

Holy Cross Retreat

Letter 136



23rd September, 2022

Greetings,



It was good to have the Jubilee icon at Holy Cross for a few days. It is continuing it's journey around the province (and the world). This coming weekend it will be at Endeavour Hills.

Brett Daly



Last Saturday evening around 11.10pm, Brett Daly returned to his home which he shared with two friends. Another friend dropped them off on the opposite side of the road to their home in Riversdale Road, Hawthorn East. Having got out of the vehicle, Brett waited for a car to go past and then started to walk across the road, but was almost immediately hit by a vehicle he obviously did not see. He was badly injured. The driver stopped to assist. Brett was taken to Royal Prince Alfred hospital in Melbourne and placed in ICU. His injuries were later described as 'catastrophic'.

His parents, Gerard and Linda Daly were called and they rushed to the hospital. They are very active parishioners of 'our' parish, St Paul Apostle, Endeavour Hills and members of the Leadership Group for Passionist Companions, which Gerard coordinates.

Throughout the night doctors undertook efforts to respond to Brett's injuries. He was anointed early in the morning, and around 9.00am, the doctors advised Linda and Gerard, their other sons Tim and Adam and a few other close relatives, that Brett would not survive. Luke Bulley CP arrived shortly after this and stayed the remainder of the day with the family. Mid-afternoon, the family bravely advised that medical action could be taken that would bring Brett's life to an end. Luke anointed Brett again with the family and his two housemates, and he passed away shortly before 3.30pm Sunday.

We ask your prayers for the family at this most difficult time. Linda has only recently faced the death of her father. To 'give back' a young son with a final embrace, is a deep pain that is hard to imagine for those of us who have not suffered it, and a pain for siblings and other close relatives and friends and housemates. We give thanks for Luke's faithful ministry throughout this time and the days to come. Brett's funeral will be next Wednesday at 10.00am at St Paul Apostle church, Endeavour Hills. There will be a rosary on Tuesday night at 7.00pm.

John Gill

We were able to farewell John on Tuesday with a very good number of family, friends and faith associates especially from Sts Peter and Paul's and Holy Cross. Kevin, Erick and myself were present and it was a privilege to be part of the celebration for such a wonderful family, and such a respected man. Please keep Jenny in your prayers. After an intense two months of hospital visits and family gatherings the reality of now having to live alone, will be a jolt. Once again, we were blessed to have Tim's presence as funeral director at such a time. Tim will also assist the Daly family

Coming and going

Phi arrived safely from Saigon on Tuesday morning

Erick is away until October 8th

Our community has increased from six to eleven:

Jerome, Chris, Pastor, Erick, Phi, John, Tri, Dung, Toan, Thang and myself.

We are still awaiting Joseph Dominic Tan.

We will enjoy Pastor being with us while we can. We cheered home the Rabbitohs with him on Saturday night. He and Erick went for a brief 34 kilometre run on Monday.

World Migrant and Refugee Sunday

Pope Francis has asked us recognise the barriers that exist due to individualism or nationalism. *"The truth however is that we are all in the same boat and called to work together so that there will be no more walls that separate us, no longer others, but only a single 'we', encompassing all of humanity,"*

PROVINCE HISTORY 7. CHANGE (1965-1979)

The changes mooted by the Second Vatican Council were taking effect soon after Vatican 2 ended in 1965. I was told that Archbishop Rush called from Rome and instructed that the altar in St Stephens cathedral in Brisbane should be turned around so Mass facing the people was possible before his return!

Since the Document on the Liturgy was the first promulgated, Passionists like John Cummins and Augustine Fitzsimmons became involved in liturgical missions and our Scripture faculty contributed to renewal, by offering education to clergy, religious and laity, particularly in Adelaide and Melbourne in those years after the Council. It was a great benefit to the Province that within years of the Council the Passionists

Catechetics

had such a highly qualified faculty of theologians. Diocesan priests involved in instructing catechists from the late 1960's through to the mid 1970's

credited Nick and Robert Crotty, Jerome Crowe and Greg Manly with having a profound influence on scriptural and theological learning within Melbourne Archdiocese. The same was true in Adelaide a few years earlier.



With a new Archbishop finally granting the Passionists permission to establish a foundation in Melbourne, a decision was taken to build a new seminary for the increasing numbers of students. A number of religious congregations had established formation houses in what was

referred to as the 'seminary belt'. It was estimated that by 1968 there were 300 seminarians from religious Congregations in Melbourne. That year, the philosophy students from Adelaide and the newly professed from the novitiate in Goulburn joined the community in Melbourne, creating a community of sixty-eight, of whom fifty-two were students. Studies were undertaken with the Blessed Sacrament students.

Dairy farming was the primary vocation of the pioneer settlers along the river flats in Templestowe and Bulleen well into the 20th century. Orcharding was taken up in the 1870s which brought prosperity for the district. Apples, peaches, lemons, pears and other stone fruits were grown. Fruit, vine-growers and market gardeners built new and more comfortable houses, using brick and weatherboard as materials.





In the 1960's the Melbourne Board of Works reclassified all Doncaster's orchards as residential and valued them as such for rating purposes. The annual rates rose tenfold and land tax went from nil to 485 pounds and then doubled in four years. It could cost one thousand pounds just to keep an orchard, and many sold up and sub-divided.

In 1967 when Doncaster and Templestowe were declared a combined city, there were still one hundred and seventy-nine orchards. By 1986 only ten orchards remained and by 1992 only two remained. Many who had sought escape from suburbia now saw their way of life change from orchards to 'Ostentatia'. The property next door to us (205 Serpells) is one square acre and the house is a typically small Edwardian bungalow orchard house. The property in August 2022 is for sale for \$1.5 million!



In 2011, the Melbourne age reported, "Known as Templestowe's Golden Mile, Serpells Road is an avenue of mansions that is almost unrivalled in Melbourne. Some Brighton and Toorak streets may give Serpells Road a run for its money, but in terms of



individual property, land size and sheer numbers of huge houses in the one street, you'd be hard pressed to find more amazing properties in one spot anywhere. High on a ridge of land, Serpells Road has views to die for and the elevated position has drawn buyers with cash to splash for decades".

There has been much rejoicing over the years that Charles Corbett and his Provincial Council had the foresight to purchase what had been an apple and pear orchard of 4.6 hectares. at a cost of 20,000 pounds (\$610,000). The building and furnishings were constructed at a cost of 180,000 pounds (\$5,500,000). Holy Cross was officially opened on May 23rd, 1965. The first students really found out what was meant by "making your own bed", because they did just that, along with desks, chairs and wardrobes which are still in use today.



A suspension bridge was erected in Wood Street adjacent to Finns reserve in 1955 for use by the Blessed Sacrament Fathers (Blessed Sacs) who had built their seminary on the north side of the river in 1952. After Holy Cross opened, a close relationship developed between the two Congregations who shared classrooms and lecturers as early as 1968. The seminary was closed and has been used for a number of years as Odyssey House Drug Rehabilitation Centre.



The parish of St Kevin’s Templestowe was officially commissioned in January 1971 with Fr Charlie McCann as the first parish priest. Previously, Templestowe had been attached to Heidelberg and later, Templestowe and with Bulleen were part of Doncaster parish. There was no presbytery when Charlie arrived so he spent two years living at Holy Cross and this was the

beginning of a very long and happy relationship between Charlie and the Passionists until he retired in 2001.

In 1974 the Marist Brothers bought a property and established their Provincial residence in Tuscany Drive. They relocated in Templestowe in 2019. Melbourne archdiocese purchased three hectares of and across the road from Holy Cross in 1964 and St Charles Borromeo school opened in 1983. A very long and beneficial relationship with Maria Kirkwood began when Maria was principal of St Charles from 1986-1993.



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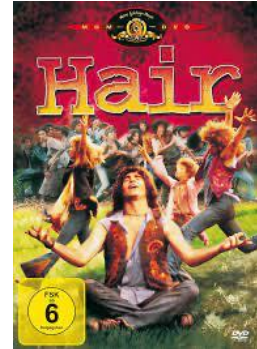
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Bob Dylan released the song, 'The times are a Changin' in 1964. It was the catch-cry of a generation. Rapid change occurred in the last years of that decade. As religious Congregations sought to recapture the spirit of their founders, the Passionists, like other Orders underwent dramatic change in lifestyle.

The late sixties was an era of radical societal change, characterised by a questioning of authority. This mood of rebellion and questioning in the Western world was reflected in Templestowe, when the faculty raised the issue of clerical dress in the public forum early in 1968. In May 1968, the director of students, Fr Dominic Morris, resigned, having become convinced that the mood of anti-authority had become impossible for him.



Interestingly in his lengthy letter of resignation, Dominic said that he could not truly guide students in this new era of 'anti-authority', where students challenged the priests and some priests challenged the Church, and their bishops. (more about that next week). Dominic said despite these attitudes he had never lived in a community where there was so much love, support and care of one another, and he did not want to stand in the way of those important and wonderful characteristics.

Change was on the way! **(To be continued)**

Suppression of St Joseph's Province



The reason we are sharing the history of Holy Spirit Province is because it is 100 years since Australia became a separate entity from our St Joseph's Province in England. We have noted how incredibly generous that Province was in sending young and middle-aged religious to Australia, including two

former Provincials, to give us a firm grounding in what was required. It was only after 35 years of their presence here that we were able to become independent, and even then, many of those men continued to assist us with their ministerial presence.

Now in a story typical of life throughout the Universe, that Province that gave us life has this week been suppressed as a unique entity, at the gathering of General Synod of the Passionists, in Rome. The religious will join St Patrick's Province which was itself founded from St Joseph's, so that England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales will continue to have a Passionist presence



Those present at their own Chapter in 2021 agreed unanimously that the Province no longer has the capacity for effective leadership. When St Patrick's Province met in Chapter, they received a formal request from St Joseph's Province for their religious to be incorporated into St Patrick's

Province and the St. Patrick's Chapter unanimously agreed to the incorporation.

Since that English chapter last year, three men have died, leaving them with just 12 members, three of whom are ministering in Sweden. Others are in aged care. Only 5 Passionists are active in England with an average age of 85.

Our Province came to incorporate Papua New Guinea, New Zealand and Vietnam and the most significant flow of vocations at this time is in Vietnam. We can resonate with the decline and ageing of men in the home country but share with them a growth in lay Passionist involvement in ministry and life.



This decision to hand over administration and suppress the Province marks a very meaningful moment, following the sending of Dominic Barbieri in 1842 to fulfil part of the Paul of the Cross' dream. The mission of the Passionists will continue in England through new collaboration between professed male and female religious and Passionist laity from different Provinces. Our own Tiernan Doherty is leading the community in Highgate, London.

Humour

1. A politician visited the local psychiatric hospital, and asked "How do you decide whether someone should be admitted here?"

"Well", said the director, "we fill a bath with water, then give the patient a teaspoon, a mug and a bucket, and ask them to empty the bath as quickly as possible".

"I see" said the politician, and if they have any sense they would choose the bucket".

"No", said the director, "if they have any sense they pull the plug out. Would you like a room with a view?"

2. A pair of cows were talking in a field. One said, "Have you heard of the mad cow disease going around?"

"Yes", the other cow said. It makes me glad I'm a penguin!"

3. A waiter recommend to a lady and her friends that they try his special coffee. They agreed. When they tasted it, one of them said to the waiter, "this coffee tastes like dirt and mud"

"Yes", he said it was freshly ground"

4. A young boy entered a hairdresser's shop. The barber whispered to a customer, "Watch how dumb this kid is."

"Son he said, "See here I have a \$5 note in this hand and a 50 cent coin in the other hand. Which one do you want?"

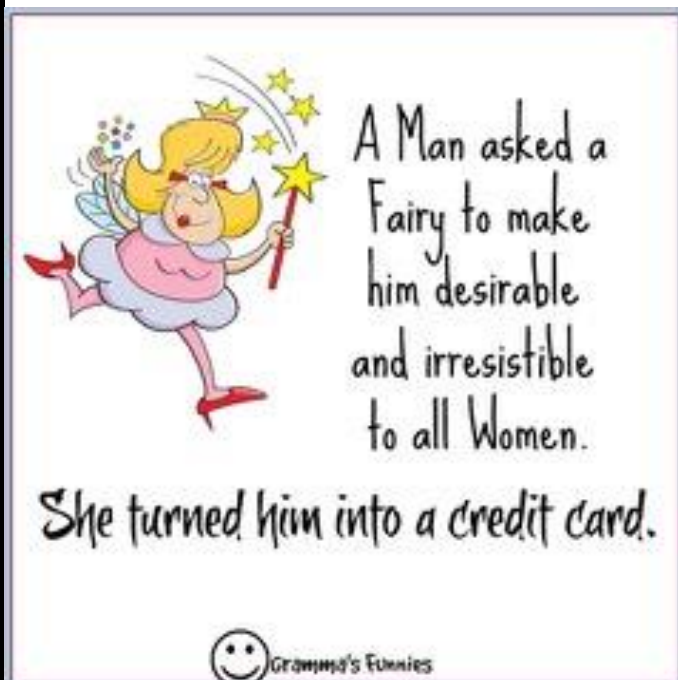
The boy took the 50 cent coin and left.

Later the customer saw the boy coming out of McDonalds eating a cone ice-cream.

He said to the boy, "Can you tell me why you took the coin instead of the \$5 note?"

"Because", the boy said, "the day I take the note, the game is over!"

ONE MINUTE YOU'RE 21.
STAYING UP ALL NIGHT DRINKING
BEER, EATING PIZZA AND DOING
SKETCHY STUFF JUST FOR FUN.
THEN...
IN A BLINK OF AN EYE YOU'RE
50, DRINKING WATER, EATING
SALAD AND YOU CAN'T DO ANY
SKETCHY STUFF, BECAUSE
YOU PULLED A MUSCLE
PUTTING ON YOUR SOCKS.



Ill never forget the look on the cashiers face, when she scanned the packet of bird seed, And I asked her how long does it take for the birds to grow once I plant them.

A young executive was leaving the office late one evening when he found the CEO standing in front of a shredder with a piece of paper in his hand. "Listen", said the CEO, "this is a very sensitive document here, and my secretary has gone for the night. Can you make this thing work?"

"Certainly", said the young executive. He turned the machine on, inserted the paper document, and pressed the start button.

"Excellent, excellent!" said the CEO, as his paper document disappeared inside the machine. I just need one copy!

Prayers

We remember those deceased, especially Brett Daly and Joe Shields, a family man in 40's who recently died from COVID. We also remember those whose anniversaries are in the coming week, especially Krystyna Kulpinska (Sept 21st; Adrian Day (Sept 26th) Wladyslawa Kulpinska and Frank Ryan (Sept 29th).

Fr Jim Elmore CP

Jim was hospitalised at Sydney's RPA suffering reactions to chemotherapy. Upon admission he was found to have COVID and a day or two later he caught pneumonia. Jim has undergone tremendously health challenges over many years as a result of cancer. It would seem that now Jim has only a short time left. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

**I thank my God
every time I
remember you.
In all of my prayers
for all of you,
I always pray with joy.**

Philippians 1:3-4

We pray for all of our Holy Cross family who are unwell especially Jim Elmore CP, Maree Bartoli, Jim Molan, Maeve and John Reardon, Paul Darbyshire, Jim Monaghan, Mary Dunn, Barry Wong, Helen McLean, Gerry Bond, Peter Owen, Denise Glasgow, Graham Hille, Dominic Isgro, Errol Lovett, Angelo Vigilante, Norm Heyhorn, Greg Agosta, Chris O'Toole, Pam Gartland, Lesley Yang, Peter DeMarzi, Anne Jenkins, Mary Corkoren, Sr Gen Walsh RSC, Peter McNamara, Patricia Keeghan, Michael Doyle, Mary Coburn, Mary Hackett, Margaret Wright, Kate Dunn, Marg Casey, Jim Elmore, Ray Sanchez CP and those who seek or need our prayers.

The **Mass link** will be sent by Chris on Saturday afternoon.

Have a good weekend

Brian