

What's on this year?

As you can see, the **Ultreya** on February 22nd was a great day. **Lay Co-coordinator, Rod Lollback**, during his annual report, praised God for the successful **Cursillo Weekend** which was held last year in October. We all praise the Lord for his many blessings throughout the year.

This year we are not holding a **Cursillo Weekend**, but we are planning one for next year, 2026. This year we are holding our **Fire Days**, both **North** and **South**, which we invite you to attend, even those who haven't done their Cursillo.

Details are on page 9.

Our Spiritual Advisor, Rev Rhonda Callander plans our **Fire Days**, planning the theme, giving us a reflection and creative activities. Thanks Rhonda for your love and care for us all.

Regener8 will be held this year on July 19th & 20th. The dates need to be confirmed. This weekend will be held at the Grafton Cathedral.

Megan Octigan, Editor Cursillo Courier



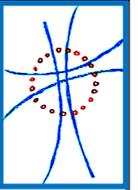
Acknowledgments

P1 Remember me—Communion Cup—online pictures powered by Bing.
P4 Drawing of flower—online pictures powered by Bing.
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P7 Double heart clip art black and white Pinterest.
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CURSILLO COURIER

**Grafton Diocese
Cursillo Movement
Autumn Edition 2025**



From Bishop Murray

Most of us will have read these words of Isaiah (43:1-2) at some low point in our lives and found comfort and hope in them: ***Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;***

And in the Gospel, we also come to a place of comfort and consolation: The Last Supper. In eating and drinking, Jesus' followers were to be identified with his death, and thus to experience the forgiveness he would die to achieve. We participate in the new covenant established through Jesus.

As the first Passover had led to a covenant which marked Israel out as the people of God, so now a new people of God was being formed. A covenant that gives us access to his ongoing presence, forgiveness and mercy.

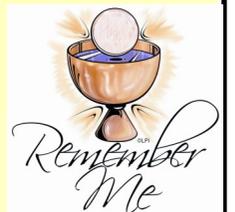
We fear not, for he has redeemed us.

It was, and continues to be – a shared meal. So this covenant wasn't with any one individual, but with the Body of Christ – his followers.

So it is before him we stand as a body – a community of faith – and he says to us as the body, we are God's – the words ***Do not fear, for I have redeemed you*** – (in the Hebrew) are spoken to a community – to Israel, not to any one individual.

So our theme, you (the plural you) are mine, and I am yours – that is, we are his and he is ours.

+Murray



From our Spiritual Director

'You are mine and I am yours' was the theme of our recent Diocesan Ultreya. These are words of love, comfort and assurance. In Isaiah 43:1 God says, "I have called you by name; you are mine." To me, this is like a warm snuggly blanket wrapped around me on a cold winter's night. Wrapped up in words of love and protected. We are God's children. We are accepted and loved just as we are.

David Haas wrote a song called 'You Are Mine'. Part of it goes,

*'You will hear my voice, I claim you as My choice;
Be still, and know I am near'.*

The chorus goes:

*'I have called you each by name,
Come and follow me, I will bring you home,
I love you and you are mine.'*

It's a beautiful song which was played at the Ultreya. Let us respond to God's words and say back to him:

"You God, are mine. I belong to you. I want to follow you alone and so I am yours. I give myself to you - 100%".

Really!! Let's think about that!

*De Colores,
Rev Rhonda
Callander.*



**Fear not for I have
redeemed you.
I have called you by
name, you are mine.
Isaiah 43.1**

Grafton Diocese Cursillo Secretariat 2025

Diocesan Lay Co-ordinator:

Rob Lollback rodneylollback@hotmail.com

Diocesan Lay Co-ordinator:

Maria Gandey mariagandey45@gmail.com

Diocesan Spiritual Advisor:

Rev Rhonda Callander revcallander@gmail.com

Cursillo Secretary: **Debbie Clarke** deb.daz@icloud.com

Cursillo Treasurer: **Ross Lehman** rjlehman@bigpond.net.au

Resources Co-ordinator: **Geoff Duffy** gwduffy1@gmail.com

Digital Communications:

Carol Anderson carolanderson51@bigpond.com

Palanca Co-ordinator & Registrar:

Julie Pine julie.pine@bigpond.com

Editor Cursillo Courier: **Megan Octigan** meganoctigan@gmail.com

Fourth Day Co-ordinator: **Desley Ryan** dryan999@bigpond.net.au

To make a Contribution to Cursillo by Direct Deposit:

*Cursillo is only successful because of your contributions.
Thank you everyone who has given so generously!*

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Thank you, Ross Lehman, Treasurer

3 Homestead Ave, GOONELLABAH, NSW, 2480

M: 0407 272 414 E: rjlehman@bigpond.net.au



Wendy and Graeme

Joyful faces at the Ultreya!



Carol Anderson (R) and Desley Ryan



John Edwards and Evelyn Eccleston



From our Lay Co-ordinators

A Reflection from our Lay-co-ordinator

As I sit here writing this, **Tropical Cyclone Alfred** is just about over. It is, in fact, now not even a cyclone, but it has kept Susan and I isolated in the last three days.

This has given me plenty of time to think and the situation has brought it home to me that, as a Christian, you are never alone. Sitting here in our house, unable to go anywhere, I am reminded that **God is with us**. And not only is God with us, but also all the other people praying for us are here too. Some people may be praying for us personally, and some may be praying for everyone affected by the tropical cyclone, but they are all here.

This relates to the theme of our recent Diocesan Ultreya, **“I am yours and you are mine”**. **We belong to God, and we are his children**. We are always in communion with God and each other, by our prayers.

Love God, and love each other. Love the world and all mankind. Let prayer unite us wherever we are.

De Colores, Rodney Lollback

Introducing our new Diocesan Lay - Co-ordinator.

Maria Gandey



"I have been on **Cursillo Secretariat** in Grafton for the past three years as **Palanca Co-ordinator and Registrar**. This year I was invited to take on **Lay Co-ordinator** in-training. This means that I will train with Rodney Lollback for this year and then will take up the position of **Lay Co-ordinator** the following year (2026).



I have been a Cursillista since 1992 with my Cursillo weekend in the Diocese of Bathurst.

I look forward to this new challenge and hope to meet many of the Grafton Cursillistas at the upcoming Cursillo events in 2025.

De Colores, Maria Gandey

Why do we wear rainbow scarves in the Cursillo movement?

We wear them because they are colourful symbols of Cursillo.

Rainbows reflect God's love which fills our world with the promise of his grace and mercy.



FIRE DAYS

South: *Saturday 10 May 2025 at All Saints Anglican Church, Kempsey, 30 Kemp St, West Kempsey.*

North: *Saturday 24 May 2025, St John the Baptist Anglican Church, Lennox Head, Cnr Byron St and Fern St.*

These days start at 9.30 am and go through until 3.00 pm.

The theme for both Fire Days is

"HOPE"

Everyone is welcome

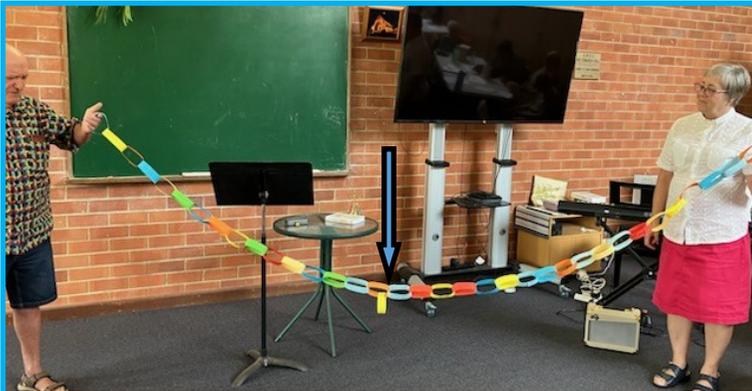
Show Your Colours Day

This day will be held on

Sunday June 8th



Shine your rainbow colours!



PRAYER CHAIN

We were given strips of coloured paper by Rev Rhonda on which we were asked to write **prayers**, based on our theme: **You are mine, and I am yours**. When the strips were linked, they made a long chain, a simple but graphic reminder that our prayers are also linked when we are united and pray to the Lord who hears.

Bill Cottam and Rev Rhonda held up the prayer chain! Thank you Bill for your prayers for us as the **Intercessor of Grafton Cursillo**. We are strengthened by them.



De Colores!

New Secretary—Debbie Clarke

Introducing our new Secretary, **Debbie Clarke** (right). Debbie was commissioned during the Eucharist at the Ultreya by Bishop Murray.

Welcome Debbie!

Also, we say farewell to our former secretary, **Sandra Bush**.

Thank you Sandra for your dedicated work, you managed to write the minutes and book our meetings, all in the midst of a busy schedule. We thank the Lord for Sandra & Debbie's willingness to serve him.



Maria Gandey and Debbie Clarke being commissioned by Bishop Murray at the Diocesan Ultreya Eucharist

22nd February 2025.

Thank you to Susan Lollback for photos on pages 5-6



Diocesan Ultreya at Grafton Cathedral 2025

Bishop Murray on the left and Rev Rhonda on the right. We praise God for the many wonderful Cursillistas who attended the Ultreya on 22nd February.



Secretariat 2025

Members of Secretariat with Bishop Murray on the steps of Christ Church Cathedral in Grafton.

Front row from left: Rev Rhonda Callander (Diocesan Spiritual Advisor), Bishop Murray Harvey, Carol Anderson (Digital Communications Co-ordinator), Debbie Clarke (newly commissioned Secretary), Megan Octigan (Editor Cursillo Courier).

Middle row: Maria Gandey (newly commissioned Lay Diocesan Co-ordinator).

Back row: Ross Lehman (Treasurer), Geoff Duffy (Resources Co-ordinator), Rodney Lollback (Lay Diocesan Co-ordinator), Bill Cottam (Intercessor).



Witness Talk—Grace Foster gave the Witness Talk and Rev Rhonda responded.

Grace is from Casino and her inspiring talk was about what happened when she stepped out in faith. God put children in Grace’s life. With four children of her own, Grace taught SRE at Kingscliffe Primary School for many years. She also became a GFS leader at her church. and worked in a preschool day care.

Originally making her Cursillo (W7) in 1985, Grace was on team 3 times, (twice as proctor). She was also Lay Director for W31. Well done Grace!



Grace and Rob Foster

Jill Gunning needs no introduction to us as she has faithfully accompanied our praise and worship on the piano countless times at Ultreyas and other Cursillo events over many years. We are so grateful to Jill for her gift of music to us.

Thank you Jill!

