



WA JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES Newsletter

Friendship ~ Prayer ~ Service



Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends

Mary is known as a Saint of the ordinary people, one who identified with the **struggles of her fellow travellers**.

In her simple, uncomplicated way she brought a swag full of hope to many who had none.

Have I checked the contents of my swag lately?

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

(Matt 5:3)



**Whatever troubles may be before you,
accept them bravely,
remembering whom you are trying to follow.**

Do not be afraid.

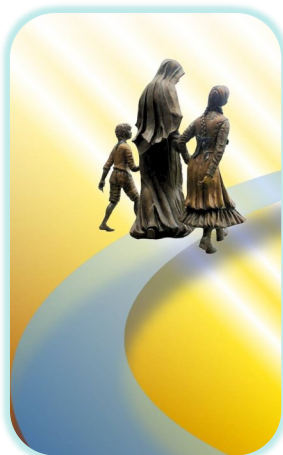
**Love one another,
bear with one another,
and let charity guide you all your life.**

Mary MacKillop

A Letter from Louisa Moore (Metro Coordinating Group Leader)

Welcome all to our Spring newsletter. **A new beginning ...**

In May I went to Melbourne and I was very privileged to spend some time with Sr Mary Fermio at her home in Bachas Marsh to learn more about Mary's Charism and our Josephite Associates. The morning went so fast as there was so much to listen to and learn. I had just finished reading a book called "One door Closes, another door Opens" by Bernadette Sullivan rsj, the story of Saint Mary MacKillop in NSW from 1880 to 1909 which describes Mary's many travels as she travelled from place to place throughout the outback and towns. The book also honours Mary's work and all she achieved with her beloved sisters. I loved reading this book and was amazed by the entire story. Sr Mary Fermio had just also read the book and enjoyed it just as much. We compared notes on the story. It really does showcase the work Mary and her sisters completed all over Australia.



The one thing I came away with was the word **"Distance"** and realising how many groups there are in Victoria and how they travelled around to see one other. I was comparing it to the distance we have between our four groups in WA. If we travelled from Perth to Dardanup then onto Esperance then back to Perth the kilometres travelled would be approximately 1,600 for the round trip!!! This is the very trip that Mary Hemming and Sr Kathleen Hitchcock made from 5-9 May, just five days - all by car, to visit and share with us the many details and changes happening. Think how Mary MacKillop would have had to make this trip by either just walking, horse and/or buggy, train and ship! Mary travelled on all of these in her time. Imagine the enormous number of miles she would have travelled in her life time and the changes she would have seen in her time!

One thing that I have learnt in my travels around to our WA groups is the beautiful prayers, friendships and the **bond** we have across the distances of our groups. We have **Prayer, Friendship and Service** as associates. What also reaches us and bonds us all is this **newsletter and our gathering days**.

The sisters have also travelled many miles over the last 30 years since the associates' inception. As this sadly can no longer happen, we must continue to pray for them and treasure every time we are with them. We must try to keep the bond going with our much-loved Saint Mary MacKillop's Charism.

Many Blessings. Keep travelling in Saint Mary MacKillop's name ~ *Louisa on behalf of the MCG*

[Louisa Moore: 0438 616 228 | Marg Jones: 9370 3206 | Meg Phelan: 9295 1682 | Maureen Lanigan: 9447 2346]

Mary Hemmings' and Sr Kath's "Motor Mission"!



In June I was delighted to visit some of the WA Associates as part of IJALTs (International Josephite Associate Leadership Team) efforts this year to visit local groups. I valued learning about each group and sharing some insights from our IJALT perspective.



I encouraged all to recognize that we Josephite Associates are carriers of the Josephite story, both as individuals and 'in communion with' each other and with the Sisters. Embracing this is important if we are to find the courage to become more visible and so enable others to live the Gospel with a Josephite heart. At the core of who we are as Josephite

Associates is our call to continue God's mission to those whose lives we come across. This call was very evidently alive in the Associates that I met with in WA.

We looked at some of the challenges facing IJALT. These include recognizing that as our world and Church are changing, we who follow in the footsteps of Mary MacKillop have to keep renewing ourselves to be relevant in our particular contexts.

A discussion around the words 'Companions' or 'Associates' was had, providing a range of responses, as well as the possibility of local Associates gradually providing support to enable IJALT to become sustainable in the future.



I am very grateful to Sr Kath who was my 'travel director and companion' and to all the faithful and faithfilled Associates that I met in Dardanup/Pinjarra, Esperance and South Perth. ~ *Mary Hemmings (IJALT)*



MARY AND SR KATH'S VISIT TO DARDANUP

In a whirlwind visit to WA in June Mary Hemmings addressed the Dardanup Associates on behalf of IJALT to support them in their dedication to the Josephite charism. Mary retraced the vision of Mary MacKillop highlighting many developments to the Associate groups since 1983 when lay people joined the movement. In order to bring a modern perspective, many aspects need to be discussed and reviewed. Among these is a name for the group - associate/companion were forerunners of a new direction. The group also revisited the contentious



issue of subscriptions. Sr Kathleen Hitchcock and Mary gave a brief outline of the efforts being made to include a younger demographic. Those present were pleasantly surprised to learn about the inclusion of youth in our schools and church circles, in furthering the

spirit of Mary MacKillop. Attendees contributed their ideas/concerns to Mary who promised that they would be considered by IJALT before any directions were issued. Dardanup Associates thank Sr Kathleen and Mary for their knowledgeable yet sensitive input. Conversation at the



lunch table saw both of them make themselves available for further discussion on the proposed changes and gave individual support.

Dot Savage - JA Dardanup





Notes, Messages and Requests from the MCG

Thank you to Mary Hemming from IJALT and Sr Kath Hitchcock for the wonderful time we had with them during the visit with us all across the state. So much to learn together to go forward. We can learn together!

- ◆ Looking forward to seeing you at our next gathering will on **SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER AT 2.00PM** at South Perth. Please bring an item for Bring and Buy, a plate of food to share and a friend or family member to enjoy the occasion. The following Gathering day is the 8th December.
- ◆ The Metro Coordinating Group's next meeting is on **Thursday 15th November**. This is also the time when we fold and envelope our newsletter so it can posted and shared by all. We would love anyone who has a little time to come and join us and help fold the newsletter and then enjoy a delicious lunch with the sisters. We start at 10.00am.
- ◆ If anyone knows of anyone who would need transport to come to the gathering, please contact me (Louisa) on 0438 616 228 and I will try and help.
- ◆ 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. From now on we will be adding all prayer requests to the Mary MacKillop Place at North Sydney site for prayer to be added to the prayer book at Mary's tomb. It is such a beautiful site.
- ◆ If anyone would like to be enrolled as an associate please get in touch with Meg Phelan or Louisa Moore.
- ◆ What did you or your Parish do to celebrate Saint Mary's feast day? Please send in stories and photos if you have them, we would love to include them or any news story in our next newsletter(s). Please send to wa.associates@sosj.org.au or mail to 44 Honey Road, Forrestfield 6058.
- ◆ **THANK YOU** for the generous donations that have come in - we would not be able to manage with out them. So we can continue to produce the newsletter etc, more donations are very welcome and appreciated. The donation slip is included for your convenience and a receipt will be forwarded to you.

Dates for you Diaries - Upcoming Events/Retreats in 2019

- ◆ **PRAYING OUR EXPERIENCES - 30 Aug, 7 Sept, 25 Oct** ~ 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 prayingourexperiences@gmail.com
- ◆ **REMEMBERING MARY MACKILLOP - 8th of Oct and Nov**
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
- ◆ **TAIZÉ MEDITATIVE PRAYER - 18 Aug, 15 Sept, 20 Oct, 17 Nov**
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
- ◆ **RETREAT FOR SENIORS - 14-15 September 'Still full of sap - still green.'** *Ps.92:14 "They shall still bring forth fruit in old age."*
Facilitator: Lianella Girardi rsj **Venue:** Kilmolee at Safety Bay, 182 Arcadia Drive, Safety Bay.
Enquiries and registration: Dianne Colborne rsj (08) 9527 3240, Safety.Bay@sosj.org.au.
Theme: 'Transition, transformation and celebration'. **Cost:** \$150 per weekend. Concession available.
- ◆ **A RETREAT FOR WOMAN - 20-22 Sept** *'Finding our space and embracing it. A time for acknowledging our selfhood in the Holy Mystery.'* **Venue:** Kilmolee at Safety Bay, 182 Arcadia Drive, Safety Bay. **Facilitators:** Frances Maguire rsj & Wendy Lailey rsj
Enquiries and registration: Dianne Colborne rsj (08) 9527 3240, Safety.Bay@sosj.org.au.



22 Oct-2 Nov 'IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP' 25TH ANNIVERSARY PILGRIMAGE

The Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to join the 25th anniversary National Pilgrimage, giving you the opportunity to journey to places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop. The Pilgrimage commences in Melbourne 22 October, visiting Penola, Adelaide and other significant places, and concludes in Sydney on 2 November 2019. Cost \$3,575 - \$4,390 (twin share) depending on capital city of departure. Single supplement for all areas \$685 pp.

For a brochure and application form or further information please email national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or call Sr Therese Leydon rsj 0417 683 123, or Sr Annie Bond rsj 02 8912 4818.

WA ASSOCIATES GATHERINGS, NEWS & EVENTS



GATHERINGS at SOUTH PERTH 2019 - 2020

ENQUIRIES: wa.associates@sosj.org.au 0438 616 228 or (08) 9359 4960

NEXT GATHERING (SPRING) ~ SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

- ✚ 2.00pm ~ Time for greeting one another, 'Bring & Buy' and Raffle
- ✚ 2.30pm ~ Prayer in Chapel, 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 | A friend | Bring & Buy item

SAVE THE DATES

Last gathering for 2019

◆ 8th December 2019

First gathering for 2020

◆ 8th March 2020

**All very welcome!
Bring a friend!**

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



* Please note that future gatherings will now be held at the **BUNBURY PARISH CENTRE**

(ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL) - next gathering will be held on

WEDNESDAY 16TH OCTOBER @ 9.30AM

Please bring a plate of finger food for a shared lunch.

Last meeting date for 2019 ~ 27th November

**All very welcome!
Bring a friend!**

**Please note:
NEW VENUE!**



IT'S JOSEPHITE CALENDAR ORDER TIME AGAIN!

Enclosed (or attached on email) with this newsletter is the **2020 JOSEPHITE CALENDAR** order slip. Get in early and order yours - last year we ran out! The cost this year per calendar is \$7.50 plus postage - you will find all the information in the enclosed slip.



Includes:

Quotes from Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop & Julian Tenison Woods; Major Church Feasts & Sundays of the Liturgical Year; Public Holidays & School Term Dates for Australia; Spectacular photographs ...

Plus much much more!

GONE TO GOD

✚ Lindsay Caughey (Dot's husband)

✚ Mick Bendotti (Fr Wayne's dad)

✚ Peter Cattalini (Sr Emilie's brother)

✚ Laurie Fenton (brother of Annette Morellini and Mike Fenton)

✚ Maureen Hicks (original Kalgoorlie associate)

✚ Fr Peter Toohey (friend of the sisters, ministered in Kalgoorlie/Boulder/Warmun/Perth)

✚ Ag Miller (long time associate and friend of the sisters, mother of Kathleen Major)

'Remember, we are all but travellers here' MMK

Dear Associates, if you are aware of any associate/relative who has passed away, can you please email or ring the office:

wa.associates@sosj.org.au or [08] 9334 0999





WA Josephite Associates



Mary MacKillop – Living in Right Relationship

*Be good and patient and full of charity
which thinks no evil of anyone.*

Mary MacKillop 1884

Mary MacKillop had a strong sense of both her own dignity and the dignity of others. She and Father Julian Tenison Woods were concerned for those who had no voice in society. Mary always took care to help people in need to maintain their own dignity and sense of worth. She had close friends who held different religious beliefs than her own, at a time when this was almost unheard of. She had a strong sense of equality of all people despite gender, position, ethnicity or religion.

As a religious leader, Mary valued community life and did everything that she could to support those sisters in her care. She wrote regularly to sisters, friends and family members. Mary had a great respect for those in authority in the Church and forgave those who treated her unjustly.

- ♦ *What are my gifts and strengths?*
- ♦ *How do I use them for others?*
- ♦ *How can I help pass on St Mary MacKillop's charism today?*

Mary MacKillop Prayers and Reflections for each day of the week
– Valerie De Brenni



Spring 2019



Believe the whisperings of God to your own heart (MMK 1868)



When Mary MacKillop wrote '*Remember we are but travellers here*' (1867), she would have little idea of just how *prophetic* her words were. She herself journeyed throughout much of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, on foot or horseback, or by coach, trap, train or steamer. Many would agree that the rigours of travel brought about the ill health from which she suffered. While today travel has

become a more comfortable experience, it's something which takes up quite large amounts of our time. So '*we are but travellers here*', not just in the overall sense, but also because we *are constantly undertaking journeys*, short or long!

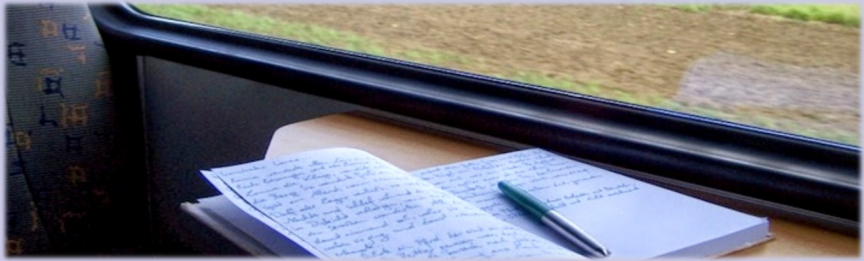


**The “DISTANCES” between
our Josephite Associate groups are far and wide.
Our newsletter brings us together ...
a bond that helps us to continue
Saint Mary MacKillop's Charism!**

For many of us, the daily commute to and from work is a reality. For the rest, there are the many shopping trips, visits to friends, movies, sport, holidays and so on. *Travelling is almost a way of life!*

Perhaps the time we spend alone in our cars is the only **personal space we experience in the course of the day**. A chance to hear God's 'whisperings'?

Similarly, on public transport, we can be alone with our thoughts, reflecting quietly, and even enjoying the ride. It can be our time to 'clear the head', to **find the still point within**.



"The Little Brown Book Too" - Sue and Leo Kane

REFLECTION

There is an echo in the harmonies of nature
which penetrates the soul,
and lures it on like
the sound of distant music,
until it has no eye
or ear for aught except the works of its
Creator.



J. B. Tenison Woods



J. B. Tenison Woods

Words & artwork by Julian Tenison Woods



A SPRINGTIME PRAYER

*O God, my Father,
Creator of the sun which makes the seasons,
I rejoice in the gift of ever-growing light.
With joyfulness I greet this new Spring
that rises from a grey Winter of long nights.*

*Teach me, O glorious Spring
the lesson that nothing dies completely.
At the death of my body help me to know that
I have not entered an endless winter,
but simply a stage in the unfolding mystery
whose name is Life.*

*Great and generous are You, my God,
who has given us the rich variety
of ever-changing seasons.
For this I thank You.*

Edward Hayes

