



## Spring 2019

September 2019 Newsletter

### Annual Report: July 2018 – June 2019

By Mary Hemmings

Our past twelve months have indeed been busy. Activities that have occurred in this period have enabled us to gather to share **friendship** and **prayer** and to reach out in **service** to others.

Our 2018 theme was **Josephites Jumping into Justice** while our focus this year has been **Fanning the Flame of Friendship**. Our undertakings have included:

August 2018: Sr Catherine Clark provided us with the opportunity to reflect on our social justice initiatives in the light of Mary MacKillop's story.

September: At our Soup Day speakers from the Mercy House of Welcome shared stories of their challenges as refugees in our country.

October: Our Reflection Day at Sevenhill was a time to ponder the life and legacy of Mary MacKillop and how we respond to that today.

November: A gathering in Remark, with faithful Associates and some Timorese visitors, provided time to reflect on Mary's story and share insights on the relevance of this for us today.

December: Our three Josephite groups, namely the St Joseph Old Scholars, Mary MacKillop Old Scholars and Josephite Associates, have reflected for some time on

the fact that we all are *living in the Spirit of Mary MacKillop*. On this day we all came together for Mass and lunch, with people donating food items or money for the Hutt St community.

February 2019: Amanda Taverna and Sr Michele Madigan launched our new year by sharing their stories of how they became connected into the Josephite story. Sr Michele also shared the struggles of our Aboriginal people of the Flinders Ranges and Kimba areas as they resist our government's attempts to dump nuclear waste on their land in these beautiful places.

April: 'Walking with Friends' was an opportunity to gather with Sisters and Associates to contemplate Holy Week and Jesus' journey to the Cross.

June: Rose Lester, an Aboriginal woman activist, provided a further perspective about the proposed nuclear dumps and the impact on the local communities.

Two discussion groups, one at Hectorville and another at Prospect/Fulham Gardens, have gathered throughout the year to share faith and life. These have been gentle times to reflect on our lives in light of the Gospel and to share time together. Both groups would welcome others who may like to join.



*'Truly wonderful are  
the ways of God.'*  
MMK 1873

We are very grateful to all who have gathered over these past months and to those who have contributed financially to enable these activities to occur and to support others in need. On page 6 is our financial report which indicates the money that has been collected and how it has been spent.

We ask for your continued support for our local activities and also to provide support into the future for our International Josephite Associate Leadership Team (IJALT). This year IJALT members are visiting local groups across

Australia and New Zealand. For more information please read the article below.

During September our Leadership Team in Adelaide gathered to start planning for the year ahead. We know that there is much that needs to be done to keep our Josephite Associates moving forward. We are very aware that most of our activities happen at Kensington, so we welcome any ideas or needs being shared with us. Please make contact on 0417 871 904 or email [sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au) with your thoughts and suggestions.



## IJALT Visiting Australian and New Zealand Associate Groups

By Mary Hemmings

In June I was delighted to visit some of the WA Associates as part of efforts this year to visit local groups across Australia and New Zealand by IJALT (International Josephite Associate Leadership Team).

I valued learning about each group, namely Dardanup/Pinjarra, Esperance and South Perth, and sharing some insights from our IJALT perspective. I encouraged all to recognize that we 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 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.

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November Anne-Marie Wilkinson from Victoria will visit Adelaide to provide an IJALT perspective to our Associates. We hope that many may be able to gather with us on that day to engage in conversation about the future directions of our Josephite Associates. (See page 3)



## Stamps for the Missions

Stamps which are donated are then processed, parcelled up and sold at auction. The money raised goes to **Mary MacKillop Today** (formerly Mary MacKillop International) for the missions in Brazil, Peru and Timor-Leste. Over the last few years thousands of dollars have been raised in this way.

Please send your used stamps, leaving a 1cm border, to:  
*Used Stamps, Locked Bag 3031, Burwood, NSW, 1805*

## Recycle your Newsletter

When you have finished with the newsletter, a good recycling idea is to pass it round for others to read.



*Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019*

*Bethany Centre  
4 High St, Kensington*

*From 6pm*

This will be an informal evening with a light dinner being served in Bethany and/or on the lawns adjacent depending on the weather. Come and enjoy each other's company as we celebrate the Saints. There will also be an acknowledgement remembering all our relatives and friends who have died.

*"Gratitude is the memory of the heart."  
MMK 1907*

Did you know that 2019 marks 110 years since Mary MacKillop died and 130 years since Julian Tension Woods died? What other facts will be uncovered? Test your knowledge of the Saints with our *Saints Trivia* and join in the raffle.

Cost: \$10 per person. BYO drinks. Tea and coffee supplied.  
Bookings are essential. Please RSVP Mary on 0417 871 904 or email [sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au) by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October.

**Come along, bring a friend and help 'fan the flame of friendship'**



## Josephite Associates and IJALT

*What is the future of our Josephite Associates?  
What is this International Josephite Associate Leadership Team (known as IJALT)?  
Guest Speaker: Anne-Marie Wilkinson from IJALT*

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
Bethany Centre  
From 2pm**

Come along and join us for input and conversation, followed by afternoon tea.  
RSVP Mary on 0417 871 904 or email [sa.associates@sosj.org.au](mailto:sa.associates@sosj.org.au) by Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November.



## **Sisters of St Joseph 27<sup>th</sup> General Chapter**

Every six years the Josephite Sisters have a General Chapter during which they plan and prepare for the years ahead. With a Josephite heart you are invited to pray for the Sisters from 29<sup>th</sup> September to 15<sup>th</sup> October; that in the spirit of contemplative dialogue their hearts be open and be guided by the theme of the Chapter:

*Raising the Powers of Love ... Go and Do the Same*





# Reflection Day at Murray Bridge – Weathering the Storms of Life

by Joanna Falkland

Having attended St Joseph's Tranmere in the 1970s I have had a long-standing admiration for Mary MacKillop. The wonderful Josephites who taught me all those years ago had a great influence on my life. Now, as a teacher myself, I feel guided by the Spirit and by the gifts and charism of Mary MacKillop. I was so pleased to be able to attend this day gathering in the hall next to the Church of the Holy Redeemer. It was a wonderful opportunity to share a day discussing and contemplating the depths of the theme:

*Weathering the Storms of Life.*

Lucia Ciocca guided us all in small groups focusing on our individual experiences of storms in our own lives. We shared our thoughts and experiences with each other and there was much prayerful listening and conversation. We also took some time to reflect in solitude on the theme. Some of us walked around the gardens, some sat quietly in the Church and others remained in the hall contemplating in the depths of our own hearts how Jesus has guided us through the storms of life that are very much a part of being human.

We reflected on Matthew's Gospel – Jesus Stills the Storm. "...And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?" We shared together aspects of our own experiences of faith in our lives and of how Jesus has transformed our lives through his love. Many different perspectives reflected the myriad experiences we have each lived through as disciples of Jesus.

After a delicious shared lunch, we began to hear more about how Mary MacKillop weathered the many storms in her own life. Mary showed heroic courage and faith in so many aspects of her life and vocation. We enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea together and then talked about who Mary MacKillop leaned on in her life journey and we reflected on the people whom we each lean on also. Mary experienced the peace of Jesus very

deeply in her life. Even as she was being excommunicated, she felt a deeper peace and greater awareness of God's presence than ever before in her life. The Holy Spirit was truly with Mary.

We reflected on some words of wisdom from Joyce Rupp in an extract from *May I Have this Dance? An Invitation to Faithful Prayer*. In small groups we talked about the impact of having people in our lives who can be 'lean-tos' for us when we are going through the storms of life. Lean-tos are people who listen to us and affirm us and help us to see the path forward, no matter how difficult that path seems to be at the time.

We all shared our own understanding of Mary MacKillop's charism and her life such as the deep respect she showed to all. Mary could relate to people from all walks of life and she saw Jesus in each person. I enjoyed hearing about some insights into the life of Mary MacKillop.

I feel so inspired by the gifts and charism of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Her ability to trust in God and in so doing to weather the storms of life is a great example to us all. What a blessing all the Josephites and Josephite Associates are, and the work continues today through all who continue to be inspired by Mary MacKillop. Listening to one another during the day was a very beautiful way to grow in our knowledge and faith that we are all here to support each other along the journey. We are all one in Christ Jesus. Mary understood this. She was very forgiving, and she truly lived the Beatitudes. In the Josephite Associates, Mary's spirit lives on and together we continue to bring the Good News to all with whom we share our lives.

Thank you to those who prepared the nourishing food we all shared at the Reflection Day and to Lucia for guiding us so beautifully in our contemplations and prayer together.



## RIP Sr Mary Cronin

We remember with love and gratitude Sr Mary who entered eternal life on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2019. Sr Mary was in her 96<sup>th</sup> year and in her 76<sup>th</sup> year of religious life.

## RIP Sr Anne Derwin

We remember with love and gratitude Sr Anne who entered eternal life on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2019. Sr Anne was Congregational Leader from 2007 – 2013, including at the time of Mary's canonisation. She was in her 70<sup>th</sup> year and in her 50<sup>th</sup> year of religious life.

*“Another separation here, and the  
happy hope of an eternal meeting.”  
MMK 1898*

## We Remember Sr Eileen...

*Sr Eileen Taylor, a Sister of St Joseph of long-standing, died earlier this year. Sr Eileen was a great friend of the Associates and was instrumental in forming the Hectorville group which still meets monthly. She was generous with her time, prayerful and gentle. Sr Eileen was able to tap into people relating in a non-threatening way. The following is an abridged version of her eulogy given by Sr Genevieve Ryan.*

Today we gather to remember and give thanks for our dearly loved Eileen. She was born in 1928 and was a precious gift to her parents and sisters.

We remember and give thanks for her long life as a Sister of St Joseph. Eileen was professed in 1952 so in her quiet, purposeful and dignified manner she graced our Josephite landscape for 71 years. We remember Eileen's gracious hospitality made Aldgate a welcome place to retreat to or visit. Eileen's capacity for friendship also extended to people who were lonely, depressed and struggling. She had a gentle welcome for those whose fragility was often a burden to them.

We remember and give thanks for Eileen's extensive teaching ministry. Her students will remember Eileen as Sr Kevin. Her teaching began in Western Australia, returning to SA in 1958. In the 1970's Eileen was at Siena College and Mary MacKillop College. She taught with reassuring competence and diligence. As a Postulant, I remember struggling with an incomprehensible Maths concept until I had 30 minutes of Eileen's undivided attention. Her quiet and logical explanation did the trick.

We remember and give thanks for Eileen's commitment to the spirituality ministry – probably where she felt most at home. People from all walks of life appreciated her gracious and gentle listening in her role as Spiritual Director. There was a special place in Eileen's heart and ministry for our Josephite Associates. She welcomed every opportunity to share friendship, prayer and service with them.

We thank our God whose graciousness held her over these past few years. We are relieved and happy to know she is now in the wide, waiting arms of her God. Rest in peace our dear Sister!



The Hectorville Associates celebrating 10 years in 2013. Sr Eileen is in the second row, second from left.



# Our Josephite Partners

## Living in the Spirit of Mary MacKillop

- **St Joseph's Old Scholars Association**

An Old Scholar is anyone (female or male) who has ever been connected to a Josephite school or college in Australia, as a student or teacher.

Our Association has been in existence for over 100 years. Our last function for this year is the:

- Annual Spring Luncheon

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October

11.45am for a 12noon start

Lockleys Hotel, 493 Henley Beach Road, Lockleys

A Seniors' Menu is available for \$16.90 and includes the salad bar and a complimentary drink

Seating WILL NOT be allocated

Bookings with name/s by 4<sup>th</sup> October. Contact Josie (8295 3667) or Margaret (8264 0780)

All welcome.

- **Mary MacKillop Old Scholars Association**

The Association continues the friendships and encourages the building of life-long networks amongst past students and staff after high school. It also fosters justice and compassion, hospitality and concern for those in need and has a special relationship with the Sisters of St Joseph.

Everyone is very welcome to the ... **Annual Reunion Dinner**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October, 6.30pm – 10.00pm

Bethany Centre, 4 High St, Kensington

An especial welcome to the '9' classes: 2009, 1999, 1989, 1979, 1969 and 1959

Bookings: [MaryMacKillopOSA@outlook.com](mailto:MaryMacKillopOSA@outlook.com)

Newsletters and our popular Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/179768134304>) keep people in touch with each other. Make contact and share your news.

- **Mary MacKillop Precinct**

1. *Our 3 Venues*

Comprising Bethany Centre, Mary MacKillop Museum Adelaide and St Joseph's Chapel. The Chapel is open every day whereas the Museum is still closed until renovations are complete. To make contact please telephone 8130 5900.

2. *Monthly Mass (10.30am) & Reflection (5.45pm)*

*Venue: St Joseph's Chapel*

|           |                    |                   |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|
| September | Sunday, 8/9/2019   | Reflection ONLY   |
| October   | Tuesday, 8/10/2019 | Mass & Reflection |
| November  | Friday, 8/11/2019  | Mass & Reflection |
| December  | Sunday, 8/12/2019  | Reflection ONLY   |

3. *Museum Update*

Renovations are almost complete – the internal fittings and fixtures with interactive capability are now being fitted. Not long now – watch this space!

4. *2020 Josephite Calendar – only \$8 each!*

Order form available from our website [www.marymackillopadelaide.org.au](http://www.marymackillopadelaide.org.au) or use the telephone number above.





Woods-MacKillop Schoolhouse  
Penola, SA

# Julian Tenison Woods



## Introduction

Julian Tenison Woods was born in London, England on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 1832. He arrived in Tasmania in 1855 before moving to Adelaide where he was ordained a Priest. He was then sent to work in Penola where he met Mary MacKillop. Together they founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. Julian also served as the first Director of Catholic Education, asking Mary to come to Adelaide to assist him in developing a system of Catholic education. Later he worked as a scientist and missionary priest in NSW, Tasmania and Queensland. He travelled through Asia, exploring and reporting on the mineral and coal deposits of the Malayan Peninsula and was later awarded the prestigious Clarke Medal for distinguished contribution to Natural Science. He died in Sydney, Australia, on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 1889, at the age of 56.

## An Address by Fr Julian to a Church Congregation 1881

To Yahweh belongs the Earth and all it contains, the world and all who live there. To rejoice in the goodness of our heavenly Father who made the world so full of beauty and all created things gives us ideas and glimpses of the beauty of the infinitely beautiful Creator. It is because all things on Earth tend to raise our hearts to God that we are enabled to bear the afflictions of life.

## Scripture – Colossians 3:12-15

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

## Reflection

St Paul's message calls on us to be compassionate, patient, forgiving, loving, thankful and wise. The qualities spoken of in this reading are those that Mary MacKillop showed in her life. Fr Julian's life is testimony to the fact that those called to any vocation are real people; people with real interests and gifts who give their life in the service of others.

## Prayer

Loving God, thank you for the memory of this gentle and joyful priest who faithfully walked in Your presence in the steps of Jesus your Son. May his life, his teaching and his example inspire us to continue our love of learning and our commitment to the care of Your creation. We ask this in the name of Jesus who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

## Action

Take time today to show compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience to someone who is experiencing discrimination because of their disability, mental illness, lack of employment or homelessness.