

SELF-REVELATION has value!

While travelling to the cemetery after a funeral, one of the family members of the deceased suddenly broke the silence by saying; *“That Mildred was really a religious person although she never spoke about it.”* No one made a comment until the funeral company car driver suddenly said; *“If she never shared her religious views then how would you know that she was religious?”* Again no one said anything, but this man definitely had a point!

Experience has taught me that so many good and faithful spouses in marriage until their dying day remain a religious mystery to their partner. As well so many parents remain religious mysteries to their children. It is often immensely valuable especially at a religious milestone event such as at a funeral, a baptism, a first communion or a confirmation that the people gathered mention something to others of the religious significance the event has for them. Of course, this needs to be done gently and it does not need to dominate the event, yet it can provide for the people gathered some real *pearls of wisdom*.

Throughout the Gospels Jesus of Nazareth constantly enriched his audience when speaking about his relationship with his heavenly Father. In John’s Gospel he says, *“Of myself I can do nothing, I do not seek to do my own will but that of my Father.”* I recently read; *“That a lighted candle loses nothing of its light by sharing it with others.”* Fr Martin R Maunsell