

Harvesters of Jesus

(Newsletter 132 - 02/07/2010)

The Association of the Harvesters of Jesus was established in order to provide the regular daily spiritual needs of the LITTLE EDEN Society. It is firmly believed that without such support, LITTLE EDEN would wither.

“A mother's arms are made of tenderness and children sleep soundly in them”. ~Victor Hugo

A couple of weeks ago, I passed through the Home with visitors, and walked into Red Wing to find our youngest resident in the arms of a care worker. The beauty of that moment will be imprinted on my mind for a long time. The care worker was holding the little child like you would hold a tiny baby, while cooing, smiling and talking to her – oblivious of anyone watching them. The child was looking up at her, holding onto one of her fingers – so completely content and trusting of that staff member – you could almost believe that they were mother and daughter!

Shortly after, I stumbled upon a stunning photo of a mother otter swimming on her back with her little one fast asleep on her chest. The two of them were peacefully drifting just off the south coast of Alaska. I immediately thought of the image of the staff member at LITTLE EDEN nurturing and loving ‘her baby’ or rather, one of her many ‘babies’. Every child born into this world should be loved and sheltered like that. Unfortunately, all too often, that is not the case. Many of our children have not been fortunate enough to ever know or be part of their biological family. Fortunately, many years ago, Domitilla had a vision of a *Mother* with many children and ever since, hundreds of children have found that loving environment here at LITTLE EDEN.

Raising children – any children – is arguably the most important job anyone could ever do. Caring for our precious angels and looking after them for most of their lives requires patience, love and dedication. The picture of the mother otter with her baby encapsulates this so beautifully, just like that special moment shared between care worker and child. Sure enough, the mother otter does not have a busy schedule with many errands to run. However, she knows that her job is to protect and nurture - and she does it well!

Are you too busy to spend time on things that are truly important in life? Take the time to ‘float’ for a while with those closest to you. Appreciate the beautiful life God gave us and count your many blessings.



Hanneli Esterhuysen

Daily prayer for the needs of LITTLE EDEN

Jesus, Great Harvester, who desires the salvation of all mankind, accept the offering of my life and work in assisting You to help garner the fields for the harvest. Teach me compassion, understanding and love for those most in need. Bless our Association; strengthen the bonds of love and charity amongst us, so that with hearts united we may say "Thy kingdom come". Mary, comfort of the afflicted, pray for us.