



# WA JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES' Newsletter



*Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends*

Welcome to another year! It was great to hear from so many in 2016 which was a special year for our Mary MacKillop People. 2017 is going to be an enriching year for each one of us - with the help of Mary MacKillop as she leads us along this path – *journeying together.*



*O God of Lent, this time you are too powerful  
Your love has opened up my eyes and  
The mystery is for telling.  
It is my own pink-edged crosses  
that have broken my heart  
But your cross has saved me!*  
(Macrina Wiederkehr)



Thank you all for your involvement, the gatherings, as well as your spiritual and practical support during 2016.

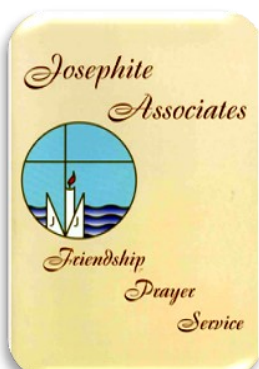
As Members, a small donation would be helpful towards printing, photocopying and mailing expenses. I thank all those who helped with these expenses in 2016.

*From Sister Denise on behalf of the Central Committee ~ Dot, Meg, Fay, Margaret, Maureen, Mary and all Associates Committee members in the other areas ... special thanks to Annette and Helen*

## A New Year and New Endeavours!

After the excitement of the Sesquicentenary celebrations we all now have to come down from the mountain and move on, hoping to recapture some of the spirit of excitement from that amazing year. The Central Committee has served faithfully, some members for more years than they care to remember! Sickness and advancing years are taking their toll and some of us need a chance to slow down.

*Perhaps you might consider volunteering to join us helping on the committee?* The task is not arduous - four meetings a year during which we discuss activities, finance, visitations and other pertinent matters, and fold the newsletter for posting. We all enjoy the time, chatting and solving the problems of the world (theoretically that is!).



Sr Denise goes to a great deal of trouble to collate the material which is quite a demanding effort, and we thank her for her dedication. Laura McCarthy organises the result into the colourful production you receive four times a year. Our thanks to you both. We really would be lost without you. Louisa Moore has offered to join us, and the offer has been gratefully accepted. With her enthusiastic approach to life she will bring with her a breath of fresh air.

*Do consider becoming a Committee Member. We could do with one or two more.*

Thanks to all Associates, especially those who faithfully attend the gathering come rain come shine, and the Sisters who support us.

*May you be especially blessed in the year ahead.*

*- Meg Phelan JA (Committee Member)*



## Australia Day Awards 2017

*The Josephite spirit is alive and well and has been recognised on Australia Day, as awards were presented to ...*

- † **Two of our Josephite Associates at the recent Australia Day Awards ceremony** of the Dardanup Shire, they were **Gwen Wells** (left) and **Fay Manoni** (right).

Gwen received a Senior Citizen of the Year Award for Community Services to the people of Dardanup.

Fay, along with other Dardanup Senior Citizens, was awarded a Group Certificate and Medal for Community Services to the Shire of Dardanup.

*- from Annette Morellini JA*



- † **Sister Margaret Culhane OAM RSJ Senior Citizen of the Year** (Tom Price-Paraburdoo)

The announcement was read out as follows: "Sister Margaret is actively involved in helping families and people within our community. Her commitment to those in the community is admirable. Sister Margaret volunteers many hours to the Nintirri Centre teaching crocheting, cake decorating and many other skills. Sister Margaret is always there to support the Nintirri staff and offer an outlet to communicate any problems – be it personal or professional. Her dedication to the townships of Tom Price and Paraburdoo is remarkable. Evidenced by her participation today at our Australia Day event and is an active member of our community."



*Congratulations to three wonderful Josephite women!*

## Jubilee Celebrations!



*L to R: Sisters Leonie Mayne, Eileen Johnson, Chris Schwerdt, Margaret Kane, Diane Kingston, Maureen O'Connor, Maureen Donnelly, Philomena Kalmund*

After serving their communities and the Church for 50 and 60 years, our Jubilarians had plenty of reason to celebrate in January.

In WA, a group of eight Sisters – together with their families and friends – came together on Sunday 22 January for a special Mass and afternoon tea to commemorate the Sisters' Golden and Diamond Jubilees. The Mass was held at Holy Family Church in Como and was celebrated by Dunsborough Parish Priest Father Ian Johnson, who is a brother to Golden Jubilarian, Sr Eileen Johnson.

The celebrations continued with afternoon tea at the Josephite Convent in South

Perth, where the Sisters were presented with a cake in recognition of their service.

There were two hundred plus people attending including Sisters, families and friends.

During the afternoon the Sisters cut a beautiful Jubilee cake which was made and decorated by Sr Margaret Culhane. It was a lovely end to a beautiful day spent celebrating together.

Earlier in the month, Sisters celebrating their Golden and Diamond Jubilees had gathered in Sydney for two national celebrations.

The first – held on Friday 6 January – brought together 22 Golden Jubilarians for a Mass at the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel celebrated by the Most Rev Bishop Terry Brady, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney.

*The Golden Jubilarians - Sydney celebration*



The Sisters came from around the world for this celebration, with some living in Peru, Ireland, New Zealand and Australia. Of these – Sr Maureen Donnelly, Sr Eileen Johnson and Sr Maureen O'Connor are WA based Sisters.



*The Diamond Jubilarians - Sydney celebration*

The following week, on Friday 13 January, 31 Diamond Jubilarians met for a Mass at the Chapel, also celebrated by Bishop Brady and con-celebrated by Father Philip Linder. Like the Golden Jubilarians, these Sisters also came from across Australia, as well as New Zealand and Ireland, with four – Sr Diane Kingston, Sr Margaret Kane, Sr Leonie Mayne and Sr Philomena Kalmund – being based in Western Australia.

*(Taken from The Record 16/02/2017)*



## Snippet from Geraldton

Associate Monica Mullikin is pictured with the children at Mass in St Joseph's Church Range Way in the Geraldton area. They all enjoy being part of the singing at Mass. It is wonderful to see, the children are so much at home in the church these days, these children feel important and happy. Monica is my niece and it is great to see such people helping to bring children to relate to the Mass. God bless you Monica.



- Sr Denise Casey rsj



## Announcing the Mary MacKillop Foundation 2017

### “ BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN ”

*Come and join the fun, meet old friends and make new ones ...*

**When:** 8am Saturday 11 March 2017

**Where:** GARDEN VENUE - at the Mary MacKillop Centre  
16 York Street, South Perth (St Joseph's Convent)

**Bring:** \$15 for brekkie, byo chairs, tables, blankets, umbrellas, sun screen, smiles!

**RSVP:** Before Friday 7th March to:

Laurie Mayne, 9271 5649, [ljmayne@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ljmayne@optusnet.com.au)



- ☺ **Free raffle on entry**
- ☺ **Chrysanthemums for Mother's Day and other pot-plants**
- ☺ **New location - the leafy gardens of St Joseph's Convent**
- ☺ **Same chefs, friendly people, warm weather**
- ☺ **Just smell the food and follow your nose and signs !!!**

## Josephite Spirituality Brochure 2017

## Josephite Spirituality Brochure

If you would like a copy of this informative brochure, it is now available from Laura at the South Perth convent, or she is happy to post you out a copy or two. (9334 0999 or [laura.mccarthy@sosj.org.au](mailto:laura.mccarthy@sosj.org.au)).

The brochure lists all the upcoming Josephite Spirituality Events, Prayer Days, Retreats, Gatherings etc - both at Safety Bay (*Kilmolee at Safety Bay*) and at the South Perth convent.

### Upcoming Events ...

- ✝ **11 March BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN** (see above)
- ✝ **15 March AUTUMN PRAYER DAY** - Come join us and experience a gentle, prayerful day at tranquil Safety Bay  
**Theme:** "Finding Healing and Hope in Creation." **When:** Wed 15 March at 10.00am – 1:00pm (9.30am morning tea, and light lunch provided) **Where:** 'Kilmolee at Safety Bay', 182 Arcadia Drive, Safety Bay, **Cost:** by Donation, **RSVP:** (Important for catering), contact Sr Dianne - Ph:(08) 9527 3240 or [safety.bay@sosj.org.au](mailto:safety.bay@sosj.org.au)
- ✝ **31 March PRAYING OUR EXPERIENCES** - This focused prayer and contemplation time is assisted with talks on a theme, followed by personal time in the chapel or garden. **When:** Held usually on the last Friday of each month at 10.30am-12pm and repeated at 6.30pm- 8pm. **March 31st theme:** TBA **Where:** St Joseph's Convent, 16 York St, South Perth. Please contact Laura on 9334 0999 or [laura.mccarthy@sosj.org.au](mailto:laura.mccarthy@sosj.org.au) to register. **Future dates:** April 28, May 26, June 30 and more... more SOSJ events can also be found at [www.sosj.org.au](http://www.sosj.org.au)

# WA ASSOCIATES' GATHERINGS 2017



## SOUTH PERTH GATHERINGS 2017

ENQUIRIES/RSVP:

Dot Caughey: 9332 0118 [dotlinc1@bigpond.com](mailto:dotlinc1@bigpond.com)



## CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2017

**Where:** South Perth Convent

**When:** 9.30am Thursday 25th May

*Committee to have lunch with Sisters afterwards*

### Future Meetings:

24th August

23rd November



## GATHERINGS 2017

(organised by the Central Committee)

### Next Gathering:

**Where:** Convent, 16 York Street, South Perth

**When:** 2.00pm Sunday 12th March

**Bring:** A plate of food to share

### Future Gatherings:

11th June 2017

10th September 2017

10th December 2017

**All very welcome !**



## SOUTH WEST GATHERINGS 2017

Annette: 9797 1156, [aroveta39@gmail.com](mailto:aroveta39@gmail.com) or Nancy: 9728 1037



## AUTUMN/LENTEN GATHERING

**When:** Wednesday 8th March 2017 **Where:** Dardanup Church

**Mass:** 9:00am followed by morning tea at the Prayer House

**Presenter:** Sr Pauline Dundon rsj **Theme:** *Going to the Well*

**Bring:** Please bring a plate of finger food for a shared lunch.

**All very welcome !**

## CORE GROUP MEETING 2017

**When:** Monday 1st May **Where:** Annette's House

**RSVP:** to Annette or Nancy (for both gatherings)

## Praying with Mary MacKillop



God of Life,  
we pray with Saint Mary MacKillop  
for renewed faith,  
hope and energy in our lives.

With Mary of the Cross  
we pray for all people in our world  
suffering the effects of natural disasters,  
war and economic recession.

We pray for the sick, the imprisoned,  
asylum seekers and those in need or  
difficulty of any kind.

We pray that we will seek to  
relieve suffering and bring hope.

We grow in trust in your Providence,  
hope in the example of Jesus Christ  
and courage in the  
transforming work of the Spirit.

God of Life, hear us.  
Amen



## St Joseph's Feastday

March is the month we especially remember and venerate St Joseph. Feastday is celebrated on March 19th - but this year, as the 19th falls on a Sunday, the Feast is transferred to **Monday 20th March ...**

*"In St Joseph's care I leave you." MM*



## Gone to God

*Our prayers are with each  
family member and Associates*

**Barbara Neilson (wife of George)**





### *Reflecting*

*God of the desert  
calling us into the journey of Lent,  
enabling us to refocus and reanimate  
our commitment to you and your people.*

*We ask this through Jesus, the discerning One,  
and the Spirit who leads.*

*Amen*

(Josephite Prayer Book 1 page 133)



# *WA Josephite Associates*



### *Joseph the Dreamer*

*Man of justice, man of integrity,  
holy Joseph, be our guide;  
In our loving and in our dying,  
work with us Joseph, side by side.  
Joseph the Just One, Joseph the Dreamer,  
Teach us to seek the Reign of God  
Dreaming in wisdom, living in courage,  
Seeing and showing the face of God*

(Josephite Prayer Book 1 page 26)

**AUTUMN 2017**

# CHILD OF WONDER

*Praise Yahweh, my soul  
I will praise Yahweh all my life,*

*I will make music to my God as long as I live. (Psalm 146: 1)*

To be a child of wonder you must learn to take off your shoes often. Taking off your shoes is a sacred ritual. It is a hallowed moment of remembering the goodness of space and time. It is a way of celebrating the goodness of space and time. It is a way of celebrating the holy ground on which you stand. If you want to be a child of wonder cherish the truth that time and space are holy. Whether you take off your shoes symbolically or literally matters little. What is important is that you are alive to the holy ground on which you stand and to the holy ground that you are.

My bare feet walk the earth reverently  
For everything keeps crying  
Take off your shoes  
The ground you stand on is holy  
The ground of your being is holy.

When the wind sings through the pines  
like a breath of God  
awakening you to the sacred present  
calling your soul to new insights  
*Take off your shoes!*

When the sun rises above your rooftops  
colouring your world with dawn  
be receptive to this awesome beauty.  
put on your garment of adoration.  
*Take off your shoes!*



When the Red Maple drops its last leaf of summer  
wearing its “burning bush” robes no longer  
read between its barren branches, and  
*Take off your shoes!*

When sorrow presses close into your heart  
begging you to put your trust in God alone  
filling you with a quiet knowing  
that God’s hand is not too short to heal you  
*Take off your shoes!*

When a new person comes into your life  
like a mystery about to unfold  
and you find yourself marvelling over  
the frailty and splendour of every human being  
*Take off your shoes!*

When, during the wee hours of the night  
you drive slowly into the new day  
and the morning’s fog, like new day  
hovers mysteriously above you  
*Take off your shoes!*

Take off your shoes of distraction  
Take off your shoes of ignorance and blindness  
Take off your shoes of hurry and worry  
Take off anything that prevents you  
From being a child of wonder.

*Take off your shoes;*  
The ground you stand on is holy.  
The ground you are is holy.