

# Resuming our Pastoral Care Outreach

by Teresa Koh

With the Covid-19 Pandemic better controlled, the Pastoral Carers in our Seniors Group were ready to resume their calling to visit the Elderly Homebound as of June 2022. It was decided that for a start, we will bring Holy Communion to the Elderly Homebound on the first Thursday of each month.

With this recent resumption, we have an additional three homes to visit but the Seniors embrace these readily.



So, on 7 July, twelve Seniors gathered in church to meet Sr Margaret Goh. We did ART tests, prayed and collected the consecrated hosts and were given Care Packs (consisting of boxes of masks, sanitisers and prayer books) to bring along for our Communicants. Paul Goh, the Outreach manager, came to meet us and even took pictures of us. We also got to know Christine Woo whom Sr Margaret sent to observe us. We hope she will consider joining us in this pastoral outreach.



Going forth with Jesus and the brown Care Packs.



Sr Margaret Goh (second, left) with the eleven Pastoral Carers, one observer and Paul Goh (left).

I am certainly glad that we could at least resume something purposeful for a start since our lay off in early 2020 when Covid struck.



## An Amazing Life: David Pattiselanno

by Teresa Koh



On 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 David Pattiselanno (left), our 84-year-old Senior, passed me his book "I Want To Fly", which he had compiled. I had doubts I would read it since I already had many books to finish up.



However, as I scanned through the book that night, I was intrigued and could not leave the book unfinished.



His book revealed his dreams, passions and adventures of his life till he came to join St Mary's Seniors group after a motorcycle accident in 2006.

David was born in 1938. He attended St Patrick School and was a boy scout and an army cadet. At an early age he dreamed to fly. So he joined the Malaysian Air Training as an air cadet.

However, flying was not his career. David joined the Traffic Mobile Squad after he left school. Subsequently, he worked for the Singapore Soviet Shipping Company as an Assistant Manager and had to learn the Russian language. He made many friends over the 25 years and encountered many adventures which he often shared at our Seniors gatherings.

His passion for flying, was rekindled after he left the shipping company. He began to spend lots of time and money going for training, flying and even buying an ultra-light two seated aircraft (picture on the next page).

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Besides recreation flying, David loves sailing. He and his brother together bought a small boat that can take six or seven people. Eventually, they upgraded to a 30-foot half cabin cruiser on which they had wonderful times sailing to the Southern Islands and camping overnight with his family and friends.

David was also a diver. He did commercial diving - for ship hull cleaning, polishing the propellers and even searching for items that had fallen into the sea.



Another amazing trait I discovered was his talent for drawing which you could see in his many illustrations in his book. In fact, a mural of his drawing is on display at the former Maxwell Traffic Police, now renamed as Maxwell Chambers.

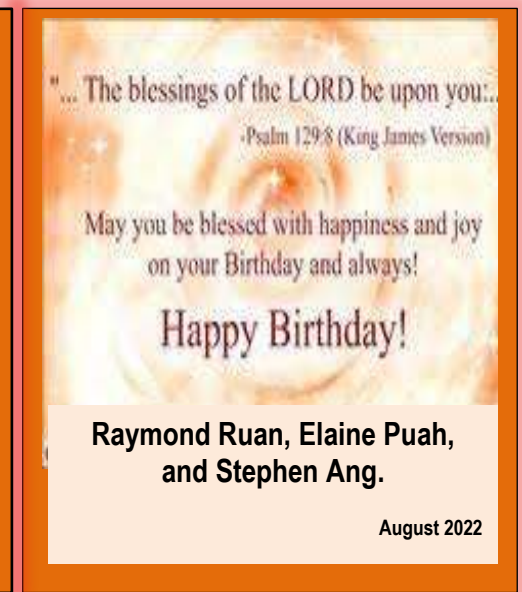
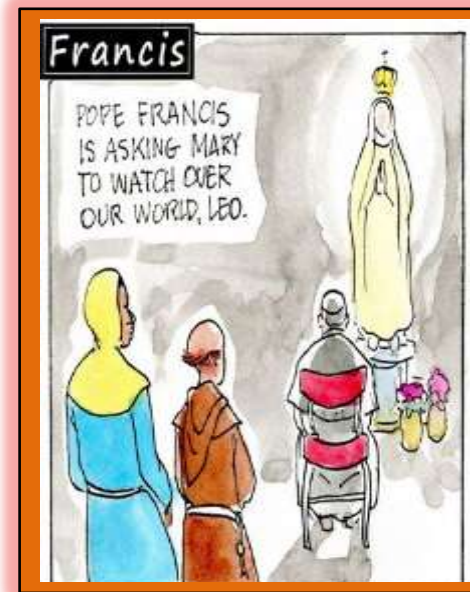
However, on Christmas Eve of 2006, David had a tragic motorcycle accident and had to be hospitalised for months as his left leg was cracked in several places. But with God's mercy and his sheer determination and hard work, David is now able to walk without any aid.

Putting his cowboy days behind, David learnt to play the harmonica and ukulele. He plays for old folk's homes and of course at our Seniors Group celebrations.

Believe on not, a few years ago, David (in his late 70's) even did Flying Fox while having a holiday in Genting Highlands with his wife, Josephine, cheering and videoing him. Such support explains why David could live such an amazing life.



David gives a solo performance on many occasions.



### Solidarity in Distressful Times



Prayer at the wake.



At Mandai Crematorium.

### By Teresa Koh

St Mary's Seniors came to show their love and care for our dear Senior, Valerie, when her husband, Ernest Yeo passed on to be with our Lord on 9 June 2022.

Seniors were at the wake prayers as well as at funeral Mass and cremation. This is the only way they could show their support and love in Valerie's loss and to wish Eternal Bliss to her departed husband Ernest.

**From Ernest's daughter, Vivienne:** Hello Teresa, thank you so much for visiting us at La Verna. It was such a busy time, I never got to say hello to you. Thank you for your prayers, the hymns, and for gathering all of Mom's and Dad's friends together to celebrate Dad's long and wonderful life. We are so blessed to have friends like you. God bless.

**From Valerie:** Dear Teresa, please convey for me and my family's heart-felt thanks to all Seniors for their presence, condolences and prayers at my husband's Ernest's wake and cremation. **May God Bless us all.**

When you arise in the morning think of what a privilege it is to be alive, to think, to enjoy, to love. (Marcus Aurelius)