



Josephite Associates, Victoria

Winter Newsletter 2011



PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

Greetings everyone and may the blessing of the Sacred Heart be with you. I hope you will all try to celebrate this special feast of the Josephites which is during the month of June. If you don't belong to a group, find a friend or two who may join you for a coffee and tell them about the Associates and what it means to you.

During this month we also celebrate the Feast of St John the Baptist, one of the J's on the monogram of both Sisters and Associates. John was a witness to Jesus and we can be like him by being faithful witnesses to the Gospel. The prayer sheet with this newsletter reminds us of his role in

the life of Jesus and the devotion Mary MacKillop had to this saint.

During April I spent my retreat at Perthville, 10kms out of Bathurst, the place where the Federation Josephites were founded. This time was very special as we walked the grounds where Mary MacKillop visited and where the four Sisters who arrived from Adelaide lived. We honoured Sr Teresa who was given the task to begin this mission by Mary MacKillop and who died within three years and is buried in the cemetery in the grounds.

I spent many hours sitting in the Founder's room, one of the rooms of the original 6 roomed convent. The original painting of Mary and Julian together, by Reg Campbell, hangs here and I spent a long time focussing on her hands and how he had captured the essence of a strong woman's hands.

We spent a day at Wattle Flat to where Bishop Quinn banished the Sisters faithful to the Constitutions so that he could begin the Diocesan Congregation at Perthville with 'his' girls. The convent no longer exists but a beautiful stone Church dedicated to St Mary of the Cross stands as a faithful witness to the faith of these people many kilometres from Perthville.

I marvelled at how Josephite women by scrimping and saving build huge establishments to carry on their mission. Here at Perthville the old Novitiate is a Conference Centre and the school which

taught pupils from near and far for fifty years is now a Boarding House for 68 secondary girls who travel to Mary MacKillop College in Bathurst. The Admin Centre for the Perthville Josephites is housed here plus so much of their history.

The 200 sisters buried in the cemetery could tell marvellous stories of hardship and courage.

This place is so sacred to all of us and I felt very much at home. What the future holds we don't know. But we can pray that St Mary of the Cross, St Joseph and all these Sisters who lived here at some time will pray that the Josephite mission will continue for many decades to come.

Peace be with you all.

Mary Fermio RSJ



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WINTER REFLECTION

The March/April Madonna had a beautiful story submitted by Elizabeth Pyke, of how a couple separated for 35 years, because of World War II, found each other because of the simple act of a pastor. It is a story of the Past, the Present and what the Future became.

The Pastor was planning to reopen a poor Church with a Christmas Eve service but just before Christmas a terrible storm caused a hole in the plaster wall. Walking along the street, feeling sad as he felt the opening would need to be delayed, he stopped at a charity shop. There he found and bought a beautifully crocheted cloth with a cross in the middle. On arriving at the Church, he met a woman who had missed her bus. As it was raining he invited her to wait in the Church. On hanging up the cloth, he found it covered the hole perfectly. The woman sat gazing at the cloth and then asked if there were initials in a corner. When the pastor discovered the initials she told him she had made that cloth in Austria 35 years ago. She and her husband had been separated by the war and had lost contact with each other. The pastor offered to drive her home and asked why she was so far from where she lived. She replied that she had come for just this one day of housekeeping.

After a wonderful Christmas Eve service the pastor noticed an elderly man gazing at the cloth. Yes, you guessed it! He was her husband and had recognized the cloth. So the Pastor had great delight in driving him to his wife's home and watching a wonderful Christmas reunion.

God's ways are beyond our ways, God's love and care reaches out to us in so many ways, which we often don't recognize.

Get a cuppa and sit silently for 10—15 mins. Reflect on how and where God has been in your life—in the Past, and now, in the Present. Pray you will always be open to God's action, no matter how small, in the Future.

Mary Fermio RST

AN INVITATION to HELP the MARY MACKILLOP FOUNDATION

**3 COURSE DINNER \$35 Mount St Joseph Girls' College
133 Maidstone St. Altona West**

SEPTEMBER 2nd Commencing at 7 p.m.

Come alone or with others or organize a table of 10.

SILENT AND DUTCH AUCTION of wonderful goods.

Tickets available: Maria Lae, Heritage Centre 9926 9300

If you can't come you might like to donate something for the auction.

These could be left at Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert St, East Melbourne or brought to the Regional Meetings or given to Sr Mary Fermio when she meets with you.

Preserves, handcraft, art, household items.....all as new suitable for auction.

MEMORIES OF BAIRNSDALE

The Sisters of St Joseph arrived in Bairnsdale in 1927 following the departure of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion who had lived in Riverine St and had taught my mother music.

A double-story convent awaited the sisters in Pyke St and the school was located a short walk away next to the Church. The school was a very old building, always considered to have been condemned. There were three medium sized classrooms and one big one where the Prep, One and Two grades used half the room and the rain came in the other half.

About two hundred children attended at the time I did in four class rooms, with four Sisters teaching and one teaching music in the convent and cooking the main meal which was eaten at midday. Students would walk to the convent before morning break and return with the Sisters morning tea in a basket which they ate in a classroom, there being no such thing as a staff room in those days.

We paid one shilling a family school money and the Parish Priest was supposed to supplement this income. Parishioners were very generous with gifts in kind.. At the beginning of the year the Mother's Club had a pantry day and the shelves in the convent were stocked with tinned and dry foods. Mums were rostered to take some goodies to the convent each weekend eg. Cakes and slices etc.

During the year we had what we called "Frolics" - a term I have never heard used elsewhere. The Mothers would sell toffees, drinks, cakes etc and Mr Harry Dillon, one of the Dads, organized games in the big classroom e.g. musical chairs, jumping over a stick to music; pin the tail on the donkey. We always looked forward to these events and the money raised would go towards the school or the Sisters' holiday at the end of the year. The Sisters arrived in January and left in December. We had term holidays, but as far as I can remember the Sisters did not leave.

At weekends they walked the streets of Bairnsdale visiting the hospital and the homes of their students. They were very visible in their big cloaks and veils. During the second World War three Sisters spent over 10 years at Bairnsdale and became known as "The Big Three". Srs Leontia, Bride and Bennett.

I commenced school at four and a half years and I believe I did two years in one, taught by Sr Bennett. Sr Bride taught me in years three and four and Sr Josephine in Grades five and six. She left during the year on sick leave replaced by Sr Marjorie, whom we loved, as she read lots of stories to us. I still remember being very cross having to go to the school dentist and missing out on the next instalment of Pinocchio.

Sr Bernard Maher let us play a lot of sport, the boys versus the girls in cricket. I also read a lot of books to the class during Year 7. Sr Fidelis was our teacher in years 8 and 9. This was the first year the Proficiency Certificate was held in Primary schools. Two of us then spent the next year doing Commercial with Sr Cleopha and helping as monitors with her infant classes. She taught us shorthand etc after school, while we did our typing and bookkeeping during the day.

As well Sr Cleopha looked after the Church, having to set the vestments before she raced home to the convent for Rosary at five. We helped her with the cleaning of the Church brass during the week and the Church each Friday, scrubbing the tiled sanctuary floor every month and washing down the marble side altars every week. On Fridays we would nick over to the Church at 3 p.m. and start doing the flowers for the Church. Several large vases were filled every week. We then cleaned up while she went home hoping not to be late!! We were 14 years old!

At Sunday Mass all the children sat at the front of the Church with the Sisters. On First Fridays those of us who came from East Bairnsdale or Lucknow, would bring our toast with us and go to the Convent after 7 a.m. Mass and the Sisters would give us hot cocoa on the back verandah. Some times we would help do the veges for the Sisters' dinner.

There was a big pine tree in the school yard and several straps ended up at the top, placed there by adventurous lads. The tennis court at the back of the school was our playground where we played basketball, team ball games e.g. tunnel ball, cross ball, learnt Irish dancing and the Ribbon dance, all of which were performed at local schools sports days. There was much rivalry between the local State School and St Mary's.

The Sisters worked very hard under difficult conditions, but they were great women who became my friends. A new two-storey brick school replaced the old one after I left and the Josephites left Bairnsdale in 1957. The Presentation Sisters came in 1958, the year I entered, and began Nagle College a Secondary school. Both schools are now side by side at the Western end of the town with large playing fields and modern classrooms.

There are so many stories one could tell of these 'schooldays, schooldays, dear old golden rule days, readin' and writin' and 'rithmetic.....'

Have you some stories you could share!
Please send them in.

Mary Fermio RST

AROUND THE TRAPS

MORWELL AND NEWBOROUGH

Morwell and Newborough Associates met together On Sunday 1st May at Narracan Gardens Hostel in Newborough, because three of its members now live in the Hostel. The Newborough members have been unable to meet, so Morwell went to them. They shared a reflection on Mary MacKillop and discussed her advice to her Sisters

—”Keep young as long as you can” 1874 which they thought was appropriate to their age and status! The afternoon finished with tea and cakes and amid much discussion, catching up and laughter.



LAKES ENTRANCE

Six members of the new Josephite Associates Group have completed their Formation and look forward to enrolment. Several hiccups occurred along the way but they have persisted and have achieved this milestone.

SWAN HILL

The group at Swan Hill have decided to look seriously at the service aspect of their mission especially in the needs in their Parish. They hope to make contact with those who are elderly, sick and have other needs they can assist with.

RUSHWORTH

As the Rushworth group had several new members all are studying the Formation Program. They were very fortunate in having Sr Nellie give an excellent session on ‘CHARISM’ using a power point presentation. The group has a high attendance at their meetings and support the East Timor Mission.

BUNYIP

The Associates at Bunyip have commenced the Formation Program as a renewal and have new members to be enrolled at its completion. Their hall at Iona was flooded during the year which has made it difficult for them. Sr Mary Fermio visits them every second month leading the program.

BAIRNSDALE AND WOODEND

New groups at both places are reflecting on the Formation program and hope to be enrolled later in the year. Woodend meets after their Sunday Mass in the Parish Centre and Bairnsdale meets late afternoon to allow one of the local teachers to be present. All are enthusiastic about living the charism of Mary MacKillop.

SEBASTOPOL AND EAGLEHAWK

Both groups are using a Homily of Bishop Coffey as their reflection and finding the analogy of the Drover's Wife a very thought provoking theme.

YARRAVILLE

The group here are looking forward to enrolling two new members in September. The Sisters in the community welcome the group for each meeting at the Convent.

BEECHWORTH

Associates at Beechworth initiated a pilgrimage to Melbourne and Penola in the Mary MacKillop Bus owned by one of the Associates.

ENROLMENTS AT HAWTHORN EAST



L to R: Julia Mosley, Mary Callea, Catherine Zuccala, Margaret Sinclair and Mim Caruso

On Pancake Tuesday five Associates, from various parts of Melbourne, were enrolled at the Mary MacKillop Aged Care at Hawthorn East. After finishing the Formation Program with other enrolled Associates, they were joined by Sisters and residents for this joyful occasion in the lovely chapel of the residence.

To celebrate we shared a light meal highlighted with scrumptious pancakes served with ice-cream and lemon curd. Margaret's three children shared in the festivities.



Margaret, her three children, Sr Bernadette Malone and Lillian Kelly, Associate.

ENROLMENTS AT BROADMEADOWS

On 3rd April after the 11 am Mass Margaret Baxter was enrolled as a Josephite Associate at St Dominic's Parish Broadmeadows in the presence of five other Associates.

Though a small group, they are very involved in the Parish carrying on the Josephite tradition established by the Sisters who spent many years working in that parish. It was here that Mary MacKillop established a Foundling Home for abandoned babies at the request of Archbishop Carr. A home, miles from conveniences, was bought and two sisters arrived with one baby and one cow. From this humble beginning a wonderful establishment grew, providing love and care for many babies and training for hundreds of mothercraft nurses, many of whom became Josephite Sisters.

As well a school was established later on and continues as an excellent source of education in the Parish. I was amazed at the many children present at Mass with their parents. They were called up around the Altar at the Our Father to pray with the priests and the parents were invited to pray for these children, who represented many nationalities. After the enrolment we enjoyed a lovely lunch together.



Margaret Baxter signing the Enrolment Register



AN ACCOUNT OF HIS FAMILY WRITTEN BY FR. DONALD MACKILLOP SJ IN HIS OLD AGE

My father and mother were both from the Highlands of Scotland—from the Braes of Lochaber, Inverness-shire. Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in the United Kingdom, is close at hand, and so is Fort William, where my mother was born. My grandfather MacKillop moved south into Perthshire and later, with the exception of one son, the family came from there to Australia.

When 12 years old my father went to Rome, to the Scotch College, to study for the church. He must have had a brilliant course, for at the end of the nine years he spent in Rome, he was chosen for the Grand Act, Philosophy and Theology, against all-comers and this in the days when the Pope presided and the foreign Ambassadors were present. He caught a cold while attending some special lectures at this time and his lungs were threatened. Besides, he was too young to be ordained and the doctors ordered him back to his native air. So he came to Blair's College, Scotland.

But a word or so more about the Roman time. In the year 1868 I was a young lad at Seven Hills College, SA. I did not then understand these words from one of my father's letters:

"Will you tell your Superior how pleased I was to hear of my old friend and circle antagonist, Fr Passaglia's happy return. Cousin Fr McNab told me the dearly welcome news.

He wrote also:

O how happy I would be if you became a son of the great and glorious Loyola, or even a secular priest and so fitted yourself for a vocation, for which your own poor father found himself unworthy".

He seems to have been a special pet of Gregory XVI, who before his elevation, lectured sometimes at the Scotch College; had the free run of the Vatican, whatever that meant, and wore always a reliquary which the Pope gave him of St Peter—some dust from the tomb, I suppose. When Gregory was elected, my father told us once, the students of the Scotch College, in defiance of authority, made a bolt for the Vatican, on the very day, and were most kindly received.

When Mary was in England, she heard this story of Fr Passaglia, who, it would seem, was also for the time in England. He said to a mutual friend:

"MacKillop, I remember him well. He was the only man in Rome I was afraid of. Many's the night's sleep he took from me!"

From the old folk at Blair's College Mary heard this story:

After nine years in Rome my dad found it cold in Scotland. He asked for a fire in his room and was refused. Now, the young man who in Rome had

been made much of, fancied himself not a little, no doubt, when he found himself among the old fossils of Blair's College, and went off in a huff to complain to the Bishop. Of course, His Lordship advised immediate return to his College. This was too much! He returned to his home! The family were about to start for Australia. Dad came with them and in due course met my mother in Melbourne. He had never taken any Orders.

I would never get through the notes you ask for dear Fr O'Neill, if I gave myself to picking and sorting. I am too ill, or rather too sore, for that, so knowing well the risks I run with a reader, I leave all that to you, and scribble on as best I can.

I started for Europe at the end of June 1882 for my Theology and Tertianship. My mother early, in the same year, or towards the end of 1881, was over here on a visit from Melbourne. One day she said to me that most likely after our parting then, we would never meet again here below, but that there were some things regarding the birth and early years of Mary, 'her sainted child' - as she always called her—which she, my mother, thought I should know. I was nearly 30 years old then, and as you will notice the occasion was a special one. So my mother is the authority for what



follows.

There lived in Melbourne in those days a much loved priest, Fr Gheoghan. He was a great friend of my people and especially of my mother. He said the first Mass in Melbourne in a produce store. There may have been a gum tree outside, but that the mass was said under a gum tree, as recorded on high authority, is not strictly true. Years ago I was walking down Elizabeth St with my father's brother—one of those present at this Mass—and he pointed out the place and told me all about it. There is a bank—the National or Colonial I think—on the site now, or was at least some years ago. It is on the left side as you walk from St Francis' to the river.

There were about 30 present, half Irish and half Highlanders—the latter nearly all my near relations—my mother's people and my Father's for the most part. I think it was Fr Gheoghan who married my parents in St Francis' Church. He afterwards became second Bishop of Adelaide, and died in Europe after his translation to the See of Goulburn, New South Wales.
To be continued

(the name Marie Keogh, South Yarra 1988 appears at the top of this typed material. Julia Keogh was a wife of Peter MacKillop. Margaret Le'Strange was also a Keogh. Whoever this was written for, may have been one of the Keogh relatives)

IMPORTANT DIARY DATE 2012

CO-ORDINATORS PLEASE NOTE:

A meeting for two members of each group

viz the co-ordinator and another Associate

on Saturday, February 18th 2012

at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, Albert St East Melbourne

10 am.—4 p.m. Lunch provided.

The day will be spent looking at Leadership of Associate Groups.

This is an early notice so that you can start thinking about getting there and if you need to stay overnight. Accommodation is available at the Heritage Centre. Book early!

SOME VIEWS OF ST JOSEPH'S CONVENT PERTHVILLE



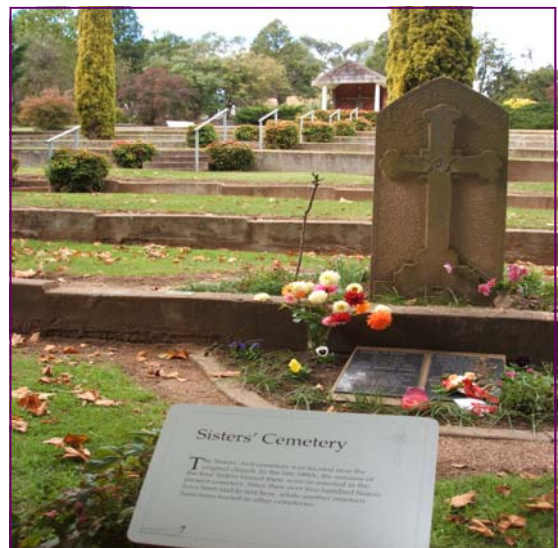
The ground floor was the original convent.

And the second story was built on later Present day building built around the original convent.



The Chapel with the bell presented to the Sisters by Fr Julian Tenison Woods.

The Cemetery where Sr Teresa is buried, marked by the plaque at the right.



FLORA MACKILLOP'S STORY— Lynette Young rsj

As we remember the Marriage of Flora MacDonald and Alexander MacKillop in St. Francis' Church Melbourne on July 14th 1840, it might be helpful to reflectively meet this wonderful woman of Faith, who first guided Mary in her relationship with God and let her tell us her story.

My name is Flora MacDonald. I am Scottish, born in the Scottish Highlands in the village of Roy Bridge Lochaber. One of my ancestors was the seventh Chief of Keppoch. My country is very beautiful, a land of craggy mountains, soft heather colours, mists and clear, brisk streams with many lochs.

I belong to the Clan MacDonald. We fought at Culloden, We possess a very rich tartan of red and green. For our Catholic Faith we endured much persecution and loss of titles and lands. In my generation we were crofters on the hills, but our Faith was alive and evident in the celtic crosses and Mass stones dotted around the hills of home.

When I was 24 my family emigrated to Australia but my father was arrested on the docks before we left, for unpaid bills, so my mother traveled alone with my two brothers and myself. On the way out in the boat *GlenHuntly* we were overtaken by the dreaded typhoid. My young brother, Alexander died at sea, falling overboard in a fit of delirium. When we arrived in Melbourne we were not allowed to dock. The entire ship was kept in quarantine at Point Ormond for a whole month. Many Scottish people came to welcome us the day we were released but we had no adult male to sponsor us. Fortunately a fellow kinsman, John MacKillop sponsored us and we came to live in his son Alexander's cottage called Marino in Brunswick Street. Two month's latter we were married.

This new country was very strange to me. Melbourne was only six years' old and was full of bustle, noise and new beginnings. I found the climate very trying, especially when I was pregnant with Mary. The summer was very hot. I felt very isolated as there were few women, the language was different and Catholics were not always accepted. It took two

years for me to become pregnant and Father Geoghegan gave me a relic of the True Cross to wear during this time. When Mary was only three month's old, Alex lost everything in a financial disaster from which we never fully recovered. Alex's nature swung from being full of grandiose plans to being morbidly sensitive. We moved frequently to find work and a roof over our heads, I think 18 times altogether. At one time Alex left me to return to Scotland. Unbeknowns to me, he had mortgaged the house to his brother, Peter, who foreclosed on the loan while Alexander was overseas. I felt the humiliation extremely. Fortunately my brother, Donald came and took us home to mother.

I have eight children. I don't know what I would have done without Mary's strength when Donald was born as the midwife was drunk. Another time when I was pregnant with Peter, we had arrived back from Sydney and no one had come to collect us. Dear Mary and John walked many miles to Somerton to alert the family to pick up myself and the little ones. It was a big struggle to feed the growing family. I

have been refused meat and bread unless I paid some off the old account. When Mary joined the Convent, I missed her terribly. Fr. Woods proved a kind friend and I used to write to him when things got really bad.

I was so much alone in Portland, Collingwood and Richmond.

I loved Marino Cottage, our first home. Whilst farming out on the Darebin Creek, I broke my collar-bone riding Old Smokey, John's horse. I have a letter that John wrote when he was only thirteen, to Mary. John went to New Zealand for work.

I used to write to him about his Sunday duty. A woman followed him there from Penola and they became engaged, but he died from a fall off his horse and got tetanus. I was so deeply shocked I couldn't write to Alexander so our cousin, Duncan McNabb, who was our parish priest in Portland at the time, wrote for me.

I had already lost Little Alick my 11 month old baby and the family was broken up after the disaster in Portland. Alex had gone to Dunkeld, Maggie to Duck Ponds, Mary was in Hurd Street alone and Anne and Lexie had gone to hold the fort in Penola. I had the two young boys, Donald and Peter, so I took in boarders to help survive. It was so different from Mary's school. Hanging heavy over my heart was



Mary's decision to become a nun. I knew this was her dream and that it would happen one day, but I kept praying that it wouldn't be quite yet.

My husband died just two years after Mary began her work as a Sister of St. Joseph. He had retired to Hamilton, to his brother's property but soon found himself very interested in the development of Hamilton. He used speak at public meetings in the Victoria Hotel, about trying to put the railway through town and he was also anxious for a poor school for the shepherds' children. He collapsed during the meeting. I raced from Portland to be with him. He lingered for two days. It was a very sad letter I wrote to Mary.

Four years later Maggie died after a long illness with rheumatic fever. Donald moved to Seven Hill to begin his training as a Jesuit priest. Peter was taken there too to finish his education. I was all alone. My brother was managing the Royal Oak in Penola but I moved back to Melbourne with Annie to be closer to clan and Lexie who was a Good Shepherd nun. Peter became ill and died at twenty, then not long after we lost Lexie. I helped the Good Shepherd sisters and Mary's 'girls' as they arrived and departed passing through Melbourne on their travels.

When Mary was excommunicated I was so upset I wrote to Bishop Sheil myself. Mary and I often wrote to each other. I felt she could really understand, as I could her, especially her womanly sufferings with the endometriosis. She would speak to me about it sometimes in her letters.

I spent the latter part of my life helping Mary in her many fetes. It was a struggle to live as an old lady but I knew *God would provide* as He had throughout my life. Mary learnt about trusting in the Providence of God through me and our home experiences, I'm sure.

It was a struggle to make the journey to Sydney to help Mary, but she sounded as though she really needed me so I went. I was nearly seventy. What dismay was ours when disaster struck during the night just off the Eden coast at Green Cape when the ship, the *Ly-ee-Moon* struck the rocks. I committed my life to my God and now I await the resurrection and reunion with the family I love.

References:

Positio Volume One

- *Mary MacKillop and Flora – their Correspondence*. Edited by Sheila McCreanor
- *In Search of Alexander MacKillop*: Victor Feehan and Ann MacDonell.
- *Mary MacKillop Spirituality and Charism*—excerpts from letters by Dan Lyne CP
- *Letters of Mary to her Mother*. Josephite Congregational Archives, North Sydney.

Remembering Flora at Greencape— 125 years later

To mark the 125th Anniversary of the death of Flora MacKillop on Ly-Eee-Moon this year and to celebrate St Joseph's Day, 6 Sisters from the Eden Monaro rural ministry joined a parish pilgrimage to Greencape south of Twofold Bay, Eden. The pilgrimage was organised by Sr Rosemary Hart, John Liston and Anne Maddock- St Joseph's School Principal.

People from as far as Mittagong as well as locals from the Eden, Merimbula, Pambula & Wyndham areas boarded the pilgrimage bus; many of them were Josephite Associates.

The route took us on the Chip Mill and Greencape Roads through rough terrain for about 30+kms until we reached the sandy plain with the clear view of Disaster Bay where many locals lost their lives. We gathered & prayed at the unnamed graves of those lost in the sinking of the Ly-Ee-Moon and then walked to the edge of the lighthouse cliff where a wreath was tossed into the swirling waters in honour of Flora and all who lost their lives in that disaster.

The ritual prayer that followed on the cliff included the emotional letter from Mary to her brother Donald informing him of the tragedy and the loving care of Mrs Power who took care of Flora's body when it was brought into Eden.

The return trip included a visit to the old church at Kiah where the local ladies of Kiah had prepared a very enjoyable afternoon tea.

A highlight of the pilgrimage at Kiah was a short presentation of Flora's life given by Sr Bernadette O'Sullivan. Everyone was keenly interested as Sr Bernadette spoke as one who carries Flora in her heart.

All were excited about the news, of the near completion of Sr Bernadette's book on the life of Flora MacKillop the mother of our first Saint.

Teresa Keane rsj & Rosemary Hart rsj (NSW)



Source of Story:
www.sosj.org.au/news

MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE 2011

MARY MACKILLOP TRAIL

DETAILS IN PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER.

NB Cost of each Pilgrimage depends on number of bookings; more people, less cost. Both will depend on bookings and as yet we do not have enough to make it viable.

If you are interested please contact

Sr Mary Fermio 5367 2078, applications close on 30th June 2011

email: associatesvic@sosj.org.au or write PO Box 37 Bacchus Marsh. 3340

NB: if you can get to Bacchus Marsh the day before I may be able to find a billet for you. The Ballarat train service, which stops at Bacchus Marsh, is excellent. Safe car parking is also available behind the Presbytery.

INVITE A FRIEND OR RELATION TO COME WITH YOU

INVITATION to ALL JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES

Fr Michael Kalka, Parish Priest of Sacred Heart Parish, Cotham Road Kew and a Josephite Associate, has invited all Associates to

10 am Mass on Monday, August 8, 2011

when a new Chapel dedicated to St Mary of the Cross MacKillop will be opened and blessed.

The Mass and Blessing will be celebrated by Bishop Tomlinson VG. The dedication ceremony will be led by Sr Josephine Dubiel rsj. Morning tea will be served—venue depending on the progress of School Building Works.

Parking is available in side streets off Cotham Road.

RSVP August 1, 2011 Tel: 9853 6701

REGIONAL MEETINGS 2011

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 18th June | Parish Centre, St Bernards, Lerderderg St. Bacchus Marsh Contact: Carmel Shea 5367 2647 |
| 2nd July | Mackillop Hall, Tocumwal Road Numurkah. Contact Imelda Wilson 5862 3313 |
| 27th August | St Mary's Parish Centre, Pyke St. Bairnsdale Contact: Pat Coloe 5152 2039 |
| 17th September | Conference Room, St Joseph's, 13 Havelock Road Hawthorn East. Tram 70/75 from city or 72 along Burke Road. Contact Sr Mary 5367 2078 |
| 29th October | St Liborius' Parish Centre, Eaglehawk Rd. Eaglehawk Contact: Margaret Tobias 5446 8034 |
| 12th November | The Josephite Centre, Sacred Heart School, Morwell Contact: Betty Loftus 5134 3862 |

COMMENCING: 9.45 am—3 p.m. BYO Lunch to share. Host group supplies Morning Tea.

You are invited to bring a friend who may be interested in learning about the Associates

Further information on flyer included with the Autumn Newsletter. **Please advise contact of numbers coming**



BOOK REVIEW

WOMEN OF THE VALE

Marie Crowley

This book tells the story and heartbreak of the Sisters who founded Perthville and had to return to Adelaide. As well it is a story of the Holy Spirit, of the courage of young women who became Josephites in the Bathurst Diocese, who lived the Josephite Charism and who extended this charism to the Dioceses of Wanganui (NZ), Maitland, Canberra-Goulburn and Tasmania. The story of the conflict between Mary MacKillop and Bishop Quinn is told with great truth and sensitivity. A wonderful historical account and a fascinating read

\$35 Available from:
Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre
362 Albert St East Melbourne 3002
Tele: 9926 9300

WHERE THE HELL IS GOD?

Richard Leonard sj

After his sister became a quadriplegic following a motor accident, Fr Richard found himself asking the question Where is God? The book looks at times in our lives when we wonder where God really is. Seven steps to Spiritual sanity as listed:

- God does not send pain, suffering to punish us
- God does not send accidents to teach us
- God does not will earthquakes, floods, droughts or other natural disasters. Prayer asks God to change us to change the world.
- God's will is more in the big picture than the small
- God did not need the blood of Jesus. Jesus did not just come "to die", but God used his death to announce the end of death
- God has created a world that is less than perfect and in which suffering, disease and pain are realities; some of these problems we create ourselves and blame God
- God does not kill us off.

Not a big book but well worth reading and pondering over.

Available from Catholic Book Shop and Pauline Media.

RETREATS FOR JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES (and friends)

B. Conference Room, 13 Havelock Road Hawthorn East

Saturday 9th July 10 am .3.00 p.m.

BYO Lunch to share

M.Tea etc provided. Donation \$20

Moya Unthank rsj: Praying the Psalms

C. Retreat House, Nazareth House, 16 Cornell St Camberwell.

Tues.20th Sept 5 p.m.—Thurs 22nd 2.30 pm

Max of 9. Cost \$160 All included

Therese Quinn rsj: Women of St John's Gospel

D. Conference Room 13 Havelock Road Hawthorn East

Saturday 22nd October 10 am.—3 p.m.

BYO Lunch to Share

M. Tea provided Donation \$20

Mary Ryan rsj :

Spirituality of St Mary of the Cross

Contact: Sr Mary Fermio 5367 2078

Email: associatesvic@sosj.org.au

Unless we have further bookings Retreat C may also be cancelled. Sr Mary could provide transport from Western Suburbs.

See enclosed sheet with booking form.

**Confirmation of your booking will be
forwarded during June**

**Believe in the
whisperings
of God
to your
own heart.**



Mary MacKillop 1868

ASSOCIATES' BULLETIN BOARD - WINTER 2011

USED STAMPS

Thanks to those who have already collected and forwarded stamps for Peru. Keep them coming!!
Send to:

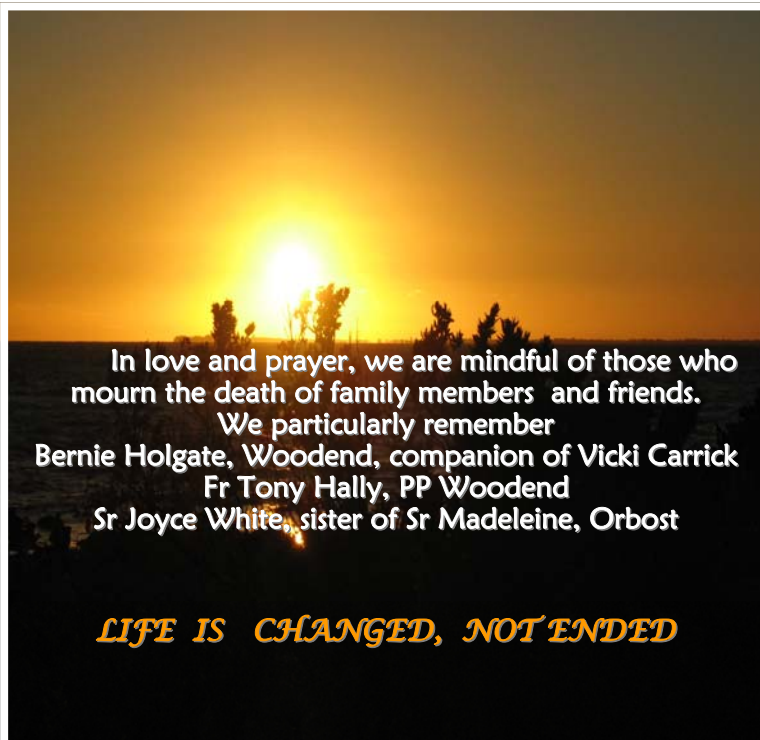
**St Joseph's Province Centre
Locked Bag 3031,
BURWOOD NSW 1805**

Mark envelope **STAMPS
THANK YOU!**



DONATIONS 2011

THANK YOU to all those who have sent donations in. Your generosity is much appreciated to help towards the costs of printing, postage, stationery and travel. If you have forgotten it is not too late!!



In love and prayer, we are mindful of those who mourn the death of family members and friends.

We particularly remember
Bernie Holgate, Woodend, companion of Vicki Carrick
Fr Tony Hally, PP Woodend
Sr Joyce White, sister of Sr Madeleine, Orbost

LIFE IS CHANGED, NOT ENDED

FROM THE OFFICE:
Thank you to all who returned the Enrolment Update Sheet. It is still not too late!! Due to Office complications newsletters will hopefully be sent by email in Spring to those who requested it.

Office Address

Mary Fermio RSJ,
Editor—Associates' Newsletter,
Josephite Associates' Office,
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OR Email: associatesvic@sosj.org.au.
OR Fax: 03 5367 2078

For all enquiries related to
Josephite Associates,
phone: 03 5367 2078

Catch up on the News!
Mary MacKillop E-News:
Sent on 8th of each month

www.sosj.org.au
www.marymackillop.org.au

You can subscribe to the email news and it will automatically be sent to you on a regular basis— AND it's FREE!

OPEN DAYS

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre
362 Albert St
EAST MELBOURNE

Open from 10 am to 4 p.m. on **SATURDAYS**

6th August 2011
22nd October 2011
26th November 2011

ENTRY BY DONATION .

Visit the Museum, pray in the Chapel
Purchase a memento from the gift shop.
Bring a group for a tour and talk
Light refreshments available.

Groups are welcome on other weekends by contacting the Centre and arranging a time.

*For further information and bookings:
Call MMHC on 03 9926 9300*

**This can be a very good outing for
your Associate group or
for your parish**