

Harvesters of Jesus

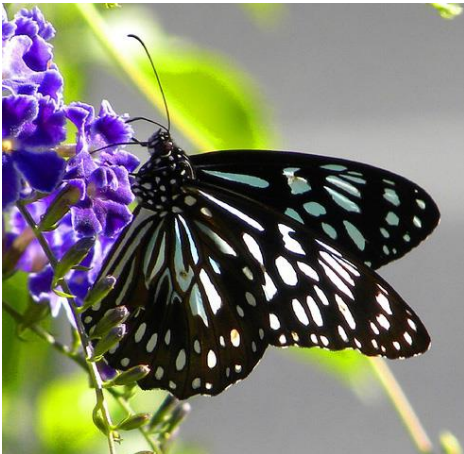


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The Association of the Harvesters of Jesus was established in order to provide the regular daily spiritual needs of the LITTLE EDEN Society. It is firmly believed that without such support, LITTLE EDEN would wither.

Appreciate the process!

"We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty" – Maya Angelou



Picture sourced online

Our Music Therapist, Jessica Landzaad recently shared an interesting fact with me that butterflies have a lifespan of about 2 weeks. That left me gobsmacked! After an entire gruelling process, only 2 weeks to enjoy its opulence and display such glory! Since then, I have had some time to ponder and even deliberate with God about this seemingly unjust state of affairs in the animal kingdom.

A butterfly has four stages – the egg stage, where the mother lays her eggs on a plant that ensures proper nutrition for the larvae when they hatch. Then there is the caterpillar stage, where it has to eat in order to grow and store up as many nutrients as possible. Food stored during this process is used later in its adult life. This is followed by the pupa stage, otherwise known as the chrysalis stage. It is at this stage when the caterpillar has fully grown and no longer needs to eat. It then begins the next transitional phase of its life. While others may take a couple of weeks in this stage, others take up to 2 years. It looks like nothing is going on here but major changes are taking place. Once emerged from its protective shell, the adult reproductive stage takes place. The wings are beautiful with the most amazing colours and they now have the ability to fly. The female adult butterfly then finds a mate and the right plants on which to lay their eggs to begin the butterfly life cycle all over again. Sadly, the life cycle of a butterfly begins and ends with the adult butterfly. While it involves many changes, the end result is beautiful. I then did not dwell much on its lifespan but rather the beautiful process of development.

This anecdote is a lesson on appreciating the process. I can imagine what it's like when our *angels* have their first care and stimulation session in either one of our programmes, namely occupational, reflexology, hydro, music, pet, physiotherapy or art. Perhaps at some point they feel like giving up and it may appear to be an insurmountable mountain. But it is through this process that many of them reach impressive milestones such as learning to walk or feed themselves. Others learn to hold a paint brush, wave or simply smile. The process is difficult but the result is beautiful. So are our experiences with people, places and different time periods. After one milestone, another critical one takes place. There is indeed beauty at the end of the journey. What process are you currently undergoing? The egg, caterpillar, pupa or butterfly stage?

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.