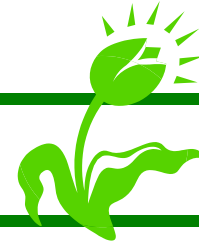


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## Spring 2013



### *East Timor – Why the Need?*

*The following article is an extract of the presentation given by Sr Mary Cresp rsj at our gathering on the 10<sup>th</sup> August.*

East Timor is a small country within sight of Darwin. It comprises half of Timor Island including a small section carved into West Timor which is part of Indonesia. East Timor, or Timor L'Este, is roughly three and a half times the size of Kangaroo Island but with a population of around one million.

The first Europeans to arrive in the area were Portuguese traders in the early 1500s. In 1702 the territory officially became a Portuguese colony. However, the Portuguese tended to exploit the local people rather than contribute to the welfare of the country. Although Portugal was neutral during World War II, a 400-strong Dutch-Australian force and a large number of Timorese volunteers engaged an invading Japanese army in a guerrilla campaign. By the end of WWII it is estimated that up to 70,000 East Timorese were killed by the Japanese.

East Timor gained its independence from Portugal in 1975 but later that year they were invaded by Indonesia and the country was declared a state of Indonesia. Then followed 24 years of genocide where around 200,000 people died from torture, terrible atrocities, enforced starvation and armed conflict.

In 1993 Bishop Belo visited Sydney from Dili and came to us at North Sydney to ask our help. Some Sisters were able to go to East Timor for short spaces of time. It was dangerous work because the Indonesians did not welcome foreigners.

With the end of Indonesia's Suharto government, the East Timorese took the chance and voted overwhelmingly for independence, but the retaliation of the Indonesian military was fierce. With the intervention of an Australian-led UN army the country could now start to recover.



When our Sisters were able to go back to East Timor the country was desperately poor. Their work and those of the wonderfully dedicated people both in Australia and East Timor continues to help people recover their dignity and strength. The Mary MacKillop East Timor Mission aims to play a part which was the hope of Bishop Belo who commissioned us there. Sr Josephine Mitchell rsj, a former mission director, said the people of East Timor are “suffering the same needs as Mary MacKillop first identified in Australia. It is the poorest country in Asia and amongst the poorest in the world.” So we work together in her spirit to foster a range of opportunities for the advancement of the people of Timor L’Este.

We now have our own convent called Penola

in Dili. The Sisters there are supported by many volunteers and by a group of 13 Associates who are paid. They are trained as teachers, administrators and support staff and, in turn, travel throughout the country to train others.

The *train the trainers* programme is now in 80 primary schools and 30 pre-schools in East Timor. The ongoing in-service of teachers, the literacy programmes, the work with health, nutrition and welfare, the education of musicians, the scholarships into tertiary education, the catechetics and employment programmes for young unemployed continue to enable the people to come to a place of recovery and self-sufficiency. All of these can be part of our lives too by prayer and active donations.

## Donations to East Timor – these can be made by...

- Raffles participation at our Associate gatherings this year
- Cash directly to our Treasurer at any Associate gathering
- Post mail to our Treasurer, Julie Langman, 16 Greenwood Cres, Glenalta, 5052
- Online visit [www.sosj.org.au](http://www.sosj.org.au) and click on the *Donations* icon

## *R.I.P. Teresita* by Sr Chris McArthur rsj



Sr Teresita Cormack was born in Hammond, in the far north of South Australia, on 6th July, 1915.

From a young age Teresita was surrounded by Josephites: at Quorn where she spent her primary school years, and later at Kingswood for her secondary education. In her home too, Teresita knew Josephites; two of her aunts were Sisters of St Joseph and Mary MacKillop’s picture was displayed in the house.

Teresita entered the Sisters of St Joseph in February, 1933. She gave herself wholeheartedly to whatever was asked of her. She taught in schools in both city and country. In 1972 she became a student again,

studying at Flinders University, graduating with a degree in Education. Her ability to think clearly and soundly was put to excellent use in her years in Sydney and again in later years at Flora McDonald Lodge.

In 1995 Teresita was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia, in recognition of her service to education and to the Mary MacKillop Promotion Committee. Her love for and knowledge and appreciation of Mary MacKillop and her place in the Australian Church, were an important part of her life.

She has been a shining light for all things Josephite as well as a tireless supporter of education and learning. She has been one of our real ‘wisdom’ women.

Teresita died on 13th May, 2013 and is buried in our cemetery at Mitcham.

# Recall and Remember

CATHOLIC PARISH HALL  
CORNER OF MANNUM RD AND IND ST  
MURRAY BRIDGE

*Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2013*  
*10.30am – 3pm*  
*(Arrive from 10am for morning tea)*

**Cost: \$20**

**Facilitator: Sr Catherine Clark rsj**  
**Transport may be arranged**



*Church of the Holy Redeemer at Murray Bridge which is next to the Parish Hall.*

For our *Reflection Day* we will continue with our theme *Standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before us* as we come together to *recall and remember*.

Sr Catherine, who led us on our first gathering at the Mitcham Cemetery earlier this year, will again take the lead. She will share with us some of her knowledge and insights, recalling the work and dreams of the early Sisters. Sr Catherine will also help us to reflect on how we, who continue their legacy, are challenged to be Church in our world today.

The venue this year is at Murray Bridge which is only an hour's drive from Adelaide up the South Eastern Freeway. Enjoy the beauty of our countryside as you travel to share in this day of prayer, reflection and friendship.

As this event is being formally catered we need **definite numbers by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**. The cost for the day will be \$20 per person and payment may be made on the day.

To book your place please email us on [sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au) or telephone Pat Sandretti on 8264 9658 by 18<sup>th</sup> October at the latest. Visitors may park at the rear of the hall.

**Please advise us should you require transport.**



## *A Musical Afternoon*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2013**

2 – 4pm

Bethany Hall, 4 High St, Kensington



Associates, families and friends are invited to an afternoon's entertainment. This is the opportunity for Sr Majella O'Sullivan rsj to have us singing and laughing.

Please come along, bring a friend or two and wear your favourite Christmas colours or come in character.

RSVP by telephoning Pat Sandretti on 8264 9658 or email us at [sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au)

# JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES 2012 – 2013

by Mary Hemmings and Pat Sandretti (Co-chairs)

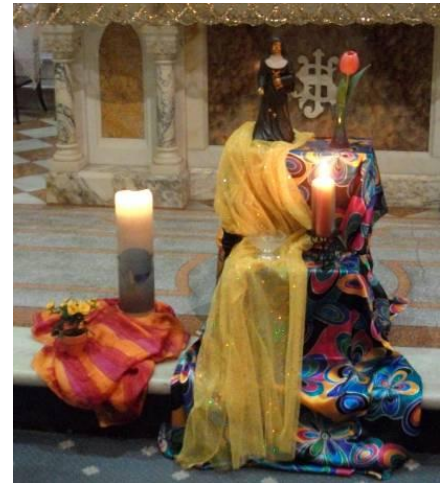
*This is an abridged version of the AGM report presented at our Mary MacKillop Feast Day.*

## 2012

- In October our annual country Prayer Day at Sevenhill was presented by Sr Mary Cresp.
- The Hectorville Associate group celebrated their tenth anniversary of meeting – quite a milestone.
- In the South East six women who were keen to begin a group gathered to share their links with the Josephite charism; two from our leadership team joined them for their first gathering.
- Our year ended with our Christmas Carols Evening.
- Our fundraising raised \$1,000 for the Mary MacKillop Foundation.

## 2013

- We Associates have shared in the stories of the Sisters who have gone before us, by either knowing and working with them or by living the legacy which they have left. We, in fact, "stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us", many of whom are buried in the Mitcham Cemetery. There, in February, we listened as Sr Catherine shared stories of a few of these women's lives. We walked among the graves of the Sisters and shared our own stories of those who had touched our lives.
- During Lent, Val De Brenni led us in a reflection on the Stations of the Cross.
- Our Leadership team meets monthly and plans opportunities to gather around the spirit and story of Mary MacKillop and the Josephites. In November we have planned a day for country and city Associate leaders to look to our future mission as Josephite Associates.
- We recognise that this year less time has been given to supporting our country groups and we hope to make this a focus again.
- The IJALT, International Josephite Associate Leadership Team, organised a Conference in Sydney recently, with 45 Associates from Australia, NZ, East Timor and Peru gathering to reflect on what is happening across each area and to look to the future. Groups are becoming self-governing, with less reliance on the Sisters. We in SA have been working within this model for several years.
- As Associates we are grateful for the support of the Sisters through their presence at our gatherings.
- Our Leadership Team looks forward to continuing to serve and support the Josephite Associates in SA.



# Josephite Associates SA

## Statement of Income and Expenditure

1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013

<b>1<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2012 OPENING BALANCE</b> as per Bank Statement No.179		<b>\$4,597.88</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions (arrears and current)	\$1,415.00	
Donations	\$70.00	
Sale of badges	\$28.00	
Sevenhill Reflection Day (less fee for Presenter)	\$350.00	
High Tea fundraising for MMF	\$241.50	
Hectorville fundraising for MMF	\$114.00	
Bank Interest	\$18.02	\$2,236.52
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$6,834.40</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Newsletter printing	\$207.80	
Newsletter envelopes & postage	\$813.35	
Sevenhill Retreat Centre	\$440.00	
Mitcham Cemetery fee for Presenter	\$100.00	
Jubilee – Gift to Sister	\$100.00	
Sundry – gifts, printing	\$100.00	
Donation to Mary MacKillop Foundation	\$1,000.00	
Airfares to Sydney for IJALT	\$663.50	\$3,424.65
<b>TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>\$3,409.75</b>
<b>30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2013 CLOSING BALANCE</b> as per Bank Statement No. 188		<b>\$3,409.75</b>

Julie Langman  
Treasurer  
14/7/2013

PS: I would sincerely like to thank Gerald Hinton for his exceptional recording of the above income and expenses. This report is 99% due to his great work.

## Retiring Treasurer



*"God will carry you safely  
through every struggle"*  
MMK 1870

In March this year Gerald Hinton completed his time as Treasurer of our SA Associates. We are very grateful to Gerald for his many years of service in this role. He was a very faithful and meticulous record keeper of our finances and generously gave of his time to do this.

## Subscription Reminder

Is your membership of the SA Associates still due for the 2013 – 2014 financial year? If you haven't already done so please assist us and make your membership current. Form and details available in our last (Winter) newsletter.

# Catherine's Column

by Sr Catherine Clark rsj

~ Sister Calasanctius Howley ~

Timothy and Catherine (nee Meehan) Howley of County Clare, Ireland, left Portsmouth, England, on 4 November 1851 on the ship, *Marshall Bennett* with their nine children, arriving at Port Adelaide on 2 February 1852. The family first settled at Burra, before moving to the Hill River area near Mintaro. Two of the children, Anne (Sr Andrea) and Brigid (Sr Calasanctius) entered the Sisters of St Joseph from the Sevenhill Parish on 16 July 1869.

In the early days of the Institute Mother Mary had some very fine assistants around her to help in administration, Sr Calasanctius being one of them. When Mary went overseas in 1873 to gain approval for the Institute it was Sr Calasanctius who acted as Sister Guardian in her absence. In August 1876, when Sr Josephine, who was the leader of the Josephite group in Queensland, was having great difficulties Mary wrote to her saying: "Sr Calasanctius will soon be with you in my place and will tell you much that I cannot. She is invaluable to me in her sincerity and straightforwardness. The temptation she had against the responsibilities of her office has given way and she is more than ever a help and comfort to me. (The next day she added...) Sr Calasanctius will soon be with you. I can ill spare her but she must go as I cannot possibly do so myself."

Although Sr Calasanctius had her own troubles, including a lack of confidence and the effects of a terrible shipwreck of which she was one of the few survivors, Mother Mary knew she had in her a tower of strength. This was clearly realized also by the enemies of the Institute in 1883, when Bishop Reynolds was trying to take control of the

Order. On 10 October 1883, Bishop Reynolds and Archdeacon Russell came to Kensington with a *Memorial of Directions*. One of his Directions was the ordering of Sr Calasanctius to New Zealand. He was planning to take over authority in the Institute and he feared that even the expulsion of Mother Mary might not have left him a clear path, if her Assistant remained in Adelaide. It was fairly clear that Sr Calasanctius, the second in command, was too upright and faithful to allow what was happening to happen without protest, and that they wanted her as far from Adelaide as possible. Mother Mary wrote to Dr Campbell about the affair on 30 March 1884: "I suspected then and am convinced of it now that she was got out of the way through the misrepresentations of a discontented few who feared and disliked her. My opinion of the same Sister is that a truer Sister, and a better Superior does not exist in the Institute, but at times through too great a distrust of her own fitness for the office she held, and the hope of being freed from it, she said and did foolish things to make others think little of her. But in this she could not succeed as the majority of the Sisters both love and respect her. She was truthful, honest and faithful, and felt her being sent away as she was."

Later, when describing the actions of the Bishop, Mother Mary wrote to Dr Moran: "On the day on which the Bishop gave us the above instructions he insisted that Sr Calasanctius, the Assistant General, should be sent to New Zealand with the new foundation. I mentioned her dread of the sea (she having been previously one of the very few saved from a terrible shipwreck) and

*cont next page*

stated that the Sister we had decided upon sending in charge could do without her. The Bishop still insisted that she should go and told me to tell her it was the wish or decision of the Commission. The distress of Sr Calasanctius on hearing that the Bishop insisted upon her going away to New Zealand was great, and she reminded me of a promise I had made her mother 'that I would not send her out of the colony again during her (the mother's) life'. I had not remembered this when speaking to the Bishop, and as Sister's distress was so great, I wrote a note to the Bishop asking him if he would see her and hear what she had to say. He would not see Sr Calasanctius, but wrote her a most bitter letter against me, and insisted that she should go as directed, or take the consequences if not."

In the course of time, the Mother General felt within her rights in sending Sr Calasanctius back to South Australia. But it is clear enough historically that the Bishop did not want her among the Adelaide Sisters. The reason for his disapproval is well delineated in a letter of Sr Bernadine to Mother Mary on 1 November 1885: "...there is one thing that I feel sure of, and that is that your enemies are also Sr Calasanctius', and that is the reason that they dread her coming home. They know that she would defend you and help the Sisters to cling together, and as they think that they will separate the Sisters from their M.G. and have separate houses or communities in each Diocese, they think they will have it all their own way if it is Sr Monica they have to deal with, but I think that they will find their mistake."

Sr Monica wrote in her report of the events of 1885: "Some time before these events the Bishop had sent a circular to every priest in the Diocese, forbidding them to absolve Sr Calasanctius, and making hers a reserved case; and this without any fault on her part. His Lordship accused Sr Calasanctius of going about the country giving scandal (which she had not). She went nowhere but to Georgetown and to Jamestown, and she was sent to these places by her Superiors. He had

ordered her to remain in Gawler where the Sisters assist each day at Mass in the parish church, and what scandal will it not give for the people to see one Sister there never going to the Sacraments?"

It was Sr Annette who braved the wrath of the Bishop, and eventually won for Sr Calasanctius to receive the Eucharist. Sr Annette told Mother Mary in June: "I got Sr Monica's permission to have an interview so we went over and asked him for a great favour, that is to let Sr Calasanctius go to the Sacraments. He said that Rome would have to settle it, and that she came back against his wish, and that she had no right to do. So you may rest assured that all that was in my power I did for her, and again I went on my knees and asked him in honour of the Sacred Heart to grant the request and let her go to the Sacraments for the feast of the Sacred Heart. Then his reply was that he would consider it."

In mid 1887 the Diocese of Port Augusta was established under the leadership of Bishop John O'Reily. As a consequence the Port Augusta Province of the Sisters of St Joseph came into being and Sr Calasanctius was appointed as Provincial. Bishop O'Reily seems to have been able to exercise a milder and more kindly influence on Dr Reynolds, so much so that Sr Calasanctius was tolerated in the Archdiocese. Bishop O'Reily wrote to Mother Mary on 22 August 1888: "Sr Calasanctius deserves, in virtue of her office, a paragraph to herself, and indeed I am almost disposed to say, deserves it for her own personal worth. It is fortunate that she is appointed Provincial. The favour she finds, as far as I can learn, with the Sisters will give her much influence with them for their good; and the fact that her appointment is not displeasing to the Archbishop obviates many difficulties that might otherwise exist."

Sr Calasanctius continued to work throughout South Australia until her death in Adelaide on 13 December 1933. She is buried, with Sr Andrea, in the Sevenhill Catholic Cemetery.

# Diary Dates for 2013

## ☼ St Mary MacKillop's Monthly Mass and Reflection

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> of each month (except Sundays)  
Time: 10.30am (Mass) and 5.45pm (Reflection)  
Place: Kensington Chapel, 286 Portrush Rd, Kensington

## ☼ Reflection Day: *Recall and Remember*

Date: Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> October

For more details please refer to page 3.

## ☼ Musical Afternoon

Date: Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December

For more details please refer to page 3.



## News from the MMK Exhibition Centre by Sr Pat Keane

- **St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Rose**

Orders are now being taken. Telephone 8364 5311. Roses will be available from the Centre for collection. Cost \$10 for each bare-rooted rose or \$12 for each potted rose.

- **2014 Josephite Calendar**

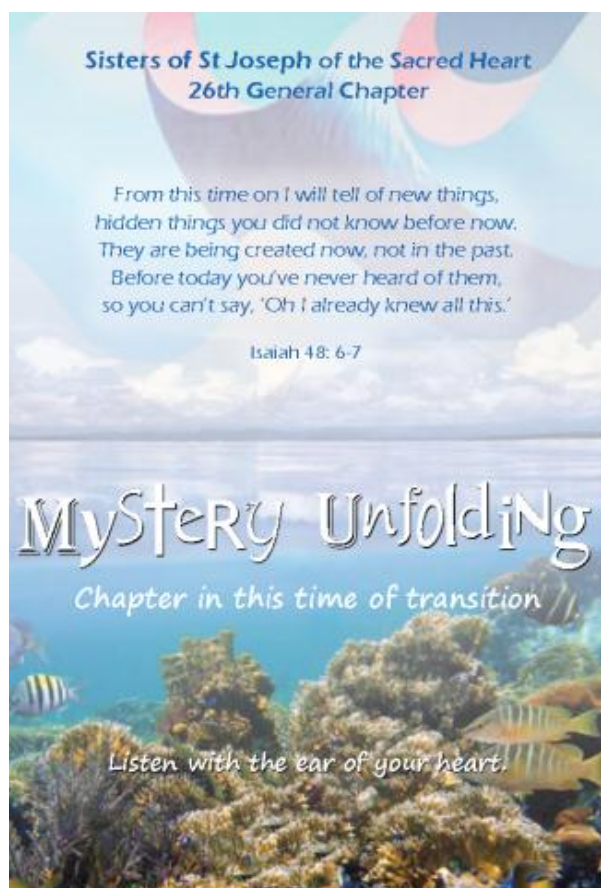
Hopefully available from mid-September. Cost is \$6.50 from the Centre or extra for postal orders.

- **Advance Notice: Mid-North Weekend Pilgrimage, 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2014**

The cost is yet to be determined. Expressions of interest are now being received. Telephone 8364 5311 for further information.

## 26<sup>th</sup> General Chapter in 2013

Every six years the Sisters of St Joseph assemble in Sydney for their General Chapter. From the 7<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> November Sisters will gather to discern the direction for the Congregation and to elect their Congregational Leader and her team for the next six years. Following is the Chapter Prayer which Associates may wish to pray for the Sisters leading up to and during the Chapter.



*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*