

# Josephite Associates

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*Friendship  
Prayer  
Service*

## November 2010

With much pleasure we welcome...

## † Saint Mary of the Cross † MacKillop

**A Pilgrimage to Rome** by Paul Murphy



The Mass on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October was held in St Peter's Square with a huge crowd. Some estimates said there were 8000 Australians. Of course there were also people from Canada, Italy, Poland and Spain to acknowledge saints from their countries. The crowd was a sea of colour and flags and excitement. Mass was very solemn and not always understood, as the main language was Latin. The reading of the Gospel was sung in both Latin and Greek. It was wonderful to see the Sisters in their teal scarves on the upper level of the Square and in the crowd.



A closer view of a well known figure adorned the wall of St Peter's Church. I wonder if Mary ever contemplated that such a ceremony would emerge from her life during her visit to Rome. The banners of each saint were a nice touch that helped to make our prayer more real as we could see the people of our history who were to be celebrated this day.

**"Trust in God." MMK**

I had the absolute privilege of attending the Canonisation Mass in Rome as part of a Catholic Education Office delegation. The experience was awesome! On Thursday we followed the pilgrim walk and travelled the streets that Mary walked during her visit to Rome in 1873 – 75 as she worked on approval for the Josephite Rule. This journey helped our understanding of Mary's tremendous vision and tenacity.

On Saturday we shared with many pilgrims in the Vigil event at the Auditorium Conciliazione. We listened, sang, prayed and watched in awe as Mary's story unfolded. There was great excitement in the crowd as Australians rejoiced and anticipated a great event. Australian Catholic University staff and students led the music, song and drama along with prayers from Sr Anne Derwin and Archbishop Philip Wilson. This was the most moving event for me... a first occasion of gathering, being in Rome, and alongside others who shared excitement for an amazing time in our history.

Sunday was a unique chance to see the formal Church in all its richness and history unfolding in an ancient ritual in the stunning St Peter's Square. The crowds were huge and I was conscious of the cameras from around the world and all at home watching the Mass. The crowd was still and prayerful as each stage of the ceremony for canonisation unfolded. It was long! The Australian presence was very obvious and greeted the news about Mary with great joy. This was a celebration about six saints, each with a story of simplicity and greatness. Each country represented was proud and reverent. The joy in the Sisters of St Joseph was a great gift.

The setting for the celebration of Thanksgiving on Monday was the beautiful Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls (a Basilica outside the walls of old Rome) and was a gathering of the Bishops, Priests, Sisters, Australians, New Zealanders and many others. The liturgy focused on Mary, and indeed on us, as we were challenged to take the message of Mary into our own lives and beyond... "How will we be different?" Cardinal Pell spoke beautifully. The Offertory procession was rich in symbolism with our Indigenous people leading a procession of culture. The music was amazing and a credit to the staff and students of ACU. There was joy in the crowd and a great spirit as we gathered together to pray and to give thanks.

This was a unique historical experience as we witnessed the ritual of declaring a saint. The Australian response was joyous and loud and proud. It was a great moment... a God moment... an awe moment.

The challenge is to continue this momentum. While Mary would not be concerned about this honour, this whole experience from my perspective has been more about us. We need a saint for Australia; we need a witness; we need someone to show us that "window" to God, to show us how we might live the Christian life we are called to in these times. So we have celebrated fully. The hard work is yet to come – to live in the spirit of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

*"Remember who your teachers were – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. For many years countless young people throughout Australia have been blessed with teachers who were inspired by the courageous and saintly example of zeal, perseverance and prayer of Mother Mary MacKillop."*

Pope Benedict, Canonisation Mass, Homily

*"She is no longer just our Australian Saint. She's a saint for the world."*

Sr Maria Casey  
Postulator for the Cause of Mary MacKillop

*"Whatever she did she did in the name of the Lord Jesus and she set her heart first of all on God's Kingdom and his saving justice. It was this faith that motivated her service and motivated the great number of women who joined her."*

Cardinal Pell, Thanksgiving Mass, Homily

*"None of us can go home the same. We are all changed in some way."*

Sr Anne Derwin, Congregational Leader of the Sisters of St Joseph, Thank you Speech at Thanksgiving Mass

*"I'd like to say I feel deeply, deeply peaceful and grateful to God for Mary MacKillop and so proud of our Australian nation and Church (who) have all been together with us on this occasion."*

Sr Anne Derwin, Press Conference

*"As we've listened to the life of Mary MacKillop and read the lives of those others canonised today, it gives you a genuine sense of smallness, that is, that these are truly great people who put themselves last and others first. And it is a humbling experience."*

Foreign Minister Kevin Rudd, Press Conference, Rome

*"I would also say that this is a day of humility for us as we recognise the wonderful things that God was able to achieve through the life of Mary MacKillop."*

Archbishop Philip Wilson at Press Conference

*"Awesome!"*  
Paul Murphy, Pilgrim

# THE Day Comes to Adelaide by Carla Mastrangelo

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of October Mary MacKillop Plaza in Adelaide (next to St Francis Xavier Cathedral) was one of the sites where people gathered to celebrate Mary MacKillop as Australia's first saint.

Prior to the telecast from Rome we were entertained throughout the afternoon by various cultural groups with music and dance. An Art Exhibition was on display by artist Veronika Dimac with some remarkable paintings of Mary MacKillop. We also watched as over 3000 pilgrims joined us as they took part in a procession which began at Kensington.

As was happening elsewhere, the Sisters of St Joseph were easily recognised in the crowd by the teal scarves they were wearing. Some of the Sisters helped Monsignor David Cappo and sculptor Judith Rolevink unveil a

new plaque on the statue in the Plaza which now bears Mary's new name.

As the time approached we prepared ourselves to watch the Canonisation Mass. The Cathedral and Plaza were filled with people eager to be part of this historic event; to witness as a community this unique and momentous occasion.

The ceremony was full of ritual as six saints were being declared that day. In his homily, Pope Benedict commented on the persistence of the widow (Luke 18: 1 – 8). We can parallel this with Mary's persistence in prayer and perseverance of her faith, particularly as she faced opposition.

In speaking about the new saints the Pope blessed them saying: "May they be models and intercessors for our Christian life."



## Postage Stamps

Used postage stamps provide some extra income for the Peruvian mission. If you would like to collect used stamps, please leave a sizeable border of paper, eg 1cm around the stamps. Stamps can be sent to the Province Centre or posted to PO Box 57, Kent Town SA, 5071.

## "Please put me on the List"

Would you like to receive this Associate Newsletter by email? It can be done very easily. You would be able to see the photographs in colour and it would also be environmentally friendly. Should you choose to be included on this secure list please telephone Mary Hemmings on 8355 5365 or email us at [sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au)

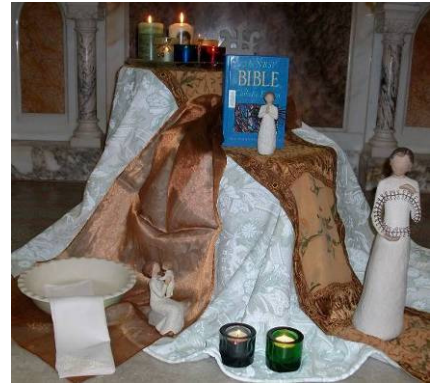




## A Novena

by Maris Kavanagh

As part of the Novena leading up to the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, the Associates led the evening of Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October. The focus centred on the theme *Mary – Woman of Friendship, Prayer and Service* (see this edition's Prayer Page). These three words are at the heart of what it means to be an Associate. The evening was one of prayers and readings, and examples of the way Mary lived her life. We then had time to reflect on our own experiences around these three words.



## Thanksgiving Mass

by Pat Sandretti

Many people including dignitaries, representatives of other faiths, Sisters of St Joseph, parishioners and friends from around the state gathered together to give thanks to God and to celebrate the canonisation of Mary MacKillop at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October. It was a joyful occasion with the theme based on Mary MacKillop's words "God will protect and work with us."

The main celebrant for the Mass was Archbishop Philip Wilson with Bishop Gregory O'Kelly and other bishops and priests in attendance. Of particular note was a visiting Bishop from Peru, a land with special ties to the Sisters. Sr Majella O'Sullivan rsj led the choir which sang with enthusiasm and great harmony and was accompanied by various instrumentalists.

At the conclusion, Bishop O'Kelly spoke of St Mary MacKillop's faith – "a faith that not only moved mountains but even bishops and a Pope." Mary's faith enabled her to see not only the needs of her time but to do something about them and to pass on this mission through the Josephite Sisters and the wider Josephite community.



*The image at left is that of the scarves given to the pilgrims from the delegation to Rome for the canonisation*

# A Fundraising Breakfast by Julie Langman

The Mary MacKillop Foundation fundraising breakfast was held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October. This Foundation is an Australian charity/non profit organisation founded by the Sisters of St Joseph.

The Breakfast commenced with a beautiful performance by Australian country music artist, Melinda Schneider. Our MC for the morning was the ABC radio show host, Peter Goers. Peter captivated and amused us with his repertoire of *tales*, and evident in his telling was a deep fondness and respect for the Sisters.

Mary MacKillop responded to the needs of her time in ways that respected the human dignity of all, and the Foundation reflects this in our time, relieving suffering and bringing hope through small life changing projects. Since 1995 the Foundation has funded over 300 "small life changing projects" responding to the needs of rural and isolated communities, indigenous groups, people with disabilities and those forgotten by society.

Our first guest speaker was Mr Hieu Van Le AO, Lieutenant Governor of South Australia. A highly educated and successful businessman, Mr Le is deeply involved in multicultural affairs of the State. He told us his story about coming to Australia as a young boy – his escape from Vietnam, the weeks spent in a small boat where he was delegated navigator and his eventual arrival into Darwin Harbour. In the harbour his boat warily approached another small vessel which turned out to be a tinny occupied by two Aussie fishermen with singlets, hats, zinc cream on their noses and beer in hand – strange looking people to the group of Vietnamese. As the two vessels neared, the

Aussies raised their beers and said, "G'day. Welcome to Australia." Hasn't the world changed so much in the last 30 or so years?

We were also privileged to hear from Mr Les Dennis, Volunteer Kids Camp Liaison with Prison Fellowship SA. Les works tirelessly making applications for funding to conduct 2 *Camp for Kids* and 4 *Teen Camps* each year for children in South Australia who have a parent/s in prison. Les spoke about the benefit these camps are to the children. The young adults who volunteer their time at these camps become fantastic role models for the children who are often unfamiliar with the simple things of life we take for granted, such as sitting as a family group for a meal and cleaning your teeth before bed.

Les too told a story that may have been as much a *tale* as some of those of Peter Goers. Les feared that he would have to cancel one of his *Camp for Kids* as he was having trouble obtaining funding. Upon leaving the SA Water building on Victoria Square he 'swears' that he saw Mary MacKillop wink at him from the statue. The next day in the mail he received funding for \$10,000 from The Mary MacKillop Foundation. It was this amount that guaranteed the running of the scheduled camp.

The morning concluded with another song by Melinda and a lovely performance given by students from Mary MacKillop College. I think the "wow" that I heard after the girls finished singing sums up their performance fairly well!

Congratulations must go to the organisers of such an informative and entertaining gathering and let's hope it was equally successful in raising the much needed funds for such a worthwhile cause.

## Our Associate Country Contacts

Jamestown	Margaret Williams 8664 1739 and Colleen Stewart 8662 4185
Murray Bridge	Jan Howard 8532 4277
Port Lincoln	Moya Bourke 8682 3655 (at St Joseph's School)
Riverland	Anna De Guglielmo 8586 5055 (at St Joseph's School, Renmark)

## Prayer Requests

Do you know of any Associates who have died or are ill and in need of our prayers? We could advise Associates of your need for prayers at our gatherings, as well as offering prayers at the monthly Masses on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

If you would appreciate assistance in this way, please feel free to telephone Mary Hemmings on 8355 5365 or let one of the Committee members know.

# AGM Report 18<sup>th</sup> July (Abridged Version)



Another year has passed in the life of our Josephite Associates. This year we look forward to a greater celebration, namely her Canonisation. This is not just a celebration for those of us who have learnt to know and love the person of Mary MacKillop but it is a celebration for our Australian and, indeed, our world

wide Church, as we recognise the life and legacy of a great Australian woman. (Isn't it wonderful that our first Australian saint is a woman, and one of such ordinariness yet who has created an extraordinary impact on so many!)

Last year at this **Annual Gathering** Sr Christina Neuzerling led us as we reflected on what we mean by living the Josephite Charism. Further discussion following Sr Christina's session in time led our Leadership Team to developing a brochure. The purpose of this is to have something that we could give those who enquire about the Associates.

In November many gathered for what has become our annual **Advent Retreat**. Val De Brenni provided us with insights and time to reflect on the celebration of Jesus' coming amongst us.

Our **December gathering** was a joyful one as we sang Christmas Carols, and just enjoyed the companionship of each other

For a couple of years we have tried to focus our year ahead on a **theme**. This year we decided to explore the words "**Friendship, Prayer and Service**" that are the hallmarks of Josephite Associates. At our February gathering Sr Ursula Hoile talked about her years of **Service** amongst the Peruvian people. We then adopted as our Service to raise funds for the Josephite ministry in Peru; hence our raffles at our gatherings throughout this year. (Is not this a very traditional Catholic fundraiser!)

At each gathering we incorporate **Prayer** and our Advent Retreat Day enables us to participate in an extended Prayer time. Each time we come together **Friendship** permeates as we share life and stories and laughter

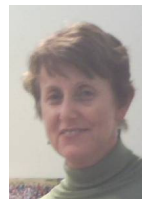
As 8<sup>th</sup> May fell on a Saturday this year we celebrated the 8<sup>th</sup> of the Month Mass and then visited the **Mary MacKillop Centre**. Sr Pat Keane provided us with some of the story of Josephite involvement in social work in SA and we had the opportunity to view the Centre's exhibition.

To keep us in touch with what is happening our **Newsletter** has become an invaluable tool. Many Associates now receive theirs by email and can enjoy the coloured version! It is also placed on the Josephite website for others to share.

At present we have four Associate groups in the **country**: the Riverland, Port Lincoln, Mid-North (Jamestown) and Murray Bridge. Through our Country contacts we try to provide a little interaction and support and hope that some from our Leadership Team may be able to visit each of these groups during the coming year. We also have a very diligent city group which gathers monthly.

As we look to the future we keenly look forward to celebrating Mary's **Canonisation** and to the many activities planned across Dioceses and parishes and schools.

As a Leadership Team our task is to serve our Associates as best we can. We value your support and ideas about ways that we can best provide for our future. As Mary MacKillop becomes better known in times ahead we expect that people will look for ways to connect into her story and that of the Josephites. Keeping the Associates relevant so that we can gather to make connections is going to be important. We welcome your input so that we can plan activities that give life and expression to our shared charism.



by Di Colborne and Mary Hemmings  
(Co-Chairpersons)

### Some of the participants at the AGM



## Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010

**1<sup>st</sup> July 2009 Opening Balance** **\$2658-18**

### Plus Income

Subscriptions for period	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2008 to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	\$	50-00
"	" " 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2009 to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2010	\$	1200-00
"	" " 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2010 to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	\$	1125-00
"	" " 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2011 to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2013	\$	30-00

Donations \$ 115-00

Bank Interest \$ 12-05

Proceeds Peru Raffle Mary & Otto Nocka \$ 283-00

**Total Income for the Period** **\$2815-05**

**Total Income Available** **\$5473-23**

### Less Expenditure

Newsletter \$ 910-46

Presentation Guest Speaker \$ 50-00

**Total Expenditure for Period** **\$ 960-46**

**Funds Available at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010** **\$4512-77**

**Represented by Funds in Bank SA** **\$4512-77**

Gerald Hinton

Treasurer

14<sup>th</sup> July 2010

## A reminder re subscriptions for 2010 - 2011

Is your membership still due for this financial year? If you haven't already done so, please complete your details on the form from the May 2010 newsletter and post, together with your payment of \$15 which may be made by cash or cheque, to our Treasurer, Gerald Hinton (25 Chapel St, Campbelltown, SA, 5074). Alternatively, you can see anyone from the Leadership Team who will be more than happy to pass it on.



# Other News

## RIP Josephites

*We remember with love and gratitude these women:*

Sr Maureen Colbert who entered eternal life on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2010

Sr Francis Borgia Miller who entered eternal life on 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2010

Sr Angela Mary Tonkin who entered eternal life on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2010

Sr Maria Dickinson who entered eternal life on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2010

Sr Monica McAuliffe who entered eternal life on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

Sr Nancy Hannon who entered eternal life on 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2010



## A Message from St Joseph's Family Care Centre Ltd

Dear Friends,

No Christmas Appeal this year! In case you have not already heard the services to homeless families by SJFCC ceased in August due to a re-organisation of such services by the Government. Uniting Care Wesley Bowden is now operating this service in the southern metropolitan region.

The Sisters of St Joseph and the Board of Directors sincerely thank all who have shared in the work of the Centre through their financial support. May you be richly blessed.

Sr Joan Evans,

Director and Secretary of the Board

## Proposed DIARY DATES for 2011

### » St Mary MacKillop's Monthly Mass and Reflection

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> of each month

Time: 10.30am (Mass) and 5.45pm (Reflection)

Place: Kensington Chapel  
286 Portrush Rd, Kensington

### » Friendship Afternoon

Date: Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> February

For more details please refer to page 9.

### » Lenten Reflection Day

Date: Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Place: Bethany Hall, Province Centre  
4 High St, Kensington

More details next year.

### » Annual General Meeting

Date: TBA – sometime in June or July

Place: Bethany Hall, Province Centre  
4 High St, Kensington

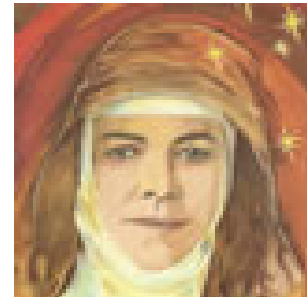
More details next year.

### » A Musical Evening

Date: TBA – sometime in December

Place: Bethany Hall, Province Centre  
4 High St, Kensington

More details next year.



**"All will be right with time  
and a little patience."**

**MMK**



# A Musical Evening

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2010**



From 7pm  
Bethany Hall, Province Centre  
4 High St, Kensington



Associates, families and friends are invited to an evening's entertainment. This is an opportunity to socialise with others in an informal setting in an informal way. Sr Majella O'Sullivan rsj will lead us and have us singing and laughing.

Please bring a plate of supper to share as well as one inexpensive Christmas tree decoration per person.

So, come along. Bring a friend! Wear your favourite Christmas colours.

Please RSVP\*\* with numbers and if you need transport.



## *Friendship Afternoon* *Devonshire Tea*

**Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

**2pm – 4pm**

**Bethany Hall, Province Centre  
4 High St, Kensington**



Associates near and far are invited for afternoon tea in February next year. This will be an opportunity to connect or reconnect with others who share the Josephite charism. During the afternoon there will be a display of photos of Rome and the canonisation.

So,... bring a friend and join us for scones, tea/coffee and a chat.

For catering purposes please RSVP\*\* to this invitation by Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> February if you are intending to come.

\*\*Contact Mary Hemmings on 8355 5365 or email us at [sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au)

# Josephite Associates' Prayer Page

## MARY, A WOMAN OF FRIENDSHIP

*'If we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is perfected in us.'* John 4:12

Mary forged many wonderful friendships in her life. André Gide writes, "True kindness presupposes the faculty of imagining as one's own the suffering and joys of others." It is this very kindness that characterised Mary's life. Her kindness was extended to people from all walks of life and this was evident in her friendships with Joanna Barr-Smith, Emmanuel Solomon, and many others. This love and kindness knew no boundaries.

### Reflection

- What is my experience of friendship?
- When have I felt God's love present in my friendships?
- How do I reach out in friendship to those on the margins?

## MARY, A WOMAN OF PRAYER

*'O God, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.'* Psalms 51:15

Prayer was very important to Mary and enabled her to maintain a strong and trusting relationship with her God. Daily prayer and immersion in the Scriptures travelled deep in to the centre of Mary's soul until the distance between Galilee and Mary was no further away than her next action.

### Reflection

- What is my experience of prayer?
- How does prayer sustain me during those moments of darkness?
- When is prayer evident in my everyday, ordinary actions?

## MARY, A WOMAN OF SERVICE

*'God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.'* Micah 6:8

Mary's life was one of dedicated service, especially to the poor and most vulnerable of her day. She was a woman with vision who worked hard for the dignity and equality of all people. Over the years, we have become familiar with many stories from Mary's life, and we know that the above Scripture passage aptly captures the spirit of Mary.

### Reflection

- What does Mary's life teach me about service?
  - How am I of service to those most vulnerable in my family/community?
  - When has my service to others made a difference?
- What did I do?

Prayer Page by Lucia Ciocca.



*Wishing all Associates,  
families and friends a very  
blessed and joyful  
Christmas Season*

