

# JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS NEWSLETTER

## SPRING 2022



*May the joy of blossoming flowers be in  
our hands and our daily work.  
May the glory of spring be in our eyes and  
perceiving.  
May the colours, flowers, birds and  
breezes and all other gifts of spring  
fill our hearts and souls with gladness and  
peace.*

**“Find happiness in making others happy”. Mary MacKillop 1899**

Dear Sisters, Companions and friends,

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Newsletter. Two significant feast days have been celebrated by the faithful—The Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross and the Assumption of our Blessed Lady. These two important days allowed us to reflect on the influence of both Marys in our lives and with October as the month of the Rosary, our thoughts are directed to Mary the Mother of God and our mother.

Bishop Gerard Holohan attended the Plenary Council 2nd Assembly in July and shared his personal experiences and thoughts about the implementation of Council decrees in the Bunbury Diocese. Some thoughts gleaned from his pastoral letter regarding the charisms of the lay faithful support the Josephite charism of friendship, prayer and service:

- ♦ Charisms empower people to serve as instruments of Christ.
- ♦ The legacy of our anointment with chrism at Baptism empowers us to fulfil roles within Church communities such as parishes bringing a Christian mission to the world.
- ♦ Each of us is called, in our own way and in our own circle of influence, to be Christ's hands, feet, voice and loving eyes to others in our families and beyond.
- ♦ Our personal relationship with Jesus and our faithfulness in living his Gospel affects our ability to live our roles as members of God's family.

This has special meaning for Josephite Companions as they strive daily to live the charism of Saint Mary of the Cross and Julian Tenison Woods.

Our Spring Prayer Sheet offers an opportunity to reflect on hope and its place in the Christian faith. It is through hope that we can look to the future as we spread the light of God's love to all those we meet in friendship, prayer and service.

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

WA JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS, PO BOX 593, SOUTH PERTH WA 6951

Phone: (08) 9334 0999 Email: [wa.companions@sosj.org.au](mailto:wa.companions@sosj.org.au)

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

## METROPOLITAN COMPANIONS

***As Josephite Companions we walk into a future with grateful hearts for what has been given to us, full of HOPE for what will unfold.***  
(Josephite Companions Discovery Booklet)

We hope you enjoyed the feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop with a prayer and a good deed. Please take NOTE that there will only be ONE more gathering for this year because of low numbers. There has been much discussion about the dwindling numbers attending our gatherings at South Perth. We understand that we are all facing challenges that limit attendance at meetings. However, **the future of our group is at stake now!** We welcome feedback and are open to change that will facilitate improved participation and a deeper commitment to the Josephite Companions cause. This group has been meeting for 35 years and it would be heartbreaking if circumstances caused our gatherings to cease.

There have been many requests for prayers for each other during the last couple of months. Offer up your prayers for the sick and aging Josephite Companions and their families.

**Thank you** goes out to the people who have helped over the last month with discussions and phone calls as to our current situations. You all have been wonderful.

Once again Dot Savage and Helen Brown have put their magic touch into the newsletter—enjoy everyone. Blessings to Dot and Helen, also, Sharon at the main office for all her help, Sister Maree Riddler for her unending support and our husbands, who continue to help get the newsletters out to Josephite Companions around the state.

*Louisa Moore, Metropolitan Group*

***Inspired by the life and example of Mary MacKillop, we pause to pray in the quiet, for our own needs (pause a minute).***

## ESPERANCE COMPANIONS

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

*Helen Johnston and Sheena  
sharing a cake for Sheena's 80th birthday.  
What a joyous milestone!  
Congratulations Sheena!*



## DARDANUP COMPANIONS

Many of our Josephite Companions participated in the Synodal process, allowing the Spirit to guide the discernment, affecting the future of the Australian Church. The findings indicate that our “immediate priorities need to be missionary, providing the infrastructure needed for local parish faith formation, Parish Pastoral Council renewal and our Priests.”

Wet and windy weather did not deter people from attending the Mary MacKillop Day Mass in Bunbury. Father Wayne Bendotti celebrated with us and we were appreciative of the presence of Sisters Kathleen, Pauline, Bernadette and Sister Roberta Dillon and Seminarian Nathan Barrie, Louisa Moore (Metropolitan group), as well as Companions from far and wide. At the conclusion of Mass we recommitted ourselves to the mission of the Josephite Companions. A celebratory morning tea (where Friendship, Prayer and Service were evident in abundance) was enjoyed.

*Dot Savage, Dardanup Josephite Companions*

# Thank you for saying 'yes' to God's call Busselton 1922 - 2022

The Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop had special significance in Busselton this year, as the community celebrated 100 years of dedication and service by the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart. The Sisters were guests of honour at Mass, with Sister Bernadette Hynes leading the procession, carrying the MacKillop Cross. Father Jaybee and Father Ian Johnson concelebrated this joyous occasion. Sister Kathleen Hitchcock addressed the community, sharing reflections on the work of Mary MacKillop and the sisters of Saint Joseph. Her slide presentation showed many aspects of the Sisters' work in the school and parish community in Busselton and surrounding areas.

After Mass the Sisters joined the festivities and fund raising efforts for Mary MacKillop Today.



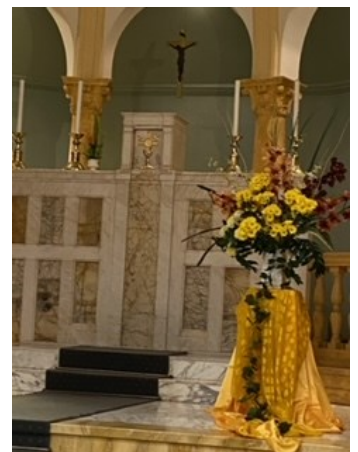
*Sr Bernadette Hynes,  
Sr Frances Maguire,  
Sr Pauline Dundon,  
Sr Kathleen Hitchcock and  
Sr Eileen Johnson*



Emblem of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and school photos before amalgamation in 2016.

## Celebrating Mary MacKillop's Feast Day at South Perth

Sisters who attended Mass shared stories about Mary and Julian. The celebration was steeped in love and faith. The liturgy was made even more meaningful by the songs chosen and the beautiful voices of the Sisters joining with other attendees.



# 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  
(08) 9370 3260

Meg Phelan — (08) 9295 1682  
0400 599 438

## SOUTH PERTH NEXT GATHERING

30 October, 1.30pm South Perth

Bring and buy, raffle

## DARDANUP

**ENQUIRIES:** Dot Savage – (08) 9791 4008

Helen Brown – 0478 783 990

Email: [helenbrown.hb@gmail.com](mailto:helenbrown.hb@gmail.com)

## DARDANUP NEXT GATHERINGS

Busselton TBC

12 October

Honouring 100 Years in Busselton

Sr Kathleen Hitchcock

Reflections

Sr Pauline Dundon



## 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

Eugene Bianchini



## Rest In Peace

Dear Companions if you are aware of any companion/relative who has passed away, 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 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 1 September 2022.

Pilgrims must be vaccinated.

## REMINDER

Order your 2023 Josephite Calendars through Sr Maree Riddler rsj or phone the office (08) 9334 0999