



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

Welcome to 2010 which is also Chinese New Year of the Tiger.

*O God of Lent, this time you are too powerful
Your love has opened up my eyes and
the mystery is for telling.
It is my own pink-edged crosses
that have broken my heart
But your cross has saved me!*
(Macrina Wiederkehr)

Thank you for all the greetings, spiritual, financial and material support during 2009. Some donations were sent anonymously and all are appreciated very much. You are reminded that as yet we do not have a membership fee but once a year a seed envelope is included in the mailing for contributions towards printing, photo copying, mailing, travel and phone expenses.

ADVENT / CHRISTMAS / SUMMER GATHERINGS

SOUTH WEST AREA



At the gathering in Dardanup, Josephite Associates were present from 9 places, Dardanup, Boyanup, Perth, Busselton, Capel, Bunbury, Waterloo, Australind and Eaton

A Josephite Associate Mrs Robyn Thomas was received into the church by Father Michael Leek OSB in a beautiful ceremony during Eucharist for our Advent Summer Gathering at Dardanup 25th November 2009. She was congratulated and welcomed by our Associates and others attending the Mass.
- Annette Morellini

METROPLITAN AREA

There was a good attendance at South Perth with apologies from many who went to the ceremony at the Cathedral. As always the Santa gifts were given out this time by our two youngest Josephite Associates, Celeste and Isolde Larkins, wearing their special Christmas hats. Their father, Philip, rang the bell and livened up proceedings by starting singing with everyone joining in.

MINI CEREMONY

Sarah Sarmardin from the Northern Territory who has been on the mailing list for about 2 years was enrolled formally in the South Perth Chapel on the 16th December. Her husband, Neil, and Sisters Joan and Carla celebrated the moment with Sarah.

A CHRISTMAS PARTY was held with Josephites Associates at Applecross celebrating with the Catholic Women's League members.



(pictured right)

GERALDTON VISIT

Sister Denise visited Geraldton during the holidays. The photo shows three Associates – Father Gerard, Bernie Keogh and Monica Mullikin with the children at the organ at Mass at St John's Church, Rangeway.



PRAYERS



Prayers are asked for the following called home to God since our last newsletter: Kevin Critch (husband of Mary). Fred Hardingham (brother of Des), Mira Polson (sister of Doris Walton), Joan McCutcheon (mother of Peter) Dom Paulino OSB. Marie Jeffery (sister of Carmel Hitchcock) and Mary Finnegan (cousin of Monica Mulcahy)

'IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF BLESSED MARY MACKILLOP' PILGRIMAGE MAY 2009 ... TESTIMONIALS ...

From the time we arrived at Mary MacKillop House in North Sydney we really got the feeling we were actually starting our journey in the footsteps of Blessed Mary MacKillop, her words "Remembering we are but travellers here" and so began our meaningful "journey", the beginning of our Pilgrimage.

From our first meeting that evening with the other Pilgrims in the Tenison Room, with the amazing well, we were immediately beginning to feel the presence of Mary, trying to imagine and remember that this well was also the source of Mary's water in the 1850's.

This Pilgrimage was so very well organized with each day presenting us with a new chapter in Mary's life. We are so fortunate that so much history is still with us, visiting Sydney Rocks area and visiting the same buildings where Mary and her Sisters of St Joseph actually taught school and where the novices helped provide breakfast for the homeless men, all the while we tried to visualise this rough neighbourhood by the sea and how very poor the area was back in the 1800's.

From Melbourne where Mary's story had begun, our journey took us through Bacchus Marsh, Ballarat and out across to Adelaide, learning of Mary's hardship and Mary's guidance from Fr. Tenison Woods, who co-founded the Sisters of St Joseph with Mary. It is difficult for us today to appreciate how different and difficult time was in the 1800's, to try to comprehend Mary's lonely and sometimes sad journeys. For Mary, so much sorrow, leaving her beloved family, then seeing Portland jetty from where she embarked on that treacherous sea trip to Adelaide.

I am sure like myself, this incredible story stays with each of us, we are just beginning to learn how Mary lived her life, always caring and trusting in her God.

We had just the best Coach Drivers; each day these lads would "Acquire" fresh flowers for Mary's photo which had pride of place at the front of the Coach. Can now understand why some Pilgrims have been fortunate enough to have joined Mary's journey more than once...

- Fay Manoni – Josephite Associate

"In the Footsteps of Blessed Mary MacKillop" Pilgrimage May 2009 – was for me an enduring, spiritual experience. All sites visited were accompanied by prayer, beautiful music (thanks to Sr. Monica) and meditation. Most profound for me was Mary's tomb North Sydney, the jetty at Port MacDonald SA where Mary left for Adelaide and Penola beginning her journey in religious life and co-founding the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, Penola itself and the Chapel at Franklin Street where she was excommunicated, being there was an extraordinary experience. These are just three of the many significant places visited – not to be missed.

The hospitality given us everywhere was exceptional as was our accomplished historian, Sr Marie Foale RSJ keeping us informed, as we travelled on Mary's life and the circumstances of the days in which she lived...

- Annette Morellini – Josephite Associate

My thoughts of my Mary MacKillop's Pilgrimage – Day1 the ceremony of the water at the Well in Mount Street was a moving experience with the blessing of each other, I felt very blessed to be in Mary's Place, as were all the places we visited in each State, they all had a lot of meaning for me...

- Jan Hynes – Josephite Associate

In May 2009 I was very blessed and felt very privileged to go on a pilgrimage "In the Footsteps of Blessed Mary MacKillop" to see where Mary and the Sisters of St Joseph lived and worked. It was wonderful to hear about Fr Julian Tension Woods where he and the people met for Mass out in the open under a tree. From Sydney to Adelaide by the bus was a great time for all...

- Nancy Tylor – Josephite Associate

A wonderful experience was - "Walking in the Footsteps of Blessed Mary MacKillop", and meeting other members of her order living and working in the same spirit of our dear Mary MacKillop, the special ladies who made us so welcome. Thanks to one and all...

- Gloria Maslin – Josephite Associate

Best wishes for all the blessings of Autumn, from

Denise, Carla and the Associate Committee - Meg, Fay, Margaret, Pat, Maureen, Dot and Kate



Visit to Peru

In Dec/Jan I had the wonderful opportunity to visit Peru. The purpose of the visit was to see the women's workshops that our Sisters have set up and meet the women who produce the beautiful items we sell for them in Australia. For me the visit was most informative about the conditions in a third world country, the poverty of the people, and the magnificent work that our missionary sisters and priests are involved in. It has motivated me to be more active in supporting the work of the missionaries and the hard working, extremely industrious poor of Peru. My Peru shop is always open! - *Sr Chris Symonds*



REMINDER: AUSTRALIAN PILGRIMAGE 2010

"In the Footsteps of Blessed Mary MacKillop"

12th – 22nd April

&

12th – 22nd October

Enquiries: Sister Christine Symonds - Ph 9334 0940 Email – csymonds@sosjwa.org.au

TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE

Where: St Joseph's Chapel, 16 York St South Perth
When Every third Sunday March to September at 7pm to 8pm
Enquiries: Sister Maree Riddler - Ph 0414 683 926



SPECIAL MASS HONOURING MARY MACKILLOP IN THE CANNONISATION YEAR



What: Vigil Mass of St Joseph at 7pm - followed by a cuppa
Where: South Perth Chapel, 16 York Street
When: Thursday 18th March
Enquiries: Laura: 9334 0999, lmccarthy@sosjwa.org.au



BREAKFAST IN THE PARK ... SCRUMPTIOUS !!!

When: 8am Saturday 13 March 2010
Where: Charles Paterson Park, Burswood
Bring: Chairs, tables, blankets, umbrellas, sun screen, smiles!
RSVP: Before Monday 8 March :
- Laurie Mayne: 9271 5649, ljmayne@optusnet.com.au



*Door prize and the usual multitude of raffle prizes ... Same price as last year ... \$14
Same chefs, friendly people, weather etc ... Just smell the food and follow your nose and signs
Bring a friend to celebrate the year of the impending canonisation*

wa Josephite associates AUTUMN GATHERINGS & EVENTS

SOUTH WEST AREA

Lenten / Autumn Gathering

Where: Dardanup House of Prayer
When: Wednesday 10th march 2010 – Eucharist at 9:00 am, morning tea at 9:30 am
Presenter: Sister Maree Riddler RSJ
Theme: Mary of the Cross – Looking forward to Canonization.
Cost: Donation
Enquiries: Annette - Ph 97971156 Nancy - Ph 97281037
Please bring a plate of finger food to share. Everyone welcome.



Information Day

Where: Australind
When: Wednesday 15th June 2010
Theme: Blessed Mary MacKillop
(more information at Dardanup Gathering Day 10th March)



METROPOLITAN AREA

Lenten/Autumn Prayer Day

Where: Penola by the Sea. 27 Penguin Rd, Safety Bay
When: Wednesday 3rd March 2010 - 10 am - 3:30 pm
Theme: Choose Life – God's invitation to grow is ever before us.
Presenter: Sister Wendy Lailey RSJ
Cost: Donation
Enquiries: Sister Kathleen Dawe RSJ Ph 9527 2517



Lenten/Autumn Gathering

Where: St Joseph's Convent, 16 York St South Perth
When: Sunday 14th March 2010, 2;30pm Prayer in the Chapel
Followed by Raffle, Bring & Buy & Cuppa in the Function Room.
Enquiries: Dot Caughey Ph 9330 5019

Three Day Retreat

Where: Irene Villa, 13 Alexander St, South Perth
When: 11th, 12th & 13th June 2010
Presenter: Sister Dora Maguire RSJ
Cost: \$120
Enquiries: Sister Christine Symonds RSJ 0428 612 75

Enrolment

Where: Penola by the Sea – 27 Penguin Rd, Safety Bay
When: St Joseph's Day 19th March 2010 - Eucharist at 5 pm.
Enquiries: Sr Denise Casey – 93340957.

There will a cuppa and some finger food after the Mass - Please bring a plate with some hot savouries to share. All Associates are welcome.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Where: St Joseph's Convent, South Perth
When: Thursday 20th May 2010 - at 10.00 am.
Followed by lunch with the Sisters.

