

December 2010

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KARUNA

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF JANSSEN SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

Karuna—A compassionate heart

From the Director's Desk



Dear friends of Janssen Centre

As this is my last newsletter before I take up my new appointment in Brisbane, I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all those people who have contributed so much to the smooth running and success of Janssen Centre. I would particularly like to thank my associates during the last 12 months—our Holy Spirit Sisters Mila, Sarita and Matthia.

Any organizations is only as good as its management team and I would like to express my sincere thanks to Matthia, Stewart, Gwenda, Noela, and Ennio for their continued commitment to the Centre.

To our friends and volunteers I am also deeply indebted. Your commitment to this project has made the Centre what it is.

The SVD and SSpS Superiors have always been available to advise and assist. I thank Tim and Bernadette. To Fr Joseph Vu and my confreres in Melbourne—thank you. And to Fr Mirek, Sister Frances and the parishioners of Boronia.

Let us continue to pray for each other as life goes on. I wish Fr Michael Hardie, the new Director, God's richest blessings and every success. Gerard



For three days 1-3 November, 2010, Fr John Dupuche (Director, Australian Commission DIM/MID), Fr Michael Mifsud osb camald. oblate, Ven. Abbess ChiKwang Sunim (Korean Zen), Ven Roby Gillies (Tibetan Buddhism), Swami Atmananda (Kashmir Shaivism), Brni Nivedita (Vedanta) gathered at the Janssen Spirituality Centre to spend time in meditation and discussion. All members were highly committed to their traditions, knowledgeable and welcoming to each other, both on a personal basis and regarding each other's spiritual dimensions. The three days were passed in intense joy and vitality. Our times of meditation took place in deep silence and mutuality. Discussions ranged from the question of the Void in Buddhism to the Persons of the Trinity, without at any stage getting bogged down in ideas. Rather, the many questions and possibilities were all the more inspiring. We agreed to come together again for another such retreat in 2011 and perhaps even to go together on pilgrimage to Uluru, the extraordinary monolith sacred to the Aborigines, located at the desert heart of the immense Australian continent.

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We're on the Web!!!!

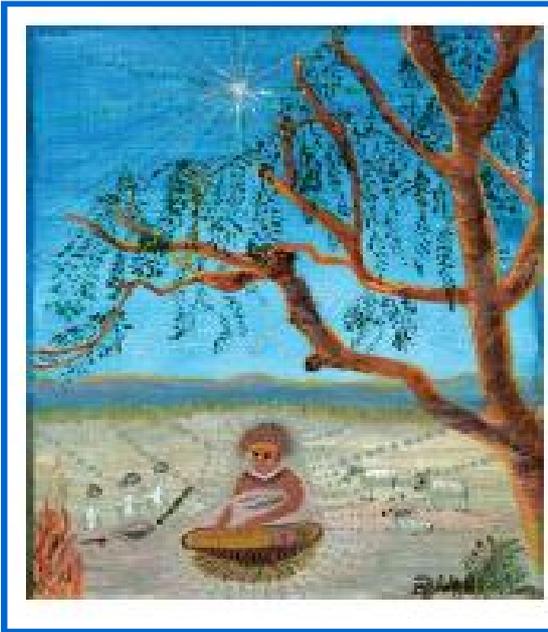
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VALE FATHER BRIAN DESMOND BYRNE SVD

A crowd of more than 300 people turned out on Wednesday evening 10th November to pay their respects to the late Fr Brian Byrne SVD. In his role as Co-ordinator of Justice and Peace and Integrity of Creation for the SVD Australia Province, Brian worked with people from many countries who had either sought asylum in Australia as refugees or migrated to Australia. People from Vietnamese, Chinese, Indonesian, Cambodian and Australian backgrounds gathered at Arnold Janssen chapel to both sit and pray and to share their fond memories of the simple priest who had championed their cause. The following day Thursday saw the celebration of Requiem Mass and burial. SVD Provincial Superior, Tim Norton, presided at the Mass and in the homily, long time friend, Fr Frank Gerry saidBrian died well. He was helped by those who loved him and he responded to their help. May he now enjoy eternal rest from his labors with the saints and in the embrace of the God who loved him into existence and sustained him to the end..... **MAY HE REST IN ETERNAL PEACE**



The staff of Janssen Spirituality Centre takes this opportunity to wish all our friends a Happy and Holy Christmas and a wonderful 2011



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Thanks to Michael Dale

06-21-2010

YOUNG JOHN THE BAPTIST ATTEMPTS TO EARN SOME EXTRA CASH