

## Holy Cross Retreat



### Letter 184

25<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

Greetings,



It has been quieter week at Holy Cross, although **Phi** has been in a lot of pain since Monday with sciatica. Hopefully he can improve with medication and treatment. He had prayed Psalm 90 the day before, *“Seventy years are given to us! Some even live to eighty. But even the best years are filled with pain and trouble; soon they disappear, and we fly away”*. He said, “I am only half of 70!”



It is pleasing to know **Gerry Bond** is out of hospital. He is a bit restricted as far as mobility is concerned but ever one for a party, Gerry was able to celebrate **Pat's** 88<sup>th</sup> birthday (which was last Wednesday).

**Peter Owen** recently had three falls and is presently in Mitcham hospital. His health is fragile so this is a very difficult challenge at his age (91) for him and for Bernadette. Please keep them in your prayers.

### Passionist Companions

On Wednesday, eleven Companions gathered to reflect on the influence of our Mothers on our faith, through the lens of Mary McKillop and Mary the mother of Jesus. There was some very interesting and enriching sharing, especially from those (four) whose mothers were of a different faith tradition and how this broadened their understanding of what faith is.

### Coming up...for your diary

**Sunday September 24<sup>th</sup>** Anointing Mass & Coffee cart here after Mass

**Thurs October 19<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm** Feast of Paul of the Cross (Please join us)

**Sun November 12<sup>th</sup>:** 10.00am (Mass for deceased relatives)

**Sat & Sun November 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>:** Passionist Institute

Sat: 11.00am-2.45pm (at Holy Cross & online)

Sun: 1.30pm-5.30pm (at Holy Cross & online)

### No execution

Recently word was passed on that our brothers in Endeavour Hills had purchased a wheel chair for Brian Gleeson. What we heard was that “he now has an electric chair”. We were greatly relieved to know it was an electric wheelchair!

### Dr Elizabeth Lewis RIP



Elizabeth has been an incredibly generous volunteer doctor and surgeon in our PNG mission. She worked very closely with many of our men over many years at her own expense, uplifting, improving and saving the lives of many under-privileged children and their families in the Sandaun Province. She has been described:

“Elizabeth is just a great human being full of care for those who need it most” We heard that Elizabeth was in a terminal stage of health suffering with cancer and advised that she had died earlier this morning. We commend her to your prayers.

### Passionist sisters profession



The Passionist family in Vietnam is growing rapidly. In Saigon last Saturday, Passionist sisters Xuan, Ngan and Mai made their first vows (for three years) as members of the Congregation of the Cross and Passion. You can see Sr Brigid (alongside Sr Rosie) who like Brigid, is from Ireland) in the front row below, and Sr Carmen Gloria CP from Chile next to Vy. They have guided the young Passionist women in Vietnam in recent years, and for Rosie to manage the totally different climate and culture over that time, is nothing short of heroic.



Dressed in black (left to right) [Xuân, Ngàn, Mai and Vy](#)

If you think traffic around Melbourne is bad (and it is).....



This photo was taken on the Beijing–Hong Kong–Macau Expressway in 2010. 50-lanes filled with traffic were condensing into 20 lanes. The traffic jam lasted several days.

### Humour

- The soldier decided to desert his desert in the desert.
- A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes
- I do not object to the object.
- The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- There was a row amongst the oarsmen about how to row.
- They were too close to the door to close it.
- The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend.
- To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.

- I read the red-covered book to my brother because he hadn't read it



**I ended up going for a run yesterday. I didn't plan on it but the ice cream van didn't stop.**

**It's never too late to start exercising. That's why I'm waiting until later.**



I hate it when people act all intellectual and talk about Mozart, while they've never even seen one of his paintings...



"It was so cold last night, my teeth chattered all night. I finally had to get up and take 'em out of the glass."



## Another funeral



Kevin Hennessy and Joseph Liaia (Joey) travelled to Goulburn on Tuesday to attend the funeral of ex-PNG missionary [Sister Gerardine Agnew RSJ](#).

Ron Davoren and Kien (background) also travelled from Marrickville. Bishop Pat Power also attended with Sr Carmel Clear who worked especially with Bro Jim and Bro Jerome in PNG.

## Prayers

We remember those whose anniversaries are around this time and their families,  
[John Bick](#) (brother of Maree Metcalfe (30<sup>th</sup> August)

[Tony Van der Haar](#) (27<sup>th</sup> August)

[Dorothy Lee](#) (Bernadette Owen's sister) (27<sup>th</sup> August)

[Maria Robson](#) (27<sup>th</sup> August)

[Dorothy Vandersluys](#) (sister of Peter Cahill (19<sup>th</sup> August),



We also remember those in our Holy Cross family who are unwell, especially Peter Owen Gerry Bond, Alexander Lim, Pam Storey, Maree Bartoli, Monica and Anthona Hennessy, Lynda Chin, Des Grisell, Michael O'Callaghan, Phil Drew, Maeve Reardon, Bronwyn Burke, Peter McNamara, Helen McLean, Greg Agosta, Angelo Vigilante, Pam Gartland, Sr Gen Walsh RSC, Patricia Keeghan, Mary Hackett, Errol Lovett, Anne Jenkins, Mary and Kate Dunn, Chris O'Toole, Brian Gleeson CP, Gerald Quinn CP

The **Mass link for this Sunday** will be sent by Chris.

Brian

