

As you leave the garden, near the front gate is a line of Magnolias by the side of the house.

15. These **Magnolias** moved here with my mother. I look at them and think of my mothering—such a mixture of joy, pain and guilt. How often fear is the culprit, spoiling our joy. *Father, you said 'Perfect love casts out all fear,' immerse me in your love.*

**16. Inside the Hedge at the front** This garden had been the previous owner's pride and joy with stately palms, sprinkler, hedge, gravel and rock surround. Drought, time, neglect and growth gone mad had changed things. We aren't Palm tree fans either. After the palms were removed it soon reverted to weeds until we put the space to use. Rosellas are doing the best I've grown. Our lives cannot have empty spaces—either its filled with God or... *Fill me, Father, with you, only you.*

**We pray this will have been an opportunity to meet with God in the Everyday.  
May God bless you and keep you.**

Please share advice and gardening tips with us.

*Rod and Judy Kennedy.*

*At dawn I walk,  
Behind me it is blessed where I walk,  
Before me it is blessed where I walk,  
I walk, I walk,  
At dawn I walk.*

*Murray Bodo from Walk in Beauty*

## The Pilgrims Place

23 Simmons St. Caboolture.

This garden is a member of the  
Quiet Garden Movement.

It is open to all to reflect, pray,  
meditate or simply look.

The garden is open the first Friday  
of each month from 7am to  
5:30pm from April to November.

Join in morning, midday and  
evening prayer if you wish.

Tea, coffee facilities.  
Lounge/chapel/ library available  
inside.

Available for group Quiet Days and  
Retreat Days.  
Enquiries or bookings

Ph Rod and Judy Kennedy 54953228

## Conversations with God in a

suburban

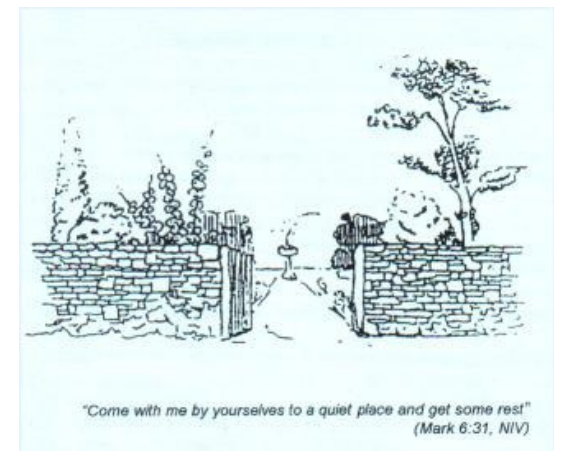
garden

*A Quiet Garden is not a display garden. It is a mirror that reflects the journey of a soul with God. It is a place to delight in the presence of God, listen to his voice and work together in creation.*

*O God, I commend to you this time  
And ask you to bless and strengthen me  
In my heartfelt search  
For that silence and stillness  
In which I pray I shall find you  
And you will find me. Esther de Waal*

## The Pilgrims Place

is affiliated with the Quiet Garden  
Movement.



*As you wander around the garden take time to pause, read and reflect at each section then talk with God yourself.*

**1. The Front Garden.**—The front garden is what you see from the street. It is the exterior that is first glimpsed by a passer by. How easy it is to get caught up with the desire to impress. This garden was filled with palm trees & it still struggles for moisture and nourishment from the trees next door. *Father, I struggle with many external pressures that rob me of my joy in you. I trust you to refresh & nourish me. Make my life so reflect your glory that I draw others inside to a deeper relationship with you.*

**2. The Bower** — In this small area I have tried to provide an experience of the 5 senses. Smell the heliotrope, sweet peas & eau de cologne mint. Touch the velvet leaves of the peppermint scented geranium. Taste the red flowers of pineapple sage. See the variety of colours . Pause and listen to the birds or windchimes. *Father open all my senses to you each day. Don't let me take things for granted and miss any of your gifts of pleasure.*

**3. The Flower Garden** — This consists of a mixture of roses, perennials and annuals. Each rose is dedicated to a member of our family. Take time to bless by name your loved ones. The annuals are mainly self sown and pop up when the conditions are just right. Sweet Peas, Marshmallow, Petunias, Queen Anne's Lace and Alyssium. *How impatient I am Lord. Help me to wait until your timing is right, otherwise it will come to naught like sweet peas in summer.*

**4. The Pool Gardens** — A Lavender and Rosemary hedge grew here until summer storms overflowed the pool. The salty water said goodbye to the fragrant hedge. The snow peas are seasonal, the strawberries survive the conditions and love the sunny spot. *Father sometimes you allow good things for a season. Allow me to enjoy what you give each day and not hanker after what is not meant to be.*"

**5. The Herb Gardens on the Verandah** — These are situated handy to the kitchen. Herbs give flavor to our

food and aroma when crushed. *Father I don't enjoy being crushed, but as each herb has it's own particular scent when crushed, I trust you to produce your fragrance through me. May it enrich and encourage others.*

**6. The orchids under the patio** — How often we enthusiastically take on a new idea but lack of time or other priorities see it remain merely an idea. *Father I so easily rush into new projects, caught up with my dreams and ideas. Teach me to discern what is of me and what is of you.*

**7. The pots under the patio** — These geranium cuttings are mainly slips given by family or friends. They reflect the passing on of love. *Thank you Father, for family and friends and the precious memories you give of each one. My life has been enlarged by each one.*

**8. The pots down the side** — When my mother moved in she came with 3 big trailer loads of pot plants! At the time she desperately needed these as a link to her active, expert gardening past. Mum has now moved to a carer situation and is a passive enjoyer of gardens. *Lord, help us when it is time to move on. We need to let go of things we cling to. Sometimes it is so hard.*

**9. The side garden** — This garden was another line of palms. Dangerous, dropping branches. They had to go. But perhaps the Bottlebrush could stay. I tried cramming new plants into the space, finally realized my folly and ruthlessly cleared it— but not quite. I'm still struggling. I make the same mistake in my life— trying to cram too much in. *Help me, Father, save me from myself.*



*"Gardening allows us to make a holy place to serve the soul" T  
Hershey*

**10. The Waterfall** — Life goes on at a comfortable pace when suddenly something happens that turns everything into chaos. Here the patio posts had rusted through. Their replacement made this area look like it was trampled by elephants. Yet slowly out of this death new life is emerging—something I had always dreamed of—a waterfall. *Dear Jesus, help me to be a willing participant in the pattern you demonstrated of life-death-life.* What are the catastrophes in your life? What new life is emerging?

**11. The Hidden Room** — Another dream—to have a private, secluded area where you are surrounded by fragrance and can be still. Nothing is instantaneous. It takes time. One day the camellias will be tall and the arch covered in roses. Learning to be still in God's presence also takes time. Why not start to-day? *Father I want my life to be hid in you. To know you are there in everyday life.*

**12. The Vegetable Garden** — An exciting place where I am conscious of being a co-creator with God. Planting seed, nurturing, watering, watching it grow. The delight of harvest and eating what you've grown. A miniature of God working in my life, growing me into His likeness. *Allow me Father to work with you in my life.*

**13. The Fruit Trees** — If you were a fruit tree what tree would you be? I chose a Paw Paw. I long to bear fruit all year and have abundant seeds to give the potential of new life. There is the possibility of disease —Bunchy Top. *Lord, save me from having a Bunchy Top! Full of my own ideas. Un-able to listen to anyone else.* Why not take time to draw yourself as a fruit tree?

**14. The Undeveloped Space** — How true of our lives. Always some area that needs developing, clearing and landscaping. *Show me those areas, Lord. Let me submit to your hand, trusting you will dwell there.*