



WA Josephite Associates' Newsletter



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

Here we are once again, to welcome all to our Spring Newsletter. Thanks to all who have contributed to the W.A Associates. There have been many around who have given their time for Friendship, Prayer and Service. This time has brought us together on the 8th August, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop's Day, which was celebrated in different places. I thank each one who has sent donations, they have been received with appreciation. Best wishes for the blessings of Spring.

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

YEAR OF GRACE

We are all becoming more familiar with the presence of the logo not only within our church proper but within many publications at hand. For those not familiar with the symbolism it is as follows:



- * The Cross
- * The sun
- * A circle that represents the infinity of God
- * The halo incorporating a cross that surrounds the head of Jesus in Eastern iconography
- * The host used at Mass
- * The monstrance used in Eucharistic adoration
- * A link with the artistic tradition of our indigenous people
- * The earthen, ochre colours of Australia a diversity of peoples and cultures, gathered into one community
- * A star-burst
- * Light

There may be other ways in which this logo speaks to people.

(Sent in by Helen Johnston)



FEASTDAY OF SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP SAINT FOR AUSTRALIA 8TH AUGUST 2012

This special occasion began with the Eucharist celebrated by Father Tony Chiera – Josephite Associate - at the church of the Immaculate Conception, Dardanup, along with approximately two hundred students of Our Lady of Lourdes School attending again this year, leading the singing beautifully which included Mary MacKillop songs. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Des Wilike and staff for their continuing participation on this special day. Among the many people present were Sisters of St Joseph, Denise Casey rsj, Pauline Dundon rsj and Sr Christine Clark pbvm.

Father Tony captured the attention of all present with his delightful homily on the life and work of St Mary of the Cross. He began by asking the children if they knew where the Southern Cross was and told them that Mary was also born under the Southern Cross, that she was a wonderful, caring, courageous young woman who responded to the needs of people of the day. She built schools, orphanages and places of refuge for the poor and needy, in general living out her principal of: *"Never see a need without doing something about it"*.



Father Tony asked what the similarity was with Jesus and Mary MacKillop – Jesus was born in a stable and Mary's first school began in a stable in Penola, South Australia in 1866. He told the children that she was helped by people, with food and money when they saw the great work that Mary and the Sisters who joined her were doing.

Father Tony said that Mary is the first canonized Saint for Australia and that we are all becoming saints in our own way to God. The students and people were eagerly engaged in Father Tony's telling of the story of Mary MacKillop, the children responding promptly to his questions even to anticipating his question on occasion, with 'hands up' before the question was finished!

Grateful thanks from our Josephite Associates S.W to Fr Tony and all who came to join us making this a special celebration in honour of our Saint for Australia and the World - Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Morning tea followed enjoying each other's company to bring to a happy conclusion this special Feastday for Australia.

- *Annette Morellini*

SNIPPETS FROM THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The members of the committee again expressed their appreciation of the many and varied activities the Sisters are involved in with particular reference to the three Sisters, Maria Casey, Sr Margaret Culhane and Sr Mary Leahy who were recently awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia. Sr Julianne Murphy of the Travelling Sisters with her humorous power- point display presentation, promoting the Mary MacKillop Foundation.

Our campaign to attract younger members to our group continues, and we are all involved in this. Some results are already apparent, but we need to keep the momentum going. Catherine is here again at our gathering. Maureen and Alison have expressed their desire to continue.

After our meeting and folding of the newsletters and prayer sheets prepared so attractively by Sister Denise and Laura, we were invited to the viewing of the Mass celebrating 125 years since the Tasmanian Sisters of St Joseph foundation.

This was also a celebration of the fusion of the Sisters of St Joseph Tasmania with the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. Since the telecast was direct transmission as it was happening there were a few technical problems, but the joy and excitement of the occasion really came across. Both congregations are delighted that they are now together as one. We continued the celebration with a delicious meal and a glass of wine in the dining room, followed by coffee and cake in the sun lounge. May we continue to enjoy friendship, prayer and service as we work together with the inspiration of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Annette Morellini and I have been sharing ideas about the possibility of a gathering of Associate representatives of all the WA groups, sometime in the future. We would like your suggestions. If you have any suggestions please send them on to:

Meg Phelan – (6380 Phillips Road, Mundaring WA 6073) or
Annette Morellini – (19 Barnes Avenue, Australind WA 6233)

- *Meg Phelan*





DEATH OF SR ELIZABETH MURPHY RSJ

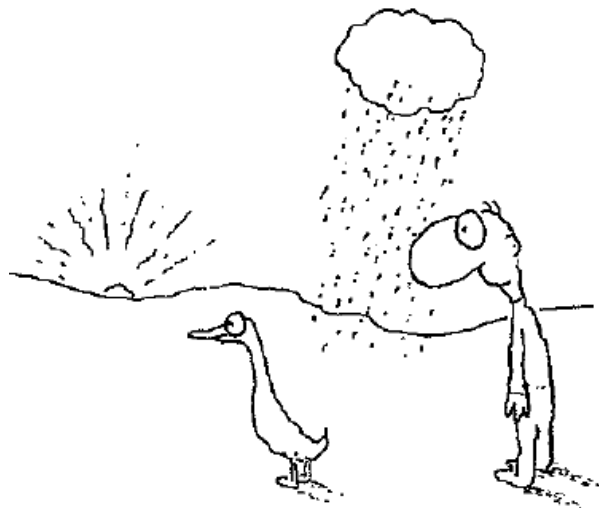
Scripture tells us that the life and death of each of us has an influence on others.

This was particularly so in the life and death of our beloved Sr Elizabeth Murphy who died on July 20, 2012. She was a truly prayerful, great woman, an outstanding member of the Sisters of St Joseph and an inspiration to all.

In her suffering over the past few years she gave a wonderful example of accepting age with grace. Although immobile and unable to communicate verbally for some time her presence influenced those around her. God and St Mary MacKillop must have been very close to her.

In this Year of Grace, we give thanks to God for the graces that have been bestowed on Elizabeth in life and in death. May she now rest in peace and eternal joy in the presence of her God.

- Joan Luff



DEAR GOD,

We celebrate spring's returning and rejuvenation of the natural world. Let us be moved by this vast and gentle insistence that goodness shall return, that warmth and life shall succeed, and help us to understand our place within this miracle. Let us see that as a bird now builds its nest, bravely, with bits and pieces. So we must build human faith. It is our natural and vital role within the miracle of spring: the creation of faith.

Amen.

- Leunig

GONE TO GOD

We pray for these people and ask God to give them eternal rest:



- Frank Hackett (husband of Pat)
- Paul Lanigan (brother of Sister Anne Marie)
- Judge Mærwald (sister of Sr Mary Engelbrecht)
- Sr Elizabeth Murphy rsj

- Mary Harrington (Mother of Kathy Travis)
- Ken Simz (Husband of Tonka – Esperance)
- Antonia Lucarelli (Merredin)

Associates who have gone to God:

- Ethel Cobb

- Joan Fox

- Denis Cole

May they Rest in Peace

Prayers also for Eileen Scanlan who has gone to Margaret Hubery Nursing Home

WA JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES' SEASONAL GATHERINGS 2012

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2012 (in the Function Room)

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



SOUTH PERTH ADVENT GATHERING FOR 2012

9th December at 2: 30 –in the Chapel.



All very welcome!

JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES S.W AREA

Advent / Christmas Gathering

When: Wednesday 21st November

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!

The Foundation raises money to support small life-changing projects



GARDEN PARTY 2012

God loves those best who help the weak become whole
Mary MacKillop 1906



Relax and meet friends in the leafy garden surrounds of St Joseph's Convent at 16 York St, South Perth

2.30pm - 4.30pm on Sunday 21st October 2012

- ☆ Celebrating 125 years of the Sisters of St Joseph in WA
- ☆ Featuring a Saint Mary MacKillop stall, Peru stall, gift stall, raffle
- ☆ Refreshments provided
- ☆ Guest speakers -
 - **Professor Celia Hammond**
Vice Chancellor, University of Notre Dame
 - **Staff & Students from Mary MacKillop College, Busselton**
(presenting their visit to East Timor assisting the Sisters of St Joseph)

ALL MOST WELCOME! Cost only \$20.00 ... RSVPs essential by 14 October 2012:

John McCormack	johnmccormack@westnet.com.au	9383 2615
Kerry Katich	kkatich@aapt.net.au	9296 4945
Laurie Mayne:	ljmayne@optusnet.com.au	9271 5649