

## How often do you pray?

From Mumbai to Mudgee, where you live influences how much you pray. Or so shows this month's global survey.

Just 23% of Australians say they pray daily, while 66% of people in Malaysia, the Philippines and India are daily worshippers.

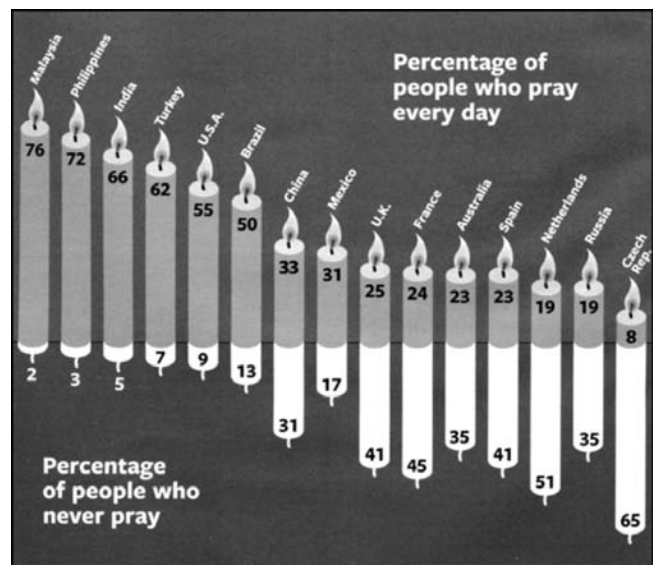
In Europe 65% of respondents in the Czech Republic claim to never pray, followed by those in the Netherlands, France, Spain and the UK.

The trend stops across the Atlantic, where 55% of Americans pray daily.

See the complete findings at [readersdigest.com.au/worldquestions](http://readersdigest.com.au/worldquestions).

*Ask the World*

*Reader's Digest May 2009*



**ASSUMPTION COLLEGE, KILMORE** The College held an 'In the Champagnat Way' Programme for 25 staff on April 27th and May 4th, 2009. Carolyn Young and Bernie Jephson led the Programme. Brothers Tony Caddy, Doug Walsh and Peter Walsh, from the Formation and Vocations Team, assisted on the second afternoon. The Programme concluded with some traditional Marist hospitality.

## *Many Thanks ...*

*Preparing the Province Newsletter over many years has not only been a privilege but also a rewarding occupation for me.*

*Many Brothers and friends at home and abroad have taken an interest in Newsletter by contributing or suggesting material to be used.*

*It was always quite a thrill to get a string of jokes, stories, photos or reports from our British correspondents in Germany and Scotland or from the Brothers in Forbes or the West as well as from the Pacific and Melanesia.*

*At times the technical aspects would get the adrenalin flowing until it was safely in the hands of our printer persons, Br Linus Meehan for many years and now Br Peter Howes who have worked behind the scenes to get the paper copy into our hands.*

*So now I am wondering what I will do after breakfast ...*

*As I move on I would still welcome layout jobs from communities on an occasional basis.*

*With gratitude and best wishes*

*Des*





## Song - I Have a Dream

• A tribute to Martin Luther King • )

Tune: *Finlandia*

I have a dream that people will be free  
No longer prey to greed and tyranny;  
When structures of oppression will fall down  
And seeds of justice on this earth are sown.  
I dream a world where all can live as one  
Where love is known, God's will is surely done

I have a dream that children will be fed  
Both young and old receive their daily bread  
A home be found for every refugee  
All humankind know greater dignity  
I dream a world where deeds of love are found  
And acts of kindness everywhere abound

I have a dream that valleys will arise  
And hills and mountains fall before our eyes  
Where rough is smoothed and crooked places straight  
When Christ shall reign and love replaces hate  
I dream the fears that tear us all apart  
Shall be dissolved by love within each heart

I have a dream that knows the lasting worth  
Of every person living on this earth  
But dreams will fade like mists in morning sun  
Without the will to see that right is done  
So, wide awake, I seek the just and true  
That all God's children might receive their due

© *The Reverend Ian Collings*

## THE RAINBOW PRAYER

Dear Loving Lord, Creator of all,  
You created us all in your own image,  
One image - many colours  
One image - many cultures.

You made us come together like a rainbow,  
Separate parts but coming together in one creation.  
Help us to see the beauty you have created in each and every  
one of us.

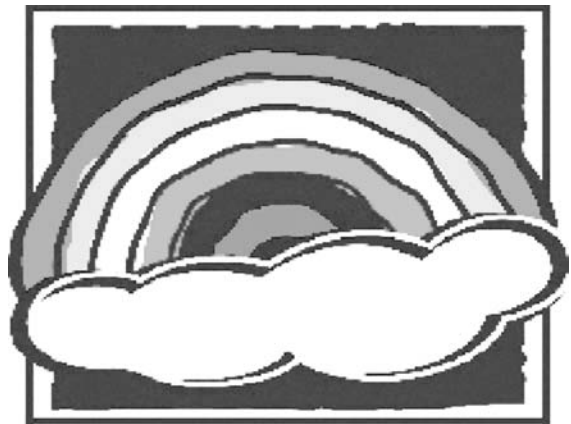
Dear Loving Lord, we are your creation,  
Hear the cries of your people.  
You gave us ears to hear and eyes to see,  
Open our eyes to what you want us to see  
Help us to always look to you to see the wisdom of your  
ways.

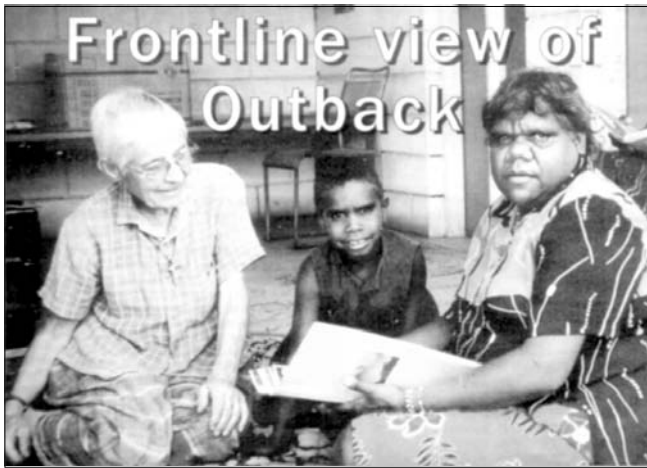
Dear loving Lord, Creator of all  
You gave us hearts to love and minds to reason.  
Help us to understand our differences and grow in love for  
each other  
Help us to come together as the rainbow comes together,  
many colours  
shining as one creation over all the earth  
As you intended us to be.

In the name of your dear Son, Jesus Christ.  
Amen

by *Robyn Davis*

*NATSIAC Member, Diocese of Bendigo, Anglican Community*





**Outback Encounter:** Sr Magali with members of the Yuendumu community [Northern Territory]

**Sister Magali** has seen many profound changes in the half a century she has spent in outback Australia, living side by side with Aboriginal communities in fringe camps, Third World-style reserves, and "out country".

Yet the 73-year-old Little Sister of Jesus is as much disheartened now for aboriginal well-being as when she arrived in 1951 in Alice Springs to live in a squalid Aboriginal reserve that reminded French nun of the prisoner of war camps in her own country.

We have seen some change, (but) now we see them going backwards again," she says of the Northern Territory intervention by the Federal Government in 2007 which has taken control over many communities. Both she and fellow Little Sister Claire, also 73 and a 23-year veteran of outback life, have had a frontline view of the impact of the intervention where they live among the mostly Waripiri people at Yuendumu, 300 kilometres north-west of Alice Springs.

Also of great concern to the two sisters is the increasing despair of young Aboriginal people, with rising suicides robbing communities of their lifeblood.

"For the old people, they have no-one to pass on their traditions," Sister Magali said. "At the same time, there are a lot of babies and toddlers: it's a future, but what future?"

The two Sisters were in Adelaide recently to attend the Little Sisters annual meeting on issues facing their community. They were also invited by the SA Reconciliation Circle to share their life experience in a prescribed area in the NT.

Fifty years in the Australian desert was an unlikely life for Sister Magali who hailed originally from Auvergne in France and trained as a restaurant manager before answering the call to be a Little Sister. She was 20 when she arrived in Central Australia as part of the order's mission to live among groups "whose day-to-day life is marked by division, racism, poverty or violence".

In 1960s Australia that meant having to fight for

the "right" to live in the Aboriginal-only reserve of Amoonguna, now a thriving arts centre but then a segregated hovel of tin sheds behind barbed wire. Since then the Little Sisters have shared many adversities and triumphs with the people, glorying particularly in the 1967 referendum and emergence in the 1970s of the land rights movement.

Sister Magali admits to having been "not very practical" initially in bush skills. But her efforts to light a campfire one day led to a lifetime connection with one Aboriginal clan, which remains family today. While communication was often very difficult, the Little Sisters made strong connections at a religious level. "Aboriginal people are very spiritual, with a very strong faith. It is a challenge to us to match it."

And eventually white people became converts to the Little Sisters' cause. "Some said 'what a waste of your lives' but after a few years they said it was great we were there ... they realised we might not be that crazy!" Constant breakdowns on her motorbike between Alice Springs and the reserve also meant many who stopped to help got a wake up call when they dropped her back at Amoonguna.

"They got a big shock - many people did not realise (the reality of) Aboriginal life," she said.

Still it has been tough at times. At a personal level, it was hardest for her to cope with the "throwaway" mentality of Australian - not just Aboriginal - life, after growing up in Europe through the deprivations of the war years. But asked if she ever despaired personally with life in such a physically hostile environment, she speaks only of the hurts endured by the Aboriginal people, not least with the intervention which she sees as having once again robbed them of their human rights and their communities of the capacity and right to govern themselves.

And the Sisters experience it first hand. As aged pensioners living in the community, they must also account to Centrelink about what they intend to do with their money, before they are granted full access. It's designed to protect family income from alcohol and other abuse but, the Sisters say, there's no one-size-fits-all solution for Aboriginal issues - action has to take into account different traditions and communities.

They believe forcing bi-lingual and tri-lingual Aboriginal children to speak English at school will not help their attendance, and worry about the loss of control over successful community-initiated programs to stop petrol sniffing or teach parental skills.

And they remain "very disappointed" that the Rudd Labor Government did not turn back the radical laws along with making the national apology.

"To deny human rights to people is against any Christian belief," Sister Magali says.

"Maybe in a few years time we'll need another apology for what they are doing to Aboriginal people now. •

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# Priest not surprised by stunning performance

From SIMON CALDWELL in London • Catholic Weekly 26.04.09.

**THE audience** sniggered and the judges of Britain's Got Talent either rolled their eyes or allowed their blank expressions to betray their bemused skepticism as the awkward-looking middle-aged woman told them she wanted to be as famous as the popular British actress and singer Elaine Paige.

Then Susan Boyle began to sing, and they were spellbound and shocked by the beauty of her voice and rose to their feet in applause.

But Fr Basil Clark, who watched the show on television at his home in Broxburn, Scotland, was not surprised.

He has seen the situation unfold many times before, having regularly accompanied Boyle, 47, on the annual Legion of Mary pilgrimage to the Marian shrine in Knock, Ireland.

"When I watched the judges' faces it reminded me of what I was like when I first saw Susan singing - absolutely blown away by the quality of the singing and by that fantastic voice," said Fr Clark, dean of West Lothian, the district that covers Boyle's home village of Blackburn.

"Anyone who sees her for the first time behaves the same way. I have never heard her sing badly, though she might lose the words if the stress gets too much," he said.

Boyle first appeared before judges Simon Cowell, Piers Morgan and Amanda Holden on April 11.

Her fame spread on the Internet, and in just five days she had attracted more than 15 million YouTube viewings of her rendition of "I Dreamed a Dream," from the musical *Les Miserables*.

Part of Boyle's attraction is that she appears to be such an unlikely candidate for stardom. She said on TV that she has "never been kissed" and has lived alone with her cat since her mother died in 2007.

According to British media, she has learning disabilities as a result of being starved of oxygen at birth. She is unemployed and, as a church-going Catholic, her social life revolves around her family and her parish of Our Lady of Lourdes. She also enjoys karaoke in her local pub.

Fr Clark said: "When she gets up to sing it can either be wonderful or you can get the unpredictable eccentric behaviour, but it is to do with the fact that she has learning difficulties.

"In a sense, there is a beautiful voice trapped in this damaged body," he said. "It is an absolute contrast. There she was on television acting very peculiarly and the audience was expecting peculiar things to happen and then a voice of an angel comes out - and that's Susan."

Fr Clark said that local people who knew Boyle, the youngest of nine children of a family descended from Irish migrants, were "enormously proud of her and wish her the best but they are aware of the risks she is running," adding that her behaviour has previously drawn cruel taunts from children.

"People are slightly worried about what might happen after this bout of fame," he explained.

"I am quite worried for her," he added. "I think it's great at one level. It might just be the thing that will make her, but she is a very vulnerable person and it could be quite difficult.

"It is a great opportunity for her and as far as I am concerned she should make the best of it, and if it lasts, it lasts, and if it doesn't, then it's still more than almost any one of us will ever achieve," he added. "It is important in sustaining her and making sure this is all a very, very beneficial experience."

He described Boyle as "a woman of great faith" who was often "very gentle and very caring" though she could also be "needy and demanding."

The world's media has camped outside Boyle's home where she grew up and where she still sleeps in the same room as when she was a child.

But Boyle has decided to temporarily escape the limelight to stay with friends as she prepares for the next round of the competition.

She did give an interview to "The Early Show" on CBS News in which she said that her instant fame "hasn't really sunk in yet."

She said that she wanted to make her performance "a tribute to my mother" who had encouraged her to sing. •





## Kyneton Marist Brothers Old Boys Association in print

From: <http://kynetonmaristbrothersoldboys.com.au/>

*St Mary's Mission Kyneton - 1852-2002* by V.I.Ramsdale at pages 87 to 98 contains much information about the Marist Brothers and the school. The book also contains a comprehensive history of the Kyneton and district Catholic community. At the 1992 reunion Peter Law was charged with presenting the Alma Mater. It was published in *The Guardian* [Kyneton] at page 6 on Friday February 7 1992

Here it is: -

It was mum's third call at the bedroom door  
That got my feet to hit the cold floor  
Yawning and scratching I sleepily dress  
It's off to the bathroom; hell the hair's in a mess  
A stroke with the comb this way and that  
It's not too bad so on with the school cap  
It's back to the bedroom brothers and sisters rushing by  
And it's on with the honoured old school tie  
With the colours of red and blue that are on grey  
I grab a piece of toast and I'm on my way  
A bag with some books draped over one's shoulder  
I don't think "The Queen of the Uplands" has ever been colder  
Up Yaldwin East at a pretty slow trot  
I might catch my mate one called John Scott  
Turning into Mollison I'm full of glee  
There's Scottie way up in front of me  
With a couple of loud shouts I got him to stop  
And caught up to him at Martine's Butcher Shop  
There's Stan in the window hanging a body of mutton  
And we're off to school at the corner of Powlett and Hutton

Off we head with a bit of haste  
This precious time we mustn't waste  
It's into the hedge behind the Church  
Scottie produces a small packet of Turf  
With fags ablaze and both puffing hard  
Hell here's Dean O'Sullivan patrolling his yard  
With his silver locks and stern looking frown  
This is no place to be hanging around  
Off with the speed of a startled gazelle  
Here's hoping we haven't missed the blasted school bell  
Running hard both at full gait  
We got to the school; you guessed it we're late  
Into the class we try to sneak  
Both forgetting the door had a bloody loud squeak  
Brother Bonnie bellowed what is this stunt  
Both of you up to the front  
Come on Brother we haven't done nothin'  
You couldn't put anything over the legend that taught at the corner of Powlett and Hutton

Great Scoot was up first to the cane wheeling show  
As I stood there shaking waiting my go  
Taking all mine on the left hand and boy did they hurt  
With my right I near ripped my own shirt  
The time had come to turn and face my classmates  
Well all the bus travellers thought the show great  
Back to my desk with my stinging left hand  
Don't show that it's hurtin' you're all but a man  
Passing by Bevans, Boswell and Bowe  
My real emotions I tried not to show  
Down with the shirt sleeve and I've done up the button  
Boy I had respect for the brothers that taught at the corner of Powlett 'n' Hutton

Now school wasn't all smoking and getting there late  
The Brothers, they taught us how to be mates  
A kick of the footy or a hit in the nets  
Then back into school to study to become doctors or vets  
Of course this didn't happen to most of the lads  
But we had a great start to life through the Brothers and our dads  
The building still stands with its glazed tiles on top  
Memories are plenty and they all mean a lot  
Some of the Brothers and students have passed by  
Maybe they're reunited at the school in the sky  
Of the schools around the world and there's millions of others  
But there'll never be another like the Kyneton Marist Brothers  
Being a man that has an odd bet  
I think the one in the sky will be on the corner of Hutton and Powlett

### Kyneton Marist Brothers Old Boys Association



## It may be of interest ...

### **Katarina Angisala Uguni 1908 - 2009**

By Brother Henry Uguni  
*District of Melanesia Newsletter No 22,  
20 April 2009*

**Katarina Angisala Uguni** was born at Sangolobo village, Ataa Parish, Malaita province Solomon Islands in 1908. And died 20th January 2009 at Ruumomote Village Ataa parish at the age of 100 years and 20 days old.

She was the only survivor of 6 children, 5 girls and a boy. She was brought up in a noble and traditionally strict family. She was engaged and got married to Robert Uguni in 1935 at the age 27 years old. The husband was three years older than her at the time of their marriage. The husband died 22 years ago at the age 80 years old, 16th May 1986. Robert was born in 1906, the first of three boys and no girls in the family.

The Uguni family became Catholics 43 years ago, 24th December 1966. Within that period of time, Ironimo Defera Uguni the first born, became a faithful and dedicated catechist for 41 years and retired as an active catechist December, 2007.

Twenty six years ago 1982 Henry Uguni, the 6th born, became a Marist Brother. And hopefully in two years time Charles Lawgwaro Uguni will become a Diocesan priest in 2011. Charles is the 6th born of 9 children of Ironimo D.Uguni's family. It has been a blessed 43 years for the family's christian endeavour.

Katarina died leaving 10 children, 8 boys and 2 girls. Two of her boys died very young. All her children got married except three, one of which is her 6th born son, Br Henry Uguni fms.

Looking back through the family line, she died leaving 10 children, 32 grannies, 39 great grannies a total 81 people.

We as a family have expressed with our greatest love and gratitude for all that our mother, granny, great granny, relative and friend was for us during the last 100 years and 20 days.

May God our ever loving and merciful Father and Mother grant her everlasting life. May her soul rest in peace with the Lord. Amen.

*Br Henry Uguni fms  
20/1/09*



### **Sr Mary Perpetua Gill, Dominican 1924 - 2009**

During the last week of the school holidays, Sr Perpetua Gill died after an extended period of ill health. She was a person who devoted her life to the education of adolescents, particularly in the Doubleview area of Perth.



A member of the Dominican Order, she played a significant role in the evolution of the Newman College Perth of today. Mrs Jenny Lindsay, who was taught by and worked with Sr Perpetua, is a current member of the Newman staff and has written a few words about this wonderful woman:

"Sr Perpetua grew up on a wheat and sheep farm near the town of Morawa. She was educated by the Dominican sisters and moved to Dongara when she started high school at Dominican Ladies' College, where she was a boarder.

Later she decided to join the Dominican sisters and was accepted as a postulant, along with a group of young women from Ireland, in 1951.

Sr Perpetua spent her entire working life teaching in Dominican schools.

Late in 1970 after completing post-graduate studies she commenced teaching at Siena, the Dominican Girls' High School, Doubleview, where she taught Maths and Science.

In 1973 she was appointed Principal of Siena and remained Principal until her retirement at the end of 1991.

During that time she worked with the Marist Brothers and Brigidine Sisters in the Newman system of schools.

Sr Perpetua was blessed with a fine intellect and the gifts of warmth, wit and wisdom. She will be remembered by all who knew her as a woman of strength, integrity and gentleness." •

## It may be of interest ...



*St Joseph's School Subiaco Perth, scene of the labours of Brothers over many years, has now disappeared off the face of the earth. According to the drawing, St Joseph's Parish Church retains a pleasing space around it including the other side. The entrepreneurial parish priest would have seen to that in any negotiations going on about the buildings.*

### INTRODUCING "DRUSILLA" BLOG

From Terry O'Brien

This is a means for anyone associated with "Drusilla" at Macedon between the years 1948 and 1976 to keep in touch with confreres and their families. It will also contain various records and notices about reunions etc.

Terry O'Brien (Drusilla 49) has posted the blog and will manage and edit it. Currently it is "a work in progress". It will be regularly updated and improved.

The web address is courtesy of Google, and there are some limitations with the use of their templates. However the service is free.

**Address:** [drusilla1948.blogspot.com](http://drusilla1948.blogspot.com)

Please note there is no @ in this address.

**Navigating:** Click on the posts (items) in the Blog Menu.

Start with "Welcome to Drusilla".

At the bottom of each post there is room for comments.

Click on comments to access them.

Anyone can add a comment by signing in - you need an email address and password.

**New Posts** (items) If you wish to add a post you need to email it to Terry. His email address is [laurel336@hotmail.com](mailto:laurel336@hotmail.com). It is also embedded in his profile for easy access. Send text and photos.

### "Talkin' 'Bout your generation" • Shaun Micallef

A very reliable witness has reported that recently on TV in "Talkin' 'Bout your generation" Shaun Micallef said that when he was at school he won a religion prize. He attended school at St Joseph's Mitchell Park, Adelaide, now Sacred Heart College Middle School.

He was taken into a room where the prizes were laid out on display and asked to choose what he would like to be presented with. Pious youth that he was he chose a crucifix.



Brother Jordan [Redden] who was in the room at the time quietly counselled him to take one of the better prizes on offer, a nice big science fiction book which he then selected. He was happy to relate that a Marist Brother had advised him to do so. •

## It may be of interest ...

### Eyes wide shut:

#### seven ways to combat insomnia

Melbourne • The Sunday Age • 10 May 09

**Set a schedule:** Go to bed at a set time each night and get up at the same time each morning. Sleeping in at weekends may make it harder to wake up early on Monday mornings because it resets your sleep cycles for a later waking time.

**Exercise:** Try to exercise 20 to 30 minutes a day. For maximum benefit, exercise about five to six hours. Avoid caffeine, nicotine and alcohol. These are all stimulants and will keep you awake. Smokers tend to sleep more lightly and often wake up in the early morning because of nicotine withdrawal. Alcohol robs people of deep sleep and REM sleep and keeps them in the lighter stages of sleep.

**Relax before bed:** A warm bath or reading can make it easier to fall asleep. You can even train yourself to associate restful activities with sleep and make them part of your preparations for bed.

**Don't lie In bed awake:** If you can't get to sleep, don't just lie in bed. Do something else, like reading, watching television or listening to music out of bed, until you feel tired. The anxiety of being unable to fall asleep may contribute to insomnia.

**Control room temperature:** Maintain a comfortable temperature in the bedroom. Extreme temperatures may disrupt sleep or prevent you falling asleep.

**See a doctor** if you continue to have problems with sleep

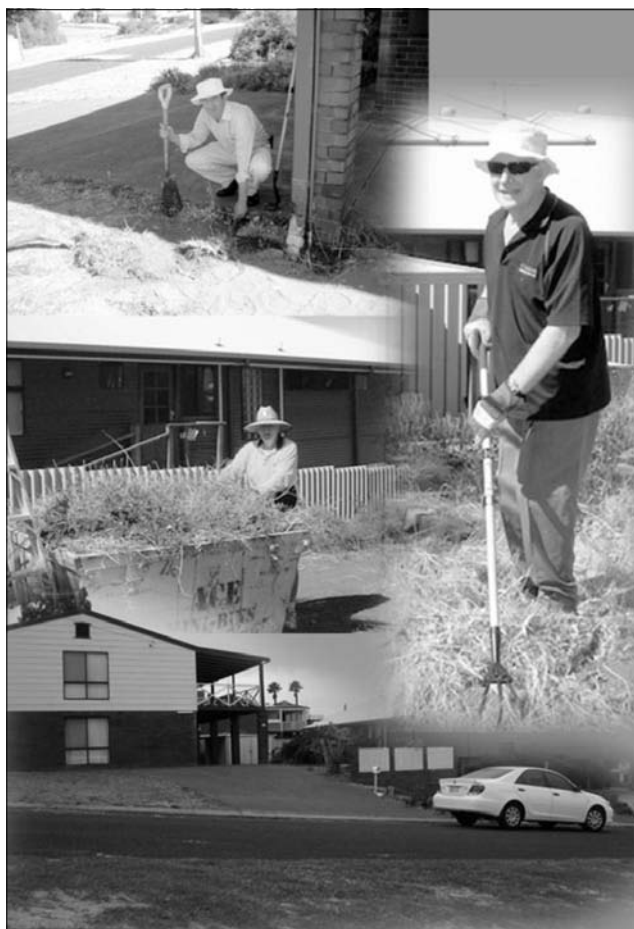
If you have trouble falling asleep every night, or if you always feel tired the next day, then you may have a sleep disorder and should see a doctor.

SOURCE:

WOOLCOCK INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

**Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans.**

John Lennon, "Beautiful Boy"  
English singer & songwriter (1940 - 1980)



**Brains and brawn** enjoy a Backyard Blitz at the Perth holiday house at Falcon. Br Matthew Clarke, top, attends to the reticulation, Br Noel Hickey and Br Terry Orrell tidy up.

"Walking home from Asquith Station," reports Hornsby's John Wong, "along the footpath I saw an old lady with a walking frame with an 'L' plate hanging on the frame. I asked her why, and she told me she was working towards her P plate. When I pointed out she is not allowed to go above 80 kmh, she said, 'I know, but sometimes I forget'". !!!

13 May 09 • Sydney Morning Herald.

### A BBC News report: 6 May 09

An expedition team which set sail from Plymouth on a 5,000-mile carbon emission-free trip to Greenland has been rescued by an oil tanker."

"[ <http://wattsupwiththat.com/2009/05/06/eco-sailors-rescued-by-big-oil-tanker/#more-7606> ]

## Exposition

'What is the purpose of this?'  
asks the man, outside.

Fair question ...

'Why do we do this?'  
asks the young boy at the Passover

'The Lord brought us out ... with a mighty hand,'  
comes the answer  
Out of exile. Fair question, fairer the answer  
We do this to remember, to make present.

And 'Do This' He says of His Paschal Meal.  
So we 'Do This' for good reason;  
Reason enough, that He says 'Do This',  
and, in doing This, we 'dwell in Him  
and He in us'. We are where He is;  
He where we are; we in Him, He in us.

And now? A Presence on the Altar;  
Simplicity Himself. Nothing to say.

No 'purpose' but  
'being-with'. Just looking.  
Being. Just Light Himself,  
Being.

*Maxine Pickering*



*A truly happy person  
is one who can enjoy the scenery  
on a detour.*



## Our deceased and their families

- Kevin O'Brien, an uncle of Br Anthony O'Brien, Traralgon Community. 14.05.09
- Sr Marcellin, sister of the late Br Gregory Robinson [Sydney Province] passed away 26.05.09. She had trained as a pharmacist and joined the St John of God Sisters in her thirties. On profession, she chose to take the name of Marcellin. She died in Perth at 85 years of age.
- John O'Loughlin, 49; Nephew of the late Br Edwin. Marcellin College Bulleen Old Boys supporter.
- Edwin Moylan, Shepparton and Wangarratta associate of the Brothers.

## For those who are unwell ...

- Noel Granger, cancer patient; cousin of Br Kevin Langley.
- Melanie Meehan, cancer diagnosis; prayers through Mary McKillop continuing. Wife of Br Linus' nephew, Matthew.
- Sister Claire O'Brien sism, accident injury; Merrylands NSW; cousin of Br Anthony, Traralgon. Known to Brothers who have worked in The Solomons. See Nletter April 09 p37
- Tom Lambert, first lay Principal Mitchell Park.
- Brother Charles Howard, Sydney.

## And also for ...

- Blessings to come from our General Chapter in Rome - September 2009

• Volume 40 • Number 5 • June 2009 •

## CONTENTS

### PAGE

3. From our Provincial  
Newsletter and Br Des Hornsby
4. Province News
9. History Of Marist Brothers' Presence In The World
10. Transition • a different pace and rhythm
12. Lessons in empathy
14. Sargodha Catholic High School
16. Brother Kelvin Canavan
17. How often do you pray?
18. Aboriginal Reconciliation Prayer
19. Sister Magali
20. Susan Boyle
21. Kyneton Old Boys In Print
22. May be of interest ...  
Katarina Angisala Uguni  
Sr Mary Perpetua Gill,  
Subiaco no more  
Insomnia
25. Please pray for ...

