

WINTER
2012



WA Josephite Associates' Newsletter



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

Thanks to each one for your contribution to the WA Josephite Associates. We are now entering into winter, this being a time for Friendship ... Prayer ... Service, also Mary's month; let us take some time to pray for each other as we journey on our way. Thanks to all who have sent donations, it has been put to good use and most appreciated. Best wishes for the blessings of Winter ...

from Sr Denise & Central Associate Committee – Meg, Fay, Margaret, Pat, Maureen, Dot & Mary and all the Associate Committee members from other areas ...

TAKE COURAGE (Adapted from Sirach 2:1-6)



*All-good God, it is fitting that the word courage comes from the French word for 'heart'.
May we be of good and strong heart in all things and recall your words:
Those who serve God must be ready to be tested.
Set your heart in the right direction and be strong.
In times of disaster, do not weaken.
Gold is always tested in fire.
Trust God, and God will help you.
Hold firm to the good, and hope in God.
May our heart be set in the right direction.
Help us to hold firm and be people of goodness and hope.*



DARDANUP GATHERING (7MARCH 2012)

The gathering began with Eucharist celebrated by Fr Wayne Bendotti, followed by morning tea at the Dardanup Prayer House. Twenty people came together to welcome our presenters Sr Pauline Morgan rsj, Provincial Leader of WA and Sr Julianne Murphy rsj of the 'Travelling Sisters'.

Sr Pauline's presentation (see next page) was on the core values of the Josephite Associate Movement of Friendship, Prayer and Service. We were invited to share with others our experiences of ...



FRIENDSHIP: received or offered. Sr Pauline spoke of the Covenant Josephite: a new movement which is evolving and being discerned by the Sisters at this time, also about the Federation Sisters of St Joseph in Tasmania coming together with the Central Josephite Sisters on 24th May 2012, and Sr Elizabeth Murphy's Platinum (70 years) Jubilee, and her visionary concept of Josephite Associates in 1983. From this people shared their individual stories of what influenced them to become part of the Josephite Associate Movement.

PRAYER: Discussion followed on the mass readings of the day: Jeremiah 18: 18-20, Psalm 30, Matthew 20: 17 – 28. From this we discussed what the readings said to us in our lives today. Sharing continued reflecting on the scripture from the Romans 11: 16... 'the first handful of dough is made holy ...' and 'you are a letter of Christ ...' 2 Corinthians 3 : 2-3. With further sharing - in what way was Mary MacKillop a letter from Christ to others ? And in what way are we

as Josephite Associates letters from Christ to others? We finished with a prayer of gratitude.

SERVICE: Sr Pauline spoke of the Travelling Sisters who journey to many parts of Australia raising awareness of small life changing projects initiated by the Mary MacKillop Foundation.

We looked at our own every day service to others and at actions and decisions we could take away from this informative and thought provoking time together.

OUR FUTURE: as time was limited it was decided to leave discussion on this very important topic for another gathering in the near future.

Sr Julianne Murphy rsj - ' Travelling Sisters': Sr Julianne related her experiences of 2011, travelling 30,000 km's throughout Australia, visiting 109 schools and speaking to various groups promoting the M.M Foundation which began in 1995. She presented an informative and humorous power point display for us of her travels and the people she has met, with delightful anecdotes children have provided along the way.

A national appeal , the Green and Gold Day, is to be held for the MM Foundation on 27/07/12.

Sr Pauline was thanked for giving us the opportunity to consider our Josephite commitment in regard to Friendship, Prayer and Service in our lives, and Sr Julianne for contributing in a delightful way to our gathering today and was given a donation on behalf of the Josephite Associates of the South West, to contribute towards the works of the MM Foundation.

- Annette Morellini



(from Sr Pauline's handout) *Josephite Associates ... Friendship ... Prayer ... Service*

Stories of Friendship ...

... Tasmanian Sisters ... Covenant Josephites ... Sr Elizabeth Murphy ...
... Listen to each other's stories of friendship offered and/or received ...

Prayer

1. Today's readings
2. Further reflections ...

"A whole batch of bread is made holy if the first handful of dough is made holy" Rom 11.16

The first handful of dough: ...

"You are a letter from Christ, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on stone tablets, but on the tablets of your living hearts" 2 Cor 3:2-3

In what ways was Mary MacKillop a "letter from Christ" for us?

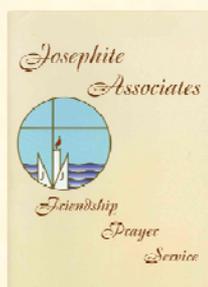
In what ways are Associates "letters from Christ" to others?

3. Prayer of Gratitude: to remember all the "little Easters" of our lives



Service ... Travelling Sisters ... Mary MacKillop Foundation ... Our everyday service ... Decisions and actions taken from our time together today ...

Our Future (Handbook page 15)



- ☺ *The future is not some place we are going, but one we are creating.*
- ☺ *The paths to it are not found but made.*
- ☺ *The making of those paths changes both the maker and the destination.*

- ⇒ What are we creating as Associates in this area?
- ⇒ What else would we like to create?
- ⇒ How are we being changed?
- ⇒ What else would we like to change?





SNIPPETS FROM ESPERANCE

The people from Esperance have a gathering each fortnight. Thanks to Helen (Johnston) for the interest she takes to get these Associates together.

This is a short extract from the Esperance gathering in April:

*'Welcome to April 19th gathering, It certainly has been a very busy time since our last meeting, sharing the Principles of being an Associate of **Friendship: Prayer: and Service:***

Many of the parishioners gave of their time and talents assisting with the Easter Liturgy being so successful. Our congregation was swelled by the presence of many visitors, who enjoyed the choral and visual enhancements to the liturgy.

Thanks to all the Associates who assisted with the Stations of the Cross and of course the Easter preparations.

Congratulations are extended to Sheena & Charlie Kendall on the occasion of their **60th Wedding Anniversary**. May both continue to enjoy God's Blessings in their lives.'

SNIPPETS FROM MEG PHELAN

On a recent visit to Esperance I was pleased to be able to contact long time Associate, Helen Johnston. She advised me that there are 35 members in their group and many are active in the Parish affairs.

They arrange morning tea after Mass, collect stamps in support of Peru. Regular meetings ensure that the group is kept busy promoting Mary MacKillop. The possibility of gathering of representatives of all our group were mentioned, and we felt that a sharing of ideas and experiences would be both beneficial and encouraging.



Pictures taken at the Autumn Gathering, South Perth

The Central Committee members are following up moves to invite members of the next generation to join us in the cause. Three attended our Autumn gathering and we are hoping to interest more in the future. We need youth and enthusiasm as well as age and wisdom!



Meanwhile our Autumn gathering was well attended and people enjoyed themselves so much that many were reluctant to leave. It is such a pleasure to be part of our Josephite family.

GONE TO GOD

Denis Cole (Safety Bay)

REST IN PEACE



TWO CONGREGATIONS OF SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH NOW ONE

Easter week brought great news for two Congregations of Sisters of St Joseph when a Decree arrived from Rome approving the request that the Sisters of St Joseph Tasmania merge with the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Both Congregations are delighted that, 146 years after the founding of the original Congregation in Penola, and 125 years after the founding of the Tasmanian Congregation, they are now together as one Congregation. Archbishop Adrian Doyle of Hobart gave his wholehearted support and blessing to the Tasmanian Sisters' desire to be part of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Sister Anne Derwin agreed wholeheartedly with the words of Archbishop Tobin of the Vatican when he thanked Sister Jill Dance and the Tasmanian Sisters 'for (their) courage, determination and perseverance in following this process towards communion, in response to the Holy Spirit.' Sister Jill Dance said that 'the Sisters in Tasmania have been wanting this union for a long time and were so excited to receive the news that the Vatican had approved it in a solemn decree dated the Feast of St Joseph.'

The Sisters of St Joseph look forward to ritualising the union of the two Congregations during Mass in Holy Trinity Church Westbury Tasmania on 24th May. This Mass will celebrate 125 years since the Sisters of St Joseph arrived in Tasmania. (taken from SOSJ website 7/5/12)



*Srs Anne Derwin & Jill Dance
meet the Pope during World Youth Day*

WA JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES' SEASONAL GATHERINGS 2012

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2012 (Please note new venue: The Function 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)



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

Feast Day: *Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop – Saint for Australia*

When: Wednesday 8th August

Eucharist: 9am, followed by morning tea at the House of Prayer

Where: Church of the Immaculate Conception – Dardanup

Enquiries: Annette - 9797 1156 Nancy - 9728 1037

Please bring a plate to share.

All very welcome !

