

Josephite Associates

* Friendship * Prayer * Service

Winter Newsletter

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

June, 2012

Dear Associates,



From the pen of Mary MacKillop

God won't ask you how others do the work committed to them but will ask you how you have done yours and in what spirit.

The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was celebrated this year on June 15. As we know Mary MacKillop had a special devotion to the Sacred Heart. This was a passage of a blessing that was sent to the Sisters from Sydney:

*“ May the hospitable heart of God be reflected in the welcome we give to each other and to the unknown, the immigrant and new neighbours.
May the concerned heart of God be reflected in the generosity of peoples, especially in times of war and natural disaster.
May the comforting heart of God be reflected in our care of the sick and the dying.”*

A fantastic weekend was shared at the end of April with Associates from all over Queensland who assembled at Nundah. Much was shared and we heard from each of the group about what happens in their area. We even had some personal reflections shared by an individual Associate, Bernadette Roche. Bernadette's input has since been placed on the www.sosj.org.au website. Go to NEWS AND EVENTS and scroll down; at present it is on the top of Page 2. Also see the article and Information sheet on pages 5 and 6.

Mary MacKillop Connecting Day 29 July 9.00am-3.30pm

This will be on at the O'Shea Centre 19 Lovedale St, Wilston. The theme for the day will be "Exploring Mary MacKillop's God and our Legacy". The day will be presented by Sister Ann Gilroy rsj. Registration \$25.00 Morning tea and lunch included. All welcome. Please register ASAP for planning purposes. Phone the Josephite Administration Centre on 07 3266 1300 or email sosjadminqld1@bigpond.com if you can attend. Look forward to seeing you. A brochure on this upcoming event has been included in this posting OR can be viewed at the end of this newsletter if you are receiving via electronic email.

Yours sincerely,

Joan Finucane

Sister Joan Finucane (for the Core Group)

SPECIAL PEOPLE TO REMEMBER

Please pray for those associates or family members who are ill especially Tony Finlay and Jill Gannon.

Please remember to pray for those associates who are still out of their homes since the last flood and also remember those who need our prayers.

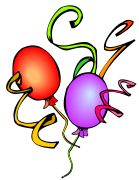


(chinaaid.org)



We also remember those near to us who have died:
Sister Zita Thomson and Mrs Pat Daniels from Salisbury

unknown



Happy Birthday



Birthday greetings to Lyn, Sheila, and Ina who all celebrated 90 and 91 respectively recently. Keep celebrating Cairns and thanks for keeping in touch.

CALENDARS



The 2013 calendar will go to print shortly. If you do not want to miss out please fill in the order form at the end of this newsletter and return same to Sister Joan Finucane by 1 October, 2012.



ASSOCIATES RETREAT

1 September 2012

Nolan Hall, Leslie Street, NUNDAH,

commencing at 10.00am and concluding at 2.00 pm

Mark this date on your calendar. We would love to see as many as possible come to this great day out. Plenty of time for prayer and reflection as well as a chance to socialise and catch up over morning tea and lunch.

To assist with catering please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea **OR** lunch.

Please ring Sister Joan on 0417763572 if you are coming to the Retreat Day

Mary MacKillop Day
Celebration

The Mary MacKillop Day celebration will be held on
August 5, commencing at 2.00 pm.

Our celebration will be held in the Chapel at
67 Bage Street, Nundah and will take the form
of a ritual followed by afternoon tea.

For catering purposes you will need to RSVP by 1st August.
Please forward your acceptance to:
Sister Joan Finucane
P.O. Box 243 Taigum 4018

I WILL BE ATTENDING MARY MACKILLOP'S DAY:

NAME ----- Number attending: -----

Alternatively you can ring the following phone numbers and leave your
details. Province Centre: 3266 1300
Sister Joan Finucane: 041 776 35 72

DONATIONS TOWARD EXPENSES

If you are able to assist with a \$20.00 donation to help assist with funds required to run the associates I would be very grateful. Larger amounts would also be well received. If you are unable to give a \$20 donation, please continue to support through your group meetings. As you know the associates are mainly funded by the Sisters of St Joseph and through donations from some associates. In the current economic climate it is becoming extremely difficult to cover costs and your donations will help keep the Associates Movement going. Every little bit counts. All donations can be forwards to the following address:



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

OR

Direct Debit to
BSB - 064-163
Acc No: 1019504
MCSQL - Josephite Affiliation

(www.squidoo.com)

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

Do you have an EMAIL Address?

If you have an email address we can send your newsletter to you via email. This would greatly cut down costs for postage and stationery. Please help us out by forwarding your email address through to Sister Joan at the following address and we will add you to our list. Many thanks for your assistance with this request.

joanfin1@bigpond.com



JOSEPHITE WEBSITE

The Sisters' website 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

These websites are extremely interactive and should give you hours of fun exploring.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

To be held on the fifth Sunday during the months on:
29 July and 30 September.

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: St Joseph's Hostel
Chapel

67 Bage Street, Nundah

Followed by light refreshments.

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



ASSOCIATES' GATHERING AT NUNDAH

27 -29 APRIL, 2012

Thirty-four people attended the Associates' Gathering on the weekend of April 27 – 29. Group leaders from all areas of Queensland had been invited to attend. It was unfortunate that some areas could not be represented. It was an energizing and inspirational time with Sister Monica Cavanagh as the facilitator.

The energy throughout the sessions was contagious. We were blessed to have such a dedicated group gather together. The love of Mary MacKillop and her charism was evident as was the love of Sisters of St Joseph who had been significant in associates' lives. Some of the retired Sisters, who live at Nundah, joined the gathering at morning tea and lunch to renew old friendships.

On the evening of the first night, Sister Moya Campbell, Qld Province leader addressed all gathered giving some background to the challenges facing the Sisters of St Joseph today which will create challenges for the Associate Movement.

Day one began with an inspirational and educational PowerPoint presentation by Sister Monica titled: *Drawing from the Wisdom of Mary MacKillop*. This was followed by an interesting overview of the Josephites Associate Movement internationally.

In the afternoon each group presented information and photos about their region's meetings and activities. These included: Caboolture, Cairns, Allora, Southside of the River, Townsville. Rockhampton, Miles, Clermont, Blackall and a personal reflection from Bernadette Roche. (This has been posted on the sosj website.) To conclude this session, the Core Group made a presentation of their role, structure and membership.

The final sessions of the day clustered around the topics: *Looking to the future – Where to from here? The Way Forward and Hopes for the Future*. Many ideas emerged during these sessions.

On Sunday, some associates travelled to the Mary MacKillop Shrine at St Stephens Cathedral and visited the Mary MacKillop Centre at Annerley.

There is hardly need to mention that throughout the weekend, the hospitality, catering and care were excellent. A special 'thank you' is extended to the associates who provided most of the catered food.

A set of four Information Sheets has been prepared to send out to you for your information and reflection. They are based on the information and discussions of the Associate Gathering on April 27 – 29.

Information Sheet 1 Main points from the address by Sister Moya Campbell

Information Sheet 2 The Wider Josephite Movement

Information Sheet 3 Looking to the Future

Information Sheet 4 The Way Forward and Hopes for the Future.

The first is printed below.



ASSOCIATES GATHERING INFORMATION SHEET 1



Main points of the address by Sister Moya Campbell Queensland Province Leader:

This gathering was a follow-on from the Associate Conference in Sydney in 2011 from which emerged the following:

- The need to clarify types of self-governance for the Associate Movement
 - The need to plan for transition—succession planning towards self-governance in the Movement
 - The need to clarify the role of the Sisters of St Joseph in the transition and beyond.
1. The task is one of sustaining the Associate Movement into the future. There are major actions taking place in the Congregation governance at present:
 - the transfer of the governance of the Mary MacKillop College to Brisbane Catholic Education,
 - the decision to close out Aged Care facilities and transfer our Hostel and Nursing Home residents to the Sisters of Mercy Aged Care at Nudgee
 - a future configuration of our Provinces which have traditionally been State based.
 2. Challenges for the future:
 - Governance of the Association—becoming self-governing
 - Relationship of the Associates with the Sisters of St Joseph
 - How to belong to the wider group of associates throughout Australia
 - How to network with these groups—to be partners with them
 - The need for the ongoing in-depth formation in the three aspects of prayer, friendship and service—as well as living the spirit of Mary MacKillop
 - i. Friendship - all inclusive, with a mission focus: friendship because we share a common mission focus
 - ii. Service - Ministry: look at local area and areas already formed - e.g. Young people in Sydney. There is a need for a consensus about what the group will do
 - iii. Prayer – how we do this? – who provides resources?
 - Who decides who becomes an associate?
 - What is the formation process?
 - What is the code of ethics an associate lives out?
 - Communication and networking amongst ALL associates
 - Organisation of finances for the Movement's communication and co-ordination.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW ASSOCIATES

To all our new associates we say a very big welcome to each of you.

MARY MACKILLOP AND THE YEAR OF GRACE.

Pilgrimage Experience

When: 20-23 August, 2012

The pilgrimage will invite each pilgrim to engage with the three key elements for the Year of Grace - Contemplatio, Communio and Missio as we contemplate the face of Christ in the life of St Mary MacKillop.

The Pilgrimage has been organised by Sr Diane Phillips and Sr Monica Cavanagh and will include:

- Monday:** Visits to Annerley Centre, Cathedral and Shrine, South Brisbane and Kangaroo Point.
- Tuesday:** Visit to Gympie and Maryborough - stay overnight in Maryborough
- Wednesday:** Visit to Bundaberg and Childers - stay overnight in Maryborough
- Thursday:** Visit to Nundah and Nudgee Cemetery.

There are only 35 seats available on the bus so if you are interested please contact Fran Tribe at the Province Office - 32661300 or email adminsosj1@bigpond.com and you will be sent further details.

Costs: \$100 per pilgrim with extra costs for some meals as well as accommodation costs at the motel.

(Check with Fran Tribe 3266 1300 for details about motel costs)

CLOSING SOON

In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop **Australian Pilgrimage 2012**

24 October - 3 November, 2012

for further details contact Sister Genevieve at the Mary MacKillop Centre Annerley by phoning 3848 1635 during business hours

Dates for your Diary

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Cairns | 2 nd Friday of each month Mater Dei 10.00 am |
| Pittsworth | 2 nd Tuesday of month 1.30 Presbytery |
| South of the River | August 13, Nov 12. |
| Townsville | 8 th of each month 5.30pm at Mundingburra |
| Core Group meeting | 3 September 2012 |

MEET YOUR CORE GROUP MEMBERS

The Josephite Core Group is made up of 9 members. Sister Joan Finucane is the coordinator with Carmel Baillie, Cath Finlay, Linda Schostakowski, Marie Sellin, Petra Milaudi and Shirley O’Ryan, making up our lay members. Sister Janet McDougall represents MacKillop Community Services and Sister Monica Cavanagh represents the Provincial Leadership Team of Queensland. To help you get to know more about these people we have included a brief profile on some of them for your information.

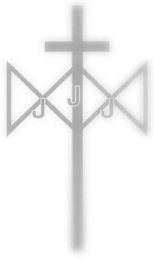
SISTER JOAN FINUCANE: I work with a wonderful group of people called the associates. I also work in ministering our Aged Care Facilities at Nundah and Wavell Heights. I have been privileged to be the Associate Coordinator for Queensland since 1988. I have always been inspired by the many associates who minister and work in their local areas.

CATH FINLAY: I have been a Josephite Associate since 1990, first in NSW and for the past 16 years in Queensland. I am a school teacher and currently working at St Kevin’s School Geebung, where I am also a member of the Leadership team. I have been organising the Newsletter for the past 4 years. I was born and bred in the Western suburbs of Sydney, growing up in Lidcombe. I later moved to live in beautiful Port Macquarie until coming to Queensland in 1997. I have a deep association with the Josephites through my beloved aunty, who was Sister Elizabeth Finlay.

LINDA SCHOSTAKOWSKI: I was born, raised and went to school in Richmond N.Q. and was taught by the Sisters of St Joseph. They were a very strong influence in my life. I have also tried to keep in contact with the Sisters and see Sister Bernadette Barlow (who taught me) regularly at Nundah. It is such a joy and honour for me to be able to “give back” to serve on this Core Group as my way of being able to, in some small way, honour those Sisters. Over the years I have learned so much more about them and Mary MacKillop. I pray that I may continue to be able to do this service for as long as I am ‘called’ to do so.

MARIE SELLIN: My name is Marie Sellin and I grew up in Caboolture. My mother, Rita, taught at St Peter's school there for many years. I went to high school at Mt St Joseph's, Nundah which is now called Mary MacKillop College. So I have had an association with the Sisters of St Joseph for about 50 years! I have been teaching all my adult life - many in Josephite schools. At the present time I am living in my unit at Nundah and teaching Year 2 at Bray Park which is near Strathpine. So there is never a dull moment.

PETRA MILAUDI: I was delighted to be asked to be a part of the Core Group two years ago, to ‘work’ alongside a great team of fellow associates. I work in aged care as Customer Liaison and Pastoral Care. I have recently returned from my second trip to East Timor and enjoy living and serving through a personal life commitment to ministry.



2013 JOSEPHITE CALENDARS

Please send orders to: Sister Joan Finucane

P.O. Box 243

TAIGUM QLD. 4018

Phone: (07) 3865 1837

E-mail: joanfin1@bigpond.com

Please send me _____ Calendars @ \$6.00 each. \$ _____

Plus postage and handling (bulk orders are by weight.

Refer below for costs) \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ E-mail: _____

I have enclosed a cheque/money order made payable to Sisters of St Joseph.

Orders must be received by: 1 October, 2012

PLEASE TICK

PICK-UP NUNDAH CONVENT

PICK-UP ANNERLEY – MARY MacKILLOP CENTRE

POST

<u>Postage and Handling Costs:</u>		
1	Calendar	\$ 3.00
2-3	Calendars	\$ 7.00
4-6	Calendars	\$ 10.00
7-12	Calendars	\$ 14.00
13-18	Calendars	\$ 16.00
19 or over	Calendars	\$ 18.00

A Winter Reflection

Winter is truly a glorious season yet many of us tend to dread those cold months. Perhaps this is because the biting weather causes one to hibernate in our homes at the expense of leisurely outdoor pursuits. Or maybe it's the dark, long wintry nights that over-shadow our days of sunshine that we despise.

Winter can be a wonderful time of year though. There is nothing quite as beautiful as meandering on a late winter's afternoon in the countryside. The air is crisp and bracing, carrying the sweet smell of damp bark in its whistling whisper. Trees are bare with reaching black branches, hauntingly silhouetted against the sky.

As you wander through the secluded trail it is as though God and you are at one; God personified in the perfect nature that abounds in all its splendour. You inhale profoundly to fill your lungs with this scene; the exhilarating, wholesome atmosphere leaves you with a sense of complete calm. Cheeks are stiff and aglow, the cool breeze whipping around your face with gentle strokes, as if touched by the hand of God. Senses are alive; tantalized by this winter wonderland.

There is little more satisfying than returning home, invigorated by nature's conspiracy to tickle and hearten your soul, to the warm comfort of home. Winter affords one the indulgence to gather around the hearth, encompassing a roaring log fire; the flickering flames of bright orange, red and yellow reminding one of the enchantments of the winter sun.

The kettle whines through the snapping sound of the fire, throbbing with dignity in its place as the centre of the family haven. Winter is a time to thaw into a steaming mug of rich hot chocolate, its velvety luxury soothing away your woes.

Indeed, winter is a joyous interruption from the stagnant heat of the summer.

© Yvette Durham (February 2008)

Winter Prayer and Meditation

God of all creation, of bare forest and low northern skies,
of paths unknown and never to be taken, of bramble, sparrow and damp, dark
earth. We thank you for loss, for the breaking of the dimming year,
We thank you for light, even in its seeming midwinter failing,
We thank you for life, for its hope and resistance,
Like a seed dying and living.

-Rachel Mann

(*Winter Solstice Prayers: Bead One, Bead Too*)

A Winter Rosary

A Midwinter Prayer

[Say the first two lines on the *Our Father* beads and the rest on the decade beads]

**From the rising of the midwinter sun to its setting,
Scatter the darkness with the light of your love, O Shining One.**
Make me short on mean thoughts, long on offers words of comfort.
Make me short on being driven, long on paying attention.
Make me short on focusing only on my own, long on looking beyond.
Make me short on obsessive lists, long on spontaneous acts of kindness,
Make me short on mindless activity, long on time to reflect.
Make me short on tradition as a habit, long on rediscovery
and re-owning.
Make me short on rushing a tiring, long on walking and wondering.
Make me short on false, festive jollity, long on stilling and rooted joy.
Make me short on guilt, long on being merciful to myself.
Make me short on being overwhelmed, long on being at peace as I set forth
this day.

(-from "*The Celtic Wheel of the Year*" by Tess Ward © 2007)

Winter Solstice Prayer

Thank you, God, for giving me life so that I may explore the darkness and the Light.

Thank you for the cycle of creation.

Thank you for my breath, my heart, my body and my mind.

Thank you for the Light of my soul, where, though I sometimes forget, I long to always be.

(–Excerpt taken from “*Winter Solstice Prayer to the Inner Child*” by Nancy Swisher © 2006)

15 June: Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Novena Prayer to the Sacred Heart

(To be said each day)

Lord Jesus, the needs of your people open your heart in love to each of us.

You care for us when we are lost,
sympathise with us in loneliness
and comfort us in mourning.

You are closest to us when we are weakest.

You love us most when we love ourselves least;

You forgive us most when we forgive ourselves least;

You call us to spread your love in whatever way we can.

Lord Jesus, your heart is moved with compassion when we are suffering,
when we need your help and when we pray for each other.

I ask you to listen to my prayer during this novena,
and grant what I ask (*make your request silently*).

If what I ask is not for my own good and the good of others,
grant me always what is best for me,
that I may build up your kingdom of love in our world.

Amen.

DID YOU KNOW?????

The foresight of the late Sr Campion Roche rsj, who stashed Mary MacKillop’s belongings under her bed and in her cupboards for safekeeping, was rewarded when strands of Mary’s hair, taken from a locket, were presented to Pope Benedict as official relics during the canonisation of Australia’s first Saint.



It is not known who originally took the strands of hair and kept them in the locket, but they have been in the Order’s archive since the 1960s. The Sister who kept guard over Mary’s things was Sr Campion Roche. “She kept a lot of it under her bed and was instrumental in getting Mary’s



letters transcribed and pushing for the Cause (for Sainthood),” Sr Anne Derwin, Congregational Leader, has said. One senior Sisters of the time later recalled the following about Sr Campion’s endeavours to vouchsafe Mary MacKillop’s belongings: “As novices we were invited to her office to see what had been gathered.

Sister Campion opened her treasures which were kept in cupboards with glass doors. There was not much there because I don’t think we valued the thought of keeping things ... Among the things we were shown was a little purse, a little box which was not opened for fear that contact with the outside air could destroy or harm the contents – I think this could have been a lock of hair, part of a habit – a sleeve rather out of shape because of Mary MacKillop’s stroke, a book of customs and rules, a pair of rosary beads and I think a crucifix.”

When she died on 29 September 1979 aged 87 years, Sr Campion was remembered as “a woman with an awareness of the importance of history, heritage and tradition; with a vision of a challenging future; but above all a woman with a great capacity for warmth and friendship”. In more contemporary times, Sr Campion is seen by one Josephite as “keeper of that treasure, custodian of the memories and preserver of the spirit”.

(Reprinted with permission from Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart by the St Columban’s Mission Society, 2010.)



The O'Shea Centre

*Please return your registration form to
Sisters of St Joseph
10 Bayview Terrace
Wavell Heights
Qld 4012*

*Enquiries to
07 3266 1300*

or

sosjadminqld1@bigpond.com

Registrations Close Monday July 16

*Cling to God's love and
grace*

Mary MacKillop 1890

*In this Year of Grace come to a deeper
understanding of Mary MacKillop.*

Mary MacKillop Connecting Day

Exploring Mary MacKillop's God and Our Legacy



O'Shea Centre, 19 Lovedale Street, Wilston
Sunday 29 July 2012
9.00am to 3.30pm

Come and explore three major ways in which Mary MacKillop talked about God:

- *Our Good God of Providence and Hospitality*
- *God - the Sacred Heart*
- *God - Inspiration for Mission.*

How might we understand her insights into God in our time and our language?

Presented by Ann Gilroy rsj



Ann Gilroy rsj lives in Sydney and is one of the Congregational Leadership Team. Ann comes from New Zealand - shaky Christchurch in the South Island - where many of her family still live.

Until recently she taught theology at the University of Auckland.

Her interest lies in exploring how our different contexts enhance our understanding of God.

Her sessions will explore our changing understanding of God from our experience of living in this part of the world.



The O'Shea Centre is located at 19 Lovedale Street Wilston, approximately 4 kilometres from the CBD of Brisbane, Queensland Australia.

Registration 9.00am
Commences 9.30am
Concludes 3.30pm

Cost \$25.00

Morning Tea and Lunch included



RETURN FORM

Please complete and return as soon as possible

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone _____

Dietary requirements:

Please record any special dietary requirements e.g. gluten or lactose free.

Number Attending: _____

Total Cost @ \$25.00 each \$ _____

HOW TO PAY

Cheque: _____

(please make cheques payable to Sisters of St Joseph Queensland)

Bankcard ___ Mastercard ___ Visa ___

Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Expiry Date: _____ - _____

Cardholder Name: _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

.....
Signature