



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 • March 2016

Dear Josephite Associates,

A special new year greeting to all Josephite Associates NSW 'Now we are all one'.

The fusion ceremonies and celebrations during 2015 at Wellington, Canberra and Leeton have united us all in prayer and friendship. I thank the Regional Leadership Team of the Sisters of St Joseph for their support in bringing the ceremonies to fruition. I especially thank Sister Jean Cain, Sister Colleen Howe, Sister Janet Glass and Sister Michelle Condon for organising the fusion ceremonies and catering requirements. Thank you to all the country Josephite Associates who assisted the Sisters.

I thank the members of the governance group, Beverley Badcock, Maureen Rayner and Eileen Stevenson, for their attendance at the fusion ceremonies. Gratitude to Beverley Badcock and Agnes Lee for their assistance in the office as the names and addresses, etc. were recorded and badges, prayer cards and newsletters were mailed out to the Goulburn Associates.

The Sesquicentenary of the Sisters of St Joseph (marking the founding of the Sisters of St Joseph in Penola SA) will be celebrated on Saturday 19th March 2016 at various churches throughout NSW. An invitation is extended from the Sisters of St Joseph to all Josephite Associates to attend any one of these celebrations. You are asked to RSVP by 4th March 2016. The invitation is on page 3 of this newsletter. Celebrations will continue during 2016. A special week of celebrations will be at the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel, North Sydney. Further details will appear in the July 2016 Newsletter.

When preparing the November 2015 newsletter, two special requests were made to include items just prior to publication.

- The first request was from Carol Badewitz Group Leader in Bombala and Southern NSW Governance Group representative. Carol's letter of farewell to all Associates was printed on page one of the November 2015 Newsletter. It is with deep sadness and personal loss to all of us that Carol was called to eternal life on 1st December 2015. Carol's funeral was on 7th December 2015 in Bombala. Carol's impact on the Bombala community was evident to all when on the day of her funeral the local shops were closed as a mark of respect.

- The second request was from the Perthville Associates Group acknowledging Kay Shine's work of service as a Josephite Associate - knitting socks for the poor in Kenya. An article entitled Never see a need.....Kay Shine JA 'doing something about it' was published in the 'Bathurst City Life' on 27th August 2015 and reprinted on page 7 of the November 2015 Newsletter. Kay's life journey of 90 years ended on Christmas Day, 25th December 2015 (the day Kay wished she would die). Deep sympathy to the Perthville Associates on the loss of their loved member Kay.

These two Associates throughout their life used their God-given gifts in the service of others. One of Carol's many gifts was her deep prayer life, praying, composing and sharing prayer reflections to St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. A special gift Kay

had was knitting socks day and night to help clothe the poor in Kenya.

Who among you will take up the challenge to compose prayer resources in Word, or knit socks for the poor so that Carol's and Kay's goods works may continue? I hope the email and mail box at Croydon will be flooded with enquiries!

May the season of Lent bring you many blessings and may they continue throughout the Year of Mercy.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop - pray with us. Father Julian Tenison Woods - pray with us. St Joseph - pray with us.

Leonie Bell JA President

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:

*We are instruments in the hand of God
and must never act as if we were more.*

Fr Julian Tenison Woods 1875

Dear Newsletter, go upon your way,
Over mountain, plain or sea.
God bless all who speed your flight
To where I wish you to be,
And bless all those beneath the roof
Where I would bid you rest;
But bless even more the one to whom
this Newsletter is addressed.

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



"God's love is too deep for words to express"
1870

Now we all are one



It's been a remarkable few years.

Really, it wasn't at all long ago that the Goulburn Josephite Associates and Prayer Members, together with lots of relatives and friends, gathered excitedly with the Sisters of St Joseph in Goulburn. We were there to participate in a telecast from Rome of the canonisation of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

This was personal; we were all a part of it. After all, she was ours.

Then, a couple of years ago, we Associates had the privilege of watching at close quarters the coming together of the Goulburn Sisters and the Central Sisters of St Joseph. We weren't quite so personally involved, but we saw – and marvelled at – the courage, the determination, the hard work and finally the absolutely joyous fusion of two wonderful groups of the people that we loved.

And we wondered, how we wondered, at the frailty of the human condition that created this separation in the first place.

Most recently, on the eve of All Saints, at simultaneous meetings at MacKillop House in Canberra and at Leeton in the Riverina, we Goulburn Associates held a ceremony of fusion with the Josephite Associates (NSW) followed by a delightful, if far too calorific, lunch.

Now we too are one, and for us the circle is complete.

We were joined for the occasion by Sr Noelene Quinane, Sr Mary Ellen Griffin, and Sr Therese McGarry from the NSW Leadership Team, and Beverley Badcock and Eileen Stevenson from the Josephite Associates (NSW) Governance Group.

The ceremony itself, the Ritual of Fusion, was a simple one, made all the more beautiful by its simplicity. It centred on prayer, readings from the Constitution of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart and the Gospel of Matthew, symbols of Fusion,

presentation of badges and books of prayer, and a final blessing. The centrepiece of the symbolism was the mingling of waters brought from Sydney and Goulburn, creating a new, inseparable and constantly refreshing entity. Simple, but remarkably powerful.

During the Ritual, Sr Therese reflected on the Gospel reading, the Beatitudes, inviting Associates to identify for ourselves where we saw ourselves within the spectrum of attributes offered to us by Jesus and where in that spectrum we as Associates could most effectively offer ourselves.

In the same vein, Sr Noelene, in the words of Sr Mary Ellen O'Donoghue, invited us to embrace with courage and confidence the wider Associate framework of which we are now a part, continuing to share in the same Josephite charism of which we had always been a part but exulting in the gifts and wisdom of the broader group in which we now share.

We were reminded, too, that this process, for Sisters and for Associates, was not a merger; it was a fusion, and there was great wisdom in defining it so. Its elements have formed something new; like the mingled Goulburn and Sydney waters, it cannot be undone. Fusion, in science, produces light and heat, and great energy. It is this energy, this spirit, that we are challenged to harness and to use for the greater glory of the God who loves us.

As Aristotle reminds us, this energy of the mind is the essence of life. Long may it flourish!

Pauline and Denis Hally-Burton JA, Canberra

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy Birthday to all Josephite Associates recorded in our Birthday Book who celebrate their birthdays in March, April, May and June 2016

Josephite Associates Annual Retreat Kincumber October 2015

The annual retreat at Kincumber was a most engrossing and informative weekend, presented by Sister Margaret Paton rsj.

We came home enriched with more understanding of the 'Yes of the Virgin Mary' the 'Yes that Changed History.' Sister Margaret urged us to spend time in quiet meditation, which will be a real challenge for us.

Overall, a most thought provoking Retreat.

We thank Sister Margaret Paton for accepting the invitation to facilitate this retreat, just prior to her preparation for professing her final vows as a Sister of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Helen and Jacquie JA, Lakemba



Sesquicentenary celebrations in NSW for all who have a Josephite heart

World-wide celebrations on 19th March 2016 will mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of St Joseph in Penola SA. On St Joseph's Day 1866 Mary MacKillop, with the direction and encouragement of Fr Julian Tenison Woods, began to live as a religious under the patronage of St Joseph. On that day Mary wore a simple black dress and bonnet, attended Mass, taught the children and waited for God to show her the next step. Many have followed in her footsteps since then – Sisters, Associates, Co-workers and all with a Josephite Heart. They currently live and minister in the Josephite spirit in many places throughout Australia, NZ, Ireland, Scotland, Peru, Brazil and East Timor, carrying on the Josephite legacy to the present day.



A Reflection on Margaret Paton's Life Commitment

Margaret Paton's Life Commitment Profession took place on the Feast of All Saints 1/11/2015 in the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel, Mount Street, North Sydney.

Those who gathered to witness her Profession carried in their hearts the strongest strain of joy imaginable – jubilation indeed! Many knew the labyrinthine paths that Margaret had to negotiate to overcome obstacles along the way. Faced with seemingly insurmountable regulations and roadblocks, she always held fast to her desire to be a member of the Sisters of St Joseph. The presence of past and present Congregational Leaders and her many friends and supporters reinforced that she had not been alone in her desire.

It was an honour to have Bishop Peter Ingham as the celebrant. His presence and the warmth of his greeting highlighted the friendships that form in pastoral ministries – the focus of Margaret's involvement throughout her many years in New South Wales.

Sister Mary Baker and Sister Christina Neunzerling ensured that there was beautiful liturgical music to enrich the ceremony. Every hymn that Margaret had chosen was meaningful and resonated in the hearts of those present. The Alleluia was sung with high energy, flowing from joyful and thankful hearts.

Margaret invited Dr Kerrie Hide to give the reflection for the occasion. She opened up the treasure chest of her deeply contemplative insights into the readings – Rev 7:2-4; John 13:1-3 and Matt 5: 1-12. These were the readings of the feast day read in every parish, yet what Kerrie shared with us related specifically to the occasion of Margaret's consecration of life. Kerrie's reflection drew us into the depths of these scriptures and nourished and inspired us. Her reflection was an invitation into deep heart-awareness. As Sister Monica Cavanagh conducted the Rite of Profession and Margaret professed her vows there was a collective sense of grace and thanksgiving.

"There are moments in life that throw us way up high,
when we all feel the Something Bigger of it All.

(Noel Davis – Love finds a Way)

Our Vietnamese Sisters in their traditional gowns and with their beautiful movement gave us an exquisite experience of the Presentation of Gifts. No-one will forget the symbolic richness of the moment when they escorted Margaret as she and Gen brought forward the gifts and presented them for consecration.

It was a memorable Profession and Eucharistic Celebration. Margaret's 'Word of Thanks' will long be remembered for its scope, wit, warmth and lovely use of the English language.

May our God of Promises and Reversals continue to bless and fulfil Margaret as she lives out this life commitment as a Sister of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Sister Genevieve Ryan rsj

Extract from sosj enews (used with permission).

This year's sesquicentenary logo draws us all into the pulsating heart of God. At the centre of all life, God's creative energy and love continues to be birthed in and through the Sisters of St Joseph and all those who live the gospel with a Josephite Heart. Today God draws us, just as surely as God called Mary and Julian, into passionate gospel living and loving.

Throughout New South Wales, Josephite Sisters, Associates, Partners in Ministry, Students and Ex-Students, Former Sisters, Family and Friends, Priests and Religious, are invited to gather together in various centres to celebrate the founding of the Sisters of St Joseph 150 years ago. To mark the occasion there will be a Mass at the following venues:

Sat 19th March:

Leeton	St Joseph's Church	9.30am
O'Connor ACT	St Joseph's Church	11.30am
Sydney	St Mary's Cathedral	10.00am
Wellington	St Patrick's Church	11.00am.
Wollongong	St Francis Xavier's Cathedral	10.00am
Woodburn	All Saint's Church	11.00am

Wed April 13th

West Tamworth	St Patrick's Church	11.00am
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Refreshments will be served following each of these Masses (except for the Mass at St Mary's Cathedral Sydney).

Please accept this as YOUR INVITATION to attend the celebrations at the venue most convenient for you. Come and join all those with a Josephite Heart in giving thanks for God's generosity in calling the Sisters of St Joseph into being and for continuing the Josephite spirit in God's mission. Let us together praise God's abounding kindness and love!

"Little did either of us then dream of what was to spring from so small a beginning"

(from Mary MacKillop's letter to the Sisters on the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Congregation)

RSVP by 4th March 2016 with your name and the venue you will be attending.

Email: julie.simpson@sosj.org.au

Phone: (02) 4677 1477; Mobile 0418 674 452

Post: Sr Julie Simpson, P O Box 13, Picton NSW 2571





News from Peru Josephite Associates

The Josephite Associates in Peru wish to express their sincere thanks for the financial support given to them from funds raised at the Perthville Fusion on 23/5/2015. Your generosity enabled us to transport the group to and from the annual retreat.

Let me tell you, that this time, we made our retreat in a beautiful place called TABOR which belongs to the Salesian Fathers. This retreat house has very comfortable rooms, good food and has some parks and manicured gardens. These facilities for prayer, meditation and reflection are ideal. There is also sun and bluer sky than we have in Lima.

The Sisters had a surprise for us at this retreat! We read the latest encyclical of Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, which as you know is about taking care of our common home. It was an opportunity to remember our founding Father Julian Tenison Woods who marvelled at God's creation. Father Julian said, 'All the beauties of this world...are hidden from those whose lives are not in harmony with the designs of the Creator' (1881), and also, 'If we look at the earth, the sky or the sea, we find everywhere the gaze of our infinite God' (1882). Saint Mary of the Cross tells us, 'There where you are, you will find God.' At this retreat we reflected on the wonderful creation of God and that He put us here to care for that creation and unfortunately we do not!

Dear Josephite Perthville Associates, thank you again for your generosity and support. Receive the greetings and affection of all the Josephite Associates in Peru.

May our beloved God bless you, may his holiness Pope Francis protect you and our founders St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Father Julian Tenison Woods be with us in spirit as we try to follow their charism.

Josephite Associates Peru

News from Orange-Perthville Associates

The Annual Orange Regional Luncheon was held at the Patmos Gardens Café, Orange on Saturday 10th October 2015.

We were delighted to welcome 24 Perthville Ex-Students, Sisters, Associates and friends from Orange, Bathurst, Molong, Oberon, Linden and Eugowra for a most enjoyable lunch and a couple of hours of catching up.

We also received a number of apologies from those unable to attend this year. It is always good to hear from as many people as possible. Our prayers were asked for Trish Ryan who could not attend through ill health.

Hopefully we can keep this little regional luncheon going into the future as it is a good opportunity for those in the area to keep in touch. We also offered out congratulations to Allan and Jan Murphy, who recently celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Jan Vote JA Orange-Perthville Coordinator

News from Canowindra-Perthville

The Canowindra Josephite Associates had a lovely get-together to celebrate the feast of Mary MacKillop in August. We gathered at the Convent in the company of Sisters Catherine and Magdalen. Through prayer and discussion we reflected on St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Father Julian Tenison Woods. The morning was completed with a generous morning tea provided by those attending.

Sister Catherine O'Brien has left Canowindra and she is greatly missed. Sister Catherine remains in our prayers and thoughts and is acknowledged as part of our community.

In July, Sister Jean led a very informative day for the Josephite Associates, held in Canowindra. Associates attended from Eugowra, Cowra and Canowindra, and we enjoyed a lovely time together in fellowship. Sister Jean brought to our attention the Ministry of Outreach of obtaining, preparation and use of stamps to assist the children in Timor Leste. This is a very practical and active way of participation in Mission, no matter where one lives.

Discussion of Mary MacKillop and her work was shared along with some very insightful facts on the person and mission of Father Julian Tenison Woods.

The sharing in these discussions brought those present into a mindfulness of our unity through the Charism of the Sisters of St Joseph. Through prayer, our faith and fellowship remains strong and active as we practise the gifts that each of us shares.

Deborah Rutter JA Canowindra-Perthville Coordinator

News from Dubbo and Wellington

It has been a special time throughout our Catholic Archdiocese of Bathurst, where we are all celebrating the 150th Anniversary, or Sesquicentenary, of the Diocese on 15/6/2015; celebrations will continue over the next eighteen months.

At this time many Associates and parishioners have been involved in welcoming Bishop Michael McKenna and the pilgrim bus as it has arrived at all parishes. The pilgrimage commenced in Bathurst. Perthville was the second last stop before concluding with Mass at the Cathedral.

Bishop Michael, Fr. Joshy and Fr Tim concelebrated Mass at Dubbo before an overnight stop on the pilgrimage. Dinner was shared and pilgrims were billeted in Dubbo for the night.

The pilgrimage continued on to Wellington, where Bishop Michael shared prayers and a cup of tea with the parishioners. A joyous occasion!

The pilgrimage was a wonderful experience; a special thank you to the organisers.

The Dubbo and Wellington Associates continue with their many voluntary activities. Thank you to all who meet for prayer gatherings, meals on wheels, taking Holy Communion to the housebound and nursing homes, visiting the sick and contributing to Special Religious Education in state schools.

Helen Ryan JA (Dubbo-Perthville) and Pat Doherty JA (Wellington-Perthville)

Newsletter Editorial

Editor: Christine Sivewright

Members: Beverley Badcock, Leonie Bell,

Design and Print: Paul McMahon

Meeting of Josephite Associates 2015

A Josephite Associates Meeting was held at Mary MacKillop Place North Sydney, 16-18 October, 2015. On Friday evening, Associate Delegates from each region reported on significant happenings in their areas since the last Conference in 2013.

On Saturday Sister Monica Cavanagh, Congregational Leader, gave an informal presentation based on the 26th General Chapter theme, 'At the Heart of Life – God Draws Us in a New Communion.'

Questions were raised regarding how we might deal with the future and how we can refresh and challenge our commitment.

Sister Clare Noonan gave an interesting insight into four key areas – Future, Governance, Change and Sustainability. The theme for Clare's presentation was 'Towards the Future and Beyond.'

Following this input a discussion on Moving Forward was activated using three key questions:

- What is the deepest desire for the Associate Movement as we move into the future?
- What will be the Roles and Relationships of the Sisters and Associates in the future?
- What is the way forward in developing communication links?

Outcomes from these discussions were collated and following further group discussion it was decided that a three-to-five year strategic plan of action be developed for the future of the Associates.

The International Josephite Associate Leadership Team (IJALT) used this meeting as preparation for the Associates Conference to be held in April 2017. A three-to-five year strategic plan was drawn up at a meeting with the International Josephite Associate Leadership Team in January 2016 and reports from this meeting will be forwarded to all Group Leaders for discussion and feedback at a later date.

Further information regarding the 2017 Conference will also be sent to Group leaders with expressions of interest for leaders who may wish to attend. All costs for the 2017 Conference will be at the attendees' own expense.

Beverley Badcock IJALT

The newsletter is now available on the Web, at www.sosj.org.au/news-events/list_newsletters.cfm



Jean Tyers celebrates 100 years of positive living

Josephite Associate and long-time friend of the Perthville Sisters, former Bathurst icon Jean Tyers celebrated her 100th birthday on Saturday 5th December 2015 in Canberra where she had moved in recent years to be close to family.

Jean is the wife of the late sheep farmer Barney Tyers and is well known for all her years of charity work and generous involvement in parish and town projects, as well as for her stunning garden and participation in gardening competitions.

The milestone birthday was marked at a gathering with relatives and special guests in the nation's capital. Jean's life has taken her around the world and allowed her to touch many lives with her kindness and bright personality and natural manner. Guests travelled from as far as France, Melbourne, Sydney and Kiama to help this special woman celebrate the occasion.

December 18th 2015 was a special day to remember the Tyers family at the thoroughbred racing meeting at Tyers Park, Bathurst. Jean and Barney shared naming honours for the race meeting's "Jean Barney Tyers" (Class 1 Handicap, 1,200 metres).

It's been more than 56 years since the first race meeting took place on the Bathurst track and it wouldn't have happened without the campaigning from (Jean Tyers' husband) the late racing enthusiast Barney Tyers, who donated his

Jean's life has taken her around the world and allowed her to touch many lives with her kindness . . .

own land to reignite thoroughbred racing in Bathurst those many years ago. Jean was instrumental in creating fundraising Balls to help raise money for the facilities required to take that open field and make it into a race club.

The local Bathurst paper stated: "We give thanks for Jean's time, energy and commitment given to assist her husband create the racing facilities for the Bathurst community and for her charitable works too numerous to mention."

Congratulations, Jean, on your 100th birthday, from all Josephite Associates!

A Josephite Associate for many years, Jean's has been a familiar face at Wellington, Perthville and Bathurst Gatherings.

Extract from Western Advocate, Bathurst



Penshurst Josephite Associates
Advent Reflection Morning
 Saturday 28th November 2015
St Declan's Parish Meeting Room

The church bells rang out throughout the meeting room as the Group in attendance became attentive to the Facilitator, Mary Gallagher.

Mary welcomed us all as we commenced our Advent Reflection journey with short passages of prayers, ending with words from the movie Zorba the Greek: "So be careful, Alexis, and my blessing be with you, never to wound another person's heart". Have you been wounded, hurt, aware of God's forgiveness, to mention a few of the words from the prayers spoken by the group?

We were asked to meditate on the readings and invited to offer our thoughts on these prayers.

Other prayers were read on St Mary of the Cross and about courage. The hymn "Mary of the Cross" was sung with pride and a sense of real belonging.

We explored the Feast of the Assumption and how Mary may have lived her life with Joseph and Jesus. How did we imagine Mary: Child, Daughter, Mother, Home maker, Woman of Faith? And the list went on, with much discussion. Do we acknowledge that God has a unique dream for each of us too, as he did for Our Lady?

To conclude our journey, we recited a Reconciliation Prayer, "Give your heart a home". This prayer opened up a keenness within the group to discuss forgiveness. To share one member's story, who had come from Africa to Australia. A teacher from the school, where her child attends, asked if she would talk on apartheid to some of the classes. Her reaction was to recall the hurt from the years of oppression and she felt she could not talk on the topic. She had believed that, since living in Australia, she had overcome her painful experiences from apartheid. The good news is that she did make her way to the school and spoke to four classes that had come together for this session. The experience closed the door on the old feelings that she had been suppressing. She knew that she was free to continue her faith filled journey with peace in her heart and mind.

The final hymn, "You are Mine", was sung and our spirits were lifted as we left the meeting room to await the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The Advent Season of Hope, Faith, Joy and Peace lives on.

Helen Bache JA, Prayer Partner, Lakemba

The website for
Mary MacKillop Place, Mount Street, North Sydney
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.

What legacy has St Patrick left us?

'Come back and walk among us once more' (St Patrick's Confessions). Many legends have sprung up around the story of St Patrick. The truth about him can be found in his own life story called His Confessions.

Patrick was one of many who was captured, brought to Ireland and sold as a slave. He says that it was here in exile and in loneliness that he came to know God, to have conversations with Him, to trust in God and His love and protection. (Confessions)

After six years in slavery he escaped, went home and studied. He says in his Confessions that he could constantly hear the voice of the Irish calling him to come back. Eventually he was ordained a priest and a bishop and came back to Ireland as a missionary in the year 432 AD.

His mission in Ireland was far from easy. Patrick preached the Gospel message of Jesus, which was love, compassion, kindness, peace, forgiveness and justice. He had to suffer much. He says, 'I am convinced that God kept me safe from all that is evil because of His Spirit that lives in me. I came to the Irish heathen to preach the Good News and to put up with insults from unbelievers. I endured many persecutions even to the extent of chains.' (Confessions)

What is the legacy that Saint Patrick has left us?

- His spirit of prayer; a great devotion to the Blessed Trinity; and one of the most beautiful prayers that we have is called the Breastplate of St Patrick.
 - His missionary methods; he did not destroy the customs of the Heathen Irish but he christened them. Today in Ireland there are many places of pilgrimage such as sacred places and holy wells. He challenged evil practices with the message of the Gospel.
 - He said himself that he was an exile and a refugee. We can pray to him for the thousands of refugees who are fleeing persecution and violence and for those who have to migrate to find work.
 - Patrick spoke out with very strong language against slavery. His courage and example can encourage us to speak out today against human trafficking.
 - Patrick preached and practised justice to all, especially the poor, the down trodden and the persecuted. He had great respect for women. We can follow his examples and do the same.
- St Patrick is a saint for our times.

Sister Anne Boland

(Extract from enews used with permission)

The Breastplate of St Patrick Prayer

I arise today

Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity,
 Through belief in the threeness,
 Through confession of the oneness
 Of the Creator of creation

I arise today

Through the strength of Christ's birth with His Baptism,
 Through the strength of His crucifixion with His burial,
 Through the strength of His resurrection with His ascension,
 Through the strength of the descent of His Spirit

I arise today

Through God's strength to pilot me;
 Christ be with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me
 Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
 Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
 Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
 Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
 Christ in every eye that sees me,
 Christ in every ear that hears me.

I arise today

Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity,
 Through belief in the threeness
 Through confession of the oneness
 Of the Creator of creation.

Prayers for the Sick

Connie Barnes (Campsie);
Eileen Bennett (Bathurst-Perthville);
Maureen Blood (Canberra);
Leone Carse (Canberra);
Sr Jan Cetta rsj;
Margaret Clapham (Warilla);
Joyce Comer (Gulgong-Perthville);
Angela Corby (Gilgandra-Perthville);
Jenny Falvey (Georges Hall);
Joyce Farnham (Belmont);
Jan & William Farrell (Bombala);
Kieran Fitzpatrick (Menai);
Shirley Gorrie (Campsie);
Alma Halse (Canberra);
Helen Harnett (Peakhurst);
Jean Hogan (Oberon-Perthville);
Barbara Irwin (Lalor Park);
Maria Kopjar (Menai);
Cecilia Lacey (Gilgandra-Perthville);
Edna Lay (Prayer Member);
Lynne Luxford (Blayney-Perthville);
Pat McDonald (Peakhurst);
Peter & Charles McGrath (Gilgandra-Perthville);
Bev McKechnie (Gilgandra-Perthville);
Jill McKenzie (Canberra);
Carmel Martin (Prayer Member Kingscliff);
Margaret Millar (Blacktown);
Lyal Molloy (Bingara);
Gloria Monck (Canberra);
Kevin Moore (Warialda);
Muriel Morley (Gulgong-Perthville);
Alan Norgrove (Canberra);
Sr Bridie O'Connell rsj;
Ann O'Hara (Lidcombe);
Allan Opferkuch (Moree);
Flo Oxley (Lidcombe);
Filippa Palazotto (Campsie);
Helen Perrett (Warialda);
Esme Quinn (Warilla);
Jan Raines (Gilgandra-Perthville);
Pauline Rendell (Peakhurst);
Moya Rivett (Bathurst-Perthville);
Gloria Roberts (Oberon-Perthville);
Helen Rowles (Oberon-Perthville);
Trish Ryan (Orange-Perthville);
Wally Ryan (Bathurst-Perthville);
Dorothy Spratt (Prayer Member Yennora);
Kath Squires (Bathurst-Perthville);
Norma & Ned Steele (Canberra);
Audrey Steinmetz (Belmont);
Kay Tuckerman (Thirroul);
Bernadette Ulbrich (Lidcombe);
Ritz Wendt (Peakhurst);
Jenice White (Ballina);
Derek Wolfenden (Gilgandra-Perthville);
Robyn Woodhouse (Gulgong-Perthville).
*We remain united in prayer for all our sick
Josephite Associates and
Sisters of St Joseph.*

Requiescant in Pace

Carol Badewitz (Bombala)
Maureen Carey (Canberra)
John Churchill (Prayer Member Helidon)
Evelyn Edman (Belmont Group)
Joy Fillingham (Portland-Perthville Group)
June Goldman (Barraba Group)
Peter Jamieson (Lake Illawarra)
Mary Clare Lees (Canberra Group)
Jean Manning (Prayer Member Delegate)
Betty Martin (Wentworth Group)
Lorna Milton (Belmont Group)
Allan Oakley (Prayer Member Charlestown)
Pat O'Brien (Warialda Group)
Irene O'Connor (Padstow Group)
Iris Seivers (Tamworth Group)
Kay Shine – (Bathurst-Perthville Group)
Patricia Sim (Prayer Member Greystanes)
Jane Smith (Culcairn)
Joan Taylor (Warilla Group)
Gwen Whitton (Penrith)

I'm free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.
I'm following the path God has laid you see.
I took his hand when I heard his call.
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day.
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that peace at the close of the day.
If my parting has left a void,
then fill it with remembered joys.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss.
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full. I savoured much.
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee.
God wanted me now; he set me free!*

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 2300

Thank you for all stamps received.

The total raised through the sales of stamps in 2015 totalled \$34,500 again another record breaking year. Well done to Helen Bache, cutters, sorters and Sister Helen Saunders for this magnificent result.

Request from Bathurst

Used stamps for the Josephite Mission in Timor Leste

Sister Jean Cain rsj Bathurst requests that stamps continue to be sent to:-
Emmaus Convent 163-165 Mitre Street, Bathurst 2795

Proceeds from stamps plus donations and fund raising efforts from local Associates results in around \$4,000 supporting the very poor nation of Timor Leste.

In the Footsteps of Saint Mary MacKillop

Australian Pilgrimage 9th November – 19th November 2016

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

Mary MacKillop Prayer

God of vision,
We thank you for Mary MacKillop and
Julian Tenison Woods,
who loved this land and its peoples.
As we struggle to realise our hopes
for a more just country:
May we witness to the meaning of
fair play for people and land.
May we value the wisdom of the indigenous peoples.
May we act to halt more damage to Earth.
May we live simply, love tenderly and walk humbly.
We ask this in the name of Christ.
Amen



www.marymackillop.org.au

Saint Mary MacKillop

Saint Mother Mary of the Cross
You were an Aussie just like us.
You loved your God and fellow man,
You saw a need and found a plan.
To shelter the orphan and teach the poor,
To help the destitute and much, much more.
There were many ladies who heeded your call,
They came to work and gave their all.
As Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart,
You were their leader from the start.
You clashed with Bishops and others too,
Who didn't see your dream or share your view.
So for the Pope's approval you went to Rome,
It was nearly two years before you came home.
The Sisters went in groups of three or two,
Each community was small but knew what to do.
They prayed and talked, visited those sick or in gaol,
Your dedicated followers, who wore the brown veil.
Your life wasn't easy, many years you were ill,
But at all times you followed God's will.
Your order spread throughout the land,
And spread to other countries too.
New Zealand and New Guinea,
Ireland, Africa, China and Peru.
So Saint Mary to you we pray,
To intercede for us today.
To bless Australia and all therein,
And help us all – Heaven to win.
P.S.
St Mary MacKillop – our very special Saint,
You have done Australia proud.
Everyone in this fair land,
Will sing your praises long and loud.

N. O'Brien JA, Tamworth

Prayer for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

A Prayer for our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,
so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor
and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognise that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

*Prayer from Laudato Si'
Pope Francis*

Email Address

Have you had a change since your last advice?
If so, please contact us with your new details at:
nsw.associates@sosj.org.au
Subject: Email address change

Associates Office

PO Box 184 Croydon NSW 2132
(Letters only)
34 Liverpool Rd, Croydon NSW 2132 (Parcels)
(02) 9747 4199
nsw.associates@sosj.org.au

NEWSLETTER IN BY EMAIL

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and we will update our database and forward your
newsletter in future by email.