

# Josephite Associates

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Friendship  
Prayer  
Service

## Autumn 2012



### REFLECTION

"We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

This is what we are about...

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need development.

We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way,

an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest.

We are workers, not master builders,  
ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own. "

**Archbishop Oscar Romero**



We shared this reflection at a recent Associates' Leadership meeting. Archbishop Romero worked with the people of El Salvador to bring about God's kingdom. He spoke up for the poor and spoke out against violations of human rights. His words and actions resulted in him being assassinated in 1980.

Like Oscar Romero, Mary MacKillop contributed in many different ways to making the world a better place. Through establishing the Sisters of St Joseph with Fr Julian Tenison Woods she began an enterprise that was small in its beginnings but which has contributed to many people's lives being touched and many, including ourselves as Associates, being very aware of bringing the Good News alive in our spheres of influence. Archbishop Romero's words remind us that *together* we can make a difference and *together* we build on to what others have done before us.

This year, Whitefriars School at Woodville will celebrate 100 years of providing a Catholic education in the Josephite tradition for children in that area. I am very conscious that we, in 2012, share in a legacy that has spanned several generations. The seeds planted by those first Sisters, parishioners and parents one hundred years ago have been watered by the many who have continued the story since that time. We today in that community build on the foundations of all those who shared Jesus' story with the young children who have passed through the gates over that time.

Continued on page 2



Join us for a celebratory Reflection Day leading into the season of LENT  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

10.30 am for 11.00 am start through until approx 3.00 pm  
Bethany Hall, Province Centre, 4 High Street, Kensington

**Bring lunch to share**

Please contact Anne Slattery with numbers and if you need transport.  
Anne's telephone number is **8332 8232**. Anne has an answering machine,  
so please leave a message if Anne is not home. Alternatively you may  
email us at [sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au).

Continued from page 1

This story continues to be repeated in schools, nursing homes, parishes and other communities. We continue planting new seeds that will enable Jesus' message to propagate, and watering that which has gone before us. As we move through 2012 may we, in our homes and workplaces and communities, recall Oscar Romero's words that *"we cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it very well."*

Go make a difference wherever you are!

Mary Hemmings



*God's Blessing*

This year **Dianne Colborne**, who has been a co-chairperson on our Associates' Leadership team, is moving to Sydney. There she is entering into a time of discernment towards consecrated religious life with the Josephites.

We are grateful to Di for her contribution to our Associate movement and wish her well in the year ahead. We ask God's blessing on her and will keep her in our prayer as she enters this new time in her life's journey

*It is in love that God leads me,  
by love that God reproves me,  
by love that God lets me see  
love in all.*

MMK 1873

# My Profile

*Anne Slattery*



*Anne Slattery*

I was born at Largs Bay and am one of six children.

My primary schooling was at Semaphore Dominican Convent. I then attended Mount Carmel College at Rosewater for high school. This was my first connection with the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

When I moved to the Norwood area many years ago I came in contact with the Sisters of St Joseph again. I reconnected with some of the Sisters who had taught me at Mount Carmel some 35 years earlier. It was at this time that I started reading about Mary MacKillop, her life and spirituality.

I have been totally encouraged and inspired by Mary's story.

Over the last couple of years I have attended many Josephite events including the Mass and Reflection on the 8th of each month at Kensington.

I am very involved in the Norwood Parish and have been involved with the Parish Pastoral Council and the Liturgy Committee.

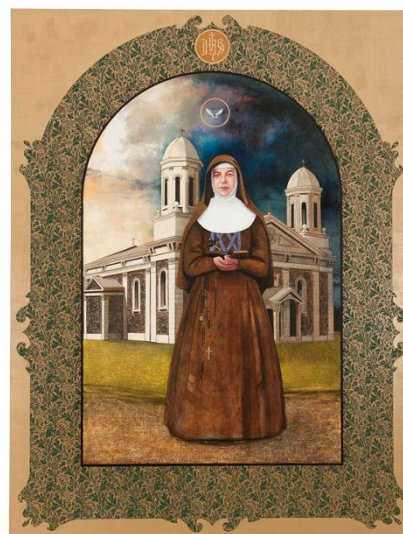
I also read when required and serve as a Eucharistic Minister. I have also prepared the PowerPoint presentations for the weekend Masses.

I have recently attended *A Taste of Theology* course and a subject in the *Certificate of Pastoral Liturgy* course at the Catholic Theological College.

I am very passionate about being involved in Josephite ministry and am looking forward to being part of the Josephite Associates Leadership Team in an endeavour to be able to share the Josephite charism with others.

## 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 Masses on the 8th of each month. If you would appreciate assistance in this way, please feel free to phone Anne Slattery on **8332 8232**. If no answer, please leave a message on the answering machine. Alternatively you may let one of the Committee members know.



A recent painting of Mary MacKillop at St Ignatius Church, Norwood by Peter Serwan

## OUR FOCUS FOR 2012:



Mary MacKillop  
Foundation

supporting small life changing projects

In 2012 the South Australian Associates will be raising money for the Mary MacKillop Foundation.

The Mary MacKillop Foundation is an Australian charity/non profit organisation founded by the Sisters of St Joseph.

From 1995 to 2010, the Foundation has funded over 300 "small life-changing projects", projects responding to the needs of rural and isolated communities, indigenous groups, people with disabilities and those forgotten by society. It supports projects throughout Australia, from metropolitan areas like Sydney to remote rural areas in The Kimberley, Western Australia.

The Foundation has funded Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Tertiary Scholarships for over a decade with 32 graduates up to 2011 and another 35 enrolled in 2012.

For more information about the Foundation visit <http://www.mackillopfoundation.org.au/>

On **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April from 2.00 to 4.00 PM**

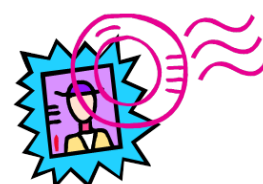
Sr Julianne Murphy rsj will be our guest speaker to talk about the Mary MacKillop Foundation and the Travelling Sisters Roadshow. Come along and hear Sr Julianne tell us about the wonderful works the Mary MacKillop Foundation does. If you would like to attend this informative session please telephone Anne Slattery on 8332 8232. Anne has an answering machine, so please leave a message if Anne is not home.



### 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 forwarded to:

**"Stamps for MMIM" PO Box 1508, North Sydney NSW 2059**





## News from the Mary MacKillop Centre



### Penola and the South East Pilgrimage – No 2 The weekend of 19-21 October 2012

Bookings are now being received.  
Don't miss out this time.

Phone Sr Patricia Keane at the  
Mary MacKillop Centre  
on 8364 5311 for more details.

#### **“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 Anne Slattery on  
**8332 8232** or email us at  
[sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au)

## *Mary MacKillop Prayer*

Ever generous God,

You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop  
to live her life faithful to the Gospel of  
Jesus Christ and constant in bringing  
hope and encouragement to  
those who were disheartened,  
lonely or needy.

With confidence in your generous  
providence and through the intercession  
of Saint Mary MacKillop

We ask that you grant our request.

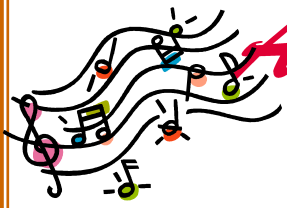
We ask that our faith and hope be  
fired afresh by the Holy Spirit  
so that we too, like Mary MacKillop,  
may live with courage, trust and  
openness.

Ever generous God hear our prayer.

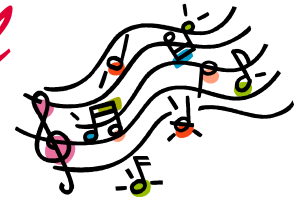
We ask this through Jesus Christ.

Amen.





# A Christmas Musical Evening



On Friday 16 December 2011 many Associates and friends attended the annual musical evening led by Sr Majella O'Sullivan.

During the evening we reminisced and shared stories about how we spent Christmas as children and tried to remember some of the special presents we received as children. I must say some very unusual stories came out!

Many of the favourite Christmas carols were sung with Majella's help.

It was a fun-filled evening with lots of laughter.

After a lovely supper we had a reflective

prayer service and the Christmas decorations were distributed. Each decoration that was presented to someone came with a blessing from the person who sent it.

A huge thank you must go to Mary Gill for her tinkling the ivories yet again and a special thank you to Majella for arranging the evening. (I think we would have been lost without her!)

It was a wonderful opportunity to take time out from the constant commercialism and hype from TV and radio to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas

It was a very enjoyable night well worth attending.

*Anne*



# DIARY DATES FOR 2012

## ◆ **St Mary MacKillop's Monthly Mass and Reflection**

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> of each month  
Time: 10.30 am (Mass) and 5.45 (Reflection)  
Place: Kensington Chapel  
286 Portrush Road, Kensington  
There will NOT be a reflection on the 8<sup>th</sup> April and 8<sup>th</sup> August.

## ◆ **Lenten Reflection Day**

Date: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2012  
Time: 11.00 am to 3.00 pm  
Place: Bethany Hall, Province Centre  
4 High Street, Kensington  
**Refer to page 2**

## ◆ **Mary MacKillop Foundation Travelling Sisters Roadshow with Sr Julianne Murphy rsj**

Date: Saturday 28 April 2012  
Time: 2.00 to 4.00 pm  
Place: Bethany Hall, Province Centre  
4 High Street, Kensington  
**Refer to page 4**

## ◆ **Annual Reports, Liturgy and High Tea to celebrate St Mary's Feast Day**

Date: Sunday 12 August 2012  
Time: 2.00 to 4.00 pm  
Place: Chapel and Bethany Hall, Province Centre  
4 High Street, Kensington

## ◆ **Day of Reflection**

**led by Sr Mary Cresp rsj**

Date: Saturday 27 October 2012  
Place: Jesuit Retreat Centre, Sevenhill  
More details to come

## ◆ **A Musical Evening**

**led by Sr Majella O'Sullivan rsj**

Date: TBA—some time in December  
Place: Bethany Hall, Province Centre  
4 High Street, Kensington  
More details to come



Keep up your courage.  
We do not live here forever

MMK 1890



# Mary's Way of the Cross

Like Mary we all have to endure the sufferings, limitations and hardships that loom up in life. They may flow from our family situation, ill-health, difficulties in relationships or loss of employment. We all know and struggle with such crosses. These are often very painful and lead us to re-examine the sufferings of Jesus in order to find healing.

However, Mary's dedication to the Cross went beyond this understanding. She writes to her mother in 1867:

*My name in religion is Mary of the Cross. No name could be dearer to me, so I must endeavour not to deserve it, for I cannot, but at least I must try not to disgrace it.*

Mary's life was dedicated to the crucified Jesus and to his dream.

*I feel that I should be equally interested in all that is dear to His heart. For this reason He often seems to show me that He wants a purely disinterested and generous love, a love which does not tie me in some thing more than another in His love.*

*That the Sisters must do all the good they can and never see an evil without trying how they may remedy it, and this for the glory of God, the good of souls and the prevention of sin in the world.*

She united her life to Jesus who lived his life in such a way that it led him to absolute self-giving. She seemed to identify with his dream expressed in these excerpts from a Eucharistic Prayer.

*Lord, our God.*

*We remember that wherever your Jesus came, men and women rediscovered their humanity, and so were filled with new riches, so that they could give one another new courage in their lives.*

*We remember how He spoke to people about a lost coin, a sheep that had strayed, a lost son, of all those who are lost and no longer count, out of sight, out of mind, the weak and the poor, all those who are captive, unknown, unloved.*

*We recall that He went to search for all who were lost, for those who are saddened and out in the cold, and how He always took their side, without forgetting the others.*

*And that cost him his life, because the might of the earth would not tolerate it. And yet, good God, almighty Father, He knew that He was understood and accepted by you, He saw himself confirmed by you in love.*



Extract from "Seasons of Grace Praying with Mary MacKillop"  
by Genevieve Ryan rsj - Used with permission