



## Autumn 2018

February 2018 Newsletter



*'The bells are just ringing the  
New Year and I heartily wish  
you a happy and holy one.'*  
MMK 1880

## Josephites Jumping Into Justice

by Amanda Taverna

*"God won't ask how others do the work... but  
He will ask you how you have done yours."  
(Mary MacKillop 14.12.1890)*

Each and every one of us has a right to fair and just treatment, no matter who we are, where we live, our religion, gender, race, ability, age, social class or economic circumstances. Simply put, social justice means promoting and working towards a fair or just society, where people have their needs met. We can work towards social justice by challenging injustice, valuing diversity and helping those who are discriminated against or treated unfairly.

The work in this area of Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph inspires us. Mary and her Sisters worked tirelessly to assist the poor, marginalised and those living on the fringes of society. They travelled far and wide, across our dusty country, rolling up their sleeves and pitching in to help those in need. The first rule of the Order, written by co-founder Fr Julian Tenison Woods, is 'Do all the good that you can and never see an evil (need) without trying to remedy it'. This speaks truly of the work that has been, and continues to be done, by the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

As Josephite Associates we seek to follow in

the footsteps of Mary MacKillop, however we can. Over the past few years our gatherings have had a strong focus on friendship and prayer; something for which I am grateful. No one understands my love for and admiration of Mary MacKillop and the Sisters better than another Josephite Associate! There is a connectedness between us that I find difficult to explain to others. While we have also aimed to be of service to others, in 2018 we are striving to put our commitment to the *service* thread of the three aspects that link the Associates with the Sisters of St Joseph at the front and centre of what we do with **Josephites Jumping Into Justice** – our first event this year on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Please join us for this gathering as we explore a few of the ways in which we can be of service to others. See page 3 for more details.

It is an exciting initiative; a chance for us to help those within our own communities in small but important ways. As Mary MacKillop advised:

*"Let St Joseph's true children remember their mission and seek first the poorest, most neglected parts of God's vineyard."* (6.3.1900)

Mary MacKillop was a courageous woman of action. Let us be courageous women and men of action too!



# IJALT – What’s That?



The International Josephite Associates Leadership Team (IJALT) met recently in North Sydney. This group includes Anne-Marie Wilkinson, Pauline McGuire, Helen Dougherty, Sr Moya Campbell rsj, Mary Hemmings, Beverley Badcock and Joan Gilbert.

We had some valuable discussions around:

- The structure and governance of the Associates into the future
- Formation of Associate members
- Development of resources, including spiritual, human and financial resources
- Communication, including how the website could be used more effectively and efficiently.

We also explored the challenges and changes that are inevitable if we are to grow and be sustainable as an Association. Time was spent in reflection and prayer, including using the reading of the day for this time – Mark 4:35-41. Sr Moya facilitated this meeting very effectively in her role as Coordinator of the Associates.

Along with Teleconferences, IJALT has planned a further meeting in October 2018 to continue this work. We look forward to working with our wider Associate family as we all continue to live the charism of Mary MacKillop.



## Our 2018 Jubilarians

### 75 Years Professed

Sr Joan Barry

### 60 Years Professed

Srs Margaret Hehir, Margaret Mary Murphy and Pauline Schutze

### 50 Years Professed

Srs Patricia Keane, Michele Madigan, Sue McGuinness and Katrina van Ruth

### 25 Years Professed

Sr Sue McGovern



*“In every difficulty apply to St Joseph with confidence and you will never be disappointed.”*

MMK 1906

# Josephites Jumping Into Justice

Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018  
Bethany Centre  
10am – 12pm



Throughout this year our focus will be on the 'service' component of the Associate attributes of 'friendship, prayer and service'. This is all about **Associates in Action!**

At this gathering we will launch the theme for 2018 which centres around the concept of social justice in our society. Guest speakers from our community will inform us about the work they do while giving us insights and ideas of how we can work towards a just society. An opportunity not to be missed!

***All are invited and welcome. We hope you can join us for this event.***

Following this session Associates have been invited to stay on and listen to Sr Katrina van Ruth, a SA Josephite who presently lives and works in Peru. At 1pm Sr Katrina will talk about her ministry in Peru.

For catering purposes, please contact Mary Hemmings if you are coming to either or both of these sessions: [sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au) or 0417 871 904

***"God wants us by every means in  
our power to lead others to life."  
MMK 1899***

## DIARY DATES FOR 2018

### **Josephites Jumping Into Justice**

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March  
See above for details.

### **Social Service Action Day**

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
9.30am – 1.30pm  
Bethany Centre

### **Feast of Mary MacKillop**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August  
5.30pm – 7.30pm  
Bethany Centre

### **Social Justice in Action**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September  
Following the 10.30am Mass in the Chapel  
Bethany Centre

### **Country Retreat**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October  
Sevenhill Conference Centre

### **A Christmas Event**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
Bethany Centre

*Put these dates in your diary. Details about upcoming events will appear in later newsletters.*

### **Weekend @ Penola**

Unfortunately, this trip has had to be put 'on hold' for the time being. Thank you to those who expressed an interest. We will try again at some other time.



## Preparing for Christmas by Michael Burnett

On Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of December last year some 30 Associates and friends of the Josephites gathered at the Bethany Centre in Kensington for an evening of singing Christmas carols, following prayers in St Joseph's Chapel.

Sr Majella O'Sullivan led us but first we shared a lovely supper. Sr Majella had a crib where all the pieces had been wrapped separately in paper. One by one we picked out a piece at random and began unwrapping it. When the piece was finally unwrapped we all contributed our opinions about that particular piece or mentioned something of which it reminded us.

For example, when our Lady's piece was opened some said she represented the love of a mother, protector and the mother of us all. Another said that the 3 Wise Men represented the Kings coming to pay homage to the new baby. The shepherds reminded us of the caring they had for their sheep and so lowly shepherds and great kings worshipped the

baby Jesus together in a humble stable.

So Jesus was born, not in a great castle or kingdom, giving hope to all people. Rich and poor alike Jesus loves us all equally and even though we may stray from him at times, he leaves his flock to rescue the lost sheep.

We sang lots of lovely Christmas hymns and carols in between opening up all the pieces of the crib and assembling them as we would our own cribs: the Christ child surrounded by animals, shepherds, Wise Men, angels and, of course, Mary and Joseph, the great mother and foster father of Jesus – they were all there for us to see.

The night went by quickly and we left full of joy in expectation of the coming saviour at Christmas. A big thanks to Sr Majella, Mary Gill, who played the piano for us, and the people who prepared the lovely goodies we shared for supper.



## At Catherine House by Bridgette Barrett



As a prelude to our new direction in 2018 where we aim to focus on the service component of the Associate attributes of friendship, prayer and service it was decided to kick start this at our 8<sup>th</sup> of December Christmas carols evening last year.

toiletries and women orientated products to donate to Catherine House, a shelter for women. These were very gratefully received by the shelter as they could be used both as Christmas gifts and over the longer term depending on requirements. Catherine House sent the Leadership Team a thank you letter and this appreciation is extended to all those who contributed to this worthy cause.

We had a very pleasant night of singing and reconnecting as well as knowing that our actions were of assistance to those less fortunate than ourselves. A very big thank you to all!

Associates and friends combined to bring in

# Other News

## • St Joseph's Old Scholars Association

An Old Scholar is anyone (female or male) who has ever been connected to a Josephite school or college in Australia, as a student or teacher.

Our Association has been in existence for over 100 years. Our 3 functions for 2018 are:

- Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April  
2pm Mass in St Joseph's Chapel  
Followed by afternoon tea in the Bethany Centre
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Luncheon
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Luncheon

For further information contact Josie: 8295 3667 or josievp.44@gmail.com

## • Mary MacKillop Old Scholars Association

The Association continues the friendships and encourages the building of life-long networks amongst past students and staff after high school. It also fosters justice and compassion, hospitality and concern for those in need and has a special relationship with the Sisters of St Joseph.

Everyone is very welcome to the Annual Reunion which will be on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October this year.

Newsletters and our popular Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/179768134304>) keep people in touch with each other. Make contact and share your news.

## • Mary MacKillop Precinct

### 1. New Name

Our Centre at Kensington is now known as the **Mary MacKillop Precinct**. It comprises the Bethany Centre, the Mary MacKillop Museum Adelaide and St Joseph's Chapel. The Chapel is open every day whereas the Museum is still closed until renovations are complete. To contact the office please telephone 8130 5900.

### 2. Monthly Mass (10.30am) & Reflection (5.45pm)

Venue: St Joseph's Chapel

March	Thursday, 8/3/2018	Mass & Reflection
April	Sunday 8/4/2018	Reflection ONLY
May	Tuesday, 8/5/2018	Mass & Reflection
June	Friday, 8/6/2018	Mass & Reflection

### 3. Mary MacKillop Precinct Brochure

Included with this newsletter (by email or post) is the 2018 Brochure. It outlines the events programme for this year offering a diverse range of activities. If you are interested, please refer to the brochure for information including how to register.

### 4. 2018 Calendar

The calendars are still available and make a great buy.

Each month contains a quote from our co-founders and gives information on the Josephite story.



**New Year Sale!** **\$4 each or 3 for \$10**

**Pay & Collect your Calendars:**  
The Regional Administration Centre,  
4 High Street, Kensington

**Credit Card - Pay by phone**  
Ph: 8130 5916

*Josephite Calendars on Sale!*

# CARRIERS OF A NEW VISION

As people of God  
we are carriers of Jesus' dream  
that all may be one,  
loved and accepted as persons of immeasurable value.

We are the bearers of life, nurturing it in all of its myriad manifestations.  
We are the sustainers of the human family,  
weaving a network of relationships in our local communities,  
uniting the global community.

***May we weave a cloth of inclusion and acceptance of all.***

As members of the Church,  
we are carriers of the Spirit's dream to participate in the mission of Jesus  
who frees the oppressed and brings new life.

***May we be bearers of hope, of light and of life for all.***

We are called to be people of the Gospel,  
to be people who identify with the Heart of Christ  
committed in our efforts to become a community of disciples.

***May we live simply, love tenderly, act justly.***

We are called to be people of prayer,  
servants of the Word,  
open and vulnerable to its transforming power.

***May your Word help us reflect the Heart of Jesus.***

We are called to be Celebrators of the Eucharist  
wherever the bread and wine of humanity is blessed and broken.

***May we learn to accept the brokenness within ourselves  
so that we can reach out to the brokenness within others.***

May we go forth today in witness and filled with the mission of Christ.  
May we be carriers of the vision which brings life  
in all its richness and abundance  
bringing the message of the Heart of Christ to all  
as we seek to live the spirit of Mary Mackillop in our daily lives.  
Amen.