



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

Thanks to each one for your contribution to the WA Josephite Associates. We are now entering into Spring. Many thanks to all those who have sent donations - they have been put to good use. We have had some new people into our Associates, each one is very welcome and many thanks to all those who helped in many ways. Sister Carla continues her good work visiting many people in different areas.

Best wishes for all the blessings of Spring ...

from Sr Denise, Meg, Fay, Margaret, Pat, Maureen, Dot and Mary.

Welcome to Spring: with a Window of Hope for our World:



Mary MacKillop's life story resonates with the lives of many people today. They find in her story events and experiences which often reflect their own. Australians in particular see in her something of the 'Aussie battler' – someone who has endured hardships and sustained hope. It is often heard that she stood *on the side of the 'Aussie battler'* - calling forth the potential for life in those most disadvantaged in our world. *Mary MacKillop was a pioneer woman whose influence has shaped the lives of thousands of children throughout this land. In particular, Australians identify with her ability to stand up for what she believed in. She has become for many a window of hope – whose story sustains them in the most trying of situations. Her courage in the face of adversity mirrors the courage that Australians displayed in events which have shaped our nation – the Anzac landing at Gallipoli, and in more recent times the natural disasters that have torn at the heart of communities through bushfire, floods and drought. For many she is a hero who shows them that they too can make a difference in the world through small everyday acts of kindness and concern as well as through major decisions that shape a nation. Like many others who claim they are not heroes but just ordinary citizens responding to the events of life, Mary MacKillop would believe that she was doing no more than what the Gospel required of her.*

“Mary MacKillop – A Window of Hope” Monica Cavanagh rsj

Women's Rural Retreat 20th - 23rd May

Josephite Associates Nancy Tylor, Robyn Thomas, Gloria Maslin and Annette Morellini travelled to Penola by the Sea, Safety Bay to participate in a Rural Women's Retreat, given by Leonie Mayne rsj and Anna Warlow sgs. The three days were a time of prayer, reflection, challenge, singing, relaxation, small group sharing, tai chi, and massage beautifully imparted by Sisters Veronica and Monica, trained Masseuse. The Eucharist was available each day. It was a great 'meeting of women' from as far away as Wiluna to Manjimup coming together enjoying each other's company with wonderful hospitality given.



- Annette Morellini (Australind)



I would like to endorse the remarks of my fellow associates regarding "The Women's Rural Retreat", held over three days at Penola by the Sea Safety Bay. It was a wonderful experience meeting and mixing with women from the North and South of our state. Each had a different story to tell. Thank you to Sr Leonie Mayne rsj for organizing this retreat. Special appreciation to Sr Anna Warlow sgs for her presentation covering so many areas, Tai Chi, music, singing along, massage, reflexology and painting our own story!! a very interesting experience for me who had only ever painted walls, doors, floors and cupboards etc.

'I am God's work of art!

I am precious in His sight!

Thank you one and all.'

- Gloria Maslin (Dardanup)



In May I was privileged to travel to Penola by the Sea Safety Bay to join the "Rural Women's Retreat". There were women from as far away as Three Springs in the north and Manjimup in the south. The Retreat was led by Sr Leonie Mayne rsj and Sr Anna Warlow sgs. Also Srs Monica and Veronica helped out with massages, Tai Chi. There were many stories that had us in fits of laughter, good food and lovely walks by the sea.

"Accepting ourselves and believing God lives in us."

Thank you my companions for sharing my journey.

- Nancy Tylor (Dardanup)

Enrolment of Two Associates -ANNE WATT & TERESA VENTRIS

My first association with the Sisters of St Joseph began in 1983 when my sons had the good fortune to be taught by Sister Leonie Mayne at a new Catholic College in Bateman, Corpus Christi College. Being a new school, teachers, parents and students formed a close bond and worked hard to make a success of this new school. No more than Sister Leonie who was a tower of strength and possessed a wonderful sense of humour and was much loved by students and parents alike. Our family fondly remembers that time and made many friends during those years, friends whom we have to this day. As the time by Sister Leonie (who has now returned to WA) moved to the Eastern States but this was not the end of the Josephite influence on my life. I was introduced to the sisters in South Perth about three years ago by Father William and became a regular visitor to the Convent. It was with surprise and humility that I received an invitation from the Sisters to become an Associate and though I feel very undeserving of this honour I am nonetheless delighted by it as I hold the Sisters in very high esteem and have the greatest respect for the innumerable ways in which they help many different people in communities, near and far.

Teresa Ventris and I attended the Convent for a very beautiful and prayerful ceremony and later, after being welcomed and enrolled as Josephite Associates, we were treated to a delicious afternoon tea and enjoyed meeting and chatting to the Sisters and other Associates – about 40 in number. The Chapel looked beautiful and so much preparation had gone into making the day so special. Thank you Sister Denise and Sister Kathleen and all the Sisters who gave so much effort into making this a most memorable day for Teresa and myself. I hope I can do justice to your faith in me.

- Anne Watt (newly enrolled Associate)





GONE TO GOD

Tessa Meagher - an Associate from Merredin

John Simpson – died in February, husband of Catherine who is a sister of Father Hugh Galloway

News from the Central Committee

This group meets on a regular basis throughout the year with Sister Denise Casey at South Perth Convent. Members are Dot Caughey (Secretary), Faye Jones (Treasurer), Margaret Hardingham, Pat Cresp, Maureen Lanigan, Mary Sheehan and I as chairperson. Sister Denise, coordinator for the WA Associates keeps us up to date with visitations, correspondence, coming events and happenings statewide, interstate and parts of the world where the Josephites are involved.

After the meetings we spend some time folding and placing the newsletter and prayer sheet into envelopes to be delivered around the state and elsewhere. This is a happy time with much friendly discussion and a good deal of humour, after which we join the Sisters for a delicious lunch.

At our Winter Gathering on 12th June Sister Denise conducted an enrolment ceremony in the chapel and Anne Watt and Teresa Ventris were warmly welcomed as newly enrolled Associates. This was followed by a prayer session, presentation of reports and an update on the Travelling Sisters by Sister Pauline Morgan. All then moved to the Function Room for afternoon tea, and the “bring and buy stall and the raffle”. For those interested, beautiful Peruvian alpaca garments, and colourful craftwork are available from the display at a very reasonable price, the proceeds of which go towards the purchase of wool and materials for the Peruvian ladies to transform into more of the same. As well, books, DVD's, CD's and other Mary MacKillop items can be found at Mary MacKillop's “shop” in South Perth.



Mary MacKillop Foundation members with the road-show van

The Travelling Sister's Road Show was in town making known the aims of the Mary MacKillop Foundation and raising funds in towns and schools around Australia to give grants up to \$10,000 for Small Life Changing Projects. Sister Julianne gave a most enjoyable presentation, describing her travels with the Sister's Road Show. She kept us entertained as she told of their visits to schools and towns, their trip across the Nullarbor and the people they encountered along the way.

Many and varied are the ideas the Sisters come up with to reach out to the needy in the Spirit of St Mary of the Cross. They take challenges in their stride and we as Associates admire and support them as we endeavour to live our lives in that same spirit. The Josephite Spirit is very much alive.

- Meg Phelan (Central Committee Member)



Sr Julianne arrives at South Perth

In the Footsteps of St Mary MacKillop 2012 Australian Pilgrimage

11 - 21 April 2012 & 24 October - 3rd November

Contact Laura for brochures / application forms
lmccarthy@sosjwa.org.au
9334 0999



wa Josephite associates' seasonal gatherings 2011

Josephite Associates – South West Area

Sponsored by Josephite Associates SW Area.
Sister Anna Warlow sgs has offered to give a presentation
To JA and anyone who wishes to come from the Parishes
To St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Hall
Tuesday 18th October 2011
A plate of finger food appreciated for a lunch – Gold coin entry
Please RSVP by 11th October 2011
To Annette Morellini – 97971156, Nancy Tylor – 97281037
Everyone most welcome – Bring a friend!

** Spring Gathering for Metropolitan Area*

September 11th at 2 : 30pm
Prayer followed by afternoon tea.

** Central Committee Meeting*

St Joseph's Convent 16 York St South Perth
25th August at 10am.
Followed by lunch with the sisters.

Josephite Associates – Summer/Advent Gathering

Wednesday 23rd November 2011
Eucharist: 9am Dardanup Catholic Church.
Presenter: Father Tony Chiera
A shared lunch will follow. Please bring a plate of finger food.
Inquiries: Annette Morellini 97971156, Nancy Tylor – 97281037
All Welcome

** Gathering of Associates in Sydney*

14th – 16th August.
Those going to the meeting are: Maureen Lanigan
Helen Johnston & Sr Denise Casey

Spring Prayer Day

August 31st 10am at 3:30pm
THE PILGRAM - led by Sister Dora Maguire rsj
at Penola by the Sea – Safety Bay



**Central Committee Meeting at St Joseph Convent.*

25th November cuppa at 10am - Followed by Christmas Lunch.

WHERE THE HELL IS GOD?

RICHARD LEONARD, SJ
FOREWORD BY JAMES MARTIN, SJ

Seven steps to spiritual sanity as listed by Richard Leonard for when we are tempted to ask "Where the Hell is God?":

- ~ God does not directly send pain, suffering and disease. God does not punish us.
- ~ God does not send accidents to teach us things, though we can learn from them.
- ~ 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 in 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; otherwise it would be heaven. Some of these problems we now create for ourselves and blame God.
- ~ God does not kill us off.