



WA JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES Newsletter



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

A Reflection

You cannot come to me unless you are drawn by the Father who sent me. While making the Spiritual Exercises for the first time in 1980, I became deeply aware of the beloved Father and that I had such a Father. My priorities rearranged themselves around this central reality and prayer deepened. This remained the focal point of my spirituality for some time. Some years later, during a retreat,

while walking around the grounds, I had a deep awareness of the Father's love. Suddenly, I said to Jesus, "Oh, you know about the Father." I could share my experience with him.

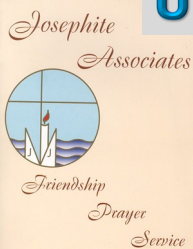
This grew into a desire to live with Jesus for the Father and for his people. When, years later, I made the Spiritual Exercises again, this companionship with Jesus deepened into a love relationship.

Father of Jesus I thank you.

Taken from the Madonna Magazine-Autumn 2018

"If we return to moments of thankfulness from the burden of anxieties, fears, self-doubt and pressures that weigh heavily on us each day, our world expands"

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



UPDATE FROM THE ESPERANCE ASSOCIATES

As I mentioned earlier this year, we are now gathering and standing alone. I see this as an outreaching to others in our capacity as Associates to those around our physical presence.

May I suggest that we revisit the words of our Associates Prayer.

*We who have been touched by the spirit
Of Mary MacKillop, ask you, Lord,
To help us explore and live out the
Josephite charism in the world.
Today, we commit ourselves to the Lord,
As we recognize God's presence
In every person we meet and reach out
To the suffering and the poor.*

*Hail Joseph, Son of David,
Spouse of Mary,
Foster father of Jesus!
Saint Joseph pray for us,
Now and at the hour of our death. AMEN*

Our Associates Prayer does shed a little light into our commitment to Parish life. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your sharing of your unique gifts - separate from each other - yet combined makes such a warm vibrant impact for everyone else's benefit.

Movement amongst us ~

It is so good to see **Pam Usher** back into our midst (we really love her scones, which reappeared at morning tea!)

Pat Ivers safely returned from her sojourn in the Eastern States - such a stabilising influence on us all.

Sheena Kendall asked we remember her in our prayers as she has had to travel to Perth for medical tests. We pray for positive news for her.

Frances Luberda also asks for prayers as she needs to revisit Perth for her check-ups.

Maureen Weckert travelled east to see her family etc. We pray for smooth and safe travels - there and back.

Tina Newman has 'officially' retired from her paid job. We all appreciate just how much she contributes to Parish needs and perhaps she may now be in a better position to join us on the third Thursdays of the month.

A collective THANKS to **Marilyn Guest** who volunteered her talents for the Easter murals & the sculpture. A talented team working with John Quigley.

Claire Burchard remains in Perth, currently in Fremantle Hospital.

~ Helen Johnston ~ JA Coordinator ~ Esperance



UPDATE FROM THE METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATES

The Metropolitan Coordinating Group are:

Louisa Moore
(08) 9359 4960

Dot Caughey
(08) 9332 0118

Maureen Lanigan
(08) 9447 2346

Meg Phelan
(08) 9295 1682

Marg Jones
(08) 9370 3206

A BIG THANK YOU!

It is with some sadness but **with tremendous gratitude** that we let you know that **Margaret Hardingham** has stepped down from the Metropolitan Coordinating Group. The sisters, the fellow members of the MCG and all Associates join in thanking Margaret for all the **steadfast friendship and service** that she has graciously, selflessly and cheerfully contributed over **the past 30 years - plus!** What an achievement! Margaret, together with her late husband Des continually and loyally supported our Associate movement. We are so happy that we will still see her smiling face around us at future gatherings and events.

Well done and **THANK YOU Margaret** ~ with Blessings from all of us and our **much loved St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.**

TREASURER & MCG MEMBER NEEDED

As we move forward, the WA Associates are in need of A Treasurer.

The role will include the registering of the donations; sending out receipts; banking any funds; paying postage for the newsletter; presenting the bank statement at the quarterly meetings and gathering days.

It does not involve dealing with a large amount of money. Applicants can ring me **0438 616 228** for further information.

We would also like to appeal one more Metropolitan Core Group member - we would love to hear from you.

DONATIONS ALWAYS APPRECIATED

On the back page you will see a little slip that includes details of how you can contribute a small amount to help with costs associated with printing/posting the newsletter etc. All donations very welcome and always appreciated!

~ Louisa Moore JA, MCG

MEETING WITH SR MOYA CAMPBELL

Our 6th May meeting was presented by Sr Moya Campbell rsj and attended by Srs Margaret Cleary rsj and Kathleen Hitchcock rsj. Also attending were five members of the MCG and ten Josephite Associates.

Sr Moya made us feel at ease by asking questions about how our group works.

Sr Moya was interested in how each one of our Association began with the Sisters of St Joseph - and in our continuing participation in the spirit of Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods. Sr Moya explained that the sisters are looking to the future and how the Josephite spirit will continue to inspire the Australian Church. The formation of IJALT is one pathway to achieving this.

The penny suddenly dropped and things fell onto place in our minds - **that the fear of change we had been experiencing, through the lack of knowledge had been lifted.**

Sr Moya presented an informative slide show explaining how IJALT was formed, and plans for the future. There were plenty of questions asked and answered.

In Summing Up

Thank you Sr Moya for taking the time to patiently help us understand and embrace the way forward. With time, patience and consideration towards one another, we will be able to share the Dream, by remaining close to the sisters who are working to keep the Josephite Charism alive and well for the future.

~ Margaret Jones JA, MCG

TWO KALGOORLIE CELEBRATIONS

REDEDICATION OF THE SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH GRAVES KALGOORLIE

When: 16 June 2018 at 11.00am ~ Kalgoorlie Cemetery

**Invitation to a special celebration to commemorate
THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DISCOVERY OF GOLD IN KALGOORLIE
and the significant role of the Catholic Church at the time**

When: 17 June 2018

10.00am Mass at Goldfields Arts Centre

12.00pm Unveiling of the restored Statue of St John of God at St Mary's School followed by Lunch

**RSVP: (Essential) to Fr Brenna Sia, Ph 9021 2100,
E: kalgoorlie@perthcatholic.org.au**

14 June PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION EXPERIENCE

Theme: 'You are set free.' A reflection on the freedom Jesus offers us and the ones we choose.

Venue: Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York St, South Perth.

Date: 10.00am – 1.00pm on Thursday June 14th.

Light refreshment provided. **Cost:** Donation

RSVP: Friday 8th June. Essential for catering, contact Laura McCarthy (08) 9334 0999

laura.mccarthy@sosj.org.au

17 June TAIZÉ MEDITATIVE PRAYER

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

Bring: A torch ... and a friend!

Venue: St Joseph's Chapel, 16 York St, South Perth, WA

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

“Children are Born Contemplative”

Teaching students and staff how to meditate is an integral part of the retreat programme offered at the Mary MacKillop Centre at South Perth.



“Our set purpose must be to help the students and staff to build a loving relationship with Jesus in the flesh and bring them to this same Jesus, present with us” (Sr Madeleine Simon RSCJ)



A Little Background

It was the Benedictine monk John Main who rediscovered this contemplative tradition in the Christian church. Christian meditation community began in England in 1976 and has since become a world-wide movement of people of all ages and every walk of life who meet in this prayer of stillness, silence and simplicity.

For further background information - www.wccm.org

The following are comments from students ...

- ✦ *I'm going to teach my dad tonight to meditate, I loved the stillness.*
- ✦ *It was a little bit hard to sit still.*
- ✦ *I felt so peaceful.*
- ✦ *It was so calm and peaceful in my heart.*
- ✦ *I had lots of thoughts.*
- ✦ *I wanted to keep going.*

From Adults ...

- ✦ *I would have liked it to go longer.*
- ✦ *It was worth taking the day off just for that experience of prayer.*
- ✦ *I hope I can teach the children to meditate at home*

~ Sr Maura O'Connell PBVM & Sr Maree Riddler rsj

“Be still and know that I am God”. Ps 46:10

Meditation is found in all religious traditions.

In Christianity it is at the heart of contemplative teaching of Jesus on Prayer.

Meditation in the Christian tradition is often called prayer of the Heart.

Meditation leads to increase of self-knowledge, builds community, deepens children's relationship with God, reduces stress and increases children's sense of wellbeing and harmony.

We are bombarded from an early age with noise, stimulus and messages to keep busy.

Through the teaching of Christian meditation we aim to provide teachers and students with space for stillness, silence and simplicity.

St Mary MacKillop 2018 Australian Pilgrimage



'In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop', gives participants the opportunity to journey to places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop.

Commencing in Melbourne 23 October, the Pilgrimage visits Penola, Adelaide and other significant places, concluding in Sydney 3 November 2018.

Cost is \$3,230 - \$3,765 (twin share) depending on capital city of departure. Single supplement for all States is \$700.

For further information, please contact Sr Therese Leydon 0417 683123 or Sr Annie Bond 02 89124818, or email national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au.

Contact Laura if you would like a brochure/application form: laura.mccarthy@sosj.org.au or (08) 9334 0999.

DO YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

Please help us to keep costs down and save the planet at the same time by sending in your email address (so we can email the newsletter, upcoming events etc) to: wa.associates@sosj.org.au

Thank you to those who have already forwarded their email addresses to us.



WA ASSOCIATES GATHERINGS & UPCOMING SOSJ EVENTS



GATHERINGS at SOUTH PERTH 2018

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



NEXT GATHERING ~ WINTER

When: 2.00pm 10th June Sunday 2018

Where: St Joseph's Convent, 16 York Street, South Perth

Bring: A plate of food to share (we are expecting guests!) | A Friend | Bring and Buy item

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

GREETINGS FROM THE ASSOCIATES IN DARDANUP

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

Our first meeting for 2018 was a memorable one as Associates from far and wide welcomed visitors to their ranks. Sharing and friendship were hallmarks of the day. Fr Tony Chiera reflected with the group on Jesus' call "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow me". Time was offered to reflect on the different types of crosses that we carry and sharing time was deeply spiritual. Some ideas put forward included - The way to God is in our vulnerability, that takes us into intimacy with God - Mercy is the baring of God's compassionate and loving heart - The blood of Jesus is pure mercy - Grace is operable wherever we are in the world. Father concluded by blessing all those in attendance. Presentations were made to Annette Morellini (past leader), Fay Manoni and Robyn Thomas (past committee members) on behalf of the Associate group.

Recently Dardanup was privileged to

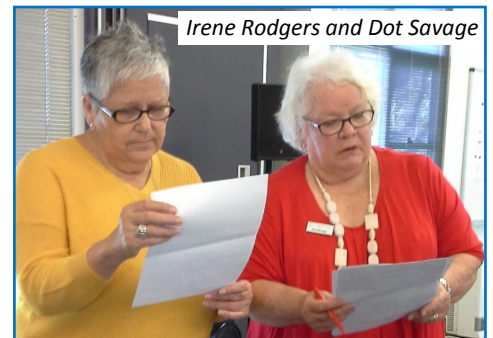
welcome Srs Moya, Margaret, Kathleen and Pauline to their meeting. Proceedings began with a Devonshire morning tea followed by prayer for a deeper faith and trust in our loving God.



Sr Moya addressed the group on the theme of being Josephite Associates in an ever-changing world. Many questions were answered regarding future direction and support was forthcoming for the hopes and dreams of the Josephite movement in the years to come. The relaxed atmosphere of the day encouraged us to spread the charism through friendship, prayer and service. We were inspired by Sr Moya to reignite the passion we have to become keepers of the charism and to keep Saint Mary of the Cross' spirituality rich and fruitful.

Our last two meetings have hosted Associates from Pinjarra – Anna,

Yvonne, Irene and Kerry. We wish this core group many blessings as they embark on their own local journey.



Irene Rodgers and Dot Savage

~ Dot Savage JA

Dardanup - Dates for your Diaries

10 June ~ Visit to Metro Associates

8 Aug ~ Mass and celebration of St Mary's Feast Day

11 Sept ~ Retreat at Dardanup facilitated by Sr Genevieve Ryan rsj "Theme – Mary our mother and mother of the Church"

All very welcome! Bring a friend

DONATION TO THE WA ASSOCIATE MOVEMENT

(donations will help with costs associated with printing, news-letter expenses, postage, gatherings etc)

Name:

Address:

Email:

Amount given: (Please circle one)

\$5.00 \$10.00 \$20.00 \$30.00 \$40.00 \$50.00

All donations can be forwarded to:

WA Associates, PO Box 593, South Perth, WA 6951

- ◆ Cheques payable to: **Religious of St Josephs Associates**
- ◆ Or paid by Direct Debit (EFT) to

BSB: No 06 6124 Account Number: 00920658

Reference: Surname and Initial (e.g. Campbell M)

Thank you to those who have made a contribution in 2018





Blessing ...

May the abundant Spirit of generous radiance

flow through, over, beneath

and above our world and in our hearts

May the dancing Spirit's infectious love

swirl us into joy and freedom

May the gentle Spirit of warm hospitality

spread welcome and healing in every corner of our being.



Taken from *Act, Love, Walk ~ Praying the Josephite Way.*

Prepared by Laura McCarthy



WA Josephite Associates



Pentecost



Reflection...

Sit in stillness and breathe deeply.

**Listen to your own breath coming into your body
and leaving your body.**

Breath in life; breathe out hope.

Gaze on the image and words.

How do they resonate with you in this moment?

WINTER 2018

WINTER INVITATION

How rapidly the sunlight makes way
For the dark, looming rainclouds
Which cast an eerie light from the North West.

The ocean, lies flat and grey
Beneath a misty sky.

Penguin Island is engulfed
In heavy fog-like clouds.

In the Bay yellow buoys,
Like Viking long boats,
Are barely visible in the gloom.

First a few heavy drops,
Followed by a noisy shower.

The parched earth receives the rain
With open heart.

So must I open a dry and dusty soul
To accept the graces offered.

Here on this miniscule spot
In the great Cosmos of God
I humbly await His Word,
The Logos who gave his life for me.
Unfinished, in the process of becoming
Who I am meant to be.

As a drop of water in the ocean
Causes every other drop to move,
So my actions send out vibrations
Through the whole Cosmos.

Called to accept the gifts offered,
Called to receive the Gifts and Fruits of the Spirit,
To allow them to grow and blossom in me.
My patience begets patience somewhere -
I may never see it or feel it - it is out there - somewhere.
Called to fill up what is wanting in the death of Christ,
Incredibly, I am His presence here and now.
Lead me, challenge me, nourish me,
Entice me, melt me, soften me
To trust, surrender, believe, and receive.

Sr Mary Jo Wells rsj
(RIP)

