

Jpsm

Justice Peace & Solidarity in Mission

The Congregation of the Sisters of Good Shepherd
Province of Singapore–Malaysia

Strictly for the Congregation of the Good Shepherd Sisters & their Lay Collaborators



Dear Mission Partners,

— Warm greetings to all!

The official opening of Good Shepherd Place by Singapore's Prime Minister, Mr Lee Hsien Loong is featured at the beginning of this newsletter. Also from Singapore – Marymount Convent celebrates Earth Day and Youth for Environment with the theme, 'Imagine. Create. Change.' Students from Marymount joined many, many others to express their gratitude and respect to the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the founding father of Singapore.

Much of the focus in this issue is on the protection and 'speaking out' for the vulnerable: the refugees, the migrant children who are denied of their citizenship and other rights. You will be able to read these in greater detail in the articles, 'PKGS – Responding to the needs of refugees' and 'Life Touches'.

Do enjoy reading the other reports too – 'One Billion Rising', International Women's Day, International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human trafficking

Well done and thank you all for your invaluable contributions! †

GLORIA



Official Opening of Good Shepherd Place

by Singapore's
Prime Minister,
Mr Lee Hsien Loong

Singapore - May 2, 2015 was a joyous day for the Good Shepherd Sisters, mission partners, and benefactors in Singapore as we celebrated the official opening of Good Shepherd Place by Singapore's Prime Minister, Mr Lee Hsien Loong.





worked hard and provided support in the development of the new Good Shepherd Place which took 15 months. She made special mention of the Prime Minister, the Singapore Land Authority who acted for the different government bodies, the architects, consultants and the builders, the children and parents, Good Shepherd Sisters and mission partners, staff, volunteers and benefactors. Many who have visited the Good Shepherd Place had found the place to be a place filled with love, peace and welcome.



— As Ms Cecilia Ee, chairperson of the Marymount Centre Board said in her welcome address, “the acquisition of the land at Thomson Road came earlier than expected”. The land at Thomson Road was where the Good Shepherd Convent was located for more than 50 years and where the Sisters had contributed to the Singapore community through their ministries, caring for women and children at the margins of society. Ms Ee thanked all who had supported the Good Shepherd Sisters in making the dream of the new Good Shepherd Place a reality.

In her address, Sr Joan Lopez, Leader of the Province of Singapore-Malaysia, thanked all present and all who have

The Good Shepherd Place was then declared open by Singapore’s Prime Minister, Mr Lee Hsien Loong with the unveiling of a commemorative plaque. This was then followed by a touching rendition of the song “You Raised Me Up” by a trio which included a pioneer Singaporean Good Shepherd Sister, Sr Gerard Fernandez. The children from Marymount Kindergarten and Ahuva Good Shepherd then “wowed” the audience with two very energetic and exuberant gymnastics and dance performances. The event ended with lunch for all and a tour of the Good Shepherd Place. †

*Contributed by
Ms Cecilia Lim, Principal of Marymount
Convent School, Singapore*



PKGS – Responding to the Needs of Refugees

In responding to the direction statement from the 29th Congregational Chapter where we commit ourselves to “work zealously with women and children, especially those who are trafficked, forced to migrate and oppressed by abject poverty”, little did we foresee how this step of obedience would open doors and widen the horizons of our ministry in serving those living in the margins.

— Our initial experience of answering to the needs of refugees was in July 2008 when a Sri Lankan refugee woman in pregnancy crisis was referred to our Ipoh shelter. She was a United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) card holder. This opened the way for our first contact with UNHCR.

Following this experience, we began to shelter refugees in crisis on a one-off basis as we became more aware of the situation of refugees in Malaysia. In 2009, Pusat Kebajikan Good Shepherd (PKGS) responded to an emergency call for help to shelter some 100 refugee men, women and children for a few weeks. Volunteers comprising of Good Shepherd Sisters, PKGS staff, lay associates and friends came together during the night to transport the refugees to the place of refuge.

Our work with refugees formally began in September 2010 when PKGS entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) to respond to the needs of Burmese refugee women and children in Kuala Lumpur. In November 2010, we had our first referral from ICMC. In 2010 and 2011, we sheltered a total of 16 women and children who were victims of gender based violence. Besides providing shelter to refugee women and children, we also reached out to 1,030 refugee children through the Keeping Me Safe (KMS) Programme which was conducted by PKGS's volunteers.

A major milestone in our work with refugees occurred in September 2012

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when PKGS signed an MOU with UNHCR to shelter Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URMs) and accepted the first two URMs into our shelter.

Our shelters provide a temporary refuge for the refugee women and children to shield them from further exploitation and abuses until UNHCR finds a more durable solution via a safe support and protection in communities. Where risk is heightened and the only solution is resettlement, the shelter becomes a temporary home until the day the women and children are resettled in a third country.

Whilst in the KL shelter, the women and children are given medical attention if required, and may receive counselling and therapy subject to their consent and the availability of interpreters. They also have access to English and Malay lessons, and other life skills programme such as cooking and baking.

In Ipoh, our programmes for the URMs include home schooling, training in living skills, individual and group counselling, awareness programmes, and different kinds of events and programmes which help the children reclaim their dignity as persons.

In both centres, the case officers assist UNHCR in sharing information that may provide solutions for the refugees' safe integration in other communities or resettlement to a third country.

What initially began as a humble response to a woman in crisis and to a call for help has evolved into a key and active ministry of serving the marginalised and oppressed. Since 2013 our KL shelter alone has provided a place of refuge to a total of 111 women and children, including refugees from non-Burmese communities. In Ipoh, we have sheltered a total of 7 refugee women and 17 refugee children, mainly from Myanmar.

This year, UNHCR nominated Pusat Kebajikan Good Shepherd for the Nansen Refugee Award, an annual award bestowed to a person or group for outstanding work on behalf of the forcibly displaced. The Nansen Refugee Award, through its laureates, aims to showcase the values of perseverance and conviction in the face of adversity.

UNHCR Figures at a Glance

as of end November 2014

150,460

No. of refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR in Malaysia



92.5% (139,200)

from Myanmar
7.5% (11,260) from other countries including Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Somalia, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Palestine, Afghanistan, Yemen and Sudan



70%

of refugees and asylum-seekers are men, 30% are women

32,710

Children below the age of 18

Why Have The Women and Children Come

— In the early years we were sheltering mainly refugees from the Chin communities who had fled their country due to communal and ethnic persecution. In recent years and especially in the last year, we have seen more victims of gender based violence from the Rohingya communities as numbers rise after heightened violence in the state of Arakan in Myanmar, resulting in mass migration to the neighbouring countries of Bangladesh, Thailand and Malaysia. The situation is exacerbated by a profitable business of smuggling and trafficking of women and children.

The women and their children that we have encountered have come seeking refuge from abusive husbands or partners with the exceptions of:-

- children trafficked for both

labour and sex;

- women and children evicted from homes when their breadwinner had abandoned them or had been caught by authorities;
- women who had been sexually harassed by perpetrators allegedly from the police force; and
- women and children rescued from immigration detention centres.

There is a whole generation of Rohingya children with little access to education resulting in a future blighted by poverty and gangsterism. It is unfortunate that the state ignores these problems as communal problems. The growth of the number of refugees from Myanmar cannot be ignored as they already outnumber Malaysian minorities. †

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE



Life Touches

The article was written about the plantation experience was by Cristhella Raimin. She is the team leader in Sandakan.

— Working with migrant children in palm oil plantations was never part of a career choice for me as I had dreams of a successful corporate career in some big city. Now a year on after my graduation, I find myself in the outback's of Sandakan in the thick of oil palm plantations that blanket the east coast region of Sabah working with Indonesian migrant communities. My initial feeling was one of loss and uncertainty as I was not sure that I could cope. But nonetheless, I felt a sense of purpose and persevered with the support of my colleagues, friends and family.

The two main activities in Sandakan are the Birth Registration Project (BRP) and the Mobile Children's Program (MCP) conducted at four PPB Oil Plantation, namely Sapi 1, Sapi 2, Terusan 1 and Terusan 2. The MCP is conducted as an after school program at the Humana Learning Centre located in these plantations



Almost all of the children are Indonesians. A high percentage of them lack birth certificate or documents that deny them the right to citizenship and many other rights such as education, identity, etc. The BRP is our respond to assisting these vulnerable children. The least we can do is to help them secure their rights as a human being in any way we can.. Although our role is to help them with the application documentation and to bridge them with Indonesian consul, it is still a tedious tasks due to their low level of awareness regarding the process. We assist in gathering the required information and documents such as the parents' marriage certificate, passport, a letter from the clinic, witnesses and etc. before submitting it to the Indonesian Consulate. The Consulate takes as long as three to six months to process.

Since the start of the project in early March 2015, there has been more than 200 applicants for birth certificate.

The after-school MCP activities include topics on self-worth and appreciation, safety and protection which includes issues on sexual abuses, nutrition, sports and environment. The modules for children emphasizes self development

as we believe that every child has the potential for a better future.

"Please help me about this, i willing to pay any amount you asked if i must, as long as my child can have the birth cert." This was a desperate plea by a mother to my colleague. It made me realise how desperate and vulnerable this mother was to being exploited if her request had fallen into the wrong hands as PKGS does not charge any fees for the BRP. I understand that they only wish to have a decent life and to believe that by their child having a birth document, they could provide their children a much better life. This mother realised the importance of education and how it could help break their poverty-stricken life. It make me wonder about the many other parents who are not aware about the importance of the birth certificate and how it affects their children's rights. How can I help them?

Mingling with the children in the last five weeks has brought me great joy and excitement , I am very blessed to experience the positive response and warm welcome of the communities. The increasing participation and enthusiasm of the children has been my biggest motivation. Like any other children ,they love to play, sing, dance and act. Their high energy level and eagerness gives keeps my senses alive and increases my want to give them more. I have also learnt so much about life from them. I believe that every single one of them has a future if only they had opportunities.

Understanding their life situation has also change my perceptions about migrants. I see them as human beings who have equal rights to a better life like any other Sabahan children. I am filled with gratitude for who I am now as at least, I had a chance to have an education and am able to acknowledge and claim my rights as a citizen of a country. It has been an eye opener for me as I have taken citizenship for granted when for these children, the right to nationality seems like a hopeless struggle. I hold dearly to St Mary Euphrasia's belief that "one person is of more value than the whole world" and look forward to the day when every undocumented or stateless child will say "I am a citizen of". I am zealous to reaching out to these children and will continue to do my best to provide a life-changing stepping stone for them. †

One Billion Rising

ROSE VIRGINIE GOOD SHEPHERD CENTRE, IPOH

— One Billion Rising is the biggest mass action to end violence against women in human history. The campaign, first launched on Valentine's Day 2012, began as a call to action based on the staggering statistic that 1 in 3 women on the planet will be beaten or raped during her lifetime. With the world population at 7 billion, this adds up to more than ONE BILLION WOMEN AND GIRLS.

RVGSC joined hands with ONE BILLION PEOPLE all over the world to be part of the global movement to end violence against women and girls worldwide by organizing a flash mob in the Ipoh Parade Shopping Mall. Around 60 people, comprising of dancers and volunteers, participated in it.

Click the links below to watch the flash mob on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoxdpw9Syjc
www.youtube.com/watch?v=YgU-uVTqmJs

YOUTH-PREP CENTRE, SABAH

— The Youth-PREP Centre, Sabah organised the One Billion Rising global campaign in a number of schools this year. One thousand and seven hundred students together with their teachers and principals participated in it.

The programme started with an introduction about the campaign and sharing about the issues faced by women and girls in relation to domestic violence and sexual harassment in the world today. One of the sessions was on healthy relationship between boys and girls in order to prevent gender based violence. The students then read a pledge to stop violence against women and girls. This was followed by a signature campaign. Other activities included singing and dancing the "Break the Chain" dance.



IN TULID, KENINGAU, SABAH

— The One Billion Rising Campaign was organised by the Rural Community Development Tulid – Youth Ministry at the Christ the King Church Hall. Approximately 90 people participated in this campaign. They were from the Animation Team Tulid, youth, children and women of Kg. Tulid and Kg. Pauh. The objective was to create awareness about violence against women and children. The youth were encouraged to participate. Among the activities carried out was a dance performance, a briefing and a short video presentation on the campaign. †



International Women's Day 2015



PKGS (TEENAGE CENTRE)

AMPANG, SELANGOR

by Ms Willa Mowe

In solidarity with the International Women's Day (IWD), the residents of the Center celebrated it with their parents. YB Mary Josephine Pittam Singh, a Yang Berhormat from Seremban

was the special guest of the day. The celebration aims to uphold the different contribution and involvement of all women in the world especially those who unceasingly work for gender equality.

The programme started with a video presentation on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action which sets the agenda for women's rights. It took place in 1995.

Message by the UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka for IWD 2015:

Today not a single country has achieved equality

Violence against women continues to blight lives in all countries of the world.

Women need change and humanity needs change. This we can do together; women and girls, men and boys, young and old, rich and poor. Today, on International Women's Day, we call on our countries to "step up" for gender equality, with substantive progress by 2020. Our aim is to reach 'Planet 50:50' before 2030. The world needs full equality in order for humanity to prosper. Empower women, empower humanity. Picture an equal world.

After the video presentation everyone shared how they felt and how they will

empower themselves and others. One of the sharing was to empower herself is to gain self – confidence and stand up for herself while to empower others is to practice equal communication.

YB Mary Josephine in her sharing said:

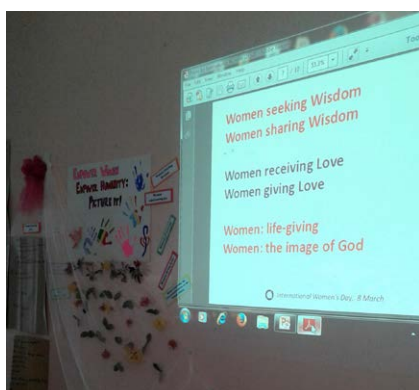
"Together we will make sure that: Women must be kept safe and secure from gender-based violence. Women have human rights that are respected. Women are empowered in every way through education, equal opportunity, participation and leadership.

We therefore need to educate the younger generation on gender equality and that violence is not a way of wielding power.

I've come to believe that each of us women has a personal calling that's as unique as a fingerprint - and that the best way to succeed is to discover what you love and then find a way to offer it to others in the form of service, working hard, and also allowing the energy of the universe to lead you."

The celebration was culminated with a prayer for all the women and a giving of appreciation to each woman who were present. Indeed, the celebration was a very inspiring one to continue to strive to achieve the gender equality.

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ROSE VIRGINIE GOOD
SHEPHERD CENTRE, IPOH
by Ng Ju Er

— Each year International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8. The first International Women's Day was held in 1991. RVGSC celebrated the day with the residents, staff and volunteers at the Centre as well as with the students in University Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR).

Celebration in the Centre

Objectives:

- To introduce to the girls the history and objectives of International Women's Day.
- To highlight the difficulties and challenges faced by girls and women across the world in their struggle for education.
- To show that by educating and empowering girls the cycle of poverty and violence against women can be broken in just one generation.
- To celebrate International Women's Day.

Celebration with students and staff in UTAR

An outreach programme was drawn out. Leaflets were distributed to the students and staff in UTAR during Women's Day Campaign. The leaflets contain information about the RVGSC services.

Objectives were:

- To celebrate Women's Day, in conjunction with the International Women's Day.
- To create awareness about abusive relationships among youth and provide information regarding healthy and unhealthy relationships
- To introduce our outreach programme 'Abusive Relationships: Engaging Youth as Agents of Change'.

TULID KENINGAU
by Octavia Rose
staff of Seri Murni Crisis Centre,
Kota Kinabalu

— The celebration in Tulid was organised with the help of the volunteers from the Animation Team Mukim Tulid. The objectives of this celebration were to raise awareness for gender equality and to celebrate women.

Just after mass at Gereja Katolik Kristus Raja, one of the staff of PKGS introduced International Women's Day to the parishioners. When the crowd started to leave the church the volunteers took turns to express their appreciation and gratitude to their mothers and to all women. Some recited poems to their mothers. The women felt touched and some of the youths went to hug their mothers. After that the International Women's Day banner was exhibited. The men were asked to write words of gratitude to women on it.

There have not been many occasions in Tulid where women were appreciated for their roles as mothers, sisters and wives. It was a very meaningful and happy occasion for all women.



1
Introduction by the facilitator of the basic hair dressing and make-up workshop.

2
Demonstration on hairdressing.

3
Demonstration and practical of basic body massage for head, eyes, neck, shoulder and hands.

ASRAMA DESA PUKAK (ADP)
By Dora Lansan
staff at Asrama Desa Pukak (ADP)

— Forty two women and a man participated in the Women's Day Celebration. Nelly Joe Guuk together with 2 friends volunteered to give a demonstration on basic body massage, make-up and hair dressing. The facilitators were former students of Giat Mara. They now own a massage centre at Inanam town. These activities were requested by the women of Kampung Pukak and the objective of the programme is to improve their skills on make-up and hair-dressing so as to enable them to earn a side income. It is also to raise awareness that they should take good care of themselves through a simple body massage. Through this programme we hope that the women are more aware of the importance of their health and also take some time to take care of themselves. †

Marymount Convent School (MCS) Earth Week / Youth for Environment Day (YED) 2015

Our school celebrated Earth week from 20th to 24th April. The theme for the Earth Week / YED this year is, "Imagine. Create. Change." It is an apt call to all our youth to imagine the future that they want, to create their own plans for action, and to start making changes today to achieve the vision. During the Earth week, Marymount Convent School celebrated Earth Day and Youth for Environment Day (YED) on 22 April (Tuesday) and teachers prepared a series of activities to encourage our pupils to:

MCS Bright Spots Challenge

To cultivate good environmental habits within the community and support the

Keep Singapore Clean (KSC) Movement, the 'MCS Bright Spots Challenge' was launched to encourage everyone to take ownership of cleanliness and lead by example to keep the school clean and green.

During Earth week, selected teachers and our P4-P6 green ambassadors acted as judges to assess the cleanliness of the canteen and the responsible behaviour of our pupils during the three recesses.

Teachers also looked out for the "MCS Bright Spots Angels" (pupils who take initiative to keep the school clean) and took a snap shot of the good acts which included picking up litter on

the floor, sorting out waste that was not put into the correct recycling bin and clearing the food scraps left on the table. Teachers then shared the good behaviours with the whole school during the morning assembly to reinforce the values of responsibility and care for the environment.

Over the one-week observation, there was an increase in the number of our pupils who have shown initiative to take ownership of their litter and practising the 3Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. The P3 and P6 pupils have also demonstrated the best efforts in keeping the environment clean and green through their actions.

P1-P3 Earth Week Art Competition

This competition was organised to provide our pupils a platform to promote environmental awareness through visual art. Entitled "My Clean Singapore", our pupils drew pictures showing what everyone could do to keep Singapore clean.

It has not only provided our pupils the opportunity to display their talents, but also provided them an avenue to share the values of respect and responsibility with others.

P4-P6 Newspapers Recycling Competition

This newspaper collection competition was another activity to promote environmental awareness and to garner maximum participation from our pupils. Pupils were encouraged to bring old newspapers from home. The Green Ambassadors then took charge to bundle and weigh the newspapers. The mass of newspapers collected by individual classes was collated.

Through the competition, pupils became more aware about the issues of global warming. They pledged to take on a more proactive role to care for our Earth. Primary 5 Perseverance and 5 Compassion have emerged as the Champion and first-runner up respectively for their outstanding conscious efforts. †

*Contributed by
Ms Wong Lai Lin
Head of Department / Science,
Marymount Convent School, Singapore*



Earth Hour 2015



*By Agnes Soimin
a Volunteer at the Youth-PREP Centre*

— This year, the Youth-PREP Centre (YPC) supported the city-level celebration of Earth Hour which encourages an interconnected global community to share the opportunities and challenges of creating a sustainable world. The mayor in his opening speech said, “This celebration aims to create more awareness to the public on the importance of tackling the global warming issue.” The event started with the opening of booths selling recycled or second hand products that can help preserve and conserve the environment. Volunteers of YPC helped with the setting of the candles that were made of used cooking oil, organised the busking performances to entertain the crowd and managed the registration of cyclists who were part of the 15 km cycling event. After the one hour lights off, YPC volunteers gathered to share their feedbacks and thoughts on this environmental issue. Most of them were motivated with the pledge to reduce the usage of Styrofoam.

I really appreciate this opportunity to gain experience on how to manage an event. Being a bio-conservation student in University Malaysia Sabah, I am also happy to see that the public really supported such activities that will be good for the environment. †

International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking *February 8*

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General has designated February 8 as an annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking. February 8 is the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy. Once Josephine was freed, she became a Canossian nun and dedicated her life to sharing her testament of deliverance from slavery and comforting the poor and suffering. She was declared a Saint in 2000.

On February 8, Catholics all over the world are encouraged to host or attend prayer services to create greater awareness about this phenomenon.



Through prayer, we not only reflect on the experiences of those that have suffered through this affront to human dignity, but also comfort, strengthen, and help empower survivors.

KUALA LUMPUR

A prayer session was held at a gathering to welcome Srs Regina and Eunan from Myanmar and Srs Anita and Anastasia from Indonesia. It was well attended by Sisters and mission partners in Kuala Lumpur.

SABAH - SANDAKAN

The SMCC Sandakan organised a World Day of Prayer against modern slavery at the St. Mary's Youth Hostel. A total of 27 participants, including the boarders, visitors and staff attended the event.

KOTA KINABALU

Youth-PREP Centre brought together the youths in the Parishes of St Peter Claver, Ranau and St Valentine Beaufort. The prayer was led by Father Florian in Ranau. There were altogether 50 youths. †

The Malaysian #BeMyProtector Campaign *April 25 – July 25*

Mary and Gloria, Lay Associates of Kuala Lumpur, were privileged to be part of the Campaign, organised by Change Your World, that challenges Malaysians to stop human trafficking by creating community intelligence - raising awareness and empowering them to act. †



Reflections on the Lying-In-State at Parliament House of Singapore's Founding Prime Minister, the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew

— In the wee hours of 23 March 2015, our nation lost our founding father, Mr Lee Kuan Yew. The nation mourned and many wanted to pay their last respects to the man who made Singapore what it is today.

The Lying-In-State ceremony was held at Parliament House for the public to see Mr Lee for the last time and to pay their last respects to him. On 26 March 2015, the second day of Lying-In-State, a group of prefects, accompanied by our teachers, had the honour and privilege of attending the Lying-In-State ceremony on behalf of the student body of Marymount Convent School.

We heard the news that people who attended the Lying-In-State the previous day had queued for up to eight hours so we left school for Parliament House early at 6am that morning. There was a priority queue for students, the elderly, the disabled and families with young children aged six years old and below. The priority queue was sheltered and it cut down waiting time considerably. The organisers were very efficient in acting on feedback given by the public who attended the Lying-In-State ceremony on the first day, and had improved accessibility for the more vulnerable.



There was indeed an overwhelming turn-up for the Lying-In-State ceremony. While queueing, we saw many students from other schools. I was holding onto a large card with many condolence messages written by the students and staff of Marymount Convent School, Marymount Kindergarten and Marymount Centre. As I stood in the queue, this combined tribute attracted the attention of many people in the queue. Many stopped and asked which school we were from and wanted to read our condolence messages. I felt so proud of all who had taken the time to pen down their condolences and messages of gratitude to Mr Lee.

After clearing security, the card had to be placed at a designated area for flowers and condolence cards. Seeing a sea of flowers and cards, I realised how much Mr Lee had impacted the lives of so many Singaporeans. Despite the long queues and the weather, the public was not deterred and was willing to wait for hours to pay their final respects to Mr Lee. I was touched by the immense outpouring of gratitude and respect for Mr Lee.

After queueing for one-and-a-half hours, it was soon our turn to pay our respects to our founding father. The mood turned sombre as we approached his coffin which was elevated on

a platform. As I stood in front of Mr Lee's portrait, everything seemed so surreal. I felt a huge loss. Our beloved founding father was no longer here. We bowed to show our utmost respect for Mr Lee, a gentleman who contributed so much of his life for the progress of our nation.

It was over in less than five seconds; but these mere five seconds meant so much to us. For some people, all this proved too much for them and tears trickled down their cheeks. The solemn atmosphere and people crying around me tugged at my heartstrings. After paying our respects to Mr Lee, we walked out with heavy hearts and hung our heads low, all engrossed in our own thoughts and grateful that we had been given the opportunity to pay our respects to Mr Lee.

After watching media coverage of Mr Lee's achievements, I am grateful to Mr Lee for all that he has done for Singapore. For the younger generation, we may have not endured any hardships but we do know that without Mr Lee Kuan Yew, we will not be living in a first-world Singapore. Without Mr Lee Kuan Yew, we will not have all these opportunities we have now. Thank you, Mr Lee, for building a safe, multi-cultural and prosperous Singapore.

Though Mr Lee is no longer here, may his legacy live on. †

*Contributed by Jasslyn Jade Ang
Head Prefect 2015
Marymount Convent School*