

IN THE WIND

Sisters of Saint Joseph production for Mary MacKillop Rural Network <http://www.sosj.org.au>
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MACKILLOP RURAL NETWORK

Di Phillips rsj Network Coordinator

It is almost ten years since the MacKillop Rural Network began. This year marks a turning point in the way that the Sisters of St Joseph serve rural people in Queensland. St Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods began the Order 150 years ago in a rural town, Penola, in South Australia. Rural needs have always been forefront in our endeavours to educate children and to care pastorally for people who do not live in regional and city places. Now it is time to look at how our involvement might continue. The question for us is HOW.

At present we have five Sisters living in rural Queensland and lots of other Sisters who minister on the fringes through letter writing, phone calls and emails, visits and by running short courses or retreats. Please pray for us as we discern our ongoing involvement in your lives and the lives of many others.

Readers might have a suggestion that can help us.
What have you found helpful in what we have been doing over the past ten years?
What could we continue to do?
What could we do differently?

If you want to contact me directly, my email is:
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To phone: 4627 2202 OR Mobile: 0427 825 536



Josephite Websites

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www.sosj.org.au

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Next Closing Date for

"In The Wind"

17 September 2016

Please continue to send
articles
to
PO Box 5
Miles Qld 4415
or email
mackillopruralnetwork@sosj.org.au

DEBS OF 1956

Laurel Hearn from Pittsworth



Back row: Joan Patterson, Pat Sullivan, Joan Smith and Tibby Sullivan. In the front row: Laurel Hearn and Moya Mitchell.

Recently a group of women from St Stephen's Parish, Pittsworth, held a reunion to commemorate and celebrate being debutantes in 1956. They shared memorabilia of the occasion at a luncheon at the Pittsworth Hotel Motel. They brought newspaper clippings, dance cards, photos and memories of the occasion. The celebration was marked by the cutting of a special cake.

St Stephen's holds a Debutante ball each year and has done so for many years.

SCHOOL VISITS IN AUGUST

Di Phillips rsj from Miles

Each August I am invited to three former Josephite schools in the Toowoomba diocese to speak to children as well as Teachers and Parishioners about the Josephite charism. This year I was invited to St Patrick's at St George, St Joseph's at Tara and St Maria Goretti's at Inglewood.

At St George I spent the day visiting classrooms with the Mary MacKillop doll, told stories about Mary MacKillop and had time with the Staff afterwards sharing on the Josephite charism. The Staff had fun together writing pantoums around Josephite values. (Pantoum is a French word that describes a poetic form that originated in Malaysia). As well as being an enjoyable exercise it was also a moving experience for some participants.

Tara came next. A paraliturgy was held the day I arrived as Father Jack McGinley was on holidays. Some Parents came along as well. This was followed by a powerpoint presentation in the library for the parents. Afterwards a couple of birthdays were celebrated by staff and students. A wonderful rainbow cake, was shared. Later when I took the doll into a classroom I was informed by one of the older boys that he was 'scared' of the doll because one time I brought it a leg moved! He ended up holding it for the length of the lesson. I was later inundated with children who were also 'scared' of the doll. I interpreted that as meaning that they wanted to carry it, so duly handed it over.



The last visit was to Inglewood. Here I spent time one afternoon with Parishioners and Staff. Again I shared Josephite values. At the end there was a flood of memories as everyone could recall Sisters who taught them and the various school events coloured by the presence of Sisters of St Joseph.

The students assembled the next morning for stories and other information about St Mary MacKillop. The children asked some very good questions.

August is always a busy time when schools like a visit around the feastday of St Mary MacKillop. At each school I encountered a wonderful energy and desire to understand what the Josephite charism means for them today. I always enjoy the time spent with staffs, children and parishioners.

CENTENARY OF ST STEPHEN'S SCHOOL IN PITTSWORTH

Over the weekend of the 6 and 7 of August St Stephen's School in Pittsworth celebrated one hundred years since the Sisters of St Joseph opened it in 1916. Excitement has been mounting for a couple of years and the intrepid planning committee worked its way through all sorts of difficulties until the time came at last. In the end hundreds of people came to celebrate this great event.

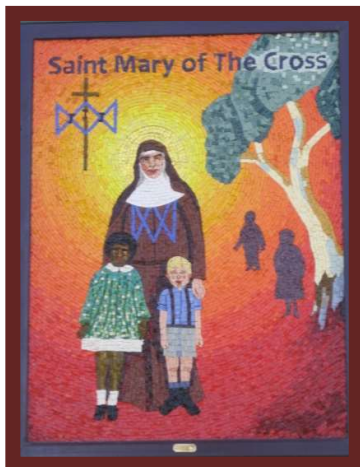
Past pupils gathered to meet once more for photographs and catch-ups. Many met for the first time since their school days. The present day students demonstrated their skills at dancing and singing. Teachers were justly proud.



Original convent. Six Sisters gaze at the camera.



Opening day of school and convent in 1916



On Saturday evening a different group of people gathered for the Art Show and the launching of the updated history of the school called *Celebrate our Spirit, St Joseph's/St Stephen's School, Pittsworth, 1916 – 2016*. Sr Michele Shipperley, a former Principal of the school, launched the book. Her speech included some humorous accounts of school days during her time in leadership. The cover of the book depicts a copy of the wonderful glass mosaic that was created by artist Alain Coffis from near Warwick.

Sunday began with the celebration of Eucharist presided over by Bishop Robert McGuckin.

Later, Bishop McGuckin was invited to unveil the mosaic. To do so he enlisted the aid of one of the younger members of the present student community. The photo shows Fr Thomas Areekuzhy, Janine Butlin, Bishop McGuckin, 'the little helper' and the artist Alain Coffis.



Everyone then walked across the road to where the original Sacred Heart Church stood that became St Joseph's School. Here the Bishop was invited to unveil a plaque commemorating this. He then asked one of the Sisters to assist him. A cry went up for Sr Tressa, now known as Sr Eileen. She duly stepped up and graciously assisted the bishop to lift the veil covering the plaque.



Fr Thomas, Janine Butlin, Sr Eileen, Bishop McGuckin unveil the plaque.



Keith Blaikie APRE, and Janine Butlin, principal, speak to the congregation before Mass began.

The centenary celebrations were a wonderful event that brought many people together who hadn't seen each other in years. Congratulations go to the planning committee and the school which has created such strong ties with former students and teachers.

FEASTDAY OF ST MARY MACKILLOP IN TOOWOOMBA

Mass was celebrated in St Patrick's cathedral on Monday 8 August for St Mary MacKillop's feastday. Several schools from the Toowoomba city and region were represented by groups of students. Some students from each school were invited to carry banners or posters showing the names of the fourteen schools that began in the Toowoomba diocese.

Parishioners from surrounding places in the diocese came also.



Students from St Mary MacKillop College, Highfields, hold aloft posters naming the places where Sisters of St Joseph started schools in the diocese. The Sisters present were from left to right: Di Phillips, Marion Liddy, Leonie Stortenbeker, Pam Teys and Margaret Andersen.

Bishop McGuckin was the main celebrant. Nine Priests from the diocese concelebrated with him including Father Brian Noonan and Father Peter Doohan who came from Quilpie to represent St Finbarr's School and Augathella where the Josephites once served.

After the Mass a cup of tea, organised in the parish centre, enabled people to catch up with friends. All five of the Sisters who live in the diocese were able to be present.

Special thanks goes to St Finbarr's school for their help and support in providing posters and the Mass booklets.

Elly Kruger came into Toowoomba by bus to celebrate St Mary MacKillop's feastday at the cathedral. Elly brought a small bunch of violets that she had potted from some growing at the back door of the Crows Nest convent.



NEWS FROM ALLORA

Joyce Gibson from Allora

St Patrick's Allora has been celebrating Saint Mary MacKillop and the Josephites in a number of ways.

We began with a one off special collection on Sunday 7 August, to support the Josephite Gate Ministry, which prepares kits to be given to recently released prisoners. The kits are designed to help them cope for at least the first 72 hours after leaving prison. We are asking parishioners for gifts for the kits, or a cash donation to be spent on the kits. The children will join in the Offertory procession with their gifts. We also see this collection as our gift to the Josephites to mark the Sesquicentenary (150 years) celebration of the Josephite Order. The result of our efforts will be presented to Sister Christine Symonds at the annual luncheon held in Allora on 2nd September which supports the Josephite mission in Peru.

The Associates joined with the Diocesan family at St Patrick's Cathedral to celebrate Saint Mary MacKillop's feast day on 8 August.

Our celebrations continued with an Associates' meeting and prayer morning on 11 August, followed by a shared meal.

St Patrick's school together with the Associates celebrated Mass on Tuesday 16 August, as Father Rod, our Parish Priest, was unable to be with us for St Mary's feastday.

The annual luncheon held to support the Josephite mission in Peru will be held on 2 September. The luncheon is open to all, and we are generally blessed by the presence of a number of Josephite Sisters and members of our local community.

Sister Christine Symonds will attend the luncheon, bringing her van stacked with many items made by the women in Peru. These goods will be on sale. There will be a guest speaker and we expect the day to be a really enjoyable social day as well as a successful fund raiser.

All in all, there are quite a number of events in which we, as a Parish, will be celebrating St Mary MacKillop and the 150 years of the Sisters of St Joseph.

CENTENARY OF THE PARISH OF CROWS NEST Margaret Fowler from Crows Nest

On Saturday 8 October the Crows Nest Catholic Community will celebrate the Centenary of becoming a Parish. Mass will be celebrated at 10:30am in St Matthew's Church and will be followed by a Luncheon in the Parish Centre at 12 noon. All present and past Parishioners and Priests are invited to attend. It is essential for catering purposes that Luncheon Tickets be purchased by 30 September. Contact Pat on 4698 1607 or 0418 874 389

Early History of the Parish



St Matthew's church Crows Nest.

From the 1880's into the 1890's priests journeyed from Toowoomba, probably on horseback or horse and sulky, to celebrate Mass for the Catholic Community. These Masses were held in the Court House but we don't know how often.

The first church was built in Crows Nest on land donated by Mr Matthew Gleeson and was officially opened in 1900 as St Matthew's Church. This was followed by St Colman's church in Goombungee in 1902.

All Saints Church was built at Perseverance in 1909. The last Mass in that church was celebrated on 5 June 1999 and the building was then sold. St Leo's church was built in Haden in 1931. Also built in 1931 was St James' church at Coalbank. It was closed and sold in 1982.

In 1916 Crows Nest was made a separate Parish. Although still part of the Brisbane Archdiocese, priests from Toowoomba brought Mass and the Sacraments to the community. One of the early priests was Fr. Fouhy, later Monsignor, who is the only priest buried in St Patrick's Cathedral in Toowoomba.

Fr. James Hegarty was appointed as the first Parish Priest. Although his stay was short he was responsible for introducing the Sisters of Saint Joseph to the Parish and organised the building of the convent school which opened in July 1917. A cottage next to the church was Fr. Hegarty's presbytery which he gave up so the Sisters would have a place to live.

Fr. Ahern came next for a short time and was followed by Fr. Francis Burton. About this time a sanctuary and two sacristies were added to the church, the presbytery was renovated and a proper convent was acquired and situated on land fronting William Street. It is still there today. It is presently in use as a rental property.

All this time the parish was still in the Brisbane Archdiocese. In September 1918 Archbishop Duhig travelled to Crows Nest to bless and dedicate the renovated buildings and convent.

Toowoomba became a diocese in 1929 and although we were still in the Brisbane Archdiocese our priests came from Toowoomba. It was 1942 when Archbishop Duhig, the Apostolic Delegate, and Bishop Roper of the Toowoomba Diocese agreed to

change the Eastern boundary which saw Crows Nest become part of the Toowoomba Diocese.

We look forward to celebrating these memories on the 8th of October.



Parish Centre, formerly the school building, now beside the church..

SACRED SPACE

The following is based on material received at Kincumber June 2016.

St Joseph was in touch with the heartbeat of the world as he paid heed to the Word of God sent to him in dreams.

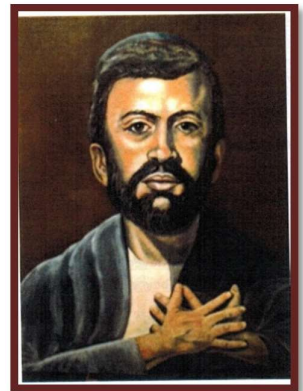
Joseph listened to his dreams and he heard:

Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife... (Mt 1:20)

Get up and take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt... (Mt 2:13)

Get up and take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel... (Mt 2:20)

Make your home in Nazareth... (Mt 2:23)



Joseph listened to the heartbeat of the world

Mary MacKillop listened to the heartbeat of the world in her time and place.

Mary MacKillop contemplated the mystery unfolding in her life and she heard:

Believe in the whisperings of God to your own heart. 1868

There where you are, you will find God. 1871

'Tis true I only seek to serve God in the care of the little ones of his flock. 1867

Trust in me. 1874

God is watching over you. 1876

Let nothing deter you from proceeding with courage. 1907

Fr Julian Tenison Woods listened to the heartbeat of the world in his time and place.

Julian Tenison Woods journeyed around his parish and throughout Australia and beyond.

He heard:

Cultivate prayer and meditation. Keep hold of these no matter what else you neglect. JTW 1864

It is God's own calm, quiet work and let us do it in God's own calm quiet way. JTW 1873

Be kind to all, be gentle to all, be very, very gentle. (Letter to early Sisters)

You are my way, and into your heart I will look and leave all else to you. JTW 1885



Artist: Jan Williamson

Mary and Julian stepped out into the unknown in response to what they heard when they listened to the heartbeat of the world in their time and place.



As I attend to the heartbeat of the world in my time and space:

*I hear I smell, sniff out
I see I touch into, feel
I taste*

May our good God journey with us as we respond to the needs in our time and place, in whatever way we can.

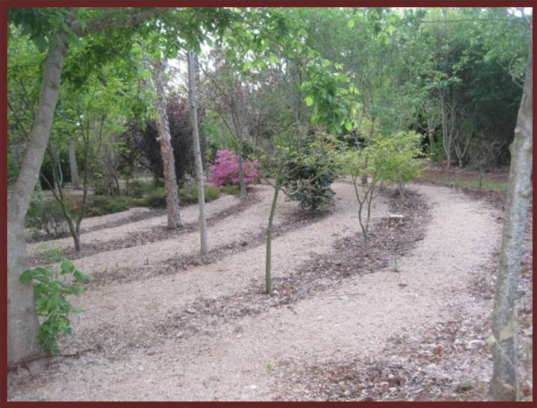
How to Write a Pantoum

- Number lines from 1 – 12
- Line 1
- Line 2
- Line 3
- Line 4
- Line 5 (repeat line 2)
- Line 6
- Line 7 (repeat line 4)
- Line 8
- Line 9
- Line 10
- Line 11 (repeat line 8)
- Line 12 (repeat line 1)

Just for fun make your own pantoum by using or adapting the sayings quoted above from Mary, Julian and Matthew's gospel.

WALKING MEDITATION

Thoughts from Thich Nhat Hanh



Walking meditation can be very enjoyable. We walk slowly, alone or with friends, if possible in some beautiful places. Walking meditation is really to enjoy the walking – walking not in order to arrive, just for walking.

The purpose is to be in the present moment and to enjoy each step you make.

CONTEMPLATION

“A long loving look at the real”

Richard Rohr

LONG

Take time

LOVING

**Be still
Listen
Love**

LOOK

**Pay attention
Gaze**



AT THE REAL

Be aware of what IS at this moment.

