



Josephite Companions Aotearoa

Friendship ♦ Prayer ♦ Service

Christmas Newsletter

December 2014

Dear Josephite Companions

Christmas is not too far away, the end of year with all its busyness looms. Let us see beyond the tinsel of our commercial world as we strive to turn our hearts towards the gift and the mystery of Christmas. *Remember to look forward to the relaxation and rest of the holiday period.*

CELEBRATIONS FOR REV JULIAN E. TENISON WOODS *on the occasion of the 125th Anniversary of his death.*

Mount St. Joseph's held a special afternoon gathering to mark the occasion, with a very informative and enriching Liturgy around the Life of Julian T Woods. Sister Denise, a member of the Regional Team, from Queensland, was with us at the time and joined us for the occasion. Our Senior Sisters from Quinlan Court also gathered with us, enjoying the company, the liturgy and the fabulous afternoon tea. We believe that there was also a wonderful celebration of Julian's life at Mission Bay in Auckland.



Francesca Bourke and John Bosco Kendall (JB) visit Mount St Joseph's, Whanganui. JB led us in a Ritual to celebrate Rev Julian E. Tenison Woods.



Francesca Bourke, Josepha O'Connor, Oline Nielsen and Frances Wallace enjoy a cup of tea.

JCA LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING;

The Josephite Companions' Leadership Team met recently at Mission Bay. It was good to welcome Therese McConway onto the team. We had a very productive time together. As part of the weekend, we invited Liz George to share her Covenant Josephite journey with us. Her story left a deep impression on all of us.
Marie Skidmore



Scotland - the family home of Mary MacKillop

Therese McConway and Audrey Thompson both Josephite Sisters have recently completed a FIVE Year stint in Scotland. Audrey is an Australian, Therese belongs here in Aotearoa N.Z. and accompanied the Companions in Wellington prior to going to minister in Scotland. The J.C.A Leadership Team welcomed Therese to the group, she comes with much experience of recent years in Scotland. The Icon below - a Scottish image of Mary MacKillop was presented by Therese.



Original Icon of Blessed Mary MacKillop from St Mary's Church Bornish, South Uist, outer Hebrides.

The face of Mary, with high cheek bones and distinctive colouring are typically Celtic. The 'stones' below Mary's face depict scenes and influences on her life and journey towards sanctity.

On the left are symbols from the Scottish countryside from where Mary's parents originated. On the right is Fr Woods and Mary's first school at Penola and the crucifix previously worn by the Sisters.

Covenant Josephites

Josephite Membership has taken an amazing direction in recent years. Vowed Membership is still the norm, with new Pathways allowing for married couples, single men and women to embrace and live out, the Joseph Charism.

Liz George - is our first N.Z. Covenant Josephite, and two others have begun this Josephite Journey.

In Peru, there are FOUR Covenant Josephites, wonderful people, who are very active, in living out their commitment as Josephite people.



Recently Deceased Companions

Rotorua.

Prayers please for the deceased members, Charlotte Leger and John Cahalane.

- We ask prayers for another member, Pat Casey, who had stroke and now in a rest home. Both Pat and her husband, Peter, are our founding members
- I thought I should let you know that one of our Companions, Kevin Burdon, passed away last Friday 7th November. His death was very sudden. Rosary at his family home last night was well attended and the church for his funeral Mass today was packed to overflowing in spite of the weather.

Kevin and his wife, Patricia, have a long association with the Sisters of St Joseph. Before they became Companions they offered hospitality to the sisters at their farm at Five Rivers. They have a wonderful family of six children, married and lots of grandchildren. Kevin has been very vibrant in our parish as Parish Chairman and working quietly behind the scenes. He will be sadly missed.

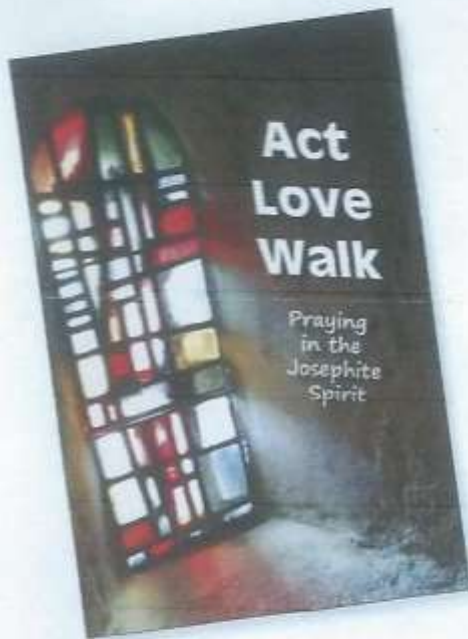
Prayers, please, for Kevin and family. Madeline Lawn

A Christmas Reflection: God in our midst, challenge us to stop looking in the wrong places for the sacred. May the Christmas story stir in our consciousness the certainty of God-here-with-us in the ordinary, the everyday, the chaos, the shabbiness of a stable, the flight into exile, the love between a man and a woman, the birth of a child, and in people despised because of their lowly social status.

May we recognize God-in-us and give generous expression to this gift we all share, and may the peace of Christ be with you, within your lives and within your homes this Christmas. *Liz and Rita.*

New Josephite Prayer Book You may have heard of the new Josephite Prayer Book, and already have ordered one from Mount Street. Only 1500 were printed in the first edition - they've all gone!! Orders are now on hold. The book is being reprinted and will be available early next year. Attached is an order form for any who would like to get a copy when they come to hand.

ACT LOVE WALK - Praying in the Josephite Spirit



A book of prayers in the Josephite Spirit designed for use by individuals, schools and business Boards among others.

Divided into four sections - firstly

- Journeying through the year - followed by three sections based on the proclamations of Micah -
- Act Justly
- Love Tenderly
- Walk Humbly

This is what the Living God asks of you: only this, to act justly; to love tenderly; to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

The book is richly illustrated and will make a beautiful gift and be a welcomed addition to any library.

Paperback - 180pp

\$15 Wholesale

\$20 RRP

If you wish to place an order at the wholesale price of \$15 per book, please complete the form below and email to Sandy Leaitua sandy.leaitua@sosj.org.au. An invoice will be sent to you with your order.

PLEASE NOTE
Associates and Sisters can order direct from Sandy Leaitua at the wholesale price of \$15 per copy

Order Form

Please forward copies of *ACT, LOVE, WALK - Praying in the Josephite Spirit*

@ \$15 per copy to:

Contact Person

Name of Centre Order #

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