

# ST PAUL'S POST

St Paul's Province Weekly Newsletter: 310

27 March 2023

## Happy Birthday



Our  
birthday  
girl this  
week is:

Catherine Lee

1 April

## Admitting Our Powerlessness

We admitted that we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable. —Step One of the Twelve Steps

*Father Richard has long admired what he considers the “spiritual genius” of Bill Wilson (1895–1971), one of the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous. In his book on the spirituality of the Twelve Steps, Richard describes why the first step is essential—for alcoholics and non-alcoholics alike:*

Until and unless there is a person, situation, event, idea, conflict, or relationship that we cannot “manage,” we will never find the True Manager. So, God or Life makes sure that several things will come our way that we cannot manage on our own.

Self-made people, and all heroic spiritualities, will try to manufacture an even stronger self by willpower and determination—to put them back in charge and seemingly in control. Usually, most people admire this, not realizing the unbending, sometimes proud, and eventually rigid personality that will be the long-term result.

Fr Richard Rohr’s writings are familiar to many of us but I found the one attached of particular interest.

As we have journeyed through Lent trying more earnestly to keep our Lenten resolutions this reflection really speaks to my heart.

I find the concluding prayer awesome.

Two weeks of Lent remain, I pray they will be grace filled for each one of us.

*Savio*

It is the imperial ego that has to go, and only powerlessness can do the job correctly.

Otherwise, we try to engineer our own transformation by our own rules and with our own power—which is therefore, by definition, not transformation! It seems we can in no way engineer or steer our own conversion. If we try to change our ego with the help of our ego, we only have a better-disguised ego!

To borrow a quote often associated with Albert Einstein, “No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it.” [1]

*Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie offer this prayer which speaks to those times when life seems unmanageable:*

### **A Prayer for When God Seems Absent**

*Oh God, comfortable would we be if You gave us formulas and answered prayers and realized hope. But You call us beyond comfort. But God, life upends us. We face divorce or miscarriages, financial struggles or job insecurity, and the people we love are tossed about by disease or loneliness or homelessness or addiction. We are afraid. We don't have adequate answers. And sometimes we can't find You. Or, we can't find the person we hoped You would be. May we learn to trust that You aren't asleep on the job. That You haven't forgotten us. That You are as near to us as our very breath. Give us the courage to press on. To suffer with hope that You have overcome the world. May we again and again be awed by Your presence. That even when we feel like we've hit rock bottom, may we recognize we have fallen into Your arms because there is no place so deep or so dark or so scary that Your presence cannot reach. In the name of the One who can still the seas with mere words, *amen*. [2]*



PRAY TOGETHER

MAKING A DIFFERENCE  
IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS

Relatives/friends of Sisters:-

Marguerita's brother, **Pat**;

Eily May's brother, **Tade**,

and her sister, **Mary Philomena White**;

Kay Doran's niece-in-law, **Kerry**,

and her nephew, **Kieran Fitzpatrick**;

East Holme Nurse, **June**;

Carmel Comerford's sister, **Clare**;

Marcella Roe's sister, **Eileen**;

**Nicky**, Sr Kay's Brother who is ill. We pray for **Sr Kay** too and Nicky's wife, **Bernadette**.

**Noeleen Bermingham**;

Eithne's nephew, **Bernard Donoghue**;

Francine's sister, **Rita**;

Vy's brother, **Joseph Tran The Day**;

now receiving palliative care;

**Maria**, Paschal Somers' wife;

I just want to say a big thank you for all the prayers and support during Catherine's illness. We are so happy to see an improvement each day. Now she can feed herself and is able to sit out for a little time each day. She has also been able to attempt a few steps. So after a month in bed she is really pleased to be getting her strength back, Thank God.

*Eileen O'Riordan*

## BEREAVEMENTS

Dear **Sister Theresina Scully** from the United States passed away peacefully in the evening of 24 March .

May she rest in peace.

We pray for the repose of her soul and the comfort of her family.

Also, **John Grey**, brother of Dot who works in Elmleigh died 26<sup>th</sup> March, may he rest in Peace.

We pray too for his wife and Dot, his sister, who are grieving.

*Savio*

# Welcome to Marino



Sister Maria was given a warm welcome at Marino enjoying a lovely meal with friends in her new home!

A welcome from Kate



Then food  
and  
chocolates  
with  
friends!



## One clock or two?

When the clocks change, do the animals know ?

This nightly visitor was spotted by the Night Nurse at Marino and it brought back memories for Sr Marcella.

'It reminded me of when I was a child, we had two clocks, one for the animals and one for the time change. Old time and New time! My father always said we couldn't upset the animals. The cows had to be milked at the same time whether the clocks changed or not!'

*Sr Marcella*



I think we are all just getting used to the time change!



## St Patrick's day celebrations at East Holme

" St. Patrick's Day came round again as it always does in March, in nearly the whole world. East Holme awakened up in the thick of it and created an atmosphere which was fully celebratory - greens, Irish harps and shamrocks everywhere, even on faces !!

One of our priest friends, Father Peter celebrated Mass with us, which gave us the opportunity to sing "Hail glorious St. Patrick" with as full a voice as we could muster.

Nathan treated us to an Irish lunch, including Irish stew which we relished.

The afternoon was truly one of fun!

We were also invited to " Paddy's Tavern", to enjoy a few drinks and join in a sing-song with our neighbours in Dublin.

What a joy and thanks to all who made it possible"

*Eily May C. P.*





Thanks to all the staff for a wonderful day!

