



WA Josephite Associates

winter 2011

Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

Here we are into the month of May. Thank you all for the time and work you have given to the Associates in the West. Kate Johnson has resigned from the central committee and we sincerely thank her for the time she has given to the Josephite Associates. We welcome to the committee Mary Sheehan and are sure she will be a willing and capable member. Thank you Mary.

Many thanks for the donations received, which are great help to the Associate's Administration.

*Best wishes for all the blessings of Winter ...
from Sr Denise, Meg, Fay, Margaret, Pat, Maureen, Dot and Mary.*

A Window into the Heart of Mary MacKillop

What holds a window in place and enables it to open and shut with ease? For a window to show its true beauty and its real function it needs a stable frame. Mary MacKillop's underlying beliefs and values provided the framework on which she established her life work – opening the window of life to all whom she encountered. Mary MacKillop's values and beliefs are reflected in her letters and writings and in the memories of the Sisters and the people who knew her.



The flame of faith ignited within Mary MacKillop, as the window of her soul opened to the light of God's grace. It was to bring many blessings to those entrusted to her care. She kept this light burning brightly within her as she walked this land and encountered its people bringing to all the message of their human dignity.

Many gain their inspiration by sitting near a window and gazing out upon the world, pondering the larger questions of life and the intricate beauty of nature and the struggles and hopes for many people. Her practical, down-to-earth approach to living the Gospel has inspired thousands of women to join the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph. Her motto "never see a need without doing something about it" continues to inspire all who share in the Josephite way of living the Gospel. Her life continues to be a source of hope in the world that is yearning for peace. In Australia she is a spiritual hero who inspires Australians to search for the deeper meaning of life, to pause and look at the reality of mystery and the divine essence within.

"Mary MacKillop – A Window of Hope" Monica Cavanagh rsj

Mary MacKillop is a saint for these times. An Australian with a message for everyone: Openness, Generosity, Patience, Kindness, and Joy are here in these few paragraphs of Mary MacKillop's life.

Sr Rita Mary Duffy's Memorial Mass



Farewell dear Sister Rita Mary we will always hold you in our hearts here in Dardanup. These were the concluding words of the eulogy given by parishioner and Associate, Gwen Wells, at a Memorial Mass for Sr Rita Mary on Tuesday, 29 March in the Dardanup Parish church.

The commemorative arrangement in front of the altar featured a photo of Sr Rita Mary taken at the time of her Golden Jubilee; roses prized and cultivated in the garden which Sr Rita Mary created in front of the presbytery, and most appropriately of all a small vase of pink geraniums. Sr Rita Mary had asked that the 70th anniversary of her Religious Profession (23rd May 2011) cake be decorated with pink geraniums. Someone had gone to great lengths to have the geraniums on the table during the Mass.

The Mass was concelebrated by three priests including the Priest-in-charge Rev Nicandro Lim. The local parish choir, led by predominantly male voices

rendered well chosen hymns. A group of children from Our lady of Lourdes Parish School was among the many parishioners and Associates who came to thank God for the years Sr Rita Mary had spent among them and for her eternal rest. Sisters Denise and Carla brought up the Gifts at the Offertory. Another significant presence at the Mass was Sr Rita Mary's niece, Gemma Greaves.

Morning tea, in the parish hall followed the Mass. This was a very precious time as memories were shared and acquaintances renewed. A typical country style Morning Tea was served and much appreciated by those who had travelled some distance to be present.

The depth of the faith and the hospitality in the Dardanup/Boyanup Parish were tangible. From her heavenly home, may Sr Rita Mary continue her intercession for the spiritual needs and well being of the Dardanup Parishioners whom she loved so dearly and served so well. May she rest in peace.

- Sr Joan Luff

South West Area: Lenten/ Autumn Gathering, Dardanup

This 2nd March gathering began with Eucharist at 9am with 14 Associates and others making the number 20 in total. During the Eucharist four ladies were formally enrolled as Josephite Associates and warmly welcomed into our group by all present. At the end of the Mass, Sr Denise Casey called forth the ones for enrolment.

Maud Morrison, Maura McNamara, Rosemary Golding, Erica Jones (in absentia).

They made their commitment as Associates, and Father Nic presented them with their certificates.



Our presenter for the day was Sr Leonie Mayne – title of her presentation being “Our Patron of the 100th Fountain.”

Sister Leonie explained that Giovanni Lajola took the initiative to erect the fountain in honour of St Joseph in the Vatican Garden.

She distributed three handouts which explained the references to St Joseph in the Gospels lead us in a reading and pictorial meditation of St Joseph's life journey as protector of Jesus and Mary. (see insert)

Sr Leonie was enthusiastically thanked for her very interesting and informative presentation. - Annette Morellini

Postcard from Geraldton, 21 – 30 May



This trip was very profitable. First I celebrated the Easter ceremonies at the Cathedral this was a wonderful experience; I met some Josephite Associates there including Bishop Justin who is an Associate. At the Friday Ceremony, right in front of me was an Associate from down the South- West, Dot Savage. Sister Lyn was in control of all the music during these ceremonies and she did it excellently throughout the three days.

I also attended Colleen & Joe Harrington's Diamond Wedding Anniversary, Colleen being my sister and also an Associate. On the Easter Sunday we had a Mass at St John's Church and the Bishop Justin gave them a special blessing after the Mass. Monica Mullikin, an Associate, played the organ for that day. She organizes music for each Sunday Mass. At the last hymn she invited the children to come around the organ to help her with the singing. This was just wonderful to see, and the photo will show you the beauty of this action. I was very proud of her, she being my niece. I stayed with Frankie my sister; she does a lot caring for people and visiting - a real Josephite Associate.



There were many Associates I went to visit during my time in Geraldton. As I was talking to Dulcie Valenti, I said to her I can hear what you are saying; with all the work you are doing for people you are doing the work of Mary MacKillop. Mary MacKillop was named as “A woman of God, A Woman of Courage, A Woman of Action, and A Woman of Compassion”. These words are words that can relate to all I meet in Geraldton. I thank each one for the time they gave me and the time for a cuppa and chat. They were Ida, Bernie & Kath, Paula, Dulcie and Father Gerard.

I left Geraldton about 8 o'clock on the 30th April and made my way to Mingenew where I caught up with two more Associates, they were Roma Parker and Judy Bagley. I have been so grateful for the people who are helping and

caring for our Church today. Roma conducts the Liturgy if the priest is not there. Thank you Roma and Judy for the enjoyable morning. Another 200kms down the road at Bindoon there are two ladies very involved in the work of the church. They are Margaret Oversby and Jean Oliver. I was pleased to call on Margaret, she comes from a well known family from New Norcia, it was great to catch up with her and have a talk. Jean wasn't home as she was away with her family.

Thanks to each one for your welcome. It made my trip to Geraldton worthwhile.

- Sr Denise Casey



Greetings from Esperance Associates

For anyone who was visiting and or holidaying in our scenic town over the Easter period would have thought they had gone to heaven. The weather was absolutely glorious; another day in paradise for so many. Anzac Day drew unbelievable crowds both for the dawn Service as well as the general service at the Memorial at 11am.

Easter can be such a reflective time for many, and my reflections were on our Associates Group and how strong their commitment is to the Parish. Jo Pope ably contributes to the administration of our Parish. The musical side to all the Easter Liturgies was organized by Jo. She puts in endless hours supported by an equally committed group of Parishioners producing a choir to support the Liturgy. So many compliments were received from visitors, as to the outstanding presentation was heartwarming.

Other areas within Parish life are given by Pat Ivers who is Chairperson of the Parish Council; Lorraine Calnon calmly organizes the many rosters required. Many of the Associates are involved with the Liturgy of the Word; special ministers of the Eucharist and in many caring aspects within the Parish. So even though we are a small group, we certainly are very active in the committed flow of Parish life here at Our Lady Star of the Sea.

Prior to Easter we were fortunate to have a brief visit from Sr Pauline Morgan. It was a wonderful morning, even though we have no Mass in the morning being Holy Thursday. Sr Pauline was extremely thrilled to meet a cross section of our Associates that particular morning, treating us with excerpts from The Little Brown Book of Mary MacKillop and leaving us each with some small gifts to treasure, as well as her inspirational interpretations.



Sadly Sr Edith returned to Perth with Sr Pauline. Edith became unwell for a short while and we do hope that her health returns quickly to her. We enjoyed her company and presence so much; being out and about with Angela and of course at our gatherings; always a special reference to her days in Peru, enlightening us to the wonderful work being accomplished by our Sisters and the impact the village people made on her.

The topic of Retreats came up; due to the enthusiasm of three of our Associates attending the Retreat held in South Perth last year a request has been made to see if it was at all possible to organize something here in Esperance. In closing, I wish all Associates in any Parish God's Blessings on all that you are involved with.

- Helen Johnston

"Let us rejoice and thank God for giving us such solid proofs of His love" Mary MacKillop 1877

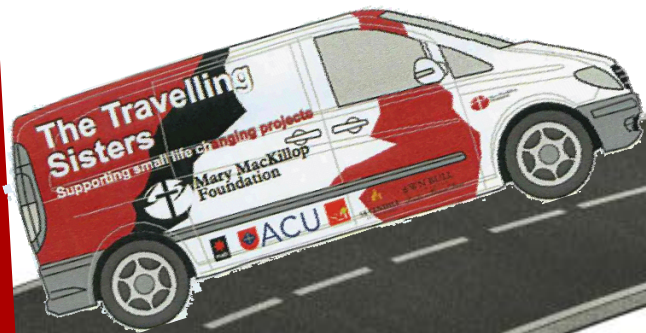
Sr Pauline's Visit to Esperance

As I was in Esperance during Holy Week I had the privilege of joining the Associates for their meeting on Holy Thursday morning. During the prayer we washed and dried each other's hands (instead of our feet) and each person asked God for a special gift for the coming year. For me it was a special Easter blessing to spend time with these generous women who are certainly committed to living out the Associate mission statement and who are reaching out to others. There were some SA connections and of course a wonderful morning tea. That evening as we gathered in the Church for the Holy Thursday celebration of the Eucharist it was lovely to see some familiar faces from our morning meeting and to have the opportunity to greet each other again. Thank you and God bless you and your loved ones today and always.

- Sr Pauline Morgan

"There where you are, you will find God" Mary MacKillop

The Travelling Sisters



an initiative of the



**Mary MacKillop
Foundation**

supporting small life changing projects

Sunday 26 June

*A special opportunity for the Sisters, Associates,
Mary MacKillop Foundation members and friends
to chat with Sister Julianne Murphy
who will share some of her experiences as a
Travelling Sister for the past three months.*

Julianne is visiting schools and parishes to:

- **increase awareness of the Foundation;**
- **create fundraising opportunities in order to support life changing projects**
- **provide opportunities for students and communities to learn more about St Mary MacKillop and the work of the Sisters of St Joseph**

Julianne is an excellent teacher and presenter so the afternoon should be an educative and fun time for all.

At the Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth

Coffee and gathering 3.30pm

Talk by Sister Julianne 4pm until 5.30pm



RSVP before Monday 20th June to:

Laura McCarthy 9334 0999

lmccarthy@sosjwa.org.au

Numbers definitely limited to 60.
Admittance only if your name in on the list at the door.

100 Fountain

While watching the TV coverage of the Canonisation of St Mary of the Cross, mention was made of a new fountain open and blessed in the Vatican Gardens on July 5th 2010. I later spoke with Sr Maria Casey who was the Postulator of the Cause for St Mary of the Cross, and asked her for more details. Sr Maria shared with me her photos of the fountain and I found myself contemplating it in awe.

Several aspects of this new fountain were truly profound.

The first was the fact that the Cardinal Lajola who is responsible for the public grounds of the Vatican had just completed an audit of the fountains and realised that there was nothing dedicated to St Joseph. He also noted that there were ninety nine fountains in all. He also knew that the Holy Father used to like to walk in the gardens to reflect and pray. Now the next coincidence was the fact that the Pope's Baptismal name was Joseph and so was that of the Cardinal in charge of the fountains. It seemed only a small leap of enterprise for the Cardinal to decide that the Vatican Gardens would have a new fountain – the 100th Fountain – and it would be dedicated to St. Joseph. What a joy for us!

As there is a group of donors and fund raisers who support these projects, it was not long before the funds to build the fountain were in hand. An Italian sculptor, Franco Murer was engaged to create the six bronze panels which are mounted on the two strong walls which form the back wall of the fountain. The two round pools of clear water which flow from one to the other are in the centre and the six panels capture the following times in Joseph's life:

1. Joseph in the dream where the angel advises him to take Mary as his wife
2. The Wedding of Joseph and Mary
3. The Birth of Jesus
4. The Flight into Egypt
5. The Finding of the Child in the Temple and
6. Joseph and Jesus working in the Carpenter's shop

The simplicity of the design, the garden setting of the fountain and its welcoming appearance struck me as very typical of the man it honours.

In praying with the few lines of Scripture which capture these events in Joseph's life I became very aware of the task which faces young men of today as they embrace their role as husband and father and I was moved to pray for them a lot. I am sure you all have young men in your families somewhere who are in this category, too. Let us surround them all with our prayer, support and encouragement.

I think the fountain has awakened in me an awareness that young couples need our prayer support. St. Joseph is an admirable patron for this need, too. When Pope Benedict XVI dedicated the fountain he made special reference to St. Joseph's simplicity and humility in doing God's will daily which marked the silent but precious life of the custodian of the Redeemer. The Pope then said he entrusted to Joseph's intercession the future of the Church and the world and prayed that together with the Virgin Mary, his spouse, he would always guide us on our journey so that we may be joyful instruments of peace and salvation. God bless you all.



- *Sr Leonie Mayne*



Visitation by Sister Carla

Sister Carla visited the Metropolitan Area, Waroona, Australind, Dardanup, Bunbury, Dunsborough and Dawesville .

Thank your Carla, for your concern for the Associates in these areas.

wa Josephite associates seasonal gatherings 2011

Winter Prayer Day at Safety Bay

Wednesday : 15th June 2011
Time: 10am – 3:30pm
Theme: *The Pilgrim - "One Who Waits for God"*
Led by: Sister Kathleen Dawe RSJ
Contact: Administration – Ph 95272517 - Fax 9527 3240
email PBTSSec@perthcatholic.org.au



South Perth Winter Gathering

Sunday 12 June 2011: 2:30pm – 5:30pm
Prayer in the chapel and followed by Raffle, Bring& Buy and a shared afternoon tea in the Function Room.

Central Committee Meeting 2011: 26th May – Time 10am. (Followed by lunch with the Sisters)

All gatherings enquiries: Dot Caughey 9330 5019

Josephite Associates, South West Area

Celebration of the Feast Day of
St Mary MacKillop of the Cross
at the Church of the Immaculate Conception,
Dardanup

with Eucharist at 9am Tuesday 9th of August 2011.
Followed by morning Tea at the House of Prayer.
A small plate would be appreciated.
Everyone welcome.

*Inquiries: Annette 97971156
Nancy 97281037*

GONE TO GOD



John Simpson (Husband of Katherine)
Phil Burt (Husband of Peggy)
Philip Moffitt (Son of Mary & Harry)
Frank Davies (Brother of Sister Marie)
Domenic Sgherza (Husband of Eleanor
& brother in-law of Sister Carla)
Sue Groves (Cousin of Roma Parker & Monica
Mullikin & a niece of Colleen Harrington)



WINTER IS A SEASON OF WAITING

*Winter is a lesson about the fine art of loss and growth
Its lesson is clear; there is only one way out of struggle and that is by
going into darkness, waiting for the light, and being open to new growth.*

“The Circle of Life” Joyce Rupp & Macrina Wiederkehr

Taize Prayer Services 2011

South Perth (16 York St)

When: 3rd Sunday of March to Nov at 7pm to 8pm
Enquiries: Sr Maree – 0414 683 926

Safety Bay (27 Penguin Rd)

When: 5.30pm - 6.30pm, Sundays - 14 Aug, 27 Nov
Enquiries: Sr Leonie - 9527 2517



Bring a Torch & a Friend!

