



# WA JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS

## Newsletter



Autumn 2021

Dear Sisters, Companions and Friends,

*"In St Joseph's care I leave you." MMK*

Happy New Year to all Josephite Companions from Esperance, Dardanup and the Metropolitan groups

### *From Dardanup*

COVID-19 has certainly limited personal contact during 2020 but the good news is that our meeting venue has now become available for us to resume regular meetings. Local newsletters have kept Dardanup Companions in contact with one another during COVID restrictions and have also provided personal reflection opportunities during that time. Many Companions have expressed their appreciation for these little reminders to continue living out the charism of Friendship, Prayer and Service. Many thanks to our Core Group – Maud, Helen, Johanna, Annette, Irene and Kerry for sharing leadership over the past year. Their continued enthusiasm and faithfulness to our Josephite cause are really appreciated. Many Josephite Companions in our area are participating in the Lenten Program, 'A Renewed Heart' and this will be the theme of our much anticipated first meeting for 2021.

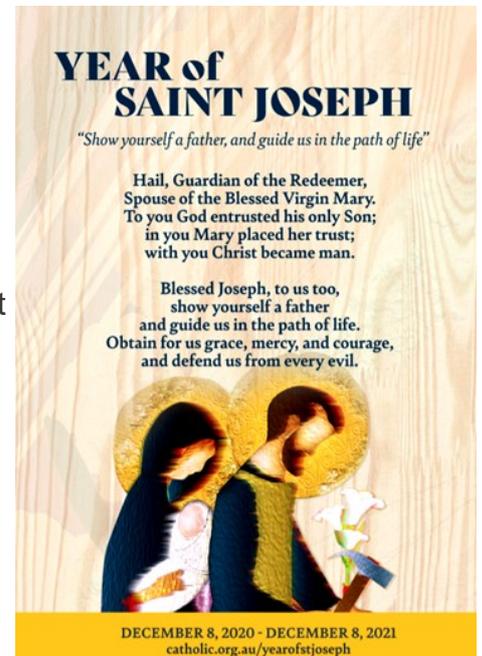


The Dardanup Companions sadly inform you of the death of one of our treasured companions. Our condolences to Joe De Pilato and family on the recent death of Lina, who inspired us with her deep faith, her love of family, her trust in God and her delightful sense of humour. May she rest in peace.

Pope Francis in his Apostolic Letter "Patris Corde – With a Father's Heart" has proclaimed 2021 as the Year of St Joseph, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church. Given the importance of St Joseph as patron of our Josephite Movement, this has special meaning for us, and Autumn Newsletter heeds the Pope's call to reflect on and to follow the example of St Joseph.

Although many hundreds of kilometres apart, the leaders of the Western Australian Josephite Companions keep the wellbeing of all members close to their hearts. We pray and trust that the charism of Friendship, Prayer and Service remains at the forefront of your daily prayers and actions. We pray too, that each one of you is safe and secure in the knowledge that St Joseph will protect and guide you as he did the Christ child.

*Best wishes from Dot Savage on behalf of the Dardanup Josephite Companions*



## UPDATE FROM THE METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATES



The Metropolitan Group held their Christmas/Summer Gathering Day on 13 December at South Perth. It was such a special feeling of friendship, prayer and service to be able to be together again. Having the Dardanup Group come up and join us, together with many of our much loved sisters, was a joy! A big thank you to the Dardanup Group for travelling up and being with us.



Our gathering began in the Chapel led by our prayer guide which was followed by a report from the Coordinating Group to bring business up to date. Sr Frances Maguire then gave a much enjoyed talk which everyone commented on and gave us all something to think about. Thank you Sr Frances. We then shared afternoon



tea together and welcomed, special guest, 'Kris Kringle' who had a present for each of us! Brian Phelan, Meg's son played his guitar and we all joined in with a sing-along and it was loved by all, thank you Brian! A resounding thank you goes out to all who gave help in many ways on the day to make it run smoothly - especially with all our new COVID-19 rules.

We loved receiving all the little notes and cards after the last newsletter, your comments about the newsletter were most welcome and appreciated. The Core Grope are so happy to hear it is what you want. If you have anything - photos, news, reflections, 'Gone to God' or other items etc that you would like added in the newsletter please get in touch with your area leader and it will be passed on to be considered. All prayer requests are handed onto the sisters.



**We are still very much in need of two more helpers** to come forward to join the Metropolitan Coordinating Group. We meet four times a year where we have a two hour meeting - to fold and envelope the newsletter and go over general business. We are very close to the bone with only four members on the Metropolitan committee. We are finding it hard at times to get the newsletter out.

As always thank you to all the people who sent in donations to help with the cost of producing the newsletter and supporting the Josephite Companions. Please keep the donations coming in.

**Beloved, let us LOVE one another, because LOVE is of GOD:**

**Everyone who LOVES is begotten of GOD and has knowledge of GOD.**

**Enjoy reading 1 John 4.7, 11-12, 16 THIS EASTER SEASON.**

"Hosanna in the highest! And a Blessed Prayerful Easter to you all."

*Louisa Moore, Marg Jones, Meg Phelan and Maureen Lanigan.*

# 'A Day at the Bay'



On a very hot January day some South Perth sisters had a very memorable 'Day at the Bay'. Via both a maxi taxi and car-pooling, the happy group made their way to Safety Bay. Regional Leader, Brigette Siparsj was thrilled to join in the fun, as was Frances Maguire rsj and nurse Gill. The group met up with sisters already holidaying at The Bay and a very lovely, beachy catch up was had by all. Lunch was also 'pooled', with a summery lunch being provided by South Perth cook, Wayne with the Safety Bay cook, Nora providing more delicious salads and a surprise dessert ... panna cotta with raspberry sauce ... YUM! *(shared by Laura McCarthy)*



# WA JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS GATHERINGS, NEWS & EVENTS



## SOUTH PERTH GATHERINGS



**ENQUIRIES:** Louisa Moore - 0438 616 228, email [wa.companions@sosj.org.au](mailto:wa.companions@sosj.org.au)

**SUNDAY 21 March - please ring closer to the date to ensure gathering can go ahead**

- ✦ 1.30pm ~ Time for greeting one another, 'Bring & Buy' and Raffle (Please note time change to 1.30pm start)
- ✦ 2.00pm ~ 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 | Bring & Buy items

( Please note: all Covid Safe Protocols Apply: Stay home if unwell | Registration | Social Distancing | Sanitizing)

**Tentative Dates for 2021: 13 June | 12 September | 12 December**

**\*Please ring Louisa or the South Perth office closer to each date to check gathering can go ahead\***

## DARDANUP GATHERINGS



**ENQUIRIES:** Dot Savage: (08) 9791 4008  
Helen Brown: [helenbrown.hb@gmail.com](mailto:helenbrown.hb@gmail.com)

**NEXT GATHERING ~ Wednesday 17 March**

*'With Renewed Hearts'* | Venue - St Patrick's Parish Meeting Centre @ 9.30am. Please bring food for a shared luncheon.

**Future Dates: 21 April | 9 June | 4 August**

## ESPERANCE GATHERINGS



**ENQUIRIES:** Helen Johnston: (08) 9071 1256 | [donaldjohnston@bigpond.com](mailto:donaldjohnston@bigpond.com)

**Next gathering:** 18 March Mass, Rosary, Sharing  
(Each 3rd Thursday of each month: Mass, Rosary, sharing...)

MARY MACKILLOP  
*today*

## " BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN "

Come and join the fun, meet old friends and make new ones ...

**When:** Saturday 13th March 2021      **Where:** St Joseph's Convent, 16 York Street, South Perth  
**Bring:** \$15 for brekkie, byo chairs, blankets, umbrellas, sunscreen, smiles  
**RSVP:** Before 10th March to: Roberta Scanlan: [robscan52@icloud.com](mailto:robscan52@icloud.com) or 0459 364 872



Free raffle on entry ~ Assorted range of pot plants etc in time for Mother's Day ~ Same chefs, friendly people, ~ Just smell the food and follow your nose!!! (ALL COVID SAFE PROTOCOLS APPLY: STAY HOME IF UNWELL | REGISTRATION | SOCIAL DISTANCING | SANITIZING)

## Gone to God



Sr Philomena Kalmund rsj  
Lina De Pilato  
Jim Bianchini

Dear Companions, if you are aware of any companion/relative/  
friend who has passed away,  
can you please email or ring the office:  
[wa.companions@sosj.org.au](mailto:wa.companions@sosj.org.au) or [08] 9334 0999

## God of vision may your presence bring hope

Just as Joseph's willing response to God brought Jesus among us, we pray that we too, commit ourselves to relieving suffering and bringing hope.

Just as Joseph was troubled at first by Mary's pregnancy, we pray for all parents, especially those who face bringing up children alone. May they find support, companionship, and wisdom.

Just as Joseph had to flee to Egypt, we pray for all those families made refugees by riots, wars and natural disasters in their home places. May they find compassion, safety, and security.

## Blessing

May the blessings of Joseph be among us.

attuning us to God's will each day'  
Attuning us with humility to those around us

attuning us to God's transformative dream for Josephite Companions.

May the blessings of Joseph be among us.

Living obediently

Living as Companions in our communities

Living hospitably even in challenging times.

May the blessings of Joseph be among us.

Still opening us to the future

Still cooperating in discerning mission

Still keeping us alive with love from day to day.

May the blessings of Joseph flood our souls and give us boundless joy. Amen.



# WA Josephite Companions

## YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

*"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"*

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.



DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021  
[catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph](http://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph)

## A meditation on Pope Francis' **'**

<p><b>Loving Father,</b></p>	<p>St Joseph has always been venerated as a father by Christian people. He concretely expressed his fatherhood by making an offering to God of himself in love. In him, Jesus saw the tender love of God, guiding, teaching and caring in his daily life.</p>
<p><b>Obedient Father,</b></p>	<p>Joseph, in obedience to God, protected Mary and Jesus as he taught his Son to "do the will of the Father." Called by God to serve the mission of Jesus, he "cooperated... in the great mystery of Redemption."</p>
<p><b>Accepting Father,</b></p>	<p>Joseph accepted Mary unconditionally — an important gesture even today. But the bridegroom of Mary is also the one who, trusting in the Lord, accepted his life, even the events that he did not understand.</p>
<p><b>A father who is creatively courageous,</b></p>	<p>Joseph's spiritual path "is not one that explains, but accepts" — which does not mean that he is "resigned." Instead, he is courageously and firmly proactive. Full of hope, he is able to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments." Through St Joseph, it is as if God were repeating to us "Do not be afraid!" because faith gives meaning to every event, however happy or sad. Joseph did not look for shortcuts but confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it. For this reason, he encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak.</p>

## proclamation of the Year of St Joseph

<p><b>A working Father</b></p>	<p>A carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family, St Joseph also taught us the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one's own labour. There needs to be a renewed appreciation of the importance of dignified work, of which Saint Joseph is an exemplary patron. Those who work, are cooperating with God himself, and in some way become creators of the world around us. We are called to rediscover the value, the importance and the necessity of work for bringing about a new 'normal' from which no one is excluded. In the light of rising unemployment due to the Covid-19 pandemic, everyone is invited to review priorities and to express the firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!</p>
<p><b>A Father in the shadows.</b></p>	<p>Joseph knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the centre of things. He did not think of himself but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus. Happiness for Joseph involved a true gift of self: His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust. Joseph stands out, therefore, as an exemplary figure for our time in a world that needs fathers. True fathers refuse to live the lives of their children for them, and instead respect their freedom. In this sense, a father realises that he is most a father and an educator at the point when he becomes 'useless,' when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied.</p>