

Associates News



PENTECOST 2017



Welcome to the Josephite Associate Queensland Quarterly Newsletter

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FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SEASONAL NEWS

PLEASE EMAIL:

qldassociates@sosj.org.au

SEASON OF PENTECOST

Pentecost is considered the “birthday” of the Church.

Fifty days after Easter we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and their followers. They grew in their faith, their courage and their ministry after the coming of the Spirit. It was after Pentecost that these men and women began a new ministry of service to those around them and moved on to make disciples of other nations.

The symbols of **wind and fire** help us to reflect on our sacramental journey which began at Baptism and continues with our Confirmation. May we grow in and develop our own faith.

We are called to be witnesses of our God through our faith, courage and, as Josephite Associates, through our call to service.

PRAYER

The following prayer is taken from *Act Love Walk: Praying in the Josephite Spirit*

Reading from the Book of Solomon:

Wisdom is the kindly spirit,
She is intelligent, holy, unique and
unmistakable;
She is the breath of the power of God,
A pure light of the glory of the Most High....

She stretches forth Her power
From one end of the earth of the other
And gently puts all things in their proper
place.

Reflection:

What surprises me in this reading?

What encourages me in this reading?

*As part of my Josephite Associate calling,
where is my service most needed?*

*Am I able to risk offering my service in a
new area?*



Prayer:

May the abundant Spirit of generous
radiance flow through, over, beneath
and above my world and my heart.

May the dancing Spirit's infectious love
swirl me into joy and freedom.

May the gently Spirit of warm hospitality
spread welcome and healing in every
corner of my being.

Amen



NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

South Of The River Group

Twenty seven Josephite Associates from the South of the River Group (Moorooka, Annerley, Yeronga and Salisbury) met for their quarterly meeting on Monday May 2017. Sr Moya gave a brief update to the group on Associate news including the planned visits to some groups in Queensland and the meeting planned for Brisbane to be held on Sunday 27 August. Further details of these visits can be found later in this newsletter.

The highlight of the morning was a presentation by Father Barry Grayson who shared with the group his support for a little girl, Tashi, living in Tibet. The 85 children who live in the community run by a former Buddhist monk who refers to the place as "heaven on earth" provides a haven for under privileged or at risk children. This unique environment is a place that nourishes the soul and helps children find hope again. This facility is funded completely by donations. The cost for sponsoring a child for one year is \$540.00

Fr Grayson's inspiring presentation demonstrated the power of hope and the opportunity to change while living in this community of love and compassion. If you would like to know more about this remarkable place there is a video you can watch on UTube "Tashi and the Monk".

Associates In Union

Plans are underway in Rockhampton for a retreat day where Associates from the Sisters of Mercy, the Presentation Sisters and the Josephites can come together for prayer and sharing. This will be the first opportunity the various associate groups

have had to come together, get to know each other a little and to explore what we share in common despite our different traditions.

Scheduled for Saturday 10th June at The Range Chapel, Rockhampton, the input will be provided by Sr Carmel Dwan RSM. Sr Carmel is a Sister of Mercy who is based in Brisbane and who co-ordinated the Brisbane Mercy Associates in the early years. More recently Sr Carmel has been the project officer to implement the document. "One Spirit, Many Voices", promoting the equal participation of women in the Brisbane Archdiocese. The theme of the Rockhampton Retreat Day will be "God Is A Surprise" so I look forward to providing feedback on our experience in the next newsletter.

Townsville Gate Ministry

The Gate Ministry in Townsville is still going ahead in leaps and bounds, we are still receiving constant donations of hygiene items to fill the bags and a local laundry is donating as many towels as is required. We have recently met with Sr Christine and Sr Margaret regarding expanding the bags into the parole section of the prison. CREST (Correctional Re-entry Support Team) met with us regarding how this would work and also talked to us about associates getting involved in prison chaplaincy. The ministry has also become linked with one of the St Vincent de Paul chapters who deal closely with newly released prisoners. The conference is giving out some bags, however the conference is providing the Woolworth cards etc. It is a very exciting time and opening up many connections and opportunities for service.

Our Prayers Have Been Answered

Townsville Catholic Community have been blest with a new bishop after a long three year wait.

On Wednesday 3 May, we saw the first Episcopal Ordination in Townsville in more than 30 years when Archbishop Mark Coleridge ordained and installed Fr Timothy Harris as the 6th Bishop of Townsville in front of over 2000 people.

Emeritus Archbishop Leonard Faulkner (3rd Bishop of Townsville) handed Bishop Harris the mitre which originally belonged to Bishop McGuire (1st Bishop of Townsville) resulting in an emotional moment for all.



Townsville's large Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Pacific Islander communities were also invited to take part in the Mass. Members of the Tokelauan community brought up the Book of the Gospels singing a traditional Catholic chant in their native language.

Every Catholic School in the Townsville Diocese was also represented. Bishop Harris has an enormous task of overseeing the diocese which is approximately 4400 square miles from Ingham to Proserpine and out to Mount Isa.

Also present, as a server at the ordination, was Queensland seminarian Emene

Kelemete who hopes that Bishop Harris will ordain him a priest next year for the Townsville Diocese. He expressed his feelings of the ordination as seeing a sense of joy throughout the congregation and this seemed to be an overall reaction from all who attended.

The Townsville community came together in hospitality over the ordination process with an Evening Prayer vigil on the Tuesday night with various parishes allocated to specific timeslots. Participants were treated to a BBQ dinner. This was followed by Morning Prayer on Wednesday morning and coffee and slices were on offer there.

A luncheon was held following the ordination ceremony in Ryan Catholic Community Centre.

We pray now that Bishop Harris will receive wisdom and strength from the Holy Spirit to enable him to lead the Townsville Catholic Community into a promising future



Allora Group

Our small group of Associates continues to meet regularly in a spirit of prayer friendship and service. Our meetings centre on prayer through reflection on quotes from Saint Mary MacKillop's writings, and discussion on how we can relate her spirit to our own lives. At our last meeting we focused on her stated need for prayer in her life.

In March we were saddened by the death of one of our members, Marg Matson, who was 92 years old. Until six months ago Marg was still volunteering at our local aged care facility, sharing her faith and her wisdom. Our associate group formed a guard of honour at her funeral.

Our members are involved in all aspects of Parish life – visitation to the sick and lonely, communion to the housebound, liturgical ministries and membership of the Liturgy and Churches Together groups.

We look forward to a visit from the leadership team in July.

REFLECTION ON JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES LEADERSHIP MEETING IN APRIL 2017

Thirty six Josephite Associate Leaders from throughout Australia and New Zealand gathered at Baulkham Hills, Sydney over the weekend of April 7-9 to consider the theme: 'The Future is one we are Creating'. The Josephite spirit was obvious from the very first gathering with a buzz of friendly conversation and the renewing of old friendships and the making of new friends.

Katrina Brill rsj and Christina Neunzerling rsj were the conference facilitators who

inspired the group in a challenging but gentle, good humoured manner.

The conference focussed on exploring the Josephite Vision from the Sisters' most recent General Chapter, reflecting on living into mystery and a new consciousness of communion. Each person reflected on where to find mystery in our lives and contemplated the meaning of communion with all creation. For many this required a shift in our thinking.

Friendship, Service and Prayer were considered from this new perspective contemplating what these might look like and how they may be experienced differently. Each Region gathered to plan the way forward with a new vision to be shared with the Associate groups. Queensland Associates will share in this experience during the local area visits.

COMMUNICATION

Newsletters will continue four times a year. For this year, our themes will centre around Easter, Pentecost, Mary MacKillop and Christmas.

We really encourage all groups/individuals to contribute to the Newsletters about happenings in their areas. The dates for articles to be submitted to qld.associates@sosj.org.au are as follows:

Mary MacKillop – 26 July 2017
Christmas (Advent)– 27 October 2017

FINANCE

We recorded our appreciation for the donations we have so far received. These are now being used for administration needs and supporting service outreach which Joan and Moya are doing in July of this year.

ASSOCIATE NAME BADGES

Some Associates have asked where to obtain Associate name badges? Included with this newsletter is a form to be completed and sent to us with the correct name and spelling you would like on your badge.

PILGRIMAGE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP

2017 Australian Pilgrimage – In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop is planned for 8 to 18 November. This Pilgrimage prepared by the Sisters of St Joseph helps participants to enter more deeply into Mary and Julian's stories and spirituality through prayer and reflection.

If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage further information can be obtained from Australian Pilgrimage Coordinator on 02 8912 4818 or MMP.NationalPilgrimage@sosj.org.au

QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE

An important development is the news that an Associates Conference will be held in Queensland on the 18-20 May 2018. We encourage all Associates to consider attending this Conference. For obvious reasons, the Conference will be held in Brisbane. We would appreciate representation from all areas or from individuals to attend to have their say about the future. Joan, Marie and Moya are exploring possible venues and speakers. Updates will be in the next Newsletter



Come Holy Spirit,

*Help me to replace the busyness of my life with a simpler lifestyle,
so I will focus on “the deeper things” in life and allow time for others.*

*Nourish my yearning to understand and to appreciate myself
Keep me from being too self-oriented and unmindful of other’s needs.*

*Fill me with trust in your consoling presence.
Calm me when I am anxious and troubled about many things.*

*Help me to have the courage to empty myself of everything that does
not contribute to the transformation of this world.*

*Continue to create a deep hunger for you within me.
Feed me with ‘the finest wheat” of your joy, peace and love.*

*Often replenish my weary spirit with an enthusiasm and energy that
comes from surrendering my life to you.*

*Be my wisdom as I search for meaning in a world fraught with pain,
suffering, hostility and division.*

*Keep me hungry for you, Source of Life,
so that I will always ache and yearn a bit for you
Taken from “Out of the Ordinary” by Joyce Rupp.*

Come Holy Spirit fill us with your love and peace

INVITATION

Walking into the future with St Mary Mackillop



At this significant time in the history of the Josephite Associates, building a sustainable organization to keep alive the charism of St Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods for future generations is critical.

**Joan Gilbert (Chair of the Planning Committee)
and Sr Moya Campbell rsj**

Plan to visit local Josephite Associate groups from Cairns to Brisbane on the following dates:

- Cairns 10 July 2017
- Townsville 12-14 July 2017
- Rockhampton 16-17 July 2017
- Clermont 18-19 July 2017
- Allora 21 July 2017
- Pittsworth 22 July 2017
- Millmerran 22 July 2017
- Brisbane 27 August 2017 – St Joseph's Convent Nundah

You are invited to join us at this gathering to hear an update on the Josephite Associates nationally and importantly to share your ideas about the future of the group.

Other interested people are also invited to come and hear about the Associates and walking in the footsteps of St Mary MacKillop. Local information will be provided by your local contact.



Thank you to those who have made a contribution in 2016

DONATION TO THE QUEENSLAND ASSOCIATE MOVEMENT

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

AMOUNT GIVEN: (PLEASE CIRCLE):

\$20 \$30 \$40 \$50 OTHER \$ _____

ALL DONATIONS CAN BE FORWARDED TO

ASSOCIATES PLANNING COMMITTEE

123 WARREN STREET

FORTITUDE VALLEY QLD 4006,

PHONE: 3833 6119 & E: QLDASSOCIATES@SOSJ.ORG.AU

CHEQUES AND MONEY ORDERS MADE PAYABLE TO JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES QLD

DIRECT DEPOSIT

COMMONWEALTH BANK

ACCOUNT NAME: JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES QLD

BSB NO: 064163

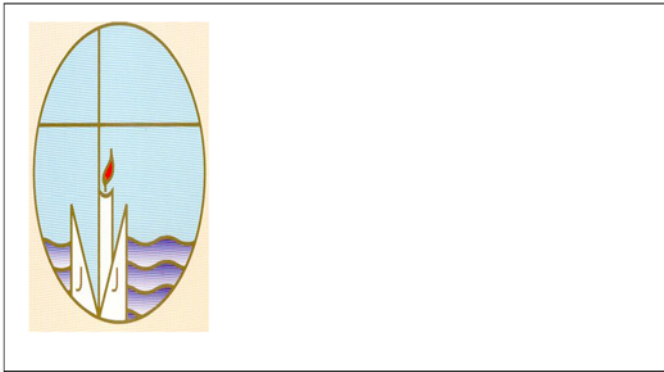
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 10429581

REFERENCE: SURNAME AND INITIAL (E.G. CAMPBELL M)



NAME BADGES

If you require a name badge please indicate below and complete the form. The badge looks like the following – rectangular shape with logo plus your name with Queensland Josephite Associate underneath



I do require a badge at the cost of \$20
YES NO (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

Name on the badge:

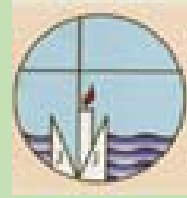
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Signed:

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Please return form and money no later than 2 June 2017 to our office:

Associates Office
Villa Maria Convent
123 Warren Street
Fortitude Valley Q 4006



Josephite Associate
Queensland Groups

Allora
Cairns
Clermont
Caboolture
South of the River
Millmerran
Rockhampton
Townsville
And places in between

*May God grant
you courage
and true
wisdom in all
you do and
say.*

*Saint Mary
Mackillop
12.6.1875*