

St John's Donors' Dinner June 2009
Words to Chew On

Greg Paul

(Reference: John 12:1-11)

St John the Compassionate has created a home for people who don't have home anywhere else.

When you write a cheque for St John's, do you know that what you're doing is anointing the feet of Jesus, as Mary did, Mary the one whom others scorned as a sinner? You are touching the heart of God. You are touching something that's at the core and the apex of what humanity is all about. When you touch somebody in their weakness.

You are caring for people, blessing people amongst whom Jesus would choose to walk, does choose to walk. The poor ... the hungry ... the thirsty ... the people who normally sit at the tables here.

It doesn't matter how big or little it is, what you give; it's how much it matters to you.

God doesn't call us to care for the less fortunate only because they need it, but also because we need it, we need the touch of God. We need to experience having our own feet anointed by someone who is broken. We need their blessing.

Things weren't going well one day, and I was feeling myself the focal point of the problems, being the one in charge. Sheldon, a street guy at the Sanctuary, told me: "You are my brother. I respect you." When my brother Sheldon, a street man, speaks to me like this, it's the voice of God. It's something I need to hear.

If it means something to you to give to this beautiful community, then take some time to receive. Come and eat at the round tables, where nobody is at the head, and discover the people who are your own flesh and blood.

I know that here people are welcomed.

Hilda

In business they'd say, 'we're partners.' But here we say: 'we're sharing life.'
Thank you to you all, who are sharing with us the cross.

Fr Roberto

That person who's in front of you is the most important person.
The people who come here to receive become the givers. That's the miracle.