

# Mary's Musings

July 2016

## 2015 – 2016 Annual Report

### 'Listening to the Heartbeat of the World'

In this sesquicentenary year it is with pleasure that we write this report on behalf of the Leadership Team which meets monthly in 'friendship, prayer and service' to work to support our Associate members.

Our year began in a great spirit of oneness as Associates, Sisters and the wider Josephite community gathered on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2015 to celebrate the feast day of a great woman who continues to inspire us to live in the spirit of compassion, humility and kindness, and to bring God's love to those we meet in our daily lives. Following Mass we gathered to share soup and sandwiches. We also acknowledged, with the traditional speech and cutting of the cake, 20 years of service of the Mary MacKillop Exhibition Centre. Sr Pat Keane can be truly proud of her work and achievements over her 20 years at the Centre.

Our 2015 Winter newsletter introduced the idea of Associates being a strong source of prayer. All are encouraged to pray for daily intentions such as **Wednesday: World Peace** and **Friday: Families**.

On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2015 as we prepared to celebrate the coming sesquicentenary of the Sisters of St Joseph, Associates were invited to an afternoon of information and conversation exploring Mary's early days as a teacher in and around Penola. The presenter was Margaret Muller, a researcher and writer for the Interpretive

Centre in Penola.

Early in October 2015 Mary Hemmings and Julie Langman attended a gathering in Sydney of Josephite Associate Leaders. It was a weekend of sharing and learning and discussing how our Associate movement can best provide a 'place' for people to gather around the story and legacy of Mary MacKillop.

A Christmas adventure was enjoyed on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at the Bethany Centre in Kensington. Majella O'Sullivan rsj led us through a varied programme of Christmas based activities and the many who attended had an entertaining afternoon.

When Mary MacKillop saw a need she set out to respond. Mary sought always to bring about justice and she required her followers to do the same. While she challenged unjust behaviour Mary always showed great respect for people and worked for peace and harmony in all situations. She did her best at the time of her excommunication to prevent criticism of the Bishop and she showed no ill will towards those involved. Mary's excommunication in 1871 was not the end of the Josephite story! It was at St Mary's Chapel in Franklin Street, Adelaide – the place of the excommunication – that Associates gathered on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2016 to revisit this death and resurrection story. Sr Pat Keane provided an historical focus and Sr Pat Sealey, together with two people she has assisted through her

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*'Little did either of us then dream of what was to spring from so small a beginning.'* MMK 1891

refugee support programme, ably demonstrated how Mary's legacy lives on.

It has been 150 years since Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods together dreamed of making a difference to the lives of children in their remote part of Australia. In Penola on 19<sup>th</sup> March 1866, a young 24 year old Mary put on a black dress and called herself "Sister Mary." In Penola on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016, at the invitation of the Sisters of St Joseph and the people of Penola, many people joined together to remember and celebrate the story of Mary and Julian. Two Associates from Peru, Angel and Carmen, accompanied by Sr Katrina van Ruth, were among the many who attended. An open air Mass was celebrated at the 'Mary MacKillop Stable School' Park and a dramatization by Mary MacKillop College students told the story.

The 150 year celebration has continued with the Thanksgiving Mass at St Ignatius Church, Norwood on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2016. Present day students from the many Josephite schools were presented with a painting depicting an image of a young Mary and Julian as they appeared in 1866.

With the month of May suggested as an Associate month to *gather for a cuppa*, Murray Bridge Associates acted on this on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May. Some of us from Adelaide were privileged to attend Mass and the wonderful morning tea which followed. If other parishes have had, or plan to have, similar gatherings, we would love to hear from you and spread your story in our newsletter.

Also during the months of April and May 2016, Srs Helen and Kateri Duke presented prayer days for women from Kangaroo Island to Pinnaroo, Barmera, Yorke Peninsula, the Mid North and up to Quorn.

## Gather for a Cuppa

Have you had your 'cuppa' in your local area or elsewhere? Tell us what you're doing to celebrate the sesquicentenary of the Sisters of St Joseph.

## Pray for...

Mary Hemmings who is travelling overseas to Peru in September to join the Peruvian Associates during their national conference. We look forward to hearing from Mary about her trip at our gathering on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 (see pg 3).

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May we remembered Sr Irene McCormack on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her death in Peru. We had a very gentle and reflective evening in Bethany presented by Sisters close to Irene's life and death in Peru – Srs Ursula Hoile and Geraldine Stringer.

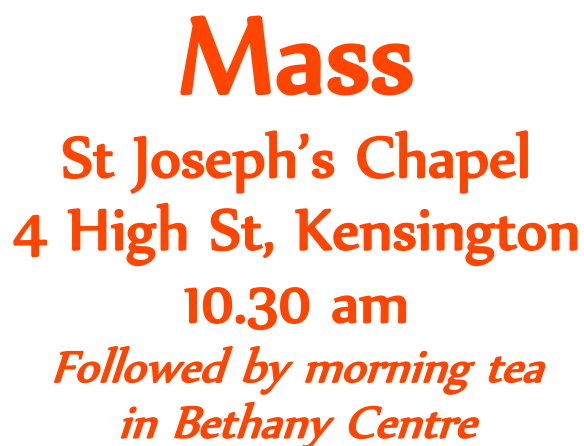
Again, during the past 12 months, Associates and friends have gathered in small home groups to share faith and life through discussion. The Leadership Team is happy to continue providing resources for those who gather, or seek to gather, in small groups.

We concluded our year on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June with an afternoon session in Bethany which was themed, *Re-ignite the Flame!* (see photo below) Round-table sharing of stories of the 'why' and 'how' of Josephite life provided much reflection for our future.



We hope that wherever you are during this historical year that as Associates you can continue being people of 'friendship, prayer and service' through what you do and where you are. May we all continue to keep the Josephite spirit alive, touching the lives of all whom we meet.

*Julie Langman and Majella O'Sullivan rsj  
(on behalf of SA Josephite Associates' Leadership Team)*



All Associates and friends are invited to celebrate Mass on the Feast of Mary MacKillop in this sesquicentenary year. Archbishop Wilson will be the celebrant.

Associates and friends are invited to Mass, followed by Sr Mary Cresp sharing reflections on Fr Julian Tenison Woods as part of the **Julian Art Fest**.



Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2016  
Bethany Centre  
4 High St, Kensington  
2 pm



In October Mary Hemmings will have gathered with Associates in Peru during their national conference. She will be able to share reflections and insights gained and will make connections with our own story as Josephite Associates. Please join us for an afternoon of information and conversation.



We are asking Associates and friends for donations of any old or new **acrylic yarn**, preferably with **vibrant colours**. The yarn will be collected and sent on to Peru where women will knit them into warm clothes for their children. In some places, like Tarma in the Andes, the temperature hovers around 5°C on any day and children are feeling the cold the most.

Your help will be greatly appreciated. Donated yarn (or a small financial donation) can be dropped off with Sr Majella O'Sullivan at St Joseph's Chapel on the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month during August and September. For more details contact Mary Hemmings on 8355 5365.



# Rural Women's Days of Prayer

These days were presented during April and May by the Sisters of St Joseph in gratitude to rural women around the state for their support, continuing loyalty and friendship over many years.

## Warooka

This day gave women of lower Yorke Peninsula an opportunity to experience time away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life while engaging in quiet, reflective creative prayer. The theme of the day was Air, Water and Earth. It was an enjoyable and relaxing day, with people coming from many different towns to share this opportunity together.

## Quorn

A light fog hovered over Quorn as a group of women gathered at the footy clubrooms for this prayer day. Facilitated by Srs Helen and Kateri Duke and Moreen Featherstone we were gently led to an "...awakening anew to the creative vitality of our abundant and exuberant God." (SOSJ Chapter Document)

Our prayer centred around the universe, earth and water opening our eyes to experience the wonder and beauty in these gifts of God's creation, which impact on our lives each day. We welcomed this new day as the sun came out as we danced our prayer "Adoremus Te."

The time to reflect on the 'land of our first cry' led to a beautiful time of reflecting and sharing on the land of our childhood. We were challenged to use all our senses as a way of prayer. A shared lunch found us recalling the stories of our school days and the Josephites who had taught us.

Our day concluded with a reflection on the power of water, and the impact it has in and on our lives and our connectedness to each other and to God.

Perhaps the most challenging part of the day were the words of Drew Dellinger from "*Heroglyphic Stairway*" ".....**what did you do while the planet was plundered?**" Participant in day's reflection

**"Let us love and praise God in all."  
MMK 1872**

## Murray Bridge Mass & Morning Tea by Jan Howard

To mark the occasion of 150 years since Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods opened the first Josephite school in Penola, the Murray Bridge Parish held their celebrations on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

On a lovely sunny day we commenced the day with Mass at 9 am. Although we are a small group here, the Josephite Associates participated in all the ministries during Mass.

Following Mass we invited the Parish and any visitors including Julie, Mary and Carla from the leadership team in Adelaide to join us for morning tea in our Parish Hall.

In keeping with Mary MacKillop's simple philosophy we used wattle and native greenery as decorations for tables and around Mary's pedestal. It made us think of the long distances she travelled through our countryside.

Many of our parishioners helped provide a delicious spread to enjoy with our cuppa. Given that we are such a small group it was very satisfying to share the day with such a happy group.



## ***Remembering Irene McCormack rsj*** by Carla Mastrangelo

We came together in the Bethany Centre on the eve of Sr Irene's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her death. Associates and friends joined the Sisters, with Sr Margaret Cresp facilitating, to remember Sr Irene and to honour her memory. Srs Ursula Hoile and Geraldine Stringer were living in Peru at the time and gave sombre accounts of the events leading up to and following Sr Irene's death. Here's a little of what happened:

*On the evening of the 21<sup>st</sup> May 1991 Sendero Luminoso, a terrorist group in Peru, entered the town of Huasahuasi. There were over 60 armed terrorists, and witnesses said many of the younger ones were under the influence of drugs.*

*The terrorists rounded up people who were about the streets. The order was given to collect certain men of standing in the town, along with Sr Irene, and they were marched into the town's central plaza. There the victims were harangued for about an hour. They were tried in a 'kangaroo court' and sentenced to death. Sr Irene's 'crime' was dispensing "American food" (Caritas provisions) and spreading "American ideas" (by providing school books).*

*Later that same night, the victims were ordered to lie face down and each was shot in the back of the head. Sr Irene was killed first, only 6 metres from the church door. As the bodies could not be moved the townspeople kept a vigil, burning candles and praying. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> May a funeral Mass was held for Sr Irene and she was buried in the local cemetery. Sr Irene's coffin would later be shifted from this borrowed niche to a permanent gravesite in Huasahuasi.*

Those listening were moved by these reflections and we prayed for Sr Irene and the 4 men who were killed with her, namely Ruben, Augustine, Pedro and Alfonso. Sr Margaret led us in this final prayer:

*May the urgency of God's mission unsettle us, the compassion of God motivate us, the justice of God inspire us, the love of God expand us.*

Sr Irene died doing the work of Mary MacKillop: being with the poor and marginalised, inviting these people into her life and trying to assist them with their basic needs. May we too be inspired by such generous women and invite God to guide us in our efforts with those who need our help.



## **RIP Associate**



We remember Carmel Waters (nee Turner) with gratitude and affection.

Carmel died in April after struggling with her health. She was the mother of 4 children and grandmother of 8.

Carmel was a long time Josephite Associate being educated at Tranmere and Mary MacKillop College. She volunteered at the Mary MacKillop Exhibition Centre and often assisted Sr Pat Keane on her many pilgrimages. We pray for the repose of her soul and for comfort and consolation for her family and friends.

Rest in peace Carmel.

# *A Reflection on Charism and the Gift or Calling of the Spirit of God in our Daily Lives* by Angela Barrett



I am a Josephite Associate and I live in Adelaide. I have been blessed with a safe and secure life, having been born in Australia, reared by great parents, extended family and supportive friends. On reflection, my education through school, nursing and music provided me with a good foundation for life and what it can deal as my life continues on.

I have a happy and fulfilled marriage with three great sons and now grandchildren, combined with good health. What else could one ask for? However, something was always missing!

Over the years, my faith within the Catholic Church has had its ups and downs. An awareness of the spirit of God has always been present and often a nagging presence I was unable to understand fully.

My introduction to the Josephite movement has become an enlightened journey, one that continues every day. From reading her story, the spirit of Mary MacKillop comes through, for example, her confident trust in God's providence during good times and bad, her simplicity of lifestyle, adaptability, respect for human dignity and a practical approach to service, has sustained me to acknowledge

spiritual support in my life journey.

I am a member of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Adelaide. Our conference in the northern suburbs is always busy. Donations are given generously by our local parishioners. In our area we visit and assist people in need of food, clothing and furniture, and often just as a friend with whom they can talk.

Our asylum seekers are living on very minimal money, having to pay bills and rent as well as feed and clothe themselves. They are stressed, waiting on government visa approval, have little English, and are in a strange place away from their homeland. Most have experienced trauma after fleeing their country. We really have no idea of their plight and we do what we can to help.

Our Australian sisters and brothers also ask for help. We assist and respect their circumstances, in the spirit of Blessed Frederic Ozanam – the founder of SVdP – a man with the same spirit as St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Also with this strong faith in providence, the Sisters of Mercy are assisting in our area, as are the Sisters of Our Lady of The Sacred Heart. The Lutheran community, the Church of Christ and other great organisations are also present and help us to help families in need.

***"God has always trusted me and I have more than ever cause to trust in Him."  
MMK 1874***

## **Volunteering**

Mary MacKillop Care is looking for volunteers to help out in some of their facilities including Flora MacDonald Lodge in Cowandilla, Tappiener Court in Kensington or at St Catherine's in Berri. If you are interested please contact Sr Luisa Ege on 0438 049 253.

## **Stamps for the Missions**

Stamps which are donated are then 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: *Used Stamps, Locked Bag 3031, Burwood, NSW, 1805*

# Josephite Associates SA

## Statement of Income and Expenditure for 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016

<b>INCOME</b>		
Opening Balance		<b>\$2,278.91</b>
Subscriptions	\$1,430.00	
Fundraising/Donations	\$236.00	
Bank Interest	\$3.00	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$1,669.00</b>	<b>\$3,947.91</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Publishing costs – stamps and envelopes	\$828.15	
Purchases – books and gifts for guest speakers	\$99.90	
Donation to Sisters of St Joseph	\$100.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$1,028.05</b>	<b>\$1,028.05</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME LESS TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>\$2,919.86</b>
<b>CLOSING BALANCE as on Statement dated 30/06/2016</b>		<b>\$2,919.86</b>

This statement does not include a donation to Sr Pat Sealey's Refugee Support Programme as this payment was not made as at 30/06/2016. (The payment will however include the 'Fundraising/Donations' amount recorded above, plus an amount from your subs. Details in our next newsletter.)

Julie Langman, Treasurer, 10/07/2016

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## Annual Subscription for 2016 – 2017

The Leadership Team sincerely thanks you for paying your annual subscription, which enables us to remain in contact with you. We have been discussing ways of making it easier for you to pay your subs, and with current technology it seems appropriate to provide our banking details to enable a direct payment to be made at BankSA or over the net:

<b>BankSA</b>	BSB Number:	105-087
	Account Number:	039066240
	Account Name:	RSJ Associates SA

The subs you pay cover administration costs and postage, resources and donations to our selected focus Josephite ministries.

Payment amount: ☐ \$20 ☐ \$15 unwaged/concession

Payment method: ☐ Cheque ☐ Cash ☐ BankSA deposit or net transfer

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like your newsletter sent via email? Yes/No

Telephone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (M) \_\_\_\_\_

Post to: Julie Langman, 16 Greenwood Cres, Glenalta 5052  
(Especially if you are paying by Bank deposit/transfer as you may not be able to include your name)



# Let us Pray...

## **Gospel Reading: John 14:27**

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

## **Prayers for our Community**

*Loving God,*

We pray in solidarity for all those who are marginalised in our society. May they feel Your hand at work in their daily struggle to live life to the full.

*Healing God,*

We pray in solidarity for all those who are oppressed. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit sustain them in their search for a just society.

*Compassionate God,*

We pray in solidarity for all those who seek justice for a compassionate society. May they be encouraged to strive for peace in an ever-changing world.

*Life-giving God,*

We pray in solidarity for all those who are persecuted because of their faith. May they feel strength in the knowledge they have Your abundant love.

*Generous God,*

We pray in solidarity for each and every one of us who asks for Your help and guidance. May we be drawn constantly to trust in Your providence and to have courage to take the risk of relying on Your truth.

## **Prayer of St Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.  
Where there is injury, let me sow pardon.  
Where there is doubt, let me sow faith.  
Where there is despair, let me sow hope.  
Where there is darkness, let me sow light.  
Where there is sadness, let me sow joy.

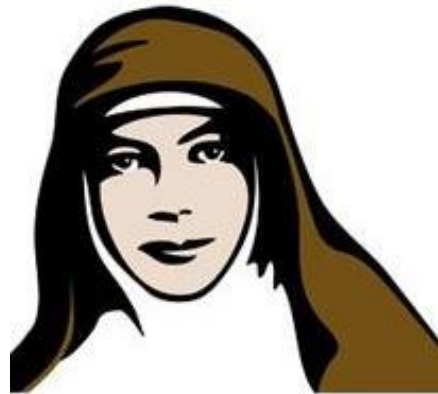
Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.  
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

**Amen**

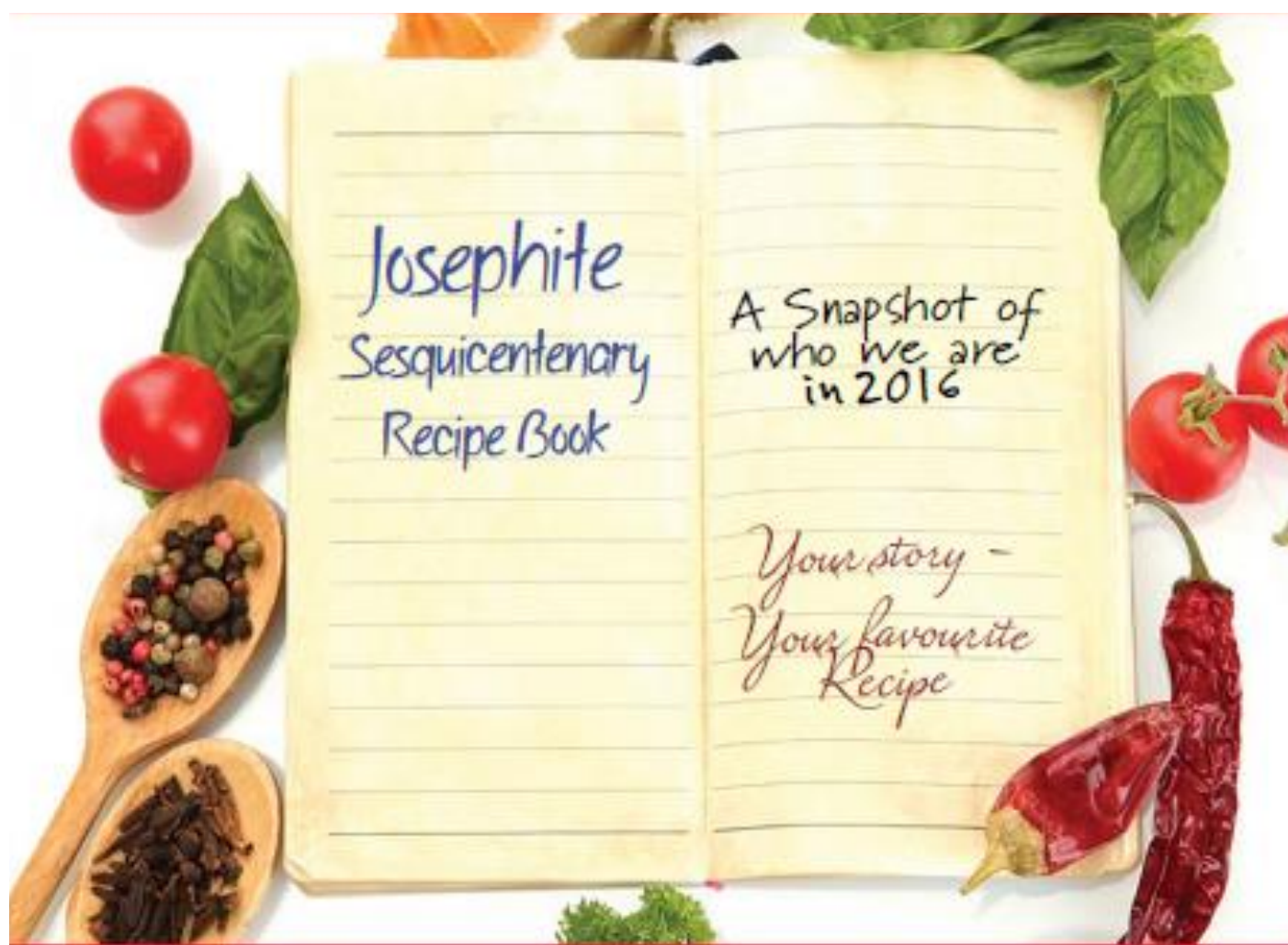
## **Call to Action**

Take time to be with someone who needs you to listen to them in a non-judgemental way.



***"I would advise to trust more  
to God, and of course,  
prayerfully to seek God's  
guidance."  
MMK 1898***





As part of the Sesquicentenary celebrations the Sisters of St Joseph intend to produce a coffee-table style book entitled

**'A SNAPSHOT OF WHO WE ARE IN 2016.'**

Everyone who has a connection with the Sisters of St Joseph and their ministries is invited to contribute to the book.

Send contributions to  
[heartbeat@sosj.org.au](mailto:heartbeat@sosj.org.au) by  
 30th September, 2016.



The **invitation** is to tell your story along with your recipe which will give the readers a glimpse of the person behind the recipe and tell how you are connected with the Josephite story.

**What to Include?**

1. A **short statement** about your association with works inspired by the legacy of Mary MacKillop, Julian T. Woods, and the Josephites. (No more than 200 words.)
2. A **story connecting you to the recipe.** (No more than 500 words)
3. The Recipe – Ingredients and method of preparation and cooking.
4. Photograph of the contributor and the finished product. (High resolution)

For further information about the Sisters of St Joseph and the Sesquicentenary celebrations visit [www.sosj.org.au](http://www.sosj.org.au)



## Special Wine Offer: Celebrate the Sisters' 150th anniversary

Sevenhill Cellars has joined with the Sisters of St Joseph to produce two commemorative wines as part of the Order's 150th anniversary celebrations.

Sevenhill, established by the Jesuits in the Clare Valley in 1851, has a respected reputation for producing high-quality sacramental and table wines, both for the Australian and international markets.

The two anniversary wines are a 2013 Sevenhill Riesling and a 2014 Sevenhill Shiraz.

To order these wines, you can go online at [www.sevenhill.com.au/promotions/sisters150](http://www.sevenhill.com.au/promotions/sisters150) or use the order form below. The wine will be delivered to your nominated address.

### PLACE YOUR ORDER

		Six-pack	No	\$ Total
<b>Anniversary white wine six-pack</b>				
<b>2013 Sevenhill Riesling</b>	This Riesling shows the wonderful varietal character of the Clare Valley's signature variety. Floral aromas are evident on the nose and the palate reveals a delicate citrus character and lingering minerality.	\$100		
<b>Anniversary red wine six-pack</b>				
<b>2014 Sevenhill Shiraz</b>	Another fine example of fruit-driven Shiraz from Sevenhill's old vines. The vibrant palate is alive with bright red fruit that is complemented by the variety's trademark cedar and spice. A wine that offers long-term drinking pleasures.	\$110		
<b>Delivery per case</b>		<b>\$10</b>		
		<b>TOTAL</b>		

### YOUR DETAILS

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Delivery Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick the box if you do not want to receive information from the Sevenhill Wine Club. ☐

### PAYMENT DETAILS

SHC 188

☐ Visa: ☐ Mastercard

Card Holder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number:

Expiry Date:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I am over 18 years of age

### RETURN YOUR ORDER FORM:

Telephone: (08) 8643 5900  
 Email: [orders@sevenhill.com.au](mailto:orders@sevenhill.com.au)