

# RECEPTION CENTRE SJA FOUNDATION

SJA FOUNDATION  
Reception Centre  
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Monthly Newsletter – Issue No. 4 October 2007

Dear readers,

You are receiving this Newsletter on the eve of All Saints day.

We are created, loved, saved by God with a destination of eternal joy in the House of the Father. Through Baptism we are given the seed, the strength, and the grace through which we are able to become Saints. Christ told us what we have to do to live a saintly life and therefore to become saints; **LIVING the BEATITUDES.**

I encourage you to reflect on this article, and if you want you may use to pray, reflect and share on it in your group meeting.

Sr. M. Salvina Bezzina soc

**Gospel: (Matthew 5:1-12)** Jesus went up the mountain, and he began to teach them saying, *“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”*

**Reflection:** This solemnity of All Saints is a reminder and promise that through our baptism we already share in the glory of the saints whom we honor. The saints stand out as models that have been faithful to their baptismal commitment and give us courage and strength that we, too, can be faithful. We know some of the saints who have been canonized by name. And there are also countless other saints, our deceased relatives and friends among them, whom we also know by name. This multitude of faithful followers of Christ beckons us to hear what Jesus teaches in the gospel: “Blessed are you...” (Living Liturgy, p.240)

**Vincentian Meditation:** The Beatitudes are a new scale of values. We might say that the Beatitudes are an invasion of God’s madness into the world of what humanity considers being good sense. Have you ever tried to make a list of what you would consider your eight beatitudes? This could be very revealing and might show a very deep chasm between the values of our Lord and those by which we daily live. Do you feel comfortable with our Lord’s Beatitudes? Or has it been your experience, as it has been mine, that when you start to think or talk about one beatitude, you prefer to drop it because of its difficulty, and move on to another which you would consider more simple and easy? The beatitude that makes you feel most uncomfortable is probably the one that is most relevant to you personally. (McCullen, *Deep Down Things*, p.739)

**Discussion:** (Share your thoughts after a moment of silence) Who is your favorite “Saint” canonized formally or informally?

Sr. Salvina

## NEWS UPDATE AUGUST 2007

### Teams of the Reception Centre Projects

#### Social Work Team:

Dan ix-xhar fiċ-ċentru St. Jeanne Antide Foundation kien hemm tmien każijiet godda . Hamsa minnhom kienu minn lista li tani l-kappillan, tnejn oħra iltqajt magħhom fit-triq, u każ ieħor irreferietuli soru tal-karita'.

Hi haġa sabiħa li meta niltaqgħu ma xi każ li jidrillkom li għandu bżonn ta' servizz ta' social worker li tirreferuh liċ-ċentru. Dan huwa n-numru taċ-ċentru: 27672367.

Visti fid-djar kien hemm 12. Dawn jinkudu każijiet godda u oħrajn li huma attivi. Darba fil-ġimgħa is-social worker ikollha sessjoni ta' supervision. Dan huwa servizz indispensabbli u mitlub mill-liġi li social worker ikollha supervisor biex tiddiskuti l-każijiet u tiegħu pariri kif għandha taġixxi, dejjem għall-aħjar qadi ta' dawk li jitolbu dan is-servizz.



Dan iċ-ċentru qed iservi, ukoll jekk għalissa għal numru żgħir, bħala 'drop in', igifieri jekk wiehed irid jiġi biex jittkellem fit jista' jiġi. Din il-ġimgħa gew tnejn minn nies u wiehed minnhom qad jittkellem ma wiehed mill-voluntieri tagħna. Din kienet esperjenza positività għax hafna drabi dawn in-nies iħossuhom wehidhom.

Nhar L-Erbgħa 10 ta' Ottubru, jiena u s-supervisor tiegħi, Ms. Andreana Gellel, attendejna seminar ta' nofs ta' nhar fuq il-konnessjoni bejn is-saħħa fiżika u mentali. Fost hafna affarijiet siewja li smajt, l-iktar haġa li laqitni kienet, il-preżenza fostna ta' nies li jbatu mis-saħħa mentali. Kien ġest sabiħ ta' min organizza u dan kollu jaqbel ma dak li ilu jingħad li ninvolvu dawk li jagħmlu użu mis-sevizzi. Kien hemm min kellu l-kuraġġ jaqsam magħna esperjenzi ta' depressjoni u ta' kura psikjatrika. Din il-ħaġa kienet prova ta' xi jfisser li tinkludi lil kulhadd.

Seminar ieħor fis-17 ta' Ottubru kien fuq il-faqar. Waqt is-seminar konna l-hin kollu kollegati permezz ta' SMS ma diversi skejjel u nies li waqfu għall-minuta bil-wieqfa bħala solidarjeta kontra l-faqar. Kien hemm hafna esperjenzi ta' zghazagh li qed jaħdmu favur il-bniedem batut billi mhux tant li jagħtu affarijiet jew hin, imma jgħinu l-bniedem biex jieqaf fuq saqajh u jgħin ruħhu u b'hekk id-dinjita' tiegħu tkun irrispettata. Fl-aħhar tas-seminar biex il-proposti jkunu jistgħu isiru aktar realta', gew mistiedna membri tal-partit politiċi biex jinkludu dawn il-proposti fil-programm tagħhom sabied lkoll nersqu lejn dik il-holma fejn xi darba il-faqar jista' jittaffa.

Nhossni grata ta' dak kollu li kontinwament nirċievi, u bħal San Pawl nirringrazzjaw lil Alla tal-grazzja ta' l-Appostolat.

**Sr. Rose**



**Homework Services Team:**

The Homework club tutors met for a meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, a meeting where our friendship, and team spirit, was once more evident.

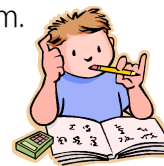
So far we had no new tutors to welcome, but fortunately for us, a new member (an ex- student of the Immaculate Conception School) has come forward and is willing to join our team. We are meeting her on Wednesday for a briefing. We are keeping the same club users once more, with the exception of two, one who has now moved to a secondary school, and another whose mother decided to drop out.

We are interviewing two parents to see if we can offer our services to their children. If these two children are accepted it will bring our compliment of club users to ten children. With regards to tutors we are a team of nine, so that expect for one case, sessions will be on one to one basis.

This time we are adopting a new form of record keeping, we have high hopes it will work and prove beneficial. Parents have been sent a letter of welcome and given a form to fill which will help our data keeping.

With the help of Mother Jeanne Antide, we hope and trust to have a fruitful year.

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2007 - Today the Homework team started its first session for the Autumn Term. We welcomed a new member Graziella (an ex- pupil of the Immaculate Conception School). We learnt that Clinton, who was a team member last term, is not going to join our group this time. Tutors were shown the new text books, kindly donated to us by MS. Carmen Carabott. Mothers who accompanied their children got their registration forms duly filled.



Tutors were then assigned their children as follows:-

Richard is taking our oldest pupil Redeemer (Clint was his tutor last year), and it was a job persuading him to go to Richard, as he had bonded so well with Clint last term- at the end of the session he promised Richard that he would come again next Friday. We have to wait and see. Richard has also offered to be tutor to Simone, who is now in Form 1.

Melaine, Graziella and Clarie, took over the Year 5 group. Melaine, took two boys (the others have one each) but she is of the idea that Anton, would be better off on his own as he is quite a handful. Hopefully a person we have contacted will turn up and we can solve this problem.

Moira, Rita and Franca took up year 4, 3, 2 respectively (Franca has two children in her care).

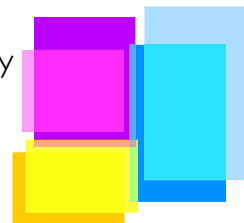
Session went on smoothly, mothers shared a word with the tutors after the session, and all had a word of thanks to our team members.

Sister Salvina dropped in and welcomed tutors, mothers and children, her presence meant a lot to us.

Maria as usual saw to the tea and cakes and the washing up, and kept the mothers company while they were waiting for their children.

Most members of the team spent the evening together over a pizza in Marsascala.

**Jessie Spiteri**



**Administrator Reception Centre:****1. New Roster for Reception Duties.**

It has long been felt that the Foundation's Centre should be open to members of the public needing assistance on at least all the working days of the week. After due consideration to the resources available, it has been decided to open the Centre from Monday to Friday, albeit with restricted hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On these two days, the Centre will be open from 9.00 to 11.00 am on Tuesdays and from 5.00 to 7.00 pm on Thursdays as follows:

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00 - 11.00 a.m.	Sr. Teresa Jessie Spiteri	Angela Garcia Miriam Grech	Melanie Fero * Franca Caruana * Doris Farrugia	n/a	Maria Jourdan Sr. M. Letizia
5.00 - 7.00 p.m.	Yvonne Wadge Joanne Ebejer	n/a	Vivien Abela Paul Barbara  * alternating	Grace Camilleri Mary Theuma	Mary Schofield Daniel Grech

**2. Training Sessions in basic Computer Skills**

I wish to apologise to all members participating in the training programme for the cancellation at the last minute of the final session on Practical Skills which was due to be held on Monday 15th October. Mr. Mark Ferris, the lecturer involved, was unavoidably indisposed on that day and the session had to be cancelled at the very last minute. He extends his apologies to all concerned.

However Mr. Ferris wishes to make amends and he has graciously offered to deliver a number of sessions (instead of one) on basic computer skills. Attendance for these sessions will be divided into two groups: one group for beginners who have no or very scant knowledge on how to use computers and the other group for those members who already have basic knowledge on how to use computers but could do with some enhancement of skills. The Sessions will be delivered as follows:

**1st Group:** Enhancement of skills for those who already have basic computer knowledge:

Monday 5th November - from 6.00 to 7.00 pm  
Monday 12th November - 6.00 to 7.00 pm  
Monday 19th November - 6.00 to 7.00 pm

**2nd Group: Beginners**

Monday 5th November - from 7.00 pm. to 8.00 pm  
 Monday 12th November - 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm  
 Monday 19th November - 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm  
 Monday 26th November - 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm  
 Monday 3rd December - 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm  
 Monday 10th December - 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm.



In order for these sessions to have maximum effect I appeal to all those participants who were attending the Training Course to indicate by return email at the earliest possible in which group they wish to be included, depending on whether they consider themselves as beginners or whether they can already use the basic features of a computer. This will enable all participants to make the most of the training being offered as well as making for better delivery of the training sessions.

Replies may be e-mailed direct to me on [paul.j@maltanet.net](mailto:paul.j@maltanet.net) or by phone on 21491530.

Thank you all for your co-operation in this matter.

**Paul Barbara**

**Friendship Services Team:**

Following last month's Friendship Team Meeting, we had agreed to set the date for our second visit to Corradino Correctional Facility for the end of October.

The Team Members, especially those for whom such a visit is to be the first were all looking forward to it. Undoubtedly, especially for the ones who would be visiting the inmates for the very first time, some questions and doubts definitely arise.... not knowing what to expect out of this situation, out of the inmates, and most importantly, what are the inmates expecting from us!

From the past meetings, the Sisters who have frequent contact with the inmates, have taught us that all the inmates are after is a good friend, one who is able to listen without judging, who is able to give good advise without preaching, one who is able to make a difference in someone else's life by being genuinely interested in their holistic wellbeing be it physical, psychological and spiritual. None of us are professionals in these fields, but are nevertheless willing to give them the support they might lack to move on, to give them the courage they need to leave the past behind, and build a better future.

We then have to leave the rest to HIM...for HE will surely guide all those who turn to HIM!

We hope that in next month's issue, we will update you with the outcome of this visit, and possibly back it up by one or two experiences!

This team needs more members so I appeal to all those who are intrigued by the above and wish to be of service, to contact us! Would love to see you!

God Bless You!

**Caroline**  
**Co-ordinator**



## SJA FOUNDATION CORNER

### **Fund Raising Group**

The Fundraising Team of the SJA Foundation met on the 10th October. 2007

The team was informed that the Helping Hands Foundation is selling a book for the financial benefit of NGOs with which it makes an agreement. As part of this agreement, the book itself would contain information about the NGO. It was decided to look further into the terms of such an agreement.

The Team discussed the lack of seed money for investing in fundraising efforts. One of the implications of this lack is that costly or financially-risky strategies must be avoided for the moment.

The possibilities of a fundraising school-based talent show were discussed.

Contact is to be made with benefactors of the St Jeanne Antide Welfare Campaign, which is being replaced by the new SJA Foundation.

### **Sr Doris Mckay**



May we work together to build up  
the kingdom of God,  
**Saints of God, intercede for us.**  
May our desire for God draw us  
more deeply into prayer,  
**Saints of God, intercede for us.**  
May we comfort the broken  
hearted in their sorrow,  
**Saints of God, intercede for us.**  
May we feed the hungry and bring  
mercy to the poor,  
**Saints of God, intercede for us.**  
May we be peace makers,  
**Saints of God, intercede for us.**  
Amen

### **Steering Committee Meeting**

The St Jeanne Antide Foundation shall soon be officially registered as an NGO. The composition of its Board of Governors will be transmitted on registration.

### **Sr. Salvina**

**NEW MEMBERS**  
SJA FOUNDATION

*Reception Group*  
Grace Camilleri

*Social Worker*  
Charmaine Cachia

### Little Princess Canute

Today I saw a little girl on the small beach by the restaurant. Oblivious to the wind and the spray of the sea, she stood her ground on the wet and shifting sands. Standing there in the wind, the the apex of sheltered life, fearless and utterly self-absorbed.

Clad in an elaborate waistcoat and a grim, no-nonsense expression under her defiant curls, she threw pebble after pebble into the white foam. Tongues of swishing foam licked their advances towards tiny bare toes, unnoticed. Her eyes were far away, as far as she could throw, the other side of the world. A descendant of King Canute, a reflection on the limits of power. Her clothes spoke of a sheltered life, well provided for. Her eyes were blue of steel, secure in strength but unsure how far her self extends. Her pebbles were tests, scientific queries experimenting the unknown. No stone came back. She could not see the sea respond.

**Tony Macelli**

*Viking King Canute (d. 1035) placed his throne on the beach and ordered the tide to roll back.*

#### SJA Foundation Reception Centre

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Reception Desk	tel: 2767 2367 email	<a href="mailto:sjafoundation@onvol.net">sjafoundation@onvol.net</a>
• <b>Adult Education and Community Work Team</b>		
Current contact:	Nora Macelli	<a href="mailto:nora.macelli@gov.mt">nora.macelli@gov.mt</a>
• <b>Friendship Services Team</b>		
Co-ordinator:	Caroline Cortis	<a href="mailto:carol.cortis@global.net.mt">carol.cortis@global.net.mt</a>
• <b>Social Work Team</b>		
Co-ordinator;	Sr. Rose Rizzo	<a href="mailto:sisterroestk@yahoo.com">sisterroestk@yahoo.com</a>
• <b>Homework Services Team</b>		
Co-ordinator:	Jessie Spiteri	<a href="mailto:marjespi@gmail.com">marjespi@gmail.com</a>
• <b>Reception and Secretarial Team</b>		
Co-ordinators:	Paul Barbara Melanie Ferò	<a href="mailto:paul.j@maltanet.net">paul.j@maltanet.net</a> <a href="mailto:amfero@maltanet.net">amfero@maltanet.net</a>
Information Officer:	Joanne Ebejer	<a href="mailto:joannee@maltanet.net">joannee@maltanet.net</a>
• <b>Refreshments Group</b>		
Contact:	Sr. Rose Rizzo	<a href="mailto:sisterroestk@yahoo.com">sisterroestk@yahoo.com</a>

#### Other SJA Foundation Teams and Steering Committee

- **Fundraising Team**
- **S.O.C. Steering committee for SJA Foundation**





**Near Attard Church** *digital art by Tony Macelli*

### Reception Centre Opening Hours

#### Opening timetable – October / November / December 07

Monday: 9:00am to 11:00am  
5:00pm to 7:00pm

Tuesday: 9:00am to 11:00am

Wednesday: 9:00am to 11:00am  
5:00pm to 7:00pm

Thursday: 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Friday: 9:00am to 11:00am  
5:00pm to 7:00pm

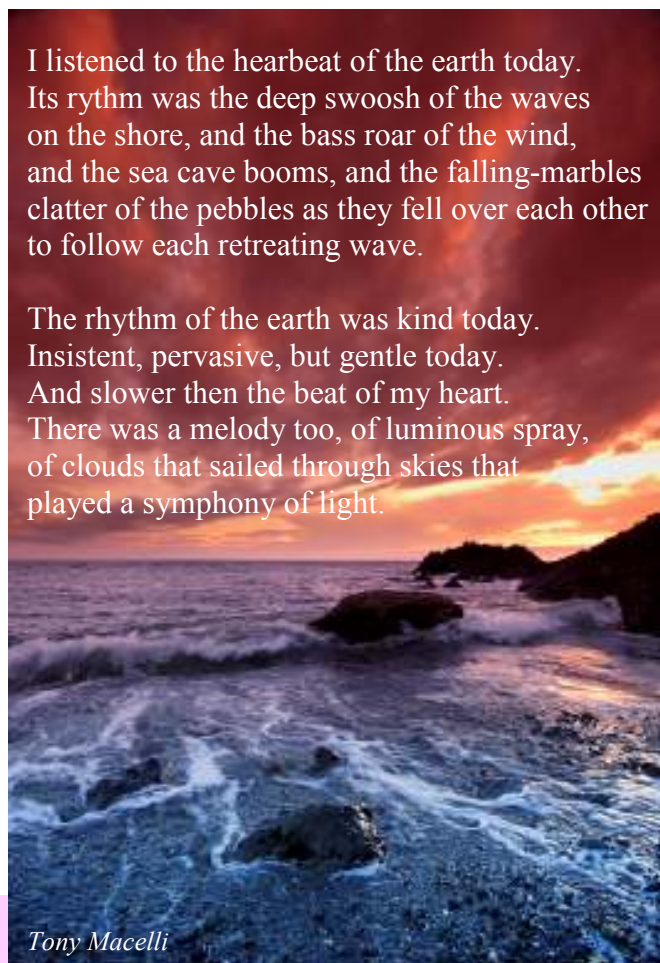
### NOTICE BOARD

Steering Committee Meeting –  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November @ 6:00pm @ Tarxien



I listened to the heartbeat of the earth today.  
Its rhythm was the deep swoosh of the waves  
on the shore, and the bass roar of the wind,  
and the sea cave booms, and the falling-marbles  
clatter of the pebbles as they fell over each other  
to follow each retreating wave.

The rhythm of the earth was kind today.  
Insistent, pervasive, but gentle today.  
And slower than the beat of my heart.  
There was a melody too, of luminous spray,  
of clouds that sailed through skies that  
played a symphony of light.



*Tony Macelli*

#### Correspondence Address

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