



WA Josephite Associates' Newsletter



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

We welcome 2012 as we continue to celebrate with Saint Mary MacKillop.

I thank each one for your generous donations and the support you have given to the Associates in 2011. These donations are used for photo copying, mailing and other expenses. It was a year of surprises. We were grateful for "The Travelling Sisters," which was a great adventure and it is coming again this year. A notice will be sent out in the future.

Best wishes for the blessings of Autumn,
From Sister Denise & Central Associate Committee – Meg, Fay, Margaret, Pat, Maureen, Dot & Mary
and all the Associate Committee members from other areas

A HEART FULL OF LOVE

"If you have love in your hearts you will have God with you."

- Mary MacKillop 1899

Mary MacKillop's heartbeat was in unison with the heartbeat of God. From here she drew the energy to be a heartbeat of God's love in the world, especially for those most disadvantaged in our society. She herself described this in 1907 saying,

*"When storms rage, when persecutions or danger threaten,
I quietly creep into the deep abyss of its (God's) heart;
and securely sheltered there, my soul is at peace."*

(Mary MacKillop – A Window of Hope)

SR ELIZABETH MURPHY'S PLATINUM (70 YEARS) JUBILEE



An air of excitement pervaded at Margaret Hubery House on the Sunday afternoon of January 29th when family, Sisters, Associates, past pupils and friends of Sr Elizabeth gathered to celebrate her 70 years of Religious Profession.

Sr Pauline Morgan, WA Province Leader, welcomed the guests, some of whom came from interstate and even one from overseas. As the guests mingled they were invited to partake of the refreshments catered by, and attractively presented by Associate, Frank Carr.

Rita O'Connor spoke of the qualities of Mary (Sr Elizabeth), her eldest sister, that influenced the family over many years. One of Elizabeth's nieces told of the great love that the nieces and nephews had of their Aunty Mary. Sr Joan spoke on behalf of the Sisters and reminisced about just some of the significant events of Elizabeth's life as a Sister of St Joseph

A very entertaining interlude followed the speakers. The past pupils, among whom were many Associates, of St Gertrude's College New Norcia where Sr Elizabeth had been Head Teacher for 17

years, recited two poems viz "Hist!" by C J Dennis and "Tarantella" by Hilaire Belloc. The influence of their teacher was evident, as in spite of the lapse of many years the correct rhythm and expression of the recital were remembered. Two hymns by Dom Moreno OSB, Sponsa Christi and Adore Te Devote, favourites of Sr Elizabeth, were sung most harmoniously.

Family and Sisters assisted Sr Elizabeth in cutting the Jubilee cake made and decorated by Sr Margaret Culhane. The cake was iced in the shape of a book, and words of congratulation and a quote from the Magnificat were inscribed on it.



In conclusion, Sr Eileen Lenihan from the Congregational Leadership Team asked those present to join her in a prayer of blessing for Elizabeth and her Sister Jubilarians in other parts of Australia and New Zealand.

The large number of guests present was a tribute to Sr Elizabeth. Her witness to a long life of dedicated service to God and God's people was still impacting on the people of today.

- Sr Joan Luff

Helper pays tribute to those who helped her

■ Tayissa Barone

Sister Margaret Culhane of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart will be taking some time today to remember those she has helped and more importantly, she says, all those that have enabled her to carry out her humanitarian work in some of the world's most dangerous locations.

Sister Margaret entered the convent 17 years ago after two years as a primary school teacher.

She says her decision to enter the convent was "one of those mysterious things" which has given her many opportunities to help out in the community.

"I know I would not have had the opportunities if I hadn't chosen to be a Josephite," she said.

Sister Margaret has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for her service to the international community, in particular refugees from Asia and Africa as well as services to women



Humbled: Sister Margaret Culhane

and as an educator. She spent nearly five years in Africa helping people in refugee camps in Uganda and Kenya in the mid to late 1990s and more recently travelled to the Philippines and East Timor to help out.

Sister Margaret said she ultimately shared any recognition with those who have helped over the years.

"The reason why I accepted this award was to remember all the people I have worked with, it hasn't just been me, and they've also supported me with their prayers in dangerous situations," she said.

"You can't do this type of work, especially in a foreign country without the support back home."

AUSTRALIA DAY LINK TO MARY MACKILLOP

Three Sisters of Saint Joseph on this Australia Day received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) awards.

Sister Maria Casey received hers for her service to the community as Postulator for the Canonisation of Mary MacKillop, and to the Catholic Church in Australia.

Sister Margaret Culhane of the Western Australian Province received her award for her service to the international community, particularly refugees from Asia and Africa, to women and as an educator.

Sister Mary Leahy from the New South Wales Province received her award for services to pastoral care as chaplain of the Stella Maris Apostleship of the Sea.

The Brick

A young successful executive was travelling down a neighbourhood street, going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar. He was watching for kids darting out from between the parked cars and slowed down.

When he thought he saw something, as his car passed no children appeared. Instead a brick smashed into the Jag's side door. He slammed on the brakes



and backed the Jag back to the spot where the brick had been thrown. The angry driver then jumped out of the car, grabbed

the nearest kid and pushed him up against a parked car shouting, "What was that all about and who are you? Just what the heck are you doing? That's a new car and that brick you threw is going to cost a lot of money. Why did you do it?" The young boy was apologetic. "Please, mister ... please, I'm sorry but I didn't know what else to do," he pleaded! I threw the brick because no one else would stop! With tears dripping down his face and off his chin, the youth pointed to a spot just around a parked car. "It's my brother," he said "He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up."

Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive, "Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt he's too heavy for me."

Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat. He hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy back into the wheelchair, then took out his linen handkerchief and dabbed at the fresh scrapes and cuts. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay.

"Thank you and may God bless you," the grateful child told the stranger. Too shook up for words, the man simply watched the boy push his wheelchair-bound brother down the sidewalk towards their home.

It was a long slow walk back to the Jaguar. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver never bothered to repair the dented side door. He kept the dent there to remind of this message, "Don't go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at you to get your attention!" God whispers in our souls and speaks to our hearts. Sometimes when we don't have time to listen, He has to throw a brick at us. It's our choice to listen or not.

Thought for the day ...

If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it.

If he had a wallet, your photo would be in it.

He sends you flowers every spring

He sends you a smile every morning. Face it, friend - He is crazy about you.



God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day, comfort for tears, and light for the way.

Read this line very slowly and let it sink in ...

If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.



GONE TO GOD

Andrew Groat (husband of Victoria Mary from Esperance

John Squire (husband of Mary Squire (McInnes)

Father Hubie Kelly

REST IN PEACE

WA JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES' SEASONAL GATHERINGS 2012

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2012 (in Elizabeth Murphy Room)

10am Thursday on 24th May (followed by lunch with the Sisters)

10am Thursday on 23rd August (followed by lunch with the Sisters)

10am Thursday on 22nd November (followed by Christmas lunch)

SOUTH PERTH GATHERINGS FOR 2012 (in Chapel and Function Room)

Lenten/Autumn Gathering: 11th March at 2:30pm to 5pm

Winter Gathering: 10th June at 2:30pm to 5pm

Spring Gathering: 9th September at 2:30pm to 5pm

Advent Christmas Gathering: 9th December at 2:30pm to 5pm

All very welcome

JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES S.W AREA

Autumn/Lenten Gathering - Formation Day on 7th March

Eucharist: 9am Dardanup Church, followed by Morning tea at Prayer House

Presenter: Sr Pauline Morgan ' Study of The Josephite Handbook' ... Followed by:

Guest Speaker: Sr Julianne Murphy of the *Travelling Sisters*

Inquiries: Annette – Ph 97971156 or Nancy – Ph 97281037



☺ *Associates please bring your Handbooks*

☺ *Sr Julianne will share her experiences as a Travelling Sister*

☺ *Lunch will follow – please bring a plate of finger food to share please*

All very welcome

INVITATION

The Travelling Sisters visit the Mary MacKillop Centre

The van is about to set out for its 2012 journey around Australia. Sr Julianne Murphy will be presenting two sessions on 9th March.

This is a special opportunity to chat with Sister Julianne Murphy who will share some of her experiences as a Travelling Sister.

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

Where: Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, Sth Perth

When: Session 1: 2.00pm followed by 3.30pm a'noon tea
or

Session 2: 7.00pm followed by 8.30pm supper

RSVPs essential before Friday 2nd March to:

Laura McCarthy 9334 0999 or email:

lmccarthy@sosjwa.org.au

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



MARY MACKILLOP FOUNDATION announce the 2012

"BREAKFAST IN THE PARK" INVITATION



When: 8am Saturday 10 March 2012

Where: Charles Patterson Park, Burswood

Bring: \$15 for brekkie, chairs, tables, blankets, umbrellas, sun screen, smiles!

RSVP: Before Friday 2nd March to:

- Laurie Mayne: 9271 5649, ljmayne@optusnet.com.au

- John McCormack: 9383 2615, johnmccormack@westnet.com.au

- Kerry Katich: 9296-4945, kkatich@aapt.net.au

☺ *Guest Speaker*

*Julianne Murphy rsj
from the Travelling Sisters*

☺ *Free raffle on entry*

☺ *Chrysanthemums for Mother's Day and other plants in pots*

☺ *Same location in Patterson Park as last year*

☺ *Same chefs, friendly people, warm weather*

☺ *Just smell the food and follow your nose and signs !!!*

