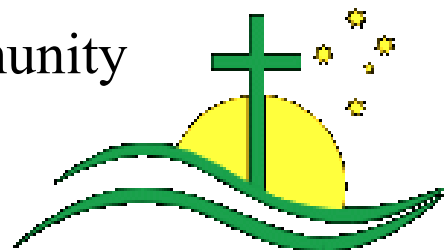




St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

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<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills>



The Ascension of the Lord Sunday, 28-229May, 2022

'It's the small things that matter' *(written by Fr Chris Saenz, taken from Columban magazine)*

The "small things", as St. Therese the little Flower would say, are an important aspect of spirituality and mission. Yet don't get a romantic notion of what that means or how it looks like. Often the small things can be a nuisance, an inconvenience and a pain in the side. That is the moment we have to be alert to what God teaches us in the small things. I learned such some years ago when I worked in southern Chile.

I was living in the rural countryside populated by the indigenous Mapuche people of Chile. One day, after visitations and meetings I arrived home late, tired and hungry. With a cup of tea I sat down to watch the local news. Suddenly there was a knock on my door. What! Who can that be! My mind raced thus, completely upset by the intrusion.

I opened the door to see Kata, one of the Fijian lay missionaries who lived next door. "Sorry to disturb you," she apologized, probably seeing discontent on my face. "There is a woman here to see you. She is in our house." I told Kata that I will be there. With a huff and grump I changed my clothes and went over.

It was unusual that someone, most of all a woman, be out at this hour. I was surprised to discover that there were

two women waiting for me, one being Maria who lived quite far from our location. They greeted me

We from North America and Europe value being direct- "getting to the point"- so as not "to waste time." However, in rural Chile, being direct is not a value. It is consider rude and poor education. The women began the usual general questions of how was I doing, my family, my health, etc.

Being in Chile for several years I was accustomed to it, but tonight it was a torture. I begrudgingly participated. After about 30 minutes they finally got to the point. Maria explained to me that after shopping in the large city (two hours away by bus), they 'arrived late to town missing the last bus to her area. in fact, no buses were running except the one bus that passed by my house. Maria told her companion, "This bus goes by Father's house. Father is my friend, he will help us." Darn! I thought. They want me to take them home! More than an hour of wasted time! Yet, I told them, "no problem".

After I took the first woman home, I drove to Maria's house engaging in small talk. We arrived and it was completely dark except for the lights of the house. When I parked the truck in front of the house Maria looked at me and said in a cautious tone, "Father, please stay in the truck while I get down first." I thought it was strange request as I had been to her house many times before.

I looked at the doorway and saw a figure standing there, her husband. The inside lights highlighted his aggressive stance. It was then that realized the complexity of Maria's situation of which I was completely ignorant of due to my being "bothered" with Marie's small request for a lift home.

The rural culture is very macho. Maria was a married woman who did not arrive in the last bus of the night. Her husband's mind would be filled with thoughts of what Maria could be doing at such a late hour. This was further complicated by the fact that Maria, a poor woman, could not hire a taxi from the small town because the distance and hour would be a large fare.

Furthermore, even if a good Samaritan were to take her home, all the drivers were men. Who could this strange man be bringing Maria home so late, her husband would think, Maria was caught in a no-win situa-

Weekday Masses

Monday
9am Mass

Tuesday
9am Mass

Wednesday
7pm Mass

Thursday
9am Mass

Friday
9am Mass

Saturday
6pm Mass

Sunday
9am, 11am & 6pm Mass

Please note Sunday 11am is also
ONLINE

Please click on this link to follow

<https://youtu.be/Gwmv60cq0XE>

Reconciliation
Saturday 10am—10.30am

Priests:
Fr Brendan Connell CP (PP)
Fr Luke Bulley CP

Parish Staff:
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)
Didi Karkas (Secretary)

Passionist Community
Fr Brian Gleeson CP
Fr Kevin Hennessy CP

**St Paul Apostle North
Primary School**
Ph. 9700 6068
Principal
Mrs Mary Lucas

**St Paul Apostle South
Primary School**
Ph. 9700 3663
Principal
Mr Paul Gleeson

**St John's
Regional College**
Ph. 9791 3366
Principal
Mr Tim Hogan

tion until she saw her only way out—possibly the only man who could save her from this misunderstood but tense situation — the priest. Her friendship with me could make a difference.

Maria began conversing with her husband. Things sounded and looked tense. Eventually, I stepped out of the truck and shouted, "Don Jose!" The aggressive man turned towards me with a puzzled look. "Don Jose," I repeated, "How are you doing? How are crops this year?" When Jose recognized my voice, his body posture relaxed. "Father, is that you?" he said. "Yes", I responded, "I was out late and ran into your wife who was waiting for the bus.

Since the bus already left I decided to bring her home." Jose looked at his wife, than at me and said, "Father come in, we will drink some tea and have something to eat." Food is a good sign that all will be fine. The tense mood was gone. Maria was relieved and thankful. I shared a meal with them and arrived home very late.

Mission is not necessarily about sacraments (catechism, formation) or about construction (churches, parish buildings), but more often is about the small things, the daily living with people.

I myself cannot boast of any great buildings or other works in my name during my years in Chile. Yet, I believe my contribution to mission has been the friendships formed and transformed with the people! minister to. That is a small thing that matters.

FAREWELL

On Friday 20th of May, we farewelled **EUGENE REBEIRO**, one of our long-time parishioners. For many years he faithfully served as a communion minister at our weekend Mass. Below is a beautiful tribute from his family:



Eugene Rebeiro passed away peacefully on the 9th of May. He was the loving husband of Patricia, a guiding light to his sons, Jerome and Rohan, and a devoted sibling to his sister Joyce. He was deeply spiritual and a man of great faith. He is now at peace and reunited with his mother, father, brothers and sister in eternal life.

We will keep Patricia and the family in our prayer during this difficult time.

After School Religious Education Program (ASRE)

All Children who are registered for this year's First Communion Program and do not attend a Parish School, are required to attend this class (in addition to attending family nights).

It runs on **TUESDAYS from 4pm to 5pm** in the Church. Parents, or Guardians, are required to sign the child in on arrival and sign them out on departure.

The next classes are: **14 June and 12 July**. Attendance on all dates is compulsory.

JUSTICE GROUP - EGG COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

This weekend our Justice Group will be conducting the 'Egg collection' to assist asylum seekers. Your support to this cause is

greatly appreciated

PASSIONIST COMPANION - 'Come and See'

Our Passionist Companion group is inviting all who are interested in knowing more about the group to an introduction session to be held on **SATURDAY, 18th JUNE**. The day will commence at 8.30am and end at 12pm at the Tim O'Toole (the Annexe) hall. Topic of discussion will be 'Understanding Passionist Charism'. Facilitators are Sr Brigid Murphy CP and Sr Karen Englebreetsen CP. The session will be followed by a BBQ lunch. For catering and material purposes, please contact Gerard or Oswyn if you are interested (email: Gerard Daly gerard.daly23@bigpond.com or Oswyn Trindade oswyn.trindade@gmail.com.)

Passionist Pilgrimage to Cambodia and Vietnam 2022/2023

We will be working in Cambodia from December 28th 2022, until January 5th, 2023. With our partners, Volunteer Building Cambodia ([https:// www.volunteerbuildingcambodia.org/](https://www.volunteerbuildingcambodia.org/)), we will build two houses for poorer families in rural Siem Reap. Our work will further help the VBC Community School, which provides education for disadvantaged rural students.

We will also be in Vietnam from January 8th to 19th, 2023. We will be working with disabled orphans, children born HIV+, and other disadvantaged children and families.

For further details, don't hesitate to get in touch with Fr Peter Gardiner CP at cppilg2023@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/VietnamPilg23/> and <https://www.facebook.com/CambPilg23/>

Readings:

The Ascension of the Lord Sunday

Acts 1: 1-11
Eph 1: 17-23;
Lk 24: 46-53

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2: 1-11;
Rom 8: 8-17;
Jn 14: 15-16, 23-26

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those whose sick

Horace Stolke, Rene Weston, Christakis Isodiou, Mary Hili, Nestor Santos, Collette, Angelo Fernandes, Marcia Fernandes, Reginald, Annette Perera, Ronald Peters, Godfrey Joseph, Kirk Smaller, June Smaller, Camilla D'Rozario, Sr. Serafina, Bryony, Findlay Lawless, Ismael Bermudez, Domenica Lombardi, Dwayne Edmonds, Anne Ghatt, Chase McCarthy, Graham Hawkesworth, Esric Jackson, Emily Broadbent, and All those in aged care or home-bound with chronic health issues

Those who have died

Lesinali Tovo Faleafa, Eugene Rebeiro, Alex Samawi, Sam Hili, Jose Calixto, Trevor Chapman, Gaetan Clark, Newton Lowe, Miriam Lowe, George Philip *and all who are named in our church memorial book*

May they rest in peace



We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults

