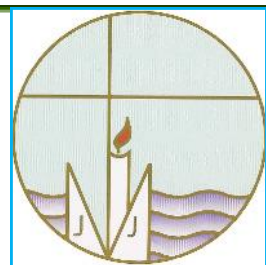




Josephite Associates, Victoria~Tasmania AUTUMN 2020



AUTUMN The Seasons of LENT & EASTER

Dear Associates,

We are entering a new era this year, or to put it correctly we are now without a Sister of St Joseph ie Sr Mary Fermio, to hold our hands. Sister Mary has kept us up to date with Josephite News, presented many interesting and informative days and best of all she has been for us a wonderful example of the true Josephite Spirit. Mary has guided us for over ten years and for that we are truly grateful. I know that she will continue to be a wonderful resource for the team and great friend to all of us. Our Core Team met at the Heritage Centre on Saturday 8th Feb for the first time this year. We now have an office at the Heritage Centre which will make contacting the team easier. Diane will be at the office every couple of weeks to respond to letters and bank Subscriptions etc.

Our email address is:

vic.associates@sosj.org.au

Our Postal address:

**Josephite Associates Vic
Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre
362 Albert St
East Melbourne Vic 3002**

The Core Team members are Anne-Marie Wilkinson from Bitten, Chris Nicholls-Van Order, Woodend, Diane Corro, Bacchus Marsh and Noreen McLeish, Hamilton.

We are looking forward to seeing all Leaders or their representatives, at the Leaders day on the **14th March at the Heritage Centre**. Bring along another Associate with you, we always need to be thinking of ways to share the role of Leadership. Please let us know names and numbers of those attending by the 10th March for catering purposes.

Twice a year we will be including inserts with the Newsletter from the International Josephite Leadership

Team, **IJALT**. We have been preparing for a few years now to be self supporting.

As Josephite Associates we are committed to sharing the Josephite Charism. We are very grateful for all the assistance the sisters have given the Associates over many years and of course they will continue to support us in many ways but it is time that we became more self sufficient.

We need to keep all those who are being affected by the Corona Virus in our thoughts and prayers. At times like this we become more aware of how fortunate we are to live in such a wonderful country.

Our Regional Days, as always, will remain a top priority for the Core Team. I am looking forward to attending all **Regional Days** this year. Although I originally come from Gippsland, when you live in Hamilton you are a long way away from "the other side". As the locals call all areas East of the Westgate. However I want to meet as many Associates as I can as I will be canvassing for News, Articles and Photos for the Newsletter as well..

The Sisters have a new Congregational Leadership Team, lead once again by Sr Monica Cavanagh rsj.



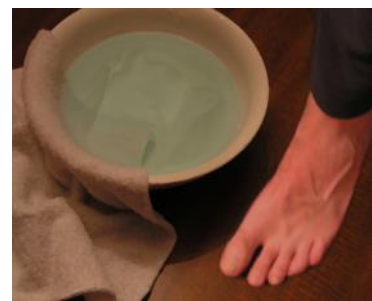
The remaining members of the team will be announced on the Feast of St Joseph. 19th March. We also congratulate Sr Monica on receiving an OAM in the Australia Day Honours for her Services to the

Catholic Church. A very worthy recipient.

We are now in the Season of **LENT**. A period of six weeks where we reflect on, and prepare for, the highlight - **EASTER**. We began with the Ashes on Ash Wednesday and we celebrate the Resurrection with the flames of Easter. My favourite of the Easter ceremonies is Holy Thursday which marks the end of the Lenten Season and reminds us that we are a Servant Church.

God Bless.

Noreen McLeish



Inside this issue:

- 1 Editorial
- 2 Reflection /Prayer
- 3 Regional Days
- 4 What's Happening
- 5 News from the Sisters
- 6 Bulletin Board
- 7 & 8 IJALT News

Enclosures:

1. Article: Lent
- 2 IJALT Conference

March 2020

Friendship Prayer Service

AUTUMN/LENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

PRAY GIVE FAST

PRAYER FOLLOWING THE BUSHFIRES

Lord God of all creation,
You love and protect us,
We pray to you to be with your people
Especially those who have been affected by the recent Bushfires
We pray for those who lost their lives as a result of the Fires
And for the families of those who have lost loved ones;
We pray for those who have been injured, physically and or emotionally,
We pray for those who have lost their homes and properties,
And for those who have lost their memories and belongings.
For the fear and disorientation of all involved.
Heal them Lord.
We pray for the many dedicated people
who fought the fires and provided emergency assistance.
Give them courage and strength to persevere
We pray for the loss of livestock a
nd native animals and for those caring for them.
We pray for rain to renew the scorched earth, and return life to the Region.
We turn to you our God in this time of need.



THE AUSTRALIAN CREED

I believe in God the Father of us all, who has given the earth to all people
And I believe in people as the image of God.
I believe in Jesus Christ, who came to encourage us and heal us,
to proclaim the peace of God to humankind.
I believe in the Spirit of God who works in every woman and man.
I believe in the Church: moved by the Spirit to serve all people.

I believe in Australians; in their courage and spirit of adventure, in their ordinariness and at-home-ness
In their aboriginal beauty, in their migrant struggles, in their search for identity.
I believe in our responsibility for creation, the trust of every mountain range, of every forest.
Of every harbour, of every city, of every plan to build a future.

I do not believe in the right of the strongest, nor the power of the oppressors.
I do not believe that I can fight oppression far away if I tolerate injustice here.
I do not believe that conflict and hunger are inevitable and Peace unattainable.
I do not believe that all suffering is in vain, nor that our dreams will remain dreams,
nor that death is the end.

But I dare to Believe, always and in spite of everything, in a new humanity;
In God's own dream of a new heaven and a new earth where justice will flourish,
And Peace will reign in our land, in our world. AMEN

REFLECTION ON THE CREED

1. Read the Australian Creed, both silently and together.
2. Which belief struck you as authentic?
3. Which do you think 'belongs to you' ?
4. Which belief do you think Pope Frances



REGIONAL DAYS 2020

THEME: CALLED TO BE A SAMRITAN CHURCH

Arrive: 9.30 am Start: 10 a.m. Finish: 3 p.m.

Dates and Venues:

2nd May Morwell

Tennis Club Room: Central Gippsland: Morwell, Wonthaggi, Leongatha, Traralgon

23rd May Murchison

Catholic Church, : Rushworth Group, Nagambie, Shepparton

27th June Pakenham

St Patricks Parish Centre: Pakenham, Iona, Koo Wee Rup, Melbourne

29th August Bacchus Marsh,

Parish Centre: Bacchus Marsh, Woodend, Sunbury, Melton, Sebastopol, Hamilton

19th September Lakes Entrance:

Parish Centre: Lakes Entrance, Maffra, Bairnsdale, Orbost

BYO LUNCH DONATION of your choice. HOSTS PROVIDE MORNING TEA

PLEASE NOTE THESE DAYS IN YOUR DIARY AS A PRIORITY
As part of your on-going formation, we hope you can attend
A Regional Day somewhere, if at all possible.

LEADERS' DAY 14th MARCH 2020

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre

362 Albert St, EAST MELBOURNE

Commence: 9.30 for 10 am Start - Finish about 3 p.m.

THEME: SERVICE AS NEIGHBOUR

MORNING TEA and LUNCH Provided - Donation \$25

Heritage Shop will be open during lunch—Thanks to Sr Mary



Please let us know if you are intending to come noreen.mcleish@gmail.com

Dear Lord

So far today, I am doing all right. I have not gossiped, lost my temper been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish or self indulgent. I have not whined, complained, cursed or eaten any chocolate and I have not used my Credit Card.



But I will be getting out of bed in a minute,

EVENTS AROUND MELBOURNE

CONVERSATIONS WITH MARY MACKILLOP—

11 am—12 noon followed by light lunch

TOPIC FOR 2020:

THE VIRTUES OF ST MARY MACKILLOP

Monday 17th February
Monday 16th March
No Session APRIL
Friday 15th May
Monday 15th June
Wednesday 15th July
Monday 17th August
Tuesday 15th September
Thursday 15th October
Monday 16th November

DONATION WELCOME.



Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre
362 Albert St
EAST MELBOURNE
PHONE: 03 9926 9300

2020 OPEN DAYS

10 a.m.—4 p.m.

SATURDAYS:

21st March

8th August

21st November

- * *Pray in the Chapel*
- * *Tour the Museum*
- * *Visit the Gift Shop*
- * *Enjoy light refreshments*
- * *Mary MacKillop Walking Tour leaves at 11 a.m.*

Leader: Sr Mary Fermio rsj

VENUE: Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre,
362 Albert St East Melbourne.

Ph. 03 9926 9300 Email: admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au

Based on the book: The Virtues of Mary MacKillop—Paul Gardner sj

**Please contact us for acceptances
to help us with catering.**

Bernadette and Tony Barker to the Rescue

At our Associates Mass in 2018 Fr Michael Kalka asked if anyone knew of a spare “substantial” statue of St Joseph, for his new Parish at Altona. Bernadette and Tony Barker from Pakenham Associates group were on to it, they knew that the church at Yambuk was about to close and that there was at least one statue of Joseph still in the almost derelict church.

For those not familiar with Yambuk it is in the Ballarat Diocese on the South West Coast, fifteen minutes west of Port Fairy. And it just happens to be where Tony grew up, attended Mass with his family, made his Sacraments etc. A phone call later and Fr Michael was on his way, “a man on a mission”. February 2019 was the final Mass and farewell to St Joseph’s Yambuk. The small congregation were happy to see that their beloved (if a little scruffy) Joseph was going for a restoration and new position at Altona.



Subscriptions A Gentle Reminder.

Subscriptions are now due and please note that they are now \$30, this includes the Levy for the IJALT team. So in effect our Associate levy has not changed. The bulk of our costs go to producing and sending out the Newsletter and a small amount gifts for Guest Speakers etc. Postage and Printing costs are heavy. But many of our Associates have no other way to access the Newsletter and it is our most effective way of keeping everyone in contact. About one third of Associates support these costs and thank you to the many very generous Associates who pay a little extra for those who are unable to pay at all, a very Josephite spirit. The subscription form is enclosed with this Newsletter. *Noreen McL*

TIMOR LESTE NEWS

FROM SR JO BRADY rsj- Staff member of Caritas

Recently I travelled to Timor Leste for workshops with the Caritas staff in Dili. It was wonderful to meet our staff there and hear of the many projects they have in the three dioceses. Since 1999 Caritas Australia has contributed \$17 million to projects in Timor.

The trip to Timor Leste also coincided with the first graduation of students from Instituto Sao Joao de Brito, a Jesuit secondary teachers' college where I was Vice-rector in the foundation years. It was delightful to be reunited with these students and to rejoice in their success on the completion of their four year teaching degree.

As there is a real lack of good teacher education in Timor Lester I am hopeful these young graduates will make a real difference. While in Timor I stayed with Angela Carroll rsj (Qld) at the Becora convent which brought back many memories. Angela and I were fortunate to win a prize for a meal voucher at Timor Plaza!

The trip was wonderful as apart from working with the Caritas staff, it provided the opportunity to renew friendships with the other religious, particularly the Jesuits and the expats who were part of my life there.

Used with permission



TO OUR NEW REGIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR VIC-TAS REGION:

Srs Sue McGuinness, Margaret Malady, Cathy Dean, Kathleen Crameri, Geraldine Larkins.
Please include them in your prayer as they are inducted on the Feast of St Joseph 2020.

TO OUR JUBILARIANS FOR 2020

75 Years: Srs Cyril Andrews and Mary Noonan—Tasmania
Sr Grace Hill— Victoria

70 years: Sr Rosalie Corrigan—Victoria

60 years: Srs Maria Dunell, Patricia George,
Srs Joan Hamilton, Marie Therese Quinn - All Victoria

50 years: Sr Valerie Becker—Tasmania
Srs Judith Carlson and Geraldine Whelan—Victoria

40 years: Sr Anita Laing - Victoria



Sr Rita Malavisi has been awarded the National Award with the Fundraising Institute of Australia as **Volunteer of the year** – nominated by the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre. She was chuffed as you can imagine. She had been awarded the



STAMPS

BULLETIN BOARD

USED STAMPS

Used postage stamps have raised \$312,000 for the Peruvian Mission. Please leave a border of about 3cm around the stamps.

Please take note of border to be left

Please forward stamps to:

STAMPS

Locked Bag 3031

BURWOOD NSW 1805



BOXES OF STAMPS TO:

5 Alexander Avenue,

Croydon NSW 2132

Thank you

As postage has increased members of the group may like to contribute to the cost.

BOOK REVIEWS

WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE

In 2013 Neale was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. Reading this book is like Neale is talking to you, giving you his life story from his growing up on a farm in remote New South Wales, his football career and his fight with "The Beast". Neale provides many words of wisdom learnt over his years of leadership and struggle and his decision not to give in, but to raise money for research—one such is the Big Freeze when celebrities slide into a tank of ice! A book well worth reading. By Neale Daniher

BECAUSE SHE CAN (Melbourne Women Collectively Making the World a Better Place) by Marina Barbot who, after interviewing and photographing 30 inspiring women, released her beautiful book before Christmas. The exciting news for us is that Sr Jeanne Dwyer appears first in the book! There is a lovely photo of Jeanne and news of her work at Joseph's Corner. Congratulations, Jeanne!

Please look out for the book in local bookshops.

BOOKS THAT SAVED MY LIFE

Reading for wisdom, solace and pleasure.

By Michael McGirr, teacher at St Kevin's College, regular contributor to Madonna Magazine, has given a kaleidoscope of his reading experiences and meetings with various authors. Some books you may find familiar, others will whet your appetite.

Michaels's life as a Jesuit and teaching teenage boys, also gave him many opportunities of experiencing life and its many seasons.

The Text Publishing Co.

HOPES AND CHALLENGES

BISHOP VINCENT LONG READ ON LINE

**Eternal rest grant to them
O Lord, and let perpetual
light shine upon them**

Mary Albress of Coolaroo, - sister of
Joan O'Toole rsj

Peggy Stone - Williamstown

Pat Dean - Brookfield

Brendan Michaels - Brother of Tony, Melton

Sr Lorraine Hurley rsj— Lorraine taught at Morwell East, Lakes Entrance, Leongatha and St Albans, among others. Her most recent

NEW RELEASE

A CUPPA WITH MARY

Sue and Leo Kane

The authors of the 2 LITTLE BROWN BOOKS have compiled another containing meditations on the words of St Mary MacKillop for each day of the year. Designed to give us moments when we can pause and allow our souls to catch up.

I have found this book a very practical source of prayer.

Larger in size. Price \$25

Available from

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre.



FROM THE OFFICE:

PLEASE NOTE NEW OFFICE ADDRESS:
FROM JANUARY 2020

JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES VIC
MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE
362 ALBERT ST
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Or

vic.associates@sosj.org.au

All mail to go to this office.

Anne-Marie Mobile contact:

0409 429 463

Items for Newsletter: Send to

Ms Noreen McLeish

3 Lonsdale St

HAMILTON VIC 3300

noreen.mcleish@gmail.com.

vic.associates@sosj.org.au

Introductory Program sheets to
Noreen McLeish also.

IJALT Newsletter

February 2020



Greetings - Tena Koutou -

Saludos - Bon Dia

In this month's newsletter we have

- ♦ IJALT Chairperson Report
- ♦ A Reflection on St Joseph
- ♦ IJALT Meeting Report
- ♦ Information about the next Associate Conference 2020

God Bless

IJALT

International Josephite Associate Leadership Team

As we look back over the beginning of our new year we are very aware of the challenges that many across Australia and New Zealand have faced in recent months. Drought and bushfires have been significant across many areas of Australia, while the White Island Volcano in early December impacted greatly on New Zealand and beyond. More recently, the coronavirus outbreak is threatening to cross boundaries as it surreptitiously moves across continents. We hope and pray that all who are facing challenges around these events and others in their lives come to know, like Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods, how great is God's love for each one of us.

Congregational News

As this communique is written Sr Monica Cavanagh and her team, namely Sisters Josephine Dubiel, Louise Reeves, Mary Ellen O'Donoghue and Clare Conaglen, have just become the new Congregational Leadership Team for the next six years. We congratulate Sister Monica who was re-elected as Congregational Leader. This is a great compliment to Monica as it acknowledges the Sisters' confidence in her leadership; we Associates have certainly benefitted much from her great support and wisdom over many years. In the 2020 Australia Day awards, Monica was also honoured with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for Services to the Catholic Church! We offer her our congratulations on faithfilled and generous service over many years.

2020 is also a year of anniversaries. In January, IJALT met once again in Mount Street in Sydney. (This was our last gathering there for up to two years as the accommodation area closes down to enable new facilities to be built. The Chapel, Museum and café, however, will continue operating over this time.) While meeting, we recognized the 25th anniversary since Mary MacKillop was beatified on 19 January 1995: a great milestone in the story of Mary MacKillop and the Josephite family. Later this year, on 17 October we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of Mary's canonization: a wonderful occasion that was celebrated joyfully across many places in our world. At our meeting we sadly 'farewelled' Sr Maryellen Thomas who has been our contact person from the Congregational Leadership Team over the past six years. Maryellen has enabled us to take on greater responsibility and companioned us wisely through this time. We are grateful for her confidence in us and her guiding support as we have taken considerable steps forward under her watch.

We wish both Maryellen and Monica well in their future endeavours and thank God for their truly valuable contributions and impact on the Josephite family of this time.

Mary Hemmings

Chairperson: International Josephite Associate Leadership Team (IJALT)

Feast of St Joseph

As we move to celebrate Joseph's Feast day, these words from Elizabeth Scalia, a Benedictine Oblate (term used for 'Benedictine Associate') are worth reflecting on:

- ♦ Joseph was *righteous*;
- ♦ The righteous life he embraced developed his *faithfulness*;
- ♦ Faithfulness gave him *courage*;
- ♦ Courage permitted his *generosity*;
- ♦ Generosity let him grow in *wisdom*;
- ♦ Wisdom taught Joseph *kindness*.

Oh, that in 2020 the whole world would appreciatively make a model of this righteous, faithful, courageous, generous, and kind Jewish man. Indeed, with such an undertaking, 2021 might look very different.

[Elizabeth Scalia](#): Benedictine Oblate Editor in Chief of 'Word on Fire' 19th Dec 2019

IJALT Meeting

At our Sydney meeting we again invited some other Associates to gather with us. We have done this for some time as it enables us to gain from their insights and experience and fellow Associates to share in our work. We were delighted to have Antoinette Mangion and Geoff Barrett from Sydney, together with Catherine Birt from New Zealand with us.

Our time together was very productive, planning our July Conference as well as finalizing details re our Handbooks which will be presented at our Conference. We have also determined that our IJALT Newsletter will be published twice this year, namely in February and in August. This will hopefully link more closely with each of the States/NZ posting their newsletters out to Associates at those times. We hope this aligning the times will ensure more efficient distribution of information.

We are in the process of establishing procedures regarding finance and will provide details in our August newsletter for Associates to contribute to our work. For some, this will be done by your Regional Associate team who have set in place increased fees; for others, you may choose to do this independently as your Regional procedures for gathering financial resources are done differently. Further details will follow in August.



‘BE COURAGEOUS AND FULL OF HOPE’

This is the theme of our upcoming Conference in Adelaide in July 2020. You are invited to come and share with fellow Associates as we explore how these words speak to us, in our Church and our world today. The Mary MacKillop Precinct in Adelaide, where the Conference sessions will be held, is where Mary and the early Sisters lived and where Sisters still live today. The Mary MacKillop Museum, recently reopened, includes a focus on the early Sisters who worked closely with Mary in those challenging beginning years. Time in the Museum will be included in the Conference.

Accompanying this newsletter is the Registration Form. Those coming to the Conference are asked to complete this to enable us to know who will be attending and for us to provide updated information in the coming months. Accommodation is off site but a shuttle service, by bus or car, will be provided between the suggested accommodation venues and the Conference site at Kensington.

(Artwork Credit: Jane Maisey rsj—designjane.com used with permission)

In our last IJALT communication that was emailed before Christmas (and which only some postal recipients received due to timing of newsletter distributions) *Expressions of Interest* were invited regarding a possible trip to Penola, the ‘birthplace of the Josephite story’. Due to logistics we are not able to undertake this for a group. Penola is 400 kms from Adelaide and very manageable if 3 – 4 people hire a vehicle from Adelaide for a couple of days. If further information to pursue this option is required to see this beautiful corner of SA, please contact us via the details available on our flyer.

We look forward to gathering with many Associates from far and wide, coming together to re-ignite our connections and commitment to God’s mission in the place where this great Josephite story became established: Kensington, Adelaide.