

IJALT Newsletter

July 2018



Greetings - Tena Koutou -

Saludos - Bon Dia

In this month's newsletter we have

- ◆ A Report from IJALT Chairperson, Mary Hemmings
- ◆ An update from Sr Moya
- ◆ Queensland Conference Highlights
- ◆ Reports from the regions
- ◆ Privacy Policy Insert

God Bless

In May I was privileged to be asked by the Queensland Associates to speak at their inaugural Conference. It was a great experience to gather with many Associates and Sisters and others who share the spirit of Mary MacKillop. As a focus for my input I took Pope Francis' prayer intention for the month of May: 'That the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission by responding creatively to the challenges that face the world today.'

Vatican 2 acknowledged the role of lay people. By virtue of our baptism we, as People of God, have an important role to play in God's Mission. As Josephite Associates we can be significant in this mission as, with a Josephite heart and in the spirit of Mary and Julian, we can live out the Gospel. Attributes such as hospitality, flexibility and a confident trust in our loving God can enable us to make a difference in our world. Together with the Sisters, each one of us carries the story of hope that Mary and Julian's dream brought to people in their time. Pope Francis invites us to 'respond with creativity to the challenges that face our world.' For each of us in our different places and circumstances of life these challenges will call for different responses.

When in Peru in 2016 I visited a city, Cajabamba, where no Sisters of St Joseph had lived or even visited. An Associate from Lima had shared Mary's story that inspired a small group to live and share this spirit which included teaching Religious Education to children in a parish.

In our last IJALT newsletter we read of a small parish group of Associates in Timor Leste who had organised the building of a house for a lady living in challenging circumstances.

Many Associates are the backbone of our local parishes, baking cakes that bring communities together or support grieving families at funerals.

Each of these are examples of how Josephite Associates are making a difference. Wherever we are, may we be open to finding ways to touch the lives of people to bring about God's mission.

Mary Hemmings
Chairperson of IJALT



Sacred Space from Queensland Conference



Happy Participants at the Queensland Conference

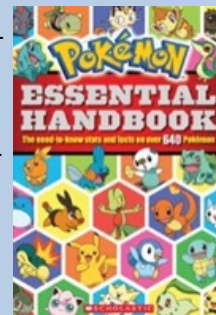
FROM THE ASSOCIATE COORDINATOR SR MOYA CAMPBELL

WHAT IS IJALT DOING??

IJALT members met through a teleconference on the 27 June 2018. Some of the issues discussed included:

Succession Planning for IJALT members – How do we include new members? What about local groups and their membership? Would shared leadership be a way to go at all levels of the Movement? What is an appropriate length for members to be in leadership?

Handbook for the Associates – we continued to explore what needs to be in such a Handbook. At our October face-to-face meeting, we will begin the process of compiling relevant material for the Handbook. We need to include Formation material as well as information pertaining to the structure of the Associate Movement. Also, now Professional Standards matter has to be part of our daily living as Associates so what needs to be in our Handbook regarding the requirements to meet our responsibilities in relation to Professional Standards



Newsletter – This is due out round the 13 July 2018 so IJALT members are busy collecting possible articles of interest for this Edition. If you have some information that would add to the interest of Associate readers, please forward to moya.campbell@sosj.org.au If you don't receive the IJALT newsletter, please let your local group know or let IJALT know.

Privacy Policy – with this Newsletter, IJALT is sending out the Privacy Policy which just tells you what we do with the database and the contact information that is stored there.

Visits across the country - Moya, on behalf of IJALT, has now visited Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Dardanup (WA) where she was warmly welcomed by the Sisters and Associates visited.

Moya and Bev Badcock, another member of IJALT, visited Sydney, Goulburn, Perthville. They did this by car so they, too really enjoyed the hospitality of the NSW Sisters and Associate groups.

Moya leaves for Aotearoa/New Zealand on the 4 July 2018 and will visit Auckland and Whanganui speaking with both Associates/Companions and the Sisters regarding the changes in the Associate Movement. The Associates in Aotearoa/New Zealand are called Companions.



Interesting issues are coming up for our consideration. Once visits are completed, Moya will then compile a Report of the major happenings and recommendations for the future in light of what Associate groups are saying.



As you can see IJALT members have been busy. Our next Teleconference is on the 5 September 2018. If there are matters that any Associate would like to put forward for IJALT's consideration, please don't hesitate to do so. This can be done through email or phone.

New South Wales

The Josephite Associates NSW Inc Governance Group (Leonie Bell, Maureen Rayner and Eileen Stevenson) held a meeting to discuss the way forward for growth and change following Sister Moya Campbell's visit on the 19th June 2018.



Sr Moya Campbell & Beverley Badcock

Queensland Associates Conference Report

The Queensland Josephite Conference was held on Friday 25 May concluding on Sunday 27 May. In total forty-six participants attended. The weekend was filled with challenges, optimism and enthusiasm. Each of the guest speakers provided a different perspective on the Conference theme, “Step Forward with Mary MacKillop – Finding our Path in the World Today”. We were truly blessed to have the following people as our guest speakers:

Sr Monica Cavanagh, Congregational Leader;

Mary Hemmings, Chair International Josephite Associates Leadership Team

Ms Pam Betts, CEO Brisbane Catholic Education Office

Each of the speakers presented challenging and inspiring messages to those present. Sr Monica Cavanagh set the tone for the Conference by addressing the theme. A short extract is shared below:

“Mary MacKillop is a woman who dared to believe in her dream and to trust in her God. Her life as a woman who lived the Gospel faithfully and who today we would call a missionary disciple, dared to trust in her God, to take risks and break boundaries. It called her to travel down roads that could lead to who knows where. Her presence brought an explosion of God’s love to the great need in Australia to improve the lives of those who were poor. She was a woman ahead of her time with an incredible vision. She walked our land, knew our stars and read the signs of the time. Mary MacKillop is the soul of this sunburnt country. With Mary MacKillop let us step forward and find our Path in the World Today.”

Pam’s inspirational words were based around the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. One point that stood out for me was the definition of “Charism”

“That unknowable/untouchable is what charism is, a gift from God that enables us to make sense out of life and motivates us to live life fully. A charism touches the very core of our existence and colours everything that we do as human beings. It allows us to see things in new ways, and to understand them even more wonderfully. We absorb a charism as we absorb sunshine, and we radiate a charism as a light pierces the darkness.”

Reflections of other participants

“I have experienced an energising sense of hope and encouragement through listening to our excellent keynote speakers, but also through the interaction with so many fellow Associates who have pursued this path for many years, and then also having the privilege of meeting with those who are only just joining this journey and hearing of their hopes and dreams. • Hope demonstrated:

that this Associate Movement will indeed proceed into the future;

- Hope evidenced: in that there are many people willing to become involved in local groups;*
- Hope confirmed: that this is indeed a valid pathway we need to pursue energetically.*

“I thought the conference was very inspiring. There was energy, friendship, laughter, participation and warmth from all those present. The guest speakers were so enthusiastic in their love of Mary and reminded us that we all are carriers of her story.”

“Everyone who attended obviously came because they believed that this Associate Movement was important and valuable, or because they wanted a deeper understanding. There were a number of suggestions put forward as to how we might progress into the future, but the over-riding atmosphere was that of determination to remain focused on the charism of Mary MacKillop. Mary is the reason that we have been drawn into living out our faith imbued with this Josephite spirituality. We’ve chosen this particular faith lens of Mary MacKillop in order to live out our lives with her values, her spirituality, her example, and her overwhelming trust that God will provide.

I hope this small snapshot of our Conference provides you with a sense of encouragement and hope for the future as we continue you sharing the story of Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods.

Balide Parish Timor Leste

On the Saturday before Palm Sunday Josephite Associate groups from three parishes, Balide, Bedois and Cathedral/ Aimutin, from the Dili city, came together early in the morning to pray the Way of Cross. We gathered at the park at Kristo Rei, which is at the start of the mountain, and climbed the “Way of the Cross special road” that snaked its way up the mountain, going past each beautiful bronze chapel station. Each person brought their own Stations of the Cross Book, and their own hymn book and so we were able to pray the prayers and hymns that went with each of the fourteen stations. It was a long way to the top and took us one and half hours to reach the huge Kristo Rei statue and chapel that looks out over the city of Dili. Some of the Associates also brought their children to take part in this prayer. We decided to make this Way of the Cross in order to remember and think about Jesus’ suffering and how it showed the great love that Jesus has for each of us.

When we finished we were very happy as well as very tired. Each one the group had brought their own food, fruit and water and we shared with each other as we ate together. Then we discussed our next mission work. Together we decided what the mission plan would be during the coming months of on March –May.



By Anabela da Saldanha Balide Parish

NEW ZEALAND

Sr Moya Campbell, the IJALT Associate Co-ordinator visited in early July. She spoke to both Sisters and Companions firstly in Whanganui then in Auckland. We acknowledged again the four formal ways of Josephite commitment one of which is the Josephite Associates or Companions as we are called here.

Sister Moya told us that she had been asked to support the International Associates Leadership Team as they continue the journey for the Associates to become a sustainable and autonomous organisation. This involves some change for the Associates as they undertake a slightly more formalised approach within the Josephite structure.

In each place she has visited, Moya said there are issues that arise so once she has completed these visits she will write a paper on what has emerged that can be carried forward and used for future planning.

It was good to have the time to spend with her so that she could get a picture of where we fit and how we manage to live the charism of Mary and Julian in our daily lives.



The July school holidays saw five of the Josephite Companions Leadership team meet at Mission Bay for a couple of days to work on the future directions of the group and to continue to prepare the prayer resources we had begun in April.

Perky McGuigan, Catherine Birt, Sr Moya Campbell, Helen Dougherty, Peta Lindstrom, Jane Gunson

PRIVACY POLICY



1. INTRODUCTION

The International Josephite Associate Leadership Team (IJALT) is committed to protecting the privacy of personal information which the Associate Movement collects, holds and administers. Personal information is information which directly or indirectly identifies a person.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to provide a framework for the International Josephite Associate Leadership Team in dealing with privacy considerations.

3. POLICY

IJALT collects and administers a range of personal information for the purposes of sending Newsletters and having a database of members to identify those belonging to the Movement. IJALT is committed to protecting the privacy of personal information it collects, holds and administers.

IJALT recognises the essential right of individuals to have their information administered in ways which they would reasonably expect – protected on one hand, and made accessible to them on the other. These privacy values are reflected in and supported by our core values and philosophies and also reflected in our Privacy Policy, which is compliant with the Privacy Act 1988.

IJALT is bound by laws which impose specific obligations when it comes to handling information. IJALT has adopted the following principles contained as minimum standards in relation to handling personal information.

IJALT will

- Collect only information which the Movement requires for its primary function
- Ensure that members are informed as to why we collect the information and how we administer the information gathered
- Use and disclose personal information only for our primary functions or a directly related purpose, or for another purpose with the person's consent
- Store personal information securely, protecting it from unauthorised access
- Provide members with access to their own information, and the right to seek its correction
- The information will be stored at Mary MacKillop Place North Sydney
- Only IJALT members, the Secretary who updates and deletes names from the database and the Congregational Leadership Team will have access to the database
- In Regions only the Leadership team or a designated person who is responsible for updating the data will have access to the database
- No information will be given to other organizations

4. COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

All who work in the Associate Movement – paid employees and volunteers - will be aware of this Policy and understand its implications.

5. ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability for the implementation of this Policy lies with the Chair and members of IJALT (International Josephite Associate Leadership Team)