



# Josephite Associates

• FRIENDSHIP • PRAYER • SERVICE

Josephite Associates NSW (Inc.) PO Box 184, Croydon NSW 2132 (Letters only) • 34 Liverpool Rd, Croydon NSW 2132 (Parcels)

Phone 02 9747 4199

NEWSLETTER • JULY 2013

Dear Josephite Associates,  
How blessed we are in 2013, an historic year as we celebrate thirty years since the establishment of the Josephite Associates and give thanks to the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart who have empowered and supported us during this period to self governance. At the Annual General Meeting of the Josephite Associates to be held at Marian Court, Strathfield on 14th September 2013, we will celebrate together a Mass of Thanksgiving.

The voting procedure for the Josephite Associates (NSW) Inc. will be finalised before the AGM. Mailing has commenced with the Nomination Forms forwarded to all Associates. Members who return a nomination form will receive a voting form. According to the Constitution of Josephite Associates (NSW) Inc. this voting procedure is to be held every two years.

The International Josephite Associates Leadership Team (IJALT) is holding a conference at North Sydney from 12th-14th July 2013. The theme of this conference is 'Being Josephite Associates in our Ever-Changing World.' Josephite Associates will be represented from East Timor, New South Wales (including five from country NSW plus two Goulburn Associates), New Zealand, Peru, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia, totalling 47 participants who will gather to listen and share at this conference. The facilitator is Sr Monica Cavanagh rsj, with guest speakers Sr Angela Grant rsj, Sr Christina Neunzerling rsj, Sr Katrina Brill rsj, Sr Margaret Ng rsj, Sr Michele Connolly rsj (Lochinvar). Representatives from some Congregational Ministries will address the gathering and there will be a discussion on challenges and changing structures. There will be presentations from the Associate Groups. Feedback from this conference will be published in our next Newsletter.

Since our previous Newsletter was published, the Federation Sisters in Goulburn were welcomed by the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, during a fusion ceremony on 19th March 2013 in Goulburn. This is a period of transition and change as the Sisters so generously unite and have gathered at Baulkham Hills to meet one another and pray together.

The Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart are now preparing for their 26th General Chapter in this time of transition. At this Chapter in November 2013, the leadership team for the Congregation will be established.

I encourage all Associates to be united with the Sisters as they prepare for their General Chapter by praying the following prayer:

*Spirit of God, be with the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart as they respond to the invitation to explore Mystery unfolding at this time of transition in their Congregational life.*

*Breathe in them as they engage in deep listening to each other and to the universe for your urgent nudgings.*

*Revitalise, guide, heal and transform them as they prepare for and participate in their coming Chapter.*

*We join with Mary MacKillop and Julian Woods in praying that they experience your newness at this time. Amen.*

There was great rejoicing as we welcomed into our hearts Pope Francis as the present leader of the Catholic Church. When he stepped onto the balcony of St Peter's Basilica, a truly prayerful, humble man was presented to the world. There is a sense of expectancy as Catholics worldwide are listening to Pope Francis.

For those who follow Twitter, you may have come across this appealing tweet made by Pope Francis: 'Ours is not a joy that comes from having many possessions, but from having encountered a person. We accompany, we follow Jesus, but above all we know that He accompanies us and carries us on His shoulders.'

Another quote from Pope Francis: 'True Power is service, the Pope must serve all people, especially the poor, the weak, the vulnerable.' In our world today there is a great need to show compassion to the marginalised in our society.

Does this not resonate with you as followers of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop? We as Josephite Associates are encouraged to serve the poor, the weak and the powerless and to show respect for the dignity of every human being.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray with us.

St Joseph, pray with us.

Leonie Bell JA  
President

*From the pen of  
St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop:*



*"Only think a little, pray a little and try to remember that God will bring about what He sees best, in His own time and that His ways are not our ways."*

02.09.1882

# Pope Francis a breath of fresh air to God's household

When Pope Francis first appeared on the Balcony of St Peter's after he was voted in as our new Pope, his countenance, simplicity and profound spirituality was written all over his face. His appearance captured the world. His humanity comes to the surface in his down-to-earth, off the cuff comments, touching the hearts of all people. His phone call to the Newsagent in Buenos Aires, cancelling his daily Newspaper is indicative that the 'poor of the Lord' are foremost in his heart.

Deciding not wear a new Papal Pectoral Cross and remaining with his well-worn Cross, speaks volumes about the man. This striking witness to simplicity, which is at the heart of the Gospel, is the greatest reminder to all of us, to refocus on the hearts of people and not on the material, opulent outpourings as manifested in some quarters of the Church.

The decision of Pope Francis to experiment in living with others in St Martha's Vatican Guesthouse, indicates that his position in the Church does not evict him to live in isolation. His persona invites people to be close to him and to feel needed in his eyes. The warmth in his writings and Talks, demonstrates that he is not an ecclesiastical, antiseptic Prelate! On the contrary; to all of us entrusted with servant leadership in God's household and that means all the Baptised, the Jug of water, Bowl and Towel of Holy Thursday, remind us that we are all called to be the Lord's Foot washers.

*Fr. Kevin Walsh (used with permission)*

The newsletter is now available on the Web, at  
<http://www.sosj.org.au/connect/NSWAssociates.html>

## Josephite Associates (NSW) Inc ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 14th September 2013

**Venue:** - Marian Court, 18 Margaret Street,  
Strathfield

(no parking in the grounds,  
unlimited street parking available)

**Morning Tea:** - 10 am – 10.30 am

**Eucharist:** - 11 am – Mass of Thanksgiving  
Celebrating 30 years of Josephite Associates

**Lunch:** - 12 Noon

**AGM Business:** - 1.30 pm

*Josephite Associates members please confirm your  
attendance no later than*

**Friday August 23rd 2013**

RSVP to the Josephite Associates office

by phone **02 9747 4199**

or email [associates@sosj.nsw.org.au](mailto:associates@sosj.nsw.org.au)

or by mail PO box 184 Croydon NSW 2132

# Women's voices in Canon Law

Josephite Sister Maria Casey's election as President of the Canon Law Society of Australia and New Zealand highlights the importance of women's voices, in a field where the majority of canon lawyers are priests.

'Having a female canon lawyer helps in understanding the application of the law from a feminine point of view, given that the majority of religious in the world are actually women religious,' said Sr Maria.

For lay people canon law is something shrouded in mystery. Yet simply put it refers to the system that governs the Church's day-to-day workings, much like any secular organisation. These laws, customs and guidelines maintain order in the Church, guiding the members on how best to follow Christ's teachings in a manner that is practical and correct.

'All canons of legal intent have a theological basis and content,' explained Sr Maria. 'Canon law is meant to be pastoral aside from legal, and sets out the duties and rights of every individual Christian reliant on the Catholic Church.'

This body of law covers everything that concerns the life of the Church, such as its structure and governance, management of Church resources, lay people and lay organisations, the use of sacraments and prayers, and the conduct of religious men and women.

'There's a considerable body of law that applies to religious, as well as certain legal boundaries around the duties and rights of every baptised Catholic,' said Sr Maria. 'The rights and duties of religious institutes flow from that.'

'The religious institutes have 'boundaries' that also protect them and their individual members. They work within this framework to express their particular charism and the laws of the Church (called Universal Law, which applies to everyone).'

'Each religious Congregation expands that law to apply to itself, according to the charism of that congregation and according to what they were founded for. This is referred to as the Proper Law or the local law.'

'And so the work of the canon lawyer in relation to religious institutes is to apply the law to problems within the congregation, or to look at necessary changes to bring the congregation's constitution and the way of life in line with modern thinking and with the Vatican Council, for instance.'

Sr Maria's involvement in canon law began in the early 1990s after her term as Province Leader in the Western Australian Province of the Sisters of St Joseph. In consultation with her community, she pursued studies in canon law and after two full years, she earned her Licentiate at St Paul University in Ottawa, Canada.

'When I finished that, I realised that I had only scratched the surface. And to really understand the law, I needed to do some in-depth study. So I went back and earned a doctorate or Juris Canonici Doctor (JCD) from Saint Paul University and a PhD from Ottawa University,' said Sr Maria.

This quietly spoken and modest Josephite views her role as a challenge. It is the same attitude she has consistently shown in her distinguished career, especially as the renowned Postulator for the Cause of Canonisation of Mary MacKillop.

'It is a challenge to lead a Society that is almost 50 years in existence and up till now had been founded and governed by

priests,' she said. 'They have carried the burden of developing Canon Law and the ways that the Society can help the whole church in this regard. It's good that they have now opened it out to include a broader perspective.'

This broader perspective not only refers to the few women canon lawyers in the region but also other members of the Canon Law Society, who are lay people working in tribunals of the various dioceses and others who work in associated fields but have a keen interest in canon law.

'I was honoured to feel that I had the confidence of the Canon Law Society. I thought I could make a contribution,' said Sr Maria. 'I was also very much challenged and felt that there were some big footsteps to follow.'

Sr Maria has long worked to help people understand canon law in their congregations or ministries. Together with some other religious sisters, she set up a Canon Law Course in partnership with Catholic Religious Australia (CRA). This well received course runs for a week every year and is completed in a three-year cycle. Since 2008, the course has given leaders of religious institutes and their lay partners a practical understanding of canon law as it applies to them.

*Extract from Catholic Religious Australia  
Used with permission*

## ***Bathurst meeting with Perthville Josephites and Associates 2nd March 2013***

Beverley and Leonie met at Assumption Convent at 10.30 a.m. for morning tea and our meeting began with a prayer prepared by Sr Jean Cain. An email from Sr Clare Noonan apologising for her non-attendance and wishing us success with our meeting was read by Sr Jean.

Sr Colleen Howe from Canberra explained how she and Sr Janet Glass are active for the Associates in the Goulburn area. The main focus for these Sisters at this time is the fusion of the Federation Josephites with the Sisters of St Joseph North Sydney (Central Josephites) in Goulburn on 19th March 2013. This move will in time impact on the Josephite Associates and Sr Colleen was wondering: 'Will there be a merge of Associates?'

Sr Janet is visiting Associates in many areas preparing Associates for the change. Sr Mary Quinlan realises there is a need to raise an awareness first with the Associates and in time Sr Mary Quinlan and Sr Kerry will discuss and plan to forge ahead. For this year the Goulburn Associates will carry on as is.

Sr Colleen is very excited about her Junior Joeys and there are six in Year 6 who have left Primary school and nine who have moved from Year 5 to Year 6. There are 11 members in Year 5 and they consider their duty as Junior Joeys as very important. Sr Colleen raised the question: How do we keep Junior Joeys involved when they enter Secondary School? Do we follow the line of Mini Vinnies?

Sr Janet is re-establishing Associate Groups and reactivating meetings either bi-monthly or tri-monthly. Sr Janet is endeavouring to establish home meetings using Little Brown Book and these meetings are 'Cuppa with Mary MacKillop' mornings. Sr Janet is trying to encourage Leaders; however, these ladies are keeping the Josephite Associates and

the Spirit of Mary MacKillop alive. The theme has been Listening and Compassion; listening in small groups. Sr Janet lives in Leeton and has spoken to the Principal and the Religious Education Adviser about establishing Junior Joeys in the school. Sr Janet visits places around Leeton and they have a Regional Retreat Day at Galong and also one in the Wagga Region.

Leonie spoke about changes since the move to Self-Governance and the work is in the area of the administration of the business. We do need additional people to promote Josephite Associates as there is a need to increase our membership. Sr Colleen asked: 'How are the people you are hoping to attract going to be formed?' Leonie responded that discussion has taken place re a Formation Program to train leaders who can conduct Prayer Days and retreats, however at this time we do not have a formation program for new Associates.

During the three years of formation in preparation for the move to self-governance, the focus was on selecting Associates for leadership formation to take on the roles of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two leaders to form the Governance Group from Country Associates, according to the Constitution prepared by the Sisters and legal personnel. In hindsight, more focus in the final year of the three-year program could have been with the leaders being engaged in practical activities. Our intention in 2013 and beyond is to look at ways of increasing the membership by encouraging people to become Associates. A brochure is being prepared for distribution.

Sr Colleen asked: 'How many people attended the AGM?' Leonie responded at the 2012 AGM there were 120 who attended; this included Associates and Sisters. The AGM was held at the Province Centre due to the handover ritual to Self-Governance of the Associates. Sr Colleen asked: 'Is the subscription compulsory?' The subscription is not compulsory; however, people are generous in giving additional donations along with their subscription renewals. A budget has been prepared and will be reviewed by Sr Mary Quinlan.

Sr Jean spoke about her two Junior Joey Groups at Yeoval and Gilgandra. Their activities include visiting the elderly. Getting information out to people is important. Most Associates are in groups; however, there are about 90 who are not in a group and these are living the Spirit of Mary MacKillop. The Perthville Associates are a vital presence at funerals in the district, especially serving tea and food after funerals or other parish functions. The Associates also collect stamps for the Bethel School in East Timor and the members not attached to a group pray for the good of the Associates. Sr Jean would be interested in Sr Mary Fermio's Junior Joeys Kit.

Brian Turner from Blayney spoke about a Josephite Associate Coordinator's funeral. The candle used for the 140-year celebration of the Perthville Josephites was a feature at the Mass. The Mary MacKillop prayer was recited during the ceremony and this prayer is prayed at every Mass in Blayney.

Brian has established an Intention Box where parishioners can place petitions to St Mary MacKillop. Brian and another Associate take these petitions to North Sydney and place them on the tomb of St Mary and one of the Pastoral Care Sisters records the names in the Book of Petitions. While in North Sydney, Brian purchased some Mary MacKillop cards and he gives these to people he meets and encourages daily prayer to Mary MacKillop.

Every two months Brian also has 'Cuppa with Mary MacKillop' mornings and helps at any event in Perthville. Brian also drives the bus to Wellington from Assumption Church for Associate Meetings. Wellington school is very Josephite and they have started a Mini Vinnies, therefore it is not appropriate at this time to start Junior Joeys.

After the meeting Sister Jean and her community prepared lunch for the group. Beverley gave everyone a tatted book mark. All were delighted and thanked Beverley for her kindness.

Leonie asked Sr Jean about evening Mass at the Cathedral and was told Mass would be celebrated at Perthville at 6 p.m. on the Saturday evening. Beverley and Leonie asked for directions and two good Catholics were delighted to assist. We arrived at Perthville an hour before Mass and Sr Jean gave us a tour of the Convent and Grave Sites. We found the history of the Perthville Sisters very interesting.

*Beverley Badcock and Leonie Bell  
JA Governance Group*

### ***Birthday Greetings***

Happy Birthday to all Josephite Associates recorded in  
our Birthday Book who celebrate their birthdays in  
July, August, September & October 2013

## A wonderful celebration of Fusion

On October 4th 2012, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, the Vatican Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life authorised the fusion (merger) of the Goulburn Sisters of Saint Joseph with the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Today, March 19th 2013, the Feast of St Joseph, during Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church, North Goulburn, the local parish church, a ritual was enacted marking the fusion of these two Josephite Congregations. Hundreds of Sisters of Saint Joseph, present in person and online, witnessed to and celebrated this great occasion with family members, women who had spent time in the congregation, past and present students, Associates, friends, clergy, singers, musicians and parish representatives, the Mayor and local citizens.

Archbishop Carroll was the principal celebrant. Bishops Patrick Power and Gerard Hanna, Monsignor John Woods and Priests of the Archdioceses of Canberra-Goulburn and Sydney and the Diocese of Wagga Wagga concelebrated.

Kerrie Cusack rsj, the Congregational Leader of the Goulburn Sisters of Saint Joseph, and Anne Derwin rsj, Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart, led the ritual. The ritual was very moving. Sister Anne invited the Goulburn Sisters to stand and pray together "for the gift of this moment" after which Sister Kerrie came forward to accept on behalf of the 52 Goulburn Sisters, the Constitution of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart as their way of vowed life. Each Sister was then called by name to receive from Sister Anne and her Leadership Team her new emblem, the symbol of membership in the congregation and sign of her way of life.

All Sisters of Saint Joseph present stood and renewed their commitment, joined via the webstream with those gathered across Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand, Peru and the United States.

Today the Sisters of Saint Joseph also moved into the change to Regions. This was reflected in the missioning by Sister Anne of the Goulburn Sisters to the Region of NSW and their welcome by Sister Mary Quinlan rsj, Regional Leader of the NSW Region of the Congregation. Sister Anne also missioned Sister Kerrie to the NSW Regional Leadership Team.

*Extract from sosj enews 20/03/2013 (used with permission)*

## Catholic Life in Country Moree

The Moree Josephite Associates hold quarterly meetings, as near as possible to the reception of the Newsletters, as they are our connection with the other groups. A notice is published in the Church Bulletin when future Associate Meetings will be held, as this may interest other parishioners who may wish to attend. Seven of the members are also meeting with the Parish Prayer Group which meets on Monday afternoons at the home of Stella Cusack (Group Leader Moree).

This year we completed the Lenten Program of the Wollongong Diocese and found this program very suitable. Our stamp collection for Peru is going very well and one member has volunteered to prepare the stamps for posting.

We would also like to invite any Associates who may be passing through Moree or visiting our famous thermal baths to give Stella Cusack a call any afternoon to arrange a cuppa with some of the Moree Josephite Associates.

*Stella Cusack JA Group Leader Moree*

## Moree Junior Joeys



During the second meeting in 2013 of the Junior Josephites Moree, learnt about Mary MacKillop's family and prayed for world peace. Each Junior Josephite Associate was presented with a Timor Leste Institute Cross. Sister Margaret Therese Cusack rsj is the co-ordinator of the Junior Joeys group.

*Sister Margaret Therese Cusack rsj*

## Death of João Parada Ferreira, East Timor

The sudden death of our friend and Josephite Associate João Parada occurred a few weeks ago when a tree fell on his small house in Dili and crushed him. João came to Australia for World Youth Day in 2008 and took its message to heart. At that time, together with a group of other young Timorese, he dedicated himself as a Josephite Associate. For years he served children who do not have the chance to go to school by gathering them together and providing opportunities for laughter and learning. Many of these children were scattered in mountain villages and João would walk long distances to teach them. He called them "The Children of Mary MacKillop".

João never missed an opportunity to spread the knowledge and love of Saint Mary MacKillop. He constantly distributed prayers and books about her. More than that, he lived what he proclaimed, dedicating himself, his time and his energy to the "poorest of the poor". May he rest in peace.

*Sister Josephine Mitchell rsj*

*Mary MacKillop International East Timor*

## News from Bombala

At our recent Associates gathering we had a visit from Sister Wilga rsj who taught some of us music between the years 1958 – 1964. We had not seen Sister in over fifty years so it was a thrill that she spent prayer and social time with us. Sister Bernadette rsj from Nimmitabel had driven Sister Wilga to Bombala for the day and I was given a copy of Sister Bernadette's book on the life of Flora MacKillop (mother of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop) and I was able to congratulate Sister Bernadette on her writings and the extensive research on the historical events of Flora's life. We congratulate all the Sisters of St Joseph who celebrated their Golden and Diamond Jubilees earlier in the year and wish them all God's blessings.

On October 5th-7th 2013 St Joseph's Primary School, Bombala will be celebrating 125 years since their foundation. The Bombala community would love the Sisters who worked in this school to come and celebrate this momentous occasion.

*Carol Badewitz JA Group Leader Bombala*

## News from East Timor

The Sisters of St Joseph began their work in East Timor in 1994 in response to a request from Bishop Belo, who was then the Bishop of Dili. East Timor is the poorest country in Asia and among the poorest in the world. The East Timorese lived through a horrendous period of occupation by the Indonesian Military 1975 – 1999, when almost one-third of the population was wiped out. Now they are a free and independent nation but they have many problems to face, e.g. widespread poverty and hunger, the education of their children and the health of the population.

Like Mary MacKillop, our work has mainly been in primary education and teacher training. We have developed a literacy program in Tetum, the local language, to help them address the high level of illiteracy (about 50% of the people can't read or write) and to assist them to train teachers for their schools (about 80% of teachers have little or no training). As the standard of health is extremely low and health care is very limited, we have been working with them to train village health workers and reduce the high level of malnutrition, especially among children (about half the children under five are severely malnourished).

The people of East Timor, of whom 95% are Catholics, are a loving, generous, hospitable people whose one desire is to provide a better future for their children. It is a privilege for us to carry on Mary MacKillop's work among the 'poorest of the poor' and without the generous support of benefactors this work would not be able to continue.

*Sister Josephine Mitchell rsj  
Mary MacKillop International  
East Timor*

## News from Mullumbimby

Allan Thomas, a member of the Penrith Josephite Associates Group, made beaded necklaces and other pious items which were forwarded from the Josephite Associates office in Croydon to our Mullumbimby Group for sale on our Josephite Associates Street Stall.

I am pleased to report that \$115 was raised from the sale of these beautiful items and a cheque was forwarded to the East Timor Mission Office.

*Jan Lang JA  
Group Leader Mullumbimby*

## News from Fairfield Associates

The Fairfield Josephite Associates meet every third Tuesday of the month in a room at Our Lady of the Rosary Church and bring about 400 sets of rosary beads they have made at home. One of the Sisters of St Joseph from Mary MacKillop International East Timor collects the rosaries, which are then sent on to East Timor and distributed by the MMET staff ; who journey to Dili and yonder.

Nim Moe Tam, I Lip Lay, Rosa Kani and I Chung Lay only make the rosaries. They do not engage in other activities because they have to look for work and study English. Fatima Cham makes the rosaries and is involved in the Legion of Mary; Monica Lay makes the rosaries and does the church cleaning; Nancy makes the rosaries and is a member of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Luiz makes the rosaries, cuts the stamps for East Timor and is a member of St Vincent de Paul Society. Once a year the Fairfield Associates make a donation to the Besilau School in East Timor.

*Nancy de Almeida Ezequiel JA Fairfield*

## Farewell to Christine Sivewright Lakemba JA

After 15 years of visiting the Lakemba St. Joseph's convent for our monthly Josephite Associates meeting, Christine has pulled up stumps and is heading for the Southern Highlands, Bowral, to retire. What a beautiful spot to hang up your boots.

Our Group shared a farewell luncheon with Christine on the 2nd March at a Belmore café, and it was with a degree of sadness that we said our goodbyes. All is not lost, however, as Christine will continue as the Editor of the JA Newsletter and Bowral is not too far away to make an occasional visit.

One wonders if we may see Christine at the well-known cricket oval? Bowral is the town where cricketing legend Sir Donald Bradman lived and where his life is celebrated in a museum named after him.

You are wished every happiness and good health Christine as you turn another page in your book of life. May God continue to watch over you.

*Helen Bache - JA Lakemba*

## Requiescant in Pace

Mary Hickey, sister of Kath Hill (Lidcombe);  
Michelle Lawrence (Quirindi);  
Monica Lee (Quirindi);  
Alma Morrison (Prayer Member);  
Noelene Norris (Warilla);  
Dawn O'Leary (Kincumber);  
Keith O'Meara, father of Jan Lang (Mullumbimby);  
Raymond Shaw (Lidcombe);  
Dot Steer (Auburn);  
Marjorie Vidot (North Sydney)

## Prayers for the Sick

Maureen Carey (Canberra);  
Eileen Carter (Nyngan);  
Bob Cassidy (Penrith);  
Sr Jan Cetta rsj;  
Margaret Clapham (Warilla);  
Betty Cowell (Bombala);  
Marie Crowe (Peakhurst);  
Mary Durkin (Warialda);  
Jan Farrell (Bombala);  
Kieran Fitzpatrick (Menai);  
Beverley Fitzgerald (Cooma);  
Evelyn Gardiner (Prayer Member);  
Alma Halse (Canberra);  
Helen Harnett (Peakhurst);  
Ros Hood (Bombala);  
Daisy Keogh (Lidcombe);  
Maria Kopjar (Menai);  
Joan MacDonald (Blacktown);  
Pat McDonald (Peakhurst);  
Noelene McNeil (Barraba);  
Ron Moore (Warialda);  
Pat O'Brien (Warialda);  
Ann O'Hara (Lidcombe);  
Melva Perkins (Quirindi);  
Helen Perrett (Warialda);  
Fred Piscuineri (Auburn);  
Paula Potter (Nyngan);  
Esme Quinn (Warilla);  
Pauline Rendell (Peakhurst);  
Glad Rope (Nyngan);  
Kathleen Ryan (Blacktown);  
Dominic Scaturchio (Auburn);  
Lillian Stansell (Strathfield);  
Audrey Steinmetz (Belmont);  
Helene Townsend (Blacktown);  
Rex Tulloch (Laurieton);  
Gwen Witton (Penrith)

*We remain united in prayer for all our sick  
Josephite Associates and Sisters of St Joseph.*



[www.marymackillop.org.au](http://www.marymackillop.org.au)

## Reflection on St Joseph



St Joseph, though not having a single word recorded in scripture, has much to teach us on the path to holiness, for he is a saint who flies under many banners.....

St Joseph was indeed a 'Devout Jew and a Holy Man', for who else has visitors from heaven?

**And so we pray that we too will be able to discern truth from fiction as we journey towards Jesus. St Joseph, please guide us.**

As a 'Worker' St Joseph must have excelled, for he was able to support his family on the journey to and from Egypt.

**We pray that we will see dignity in all work and workers regardless of how mundane or grandiose we may deem their work to be. We also pray for those seeking employment, that they will see that they earn not only a wage, but self-respect and dignity also. St Joseph, be our guide.**

St Joseph was a 'Faithful Man'. He

showed this in his willingness to accept a pregnant Mary, and then by caring for her and Jesus.

**May we regard our loved ones with a sense of loyalty and trust. We call to you, St Joseph, for help in times of stress and helplessness.**

In 1847 Pope Pius IX declared St Joseph as 'Patron of the Universal Church'.

**During these times of great trial for the Church, we call on St Joseph to guide all involved in the Royal Commission, to act justly, truthfully and prayerfully, with a patient trust in God.**

In 1873 St Mary MacKillop left her Sisters in the 'Care of St Joseph'. As Associates we too are in his care and hopefully will be able to call on that care in the hour of our death.

**St Joseph, Patron of a Happy Death, pray for us.**

Oh, St Joseph, whose protection is so great, so prompt, before the throne of God, I place in your care all my interests and desires.

Do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your beloved Son all spiritual blessings, so that having engaged here below your heavenly powers, I may offer my love and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

Dear St Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, but with Jesus asleep in your arms I dare not approach. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.

*Reggie Preston JA Wyong Group*

## In the Footsteps of Saint Mary MacKillop

**Australian Pilgrimage**  
**23rd October – 2nd November 2013**

The notion of going on a pilgrimage and being a pilgrim is a very ancient one that belongs to the spiritual traditions of all great faiths.

Places of pilgrimage beckon people to touch and get caught up in the atmosphere and spiritual realities that belong to their origins. However, it is not only the site that takes people deep into the heart of their faith, but the journey itself.

A pilgrimage is a very personal experience but it is usually a journey with others: seeking, listening, reflecting and seeing the hand of God at work in our own lives.

This Australian Pilgrimage to many of the places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry is a unique opportunity for us to absorb some of the aspects of her life and appreciate anew her role as our Australian saint.

*For further information phone*

**Sister Therese Leydon**

**02 8912 4845**

or email

Therese.Leydon@sosj.org.au

## Stamps Wanted



Used stamps wanted for the  
**Josephite Mission in Peru**

**Please send to:**

Stamps

5 Alexandra Avenue  
Croydon NSW 2132  
Phone 02 8741 2334  
Fax 02 8741 2399

*Thank you for all stamps received.*

Sister Helen Saunders reported the total raised through proceeds from the sale of stamps totalled \$6296.83 in 2011. Well done to Helen Bache, cutters, sorters and Sister Helen Saunders for this magnificent result.

2012 results best ever \$9,200.

## Coming Events

**Mary MacKillop Place**

7 Mount Street North Sydney

**Sacrament of the Anointing**

**11.30 a.m.**

**Tuesday 16th July 2013**

*For further information about these events please visit:*

[www.marymackillopplace.org.au](http://www.marymackillopplace.org.au)

## Associates Office

PO Box 184 Croydon NSW 2132  
(Letters only)

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## The Editorial Team

**Editor:** Christine Sivewright

**Team Members:** Beverley Badcock,  
Leonie Bell,  
Margaret Portell, Maureen Rayner,  
Eileen Stevenson

**Design and Print:** Paul McMahon

## Mary MacKillop Place 8th February 2013

On the 8th of each month many pilgrims continue the tradition of visiting Mary MacKillop Place North Sydney, in particular to attend one of the three Masses and visit St Mary MacKillop's tomb. On the 8th February 2013 there were 850 visitors to Mary MacKillop Place.

Visitors take the opportunity to explore the Museum, roam the gardens around Anderledy Lodge and partake of the refreshments in the Café and gift shop. Many make the return visit each month. Others are visitors for the first time.

Throughout 2012 one pilgrim flew in from Melbourne, spent the day at MMP and flew home in the evening. Pilgrims come because they are grateful for favours received, or come in hope of their prayers being answered. There is a strong connection pilgrims feel towards St Mary MacKillop as someone who has an understanding of their life because they can relate to the struggles Mary had in her own life.

Father Peter Hudson, a visiting celebrant, was inspired by the prayerful atmosphere of the gathered community.

The faithfulness of the pilgrims is obvious and most who visit this special place comment on the peaceful, spiritual atmosphere. A common thread of the comments from pilgrims is that they find the surroundings serene and peaceful – often referring to MMP as a special place.

In a review on the internet site called 'trip advisor' someone wrote 'there is a sense of serenity when you enter the Chapel. The fact that Mary MacKillop is our first Saint is not lost on you. There is a calming presence in the room.'

I believe God is working through Mary MacKillop in this place. Each day staff and volunteers witness transformation as visitors experience the loving care of Mary.

May we all follow her example by responding to the call to help those in need.

Sister Brigette Sipa rsj

Director of Mission, Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney

*Perhaps the mark of greatness is not the  
accomplishing of great moment,  
great movements, great works, but facing life  
as it comes,  
being content with the daily – what we call  
the ordinary  
Joseph  
was that kind of man – a saint.*

Sister Madeleva Williams csj 1994

The Website for  
**Mary MacKillop Place, Mount Street, North Sydney** is  
[www.marymackillopplace.org.au](http://www.marymackillopplace.org.au)  
for Coming events, Feast and Memorial dates, Pilgrimage information and  
an invitation to a place of prayer with our Australian Saint.

**Josephite Associates (NSW) Inc.**

## Kincumber Retreat

**18th – 20th October 2013**

Theme: –

*'Walking the Josephite Way with Mary and  
Julian through  
Prayer, Friendship and Service'*

Josephite Associates will experience input,  
sharing, quiet time and reflection

*Facilitator:* Sister Monica Cavanagh rsj

*Eucharist:* Sunday Morning at South  
Kincumber Parish Church 10 a.m.

**Cost: \$220**

*Venue:* St Joseph's Spirituality Centre  
8 Humphreys Road,  
Kincumber South 2251  
Phone: 02 4368 2805

*Arrival:* Friday afternoon from 4 p.m.

*Departure:* Sunday afternoon after 2 p.m.

**Josephite Associates wishing to attend  
must apply for an application form  
by phone to the Josephite Associates  
office Croydon**

**Phone: 02 9747 4199**

**or email: [associates@sosj.nsw.org.au](mailto:associates@sosj.nsw.org.au)  
or by mail P O Box 184 Croydon NSW 2132**

### Email Address

Have you had a change since your last advice?  
If so, please contact us with your new details  
at:

**[associates@sosj.nsw.org.au](mailto:associates@sosj.nsw.org.au)**

Subject: Email address change

### NEWSLETTER IN COLOUR BY EMAIL

Do you receive your Newsletter by mail?

Do you have an email address?

***Would you like to receive your Newsletter  
by email in colour?***

If the answer is YES, please email us your request at  
**[Associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:Associates@sosj.org.au)**  
and we will update our database and forward your  
newsletter in future by email.



## Beatitudes for Women

**Blessed** is the woman of faith and hope  
She will be a sign of the presence of God among us

**Blessed** is the woman of relationships  
She will be a bond of unity and a sign of the fullness of God

**Blessed** is the woman who welcomes  
She will be kindness, the sign of the love of the Lord.

**Blessed** is the woman of the word  
She will be a Word of God for others

**Blessed** is the woman of discernment  
The wisdom of God will be her riches

**Blessed** is the woman of peace and reconciliation  
The strength and joy of the Lord will be hers.

**Blessed** is the woman who journeys towards the fullness of Christ  
She will live in freedom and light of the Lord

**Blessed** is the woman of prayer  
She will live in communion with God and her brothers and sisters. **Amen.**

### Prayer

## St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

(Carol Badewitz 2010)



## PRAYERS TO THE HOLY SPIRIT



We come into your presence,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
You breathed this world into being.

Your creative Spirit is still visible in our everyday lives,  
through the changing seasons, the colours and sounds of nature,  
the rhythm of day and night, sunrise and sunset, tide, wind and rain.

**ALL: Breathe upon us, creative Spirit, Creator God.**

Your Spirit present in the birth pangs of this world empowered  
the Prophets of old, ordinary people called to live extraordinary  
lives.

**ALL: Breathe upon us, creative Spirit, Creator God.**

Your Spirit was so visible through the life of your Son from the  
moment of conception to His death and resurrection.

**ALL: Breathe upon us, creative Spirit, Creator God.**

Your Spirit was the parting gift of Jesus to the world, 'You will  
receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will  
be my witnesses to the ends of the earth.'

**ALL: Breathe upon us, creative Spirit, Creator God.**

Holy Spirit, without your power in the Church today we shall  
always be weak and ineffective in our mission. How can the  
world see you through our lives if they cannot see the power of  
your love shining through? How can the world feel your healing  
touch if we do not know the reality of your presence in our  
lives? How can we show a world that is searching where to find  
spiritual fulfilment if our lives have not first been made whole?

**ALL: Holy Spirit your creative breath is the power in your Church today.**

**Lord, may we know that power in this place and in our lives.  
AMEN.**

*Vicki Vartuli (JA Leader) and Josephite Associates Auburn Group*

Here we stand on holy ground  
The ground you lightly stepped on in earlier times.  
Your footprints have left an imprint  
on thousands of hearts all over the world.  
You cared for our first land-dwellers,  
the poor, the sick, those in need,  
It made no difference their place in society.

Your hands held their own little miracles.  
Your feet trod our barren land  
And walked on into our hearts,  
With the sacred heart of Jesus  
and St Joseph as your guide.  
And so, filled with this great love  
we ask you to guide us  
as we come together to continue  
to recognise your presence in every person we meet.

We ask this through Jesus the Lord.

*Prayed before prayer gatherings Southern New South Wales*