

Harvesters of Jesus

(Newsletter 119 – 01/05/2009)

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.

The most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen. Just listen. Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention.... A loving silence often has far more power to heal and to connect than the most well-intentioned words. ~ Rachel Naomi Remen

We live in a world where we are so bombarded with *noise* that we may have forgotten the virtues of silence.

Radio, television, i-pods, cellular phones that are constantly beeping or ringing, GPS navigation systems that *talk* to us, a thousand advertisements seen daily on the internet - these are but a few sources of the daily *noise* we encounter and have even become attached to!

While some of the above-mentioned technologies are vital in the world we live in today, the problem is that non-stop noise confuses, occupies, distracts and eventually exhausts us. If we allow it to, it can even steal precious time away from us. Time that we will never get back.

Do we allow ourselves the opportunity to realise the true value of silence? Do our residents communicate non-verbally because of their disabilities? Recently, I was fortunate enough to witness a special quiet moment between two of our more senior residents. They were holding hands, smiling, while sitting in their wheelchairs. No words were spoken but I am sure that the "conversation" they were having was one of true friendship, love and acceptance for the other person. More importantly, they **heard** it!

Mother Teresa once said that "God is the friend of silence. See how nature - trees, flowers, grass - grows in silence; see the stars, the moon, and the sun; how they move in silence."

Choose to embrace silence regularly and just listen...you may be surprised at what you will hear!

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.

