



G.I.F.T. NEWSLETTER

March 2007



From the Administrator

This will be my last report to you as I am retiring from the position of Administrator and a new appointment has been made to take effect from the A.G.M. on May 6th.

Since I came to G.I.F.T. six years ago there have been many improvements and much upgrading of the facilities in both houses and in the Centre area. New carpeting throughout all areas, painting of the interior and exterior of all premises, new garage and carport, Purchase of Toyota HiAce Van and Honda Odyssey, modified entrance and uplifted entrance deck.

There has been no turnover of staff which has given a great stability to the whole complex, and very few turnover of residents. I am very grateful to the staff members for their wholehearted co-operation and willingness to go even beyond the normal call of duty. I think I can say that the six years of my tenure have been very rewarding and I can leave G.I.F.T. in good hands and with a good heart. Thank you all.

Brother Gabriel

From the R.E. Co-ordinator

We had a very successful picnic to start the year off on Sunday 11th Feb. It was a family day at Cornwall Park so there was music to dance to (which we did), face painting (see the front cover), fairies and clowns and a sausage sizzle (which those that didn't seem to eat enough lunch, ate!). And most importantly, the sun shone!

We are back into the swing of things with both groups. At the beginning of each year I like both the Study Group and Companions to do an activity that will be on display for the rest of the year. The Study Group have decorated profiles of their heads which will sit in a 'boat', fishing for people with their love. The lesson followed the words Jesus spoke to Peter when he said you will fish for people not fish. The Companions decorated card cut outs of people to hang on the grapevine this year. This was related to us following Jesus - following Jesus is a bit like playing 'Follow the leader', we do as Jesus does - love others, care for people, share, be a good friend.

The March sessions have focused on Lent - the Study Group's theme for the day was 'serving others'. With the help of a volunteer they had to come up with a specific way they were going to serve someone during Lent. They then washed one another's hands. They finished the day with a Reconciliation service with Fr James. The Companions heard the story of the Forgiving Father which was retold with an echo pantomime. The focus was on Jesus forgiving and loving us and us returning that love - to Jesus and others.

Many blessings,
Caroline Horrigan



Gail patting Erin's little friend! They are surrounded by Sacha, Anna, Angela and Sr Jean.



Jackie and Erin enjoying the music.



Sonia and Trisha pausing for a photo mid-dance.



Two dear GIFT friends - Charlie Waigh and Sr Jean



Enjoying the picnic - Top: Art, Sacha, Anna and Carolyn.
Right: Trisha, Kalo, Caroline R, Janice and John



PENTECOST HOUSE MASS

Wednesday 23rd May

at 7pm

in the GIFT Centre

Followed by supper ~ please bring a plate to share.

Wishing you all a blessed
and happy Easter!



BIRTHDAYS



MARCH ~ John, Gavin, Alan, James, Lisa Beros, Victor,
Erin, Daniel, Vicki, Paul, & Johnny

APRIL ~ Sr Jean & Maria

MAY ~ Elizabeth, Mary, Andrew & Caroline.

On the front cover ~ (top) Trisha and Sacha dancing (Peter is in the
background)
(Bottom) ? Jemima? Chrissie? Rosa?