



Josephite Companions Aotearoa

Nga hoa pumau o Hato Hohepa ki Aotearoa

Friendship # Prayer # Service

MARCH 2019

Kia ora,

Not a lot of news this month but a lovely St Joseph's day prayer sheet created by Helen Dougherty is included with this, as is a letter from Mary Hemmings chairperson of IJALT.

We have also attached the Mary MacKillop Centre Retreat and Reflection Days leaflet for 2019 if you receive this by email.

We are always happy to receive any news from individuals or groups to put in this newsletter. The next newsletter will be on June 1st so cut off date for news would be May 15th.

No doubt lots of you will meet for St Joseph's day. Have a great celebration together.

JUBILEES

Each year we marvel at the years of dedicated service given by the Sisters. This year there are three groups we congratulate.

70 years professed: Sisters Marie Hogan and Marianne Smith

60 years professed: Sisters Therese McConway, Jennifer Schollum, Marcienne Waite, Helen Doyle, Patricia Stevenson, Marie Therese Williams and Maria

Goretti Vaughan

50 years professed: Sister Ann Neven



The Josephite website has wonderful accounts and videos of the ceremonies in Sydney on the days of celebration. There will be other celebrations of course held in Auckland in May and in Whanganui in October. To you all we say congratulations at achieving this anniversary 50, 60 and 70 years of living the Gospel with a Josephite heart.

JJAMM

Currently I am in Sydney with the Head Students, Te Mana Kaua and Christie Wallace of Cullinane College Whanganui. They, along with the leaders from twenty-five other schools from across Australia and New Zealand, are attending JJAMM (Joseph, Julian and Mary MacKillop), a Leadership programme for students in Josephite Colleges.

We have spent two days at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney where students have learnt about the leadership of St Joseph, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods and their own leadership. Yesterday we came to Baukhams Hills where students are starting to focus on the wider needs in our community and consider how we can act for justice.

Helen Dougherty



Christie Wallace and Te Mana Kaua at the tomb of Mary MacKillop



Te Mana on his soap box at Baukhams Hills, sharing his dreams for a better world



RIP Our deepest sympathies and prayers to the Sisters and the families of the two Sisters who died at the end of 2018:

Sr Marlene Dunn on 2-12-18 in Hastings and Sr Oline Nielsen on 24-12-18 in Whanganui.

NEWS FROM GISBORNE

We had an Advent/Christmas meeting yesterday. We loved the Prayer sheet. The image was really appealing to us. We shared what it meant in some detail. The blessing, also, was so beautiful - it made my eyes water! Thanks to all involved in putting it together. So, we had "a lovely meeting yesterday a real haven of peace". Chris Crowe

NAME CHANGE NEWS

Many thanks to those who responded to the letter from Mary Hemmings in December regarding the review of the name "Associates" or "Companions" for our groups. It was discussed at the IJALT meeting in January and Mary has written a letter explaining the deliberations. This letter will be sent out from Sydney to all our email Companions and some hard copies will be included in the group packs this time.

EMAIL ACCESS

Lately we have been receiving more by email from the IJALT team that we would like to pass on to you. Sometimes we can include this with our post out but often the timings don't coincide. We don't have email addresses for all groups. Could each Companion's group please make sure that someone in the group is designated to receive email from us.

To do this email to Catherine Birt at crbirt@gmail.com Likewise if there is anyone on your list who has moved away, or their address has changed could you please let Catherine know. Postal address if you want to write is P.O. Box 830, Whangaparaoa 0943.

GENERAL CHAPTER

Every six years, the Sisters of Saint Joseph have a General Chapter when they discern the direction for the Congregation for the following six years and elect a Congregational Leader and team.

The 27th General Chapter will begin on 30 September 2019 and will last up to three weeks. The theme of the Chapter is **"Raising the Powers of Love — Go and Do the Same."**

We invite you to join us in praying that the Sisters preparation for the Chapter and the Chapter event will raise the powers of love in our world...

God, Power of Love, accompany the Sisters in their preparation for the General Chapter.

Prompt their generosity and honesty, their trust and openness, their imagination and vision for mission and communion.

Help them to listen to one another, to the world around them, to what they have not yet thought of, to the clarifying of truth.

Alert them to prophetic voices as they humbly enter into the journey

the better to glimpse your presence, the better to appreciate one another,

the better to feel the Spirit inviting, prompting, healing, raising the powers of love.

Amen

