



Josephite Companions Aotearoa
Nga hoa pumau o Hato Hohepa ki Aotearoa
Friendship # Prayer # Service

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER –MARCH 2018

Greetings to you all. With St Joseph’s day coming up I am sure many of you will be meeting for prayer and friendship together. This issue is full of information about what has been happening. We have a lovely account of Jane Maisey’s profession and also congratulations to the Sisters who have celebrated many years of service. Thanks to Helen Dougherty for the prayer sheet on St Joseph.

KIWI TAKES FIRST VOWS AS A SISTER OF ST. JOSEPH



On the 13th January 2018 Jane Maisey, a Kiwi, made her first profession as a Sister of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart in the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel in North Sydney. The theme for Jane’s profession Mass was *Joyful Communion – We are all parts of the one body in Christ*. On her profession day Jane asked people not to pray **for** her but to please pray **with** her. She promised that in joy, solidarity and prayer she was with all of us as part of the one body in Christ too.

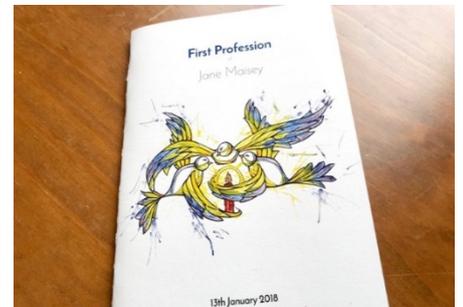
Prior to Jane’s Emmaus journey of discernment (novitiate) she was a graphic designer working in commercial art and design. On behalf of all the Josephite Companions, one in the Body of Christ with Jane, we wish her well for her vocation and ministry as a Sister of St. Joseph.

“Let self be forgotten, let God’s holy will be done.” Mary MacKillop 1875

If you’d like to know more about Jane you can

visit her blog at <http://www.designjane.com/blog>.

Photos used with permission



Jane Maisey’s First Profession Mass Booklet – designed and drawn by Jane

IJALT NEWS

At the end of January I attended a meeting of the International Josephite Associates Leadership Team (IJALT) in Sydney. It was the first time that the new team had met face to face and provided a good opportunity to get to know the diverse gifts and talents within the team. One purpose of our meeting was to review and update the Strategic Plan. The revised headings are: Governance, Communication, Culture, Resources and Formation. For each of these, the key considerations are how to promote growth with a focus on sustainability into the future, what changes will be needed and what challenges will be faced. Sr Moya Campbell is the coordinator of IJALT and over the next few months she will be visiting different areas to gain an impression of where things currently stand. She is due to visit New Zealand in July. IJALT has planned another face to face gathering in October so that we can continue to move forward.
Helen Dougherty



SISTER'S JUBILEES BEING CELEBRATED IN 2018

Sr Francesca Bourke..... 75 years.
Sr John Bosco Kendall.... 60 years
Sr Makareta Tawaroa ... 50 years
Sr Mary McCann 50 years.
Sr Sian Owen... 25 years

Sr Makareta travelled to Sydney, with her whanau, to celebrate with the large group at Mary MacKillop Place. This is an annual event held in January and is a very significant milestone for the Sisters in each group, who enjoy meeting up with each other and sharing stories.

Sr Francesca plans to travel to Sydney in April for a Mass and luncheon to celebrate with her peers. This will be held at Baulkham Hills which was the place where many sisters spent their years as Novices..... all this at the very respectable age of 96!

Sian will celebrate on May 27th in Auckland at the Mary MacKillop Centre and there will be a further celebration on 14 July for those based in Whanganui – Francesca, John Bosco, Mary McCann and Makareta.

We congratulate these community members for their steadfast commitment, love and loyalty over these years. Well done!!

Sr Marie Skidmore



Sr Makareta who lives in Kaiwhaiki on the Whanganui River

JJAMM

Joseph, Julian Tenison Woods, and Mary MacKillop

From February 10-14, two student leaders from Cullinane College in Whanganui and Marian College in Christchurch attended a Josephite Leadership course in Australia. Twenty four schools from throughout Australia also attended. We began at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney which was a real highlight for students, especially visiting Mary's tomb. Students shared their ideas on what it meant to be Josephite leaders during Mass in the chapel. Later we travelled to the retreat centre of Kincumber in Gosford. This had once been an orphanage and boys home run by the Sisters. Here the focus was on social justice issues relevant today and how students could make a practical difference in their own schools. Connecting with students from other schools and learning what we share in common as Josephite schools was uplifting.

Helen Dougherty



Cullinane College students Katarina Rawiri and Quinn Tauranga pictured with Sr Jan Barnett and the shrub they planted at Kincumber in the JJAMM garden of 2018.

NEWS FROM TOKOROA

We Companions did not meet for a Christmas function as so many of us were involved in other 'end-of-year' activities.

A highlight in December was the presentation made to two pupils of the parish school, Bishop Edward Gaines. Ieula Cowley and Jordyn Neil who had both spent their 8 years at the school were presented with St Mary MacKillop medals as a graduation prize and also became the first pupils on an Honours Board for the school.

In the last part of the term both these young women had witnessed their faith journey through the school year to the parish during weekend Masses and paid tribute to the Josephite charism which had been their guiding light.

Principal, Helen McGuigan of the Companions team initiated the recognition, along with the Board of Trustees.

Just to give you an idea of our Companions work in the parish and community:

One is our organist; another is parish secretary; another looks after the religious sales table. There are Liturgy of the Word leaders; Ministers of Communion to homes and rest homes; Baptism preparation for families; the Samoan choir leader and assistant with the parish collection counting.

One of the Companions is the organiser for Meals on Wheels for the Tokoroa community, rostering drivers and all that it entails.

We are looking forward to having time together for the Feast of St Joseph.

Margaret Brownsey

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

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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



Ieula Cowley, Margaret Brownsey & Jordyn Neil



RIP

Our deepest sympathy to the families of these Josephite Companions who passed away recently.

Joan Moynihan from Hibiscus Coast

Margaret Dunn who lived at Mary MacKillop Centre

ECO CORNER

I heard an interesting snippet on the news last week that the Anglicans in England were asking people to give up single use plastic products for Lent to help reduce the actions which damage God's Creation. When I investigated further I found that to make things easier, they have made a Lenten calendar that features either a Bible verse about the environment or a recommendation on alternatives to plastic ranging from reusable bags for shopping to trying "a bamboo toothbrush or toothbrush with recyclable heads."



Obviously people can only do as much as they can, but many of the ideas can be put into action easily. For example one is to use a bar of soap rather than a liquid hand soap in a plastic bottle.

In keeping with our modern age they have also set up a Facebook group called **Plastic-Less Lent Facebook Group** where you can share your journey with others.

This link leads to the calendar site where there are lots of other good ideas not just for Lent but for any time of the year,

http://www.churchcare.co.uk/images/Plastic_Free_Lent.pdf

Catherine Birt

PANGURU



The sunrise in Rawene was magnificent as we waited for the ferry to take us across the Hokianga on the way to a Josephite teacher only day in Panguru.

Full account of our trip next time.

Jane Gunson and Catherine Birt

SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH WEBSITE

<https://www.sosj.org.au/>

If you have a computer the website of the Sisters of St Joseph is a treasure trove full of news items that are published often and are very worthwhile to read. Click on **NEWS** on the top bar when you open or scroll down the items that first appear.

Look for the article on the Treaty of Waitangi by Sister Lucille Taylor and one about Lent by Sister Annie Bond. Ask your grandchildren to show you if you don't have a computer!!

