



# Josephite Associates

• FRIENDSHIP • PRAYER • SERVICE

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NEWSLETTER • March 2015

## Greetings and Blessings from the Congregational Leader

Greetings and blessings for 2015. As we replace our 2014 calendars with the 2015 ones, we mark the beginning of a New Year filled with hope and expectations, knowing that the God who has journeyed thus far will continue to accompany us in all that 2015 holds for us.

As we enter into the journey of the New Year, we look back with gratitude on the blessings and opportunities for growth that 2014 offered. What memories will you carry with you from the experiences of 2014 that will continue to influence and shape all that you become in 2015?

New beginnings invite us to open the door of possibility to those moments in the everyday in which we encounter the God of surprises – the beauty of a sunset, a young person reaching out with tenderness to an elderly person, watching with delight a young person graduating in a chosen career, viewing a television programme that shows the life that has come from the tragedy of the tsunami. Moments such as these are constant reminders that our God is constantly doing new deeds in and among us.

Each New Year is a time to look forward with anticipation to all the future holds. A time to renew our hope in the God who desires to comfort us in those moments when life is filled with hardships, pain and sorrow.

This year is one that has been particularly dedicated to those who choose to live the gospel life as religious women and men. Pope Francis, himself a beacon of hope amidst the many crises being faced in our world and in our church, invites Religious to go out and 'find life by giving life, hope by giving hope and love by giving love'. (Letter from Pope Francis at the Beginning of the Year of Consecrated life 29/11/2014)

I invite Josephite Associates to join with the Sisters of St Joseph in celebrating this Year of Consecrated life.

*Sister Monica Cavanagh rsj,  
Congregational Leader, Sisters of St Joseph*

## Dear Josephite Associates,

Welcome to 2015! I wish you every grace and blessing this year as we take up the invitation to unite ourselves in spirit with the Sisters of St Joseph as they celebrate 'Wake up the World – Year of Consecrated Life'.

Congratulations to all Sisters who celebrate in 2015 their



*Saint Joseph's Statue  
Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney  
celebrating the Feast of St Joseph  
19th March 2015*

Jubilee of Religious Profession – fifty years, sixty years and seventy years of commitment to live the Gospel in serving the poor and marginalised in society, following in the footsteps of their co-founders Father Julian E. Tenison Woods and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

This year is an historic occasion for all Associates, as we welcome Josephite Associates Goulburn and Perthville to unite as one body – Josephite Associates (NSW) Inc. The Fusion Ceremony of the Perthville Associates will be held in St Mary's School Hall, Percy Street, Wellington on Saturday 23rd May at 11a.m. (expressions of interest are invited from Associates wishing to travel by coach from Strathfield to Wellington – refer to the advertisement on page 2). It is necessary for any Associates wishing to travel independently to Wellington to notify the office at Croydon of their intention as we will be advising Sister Jean Cain rsj of the numbers attending for catering purposes.

The Fusion Ceremony of the Goulburn Associates will be held later in 2015.

In order to preserve the historical records of the Goulburn and Perthville Associates, their names will be recorded at the Croydon office by identifying each Associate who has been dedicated as a Perthville or Goulburn Associate.

An immediate change will occur in publishing one newsletter to all Associates in NSW. We look forward to receiving news from our country Associates (via email [associates@sosjnsw.org.au](mailto:associates@sosjnsw.org.au) or mail P O Box 184 Croydon NSW 2132) for publication in the Newsletter.

We now live in times of unspeakable violence in our world. This is our time more than ever to be people of prayer. Pray for the persecuted wherever they may be. I leave you with this:

## 'Prayer for Today'

Every day, I need Thee Lord  
but this day especially  
I need some extra strength  
to face whatever is to be.

This day, more than any day  
I need to feel Thee near  
to fortify my courage  
and to overcome my fear

By myself I cannot meet  
the challenge of the hour  
There are times when human  
creatures need a higher Power  
to help them bear  
what must be borne

And so, dear Lord, I pray –  
Hold onto my trembling hand  
and be with me today.

*St Mary of the Cross – Pray with us.  
St Joseph – Pray with us.*

*Leonie Bell, JA President*

## The Year of Consecrated Life



We are at the beginning of the year dedicated to Consecrated Life throughout the world. Pope Francis has invited all who are committed to this way of life to enter into the spirit of this year: to wake up the world and be witnesses

to a different way of doing things, of acting and of living.

During this year, Consecrated men and women are being invited to:

- Remember the past with gratitude.
- Embrace the future with hope.
- Live the present passionately

As this year begins I would like to take a moment to consider these three perspectives in the Josephite context.

### 1. Remembering the past with gratitude

‘Gratitude is the memory of the heart.’ (Mary MacKillop 1907)

Let us pause for a moment and, in the Presence of our Provident God, recall with gratitude the faithfulness and dedication of so many religious women and men who have participated generously in the mission of God. In my own Congregation, the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, I am particularly grateful to our founders St Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian E. Tenison Woods, whose courage and vision gave birth to a new way of living Consecrated Life in Australia.

I look back with gratitude to the Sisters who taught me and embodied the vision and values of Mary and Julian in their time. Somewhere in the midst of this, God sowed a seed in my heart to follow the God quest as a Sister of St Joseph. I was still in my primary years of schooling when the documents *Lumen Gentium* and *Perfectae Caritatis* were being imagined and written. Little did I know that these events were to shape the next forty years of my life, living as a Josephite Sister.

Today, we look back and see the impact these documents had on shaping the future development of religious life. They were integral to my own religious formation. They were essential requirements for any who entered into the mysterious journey of religious life in the post-Vatican era. *Perfectae Caritatis* invited religious to undertake the following tasks:

- To follow Christ as set out in the Gospels.
- To return to the original spirit of the Institute and

### INVITATION TO

Josephite Associates interested in joining  
with the Perthville Associates

**on Saturday May 23rd 2015**

at

St Mary's School Hall  
Percy Street

### WELLINGTON

for a Fusion Ceremony of the Perthville Associates  
with Josephite Associates (NSW)

*A coach will be available for travelling to Wellington  
leaving Strathfield Station at 6 a.m.*

**Please notify the office  
immediately if you wish to attend  
as numbers are limited**

**02 9747 4199**

**associates@sosjns.org.au**

to adapt this to the present circumstances.

• To listen attentively to the social conditions of this time and to respond to these in new ways.

Perhaps the Cardinals and Bishops of the Second Vatican Council did not actually believe that women and men religious would take these tasks so seriously. In my own Congregation, Sisters sought out opportunities for both individual and communal

renewal. Often in their own time they undertook studies in Theology, Spirituality, Mission and Ministry. In particular as Josephite women we became aware of our prophetic presence both in the Church and in the world. The Sisters searched for ways to live their spiritual lives more fruitfully and began to find new and creative ways to engage in God's mission.

### 2. Embracing the Future with Hope

‘Do not be troubled about the future of the Institute. I am not. He whose work it is will take care of it.’ (Mary MacKillop 1898)

Being faithful to the task at hand has brought Consecrated Life to a new moment:

- At moment of gestation where something new is being born.
- A religious life evolving within the reality of the cosmic story.

Our most recent Chapter document invited each Sister to ponder: ‘How will we participate as women religious in the evolution of religious life?’

We enter into this discernment process believing that there will always be a form of religious life. How it will be shaped and how it will be lived I believe are part of the unfolding mystery of God. As Sisters of St Joseph we are currently exploring new pathways of gathering around the charism by public and private vows or through a Covenant relationship. As Sisters of St Joseph we embrace our future knowing that what is emerging is in God's hands and like St Mary MacKillop we place our trust and confidence in an abundant God.

### 3. Living the Present Passionately

‘Seek first the poorest most neglected parts of God's vineyard.’ (Mary MacKillop 1900)

I believe that Josephite women are being called to be a wisdom presence in our Church and in our world. Even as we engage in the ageing process, Josephite women continue to bring life and hope in both simple and extraordinary ways. I see the women in my Congregation working alongside those in our society most disadvantaged and advocating for those unjustly treated. I find them encouraging and empowering people to take up their Baptismal commitment through the provision of adult faith and spirituality programs. In many cases I encounter them being the face of church in small and isolated communities. Even in their old age I see the women of my Congregation living the mission of God in quiet and gentle ways, breathing in and out a spirit of prayer so that the God of life may continue to bring hope in our sometimes troubled world. I am proud of them as they continue to live the Gospel in a Josephite way with deep passion and compassion.

In 2015, we the Sisters of St Joseph look forward to celebrating in this Year of Consecrated Life the final profession commitment of four women and the first profession of others.

*Sister Monica Cavanagh  
Congregational Leader, the Sisters of St Joseph*



# Consecrated Life: A Love Story within the Church

Consecrated life is a life of deep mysteries. The action of God in the soul of each consecrated person is a mystery. This life is lived within another mystery, Church, the Mystical Body of the Christ.

Consecrated life is a treasure, a precious gift to the person who is called to this life and to the Church which safeguards it with pastoral care.

The story of consecrated life is a love story that starts as love stories do; in an attraction to a person, the person of Christ. G M Hopkins' poem reflects this first romantic phase;

*I have desired to go  
Where springs not fail  
To fields where flies no sharp or sided hail  
And a few lilies blow.  
(Heaven – haven, A nun takes the veil)*

Who knows how loves starts and how it grows? Early life experiences no doubt play their part for many who later consecrate their lives to God. The person learns of God, is made aware of Jesus and the message of love He brought to the world. For others, knowing and loving God comes later in life. Desire develops through time spent in prayer, through the attraction of a life spent in service of God and others. Love invites and the soul listens, in the mystery of call and response. Each love story has its own mystery....by Me?

This personal love story continues, the very essence of the life of the consecrated religious. Without it, the life would be empty. Growing the love story becomes a life work, in early formation and on-going journey, the joy of the religious soul. The love matures, tested by circumstances, nourished by prayer, retreats and in spiritual direction.

The personal love story is lived out within the mystery of the Church. Public vows define a public story of service offered within the Church and under its Laws. It is prophetic story, truth-telling, truth-bearing, sometimes bursting from traditional forms to find new ways of being, and new ways of expressing the inner love. Sometimes this is a challenge to the Church it serves.

The Spirit of God, active in the heart of the religious, calls forth new ways of responding to the Gospel call to be Good News. New social needs call for new solutions, new ways of presence. Today's world is facing critical challenges that see religious men and women acting as activists, mediators, prophetic voices in education.

The expression of religious consecration needs to change with changing times, as has been recognised by Cardinal Joao Braz De Aviz in his address at the National Assembly of Religious Leaders in 2014.

It is true, however, that even in the midst of these signs of vitality there is a search for something deeper that goes beyond the experiences of consecration as we have known it hitherto. There is a waiting for something new, for something consonant with the current culture and sensitive to the values most deeply felt by the men and women of our day.

As we live out our consecrated lives today, we rejoice in the gift we have been given in our vocation to religious life, faithfully

seeking to follow the Spirit's call in our personal and Congregational response. We sit with the question of the future of our life-style, our way of living love as a consecrated religious.

Will it survive? Where is the hope?

My personal response is to believe that there will be people consecrated to God, wherever there are hearts in love with Jesus, Father and the Spirit: wherever there is love.



Sister Angela Grant rsj  
Artwork by Sister Patricia Snudden rsj

## Junior Joeys Moree

Seventeen happy Moree Junior Josephite Associates met for the Christmas Party at the end of 2014. Each child received a card with a different message from Mary MacKillop. The Moree Group meet once a month to pray for all the intentions of the sick and poor in our world and to learn something of Mary MacKillop's family and her life. They collect used stamps for Peru and have a motto:

Do your bit for God;  
Do your bit for the family;  
Do your bit for your school.

The children also learn to sing the Junior Josephite Associates Anthem. Each year the children are invited to join the movement from years three and four. They give up their lunch break to attend monthly meetings. The Junior Josephite Associates Movement has been growing in Moree since 2007 and the children join Mini Vinnies in years five and six at St Philomena's Central School.

As co-ordinator I hope that the children will take away some of Mary MacKillop's Spirit and have Mary as part of their lives, leading them to God.

Margaret Therese Cusack rsj



### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy Birthday to all Josephite Associates recorded in our Birthday Book who celebrate their birthdays in March, April, May and June 2015

## ***Kincumber Retreat***

***17-19th October 2014***

The tranquil atmosphere at St Joseph's Spirituality Centre, Kincumber South, provided a time of peace for Josephite Associates at their Annual Retreat.

The theme for our reflection over the weekend was 'The Joy of the Gospel', an Encyclical Letter of Pope Francis. Our facilitator, Sue Kane, is well known for her writing of the Little Brown Book and Little Brown Book Too.

The prayer space was beautifully arranged with the colours of Gold for divinity, Brown for the humanity of the person and Red for Royalty, the cloak of passion to spread the Gospel. Also enhancing the space were symbols to depict:

Prayer – Friendship - Service

Throughout the weekend many Icons were used and Sue explained that an Icon is written and the colours chosen and the position of the images all have a significant meaning to the writer. The Icon presented for The Joy of the Gospel fills our lives, was written by a Russian Monk, Rublev, in the fourteenth century and represents three angels from the Old Testament story of Abraham and Sarah.

Other aspects reflected on were The Joy of the Gospel fills our hearts and the Joy of Being Forgiven. We learnt how to pray by thinking only of one word and if we are distracted just turn back to God with the word. We pray when we are at peace and gentle with ourselves before God. Gentle people are strong people.

The prayer space presented for forgiveness included clay jars. This was to symbolise that we are broken, wounded people who have failed. The Cross covered in flowers was used to express the Joy of Forgiveness. The Spirit of Christianity is symbolised by the Cross – a sign of God's love. Our biggest spiritual hurdle in older life is dealing with the wounds of our past. We can become angrier or calm and mellow.

A special celebration during the Retreat was when we were invited to receive a blessing from our Associate Leaders. Participants came forward and were anointed on each hand while the leaders prayed for healing and peace in the lives of the recipients. This was a very prayerful, moving experience.

Throughout the Retreat quotes were used from the sayings of Mary MacKillop and other noted spiritual writers like Thomas Merton and Henri Nouwen, and these gave us inspiration for our prayer time. We were encouraged to make use of the Psalms as part of our prayer life.

Before we departed on Sunday, our final gathering involved learning to dance!!!!!! Everyone was able to participate as it was a gentle and joyous movement.

We left Kincumber with renewed hope to continue to live the Charism of Saint Mary MacKillop through Prayer, Friendship and Service and to be inspired to experience joy in our everyday life.

*Beverley Badcock JA Vice President*

### ***Newsletter Editorial***

**Editor: Christine Sivewright**

**Members: Beverley Badcock, Leonie Bell,**

**Design and Print: Paul McMahon**

## **Boambee Josephite Associates**

**January 2015**

Looking back over the past twelve months we remember the happy and the sad times we have shared together. During our meeting in March five new members were enrolled as Josephite Associates and we welcomed into the group: Dawn Sillato, Eddie Demetri, Irene Garten, Kath Smith and Zoe Butcherine. Annie Clarke had been enrolled in a small ceremony a few weeks prior to her death. Also, Kevin O'Malley and Margaret Bailey were enrolled as members during this past year. Welcome to all of the above; they have brought their own special gifts to our group and enriched us with their presence.



*Margaret Bailey, with Mary McNamara and Sr Fidelis, receiving her candle and certificate during her enrolment*

A new Committee was elected as Geraldine Sandurski and Kyra Quin joined Kathy Derrett and myself. Thanks to Frank Kennedy for his support as a committee member and to John Davoren, who retired due to ill health, and has since, sadly, passed away.

The feast of St Mary of the Cross was celebrated with Mass in the church and then dinner at the RSL. Once again this was a very popular evening with over 40 in attendance. Also, in celebrating the feast day (8th August), we joined in support of the Junior Josephite Associates (Joeys) at MHOC School for a cake stall and Peruvian handmade item stall in support of the Josephite Mission in Peru. Thanks, especially, to the Staff and students of MHOC who paid \$2 to wear their PJs for the day and donated all money to the cause. Together, we raised a magnificent total of \$2,300. Our thanks to Mrs Liz Watts, Principal of MHOC, for supporting us in raising this money.

During our meeting in November, we paid special tribute to those members who have died during the past twelve months: John Davoren, Annie Clarke, Pat Druhan. Pat Roberts and Bernie Quin. Our condolences to Brenda Rainbow whose husband, Geoff, passed away this year. May they rest in peace as we continue to keep them in our prayers.

Following our final meeting of the year we ended up with a picnic lunch at Kyra's home. It was a lovely way to end our year and a very enjoyable time was had by all.

Last Sunday many of our Associates were delighted to be present at Mass when Fr John blessed and presented to members of the Joeys Group our gift of their own Junior Josephite banner, which was made for them by Mrs Anne Brennan. The banner will be used at all their meetings. Thanks to Anne, and also to Roy Derrett for the lovely ornate stand for the banner.

Our group is an active one in which we take the saying of St Mary of the Cross ("Never see a need without doing something about it") as our motivation. Next year we intend to raise money with a mini spring fete with all proceeds going towards the Coffs Harbour Pregnancy Help group. If you would like more information about the Josephite Associates please do not hesitate to contact a member of our Committee.

On behalf of all our Boambee Josephite Associate Group, our Committee of Kathy Derrett, Geraldine Sandurski, Kyra Quin, myself, and not forgetting Sr Fidelis, who continues to support us in every possible way, we wish all Josephite Associate members a very happy and healthy New Year with the abundance of God's blessings on us all.

*Mary McNamara JA  
On behalf of the Boambee JAs*

## The Great Cross Linked to St Mary MacKillop's Gravesite

The cross believed to have once stood over the initial resting place of Australia's only saint, Mary MacKillop, will soon be erected for public display in the city of her birth, Australian Catholic University (ACU) Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven announced on the 28th November 2014.

The largest Catholic University in the English-speaking world, with substantial assistance from a private donor, acquired the important religious and historical artefact in a sale managed by Caulfield North fine art dealer, Lauraine Diggins in November 2014.

The University currently is in discussions with the Archdiocese of Melbourne about erecting the Great Cross linked to St Mary MacKillop in close proximity to the place of the Saint's birth, opposite the University's Melbourne Campus.

The monumental cross is believed to have once stood at St Mary MacKillop's initial burial site at the Gore Hill Cemetery in Sydney's north, before her remains were moved and re-interred in the Memorial Chapel in North Sydney.

The Cross was only available for sale to a public institution, as it was the desire of the owner that the artefact be made available to be seen by the public.

Standing at 168cm tall, the cross was built and erected consistent with the ancient Celtic custom of marking the graves of important

people and events.

St Mary MacKillop was born in Fitzroy Melbourne in 1842 and died in North Sydney in 1909. She founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, a congregation of religious sisters that established a number of schools and welfare institutions throughout Australia, with an emphasis on education for the rural poor.

Mary MacKillop was canonised on 17th October 2010 during a public ceremony in St Peter's Square at the Vatican, and is the first and only Australian to be recognised by the Catholic Church as a Saint.

Professor Craven said that it was important that such an artefact of national, historical and religious significance be put on public display.

'St Mary MacKillop was a pioneer and is a continuing source of inspiration not only for Australian Catholics but for educators everywhere,' Professor Craven said.

'She was the first Australian to set up a congregation and one of the first Australian sisters to go outside the cities and minister to the education needs of the country's poor, rural and working class.'

'Her commitment to providing an education to anyone who wished to learn has become a tradition that Australian Catholic educational institutions like ACU proudly carry on to this day.'

'In this spirit it is fitting that this monumental



cross has come into the custodianship of the largest Catholic University in the English-speaking world. It is also important that Australians are given the opportunity to view this important artefact.'

'The University has undertaken extensive enquiries to satisfy itself beyond all reasonable doubt of the provenance of the cross,' Professor Craven said.

ACU is Australia's largest Catholic University, with campuses in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Adelaide and Ballarat.

*Extract from Cath News 1/12/2014 used with permission*

## Mary MacKillop's Birthday

'See, I am doing a new thing.' (Isaiah 43:19)

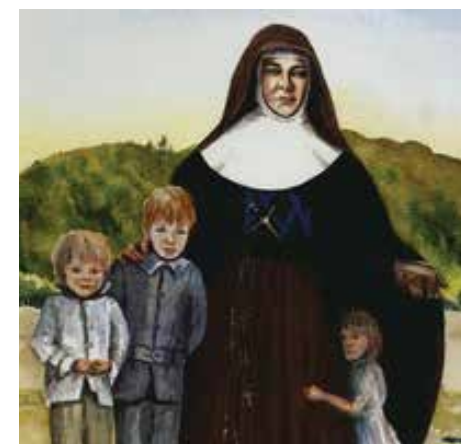
God, revealed to us in Jesus, in nature and in life, continually gives birth. Each time we witness new birth, hope stirs within us. New potential has been let loose into our world. In the birth of each creature, God says again, 'See I am doing a new thing.'

On 15th January 1842 a little child was born in Melbourne and named by her parents 'Mary Helen MacKillop'. With this birth began a new enfolding of God's action. For her time and place, Mary responded to her potential, revealing the overwhelming love God has for the least. Through her ministry, Mary enabled the church in Australia and New Zealand to attend to the needs of those liable to fall through the cracks. As many people witnessed, she and her Sisters were instruments through whom God acted in ways no-one else could.

'They supplied gratuitous Catholic Education in the only practical way, without humiliation to the recipients; they preserved the faith of hundreds with whom no minister of the Gospel ever came in contact; they rekindled it in hearts from which it had long died out; they tended the sick, they helped the needy,

they comforted the afflicted, they lifted up the fallen, they brought back the erring to the paths of virtue; peace followed their footsteps into many a wretched home; they bound up many of the wounds from which society suffers in a city like this; in a word, they performed the most arduous and,.....often the most repulsive duties, with a zeal of which the world has but a feeble idea; and they did it all in the most unobtrusive manner with the scantiest resources, without distinction of creed or country, and without a murmur in the face of numberless difficulties and even of discouragement from quarters whence it should least be expected.' (Letter to Brisbane Courier Dec. 17, 1879, by parents protesting the Sisters having to leave the diocese).

Our world today receives so many messages of despair and fear. Yet with the dawn of each day comes the birth of a new chance, a new opportunity to make things different. If we believe that a butterfly's wing can affect air patterns, surely our connections with each other impel us to greet and embrace the many births that happen around us. We encourage the budding plant; we welcome the new idea; we reverence the stranger who enters our lives. All these are God's gifts to us,



reminding us that there is always new hope.

As we celebrate the day on which God, through the birth of Mary MacKillop, did a new thing in our world, we give praise and thanks not only for her response but for all that God continues to do in and through each of us. We attest again, as she did, that God's love is stronger than any evil. We believe that death itself does not have the final say. We rejoice that we are held and nourished by One who draws us always into the new and who unsettles us into a future where God is 'all in all' (1 Corinthians 15:28).

*Mary Cresp rsj*

*Extract from sosj enews (used with permission)*

# The Temuka Foundation 1883

Temuka's foundation can be traced to a meeting in 1873, at Villa Maria in Sydney, of Father Julian E Tenison Woods with a Marist priest, Father Fauvel S.M.

When he became parish priest of Temuka in 1876, he remembered the conversation about the Sisters of St Joseph and decided that this modern institute would be suitable for his new mission. He also had great devotion to St Joseph and dedicated his parish to this great saint. Permission was gained from Doctor Redmond, the Bishop of Wellington and the South Island, and the invitation was extended to the Sisters.

Father Fauvel began an exchange of letters between Temuka and Adelaide, requesting Sisters to open a school. He even sent Mary MacKillop a small picture of St Joseph asking her not to send it back without Sisters. He wrote: 'I believe the Sisters of St Joseph are destined by God, with the help of their beloved father, to do a great deal of good in this part of New Zealand.'

He spoke, too, of many Catholic homes of five or six girls, some of whom would wish to give themselves to God in the work of the Sisters. This assurance was fulfilled in that no fewer than eighty three vocations to the Congregation came from Temuka and the parishes of South Canterbury.

Although Mary MacKillop was finally able to grant Father Fauvel's desire, intending to bring the first Josephites to New Zealand herself, circumstances prevented this and she did not visit Temuka until 1892.

On the 11th April 1883 Father Fauvel wrote to express his delight at the news that the Sisters were at last coming: 'After long months of absence, my little St Joseph will come back accompanied by some of his daughters for whom I have sent him to Adelaide.'

Three Sisters, Calasactius Howley, Raymond Smyth and Immaculata Punyer left Melbourne on the 24th October 1883 bound for New Zealand. The story of their expedition to this country is told in their letters to Mary MacKillop. Sister Calasactius wrote: 'We left there on the feast of St Raphael, so we had a good guide to conduct us to New Zealand. We had a short stay in Hobart and took tea in the convent of the Sisters of Charity where we got as warm a welcome as could be given in any of our convents. We came in the 'Haurot' as far as Port Chalmers and then transhipped to the 'Wakatipu' which took us to Lyttleton. We just had time to get our luggage passed and then on to Temuka by the 12.45pm train.'

Sister Raymond, who was very sea sick from Port Chalmers to Lyttleton, wrote: 'At Port Chalmers Sisters Calasactius and Immaculata went on shore and found their way to the presbytery where the priest, Father Newport, gave them a great welcome and took them back to the steamer.'

Sister Calasactius wrote: 'We arrived in Temuka about a quarter past seven. I really cannot describe the rest. I felt like a poor man who was made Lord Mayor of Dublin.'

The platform was crowded and they were given a warm welcome by Father Fauvel and all present. However, they were soon reminded that they expected five Sisters. Indeed, Sister Immaculata wrote that Father asked her to write to Mary MacKillop to send another Sister. She believed he would send St Joseph back if no Sister was sent.

They were taken to the church, where the bells were chiming and the harmonium playing. There were prayers in thanks for their safe arrival and they went to the presbytery for dinner before going to the convent, which had been the presbytery, in the days when the priests came from Timaru to minister to the people of Temuka and the surrounding district.

The school was the original church, which had been replaced by a new one and opened on the Feast of St Joseph. The new arrivals set up the old church as a school which was formally opened on the 12th November, 1883. Before the Sisters arrived ninety pupils had been enrolled. Among them was Amy Elkins, who later became the Superior General of the Congregation.

The early letters of the three Sisters gave details of the beauty of the country and an indication of the difficulties they underwent in the new foundation. The education system was different, involving regular visits by state inspectors, the pressure of examinations, a shortage of books and equipment and the climate was cold.

Despite delays in more Sisters arriving, these pioneer Sisters continued to establish and improve the school and settled into their ministry in a new country. Thus began the first of many foundations in New Zealand.

*Sister Collete Forde rsj  
Extract from sosj enews (used with permission)*

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## Reflection on the Art of Nursing

Who I am is as important and instrumental as what I do. It is when I am highly skilled and deeply attuned that I do my best work. It is when I integrate my practice and my presence that I truly practise the art of nursing and I bring to the patient and the family more than I realise.

I know that:

- If I bring confidence – they are less afraid
- If I bring compassion – they are comforted
- If I bring sensitivity – they know I care for them
- If I bring creativity – they know possibilities
- If I bring a centred and peaceful presence – they touch the spiritual in time and space
- If I bring information – they feel respected and involved
- If I assist in setting goals – they experience direction
- If I respect their need for control – they experience dignity and freedom
- If I reach out and touch – they know they are not alone
- If I keep my promise to remain till the end – they know someone will always be walking with them
- If I admit that I don't always understand or have answers – they recognise me as human like themselves
- If I do all that I can to relieve pain – they know they can be hopeful
- If I explore meaning with them – they experience a quality of life, the quality of their unique existence

And if I permit my professional skills to mingle with my human awareness and experience, my sense of self is enhanced and I experience that wonderful, unexpected and mysterious moment in which what I do and who I am flows as one – then science and art mingle and I am a powerful medium for healing both in life and in death. I am a compassionate nurse.

*Reflection given on Friday 21st November 2014 at the laying of a memorial plaque remembering the Lewisham Hospital First Lay Nurses Group 1962*

### Josephite Associates (NSW) Inc Governance Group

President: Leonie Bell  
Vice President: Beverley Badcock  
Treasurer: Eileen Stevenson  
Secretary: Maureen Rayner  
North Coast Representative: Jan Lang  
South Coast Representative: Carol Badewitz

## In the Footsteps of Saint Mary MacKillop

**Australian Pilgrimage**  
21st October – 31st October  
2015

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](mailto:Therese.Leydon@sosj.org.au)

## Stamps Wanted



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

**Please send to:**

Boxes of Stamps  
5 Alexandra Avenue  
Croydon NSW 2132  
Envelopes and packets to  
Stamps, Locked Bag 3031  
Burwood NSW 1805  
Phone 02 8741 2334

Thank you for all stamps received.

## Requiescant in Pace

Peg Cox (Barraba Group);  
Win Crook (Woy Woy Group);  
John Davoren (Boambee Group);  
Molly Dundon (Prayer Member  
Hornsby);  
Pat Druhan (Boambee Group);  
Peggy Finch (Mullumbimby Group);  
Frances Ireland (Belmont Group);  
Mary Johnston (Canberra Group);  
Norma Lynch (South Lismore Group);  
Ellen McFadden (Prayer Member  
Swansea);  
Maurice McNeill (Barraba Group);  
Patricia Roberts (Boambee Group);  
Louis Russell husband of Betty  
(Blacktown Group);  
Veronica Simpson (Prayer Member  
Hunters Hill);  
Rex Tulloch (Prayer Member Laurieton)  
Bob Moore (Prayer Member East  
Gosford)

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.

## Prayers for the Sick

Connie Barnes (Campsie);  
Maureen Blood (Canberra);  
Bob Cassidy (Penrith);  
Sr Jan Cetta rsj;  
Margaret Clapham (Warilla);  
Clare Day (Oatley);  
Jenny Falvey (Georges Hall);  
Joyce Farnham (Belmont Group);  
Jan & William Farrell (Bombala);  
Kieran Fitzpatrick (Menai);  
Lou Fry (Blacktown);  
Shirley Gorrie (Campsie);  
Alma Halse (Canberra);  
Helen Harnett (Peakhurst);  
Barbara Irwin (Lalor Park);  
Daisy Keogh (Lidcombe);  
Maria Kopjar (Menai);  
Edna Lay (Prayer Member);  
Pat McDonald (Peakhurst);  
Jill McKenzie (Canberra);  
Carmel Martin (Prayer Member  
Kingscliff);  
Margaret Millar (Blacktown);  
Lyll Molloy (Bingara);  
Gloria Monck (Canberra);  
Kevin Moore (Warialda);  
Pat O'Brien (Warialda);  
Sr Bridie O'Connell rsj;  
Ann O'Hara (Lidcombe);  
Allan Opferkuch (Moree);  
Filippa Palazotto (Campsie);  
Melva Perkins (Quirindi);  
Helen Perrett (Warialda);  
Esme Quinn (Warilla);  
Pauline Rendell (Peakhurst);  
Rosina Rotunno (Lakemba);  
Kathleen Ryan (Blacktown);  
Dorothy Spratt (Prayer Member  
Yennora);  
Norma & Ned Steele (Canberra);  
Audrey Steinmetz (Belmont);  
Kay Tuckerman (Thirroul);  
Anna Vincent (Bombala);  
Ritz Wendt (Peakhurst);  
Jenice White (Ballina);  
Gwen Witton (Penrith)  
We remain united in prayer for all our  
sick Josephite Associates and Sisters of St  
Joseph.

## Preparing Stamps

Used stamps are easier to post or carry  
if they are trimmed from the envelope.

Please leave stamps on their backing  
paper but trim to 3 mm surrounds (as  
shown).

Please discard stamps that are heavily  
franked, torn, or have biro or felt pen  
lines across them.



## Litany of Julian Tenison Woods

**Leader:** Julian: immigrant, priest, educationalist, geologist and environmentalist, man of the people, co-founder of the Josephite Congregations, founder of the Perpetual Adoration Sisters, inspirer of many.

Let us lift our hearts in thanksgiving for the life of

### Julian Tenison Woods:

Julian, you inspired the dispirited to live faith filled lives:	Pray for us
Julian, your influence and ministry have continued to these days:	Pray for us
Julian, you opened eyes to interest in, and care of the environment:	Pray for us
When we feel lost, or in need of direction:	Pray for us
When we feel overwhelmed by the challenges in our lives:	Pray for us
When we feel the cross weighing on us:	Pray for us
Julian, your sense of participation in God's mission sets us afire:	Be with us
Julian, with your ability to search out and value God's gifts:	Be with us
When we're struggling with issues of justice:	Encourage us
When we're making the cause of the poor our cause:	Encourage us
As we relate to people from other cultures:	Encourage us
Julian, as Josephite Associates, help us to foster friendship:	Pray for us
Julian, as Josephite Associates, help us to lead simple lives of service:	Pray for us
Julian, as Josephite Associates, help us to grow in prayerfulness:	Pray for us

### BLESSING:

May the abiding presence of God encourage us;  
May the abundance of God's love enliven us;  
May the vision of Julian Tenison Woods inspire us;  
May our God bless us, the one who calls us to Mission;  
To live in Friendship, Prayer and Service. AMEN.

### Our Lady of Sorrows, give peace to our world

You knew the heart-break of a mother  
when they put your Son to death.  
He knew his time was coming  
when He went to the garden to pray.  
You knew the pain and anguish,  
as He waited for that day,  
when He was chosen by the people  
to be the one crucified

Dear Mother in our world today  
We're seeing wars and bloodshed  
Destruction on all levels  
From bombings, raids and rifles  
Buildings blown to pieces  
Lives torn apart, many lost  
Nothing to be saved.

Families now homeless with nowhere to go  
Walking, many shoeless, to find of place of safety  
Leaving behind lost souls to the ravages of war...  
Dear little children walking alone,  
No one to comfort them or give them a home  
Hearts broken, souls numbed....  
Please, let them see the sun shine in green valleys  
And the stars shine brightly in the night sky  
Guide them to a place where clean waters flow.  
That their thirst for peace will be quenched  
And in the valleys let them see  
new seeds of peace grow. Amen.

Carol Badewitz JA, Bombala

## Ten things God won't ask on that day!

- God won't ask what kind of car you drove. He'll ask you how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.
- God won't ask the square footage of your house. He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
- God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet. He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.
- God won't ask what your highest salary was. He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
- God won't ask what your job title was. He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
- God won't ask how many friends you had. He'll ask how many people you were a friend to.
- God won't ask in what neighbourhood you lived. He'll ask how you treated your neighbours.
- God won't ask about the colour of your skin. He'll ask about the content of your character.
- God won't ask why it took so long to seek salvation. He'll lovingly take you to your mansion in Heaven and not to the gates of hell.
- God won't ask how many people you prayed for. He already knows!

**“When you say the Our Father,  
God's ear is next to your lips.”**

*St. Andre Bessette*

### Email Address

Have you had a change since your last advice?  
If so, please contact us with your new details at:  
[associates@sosjnsw.org.au](mailto:associates@sosjnsw.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@sosjnsw.org.au**  
and we will update our database and forward your  
newsletter in future by email.

The newsletter is now available  
on the web, at  
[www.sosj.org.au/news-events/list\\_newsletters.cfm](http://www.sosj.org.au/news-events/list_newsletters.cfm)

### Associates Office

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