

Harvesters of Jesus



Society for the Care of Persons with Mental Handicap

(Newsletter 299 – 07/11/2025)

The Association of the Harvesters of Jesus was established in order to provide the regular daily spiritual needs of the LITTLE EDEN Society. It is firmly believed that without such support, LITTLE EDEN would wither.

It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.

Irish proverb

Shelter Seeking is an old custom reminding us of Mary and Joseph looking for shelter when Our Lord was about to come into the world.

And it is so at LITTLE EDEN homes.

Many of the residents, past and present, have come from situations that have been difficult: limited family resources, abandoned, and so many other circumstances, occasionally to the extreme. And those situations have been very varied.

When I first got involved at LITTLE EDEN many years ago, I perceived it through the eyes of sadness, isolation, ignorance...

Over time, the realisation set in that, rather, it is a place of hope, a place of improvement, encouragement; a shelter.

Here is an environment that the residents can call Home, make friends and play with friends, explore, learn new things, become more independent (even if this is slight). The most obvious thing was that many of them formed strong friendships that were manifest when one or other of them passed away. They show concern if someone close to them is ill or is sad.



This to me is what SHELTER is about; where one feels safe, where there is love and caring, respect. Many visitors to LITTLE EDEN are likely to leave without realising what this environment means to each of the residents. I believe there are residents who will not understand the concept as I see it. But I do believe that they are aware of the 'shelter' part of it.

How do we shelter each other? Our family, friends, colleagues, those less fortunate? Do we in fact shelter anyone?

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Daily prayer for the needs of LITTLE EDEN Society

Jesus, Great Harvester, who desires the salvation of all mankind, accept the offering of my life and work in assisting You to help garner the fields for the harvest. Teach me compassion, understanding and love for those most in need. Bless our Association; strengthen the bonds of love and charity amongst us, so that with hearts united we may say "Thy kingdom come". Mary, comfort of the afflicted, pray for us.