

Chaplaincy Sunday

AUG / SEP - 2021

When I was sick, you visited

“Before Surgery” by Max.

Scanning the list of patients, I had been asked to visit at Ballarat Base Hospital, I did not recognize any names, but down near the bottom of the list was a part of the hospital I had never been to before. I set off to find it.

As I entered, nurses were crossing the room with an elderly lady on a trolley, her daughter working alongside. I quickly realized that the patient had been prepared for entry that moment into the operating theatre. Someone said, “Your Chaplain is here,” and the nurses stopped and melted away. “My mother is from Maryborough,” explained the daughter, “and knows no-one here. She is a lady of great faith but right now she is very frightened.” Knowing time was of the essence, I took her by the hand and prayed for her. When I said, “Amen,” she opened her eyes and with confident blessed assurance said, “Thank you. I am ready now.” I stepped back.

The nurses silently returned and whisked her into surgery. When I returned the next day, I was told the surgery was a success and she had been transferred to the Maryborough Hospital to recuperate. I had not seen her before or since. I do not know her name or complaint. But God knows His children, and I praise Him that He put the right person in the right place at the right time for the right reason, when one of His children needed it most.

“When I was sick, you visited me.”



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