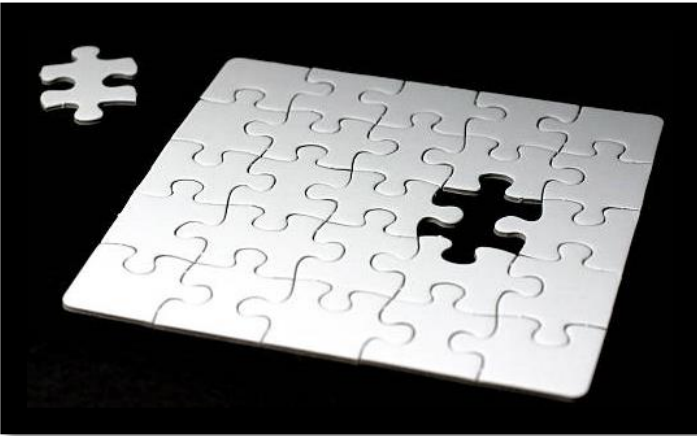


Harvesters of Jesus

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 missing piece

"Missing pieces do more than complete the puzzle, they fill an empty space." – Luanne Rice



Picture sourced online

Mary's Mill at Elvira Rota Village (ERV) is a firm favourite for most of our residents. Fun and games, down time, catching up with a favourite book and mingling with their best friends is what they love to do. Matthew (49) and Joseph (27) in particular, have a keen interest in putting together puzzles. Recently, I watched Matthew closely as he carefully constructed the outline of an animal farm. You could see that he had spent a considerable amount of time assembling the hundred-piece puzzle and making certain that he kept any kind of distraction away from swaying his attention.

When he was almost done, he noticed a piece of the puzzle missing. He looked for it frantically under the table, in his pocket, in the box, everywhere but couldn't find it. He was so disheartened and shared his frustration with everyone who cared to listen. Although he had spent a lot of time on this puzzle, it almost didn't matter until he could find that one missing piece. This reminded me of the scripture found in Matthew 18:12-14 that reads, *"If a shepherd has one hundred sheep, and one wanders away and is lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others and go out into the hills to search for the lost one? And if he finds it, he will surely rejoice over it more than over the ninety-nine that didn't wander away! In the same way, it is not my heavenly Father's will that even one of these little ones should perish."*

This is the kind of love that our Heavenly Father has for us. Each of us matters that much to Him. LITTLE EDEN Society celebrates 55 years this year since inception in 1967. More than a thousand residents later, each one of them is or has been an important piece of this beautiful puzzle that makes up LITTLE EDEN. The values it is built on, the care provided by our staff and different stakeholders, all add up to make our residents feel that they matter and are loved. Whenever a resident leaves LITTLE EDEN, for whatever reason, it's always a sombre moment. We have however, had residents who leave and come back months or years later, much to our delight. That always completes our puzzle. The query I have for you: what role do you play in completing this puzzle? Is it through prayer, donations, acts of service or spreading the word about LITTLE EDEN? By doing so, you not only complete the puzzle, you fill an empty space!

Rethabile Lechela

Daily prayer for the needs of LITTLE EDEN Society

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.