



THE MORE YOU HONOUR ME  
THE MORE I WILL BLESS YOU

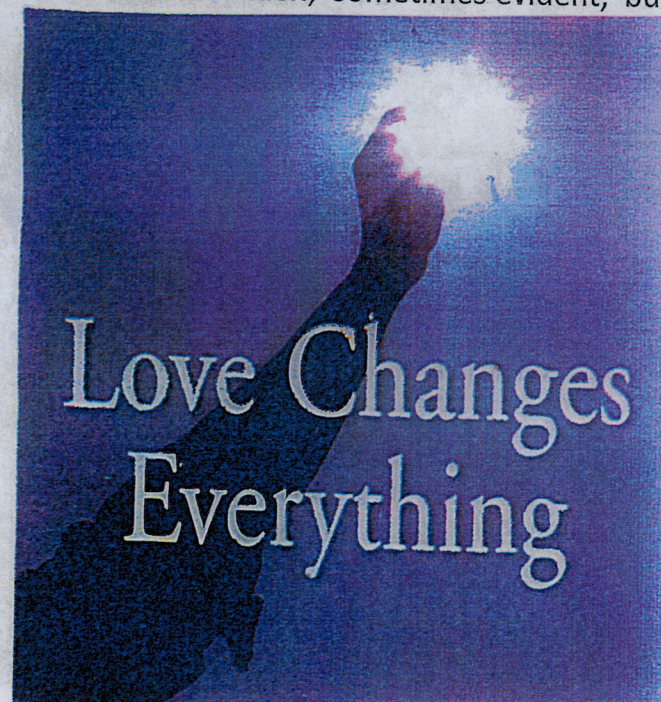
## THE COMMUNICATOR



## GOD IS ALWAYS NEAR.

Trying to connect with God sometimes seems like playing hide and seek. We search with our logic, but God proves illogical. We ask for a sign and are answered with silence. We read scripture and draw a blank. We can even go to Mass and come away asking, "Why did I bother?" Then suddenly out of nowhere, when we are least expecting it, God appears in our life. It may be a "knock you on your feet" experience or simply a few words delivered through another person, but deep inside, we know it is God. And we have to smile as we realize God does not dance to our tune.

God surprises us so that we can be certain the experience is neither a figment of our imagination or something we have contrived. Such moments may be few and far between, yet God is always with us in an expression of love, in pain and suffering, in fear and in joy, God is there. Sometimes hidden, sometimes evident, but always there.



## A BIT OF NOSTALGIA

### Uniforms But No Uniformity

by

Margaret Sheenan December 1972

When the question of uniforms was raised early this year, most Catechists went along with the idea but there were quite a few of us who had reservations for various reasons... 'a uniform at my age – I don't know about that style or the colour – it's like going back to school again' – to quote a few, but most agreed it would solve the main problem, "What will I wear today?"

So we were measured and sized and found to our delight (and I'd say thanks to a very astute P.R. woman) that we all needed a size smaller than usual and it's really something to say "S.S.W. please." They all looked alike when we picked them up, but the first week saw quite a few adjustments, especially in length.

Then a confirmed scarf-wearer from way-back suggested a blue and white spotted scarf to finish our outfits and we were away. To misquote the T.V. ad., it was the scarf and not the sauce that made the difference. Those styles! One or two even had a variety of scarf-rings; there was the odd girl-guide knot, mothers of sons had Windsor knots and those with trendy daughters borrowed their dress rings. The remainder looped one end over the other and hoped for the best. It took Doreen Murphy and Alice Wendt to upstage all of us and wear the scarf with their white uniforms and don't they look smart.

There was an unconfirmed report that one of our scarves is decorating a street tree in Clayfield, left there when one of our group

(who incidentally manages always to have one end of the scarf at her waist and the other floating casually over her left shoulder was running for a bus. She also managed to lose the heel of her shoe the same day.

How successful are the uniforms? Wonderfully, I'd say. It is easy to spot your helpers on a busy Instruction or First Communion day (or even a Melbourne Cup Party), they surely looked good at the Ecumenical Service at St. Stephen's Cathedral; the sight of a Sister and eight catechists in uniform entering a school looks efficient; and, from a personal point of view there is a wonderful feeling of comfort at the sight of our two Sisters and two friends in uniform at a Requiem Mass.

On a lighter side – we've been mistaken for Blue Nurses and the women who clean the telephones; one little girl said her mummy had a dress just like that but (sadly) no scarf; and one of us was offered a lift by a gentleman who admitted he did not know her but had a neighbour who wore a similar outfit and went regularly to O'Keefe Street. The final approval came last week when one of our original reluctant wearers was heard to remark, "You know, I'm actually getting to like this thing."



### Prayers Requested:

In your charity, please include the following in your prayers:

Joan Lakeland, Christina Peters, Rita Hunter, Rita Ryan,  
Carmel Curran, Heather Stabler, Bernard O'Hara

### Recently Deceased:

William (Bill) Rogers (25.6.2018), Elizabeth (Betty) Kemp

### Anniversaries to remember:

#### June:

Br Desmond Phillips 2013

Marie Rhodes 2013

John Phillips 2002

Doreen Murphy 1996

Matthew McMurtrie 1979

Darryl Hoffman 1977

Margaret Lyons 2000

Joseph Barrett 2013

Kenneth Donald Lakeland 2015

#### July:

Maureen Rogers 2010

Kath Winter 1997

Coralie Keogh 1971

Sr Helen Rheume FMM 1999

Archbishop Francis Rush 2001

Cathy Bones 2001

Bernadette Andersen 2006

Betty Bird 1995

Sr Valerie Healy FMM 2013

Una Garrahy 2001

William Nisbet 1984

Father C Shand 1995

Nancy Brace 2002

Ethel Smith 2000

Neville Ryrie 1984

Sr Patricia Phillips 1994

Bernard Rhodes 2009

Br Julius Walsh 2015

#### August:

Philomena Barrett 2008

Lissa Martinez 2009

Joan Dennis 2001

Sr Enda O'Sullivan FMM 1991

Carol Brace 2001

George Haseler 2003

Claire Wheeler 1997

Noel Dennis 2008

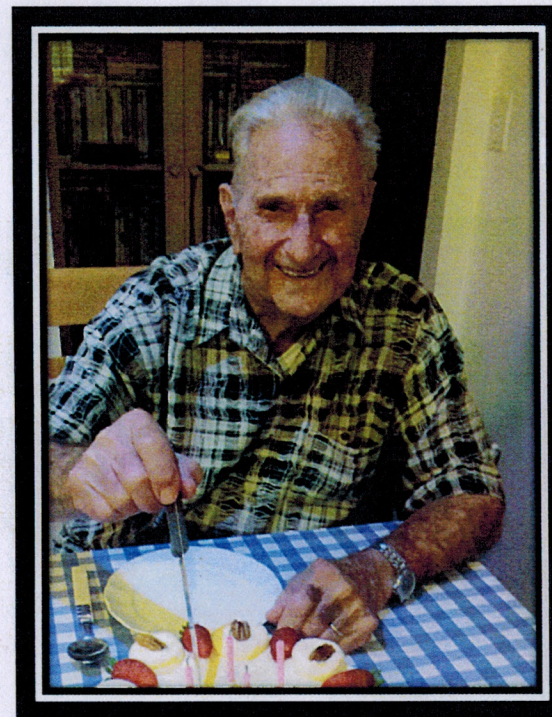
David Cleland 2005

Sr Ann O'Connor FMM 1999

Marion O'Connor 1980

Keith Howard 2011

# Bill Rogers



*2<sup>nd</sup> May 1924 - 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018*  
*A Celebration of Life and Friendship*

*"As long as we remember a person, they're not really gone. Their thoughts, their feelings, their memories, they become a part of us."* Justin Cronin

## THE DASH

*I read of a man who stood to speak  
at the funeral of a friend.  
He referred to the dates on the tombstone  
from the beginning...to the end.  
He noted that first came the date of birth  
and spoke the following date with tears,  
but he said what mattered most of all  
was the dash between those years.*

*For that dash represents all the time  
that they spent alive on earth.  
And now only those who loved them know  
what that little line is worth.  
For it matters not, how much we own,  
the cars...the house...the cash.  
What matters is how we live and love  
and how we spend our dash.*

*So, think about this long and hard.  
Are there things you'd like to change?  
For you never know how much time is left  
that can still be rearranged.  
If we could just slow down enough  
to consider what's true and real  
and always try to understand  
the way other people feel.  
And be less quick to anger  
and show appreciation more  
and love the people in our lives  
like we've never loved before.  
If we treat each other with respect  
and more often wear a smile,  
remembering that this special dash  
might only last a little while.*

*So, when your eulogy is being read,  
with your life's actions to rehash...  
would you be proud of the things they say  
about how you spent YOUR dash?*

## SAINTS FUN FACTS

by John Sheppard

St. Augustine, the son of St. Monica, gave up a life of sin and partying. He was baptized, became a priest, a bishop, a famous Catholic writer, Founder of religious priests and one of the greatest saints who ever lived! He practiced poverty and supported the poor. He is the patron of brewers.

