

In time, tears of sadness become tears of joy

Losing someone we love can be devastating. Their death can leave us empty inside, yearning to have one more day with them, to tell them how much we love them, that we miss them deeply, that we wish they could stay with us just that little bit longer.

Grief is universal. While the sadness of losing the person we love never leaves us, in time, we start to remember the good times we shared, the memories made, the milestones achieved together.

In time, grief turns tears of sadness into tears of joy. As each day passes, we become braver in remembering them with laughter and fondness.

We begin to share stories of them, keeping them alive deep within our hearts. We celebrate their life, rather than just mourn their passing. We take comfort as we relive memories which make us smile, laugh and weep, all at the same time.

This November, please join our Carmelite family to remember with love and tears of joy those who've died. Together let's share stories of them, keeping their spirit burning bright in our lives. We invite you to send the names and intentions of those you'd like the Carmelites to pray for through the month of November. Together, let's remember the ones we love who are no longer with us.



Helping Timor-Leste heal

For decades the people of Timor-Leste have experienced terrible tragedy and grief. Many continue to be haunted by events of the past, as they struggle with generational poverty today. They grieve for those who died during the events of the late 1990s and early 2000s, they mourn for communities who are still rebuilding today.

Investing in the education of Timor-Leste's young people is one of the best ways to help communities move on from past hurts.

When one young person is educated, they go on to change the lives of hundreds around them. They become counsellors, social workers, teachers, public health workers and so much more. They lift their community through their positive contributions.

Visit education-for-all.raisely.com to learn more and to support young people's dreams of an education.

Province News

It has been a very busy few months for our Province and the Carmelite Order around the world. **Following the canonisation of Titus Brandsma in Rome on 15 May and the celebrations in Timor-Leste and Coorparoo (Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Brisbane) at that time, celebrations continued on Sunday 31 July at the National Shrine and Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel at Middle Park (Melbourne) and our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Wentworthville (Sydney).** St Titus was a gift to the world, the Church and the Carmelite Order. Throughout his life, he shared his intellectual gifts through his studies, teaching, preaching and writing. He was also down to earth, connected with people in their daily struggles, assisting them in whatever practical ways he could. Read more about St Titus' life and legacy on page 5.

In July, the second and final Assembly of the Plenary Council, a formal gathering of the Catholic Church in Australia, was celebrated. The Plenary Council, having been delayed by COVID, was a significant, historical gathering of Bishops, other clergy, Religious and Laity to discuss key issues including reconciliation, social justice, environment, equality and governance in the Church's evangelizing mission in the world today

During September, Fr Carlito Da Costa Araujo, Provincial Delegate in Timor-Leste, and Fr Paul Cahill, Provincial, along with other Carmelite Provincials and delegates from around the world gathered in Rome for a General Congregation of

the Order. Held every three years before a General Chapter, the Congregation discussed matters of common interest to the whole Order, fostering communication and contact between the General Curia (central administration) and the various areas of the Order.

Our Order continues to grow. Congratulations to Br Albino on his priestly ordination and Br Marcolino on his ordination to the diaconate on 12 November.

Lastly, at the Provincial Chapter to be held 7-11 November, Fr Paul Cahill will complete his term as Prior Provincial. A new Prior Provincial will be elected. Please keep us in your prayers during this time. We will continue to serve you and the communities who need our pastoral care.

Thank you for your faith and for being part of our Carmelite family.



Vale Sr Margaret Harrison - A Great Friend to The Carmelites

The Carmelites were saddened by the death of one of our dear Carmelite family members – Sr Margaret Harrison. Sr Margaret's ties with the Carmelites run deep. She was the last Sister of Mercy to serve as Principal of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Primary School, Wentworthville from 1990 to 2004. She oversaw significant change to the school environment and worked closely with Fr Laurie Timms O.Carm when he was Parish Priest.

She was a dedicated and tireless supporter of our work in Timor-Leste and the driving force behind the Wentworthville Parish Timor-Leste Support Group. Sr Margaret was

largely responsible for the well-known parish fundraisers including the chocolate paschal lambs at Easter, Mothers' Day roses and Fathers' Day cards. She continued to drive support despite her failing health.

Fr Laurie's friendship with Sr Margaret remained strong until her death and he was asked by the Sisters of Mercy to preside at her funeral. Sr Margaret's work, presence and ministry across the school and parish touched the lives of many.

May she rest in the peace of the Lord whom she served so wholeheartedly and generously.



Play, Learn, Grow - Encouraging the youngest children in Zumalai to dream

Education is vital for a child encouraging skills such as reading, writing, arithmetic, imagination and creativity. The earlier a child can start school, the better the outcomes are for their future. Joining our three schools in Zumalai is the Mount Carmel Kindergarten, situated next to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in the centre of Zumalai.

Established and run by the Carmelite Sisters, it is the first EVER kindergarten in Zumalai. Kindergarten helps a child to develop strong social skills, improve their health and wellbeing, encourage a love of learning, play and interaction.

Currently, there are 30 kindergarten students enrolled, divided into two groups with the 4-year-old class running from 8.30am - 10.30am and the 5-year-old class from 10.45am - 1.30pm.

Every child receives a pencil case with their name on it, filled with stationery for class activities. The children practice activities such as colouring in, writing their name, and learning to trace the alphabet and numbers.

Each lesson starts with 15 minutes of songs and they all share morning tea together, usually a bread roll or fried banana and cup of milk.

Coordinator and founder of the kindergarten, Sr Maily, shares that Carmel Impact's funds have facilitated the purchase of teaching resources, including coloured paper, crayons, a white board, scissors and even toothbrushes and toothpaste to teach good oral hygiene practices.

"Thank you for supporting our project here in Zumalai. We love teaching these children and seeing them grow and develop while they are in our care. When they first come to us they are shy and nervous, and by the end of the year they are confident and have learnt many new skills that prepare them well for primary school." – Sister Maily O.Carm.

You can support our Mount Carmel Kindergarten with a tax-deductible donation. Visit education-for-all.raisely.com or call 03 9690 8822 to donate today.



Living a life of Values, Respect and Harmony thanks to YOU

The La Bruna Scholarship provides Carmelite students with the means to learn English, study a Bachelor of Philosophy Degree or even a postgraduate degree in Australia or abroad. Funded by our wonderful donors, the scholarship helps provide accommodation, text books, educational materials, and covers basic living expenses and higher education fees.

Honorio, a recipient of a La Bruna Scholarship, is currently in the second year of a Bachelor of Philosophy degree. He lives at the Carmelite community in Hera, just a 20-minute walk from his parents' house where he grew up. The youngest of seven children, Honorio reflects on being part of a big, loving family. *"The four eldest children in my family are all married. I have 9 nieces and nephews. We have a big family and we all look after and support each other. My eldest brother has a job, so he put in money together with my parents to pay for my secondary school fees in Dili."*

After joining the Carmelites at age 21, Honorio says the most important thing he has learnt has been about fraternity. He has enjoyed his studies, particularly the philosophy of anthropology. *"I'm interested in how we can live in harmony together with all living things, including nature and all the creatures on the earth."*



Honorio recognises that he can progress on his Carmelite journey because of the generosity of our donors. *"I'm really grateful to all the donors who sacrifice their time and energy to provide funds for our studies here in Timor. I will continue to work hard to make sure I value and show respect for what you have given me. I will study diligently and learn as much as I can, so that I can do things in the world that will give value to what you have done for me."*

There are many more young men who you can support with their academic studies. Visit [education-for-all.raisedly.com](https://www.education-for-all.org/education-for-all) or call 03 9690 8822 to donate.

Committed to safeguarding all in our care

The Carmelites of Australia & Timor-Leste has committed itself to the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS) which underpins the Catholic Church's commitment to working towards a common goal of every child, in every community being safe, cared for, having their needs met and being afforded the chance to realise their potential.

We are dedicated to creating safe environments for all children and adults at risk.

Dr Ursula Stephens, Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited's CEO, commended The Carmelites for achieving one of the highest results from the Safeguarding Audit. Dr Stephens said *"The Carmelite Fathers were able to demonstrate that 97 per cent of the NCSS criteria and indicators relevant to the institute were either fully implemented, or substantially progressed at the time of audit. The same commitment to the safety of children, and seminarians, was apparent through the Carmelite Fathers work in Timor-Leste. The institute has engaged a local non-government agency to assist them in implementing effective safeguarding practices with culturally sensitivity. This strategy also includes ongoing training and safeguarding resources being translated in Tetum, the main language used in Timor-Leste."*

The audit report provided six recommendations, including the appointment of a dedicated safeguarding officer for the Carmelites' operations in Timor-Leste, to further strengthen our ability to provide a safe environment for all people.

A Gift to the World, the Church and the Carmelites - Saint Titus Brandsma

Carmelites, Lay Carmelites, parishioners along with members of the Whitefriars College community, gathered at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Middle Park (VIC) on Sunday 31 July for a Thanksgiving Mass celebrating Titus Brandsma's Canonisation. Prior Provincial, Fr Paul Cahill O.Carm, preached a homily sharing St Titus' story of bravery, courage and selflessness until the very end. Here is an extract from Fr Paul's homily.

"Throughout Saint Titus' life, he connected with people in their everyday struggles, keen to assist them in whatever practical ways that he could.

After his ordination as a Priest and the completion of his Doctoral Studies in Rome, Titus returned to the Netherlands and was appointed to teach at a school in Oss. At that time, there was great poverty and lack of employment and a lack of opportunity for young people to advance in life. Not only did Titus and other young Carmelites organise various social activities to engage young people and help give them a sense of connection, belonging and self-esteem, but he very determinedly advocated for their greater access to a good education.

His determination to give young people a good start in life through a good education, underpinned by Christian and Catholic values, extended beyond these two schools with which he was personally involved. One of the things that ultimately contributed to his imprisonment and death was his leadership of the resistance by Catholic schools in 1941 to the Nazi government's edict that Jewish children be expelled.

Ultimately, Titus' deeply contemplative spirit shone through in the great trials of his imprisonment, interrogation, persecution and death in Dachau concentration camp on 26 July 1942 on account of his spirited opposition to Nazi practices and ideology. There are countless stories of his calmness, his inner peace, his kindness to fellow prisoners and even to his guards and captors, extending even to the nurse who administered the lethal injection which killed him.

We give thanks for the life and example of Saint Titus Brandsma and reach out to him to pray for us that we too might cultivate a deeply contemplative spirit and express it in the circumstances of our lives, giving witness to God's love for us and for all his creation."

You can read Fr Paul's full homily by visiting carmelites.org.au/item/1185-brandsma-a-gift-to-the-world-the-church-the-carmelites



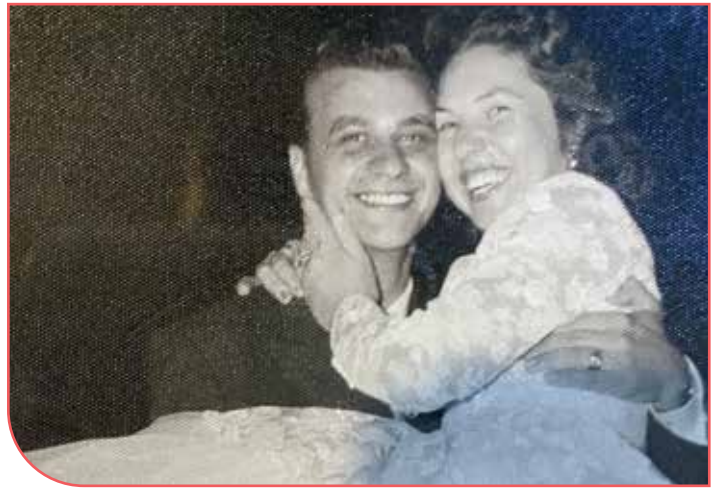
It is never easy to say goodbye

Saying goodbye to someone who's died is hard. It can be harder still to write a eulogy, to condense a life rich in love, family and faith into a few words. Earlier this year, Fundraising Development Director Nancy Mercurio sat down with her three siblings to write a eulogy for their mum. They hope that by sharing part of their eulogy, you too will remember your loved ones with love this November.

"We did not realise what a difficult and yet joyous task this would be. Difficult in the sense that we wanted to tell everyone what an amazing wife, mother, grandmother and friend she was. Joyous as we have spent many hours with each other reliving stories, laughing and crying.

Mum was born in Italy in 1935. The youngest of six children, her father owned a small farm outside of Molfetta. Being the youngest, she was the apple of her father's eye. She went to a school run by the nuns where she learnt sewing. From a young age mum decided she would become a nun and went to Mass every day. At the age of 16 a chance meeting with a group of boys riding their bicycles would change her life. Mum met Dad who was 19. Their first meeting was an altercation. Two months later the same group of boys were invited to a Christmas dance at her brother's home. Their love story began.

As dad had difficulty finding a suitable job to support mum, he migrated to Australia in 1956. Mum followed in 1958. Mum did not even know where Australia was and had to pull out a map to see how far it was.



It was no surprise dad fell madly in love mum. She possessed the qualities of loyalty, unconditional love, grace and humility and always carried herself with dignity. When dad became sick with Typhoid at 19 in Italy, she borrowed money from a neighbour to buy penicillin on the black market, the only medicine that would save his life. Mum had a profound effect on dad, moving him to write to her, 'You are my woman forever. Darling, I donate my life to you. You saved my life and gave me hope.'

Mum was the most amazing mentor to her children. She taught us how to be caring, patient, giving, strong, resilient, respectful, selfless, and determined. She demonstrated to us what love means through her loyalty to our dad and was devoted to both her family and her faith. How she navigated life demonstrated to us that relationships have many layers. She taught us to weather the storm, to be understanding, to accept differences and to forgive. It was these strong characteristics that make us who we are today. It's her qualities we aspire to. Mum you will live on in our hearts and through the stories we will share of you with each other. We will miss you."

Get YOUR copy of our Carmel Impact 2021 Annual Report TODAY

Our second Carmel Impact Annual Report is now available for you, demonstrating how you and every member of our Carmelite family is helping us to transform lives and build communities together. You'll read how Carmelite students have helped Timorese families and communities after the devastating Easter floods in April 2021. And how young people are able to realise their dreams through education, youth engagement and leadership development.

To get a copy of our Annual Report please visit www.carmelimpact.org.au/latest-news/newsletters-publications. To receive a printed copy please call Nancy on 03 9690 8822 or email director@carmelimpact.org.au



Transforming Lives, Building Communities Together

Order your Christmas Cards today

With Christmas just around the corner, imagine the delight you can give someone dear when you send them one of our Timor-themed Christmas cards. Order a pack of 12 cards for \$8 OR 4 packs for just \$30 (+\$12.50 for express postage).

Or order our Christmas "Gift of Hope" Mass Cards to send to loved ones and provide the names of those you would like prayed for at our Christmas Midnight Mass. Each card costs \$3.50. Order 1 to 4 cards (add \$7.50 postage). Order 5 or more (add \$12.50 express post).

Proceeds from every card purchased helps us continue to serve communities in Australia and Timor-Leste. Simply complete the form attached with this newsletter, call 03 9690 8822 or email fundraising@carmelites.org.au to order your cards today.



When ordering our cards you may receive images different to those shown here.

YES! I will help transform lives and build communities.

Please accept my one-off gift of:

\$30 \$50 \$80 \$200 \$_____ my choice

OR I wish to make a monthly gift of \$_____ Please deduct my credit card below or send me information on other ways to donate monthly.

I would like to donate by:

Cheque / Money Order (payable to Carmel Impact Ltd)

OR Please debit my: MasterCard Visa

No. _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Expiry Date: ____/____/____ Sign: _____

I would like to order the following Cards:

Card	Cost per Card / Pack	Add Postage	Qty	Cost
Sympathy Prayer Card x 1	\$5 for 1 \$25 for 6	\$7.50 (express post)		
Set of 6 Prayer Cards	\$25 per set	\$7.50 (express post)		
Timor Christmas Card Pack (12)	\$8 a pack \$30 for 4 packs	\$12.50 (express post)		
Christmas "Gift of Hope" Mass Cards	\$3.50 each	1 - 4 cards = \$7.50 postage 5+ cards = \$12.50 express		
Total Cost + Postage:				

My Details: (please print clearly)

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ P/Code: _____

Tel: _____ Mob: _____

Email: _____

Please send me information on leaving a Bequest in my Will

There are three ways you can donate:

1. Complete and return this form to:

Carmel Impact
Fundraising Development Ministry
PO Box 5295, Middle Park, Vic, 3206

2. Donate securely online

carmel-impact-remembrance-appeal.raisely.com

3. Contact us

T: 03 9690 8822

E: together@carmelimpact.org.au

Empowering Young People's Dreams One Meal at a Time

Over the past few months, people from across Australia chose to 'Host a Meal'. They encouraged family and friends to donate in support of helping to empower young people's dreams of a better life for themselves, their family and their community.

Friends of Zumalai – Friends for Life

As ardent supporters of transforming lives in Timor-Leste, the Friends of Zumalai came together on Friday 30 September helping to raise \$2,820 and counting.

"Sixty people who dared to try something different were treated to flavours, music and a little Tebe-tebe (Timorese dancing). After a short quiz and comedy from Fr Martinho, dinner was served. Special guest masterchef Fr Janu cooked delicious fish over coals... Fr Matthew served his famous Portuguese tarts. And Br Albino's feet could not sit still once the music started." Michael Sullivan, President of the Friends of Zumalai



Warmth, fun and a Timorese song to boot!

On Saturday 8 October, Nancy and George hosted a sumptuous home-cooked Timorese feast with seven friends and special guest Br Anacleto. To cap off a wonderful night, Br Anacleto brought his guitar out and sang a heart-warming song of a mother calling her children back home to be near her once again. By end of the night around \$1,000 had been raised.

Thank you Friends of Zumalai, Nancy and George. You and your guests are helping transform young lives through the gift of education.



You can join the Friends of Zumalai, Nancy and George to 'Host a Meal, Empower a Dream'

Sharing a meal is one of the most beautiful ways to spend time with family and friends. It's also a fantastic way to encourage family, friends and colleagues to donate to a cause you're passionate about. **Join our 'Host a Meal, Empower a Dream' initiative today.** Host a meal, cake with coffee or afternoon drinks at your home, work, local parish, school or community centre. If you're unable to host an event, please consider making a donation. You'll help raise funds empowering young people to transform their lives through education. **To learn more or register your 'Host a Meal' event visit empower-a-dream.raisely.com or call 03 9690 8822.**