Holy Spirit Province

NEWSLETTER

Date 16-11-19

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends in the Passionist Family

Sr. Gemma O'Keeffe ocd

We have received word from our Carmelite sisters at Varroville of the death of Sr. Gemma this week. Sr. Gemma has been in a nursing home and was very recently diagnoses with cancer, and passed away as the Sisters were offering mass for her on the feast of All Carmelite Saints. All of them in heaven waiting for Gemma to arrive.

I assured Sr. Jocelyn of the prayers of all their Marrickville and Dulwich Hill friends for Sr. Gemma and for the Sisters.

Sr. Gemma's funeral will be at the Carmel of Mary and Joseph, Varroville, on Thursday at 10.00am

Two Centenarians - George and Jack

St Brigid's has the honour this month of celebrating the 100th birthday of two of our marvelous parishioners – Jack Jackson and George Rego

Jack
Jack beats George by only a couple of days, but he and his family have been a lifetime in the parish, back in the 'glory days' of St Brigid's sodalities, CYO, socials, St Maria Goretti processions, the Seven Last Words, Children of Mary, Vinnies, the Choirs, Altar Society's. Women's group making sandwiches, the sacrosanct seating for the official Ushers -men only. The whole Jackson family was active in the parish. Jack's darling wife Joan died only in the last years at the Maronite Sisters, Dulwich Hill, and until then, every day Jack would still be beetling up there from Henson Park on his Mobility Scooter. Jack never missed a Sunday Mass and was never anything less than jovial, smiling, with a joke and a 'g'day' for everyone.

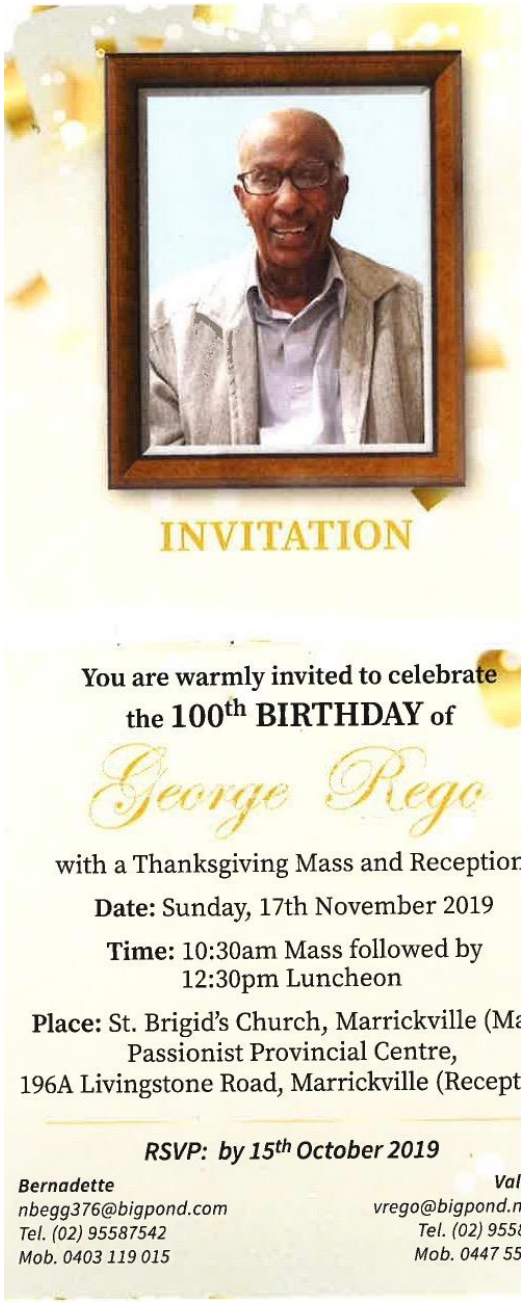
George

George of course is better known to the whole province, since almost all of us have shared the tremendous hospitality of George and Celina in Greenbank St, just down from what was Diamond Lil's house – another great Marro identity.

George and Celina really needed a revolving door for the never-ending stream of the many friends of Bernadette and Nur, Valerian and Jan, and all the friends and religious brothers and acquaintances, national and international of Aloysius ocd and Joachim CP.

George and the family have just celebrated 50 years of their arrival in Australia from Burma. From almost Day 1 they have been part of the life of our Marrickville parish, and since their son Joachim joined the Passionists, and Aloysius the Carmelites, our two congregations have been blessed by George and Celina's friendship.

Fr. Ron Davoren and I visited George on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of



INVITATION

You are warmly invited to celebrate
the 100th BIRTHDAY of

George Rego

with a Thanksgiving Mass and Reception

Date: Sunday, 17th November 2019

Time: 10:30am Mass followed by
12:30pm Luncheon

Place: St. Brigid's Church, Marrickville (Ma
Passionist Provincial Centre,
196A Livingstone Road, Marrickville (Recept

RSVP: by 15th October 2019

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arrival, and asked a simple question of George's interest in music. The story began with his grandparents, and then his own life and arrival and … 2 hours …. later he was still going with not a memory missed from Goa to Burma to Marro.

More pictures of George's celebration next newsletter

What a blessing these two men have been and are for their families, for their many friends, and for our St Brigid's parish. Jack was blessed at mass last week, George celebrated at mass this week.

I am sure Celina and Joan, their spouses are watching down with loving smiles on them both, and all their own parents, brothers and sisters as well.

May God grant them clear minds and manageable health for a long time yet.

Oh, and by the way, the parish also has Edna Taylor, also clear as a bell and a young 105.

In Christ Crucified
Tom cp
Provincial Superior