

# JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS NEWSLETTER

## WINTER 2022



*Spirit of Compassion,  
Be the common ground on which we walk,  
Be the common heart from which we talk,  
Be the common breath that heals,  
Restores and blesses us.*

(Trisha Watts and Gabrielle Lord, Sanctuary)

**“Divine Spirit of Wisdom and Goodness make me in all things, what I ought to be”. Mary MacKillop 1877**

Dear Sisters, Companions and friends,

Welcome to the Winter edition of the Newsletter. As daylight hours become shorter, the rain more constant and the wind more insistent, we are aware that winter has arrived. This is a time for us to turn inwards and to seek the warmth and cosiness of God's love. We need to take time to reflect on our lives, in the light of Easter joy; to cut away all that is dead or dried up, so that when spring calls us to new growth, we are ready to welcome the new life within us. Pentecost brings its own message of the Holy Spirit, that we are one in the love of God.

Congratulations to Sr Maree Riddler, Sr Nola Goodwin and Sr Alma Cabassi who celebrated their Golden Jubilee with Sisters, families and friends at South Perth recently. Their years of dedication and service as Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart are greatly appreciated and they are assured that they carry the love and prayers of all Companions into the future.

2022 marks 100 years since the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart took over the mission of the Sisters of our Lady of the Missions in Busselton. The Covid situation in our state has meant that celebrations have been put on hold but it is fitting that we, as Josephite Companions, remember and pay tribute to the work of the sisters in the Busselton region over so many years. In addition to education, the sisters also offered their convent as a holiday home for the Sisters, especially those living in the Goldfields and other remote locations. Classes began in 1922 at 'Villa Carlotta' and then at the school in Prince Street. Bushies and Motor Missions operated from Busselton and in the early years, the Sisters accompanied the Parish Priest as he visited outlying areas as part of his ministry. Thank you to those pioneering women who have shaped the lives of many in the South West area of the state.

Our Winter Prayer Sheet offers an opportunity to pray for those who are seeking refuge from the terrors of war, the daily fear of persecution, intimidation, violence, isolation and even death.

Best wishes and love, *Dot Savage for Dardanup, Metro & Esperance Groups.*

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*A Ministry of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart*

## METROPOLITAN COMPANIONS

Blessings to all from MJCG. So sorry that we had to cancel our last gathering because of Covid—We missed you all! Please come to our Prayer/ Friendship Gathering 12 June, 1.30pm at South Perth.

Thank you for the many phone calls, letters and donations from across the state. You certainly let us know that you appreciate the prayer sheets and the newsletters that bring news of the wonderful work being done in every corner of the state. It is such an important tool of communication, given the tyranny of distance that exists. The MJCG fold and mail 340 newsletters every quarter. This could not happen without the generosity of time, skill and effort by Dot Savage, Helen Brown and Sharon Cheah. Josephite Companions contribute to the cost of preparing the newsletter, donating funds regularly.

Louisa and Margaret from the MJCG and Helen Johnston from Esperance attended the Golden Jubilee celebrations at South Perth of Sr Nola Goodwin, Sr Alma Cabassi and Sr Maree Riddler. Mass was celebrated in the gardens of South Perth and a beautiful day was had by all.

On behalf of all Josephite Companions, a donation of \$300 was given to Sr Nola to assist her work in Timor Leste.

A reminder that God's love is unconditional and unending.

*From Louisa and Margaret*



## ESPERANCE COMPANIONS

Esperance Josephite Companions continue to meet regularly to celebrate Mass and recite the Rosary.

Prayers and best wishes are extended to Helen Johnston in her time of ill health and we wish her a full and speedy recovery.

## DARDANUP COMPANIONS

Unfortunately, Covid restrictions continue to limit access to our meeting place. We are planning to celebrate the Feast of St Mary of the Cross on Wednesday 3 August in a special way. Several Josephite Companions attended Mass on ANZAC Day at St Patrick's Cathedral. It was a lovely reminder that we are called to gather in friendship, prayer and service within our own communities.



We pray for those of our group who have been unwell and are in recovery. It was lovely to see Annette after her time in hospital. Sr Pauline is now out and about without her shoulder strapping and is looking well and happy.

*Yours in Friendship, Prayer and Service. Dot Savage on behalf of Dardanup Josephite Companions Core Group.*



## **“Golden Jubilee” Garden Party 50 dedicated years**



## **Leadership 2022 and Beyond Webinar**

Companions from all over the world discussed the role of leadership as we nurture the Josephite Spirit and make a difference as a part of a larger, worldwide movement. Sr Clare Conaglen rsj, the keynote speaker, led us to a greater understanding of leadership within the Josephite Companion Movement. There was a lot of information about servant leadership and how it does not mean being a ‘doormat, pushover or being taken advantage of’. One of the greatest messages was that **the potential for leadership is in all of us**. We are simply asked to, “bring what you have” and in realising the potential of ‘The Charism’ we are participating in God’s mission.

We continue God’s Mission with a Josephite Heart. God’s mission for us is to give the message of God’s unbounded love for ALL creation with a tenderness that never disappoints. A Josephite Heart takes the humility of Joseph, a discerning heart that listens. We look to the role of Mary and Joseph as they cared for Jesus. Mary MacKillop cared for others with courage as her compass and Julian Tenison Woods, with his missionary spirit, his admiration for creation and his preaching of the message.

We had several opportunities to consider the attributes of good leaders and discern these qualities in Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods. Reporting back covered many different viewpoints including; humility, courage, shared vision, passion, commitment to the future, proficiency as a listener and a communicator, trust, conviction, integrity, recognition of the gifts of others, meeting the challenges of the times, emotional intelligence, flexibility, has charism, resilience, inclusivity, responsibility...

Many types of leadership were discussed and expanded upon. Servant leadership was highlighted and we were asked to consider what Servant leadership looks like at its best and at its worst. We also reflected on what Josephite Companion Leadership into the future will look like with regard to values and structures. Food for thought!

We appreciated the opportunity to attend this and thank JCoLT for the opportunities to reflect on our calling as Josephite Companions.

**Dot Savage and Helen Brown**

# WA JOSEPHITE COMPANION GATHERINGS

## SOUTH PERTH

**ENQUIRIES:** Louisa Moore - 0438 616 228  
Email: [louisa.moore1@bigpond.com](mailto:louisa.moore1@bigpond.com)

Margaret Jones - 0437 336 245  
9370 3260

Meg Phelan - 9295 1682  
0400 599 438

## SOUTH PERTH NEXT GATHERING

12 June , 1.30pm South Perth.

## DARDANUP

**ENQUIRIES:** Dot Savage — (08) 9791 4008  
Helen Brown — 0478 783 990  
Email: [helenbrown.hb@gmail.com](mailto:helenbrown.hb@gmail.com)

## DARDANUP NEXT GATHERING

Tentative 3 August  
More details to follow.



## ESPERANCE

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

## ESPERANCE NEXT GATHERING

Third Thursday of each month—  
Mass, Rosary and sharing.



## GONE TO GOD

Lily, sister of Irene  
Rodgers

Maureen Hodge rsj



## Rest In Peace

Dear Companions if your are aware of any companion/relative 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

## In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop

The Sisters of St Joseph are organising the Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 18 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney, 29 October 2022. During the pilgrimage places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry will be visited.

For an application form or further information telephone Annie Bond rsj 02 8912 4818. Applications close 1st September 2022. Pilgrims must be vaccinated.