



*Josephite Companions Aotearoa*

*Nga hoa pumau o Hato Hohepa ki Aotearoa*

*Friendship # Prayer # Service*

## **NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2017**



Dear Companions

As St Joseph's day draws nearer we know you will all be meeting so thought we would send a small newsletter with the prayer sheet this month.

We ask you to join with us in prayer for all those affected by the terrible fires in Christchurch. Our thoughts and donations go out to all those affected. If you want to send a donation it can be sent through the Catholic Caring Foundation, [www.caringfoundation.org.nz](http://www.caringfoundation.org.nz) (please write FIRE in comments section).

### **CONGRATULATIONS JUBILARIANS**

At this time of the year there are a lot of Sisters we need to congratulate:

Sister Joan Tuite 75years a Sister.

Sister Teresa Thompson 70 years.

Sisters Rita Cahill, Margaret Mary Dwane, Pat Gillard, Patricia Thompson and Barbara Tolich all 60 years professed.

Sisters Ann Gilroy, Tina Kapeli, Colleen Dempsey and Marie Skidmore all celebrated 50 years of their profession.

The Josephite website has wonderful accounts and videos of the ceremonies and homilies preached on the days of celebration.

To you all we say congratulations at achieving this anniversary 75, 70, 60 and 50 years of living the Gospel with a Josephite heart in joyful loving service of God and the Church.

Having reached the milestone of her jubilee sadly Barbara Tolich died on 13<sup>th</sup> February. RIP.

### **INTERNATIONAL JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES LEADER'S CONFERENCE**

This is coming up in April. 4 members of the leadership team will attend. The conference is focusing on looking at friendship, service and prayer with new eyes and empowerment through effective organisation. This conference will be held at St Joseph's Baulkham Hills Centre for Reflective Living in Sydney. We expect to be able to report back on the discussions as we seek new ways to further develop our movement so as to continue God's mission in the spirit of Mary and Julian

### **TOKOROA COMPANIONS ADVENT GATHERING**

Sister Therese McConway was on one of her northern trips and joined a group of Tokoroa Companions for an Advent Liturgy and meeting. Several people were unable to attend but a donation was collected for the House of Bethany.

The group ask you to keep in your prayers Bev Gibson, recovering from a break in her upper arm; and Kevin Cody, husband of Victoria who is undergoing a trial treatment for his cancer, with promising results.

We look forward to Sr Maree Hickey joining the team at Bishop Edward Gaines parish school for 2017 while the Principal and Josephite Companion, Helen McGuigan takes time out for study leave. We hope to be able to assist Maree while she is in Tokoroa.

Margaret Brownsey



## TURANGANUI-A-KIWA/GISBORNE

As I write this I listen to the sound of the rain softly falling on our parched earth. Welcome! It has been a very dry summer for us in Turanganui-a-Kiwa/Gisborne. And like the refreshing rain it was great to have nine of us turn up for our get-together. Joining again to share our time, prayers and hospitality. We contemplated Being in God's

Image and what it meant for us and what challenges it presented. We finished with afternoon tea and conversation which was very joyful and went on longer than usual - great!

Chris Crowe

**Congratulations** to Sister Jill Mcloughlin who has been appointed as local area Coordinator for the Sisters in New Zealand.



### **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

The subscription fee is to cover the costs for producing the newsletter. Either \$10 or a donation is acceptable.

Payment may be made by

#### **INTERNET:**

Bank Account details are –

Westpac – St Heliers Branch Account No – 03 0263 0109542 00 Name of account - St Joseph's Associateship.

Alternatively,

**MAIL DIRECT** to Josephite Companions c/- Catherine Birt P.O. Box 830, Whangaparaoa 0943.

If you have any queries regarding 'subscriptions' please phone: Sister Liz Hickey 06 345 6566 or 021 208 0929



### **DEATHS R.I.P.**

Sister Barbara Tolich. Our deepest sympathy to her family and especially to her Sister-Sister Benedict who lives at Mission Bay.

Also Sister Fidelis Walter died at Mission Bay on 21<sup>st</sup>February. Rest in peace, Fidelis.

If you have news of gatherings held or items of importance- (major or minor) to include in the next newsletter please email them to [crbirt@gmail.com](mailto:crbirt@gmail.com) or post to P.O. Box 830, Whangaparaoa 0943



**JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS AOTEAROA**

As we walk in the footsteps of Julian and Mary, we Josephite Companions Aotearoa respond to the Gospel by reverencing the Sacred in ourselves, others and our environment.

We do this in the ordinariness of our everyday lives by:

- Living simply and prayerfully
- Acting justly with integrity
- Responding to the needs of our time
- Being thankful for God's love
- Providing inclusive hospitality and down-to-earth practicality in the spirit of Aroha.



To the Josephite Community

Thank you so much for your generous donation of the fabulous book "Act Love Walk...Praying in the Josephite Spirit". It is a beautiful book and will be well used and enjoyed by us all.

We appreciate you thinking of us.

Staff and students of  
St. Joseph's School, Feilding.

## **St Joseph: A Companion on our Journey**

One who:

- listened to his dreams
- journeyed into unmapped territory
- acted with justice,
- loved with kindness
- walked humbly in everyday life.
- broke boundaries



*Joseph found his life in ordinary days -*

*No clutter of ifs and buts -*

*simply.*

*In what we call*

*"NOW"*

*Perhaps the mark of greatness*

*Is not the accomplishing of great moment.*

*Great movements, great works,*

*But facing life as it comes,*

*Being content with the daily -*

*What we call the ordinary...*

*Joseph*

*Was that kind of man -*

*A saint.*

➤ How content am I to live in the NOW?

(the gift is in the NOW.. that's why we call it the PRESENT!)

➤ Do I make use of all my senses to enable the present moment to speak to me?

➤ Am I appreciative of the gifts of the present time of my life?

(Acknowledgement of Sr Madeleva Williams csj)

**Joseph,**

**We remember the continuing reality of suffering and transformation of Earth and her Peoples,**

**We remember this was your life.**

**Of your plans, all that was left was broken,**

**Yet we learned that what was left was enough.**

**To you it wasn't a question of success,**

**It was being faithful to the mix we call Life.**

**Be with us as a special companion as we journey through Life**

**We pray for enlightenment and nourishment to live our lives to the full.**

**Amen**

