

Harvesters of Jesus



(Newsletter 130 – 07/05/2010)

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.

“May you be overwhelmed every day by the grace of God, rather than by the cares of life.”

~ *Anonymous*

I have been reading the newspapers online over the past couple of weeks to try and keep up with the “outside” world while on maternity leave. What struck me as I was reading the public’s comments on articles about current affairs and politics, was how seemingly negative people have become about our country. The comments page was so long, it took me forever to scroll to the bottom of the page. I found myself also getting quite morbid after reading for a while.

For some reason, in the middle of it all, I picked up the phone and decided to phone Daniella, a resident at Elvira Rota Village, to thank her for a card she made to congratulate us on the birth of our baby. The joy in her voice when she recognised mine was so sweet and I was just as happy to talk to her again, as it’s been a while since we’ve seen each other. She kept saying “I love you” to me throughout our conversation. I hung up the telephone when we’d said goodbye and switched off my computer. Suddenly, I did not want to read any further. I was happy knowing that life as I know it carries on. The children of LITTLE EDEN are oblivious of what goes on in the world and it makes no real difference to their lives.

Personally, I would rather focus on making a difference in the lives of the people I love, than to spend my time focusing on the negative – it won’t change anything! I’ve accepted that hatred, poverty and injustice will always be with us. Fortunately, we have the power to choose to react in a constructive way where we are needed.

At LITTLE EDEN, the Prayer of St Francis is prayed with the children on a daily basis. I wish there was an intercom that resonated across *South Africa* every morning with this well-known prayer to remind every single person that peace, love and kindness starts within our own hearts: “Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy...”

Will you make this prayer your own and find a way to apply it in your daily life?

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.