Religious Calendar, pp.31-2)

When you pray, be like the mountain in stillness, in silence;
Thoughts rooted in eternity. Do nothing; just sit, just be;
And you will harvest the fruit of your prayer.

When you pray, be like the flower reaching up to the sun,
Straight stemmed like a column.
Be open, ready to accept all things without fear
And you will not lack light on your way.

When you pray, be like the ocean with stillness in its depths,
The waves ebbing and flowing.
Have calm in your heart,
And evil thoughts will flee of their own accord.

When you pray, remember the breath that made us living beings,
From God it comes; to God it returns.
Blend the Word and prayer with the flow of life
And nothing will come between you and the Giver of life.

When you pray, be like the bird,
Endlessly singing before the Creator,
Its song rising like incense.
Pray like the turtle dove and you never lose heart.

(St seraphim of Sarov, Russian Orthodox saint, d.1833)

PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR RECOVERING

Please continue to pray for all those people who are sick or recovering. We also pray for our own family and friends suffering illness and difficulties in life at this time.

PRAYERS ARE ALSO ASKED FOR THE DECEASED

Please pray for those Cursillistas who have died since our last newsletter. Also, please pray for their families.



In God we trust

**De Colores Magazine – Brisbane Catholic Archdiocese
June 2025**

BE GRATEFUL GOD DOES NOT HAVE VOICEMAIL

Imagine praying and hearing the following:

“Thank you for calling Heaven. Please select one of the following options –

For requests – press 1

For thanksgiving – press 2

For complaints – press 3

For confessions – press 4

For all other enquiries – press 5

To hear these options again – press 6.

I am sorry, but all our angels and saints are busy helping other sinners at the moment. However, your prayer is important to us and we will answer it in the order it was received. Please stay on the line.

If you would like to speak to:

God the Father – press 1

Jesus the Son – press 2

The Holy Spirit – press 3

If you would like King David to sing a Psalm whilst holding – press 4

To find a loved one who has been assigned to Heaven – press 5 then enter

his/her Medicare Card Number followed by the # key.

(If you get a negative response, please hang up and try area code 666)

For reservations into Heaven, please enter John 3:16.

For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth, the number of angels that can stand on the head of a pin, life on other planets and where Noah’s Ark is – please wait until you arrive here.

The office is now closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday.

Have a nice day!

REFLECTION: IDEAL

The way we habitually imagine ourselves, our fellow men and what we call God is one of the most formative factors in life. Let anyone picture in his or her imagination the kind of person they long to be, and view that picture frequently and steadily enough, and they will be drawn towards it. Within the imagination resides much of the power to control our health, achieve our goals and develop our characters.

Christ knew the power of a fired imagination to motivate people. He enrolled as learners a group of individuals whose horizons were bounded by a country lake. He led them to visualise themselves as the salt of the earth and the light of the world. He filled their imaginations with pictures of themselves carrying his message to “the uttermost parts of the earth”.

The Age, Saturday Reflection: 10 August 1985

From A Canopy of Stars: Some Reflections for the Journey by Fr Christopher Gleeson SJ

CURSILLO 3 DAYS 2025

A Combined Cursillo 3 days for Men and Women will be held at the **Little King’s Movement premises** at South Brisbane on **4-5-6 of October 2025**.

More information will be advised as soon as possible.

Please consider which friends you can invite to these weekends.



COME, JOIN US in this Jubilee Year for the

2025 CURSILLO NATIONAL ENCOUNTER

'PILGRIMS OF HOPE'

19th – 21st September

at

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre

345 St Andrews Rd

Varroville, NSW



Come and celebrate ...

Come alive to our Charism of Friendship ...

Bring Hope to the World where you live ...

**Celebrate 60 wonderful years of
English Cursillo in Australia**

See you at the Encounter – DE COLORES!





National President Pete's

News In Brief

Planning is well and truly underway for this year's National Encounter. Why don't you come and join

us in this jubilee year for our Cursillo National Encounter **PILGRIMS OF HOPE'**

From Friday 19th to Sunday 21st September 2025, at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre,

345 St Andrews Rd Varroville, which is in the Wollongong Diocese, NSW



Dianne and friends from Wollongong are taking care of all arrangements and will have an information sheet and Registration forms out to all secretariats very soon. Anything you want to know, please contact Dianne whose details will be on the information sheet. Please book your flights and accommodation as soon as you can as there is only room for 60 in the Conference Hall

Friends from Brisbane Diocese are journeying on Pilgrimage to the Encounter, taking a couple of days to arrive. They will be coming down as a Group, travelling via the Coast Road, stopping overnight along the way. They are hoping that others from Lismore and Maitland/Newcastle may like to join their convoy.

Rhonda, Michael, Lionel, Rosemary and others from Brisbane have offered to organise the 60th Anniversary Ultreya & Fiesta which will take place on the Saturday night of the Encounter. We will be celebrating 60 years of the English-speaking Movement and look forward to this time spent together in celebration

Look out for Fund-raising raffles in your dioceses beginning soon. Tickets are \$5 each with 7 prizes of \$50 gift cards. Prizes will be drawn at the Encounter. Remember, you have to be in it to win it! Tickets will be available at Ultreyas and from your School of Leaders.

As the Australian Cursillo Movement, we sent condolences to Cardinal Kevin Farrell on the passing of our beloved Pope Francis

I recently received this photo. Is our Pope Leo XIV a Cursillista?



Monseñor Robert participando en la Escuela de Formación del MCC Chiclayo.

Thanks to our International representative Anne Moloney and other friends from Maitland Newcastle, together with friends from Vietnam in Diaspora Perth for putting together a video clip of Cursillo in Australia that has been added to the Asia Pacific Group presentation that will be shown at the World Ultreya.

300 people from the Asia Pacific region will be attending the World Ultreya in Italy on the 6 June, including Jeanette & Aporosa Rairibi (Sydney Spanish) and Alfred Bongji (Canberra) our OMCC representative as well as many Vietnamese Cursillistas from Australia. Please pray for safe travel for everyone.

Our prayers are also needed for Conrado & Goreth, APG Executive members who are still waiting for their Italian Visa to come through, as are others from Africa who are attending.



THE BRISBANE DIOCESAN CURSILLO MOVEMENT NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We realise that times are tough and that there are many calls on your finances, but without a steady income there are many things Cursillo cannot do, for example – pay for necessary insurance so that everyone is covered for accidents etc that may happen at any Cursillo Event; Sponsor those Candidates or Cursillistas on teams who cannot afford to attend our weekends; Pay Affiliation Fees to the National Secretariat etc.

CAN YOU ASSIST BY GIVING A REGULAR DONATION TO YOUR MOVEMENT?

EVERY DOLLAR WILL HELP COULD YOU MAKE A SMALL ONGOING COMMITMENT?

ANY AMOUNT YOU CAN AFFORD WOULD BE HELPFUL.

REGULAR AMOUNTS CAN BE PAID TO:

Brisbane Diocesan Cursillo Movement by EFT to Brisbane Cursillo – BSB 124 033
Account Number - 10543039. Please indicate your name when transferring by EFT.

ARTICLES FOR FUTURE DE COLORES NEWSLETTERS

All articles of interest are most welcome for inclusion in future De Colores Newsletters. Please email any contributions to lout.home@gmail.com

May you all be blessed by Our Lord Jesus Christ especially during the current Easter season and beyond.

Privacy Notice

Names and contact details of individuals listed in this newsletter are regarded as "personal information" under the Privacy Act 1998. This information is provided for the use of the Cursillo Movement and is not to be disclosed to any other person or organisation without the written consent of the person(s) involved.

