



WA JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES Newsletter



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

ADVENT ... We Wait In Joyful Hope



A warm welcome to our Advent and Christmas Newsletter. We wish you all a happy and holy Christmas and a joyful New Year.

"We can all meet together in spirit at the Crib of our loving infant and pray for one another."

Mary MacKillop 1882

Are you ready for Advent?

At this time we are urged to slow down the hectic pace of life and get in touch with our hopes and dreams; to wait and prepare for the birth of new possibilities and new life at Christmas.

Reflection

Christmas is approaching and we remember Mary the Mother of God and Mother of our Church.

We remember that we are called to be like her, to open ourselves, to make ourselves vulnerable to be pregnant with God, to make ourselves available to be used by God for His own purposes.

Advent Prayer

Gathered together, we wait for the light.

Standing together, we trust in the light.

Praying together, we hope for the light.

Seeking together, we step out with the light.

Singing together, we are blessed by the light.

Amen. (Watts, Lord 2005)

~ Dot Savage for the Dardanup, Metro, Esperance & Geraldton Groups

UPDATE FROM THE DARDANUP ASSOCIATES

Friendship, prayer and service has been a strong focus of all the gatherings held this year. An atmosphere of warmth, vitality and care has been evident in all activities and strong bonds continue to grow.

Feast Day

On the ***Feast of St Mary of the Cross*** we welcomed two new associates - **Helen Whitcombe** and **Helen Brown** and we all took the opportunity to renew our dedication to the Josephite charism. Frs Tony and Gerald concelebrated Mass and the students from Our Lady of Lourdes, Dardanup were urged to follow Mary MacKillop's call, ***"Never see a need without doing something about it."*** Father congratulated the associates, thanking them for their roles in parish life. Morning tea was



Fr Tony Chiera and Sr Pauline Dundon welcome new associates Helen Whitcombe and Helen Brown

enjoyed by all. Special guests included Sr Pauline Dundon, Sr Bernadette Hynes and Sr Roberta (Mercy sister) as well as Louisa from the Metropolitan Coordinating Group. We were entertained by Fr Gerald's singing of popular songs from musicals of the past. It was an uplifting expression of fun and joy. Many articles of warm clothing and personal hygiene were collected for St Vincent de Paul to give to the homeless and those in need.

Retreat

In September, Sr Genevieve Ryan facilitated a retreat entitled ***'Living in the Joy of Mary Our Mother, Sister and Friend.'***

This was an enriching exercise for all, presenting Mary as a strong, Jewish woman of her day and prompting the question: How ready have I been for God to achieve something different from what I have planned?



Sr Genevieve Ryan rsj with attendees at Marian Retreat

(PTO)



Sisters Bernadette Hynes, Genevieve Ryan and Pauline Dundon

We had the opportunity to quieten our souls and reflect on Mary's amazing response, remembering that her 'Yes' to God exposed her to cultural punishments of her day.

The music of Mary's own trustful response sings in our own spirit.



Congratulations to **Maud Morrison** who celebrated her 60th Wedding Anniversary this year - what an outstanding achievement!

Thanks to the coordinating group - Irene, Maud, Joanna, Jan, Helen and Annette whose untiring efforts have meant that the Dardanup group is fully alive.











We look forward to our *Christmas Gathering* on **November 28th at Dardanup**. All are welcome!

Please bring along a gift to share to the value of \$10 and an item of food to give to those in need. A plate of food is also appreciated for a shared lunch.

~ Warmest Wishes, Dot



Notes, Messages and Requests from the MCG

-  The Metro Coordinating Group's next general meeting is on 21st February. This is also the time when we fold and envelope our newsletter so it can posted and shared by all. **If there is anyone that may be thinking about joining the 'MCG'**, please do come along to experience the morning and then enjoy sharing lunch with the sisters. **We would be very grateful to welcome three new people!**
-  As our Gathering day on 9th December is also our **Christmas celebration** could everyone please bring a **Kris Kringle** gift to the value of \$10 to add to the Christmas spirit. Please bring a friend to enjoy our company.
-  Sister Kathleen Hitchcock will give a short talk on **Julian Tenison Woods** to tie in after our wonderful talk about our Loved Mary MacKillop from Sister Dora last Gathering.
-  If anyone knows of anyone that would need transport to come to the gathering, please contact me on 0438 616 228 and I will try and help.
-  Our **raffle prize supply** has dried up somewhat lately. If anyone has any items to donate for us to use please call one of the MCG members and it will be picked up. Beautiful completed craft items are very welcome.
-  Please continue to get in touch regarding anyone needing our prayers - we can get them put into the prayer book at the South Perth Chapel.
-  **THANK YOU** for the generous donations that have come in. Please keep them coming. Receipts and messages of gratitude have now been sent out.
-  **CHANGE OF GATHERING DATE IN MARCH 2019** - Please note that March Gathering will be on **SUNDAY 17TH MARCH** (not 10th March due to a date clash)
-  If anyone would like to be enrolled as an associate please get in touch with Meg Phelan or Louisa Moore.
-  **Get well wishes go out to our much loved associate, Margaret Hardingham ~ Wishing you a speedy recovery Margaret, with love from all the sisters and associates.**



Notes from Louisa

We are getting close to finishing off a wonderful, busy and transitional year for all associates - with retirements, new associates, new learning curves, new directions and many welcomed visitors over the year.

We can all continue to celebrate Mary's Charism with Friendship and Prayer at our next **Gathering on the 9th December**

as we join together at our **Christmas and Advent Celebration**.

We continue our service in 2019 in **Mary's spirit as we try to encourage new** associates to join us - to pass on our friendship, faith and love for each other.

A big thank you and many blessings to Laura at the South Perth office who continues to help us all in so many ways



and completes so much work for the **associates ... always there for us.**

Also the warmest thank you and love to all the sisters who are such a big part of all our lives.

A very festive greeting to all our associates in other areas and we hope we can continue the sharing and visiting each other in the new year.

~ **Louisa Moore JA**
Metro Coordinating Group Leader

PRAYER DAY AT SOUTH PERTH

When: Thursday 15 November 2018

Time: 9.30am to 1pm (includes light refreshments)

Where: Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth

Bookings: Essential for catering **ASAP (by Mon 12th)** to 9334 0999 or laura.mccarthy@sosj.org.au

Facilitator: Sr Wendy Lailey rsj, **Cost:** Donation



Dates for you Diaries - Upcoming Events/Retreats in 2019

28 January **EXPLORING THE JOSEPHITE CHARISM ~ Dreams - Vision - Pathways**

Time for reflection and sharing on our personal journey in light of the Mary and Julian dream.

4pm-8pm @ 16 York Street, South Perth

Further information and enquiries: Alma Cabassi rsj, 0419 044 136, alma.cabassi@sosj.org.au

22 Feb, 29 March, 26 April **PRAYING OUR EXPERIENCES** ~ A directed contemplative prayer time with an emphasis on recognising and inviting God in our everyday. Venue: Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth
RSVP essential to Laura on 9334 0999 or prayingourexpériences@gmail.com

8th of March, April, June, Aug, Oct and Nov **REMEMBERING MARY MACKILLOP**

A time to gather and to pray with St Mary of the Cross MacKillop on the 8th day of the above months

Venue: 10am at *Kilmolee at Safety Bay*, 182 Arcadia Drive, Safety Bay

RSVP: essential by 1st of the month to: Dianne Colborne rsj on 9527 3240, Safety.Bay@sosj.org.au



9 March **BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN** @ 8am in St Joseph's Convent garden, 16 York Street, South Perth. \$15 for breakfast. Proceeds go to the charity '**Mary MacKillop Today**' (previously known as the Mary MacKillop Foundation). Go to www.marymackilloptoday.org.au for more information. All welcome, bring your family and friends!

13 March 2019 **PRAYER DAY** '*Behold! I am doing a new thing. Can you not see it?*'

Arrive in time for morning tea at 9.30am. Commences at 10am and concludes at 1pm with a light lunch provided.

Venue: *Kilmolee at Safety Bay*, 182 Arcadia Drive Safety Bay

RSVP: Essential by Friday before the day. Cost: Donation.

Contact: Sr Dianne Colborne rsj, 9527 3240, Safety.Bay@sosj.org.au.

17 March **ASSOCIATES GATHERING** (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FROM **10TH MARCH**)

17 March, 19 May, 16 June, 18 Aug, 15 Sept, 20 Oct, 17 Nov **TAIZÉ MEDITATIVE PRAYER**

Venue: St Joseph's Chapel, 16 York Street, South Perth Time: 7pm—8pm (Chapel doors open at 6.30pm)

Bring: a torch ... and a friend! Enquiries: Maree Riddler rsj, mriddler@sosjwa.org.au, 0414 683 926

14-18 April 2019 **IMMERSED IN MERCY**

"... from the depths of the mystery of God, the great river of mercy wells up and overflows unceasingly." (Misericordiae Vultus)

A guided retreat with the option of spiritual accompaniment with Frances Maguire rsj

Venue: *Kilmolee at Safety Bay*, 182 Arcadia Drive, Safety Bay

Enquiries and registration: Dianne Colborne rsj on 9527 3240, Safety.Bay@sosj.org.au, Cost: \$400

27-28 April 2019 **A RETREAT FOR MEN**

A time to ponder and to be attentive to the presence of God in our lives.

Facilitator: Fr Tony Chiera VG. Diocese of Bunbury

Venue: *Kilmolee at Safety Bay*, 182 Arcadia Drive, Safety Bay WA

Enquiries and registration: Dianne Colborne rsj on 9527 3240, Safety.Bay@sosj.org.au, Cost: \$200

**MORE EVENTS AND DATES WILL BE CIRCULATED IN
THE JOSEPHITE 2019 SPIRITUALITY BROCHURE
with the Autumn Newsletter (Feb/March 2019 issue)**

WA ASSOCIATES GATHERINGS, NEWS & EVENTS



GATHERINGS at SOUTH PERTH 2018 - 2019

ENQUIRIES: wa.associates@sosj.org.au (08) 9359 4960



NEXT (SUMMER) GATHERING~ SUNDAY 9TH DECEMBER

- ✚ 2.00pm ~ Time for greeting one another, 'Bring & Buy' and Raffle
- ✚ 2.30pm ~ Prayer in Chapel, guest speaker ~ Sr Kath Hitchcock followed by afternoon tea and drawing of the raffle in the Function Room
- ✚ Where: St Joseph's Convent, 16 York Street, South Perth
- ✚ Bring: A plate of food to share | Kris Kringle to the value of \$10
A friend | Bring & Buy item

SAVE THE DATE!

2019 South Perth Gatherings

17th March (please note change from 10th)

9th June

8th September

8th December

All Welcome!



2018-2019 DARDANUP ASSOCIATES GATHERING DATES

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 next gathering is to be held on Wed 28th November 2018 @ 9.30am,
at the Dardanup Prayer House. Please bring a plate of finger food for a shared lunch.

Bring a friend!

MEETING DATES FOR 2019

All very welcome!

6th February

3rd April

5th June

7th August

16th October

27th November

**GONE
TO
GOD**



Allen Casey (brother of Sr Denise)

'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

DONATION TO THE WA ASSOCIATE MOVEMENT

(donations will help with costs associated with printing, newsletter 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



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 to: wa.associates@sosj.org.au (so we can email the newsletter, upcoming events etc)

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



WA Josephite Associates

OUR TIME OF EPIPHANY

For Mary MacKillop and for each one of us there are Epiphany seasons in our lives. These are the times when we experience God-with-us in a new and wondrous way. We have an awakening and we enjoy a sense of God's presence in the ordinary human reality that we are called to live in a normal way and yet to seek ideas which soar above the powers of our mind and sweep even beyond our dreams.

Seasons of Grace, Praying with Mary MacKillop
Genevieve Ryan rsj



Many people with hearts of courage have had Epiphanies that led them to pathways of light. What is your Epiphany? Where is your sky all shining with stars? And which stars are calling you?

Creator of the Stars

God of Epiphanies

You are the great Star

You have marked my path with light

You have filled my sky with stars

naming each star

guiding it

until it shines into my heart

awakening me to deeper seeing

new revelations

and brighter epiphanies.

O Infinite Star Giver

I now ask for wisdom and courage

to follow these stars

for their names are many

and my heart is fearful.



The background of the entire page is a soft-focus night photograph of a coastal town. White buildings with warm interior lights are visible on a hillside, with palm trees in the foreground. The sky is a deep blue, filled with numerous bright, out-of-focus stars. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered on the page, containing the text.

They shine on me wherever I go:

The star of Hope

The Star of Mercy and Compassion

The star of Justice and Peace

The Star of Tenderness and Love

The Star of Suffering

The star of Joy

And every time I feel the shine

I am called

to follow it

to sing it

to live it

all the way to the cross

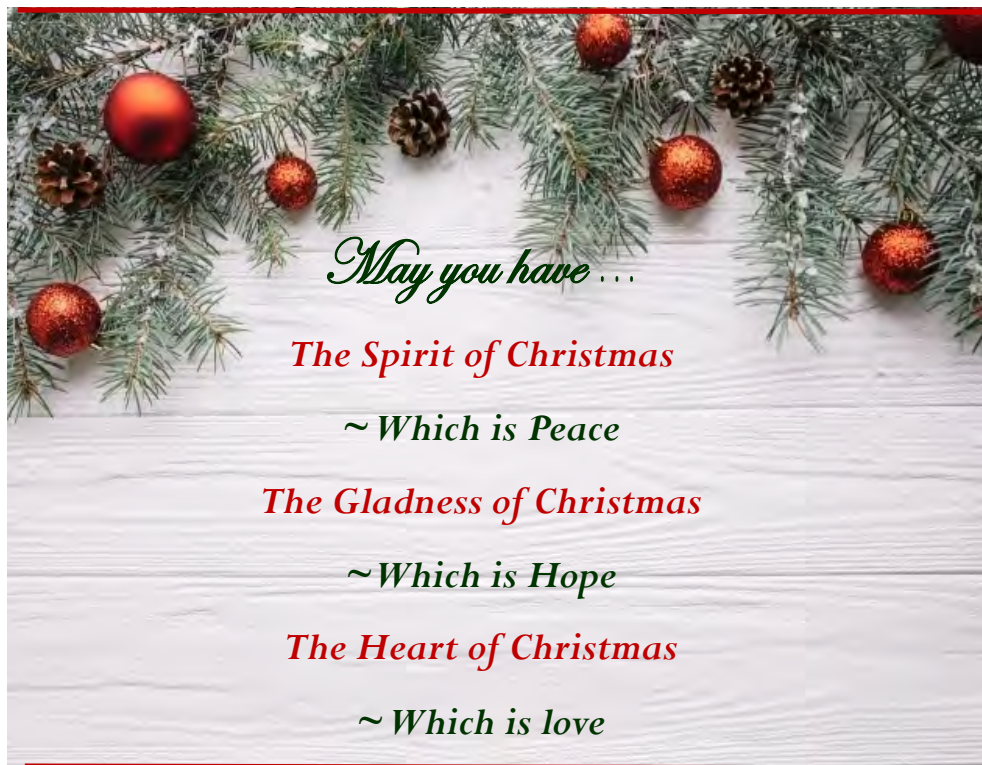
and beyond

O Creator of the Stars

You have become within me

an unending Epiphany

Seasons of Your Heart - Macrina Wiederkehr



May you have ...

The Spirit of Christmas

~ Which is Peace

The Gladness of Christmas

~ Which is Hope

The Heart of Christmas

~ Which is love

Blessing ~

May the abiding presence of God encourage us

May the abundance of God's love enliven us

May the vision of Julian Tenison Woods inspire us

May our love for one another support us

May God bless us -

Provident, Overflowing Generosity,

and Ground of our Hope. Amen

