

# Josephite Associates

\* Friendship \* Prayer \* Service

## Summer Newsletter

P.O. Box 243  
Taigum Q 4018  
Phone 041 776 3572

October, 2011



**From the pen of Mary MacKillop**

Whatever troubles may be before you, accept them cheerfully, remembering who you are trying to follow.

Dear Associates,

### CHARISM

*(When trying to emulate Mary MacKillop, think about her Charism. To help you understand Charism here is a simple definition you can share with your friends):*

A charism is simply a gift or calling of the Spirit given to be shared with others for the building-up of the reign of God. It is a living passion for whatever dimension of the life of Christ is needed now, here, in our time. It can live in us only when we accept it. It can live only when it is continually nurtured, energised, renewed and developed in us. It can live in us only when we take responsibility to use it. A charism is a continuing force which compels us to participate in the mission of Jesus by addressing contemporary issues. (Adapted from the NSW Associate Newsletter November 2010)

### **SPECIAL PEOPLE TO REMEMBER**

Please pray for those Associates or family members who are ill.  
We also remember those near to us who have died:



Peter McDougall brother of Sister Janet,  
Beryl Fleming Associate,  
Laurie Hooper Associate  
Bill Lindores Associate  
Faye Walsh Associate  
Sister Susan Hynes  
Sister Anne Mills  
Sister Angela McLeod



May they rest in peace.



## ASSOCIATES RETREAT

August 2011



At the end of August twenty of our Associates attended our annual Associates Retreat Day at Nundah. It was a very reflective day led by Sister Therese Wilson and Sister Joan Finucane. It was a shame the weather was not good which meant we received eleven apologies. The day began with the symbol of the seed and the 'planting' that each of us does in our daily lives. We then reflected on some of the sayings of Mary MacKillop, choosing those which were special for us that day. Later in the day we did a walking meditation. We dedicated our Retreat Day this year to the memory of Beryl Fleming. All who were there really found it most helpful for them. Many thanks to all those who came and also to those who helped in any way to make the day possible.



### DONATIONS TOWARD EXPENSES

Many thanks to those who so generously contribute to the cost of printing, stationery, postage, envelopes, travel, etc. Every little piece of assistance is gratefully appreciated and received.

If you would like to also assist with Associate expenses I would be extremely thankful. If you are unable to personally assist you might consider collecting donations at your Group Meetings.

Donations can be sent to me at the following address:

Sister Joan Finucane  
P.O. Box 243,  
TAIGUM QLD 4018



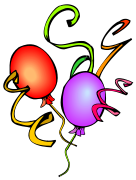
### **Residential/Email Address**

Are you changing your residential address  
or email address?

If so, please contact Sister Joan with your new details  
at:

**joanfin1@bigpond.com**

Subject: Residential/Email address change



# Happy Birthday



Moya Evans who celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday recently.

## **JOSEPHITE WEBSITE**

The Sisters' website [www.sosj.org.au](http://www.sosj.org.au) has been updated. Some of the exciting things you can do through the new website include:

- Read the Associate Newsletters from Queensland and the other Provinces.
- Pray at Mary's tomb and leave a prayer.
- Find a prayer or reflection for the day.
- Print out material to share with others.

Make sure you share this website with your friends and the local Parish Schools in your area.

There is also a Mary MacKillop website [www.marymackillop.org.au](http://www.marymackillop.org.au)

These websites are extremely interactive and should give you hours of fun as you explore them.

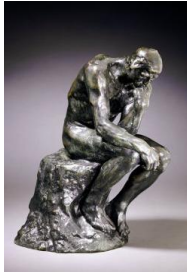
## **THE TRAVELLING SISTERS**

The Travelling Sisters is an initiative of the Mary MacKillop Foundation. The Sisters will be visiting parts of Queensland on a regular basis. This year they visited many Queensland spots during September and October. The Travelling Sisters aim to increase an awareness of the Mary MacKillop Foundation, to create fundraising opportunities which support life changing projects, to provide opportunities for students and communities to learn more about Saint Mary MacKillop and to promote enterprises where people can work with the Sisters of St Joseph to carry on the work begun by Mary MacKillop. If you missed out on seeing the Travelling Sisters this time around, you may be able to meet them next time. Dates and places of future visits by the Sisters will be advertised in your Associate Newsletters.



***In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop***  
***Australian Pilgrimage 2012***  
***11-21 April and 24 October - 3 November, 2012***  
for further details contact Sister Genevieve at the  
Mary MacKillop Centre Annerley by phoning  
3848 1635 during business hours.





## **STOP PRESS**

Our Moorooka, Salisbury, Rocklea, Salisbury, Sunnybank, Carindale, Carina and Annerley Associates are trying to rename their group . I am sure there will be many creative ideas.

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

To be held on the fifth Sunday during the month of October.

**Date:** 30 October 2011

**Time:** 4.00 pm

**Venue:** St Joseph's Hostel Chapel  
67 Bage Street, Nundah

Prayer will be followed by light refreshments.

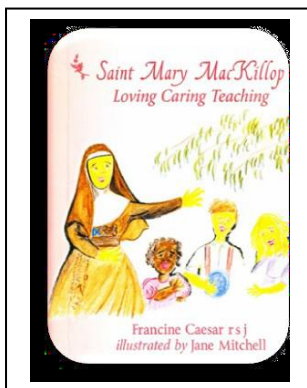
For catering purposes please phone St Joseph's Hostel on 3370 2600 if you are coming to this event.



## **Dates for your Diary**

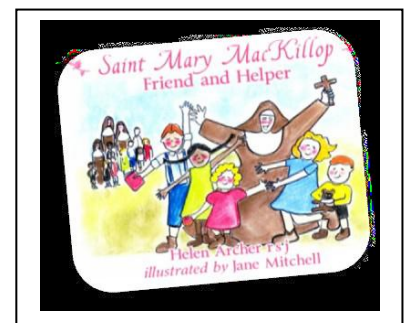
Rockhampton	1 October 2011
Clermont	8 October 2011
Moorooka	14 November 2011
Core Group meeting	6 February 2012, 16 April 2012, 4 June 2012, 3 September 2012

I urge you to try to attend your Associates meetings, especially if you could not attend them in 2011. What you receive from the friendship, prayer, service and sharing of the day is invaluable. You might even like to invite someone who could be interested in the Josephite Associate Movement!



## **HOT OFF THE PRESS**

2 New Publications by two of our own Queensland Josephites have recently been published. If you would like to purchase a copy please ring the Sisters of St Joseph Province Centre on 3266 1300 during office hours for more information.



## **BADGES**

You are invited to purchase your own personalised  
Associate Name Badge.

If you would like to purchase a badge, please fill in and return the slip to  
Sister Joan Finucane  
PO Box 243  
TAIGUM QLD 4018.

**Please print your name clearly**

Name to appear on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Magnetic Badge \$20.00

Pin Badge \$15.00

(Please enclose payment with order)

## **WELCOME TO OUR NEW ASSOCIATES**

There are many new Associates so a very big welcome to each of you.



*Sunset May 2006 Wikipedia 'Commons Free File'*

Yours sincerely,

*Joan Finucane*

Sister Joan Finucane (for the Core Group)

# Spring Reflection

Spring is a time of renewal and while others clean, which I might find a way to get my hands into from time to time, I reflect. I reflect on where we're at as a family, in our journey...and where we're heading. Are we in the right place, right city, state, school? Is this the right house? Enough "play dates"? Enough therapy, extra activities, enough time with me, outside, with extended family? Should I work outside of the home? Can I be a blogger / writer / advocate and still keep our home running? Is this the right medication? Right set of docs? Should I change the paint colour in his room? Where are we heading....?

So while winter passes into spring and buds turn to blossoms and green, I will take my reflections in stride. Reflections are not only looking at where we are and where we're going, but also where we've come from. And we've come a long way!

© Gina St. Aubin 2009

## A Prayer in Spring

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;  
And give us not to think so far away  
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here  
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,  
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by  
night; And make us happy in the happy  
bees, The swarm dilating round the perfect  
trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird  
That suddenly above the bees is heard,  
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,  
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.

For this is love and nothing else is love,  
The which it is reserved for God above  
To sanctify to what far ends He will,  
But which it only needs that we fulfil.

© Robert Frost January 03, 2003



## I Rise!

You may write  
me down in history  
With your bitter, twisted lies,  
You may trod me in the very dirt  
But still, like dust, I'll rise.

Just like moons and like suns,  
With the certainty of tides,  
Just like hopes springing high,  
Still I'll rise.

Did you want to see me broken?  
Bowed head and lowered eyes?  
Shoulders falling down like teardrops.  
Weakened by my soulful cries.

You may shoot me with your words,  
You may cut me with your eyes,  
You may kill me with your hatefulness,  
But still, like air, I'll rise.

Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear  
I rise. I rise. I rise.

© Maya Angelou 2003



## Reflection.....

Oh Lord my God, you know my heart, it is a castle, it has so many rooms for you to penetrate, to heal, to restore.

Oh Lord my God, penetrate the deepest parts of my being when I resist the power of change, of transformation.

Oh Lord my God, you are the potter fashioning me, my breathing, my loving, my walking.

Oh Lord my God, without you I am nothing, I am like a dead piece of flesh. With you, I live life, life and love and joy and power, with you I know that I am loved, cherished, you will never leave me nor forsake me.

Oh Lord my God, when anxiety or worry come into my mind, come stronger to me, like a strong hand, and wipe away all tears and help me to move those mountains, for Lord I believe, Yes Lord I believe.

© 2011 Dominique Watson  
Queensland Josephite Associate



Tarantula Nebula-HST. jpg

*From the pen of Mary MacKillop.....*

*"Have patience with yourselves when you see that you have failed and patience with others when they seem to have done so."*

(1874)



## (...a Resolution)

*I will not live an unlived life,  
I will not go in fear  
Of falling or catching fire,  
I choose to inhabit my days,  
To allow my living to open to me,  
To make me less afraid,  
More accessible,  
To loosen my heart  
Until it becomes a wing,  
A torch, a promise,  
I choose to risk my  
significance:  
To live,  
So that which came to  
me as a seed,  
Goes to the next  
blossom,*



*And that which came to me as a blossom  
Goes on as a fruit.*

© 1996 Davina MarKova, quoted by Slif,  
The Way of Wisdom p. 194

## A Blessing.....

May our hearts always be open to receive the seeds of wisdom for they are the gift of God.

May the seeds break into blossom, and may the blossom ripen into fruit.

That the seeds of life and love from all our yesterdays – our fruit for today – be the gift we pass on to tomorrow.

© 1996 Davina MarKova, quoted by Slif,  
The Way of Wisdom p. 194 adapted

