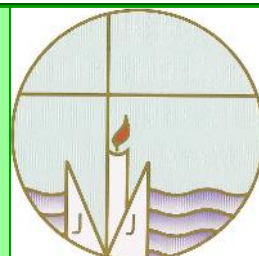




# Josephite Associates, Victoria-Tasmania AUTUMN 2018



## AUTUMN—a time of resting, reviving

Dear Associates,

The year 2018 has embraced us all with its new tasks, new places maybe, new outlook, deeper prayer.

On the last page you will read of the wonderful amount raised by the sale of **used stamps** at the Sydney Stamp Auction. How about getting a box put in the foyer of the Church for parishioners to place their used stamps, and taking the responsibility of cutting to size if needed, and posting them to Burwood! **Please note the request from Associates in NSW re sorting of stamps.** Your small efforts help people like Lourdes to make a difference in her life—and this is part of the Associates Mission.

As well your efforts for **Sharing the Dignity** have been part of a marvellous response across Australia. The report from Auntie Flow (not sure where she comes in) is on Page 7. Having Bunnings accept the bags made it much easier for us to deliver them.

Many of you will have enjoyed

some holidays as I did at Yarram and Wonthaggi enjoying the tennis, the cricket and a good book. For the last couple of weeks the Olympics in Korea would have you marvelling, like me, at the strength and courage of these men and women.

**New Members:** Seven people have applied this year to become Josephite Associates so I encourage you all to be pro-active and invite men and women from your parish to join you and to consider this way of life. Application forms are available if you want some to put in your churches. We will be starting a new group at Melton, so keep them in your prayers as well as those beginning and those who are part way through the Introductory Sessions, about twelve in all.

In some groups **new leaders** need to take some responsibility, so we encourage members of each group to make sure your leaders are rotated or share the role. It is a privilege to take up this role and involves very little organising. So keep this in mind. We thank Carole Gow of Wonthaggi for her dedication to her role as Leader over the past years. Maureen Maartensz has accepted the role of the leader at present.

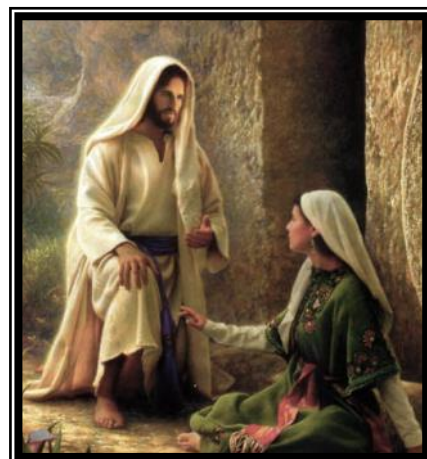
**Leaders' Day** was an enjoyable and enlightening day for all. The report gives more detail. The Core-Team look forward to meeting you at the **Regional Days** which are an important part of formation—a mini-retreat day. We hope as many as possible will meet us there. The day will include the story of Sr Irene McCormack who was shot in Peru and a DVD of the presentation of her life by students

at MacKillop College, Werribee.

Sisters you may know are celebrating special **jubilees** this year and you will find their names in the newsletter.

During the rest of Lent you may like to reflect on the words of Pope Francis from *Evangelii Gaudium*: Par 120  
*"In virtue of their Baptism, all the members of the people of God have become missionary disciples. All the baptised, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelisation... The new evangelisation calls for personal involvement on the part of each of the baptised"*

Your mission of **Friendship, Prayer and Service** gives each of you, no matter who you are or what you can physically do, the challenge to carry this out. Pope Francis ends this paragraph with **"So what are we waiting for?"** Easter joy and blessings to each of you from the Core-Team and  
*MaryFermio rsj*



GO AND TELL MY DISCIPLES...

### Inside this issue:

- 1 Editorial
- 2 Reflection
- 3 Days in 2018/Yarram Centenary
4. The Heritage Centre Days
5. Congratulations
6. Leaders' Day
7. Around the Traps
- St Joseph's by the Sea
8. Bulletin Board
- Enclosures:*
1. Prayer Sheet: Autumn
2. Subscription Form

# Friendship Prayer Service

# AUTUMN REFLECTION

Our Galaxy “The Milky Way” is just one of billions of galaxies that swirl around space, continually expanding outwards. Each galaxy consists of billions of stars.

Our earth is just one tiny dot in this galaxy, taking up infinitesimal space in the whole realm of creation. Every sun, star, planet has its place and orbit and all travel in a regulated way.

Scientists now explain the birth of the universe as a flaming cosmic explosion, giving birth to space and time. They calculate that this happened about 13.7 billion years ago. Everything that has ever existed was created in this one cosmic event. And each one of us is part of that event.

I find this mind boggling and completely beyond my comprehension and I imagine many of you feel that way too. But it helps me to realise the immensity of the world I live in and the love of a God who holds us all in being—through God, with God and in God....

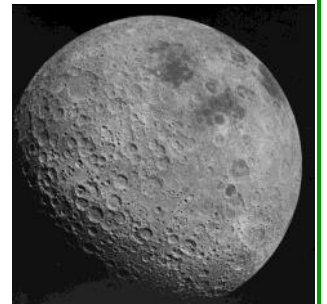


**PRAY REFLECTIVELY: GOD'S STRENGTH** Ps 121 Australian Psalms Bruce Prewer  
Australian Lutheran Church—Used with permission

*When I gaze at the ancient mountains, their huge strength steadies my trembling.  
The strength of the Lord made the galaxies and shaped this dear old planet.  
You can never stumble out of God's care; the one who loves you never falls asleep.  
The one who looks after you is awake, always alert to the your cries.*

*Your God cares for you, closer than your own right hand.  
Even the fiery sun will not harm you, nor the barren face of the moon.  
God will keep you going in hard times; and treasure your very being.*

*When you leave for work in the morning, and when you return home at evening,  
God will surely be with you, this day and for ever.*



**IN THE SPACE BELOW WRITE YOUR OWN PSALM OF PRAISE OF GOD.**

**MY PSALM**

## REFLECTION

1. Choose a clear, cloudless night, no moon.  
Sit outside and gaze into space and try to picture yourself as a part of this galaxy. Part of the star dust that began when an event occurred to create this expanding universe.  
Let your feelings rise, let words come to you,  
let God speak to you.
2. Choose a night when the moon is full.  
Sit outside again and gaze into space. What has changed?  
Again let words and feelings arise within you and let God speak to your heart.



**TIME:** 9.30 arrive for 10 am start  
Finish approx. 3 p.m.

**17th March MURCHISON CHURCH**  
North Central: Rushworth, Euroa  
Nagambie, Numurkah, Shepparton

**21st April LEONGATHA Parish Centre**  
South/West Gippsland: Leongatha,  
Morwell, Wonthaggi, Fish Creek, Mirboo

**26th May PAKENHAM St Patrick's Parish Hall,**  
142 Princes Highway, Pakenham  
Koo Wee Rup, Pakenham, Iona  
( Associates elsewhere who wish to come can  
be met at the station. 30 min drive from the city)

**18th August SUNBURY Western Group:**  
Bacchus Marsh, Sunbury,  
Sebastopol, Woodend, Hamilton

**6th October ORBOST**  
East Gippsland: Bairnsdale, Sale,  
Orbost, Lakes Entrance , Maffra, Stratford

**BYO LUNCH Donation \$5**

## HOW THE WEST WAS ONE

Collected and edited by Karyn Howie and Sue O'Brien

A collection of heart-warming stories of people who lived in Melbourne's West—from Sunshine to Altona—during the 1950's, 60's 70's. For those of us who lived there it brings back many happy memories, of neighbours, schools, teachers, adventures. Articles by Lina Caneva, Kevin Harrington, Michael Leunig and Ted Whitten Junior and many more. In those days communities of families flourished, supported each other, celebrated with each other and married each other. Many still live there unable to leave the multi-cultural society they grew up in. If you have lived in the West you will love it! If you haven't it will entertain you!

Published by Boom Baby Boom Publications,  
8 Lorne St Moonee Ponds Vic 3039  
May be available at the Yarraville Book shop.

## 100 YEARS AT YARRAM

A most enjoyable day was experienced by all at Yarram on Sunday 18th February, for the celebration of 100 years of the presence of the Sisters of St Joseph. The day started well with John Papworth welcoming the Sisters and remarking on the number of "young" sisters present. (many were 80 years young!) . Bishop Patrick O'Regan reminded us that when the Sisters arrived at Yarram in February 1918 the world was still in the grips of World War 1.

The Sisters took up residence in a large convent and started teaching in a new weatherboard school room in March. This convent was the residence until a few years ago when Sr Margaret Brown moved into a unit. The Parish choir led us in songs full of hope, ending with a stirring rendition by all of From Penola Plains by Michael Herry fms.

A splendid lunch, catering for all needs and tastes, was supplied by a group of wonderful women. Srs Agnes Nunn and Frances Clare cut a beautiful cake to commemorate the occasion. During lunch a power point including many of the Sisters who had lived in Yarram caused us to endeavour to remember names and faces of those who had died. A total of 78 Sisters had lived in Yarram since 1918 and Sr Anne Tuck still resides there as a presence in the Parish, but a busy presence I am sure.

Thank you to all who worked so hard to make the day a memorable one for all. *Mary Fermio rsj*



# MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE

## 2018 CONVERSATIONS WITH MARY THE DEVOTIONS AND SPIRITUALITY OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS

*"God will take care of us all"*

11 am—12 noon followed by light lunch

FEBRUARY	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>
MARCH	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>
APRIL	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>
MAY	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>
JUNE	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>
JULY	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>
AUGUST	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>
SEPTEMBER	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>
OCTOBER	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>
NOVEMBER	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>

Facilitator: Sr Mary Fermio rsj



St Francis Church  
Melbourne

VENUE: Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre  
362 Albert St EAST MELBOURNE

Please contact us for acceptances

P. 03 9926 9300 or just turn up!

admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au

## OPEN DAYS

2018

*The following Saturdays 10am-4pm*

*3rd March*

*5th May*

*4th August*

*17th November*

- *Take a tour of the Museum*
- *Visit the gift Shop*
- *Mary MacKillop walking tour of the sites where Mary Lived and worked from 11 a.m.*
- *Enjoy light refreshments*
- *Pray in the chapel*

**MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE**

362 Albert St East Melbourne

Ph 9926 9300

## NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

Melb, South Aust., New South Wales

Visiting the sites related to

St Mary MacKillop and her family

24th October—3rd November

For further information and details

Contact MMHC 03 9926 9300

## THE AUSSIE CAMINO

From Portland to Penola beginning

with Mass at East Melbourne

Signing of Register of Pilgrims

then travel to Portland

For further information

Call MMHC 03 9926 9300 or

Email Luke Mills at

lukej.mills@bigpond.com



## LENTEN/ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Each Wednesday during Lent/Advent

at Mary MacKillop Chapel

12.30 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Open to the Public

An opportunity to stop, find space to reflect on

the significance of the

Season of the Church year

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Visitors to the Chapel at MMHC are welcome to write in the folder provided, their prayer requests through the intercession of St Mary of the Cross. Each week the pages containing the prayer requests are forwarded to North Sydney and placed near the tomb of St Mary MacKillop in the Chapel at Mary MacKillop Place.



# AROUND THE TRAPS



Congratulations to **Sr Jeanne Dwyer** rsj who began St Joseph's Corner in 2001 at the request of priests of the Westgate Deanery to help families living with alcohol or drug addiction. Yarraville was the beginning and now offices are established in Hoppers Crossing and Laverton. Jeanne was awarded Senior Citizen of the Year by the Maribyrnong Shire. Over these years Jeanne has set up the Merrijig Gift Shop in Yarraville, run Trivia Nights, sausage sizzles, and other fund-raising events to pay the counsellors employed and they receive no Government funding. With more funding they could establish offices where they have been requested in other suburbs. Anyone wishing to volunteer or send a donation can contact Joseph's Corner on 9315 2680 or email: [contact@josephscorner.org.au](mailto:contact@josephscorner.org.au)

## PLATINUM JUBILARIANS

Celebrating **70 years** as Professed Sisters of St Joseph from Tasmania are  
**Sr Mechtilde Dillon and Sr Martina Roberts**

## DIAMOND JUBILARIANS

In January 2018 the following Sisters from Vic-Tas Region celebrated  
**60 years** of Profession as Sisters of St Joseph.  
**Sisters Jeanne Dwyer; Giovanni Farquer; Patricia Maher; Vendremina Puiatti;  
Helen Reed; Audrey Thomson and Joan Toole.**

## GOLDEN JUBILARIANS

Celebrating **50 years** as Professed Sisters of St Joseph from the Vic-Tas Region are:  
**Sisters Sue McGuinness; Loreto Cuffe; Therese Dagge;  
Mary Kavanagh; Christina Scannell Ireland)**

## 100 YEARS

In January Sr Barbara Connelly reached the grand age of 100 years

*CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THESE SISTERS.  
WE THANK THEM FOR THEIR FAITHFULNESS TO MISSION,  
TO LIVING THE JOSEPHITE CHARISM,  
FOR THEIR FRIENDSHIP AND PRAYER.  
MAY GOD BLESS THEM ALL THE DAYS OF THEIR LIVES.*



*Be happy and again I say  
it, Thank God for your  
great and grand vocation.*

*Mother Mary to the Sisters  
19th March 1874*



# LEADERS DAY

An enthusiastic group of Josephite Associates from all over Victoria—from Hamilton to Maffra, Rushworth to Wonthaggi, and parts of Melbourne, gathered for a stimulating reflection on Missionary discipleship.

Therese Quinn rsj began the day with the words of Pope Francis from his exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, The Joy of the Gospel, Par 120, where he reminds all that because of our Baptism each of us is a missionary disciple. Using the story of Mary of Magdala, Therese opened up her life as recorded in John's Gospel, where after the Resurrection Jesus instructed her to "Go, and tell my disciples....", a missionary disciple in every sense.

Noreen McLeish continued this theme by further exploring the words of Pope Francis and portraying how he, himself, lived this message by going out to the poor, the homeless and all in need. Photos of Pope Francis living this role were used bringing home the message even more forcefully. We spent some time in reflecting on these words and choosing those important to each before sharing with the group.

After a lovely lunch Jenny Glare from MacKillop Family Services explained to us the work she does in uniting families— children, mothers, siblings—who became separated and were cared for by the Josephite, Mercy and Christian Brothers Congregations. Using records collected and retained since 1850 from all three Congregations, Jenny tracks down families by cross-referencing with patient diligence, resulting in the joy of seeing families come together.

I think all were truly moved by the story she told, with permission, of one such search and the resulting union of a brother with other siblings he knew nothing about, as he had been given up for adoption by his mother before she was married. It was only when the mother was 80 years old, that she told her children, who immediately set about finding their brother.

Jenny's work in establishing a museum of artefacts from all the homes conducted by the Sisters and Brothers, has created a marvellous history of those times which is well worth visiting. I think we could have listened to Jenny for much longer if time had been available and we appreciated very much the presentation of the history of the establishing of the MacKillop Family Services as one organisation, to continue the work commenced by the Brothers, Mercy Sisters and Mary MacKillop in the 19th Century. MacKillop Family Services have offices in Melton, New South Wales and Western Australia, a wonderful achievement. Two other Josephite services are now part of MacKillop Family Services—Good Grief and MacKillop Rural Community Services formerly based in rural and remote NSW communities.

During the Commissioning Ritual at the end of the day, Associates committed themselves to living as St Mary MacKillop going out to those around them. A card with a picture of Mary MacKillop and a cross was presented to each to use as part of a setting with their group, and as a reminder of the day. All were urged to read the Pope's document to assist them in their work with their groups and for their own spiritual formation and deepening of their Josephite Charism.

We were grateful to Sr Maureen Lomer and Martha who gave their time to serve morning tea and lunch for us. Maureen had made delicious scones for our Devonshire tea. Thank you.

Noreen with some of the group.



MacKillop will be part of Open House Melbourne on Saturday 29th July, running 45 minute tours at the South Melbourne building in Cecil Street. This building was originally opened in 1857 as St Vincent de Paul's Orphanage.

Bring your family and friends and explore our Heritage listed building and learn its history.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. 237 Cecil Street.

South Melbourne

No bookings required.

A short walk from a tram stop.

Donations can be given by phone 1300 218 935

Or [mackillop.org.au/donate](http://mackillop.org.au/donate)

# AROUND THE TRAPS



Message from Share the Dignity newsletter:

Thank you for our incredible #Its in the Bag result. This year we collected a whopping **107,208 HANDBAGS** for the Christmas appeal. We are blown away by the generosity Australia has shown in choosing to make a difference for a stranger this festive season, and make sure they have something special to open this Christmas day. We'd also like to thank our partner Bunnings and all our other partners who have helped make this incredible result come to be. Victoria collected 23,951 handbags. Thank you Associates and Sisters who contributed bags, toiletries and cash to fill the nearly 100 bags shown in the photo. Kieren, Sr Mary and Helen, part of the team, with some of the bags at Helen's Home, Bacchus Marsh

Collections will start again next September. We ask that each bag contain some toiletries. Those requested by the Share the Dignity group are: soap, toothpaste, brush, deodorant, shampoo and a sanitary pack. Anything else is also welcome.

**BACCHUS MARSH World Day of Prayer** A successful day of prayer was organised by Associates at Bacchus Marsh the hosts for this year's prayer. We thank Marie Casey for doing the catering for the afternoon tea. Members of the Anglican, Baptist and Uniting Churches joined us and shared roles in the prayer. Diane Corro acted as Leader helped by Mary Flanagan who did the organising of the day. We thank them for taking up this role on behalf of the Parish.

## **ST JOSEPH'S BY THE SEA, 16 ESPLANADE, WILLIAMSTOWN 2018 PROGRAMS** **PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY DAYS - We Listen to the heartbeat.....**

**Each session: 1.30—3 p.m. Repeated 7.30—9p.m. Donation: Subsidised \$10 Cost: \$20**

**"To listen to the heartbeat of God is to listen both within the vastness of the universe and within the intimacy of our own hearts" John Philip Newell**

**April 19th The Cross becomes the Tree of Life Therese Quinn rsj**  
**May 17th Listening to the heartbeat of those in Palliative Care - Ivonne Cram and Hilda Tibben**  
**June 28th Everyone's business Bishop Mark Edwards OMI**  
**August 23rd Listening to the Heartbeat of those Desiring Recognition and Treaty**  
**Sherry Balcombe and Marianne Zeinstra rsj**  
**Sept 20th Listening to the Heartbeat of the Rural People. - Lynette Young rsj**  
**Oct 25th Listening to the Heartbeat of those seeking asylum in this country—Rita Malavisi rsj**  
**Nov 25th A Pilgrimage to the Heart of God through the practice of Centering Prayer**  
**Yvonne Harte rsj**

**CRAFT MORNINGS: First Thursday of each month (except July) 10 am—12 p.m.**  
**FRIENDS OF THE GARDEN : Second Thursday of the month (except July) 1 p.m.—3 p.m.**  
**SPIRITUALITY OF ART Therese Quinn rsj 27th Feb; 6th Mar; 13th Mar. 20th Mar**  
**THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL Evangelii Gaudium Lectio Divina type prayer during Lent.**  
**Thursday evenings 7.30 p.m.—9 a.m.**

**WOMEN IN THE GOSPELS: Thursday 7.30 p.m.—9 p.m.**  
**5th Apr; 3rd May; 7th June; 2nd Aug, 6th Sept. 4th Oct. 1st Nov.**

**FOR INFORMATION RE RETREATS LIVE-IN AND LIVE OUT and**

**USE OF FACILITIES FOR GROUPS**

**CONTACT: ST JOSEPH'S BY THE SEA**  
**03 9397 6012 or**  
**admin.sjbtsw@sosj.org.au**





## STAMPS

### REQUEST RE SORTING OF STAMPS

Below is a list of how we sort currently. It would be most helpful if **cut** stamps are not put into the same plastic bag with **uncut stamps** as this requires sorting out when it reaches its destination. Sr Helen Saunders

**AUSTRALIAN UNDER \$1 – Excluding  
Concession and Excluding 70 cents**  
**AUSTRALIAN .70 CENTS**  
**AUSTRALIAN CONCESSIONS**  
**AUSTRALIAN \$1**  
**AUSTRALIAN OVER \$1 TO \$20**  
**AUSTRALIAN OFF PAPER ALL VALUES**  
**OVERSEAS (FOREIGN) ON PAPER**  
**OVERSEAS (FOREIGN) OFF PAPER**  
**INTERNATIONAL STAMPS (Blue strip on stamp)**  
**OTHER:**  
**MISCELLANEOUS STAMP ITEMS,**  
**E.G.: FIRST DAY COVERS**  
**COLLECTIONS, STAMP ALBUMS**

### **USED STAMPS**

Used postage stamps have raised \$244,000 for the Peruvian Mission. Please leave a border of about **3cm** around the stamps.

**Please take note of border to be left**

**Please forward stamps to:**

**STAMPS**  
**Locked Bag 3031**  
**BURWOOD NSW 1805**



**BOXES OF STAMPS TO:**

**5 Alexander Avenue,**  
**Croydon NSW 2132**

**Thank you**

**As postage has increased members of the group may like to contribute to the cost.**

### **FROM THE OFFICE:**

**All Associates are now receiving their Newsletter in colour thanks to donations and subscriptions received.**

**Check out the [sosj.org.au](http://sosj.org.au) website for interesting articles**

### **Office Address**

Mary Fermio RSJ,  
 Editor—Associates' Newsletter,  
 Josephite Associates' Office,  
 PO Box 37, Bacchus Marsh, 3340.

**OR** Email: [mary.fermio@sosj.org.au](mailto:mary.fermio@sosj.org.au).  
**Or** [vic.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:vic.associates@sosj.org.au)

**OR Phone/Fax:** 03 5367 2078

For all enquiries related to Associates

## BULLETIN BOARD

**And I shall dwell in the Lord's own  
house forever and ever Ps 23**



**Mrs Clare Dunn, Edithvale**  
**Anne Brown, Warragul**  
**Marie Mitchell, Numurkah**  
**Patricia Swann, Sunbury**  
 sister of Margaret Closter. Bacchus Marsh  
 John, husband of Mary Haugh, Eaglehawk  
 Sr Mary (Christopher) Rowan rsj  
 Sr Joan (Charles) McCann rsj  
 Simon, son of Bill and Val Panther, Morwell

## THANK YOU

From Sister Helen Saunders rsj,

On behalf of Mary MacKillop International I thank you for your generous support in supplying and assisting with used stamps.

2017 was another successful year of us raising approx. **\$58,000**. A great effort from many, many people! From 2001 till now our total is almost \$244,000. It is through your efforts that the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop continues in Peru today.

**LOURDES STORY** Lourdes has been a member of a women's association in Peru for many years, where she makes beautiful alpaca scarves and jumpers. Thanks to the support of MMI Women's Livelihoods program, she attended a series of training workshops in production, marketing, small business management and leadership. Lourdes told us "Before this project, we were afraid to talk and participate in meetings in our community. But now, thanks to our training, we are able to participate and share our opinions with the community". The most important change for Lourdes is that with the additional income she is earning she can send her boys to school, put healthy food on the table, and to have opportunities their parents never had. "Now I am earning an income for my family, I am proud of my job. I am happy" she said.

**KEEP UP THE COLLECTING**