

# A WINDOW OF HOPE FOR OUR WORLD

## The Presence of God ...

***“God gave me such a sense of his watchful presence.”***

**Mary MacKillop 1873**

From an early age, Mary had a deep sense of God working in her life. She spoke of feeling the presence of God at all times, *“when talking to old friends, strangers, the Sisters or the Priests.”* (1869)

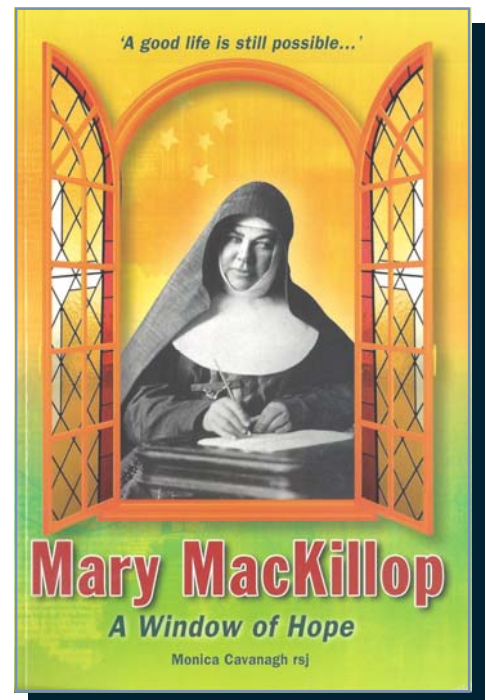
She was drawn to all things spiritual. Even in the painful moment of her excommunication she wrote of *“the calm beautiful presence of God I shall never forget.”* (1871)

Mary carried with her the sense of God’s presence as she visited her Sisters, talked with her mother, and encountered the stranger on her travels.

She was ever aware of the many signs of God’s love within and around her.

She wrote to Monsignor Kirby in 1873 saying,

***“It is by love God has always led me, by love that He reproves me, by love that He lets me see His love in all, whether pleasing or displeasing to nature which occurs to me.”***



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***Mary MacKillop’s sense of God’s presence invites US  
to be open to the beauty of God reflected in nature,  
in human encounters and in the breadth and depth of the universe.***

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***Amidst the seasons of Mary’s life, her faithfulness  
to the spiritual life is reflected in five underlying themes:***

- \* ***the presence of God,***
- \* ***trust in God,***
- \* ***the cross,***
- \* ***the will of God***  
***and***
- \* ***reverence for the dignity of all.***