



MARY MACKILLOP PLACE NEWSLETTER • FEAST DAY 2018

St Mary MacKillop Feast Day 8th August



Throughout the year people of different ages, from other faith traditions, cultures, walks of life come to pray at the Tomb of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. They bring with them their joys, sorrows, struggles and their prayers of thanks and petition. When we celebrate Mary's Feast Day on the 8th August, people come in great numbers to honour her by participating in the celebration of Mass, praying at her Tomb and sharing food and hospitality.

We can choose how we respond.

Perhaps in 2018 as we celebrate Mary MacKillop we can, like her, choose to see and act out of possibility rather than limitation believing that "God wants us by every means in our power to lead others to life."
Mary MacKillop 1899.

We invite you to join with us and other Pilgrims as we honour St Mary of the Cross MacKillop in a special way on the 8th August.

Masses will be celebrated at 8am, 10am and 1pm.

The Chapel will be open for private prayer and visits to Mary MacKillop's Tomb from 9am - 4pm.

The Mary MacKillop Place Museum will be open (free admission) from 9am - 4pm.

As we approach the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop let us pray: *God, may Mary's energy to overcome injustice empower us. May we, like her, make manifest your Presence in our troubled world. Amen.*

*Annie Bond rsj
Assistant Director -
responsible for Ministries*

Why is this so we might ask? It would seem that it is her utter goodness and trust in "our good God" that touches the heart. Recently I read the following, "She (Mary) was a resilient and tenacious woman who lived her life from the window of possibility rather than a place of limitation." (*Mary MacKillop - A Window of Hope, Monica Cavanagh rsj*) Our world today presents us with many challenges, the refugee crisis, the ungenerosity of nations, the desire for and misuse of power, climate change, civil war, poverty.....

INSIDE ►



LEGACY OF
MARY MACKILLOP

A message from
**SISTER
COLLEEN**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



A message from SISTER COLLEEN

Mary MacKillop Place, a Place of Pilgrimage

As a place of pilgrimage, Mary MacKillop Place is an important destination for thousands of visitors to North Sydney, who come to visit the tomb of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first saint. It is an 'oasis' in the midst of the hustle and bustle of a city business district. In the interests of enhancing our existing accommodation and dining facilities and accessibility to the site, Mary MacKillop Place is embarking on some exciting developments.

Short-term accommodation has been a core activity of Anderledy Lodge since it was renovated and refurbished in the 1960s. It is now no longer adequate for current needs and since the beatification and then Canonisation of Mary MacKillop, the number of pilgrims and visitors to the site has increased.



The area currently occupied by the existing building will be demolished and converted into an open, green space surrounded by a covered contemplative walkway and garden area suitable for outdoor celebrations.

The new building will be constructed on the William Street boundary of the property. The existing

Anderledy Lodge accommodation and dining facilities will remain operational until the new building is commissioned. The new Anderledy Lodge will provide 54 rooms in addition to the 28 rooms in the Temuka wing. It will also provide a new dining area, lounge and kitchen, reception area and access. The building has been designed to fit into the cultural and heritage significance of the site while responding to today's ecological and environmental concerns.



The Sisters of St Joseph have lived continuously on the site since Mary MacKillop arrived in 1884. This new development will assist in keeping her legacy alive into the future as it invites national and international pilgrims to be touched by her story.

The Development Application has been lodged with North Sydney Council and if approval is granted without any changes needed, it is hoped the building will begin sometime after March 2019.

I ask your prayers for the success of this project.

Colleen Keeble rsj,
Director.

Spirituality 2018

The Francis Effect -

The next Saturdays in the 2018 series being held at Mary MacKillop Place:

22 September - School House

27 October - Tenison Woods Room

10 am - 12 noon - entry by donation.

Feast Day, 8th August :

Masses 8am, 10 am, 1 pm.

Pedestrian entry via 80 William Street, (wheelchair access via Museum Gates, 7 Mount Street).

Chapel open for private prayer & visits to

Mary MacKillop's Tomb: 9 am - 4 pm

Museum open (free admission on 8th August) 8.30 am - 4 pm

Gift Shop & Cafe: 8 am - 4 pm

Enquiries: please see the Website: www.marymackillopplace.org.au

National Pilgrimage

The Sisters of St Joseph offer you the opportunity to journey to significant places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop.

Commencing in Melbourne on 23 October we experience the early life of Mary and the MacKillop Family.

The Pilgrimage continues to Hamilton, Portland & Port McDonnell. We travel to Penola and connect with the stories of Mary MacKillop & Julian Tenison Woods, before continuing to Robe and the church built by Fr Woods.

We continue to Adelaide where Mary professed her vows as a Sister of St Joseph.

From here we fly to Sydney and stay at Mary MacKillop Place, where Mary lived and died. We visit her tomb in the Memorial Chapel for reflection. The Pilgrimage ends on 3 November.

Further information please contact: Pilgrimage Co-Ordinator 02 8912 4818 national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - AUGUST - DECEMBER 2018



AUGUST

8 St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day: Masses 8 am, 10 am & 1 pm.

9 International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples 2018

14 Sacrament of Anointing - Chapel 11.30 am

15 Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass - Chapel 8 am, 1 pm

SEPTEMBER

8 Feast of the Nativity of Mary & 8th of Month Masses - Chapel 8 am, 10 am, 1 pm

22 The Francis Effect - 22 September - 10 am - 12 noon.

30

Social Justice Sunday Mass - Chapel 10 am

OCTOBER

7

Anniversary of the death of Father Julian Tenison Woods, Co-Founder, with Mary MacKillop, of the Sisters of St Joseph

8

8th of Month Masses - Chapel 8 am, 10 am, 1 pm

9

Sacrament of Anointing - Chapel 11.30 am

21-27

Pastoral Care Week 21 - 27 October

27

The Francis Effect - 27 October - 10 am - 12 noon.

NOVEMBER

8

8th of Month Masses - Chapel 8 am, 10 am, 1 pm

22

MMP Volunteers' Thanksgiving Mass 11 am

DECEMBER

8

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 8th of Month Masses - Chapel 8 am, 10 am, 1 pm

11

Sacrament of Anointing - Chapel 11.30 am

24

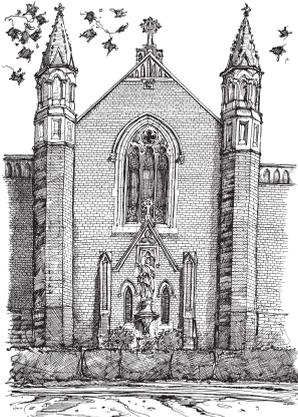
Carols and Christmas Vigil Mass - Chapel 7 pm

25

Christmas Mass 9 am (Chapel closed after Mass; Museum, Café closed)

26

Boxing Day (Chapel, Museum, Café closed)



Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel.

Drawing by Ian Marr 2013, used with permission.

A LIFE OUT OF THE *Ordinary*

*Recollections of Sr M Borgia Healey 22/11/1925,
Kincumber NSW.*

"When I entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, my first mission was to a place nearly 100 miles from Sydney. While there our dear Mother paid an unexpected visit to our convent. She was on her way to another convent further on, where one of our Sisters was ill.

When Mother arrived our mid-day meal was over, and as we were few in number and our resources small, there was not much food left over. I was alone in the house, the other Sisters being in the school close by. After greeting me she asked 'Are the Sisters in school?' I answered, 'Yes Mother.' Then she said 'Oh dear child I am on my way to another house further on to see a sick Sister. I left home early this morning and had only time to take a cup of tea, I am very tired and hungry, so prepare something for me whilst I run over to see the Sisters in the school. I shall not be long as the train leaves at three o'clock.'

I got ready what I could - a little steak. Mother came in a few minutes, and after a little delay the simple meal was set before her. Just as she was about to sit at the table a knock was heard. I went to the door and saw a poor, half-starved man badly clothed.

'Would you give me a bit to eat Miss?' he said, 'I can get no work in this town, nor anything to eat, and I am very weak.' Mother followed me to the door and when she saw the man she said: 'Sister dear, give that poor creature what you had ready for me. The very appearance of him would draw tears from a stone. A cup of tea and a slice of bread and butter will do well enough for me. It will do me more good to give him a dinner, poor old man - perhaps some father that the world has been hard with. My dear child we must do all we can for the honour and glory of God.'

I am many years now in religion and this action towards the poor man is ever present to me. And I have heard far greater deeds of charity and kindness, both spiritual and temporal, besides those of my own experience of our dear Mother Foundress."

*Extract from "Memories of Mother Mary by those who knew her. Sisters of St Joseph 1925 -1926" [Page 51].
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Stories from THE GUEST BOOK

"Mary MacKillop Place exceeded expectations. Room was very spacious, excellent Continental breakfast included.

Just a short walk from North Sydney railway station, it could hardly have been more convenient and the grounds are a relaxing oasis amongst the surrounding city buildings. We enjoyed our stay and will certainly return when next in Sydney."

"Have been here before quite a number of times. Staff are always helpful, room is very comfortable and location is great. The area around the building is lovely."

" Mary MacKillop Place is a walled retreat in an historical religious site in the middle of North Sydney. The amenities and styling are simple, in keeping with the environment, but there is everything I need plus the opportunity to learn more about Australia's first Saint at the Museum and Chapel on site."



*“ Simple
surroundings, peaceful
and spiritual. ”*

Stories from THE CURATOR'S OFFICE

NEW DISPLAY PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE FOUNDERS' SPIRITUAL INSPIRATION IN SERVING COLONIAL SCHOOL CHILDREN

The Museum is pleased to continue the partnership with the Archdiocese of Brisbane at St Stephen's Cathedral Precinct. The two rotating window displays adjacent to the Cathedral have been recently completed with items on loan from the Mary MacKillop Place Museum. The theme of this new display is the historical contribution of the Sisters of St Joseph to education in Australia. Over the decades that followed the founding of the Congregation, the education of children remained a high priority for the Sisters. Mary MacKillop understood that education means empowerment to those most vulnerable in society. Equipping the next generation to rise beyond poverty was at the heart of nurturing the dignity of the child.

The two displays interpret a colonial classroom highlighting the philosophic and spiritual inspiration of the founders of the Sisters of St Joseph. [Image courtesy of Sister Marie Dowling.]



Devotion to the Sacred Heart and to St Joseph provided a spiritual anchor for the new Congregation. The patronage of St Joseph was decided by Fr Julian Tenison Woods after witnessing the simplicity of the lifestyle of the Sisters of St Joseph in Le Puy-en-Velay, France, founded in 1650. Mary MacKillop wrote to her Sisters in 1898 of the patron's protection over

the Congregation, and reminded them that 'In St Joseph's care I leave you.'

Mary MacKillop's message to her Sisters for St Joseph's Feast Day emphasised kindness and charity, humility and obedience: 'Guard the spirit of charity, the spirit of charity so dear to him... Let us try to prove ourselves grateful children by closely imitating his hidden virtues, particularly his wondrous humility and obedience. In every difficulty, whether in school or in convent, apply to him with confidence and you will never be disappointed.'

Today, 152 years on from the founding of the Congregation, St Joseph holds a special place in the lives of the Sisters and in the schools and ministries founded in the Josephite tradition.

This display window at St Stephen's Cathedral includes objects that were associated with a classroom setting in the 19th century. [Image courtesy of Sister Marie Dowling.]



An item on loan from the Museum's collection is a 1952 Instructional School banner. Printed on canvas, this banner depicts works in which the Sisters of St Joseph were engaged. The wording includes 'As a Sister of St Joseph, I will work under the banner of the Sacred Heart.' Mary MacKillop's great devotion and trust in the Sacred Heart was affirmed in times of crisis and opposition. [Image Edwina Huntley]



Edwina Huntley, Curator,
Mary MacKillop Place Museum



MARY MACKILLOP PLACE

OUT OF THE Ordinary

Mary: A Story of Courage

An educational performance by Blue Whale Theatre

29th October
to

2nd November 2018



Mary MacKillop Place invites both Primary and Secondary school groups to view Blue Whale Theatre's production *Mary - A Story of Courage* at Mary MacKillop Place from 29th October to 2nd November 2018.

Places are limited so be sure to make your group booking through:

Blue Whale Theatre

Tel: 0401 418 232

info@bluewhaletheatre.com

Stories from THE CURATOR'S OFFICE

TEACHING THE TEACHER: A STUDENT'S RECOLLECTIONS

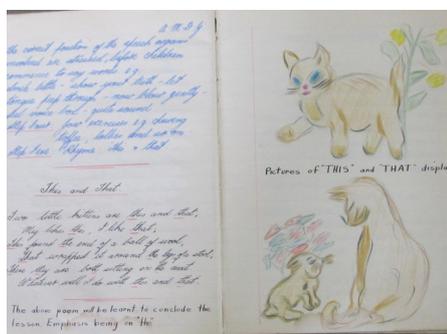


'We are the heart of our work. Our children will be no better than the effort we put into them.' Marie Scofield

I am reading these words written by a young woman in a notebook she created in 1964.

It was in that year that the writer, 18 year old Marie Schofield, walked through the doors of the Catholic Teachers College in Mount Street, North Sydney. Since 1958 the Teachers' College included lay student teachers with religious so Marie would be joined by 30 lay and religious students in her class. These young women were all keen to embark on a career as educators and responded to the opportunity to be trained under the Director of the Catholic Education Office, Monsignor Slowey, who supervised the introduction of lay staff in parochial schools. This was part of the Archdiocesan scheme for expanding the Catholic school system in Australia.

Marie undertook her studies in the building that still fronts Mount Street today. I met with Marie last year to formalise a donation to the Museum's collection. She was reminiscing of her younger days spent as a student at the College. Her desire was to give a set of four student notebooks spanning the years 1962-1964.



These notebooks contain lesson notes on the teaching of religion for sub-primary children. They contain reports on demonstration lessons, lesson plans for the classroom which includes the supervisor's comments at the end of each lesson.

The notebooks are filled with detailed, hand-drawn, colourful illustrations, collages of printed images, duplicated sheets of purple ink and hand drawn diagrams relating to the subjects of writing, poetry, storytelling, speech, counting, art and group reading for younger children. The notebooks are a rich resource in educational instruction for sub-primary aged children of this period and provide an insightful understanding of the highly practical teacher training system employed by lecturers for students attending the College.

At the time Marie was a student, training included a system of watching trained teachers providing demonstration classes and then students receiving assessment for three practice lessons prepared by students and conducted under supervision. Demonstration classes were held in the local Catholic Schools at North Sydney, Lavender Bay, Northbridge, Willoughby and Naremburn. This method of teaching by practical instruction, along with teaching theory lectures, established by the Sisters of St Joseph proved to be a highly effective teaching system.

Marie attended College full time in the first year. Second-year students were then expected to be teaching in the schools and attending the College on a part time basis. During the second year Marie was teaching at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Miranda, in the infants' division. Marie remembers that the class size was sixty children, which seems in today's learning environment to be overwhelming. Marie did point out that students were highly disciplined and that she managed partly due to the practice-based learning she received while in training.

She also shared her memories of one Sister of St Joseph, a lecturer who had a significant influence on her formative years in her career as a teacher. This lecturer was Sister Joachim Forbes.

For thirty years Sr Joachim was on staff at the Catholic Teachers College. As an educator of teachers, Sr Joachim was revered by many. Her academic lectures in disciplines such as Educational Psychology, Child Growth and Development, Principles of Catholic Education, Art of Storytelling and Infants Methods were highly valued.

Sr Joachim came to the College with a substantial teaching background. She received her professional training under the Victorian Department of Education. She also attended the University of Melbourne where she graduated in Arts and attained a Diploma in Education in 1936. After teaching in Education Department schools in Victoria, Veronica Forbes entered the Sisters of St Joseph in 1943 as Sr Joachim.

Marie has come full circle in living a life as an educator and has now returned the notebooks from where she gathered her knowledge. We are delighted to have these books which provide a tangible link to the history of the College and its students.



Stories from THE FIELD

SPIRITUAL FORMATION DAYS

FOR VOLUNTEERS

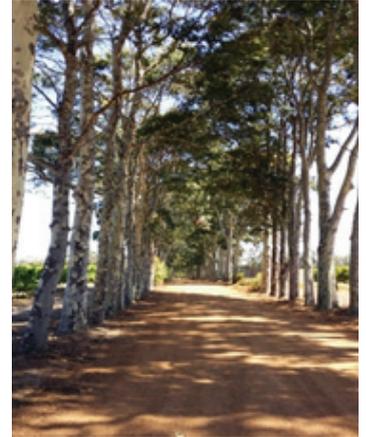
On the 4th and 5th of May the Mary MacKillop Place Volunteers were invited to a Spiritual Formation Day lead by Sr Catherine Shelton. The aim of such gatherings is to support and encourage all those who so generously and regularly give of their time at Mary MacKillop Place. We are very grateful for their ongoing commitment and know that the opportunity to stop, reflect and share together is much appreciated by all those who attend.

The topic chosen for the Formation Days was: **Seven Steps to Spiritual Sanity: Praying in Difficult Times**, which was based on the book 'Where the Hell is God?' written by Jesuit priest Richard Leonard.

Sister Catherine led the group to reflect on the theological truths he posed in negotiating our way through suffering and difficult times. Questions were raised, challenges were identified, and new insights were shared.

The group discussions were lively and energetic as life experiences were shared regarding statements from the book, which included –

- God is not out to get us.....
- We can grow through pain, but it is not sent to make us grow.....
- God does not will earthquakes, floods, drought, or other natural disasters.....
- God does not kill us off....



Sr Catherine's input and skilled approach benefited all the volunteers in understanding more deeply their own journey of faith, and in being more aware of the journey of faith of all they encounter while volunteering at Mary MacKillop Place. The volunteers are looking forward to the next gathering in September.

CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME POPE FRANCIS' LAUDATO SI

Paragraph 23. The climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all. At the global level, it is a complex system linked to many of the essential conditions for human life. A very solid scientific consensus indicates that we are presently witnessing a disturbing warming of the climatic system. In recent decades this warming has been accompanied by a constant rise in the sea level and, it would appear, by an increase of extreme weather events, even if a scientifically determinable cause cannot be assigned to each particular phenomenon. Humanity is called to recognise the need for changes of lifestyle, production and consumption, in order to combat this warming or at least the human causes which produce or aggravate it.



The problem is aggravated by a model of development based on the intensive use of fossil fuels, which is at the heart of the worldwide energy system

What choices do we have in switching to green energy?

Do I know where my electricity comes from?

Here at MMP we are changing all lights to LED lighting which is much more energy efficient and eco-friendly.

The Legacy of Mary MacKillop Place - a place of Pilgrimage

Would you like to continue Mary MacKillop's legacy and ensure that her legacy and that of the Sisters of St Joseph continues into the future?

Your gift is welcome now, or you might consider regular monthly gifts, or a bequest in your will.

If you are interested in supporting Mary MacKillop Place, please contact trish.downey@mmp.org.au for more information.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE MUSEUM

Museum Volunteer Tour Guides



The Museum continues to be a thriving hub for schools, parishes and recreation groups who seek to be immersed in the story of Australia's first saint. We are blessed to have a team of dedicated volunteer tour guides who give so generously of their time in sharing Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods' story.

In July a training day provided the opportunity for new and 'old' guides alike to depth an understanding of their role in the context of Mary MacKillop Place. It was also an opportunity to build on essential skills in object-based and inquiry-based learning. The practical component of working with items from the collection was certainly a highlight of the day.

If you would like to know more about being a volunteer tour guide please contact the

Volunteer Co-Ordinator
Mary MacKillop Place
Tel 8912 4880,
Email volunteer.coord@mmp.org.au

SPOTLIGHT ON THE GIFT SHOP

St Mary MacKillop Bone China Mug



A beautiful memento with St Mary MacKillop's image and signature on this fine Bone China Mug, with her quote on the opposite site "We have much for which to be thankful".

The boxed mugs are priced at \$19.95 each.

Enviro Shopping Bag

A strong, versatile and reusable eco bag featuring St Mary MacKillop's quote. This hessian bag measures approximately 35mm x 35mm x 19cm. Ideal to take on your next shopping trip, on a picnic or to the beach.

The bags are priced at \$5.95 each.

For all merchandise, please visit the MMP Gift Shop.

Order by email:
museum.shop@mmp.org.au
or call 02 8912 4894.



SPOTLIGHT ON ANDERLEDY LODGE

Mary MacKillop Place is in the heart of North Sydney.
A short stroll from the harbour foreshore and Blues Point Reserve.
Rooms start from \$350 per night.
*Conditions apply.



Come enjoy New Year's Eve in Sydney!



MARY MACKILLOP PLACE

OUT OF THE *Ordinary*

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