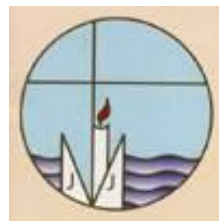


Josephite Associates



Friendship Prayer Service

PO Box 57
Kent Town SA 5071
sa.associates@sosj.org.au

Summer 2013



Recalling and Remembering

by Amanda Taverna



On Saturday 26th October the Josephite Associates SA travelled to Murray Bridge for our annual reflection day. We have been blessed with beautiful weather in the past, allowing us to move outside during quiet moments of reflection, and this day was no different; the sun was bright, with a gentle warmth much like a smile. Indeed this warmth seemed to fill our day; from the kind welcome of the Murray Bridge “crew”, the renewed friendships and connections with other Associates, through to the laughter and cheeky banter that accompanied the lunchtime raffle, everyone had a smile on their face!

Sr Catherine Clark rsj began the morning with some history. Her passion and knowledge is unequalled and she provided some interesting detail as to the “genetic” background of the early Church in South Australia. As someone with a particular love of history, I am in awe of her ability to recall minute details and weave them into a colourful and lively tapestry. This first session really provided the context of the Church in which Mary MacKillop began and continued her work with the Sisters of St Joseph.

Given time to pause, reflect and even share my thoughts with others, who have that special connection or affinity for Mary MacKillop, I continue to be amazed at Mary’s determination. She truly believed and held in her heart the mission given to her by the God she so loved. To someone living over a century later, it seems that her vision was clear, but of course as we know there were many obstacles and challenges for her to navigate and overcome along the way.

Sr Catherine asked us to ponder the difference of BEING Church and BELONGING to a Church and to reflect on our own mission today. I have had a sense of what my mission is for some time but how I work towards it is another matter! As a teacher and mother, I believe I am called to help my students and my children find a connection to the Church and to be the Church themselves. It’s a tough undertaking but with some valuable insight from Sr Catherine and the much appreciated suggestions of others, perhaps I have taken from this day a new perspective on, and a renewed rigour in, my work towards this mission and for this I am grateful! My heartfelt thanks to all involved.

Healing and Hope

by Paul Murphy



On the 8th September Sr Angela Mahar rsj spoke with Associates and Sisters about grief and loss. Sr Angela has spent 25 years in schools both as a teacher and in administration and for the past 16 years has been engaged as a Counsellor in the Riverland, Pt Pirie and now Whyalla. We were very grateful for her input.

Sr Angela's positive and informative talk involved lots of stories, listening and helpful advice around a sometimes difficult topic. We understood that times of grief and loss are part of our lives and we need to deal with these moments or encounter troubles later on in our lives. Sr Angela helped us to understand that these experiences will lead to healing and hope if we put the work in! Our healing comes when we dig down into ourselves. She highlighted that we can grieve in lots of different ways, actively and quietly. We are all different and will experience different feelings and responses.

As Associates we always look for ways to live the spirit of Mary MacKillop. Mary shared in grief and loss and supported others throughout her life bringing healing and hope. In her spirit we might take some of Sr Angela's suggestions of how to support others:

*Spend time with the person
Listen to their story
Smile and laugh with them
Go shopping
Go out for a meal
Talk about the positives
Talk about the normal
Cry with them*

Sr Angela used this quote by Nan Witcomb to remind us of hope:

To mourn too long for those we love is self indulgent. But to honour their memory with a promise to live a little better for having known them, gives purpose to their life – and some reason for their death.



Stamps for the Missions

Stamps which are donated are processed, parcelled up and sold at auction. The money raised goes to Mary MacKillop International for the missions in Brazil, East Timor and Peru. Over the last few years thousands of dollars have been raised in this way. Please send your used stamps, leaving a 1cm border, to:

Sr Helen Saunders (stamps)
St Joseph's Congregational Admin Centre
PO Box 1508, North Sydney, NSW, 2059

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

- Raffles participating in our Associate gatherings
- 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 and click on the donations icon

Thank you

We are very grateful for the following donations towards our fundraising for the mission in East Timor:

- \$170 from the Hectorville Group, and
- \$218 from the Murray Bridge Raffle & fundraising on our reflection day.



A Musical Afternoon

Sunday 22nd December, 2013

2 – 4pm

Flora McDonald Lodge Hall
206 Sir Donald Bradman Drv, Cowandilla



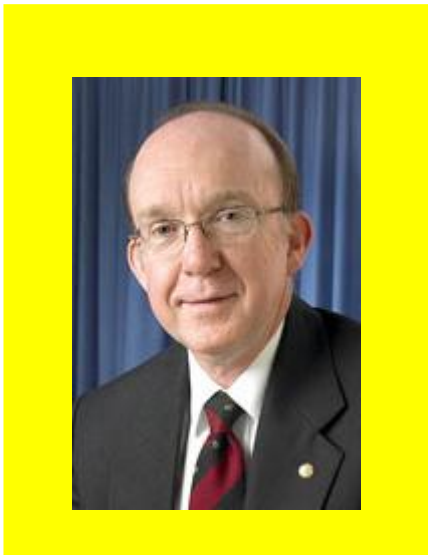
Please note the change of venue for this year's Carols.

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. For afternoon tea please bring a packet of fruit mince pies (must have ingredients listed). These will be shared with the residents who will be joining us.

RSVP by telephoning Pat Sandretti on 8264 9658 or email us at sa.associates@sosj.org.au

AND IN 2014



The Pope and The Saint

St Ignatius Catholic Church
137 William St, Norwood

Friday, 7th February, 2014
7pm – 8.30pm

Facilitator: Fr Paul Mullins sj

Fr Paul is a member of the Society of Jesus (a Jesuit) and is currently the Parish Priest of Norwood.

Together we will explore the connection between the Jesuits and the Josephites as we hear Fr Paul speak about Pope Francis and his message of hope and link this with Mary MacKillop as a symbol of hope.

So, please join us in the Church for our first event of the new year. Following the talk, light refreshments will be provided in the Hall next door.

Please RSVP by telephoning Pat Sandretti on 8264 9658 or email us at sa.associates@sosj.org.au by Friday, 31st January if you are able to join us for this gathering.

Hope to see you there!

The Conference

by Bridgette Barrett and Anne Slattery



On a weekend in July, Mary Hemmings, Bridgette Barrett, Anne Slattery and Lucia Ciocca (L – R in photo) from the SA Associates Leadership Team attended the International Josephite Associates Leadership Team (IJALT) Conference at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney. The theme of the conference was "Being Josephite Associates in our Ever-Changing World".

The Conference began with Sr Angela Grant rsj describing the beginning of the Associate movement thirty years ago in 1983. At that time Sr Angela and other Josephite Sisters realized that many people, who were not vowed Sisters, shared in the Josephite charism. They explored ways of enabling others to share their spiritual homeland and so our Josephite Associate movement was born!

Against the backdrop of the Josephite Associates' birthing story, groups from different states and countries including Peru, Timor and New Zealand presented creative accounts of what is happening in their local area today. These accounts helped us all to appreciate the variety of activities and the spiritual riches that as Associates we bring to our local communities. Some of the groups had formation programmes and a commitment Mass at parish level. WA had a 30th birthday party! Other states were very involved with the *Junior Joeys* at the school level. The Timorese are leading the Marungi health programme and acolyte formation. The enthusiasm and energy in the groups as we shared our stories was 'contagious and encouraging'!

As Associate leaders we came to the Conference with many questions centered around formation, forms of governance, relationship with the Sisters into the future, Covenant Josephites, new membership, connections with past students, networking, resources, Congregational ministries carrying on Mary MacKillop's legacy today and how we can support some of these ministries.

Now we look to the future! We believe we need to develop the IJALT further as a central contact for all Associate groups here and overseas. We have many dreams of what we hope for in years to come. Among our aspirations are the following:

- *to strengthen our appreciation of the Josephite charism*
- *to keep close to the Sisters*
- *to open doors for younger members – this is a real challenge!*
- *to promote unity with diversity in the Associate movement*
- *to find 'where we hang our hat' with the Congregation's ministries*
- *to spread the Josephite charism through Friendship, Prayer and Service, and*
- *to hold another conference three years from now!*

One point that became very clear over the weekend was that some groups are still very reliant on the Sisters. These groups are now becoming more independent. In SA we have

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been independent of the Sisters for a few years now even though we have the total support of the Sisters. (We know where they are when we need them and they are always willing to assist!)

Since the meeting in July we have met up with Associates from Queensland and Peru who have been visiting SA on pilgrimage. We have also had contact with the Mary MacKillop Foundation to help promote and assist the Foundation in SA.

Mary MacKillop International (MMI) supports work done in Brazil, East Timor and Peru. A few years ago our fundraising efforts were for Peru (East Timor this year) and as part of our ongoing support for Peru, the SA group is offering *Ethica Accessories* made in Peru for sale at all our gatherings. Any Associates are also welcome to take these goods to their local communities for sale as part of our ongoing support for MMI.

As SA and WA are now one region, we are also in contact with the Associates in WA so we can combine and share resources. Mary MacKillop had great distances to cover. This is easier today with email and Skype.

There was a slight concern as to where the Associate movement will go from here but after attending such a wonderful weekend with so many passionate Associates in attendance we have no doubt about our future.

A big thank you to everyone on the IJALT committee (Mary Hemmings from SA). The organisation of the entire weekend was wonderful.

Part of this article has been extracted from an article prepared by Sr Eileen Lenihan rsj of the CLT for the SOSJ website.



"The work is God's, not mine, and I know it will not fail."

Visit from Queensland

A group of pilgrims from Townsville met with the SA Josephite Associate Leadership Team. Over dinner there was much chatter as we spoke of the Mary MacKillop connection and of their journey so far including some of the highlights such as Portland, Penola and the sights in and around Adelaide.

Thank you to the Queenslanders for their friendliness. It was a most enjoyable evening.



Catherine's Column

by Sr Catherine Clark rsj

~ Sister Gertrude (Emily) Hayman ~

Emily Hayman was born in Bristol, England on the 9th November 1846. Her parents were Hugh William Hayman and Emily Bishop. The Hayman family migrated from England on the "Joseph Banks" arriving in Adelaide on 29th May 1855.

Emily, aged 21, joined the Josephites on 8th December 1867; the tenth person on the Josephite register. She was received as a Novice at West Terrace on 2nd February 1868. By mid year, as a novice, together with Monica Phillips (then a postulant) she opened the school at Macclesfield. On 11th June 1868, in a letter from Macclesfield, Gertrude apologises to Mary for not coming to the retreat and tells her that she and Monica get on very well and are happy working together. She comments that she will miss Monica if she has to go to town. She speaks of their appreciation of the support given them by Fr Smythe, and describes four new enrolments: two boys who are taller than the Sisters and two girls who had not heard Mass since Easter. She then describes the older women who are coming to them and asking for instruction for confession. In a letter to Mary on 21st June Monica describes how much these women loved Gertrude.

Gertrude was in the Pt Adelaide community from June until April 1871. She was one of the many dispensed from their vows at the time of the excommunication. Some of her strength of character was shown by the fact that during this time she accepted a position, and had the courage to teach, in a school under Fr Horan's charge. Fr Horan was a bitter enemy of the Josephites and Julian Tenison Woods. She returned to the Josephites again as soon as the ban was lifted.

It was Gertrude, who in a letter to Mary on 6th January 1885, has left for us a description of the first visit of Dr Reynolds to Kensington to address the Sisters at the end of their retreat.

In part it reads: "Here we are in misery and disgrace. The Retreat is over today and his Lordship sent word that not one of the Sisters was to leave for their different places till he dressed them down. What do you think Mother? He brought the Vicar General, Fr Polk and Fr O'Sullivan. Poor Fr O'Sullivan had to write everything that he said because the Sisters are "such liars that things may go in a different light to what he meant them. ... He first found fault with Sr Calasanctius and accused her of being the ring leader of everything bad. Poor dear Sr Monica left her seat and knelt before him, defending Sister. He would not listen to her and waved her back, made little of her before all the Sisters and priests, saying, 'If Mother Monica is to be believed', as if Sr Monica would tell a lie. It was worse, dear Mother, than your excommunication...."

During Easter week in 1885, Bishop Reynolds returned to Kensington with the intention of making the Sisters in SA a Diocesan Order under his leadership. In the following weeks as the Sisters struggled to remain under the approved Constitutions it was decided that the novices be sent to Sydney to continue their formation. It was Gertrude who was asked to accompany them to Sydney. They all departed Adelaide on 27th April 1885.

In December 1889, Gertrude was asked to be the Leader of the first Group of Sisters to make a Foundation in Victoria. On 12th January 1890 the Sisters, including Mary MacKillop, Gertrude Hayman, Patricia Ellist and Teresa Delaney arrived in Nurmurkah to establish a school. However, Gertrude had less than two years as Sister in charge there.

In September 1891, she joined Mary MacKillop in Melbourne to establish a Providence. By October, they had moved into one of two houses that Archbishop Carr had leased at 43 and 45 Latrobe St. They named the new

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institution *St Joseph's Providence*. As was true of the other Providences established by the Sisters of St Joseph in Adelaide and Sydney it was entirely dependent on 'the charity of the public to fund the work for the welfare of the poor'. It seems that the difficult conditions might have put on hold Bishop Carr's plans to build additions to the Providence. As a result the Sisters moved the Providence twice, first to East Melbourne and then to Collingwood.

On 12th June 1897 in a letter to Mary, Gertrude, though she was based in Collingwood, expressed her hopes of moving back to the Little Lonsdale Street area where she could get a shop 'in the back streets and have it done up for a poor school for the waifs and strays of the city'. In October 1897, just such a school opened in a rented two-roomed premises in Little Lonsdale Street. By this time Archbishop Carr had begun to build a school on the land he had purchased near the La Trobe Providence in 1891. Late in 1898 the Sisters were able to move from the rented accommodation to their new school in a laneway known as Cumberland Place. It was a simple building of two rooms. But by 1903 there were 120 children receiving an education there. The Sisters not only taught the children, but provided clothes for them to wear to Mass and collected them on Sundays, accompanied them to Mass and then took them back to their parents' homes. This school was made up of families from many nations. Despite this mix of nationalities, the school, by 1903 was labelled, informally at least, "St Joseph's

Syrian School" because of the large number of children of Syrian origin attending. As Gertrude Hayman had hoped, it fitted into the streetscape of simple, low cottages and workshops. By 1901 Sr Gertrude Hayman was suggesting that larger and more permanent premises should be found for the Providence. This was achieved in September 1902.

Gertrude's father Hugh, as an engineer, became the Superintendent of the Railways Locomotive Department in SA. In the Southern Cross of 9th January 1903 there is a report of the speech made by him at the end-of-year-concert in St Joseph's School, Quorn, SA. It states that "a vote of thanks to the Sisters was responded to by H. W. Hayman, who said he took great interest in the Order as his daughter, Sr Gertrude of Melbourne, began with the first eight Sisters, under the Reverend Mother Mary of the Cross in 1867. The Sisters, at no cost to the State, had in each chief city, houses of Providence, also orphanages and founding hospitals, all under the care of the Sisters."

Gertrude finally returned to Sydney, where she died on 13th February 1929 and is buried in Gore Hill, North Sydney. She has been described as a woman, with a great sense of humour, and as having a personality that attracted people to her. A Sister once spoke with deep feeling of Gertrude's "kindness to all and on all occasions; that to be near her made you want to be good."

The Sisters Still Need 📩 YOUR 📩 Help

Sr Catherine Clark rsj continues to collect the stories of any of the Sisters of St Joseph to add to the collection before they are lost in time. If you are able to help in this way please write your story and send to Sr Catherine:

- by post: 25 Phillips St, Kensington, 5068
- by email: cathclark@bigpond.com

News from the Mary MacKillop Exhibition Centre

Compiled by Sr Pat Keane rsj

- [2014 Josephite Calendar](#)
Don't leave it too late to purchase. The cost remains at \$6.50, plus extra for postage.
- [2014 Pilgrimage to Mid-Northern Country Towns](#)
This is a 3-day guided pilgrimage from Friday, 4th April to Sunday, 6th April. Cost is \$425 (pp twin share) or \$510 (pp single) and includes coach transport, 2 nights accommodation and all meals. Need to have at least 25 participants by 18th December, 2013 or we will be forced to cancel.
Further information available by telephoning 8364 5311.

Prayer Page

*Mary MacKillop,
friend of the poor,
sister of the oppressed,
companion of the lonely.*



*Walk with the people of East Timor in these days.
Pray to our good God for them that they be blessed
with wisdom and courage,
with justice and reconciliation in their dealings with
each other and their neighbours.
Ask the same Spirit who enveloped you
to continue to show them the path of respect for
the human dignity of each person.*

*Walk with us, Mary MacKillop, the neighbours of East Timor.
Pray to God for us, that we will take up the responsibilities that
are ours as a nation in debt to the Timorese people.
We remember their loyalty to our soldiers in World War II.
We regret the fear, ignorance and greed which has caused
so much suffering and harm over the years.
We witness the crucifixion of the Timorese people which still remains
in its many guises of poverty, violence and hardship.*

*Walk with those leaders who are trying to right past wrongs.
Walk with us who are happy to be among the many individuals
and groups who have taken the Timorese people into their
hearts and have been blessed beyond measure.*

*May we open our hearts and learn from the poor of this world, as you did,
Mary MacKillop,
woman of integrity,
resourceful educator,
compassionate friend.*

The prayer is used with the permission of the Sisters of St Joseph through Mary MacKillop International.



*Wishing all Associates,
families and friends a very
blessed and joyful
Christmas Season*

