



# GIFT Newsletter

june 2007



## From the Administrator

It gives me great pleasure to say HELLO. This is my first report to you after Brother Gabriel has now officially retired. We wish him all of the very best and are pleased that he can now have a deserved break, though knowing full well that he will be as active as ever.

Well, would you believe that the year is half over already? I am still getting to know everyone so please bear with me. I can say that I am very happy to be part of a wonderful caring and committed team of people.

I was lucky enough to attend my first House Mass May 23<sup>rd</sup> and was overwhelmed by the response of residents, family and friends. It was truly a most enjoyable evening. Well done to all those who participated and assisted in making the evening a success. Thank you also to Father Pat Ward and Father James Mulligan for officiating.

I know that Caroline, along with all the wonderful people who help her have a busy 6 months planned. So please participate, get involved and enjoy the celebrations.

I look forward to meeting you all and wish you well  
Brian



Welcome! Our new administrator at GIFT,  
Brian Nicholas.

## From the re co-ordinator

Over the last 3 months the Study Group and Companions have celebrated Easter and Pentecost. Easter saw the Study Group focus on the symbols of Easter and they even played a game of Easter bingo! The Companions were helped to understand the resurrection a little better by using the symbol of **the butterfly; they made 'stained glass' windows in the shape of a butterfly** - very beautiful! For Pentecost, the Study Group learnt that to be filled with the Holy Spirit is to be friendly and welcoming to all people. They learnt greetings in other languages to mirror what the disciples would have done that first Pentecost. The Companions focused on the way that the wind changes things and how this is like the Holy Spirit changing us into the person God wants us to be - to be more like Jesus – loving, kind, caring, gentle, etc. They all painted a Pentecost pennant. They looked very effective hanging around the altar for the house Mass. To help the Study Group understand the concept of the Holy Trinity a little better I used concrete examples of things that have a 3 in 1 nature ; ice, triangle, shamrock, apple and a candle. The Companions made bread (see the photos) as they focused on **Jesus saying, "I am the Bread of Life."**

Many blessings, Caroline

# Pentecost House Mass



On May 23rd we had what has now become a bit of a tradition, our house Pentecost Mass. We were very fortunate this year to have both Fr Pat and Fr James celebrating Mass for us. Almost everyone played a part in the Mass, in the opening greetings in other languages and in the response to the reading. Members of the Study Group read and Companions bought the gifts to the altar - lead by Trisha waving streamers joyously!

The Mass was followed by a very festive supper. It was a fabulous celebration in the true spirit of Pentecost! Thank you to all those who came along to support our friends.



**Above left** ~ everybody sharing the greeting of Peace

**Left** ~ Trisha dancing to 'These Hands'.



**Above** ~ Fr James and Fr Pat.

**Left** ~ everyone enjoying a delicious supper!



**Happy bakers!**  
 "I am the Bread of Life" Companions lesson. Top left ~ Donna & Sacha; centre~ Daniel; top right ~ Mary; bottom left ~ Barbara.



Condolences to Karen Head and family on the death of Karen's mum on April 10th, 2007. You are in our prayers, Karen. May the Lord hold you close to Him at this sad time.

## BIRTHDAYS

- JUNE—** Karen, Lisa & Trisha
- JULY—** Janet, Clare, Sandy, Agnes, Narelle, Barbara, Sandra & James.
- AUGUST—** Madeleine, Jackie, Ron & Roy



**On the front cover ~** Jonathon receiving Communion from Fr Pat; Sonia saying the closing prayer.