



WA Josephite Associates' Newsletter



Welcome to our Winter Newsletter. I would like to thank each one for your contributions to the WA Josephite Associates. This is Mary's month. Let us take some time for 'Friendship, Prayer, and Service'. Let us also take some time to pray for each other as we journey on our way.

Thanks to all those who have given donations, we are very grateful and wish everyone the Blessings of Winter.

From the Central Committee – Sister Denise, Meg, Fay, Dot, Margaret, Maureen, Mary, and all Associate Committee members in the other areas ... special thanks to Annette and Helen.

Offering Our Gifts:

Each Has a Part to Play

'We are sometimes overwhelmed by people who seem to be so capable and appear to have so much to give and to contribute. We may come across such people in the workplace, the sporting club, the community organization, and the church. Sometimes a member in our family seems to be so much more gifted, and, even closer to home, our marriage partner may seem to have skills and abilities that leave us feeling second-rate or even quite useless.

In spite of these feelings of negativity, we need to realize that we can all play a part, can all contribute, and can all bring something from our unique life experience.'

Nouwen affirmingly notes that "we all have gifts to offer and a need to receive."

(Dare To Journey with Henri Nouwen)

Associates' Gathering News

Our gathering on the Sunday 10th March was a very good start for 2013. There were about 40 Associates who attended. It was also good to have husbands come along and enjoy the afternoon. First we had our prayer in the chapel led by Meg Phelan.

I then gave a talk from "We Are But Travellers Here."

It was about Mary

MacKillop, her gentleness and her thirst for justice. Mary's gentleness was astounding - she thought of others all the time. Each family was given a copy of the book to take home. We then enjoyed a wonderful afternoon in the Function Room. There was a Bring and Buy, a raffle and a great afternoon tea. The photos tell the story ... Denise (PTO for more photos)





Our Trip to Dardanup

On April the 16th Dot Caughey, Margaret and Des Hardingham and I attended a gathering at Dardanup at Annette's invitation.

Lyndsay Caughey kindly drove Dot and I down, and Margaret and Des from Rockingham met us there. We were welcomed as always by Annette and Nancy in true Josephite fashion and greeted by the Dardanup Ladies, who provided a delicious morning tea and lunch.

Sister Margaret Culhane then took us on another fascinating journey in the life of Mary MacKillop, with emphasis on the life of Julian Woods.

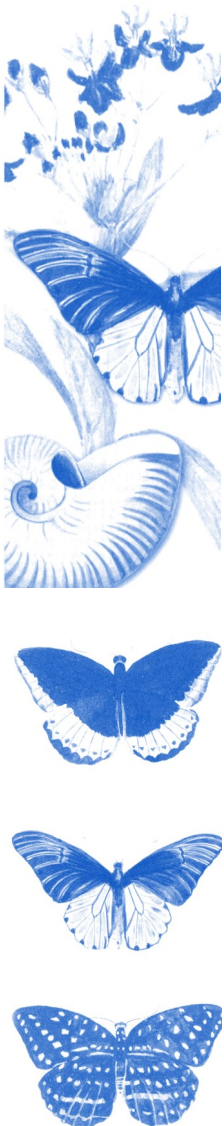
This sensitive man of vision was the inspiration which led to the founding of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart for the education of needy children.

The material for the presentation was provided by Sister Mary Fermio of the Victoria Province. There was much in depth discussion amongst the group and we all came away with a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the part these two great people, Mary and Julian, played in the formation of a Catholic Education system second to none, which changed the approach to education in Australia.

Sister Margaret has offered to conduct a presentation at South Perth on a date to be arranged. Don't miss it! It will provide an enjoyable and worthwhile experience.

Meg Phelan - President Central Committee.

- Examples of Julian's artwork





Remembering Julian & Mary



In her own account of the history of the Sisters of St Joseph written in 1900, Mary described the beginnings thus: “At the time when the Sisterhood was first started, its founders (Mary and Julian) little knew the magnitude of the work of which they were the weak instruments in the hand of the great God.”

When I could not see my way God kept my heart full of trust to make all come right. Mary MacKillop 28.6.1874

We lift our heart in thanksgiving for the life of Julian Tenison Woods. We remember with gratitude his gifts as co-founder and pastor, his passion for mission, his reverence of earth, his respect for the Aboriginal peoples, and his love of God.

Nothing is too wonderful for me to believe about God, the richness of whose creative power was a constant subject of love and admiration.’ JTW 1887

We are but instruments in the hands of God and must never act as if we were more. A musician takes a flute, which has nothing in it and of itself produces no sound. He breathes into it and the sounds which issue he modifies by the keys he touches. This is an imperfect image of the way in which God uses us and the inspiration He gives us and the impression He produces in our senses. Book of Instructions 1870

We must desire to do good and have a great zeal for souls. We must never leave a good work untried and never spare ourselves. It is God’s work and not ours. (Book of Instructions for the Sisters of St Joseph 1876)

Never let anyone, any duty, any place, any thing, take the place that God so justly covets in our poor hearts. Mary MacKillop 19.3.1874

Julian’s grave is surrounded by people whose attributes he admired and shared himself. Mary wrote: How appropriate is the last resting place of the gentle learned priest and naturalist. Crowned with the cross, beneath the statue of the “Sweet Mother” whom he so tenderly loved...the mortal remains of Father J.E. Tenison Woods await the resurrection. May he rest in peace. Amen.

- Prepared by Joan Luff rsj



Josephite Associates S.W. Gathering: March 16th 2013.

'Women of Hope' A group of 29 people including J.A.'s were present at Church of the Living Vine, Australind to hear Sr Margaret Culhane rsj speak of her work and experience in refugee camps and in the Philippines. After a time in the Philippines she went to Africa where she remained for six years working with Jesuit Refugee Services in the time of Idi Amin and as Project Director of an education program with UNHCR in Uganda helping to set up schools for 17,000 children.

Sr Margaret described the condition of the camps where people are continually on the run from soldiers and rebels. She worked and lived in these camps in Uganda, the Sudan, Somalia, Rwanda, Barundi and the Congo (which she described as 'scary') with planes low overhead, bombs being fired into the camps, rebel activity where rape and pack rape of girls and women were used as 'weapons of war!'

Sister Margaret said that despite the trauma, lack of food, education and having absolutely nothing, they still have HOPE, that things will get better.

As many of her listeners commented, Sr Margaret's account of life in refugee camps "puts life into perspective," and "brings out another vision of what is important and what is not."

This is very brief account of Sr Margaret's time in this ministry of walking with people in great need. Sincere thanks from all who attended the day.
- Annette Morellini

SOUTH PERTH GATHERINGS FOR 2013

Winter Gathering 2:30pm- 5:30pm, Prayer in the Chapel,
Sunday 9th June

followed by Raffle, Bring & Buy and a Cuppa shared in the Function room.



Spring Gathering Sunday 8th September

Advent - Christmas Gathering Sunday 8th December

2013 CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(in the Function Room)



When:

10am Thursday on 22nd August (followed by lunch with the Sisters)

10am Thursday on 21st November (followed by Christmas lunch)

WA ASSOCIATES SOUTH WEST GATHERINGS AND EVENTS 2013

JUNE Gathering - Introductory Formation Programme (sessions 4 & 5)

Date: 9.30am Wednesday 19th June

Venue: Dardanup House of Prayer

Speaker: Sr Margaret Culhane rsj

Bring: Please bring a plate of finger-food to share for lunch

Enquiries: Annette 97971156 or Nancy: 97281037

(Session 4 - *Getting to know the Josephite Mission* and Session 5 - *Getting know the Josephite Associates*. Please bring all five copies of the Programme with you.)

AUGUST Gathering ... St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feastday



Date: 9.00am Thursday 8th August

Venue: Dardanup Church of the Immaculate Conception

Enquiries: Annette 97971156 or Nancy: 97281037

Bring: Please bring a plate of finger-food to share for morning tea (at House of Prayer)

There will be a Renewal of Commitment for existing Josephite Associates and an Enrolment Ceremony for those wishing to become a Josephite Associate.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME !

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

*Gone
to
God*

Harold Walsh an Associate from South Perth

John Morris an Associate and husband of Diana

Nephew of Sister Mary Kirrane's in Ireland



*May they
rest in peace*