



WA JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES' Newsletter



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

Welcome to 2018 and the Lenten/Autumn Newsletter.

In this season, the Church urges us to search and transform our lives, recognising the challenges of our times.

As the seed bursts open

Sends its roots into the Earth

Reaches for the sun

Bears fruit

May God's unconditional love

Enhance, transform and

Give us life. Amen.

Warmest wishes from the WA Associate Groups - Metropolitan | South West | Esperance | Geraldton



UPDATE FROM THE DARDANUP ASSOCIATES

The Dardanup Regional Coordinating Group are:

Dot Savage
9791 4008

Irene Rodgers
9721 8905

Johanna Hynes
9726 3210

Maud Morrison
9725 1215

Annette Morellini
9797 1156

Jan Hynes
9725 2499

Helen Whitcombe
9797 0932

Happy New Year to all Josephite Associates. In 2018 the Dardanup Associates hope to learn more about structural changes to the group that were briefly outlined by Sr Kathleen Hitchcock at our November 2017 meeting. We look forward to meeting with Sr Moya/ Mary Hemmings during this year to lead our Dardanup Group into close contact with the love and prayers of all Associate members. This year certainly challenges us to focus on the charism of St Mary of the Cross and to renew our commitment to Friendship, Prayer and Service to others.

After 22 years of leading our group from its foundation Annette Morellini has resigned as leader. We deeply appreciate her

dedication and wholehearted support of the Associates in the South-West. Annette will remain on the coordinating group, offering her assistance and experience in "whatever way she is needed".

Thank you Annette.

We also thank Fay Manoni and Robyn Thomas for their contribution to our Associates - we will greatly miss their input to meetings. Helen Whitcombe joins our group and we look forward to her enthusiasm and devotion to St Mary MacKillop.

In December 2017, we travelled to South Perth for the Metropolitan group's final meeting for the year and were overwhelmed with the welcome we received. It was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the

friendship and hospitality that is so fundamental to all Associates. Hopefully, we can enjoy more opportunities for sharing in the future.

Dardanup Associates farewell long-standing member Lina de Pilato who has moved with her husband Joe to live with her daughter in Fremantle. We will keep Lina and her family in our prayers and will miss her sense of fun and her love for St Mary MacKillop.

We pray for God's blessings on all our efforts during 2018. Further details of the year's program will be added in future newsletters.

Best wishes,

Dardanup Regional Co-ordinating Group

Jubilee Day at South Perth

27th January 2018

Sisters and friends celebrate with Sr Betty Keane rsj

The day began brightly, with a warm welcoming breeze. Everyone in South Perth was busy one way or another. Furniture was set in place, and tables set for the afternoon Garden Party.



Special thanks to Sr Kathleen Hitchcock and Sr Mary McNamara for their organisation of all this, before, during and after the event and to the Sisters who gave their time so generously. It has happened endless times before, so it's done when 'no one is looking'.

The Chapel was especially beautiful, with floral decorations by Sr Marie Moriarty and Sr Tuyet Pham.

Bishop Emeritus Justin Bianchini was the main celebrant, with Fr Zygy Wloczek (parish priest of Newman and Tom Price) and Fr Brian Ahearn concelebrating with him.



Sr Alma Cabassi gave the Welcome to Country, respectfully acknowledging the Noongar people of the Perth area.

In her welcome, Sr Margaret Cleary, Regional Leader, dwelt on some highlights of Betty's life as a Josephite, spent mostly in the outback areas of NSW, and in the Kimberley and Pilbara regions of WA, since 1985.



In his homily, Bishop Justin spoke with gratitude and appreciation of Betty's ministry of pastoral work in the Newman parish. As Bishop of Geraldton, he had been closely associated with her in this ministry over 16 years.

Sr Lyn Sparling's accompaniment on the organ and Sr Francis Maguire's leading us solo in the psalm delighted all our hearts.



After Communion, three students from La Salle Midland, Charlotte, Melissa and Olivia, did an inspiring dance movement to Shaun Davy's 'The Deer's Cry'.

The Gaelic touches continued on in the Garden Party, with 4 Irish women dancers giving an impressive exhibition of the best of Irish dancing. No one missed the Irishness of the Jubilee cake. Thank you Sr Margaret Culhane; may your gifts continue to flourish, and enrich many other special occasions.

And now a few reflective thoughts on a time of jubilee....



It's a time when we celebrate God's faithfulness over the years, the times when life was glorious and magnificent, as well the dark spaces when we felt God was a long way off.

On reflection, we notice, in the words of John O' Donohue 'all the holy places that have been God's touch, where in the Eucharist of the ordinary, our broken fragments were transformed into an eternal continuity that keeps us faithful as God is faithful'.



And we tend to look to the future, as we bring to mind the friends who walked with us, some of whom are now in the Beatific Union with a loving God. We thank God for moments of divine awakening and promise ourselves that we will be more alert, more contemplative, more loving, more sensitive to God's presence and care in the unfolding mystery of the universe.

Daniel O'Leary quotes from RS Thomas' poem 'The Bright Field' ~

It is the turning ... Aside like Moses to the miracle ... Of the lit bush, to a brightness ... That seemed as transitory as (our) youth ... Once, but is the eternity that awaits (us).

- Sr Margaret Keane



Notes from the MCG! (Metropolitan Coordinating Group)

You may be aware that there have been gradual changes over the past few years regarding the Josephite Associates and the way that we function.

On a Congregational level, the sisters have been scaling back their involvement including Sr Denise Casey's retirement as our sister co-ordinator.

We pay loving tribute to Denise and all the sisters who have served in this capacity for their dedication and continual support. The sisters have not only provided material for our all-important newsletter and prayer sheets, they have made their beautiful facilities available to us for our gatherings and various activities and welcomed us with their love and hospitality into the Josephite fold.

We now have to find the best way forward as we face the changes ahead.



St Mary MacKillop overcame many hurdles in her life and we pray that she is with us as our future unfolds.

~ Meg Phelan JA



We would like to extend a **thank you to all the wonderful ladies who travelled to join us from the Dardanup area** for our Christmas gathering. We had a most enjoyable afternoon and many of us made some new friends. We were also able to have some great communication with each other as to how our groups are running. It was so nice to share. We all are hoping we can organize a future date to join together again.

SUNDAY 11TH MARCH GATHERING!



The much loved **Bring and Buy** will recommence so do come with your goods and join in the fun. Raffles will also be held - and a reminder to please provide a small plate of finger food to share.

Please keep the donations coming in - we rely on these donations to pay for our newsletter expenses, postage, stationary, ink and petty cash.

Donations can be sent c/- the address on the front page (or contact Laura on 9334 0999, wa.associates@sosj.org.au)

Sr Marie Riddler will be our very-much-loved special speaker who is going to talk about her wonderful sabbatical year and trip to Israel, England and Ireland.

The Metropolitan Coordinating Group would like to **extend an invitation to all those who currently receive a newsletter** from us to come and join us at the gatherings. They are held just four times a year and we would all love to meet up and join together in the wonderful afternoon of **Friendship and Prayer**. Bring a friend or family member. Please mark the dates in your diaries (see back page).

Many blessings ~ the MCG!

Upcoming Events ...

~ 10 MARCH BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN

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

When: 8am Saturday 10th March 2018

Where: 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 7th March to: Laurie Mayne: 9271 5649, ljmayne@optusnet.com.au

Free raffle on entry ~ Chrysanthemums for Mother's Day and other pot-plants ~ 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 !

Event held by the [Mary MacKillop Foundation](#) - Supporting Small Life Changing Projects



~ 11 MARCH ASSOCIATES' GATHERING! (SEE BACK PAGE)

~ 14 MARCH PRAYER DAY at Safety Bay, please see enclosed **Living Into Mystery** Brochure

~ 18 MARCH TAIZÉ MEDITATIVE PRAYER

When: Sunday 18th March, **Time:** 7pm - 8pm (Chapel doors open at 6.30pm) and the 3rd Sunday of following months: 20 May ~ 17 June ~ 19 August ~ 16 September ~ 21 October ~ 18 November

Bring: A torch ... and a friend!

Contact: Maree Riddler rsj, mriddler@sosjwa.org.au, 0414 683 926 (no rsvp required)



FOR MORE EVENTS GO TO: <https://www.sosj.org.au/news/events/>
OR REFER TO THE ENCLOSED 'LIVING INTO MYSTERY' 2018 SPIRITUALITY BROCHURE

WA ASSOCIATES' GATHERINGS & UPCOMING SOSJ EVENTS



GATHERINGS at SOUTH PERTH 2018

ENQUIRIES: wa.associates@sosj.org.au (08) 9334 0999



NEXT GATHERING: AUTUMN ~ LENTEN

When: 2.00pm 11th March Sunday 2018
Where: St Joseph's, 16 York Street, South Perth
Bring: - A plate of food to share - we will be welcoming visitors!
- A Friend!
- Bring and Buy item

*All very welcome!
Bring a friend!*

2018 Gatherings (Date Savers): Sundays - 10th June | 9th Sept | 9th Dec

UPCOMING DATES FOR THE DARDUNUP ASSOCIATES

ENQUIRIES } Dot Savage: (08) 9791 4008 or email Dot at helenbrown.hb@gmail.com
Irene Rodgers: 0423 488 018 or email Irene at irenerodgers1@bigpond.com

Next **Dardanup (Autumn) Gathering** is to be held on **7th March**, at the Dardanup Prayer House.

with

Fr Tony Chiera ~ "The Cross of Jesus in our lives"

Please bring a plate of finger food for a shared lunch - bring a friend!

Future Meetings (Date Savers): 13th June | 8th August | 28th November

Details to follow ...

*All very welcome!
Bring a friend!*

UPDATE FROM THE ESPERANCE ASSOCIATES

- ✚ Stations of the Cross will begin on the 9th March after 6.00pm Mass
- ✚ The Esperance Associates will meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month after 9.00am Mass - sharing morning tea and a prayer session with the much loved 'Little Brown Book'.
- ✚ Helen (Johnston) and the Esperance group send their prayers and good wishes to all other groups/Associates
- ✚ Contact Helen on (08) 9071 1256 (leaving a message) or donaldjohnston@bigpond.com



**GONE
TO
GOD**

Marie Crannage

(Sister of Maud Morrison and Dot Savage)

Remember,

'We are all but travellers here' MMK

Dear Associates, if you are aware of any Associate/relative that has passed away, can you please email or ring the office:

wa.associates@sosj.org.au or [08] 9334 0999

GO GREEN! DO YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ?

PLEASE LET US KNOW AND WE WILL EMAIL THE
NEWSLETTER INSTEAD ... SAVE A STAMP, SAVE INK,
SAVE PAPER ... SAVING THE PLANET!

Send your email address to laura.mccarthy@sosj.org.au





The Place of the Cross in

Mary MacKillop's Life

Mary wrote to her mother on 21 August 1867 telling her, 'My name in religion is Mary of the Cross. No name could be dearer to me, so I must endeavour, not to deserve it, for I cannot, but at least try not to disgrace it.'

Early in her life as a religious Mary wrote to Woods that 'it has been God's holy will to send me plenty of discomforts and little annoyances all through my life.' Having been 'under the cross' all my life, Mary learnt that crosses too came from the will of a 'good God'.

God Will Take Care of Us All, Pauline Wicks RSJ
(Josephite Prayer Book 1 page 26)

WA Josephite Associates



In the Spirit of Joseph

'To enter into a spirit of communion
between the Associates and Sisters
by sharing love, simplicity,
homeliness and generosity,
with St Joseph as model
in his caring for Jesus and Mary
and the Universal Church
in the modern world.'

(Mary Cresp RSJ)

From the Handbook of Josephite Associates

LENT ~ AUTUMN 2018



Easter ~ Lenten Reflections

Become
Gentleness,
Joy,
Peace.

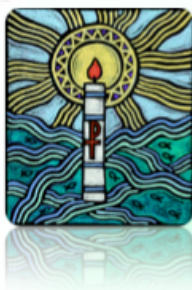


*When nothing is certain,
anything is possible*

(St Philip Neri)



*Blessings come
from known and
unknown sources ...*



*Turn your face
to the sun
and the shadows
fall behind you*

(Maori proverb)



**Be still and know
that I am God**

(Psalm 46:10)

*Those who hope in me
will not be disappointed*

(Isaiah 49:23)



See God always ...



and in all ways ...

