



MARY MACKILLOP PLACE NEWSLETTER • FEAST DAY 2019

St Mary MacKillop Feast Day 8th August

In 1909, at the time of Mary MacKillop's death, Fr Edward Carroll wrote to the Sisters saying, *'She (Mary MacKillop) adapted herself to the needs of all and had a mind and heart large enough for all. Her recognising no distinction of class or wealth, her wonderful confidence in God, and her holy faith in St Joseph were the secrets of her marvellous success, in which we all rejoice and for which we humbly thank the Giver of all good gifts.'* (Mary MacKillop – A Window of Hope by Monica Cavanagh rsj. Pg 82)

Each of these characteristics is to be admired and striven after. Perhaps, this year, as we celebrate Mary's Feast Day we could ponder just one of these characteristics, what it means to have a "mind and heart large enough for all." Maybe it is the capacity to look beyond and break through stereotypes, appearances, behaviours; perhaps it is about being attentive so as to notice another; or about taking time to be present to another; perhaps it about seeing in the other a human being just like myself, gifted and frail. Mary calls us to look, see, welcome and embrace.

We invite you to join us and many others on Thursday 8th August, as we honour St Mary of the Cross MacKillop in a special way.

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

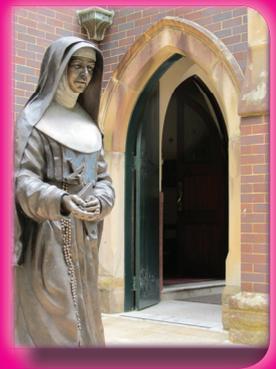
The Chapel will be open for private prayer and visits to Mary MacKillop's Tomb from 9am – 4pm.

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

As we approach the Feastday of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop let us ask Mary to continue journeying with us through this pilgrimage of life.

May our hearts and minds be like hers, *"large enough for all."*

*Annie Bond rsj
Assistant Director -
responsible for Ministries*



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LEGACY OF
MARY MACKILLOP

A message from
**SISTER
COLLEEN**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



A message from SISTER COLLEEN

Every six years the Sisters of Saint Joseph hold a General Chapter.

The General Chapter is the religious faith-community of the Sisters represented by elected and official Members united in the Spirit, called together by the Congregational Leader to reflect on the fidelity of the Congregation to its spirit, its charism and its mission in the Church. (Constitutions of Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart 29a)

Sisters from all parts of the Congregation come together to review, reflect, listen, dialogue and discern as decisions are made regarding the future direction for the Congregation. This is also the time when a new Congregational Leader and Council are elected, who then have the mandate to carry forward the vision of the Chapter for the next six years. The opening Mass will be on September 29 and the official proceedings will begin on September 30, concluding on October 15. This is an important time in the life of our Congregation, and we would be very grateful for your prayers.

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast Day of Mary MacKillop 110 years since her death, we also turn our attention to Julian Tenison Woods. On October 7, the Sisters of Saint Joseph and the Sisters of Perpetual Adoration will celebrate the 130th Anniversary of his death. Fr Julian was ordained in 1857 and became the first parish priest of South-East Australia, which included Penola. It was here that he met Mary MacKillop and together they shared the vision for a Congregation of women who would respond to the needs of children and families in rural areas. As well as a founder of Religious Congregations, Julian Tenison Woods is remembered as a zealous missionary, an eloquent preacher, a gifted musician, poet and artist, and an acclaimed scientist. Julian's spirituality was grounded in a deep awareness of God's presence in all people and the natural world, devotion to the Sacred Heart and great confidence in Mary the Mother of God. His trust in God's will helped him understand the purpose of his life and the acceptance of suffering and the Cross. Julian's spirituality certainly influenced Mary and the Sisters and gave them a strong foundation for the journey ahead.

Out of respect and love for the memory of Julian the founder, it was Mary's wish to "to start the building of an oratory, the Mother House Chapel, dedicated to St Joseph in memory of our departed Father." The Chapel, opened in 1891, still stands today and is used as the Tenison Woods Conference Room.

When we celebrate Mary MacKillop's Feast Day, let us also celebrate the gift of Julian Tenison Woods given to the Australian church. Let us continue his legacy in the ways that we respond to the ecological crisis of the natural world and to the injustices experienced by those on the margins of society.



Happy Feast Day everyone. May we be inspired by Mary and Julian and "*let us turn our faces and look into the heart of God and say: You are my way and into your heart I will look and leave all else to you.*" [JTW 1889]

Colleen Keeble rsj,
Director.



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 - 25th Anniversary

The Sisters of Saint Joseph offer you the opportunity to journey to significant places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop, on this the 25th anniversary pilgrimage.

Commencing in Melbourne on 22 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 Saint 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 2 November.

*Further information please contact:
Pilgrimage Co-Ordinator 02 89124818
national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - AUGUST - DECEMBER 2019



AUGUST

- 1 Museum exhibition "Journey To Water" by Rachel Carroll, continues til 1 Dec.
- 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
- 13 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 8th of Month Masses - Chapel 8 am, 10 am, 1 pm

29

Social Justice Sunday Mass -
Chapel 10 am

OCTOBER

7

130th Anniversary of the death of
Father Julian Tenison Woods,
Co-Founder, with Mary MacKillop,
of the Sisters of Saint Joseph -
Mass - Chapel 9 am

8

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

15

Sacrament of Anointing - Chapel
11.30 am

20-26

Pastoral Care Week 20 - 26 October

NOVEMBER

8

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

15

MMP Volunteers' Thanksgiving Mass 11 am

DECEMBER

8

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

10

Sacrament of Anointing - Chapel 11.30 am

24

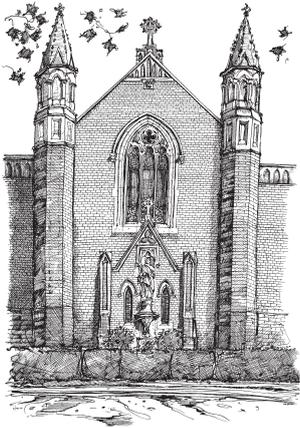
Carols 7 pm; Christmas Vigil Mass 7.30 pm
- Chapel

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 Celsus McManus 1925,
Barraba NSW.*

"On the day I entered I was taken by Sister M Casimir to visit Mother Mary and receive her blessing. The next occasion that I can remember is when our Chapter was called for the habit.

Another occasion is indelibly impressed on my memory. It was one 'Holy Hour' night and we were all in the Oratory. We (the novices) were sent for as the Sisters thought that Mother was really dying. I shall never forget the scene - the low bed, dear Mother lying there, some Sisters kneeling by and two priests Father Brennan SJ and Father Smith MSH. After a time both priests left - each gave his blessing before leaving. Then we were allowed to enter the room in 'twos' and kneel by our dear dying Mother and kiss her hand. I am sure this made a great impression on each of us, and I always feel grateful to God to have been so privileged.

Mother seemed to rally again after this and did not pass to her reward till the Sunday morning when we were sent again to the Oratory to pray for her. We were saying the Stations of the Cross at the time Mother passed away. We were almost finished when Sr M Alexis (RIP) came in and lighted the candles on Our Lady's altar - we felt that the end had come and when we had finished Sister told us that it was so.

During the day we were allowed to visit and pray by her dear remains. I placed my crucifix, rosary and other pious objects on her hands and to her dear lips. On the Monday the children came to school as usual. Sr La Merci said Mother would have wished it. The children, with the Sisters, visited the Oratory in groups to pray, and to look on those dear features. I had the privilege of bringing groups of little ones and lifting them up to look at the dear face of one who had loved and done so much for them.

I have her features in my mind very clearly. She seemed quite different from when she was in her chair. The Sisters said at the time she was more like what she was in health. We then had the pleasure of attending the Requiem Mass and Funeral. I remember persons taking soil from the grave when it was filled in. I thought at the time that people must have revered her as a saint....

The late Cardinal Moran visited Mother. I remember quite well his saying 'I consider I have this day assisted at the death-bed of a Saint.'

*Extract from "Memories of Mother Mary by those who knew her. Sisters of St Joseph 1925 -1926" [Pages 55-57].
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Stories from THE GUEST BOOK

*"At first glimpse this deal seemed too good to be true... better than I could've imagined, with friendly staff, helpful and happy to mind luggage before check-in so that I could explore what Sydney has to offer without lugging my bags around. Located in North Sydney (across the Bridge) it's just a short 15 minute train ride from the city.
10/10 - highly recommended."*

"It's unlike any other place because Australia's first Saint lived, died and is buried here. It's a tranquil oasis in the midst of busy North Sydney, truly a place out of the ordinary. We visited the Chapel, browsed the Museum and enjoyed a coffee. It's housed in the original "practice school" for novices built in the 1900s, offering a window into the mid-Colonial to pre-Federation period of Australian history. Five star."

"The place is calm, peaceful and serene amid the business and bustle of a big city. My room was clean, spacious and quiet. Food was good. Well-kept grounds. The people are all friendly and helpful. I love the Chapel. Would recommend to travellers in Sydney city."



*“ Simple
surroundings, peaceful
and spiritual. ”*

Stories from THE CURATOR'S OFFICE

From Mary's Desk: An Exhibition that deepens our understanding of Mary MacKillop

Mary MacKillop's spirit continues to inspire visitors in Brisbane with the unveiling of a new display in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Brisbane and Mary MacKillop Place Museum. The St Stephen's Cathedral Precinct which includes the two display windows visible from the grounds have been attracting visitors since 2016.

The new display of Museum collection items and furnishings is designed to illustrate the office of the later years of Mary MacKillop's life from 1900 - 1909. Objects which belonged to Mary MacKillop are arranged on the



S-roll style 1900 solid oak desk. This desk, originally from the Congregational Offices of the Sisters of Saint Joseph in Mount Street, may have been used by Mary MacKillop. A typewriter of the same model and vintage as the one used by Mary MacKillop from 1904 was purchased for the display.

In it is a facsimile of an original typed letter to the Sisters (27 September 1904), addressed from St Joseph's Convent, Mount Street, North Sydney:

"My first typewritten letter to you will, I hope, be followed by many more. First let me tell you that I am wonderfully improved in health, sleep much better, and walk about leaning on a Sister's arm, or with a stick, every day feeling stronger. I hope when we meet at Christmas you will see the truth of this for yourselves...."

In January 1904 Mary had written in pencil to her Sisters, "Again I write with my left hand. Excuse brevity and pencil. The hand suffers from rheumatism."

It is as if Mary herself was engaged in the business of directing the Congregation from this very desk. Newly written letters and correspondence received are ready for her attention. St Joseph is watching over her and the typewriter cover is on the chair beside her ready for when the typewriter is to be transported with her belongings on the next journey.

On the desk is a devotional card belonging to Mary MacKillop, depicting an image of St Joseph and Child. This was reproduced between the years 1879-1880. The photographer Herbert Bertram Solomon operated a successful shop and photographic gallery in Armidale NSW. The studio produced many devotional images and this photographic image represents the work of the Italian sculptor and artist Giuseppe Mazzuoli (1644-1725). On the reverse of the card a friend has handwritten "St Joseph and Infant to Mother Mary from AN Petre, Armidale."

*Devotional card,
from original photograph by
Herbert Bertram Solomon,
Armidale NSW, 1879-1880.
Mary MacKillop Place Museum.
2017. 49.*



A notable book in the collection, *Directory and Community Prayers for the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph*, printed in 1905 in Latin and English, accompanies the St Joseph and Child card on the desk. This copy was in Mary MacKillop's possession, and the inscription written on the flyleaf reads, 'For the use of Mother Mary'.

This window successfully portrays an aspect of the frailty and dignity of Mary MacKillop in the final years of her life. The Museum is proud to collaborate with this continuing project for interpreting the true spirit of this woman, Australia's Saint, to new audiences.

Edwina Huntley,
Curator,
Mary MacKillop Place Museum

Stories from THE CURATOR'S OFFICE

Journey to Water – Artwork in Focus

This exhibition opens in the Museum on 26th July and includes a series of drypoint etchings with watercolour prints of specific birds and fish who inhabit the Murray - Darling River Basin. This series from the works of an environmental artist has been reproduced for educational purposes and will be utilised in the Primary School focus tours operating for the duration of the exhibition.

The Murray-Darling Basin is widely recognised as a region that is critically important in ecological terms. The Basin is a place of floodplains, wetlands and ancient River Red Gum forests, of pelicans, ibis, swans, parrots, blue wrens and kingfishers. It provides habitats for native frogs, turtles, lizards, yabbies, Murray Cray and a variety of unique fish, including the Macquarie Perch and the great Murray Cod.



The Macquarie Perch, © Rachel Carroll 2019.

The sustained loss of birds and fish through the ecological decline of sections of the river have resulted in a national outcry for working towards sustainable environmental solutions to protect the habitat of such native species. Sadly, the Macquarie Perch has been officially added to the list of endangered native species.

"Rivers in the Murray Darling Basin are generally in poor ecological condition...the current level of health is less than what is required for ecological sustainability...if the situation continues to deteriorate the livelihoods of millions of people will be directly threatened, the output of Australia's agricultural heartlands will wither and many native species of plants and animals may be lost forever."
Murray Darling Basin Commission 2003.

Environmental artists present a critical examination on the true challenges Australia faces in protecting our most valued resource - water.



*The Barmah:
The Murray River Sunset,
© Rachel Carroll 2019.*

Stories from THE FIELD

Volunteer Co-Ordinator

On Easter Tuesday 23 April 2019, I took up my new ministry role at Mary MacKillop Place as the Volunteer Co-Ordinator. I arrived fresh from the Orange Parish where I was the Pastoral Associate for the past 8 years.

Mary MacKillop Place is a place of prayer and pilgrimage and both aspects are greatly enhanced by the generous contribution of over 100 volunteers. These women and men, old and young serve the pilgrims so faithfully. Some volunteers have been here for many years.

They are rostered on to work in the Chapel, Museum, Café, Gift Shop, Pastoral Care office and grounds. I interview each new volunteer to determine suitability and to see where best they can be placed, using their unique gifts. It is beautiful to hear the stories of why they want to join our team.

Once accepted as a volunteer, they sign an

agreement, stating that they will do their best to be hospitable and gracious, respecting all who come, in the spirit of Mary MacKillop and the ethos of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. From my observations so far, they do this beautifully!

Another aspect of my role is to assist couples who are planning either a baptism or wedding in the Chapel. Certain criteria has to be met and once again it is heart warming to read the reasons why they want to hold these important events in the Mary MacKillop Chapel.

Mary MacKillop has touched these people in a special way and they share a Josephite heart.

Helen Saunders, rsj
Volunteer Co-Ordinator,
volunteer.coord@mmp.org.au



SWAP THIS FOR THAT CAMPAIGN

Did you know?

- Australians use approximately 3.9 billion plastic bags per year
- An estimated 420 million plastic bottles enter Australia's marine environment every year
- Australians use an estimated 1 billion disposable coffee cups each year, 90% of which end up in landfill
- Studies predict our oceans will contain more plastics than fish by 2050
- 18,000 pieces of plastic are estimated to float in every square kilometre of ocean (Tangaroa Blue)
- One million plastic bottles are sold every minute globally.

Here at Mary MacKillop Place, we are trying to eliminate plastic waste.

The Swap This for That campaign is spreading across the country. We would love you to try as well! Take the pledge today, make a positive change for our environment, and feel good at the same time.



I pledge that I will not use:

- ✓ Disposable coffee cups
- ✓ Single use plastic bags
- ✓ Plastic straws
- ✓ Single use plastic water bottles

Time Period:

- ✓ Forever!
- Or for the month/s of.....

"Never see a need without doing something about it."
Mary MacKillop.

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

MMP Museum Exhibition: Journey to Water - Rachel Carroll

26th July - 1st December 2019

10 am - 4 pm daily.



In this exhibition you are invited to journey through Australia's largest river system.

View paintings and mixed media artworks, studies of bird and fish species by Rachel Carroll, inspired by her site visits to sections of the Murray Darling River System.

This survey exhibition created over an eight year period reveals the devastating environmental impact of the once 'mighty Murray'.

The Sisters of Saint Joseph are committed to the ongoing 'care of the Earth' through sustainable living. This exhibition urges Australians to pause and critically rethink issues affecting the ecological, cultural and economic sustainability of our nation.

For more information:

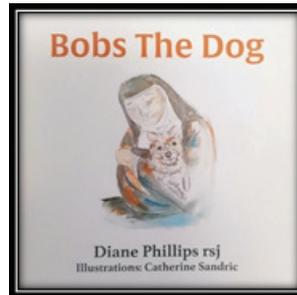
www.marymackillopplace.org.au

Mary MacKillop Place Museum

7 Mount Street, North Sydney 2060

SPOTLIGHT ON THE GIFT SHOP

New Books for Children:

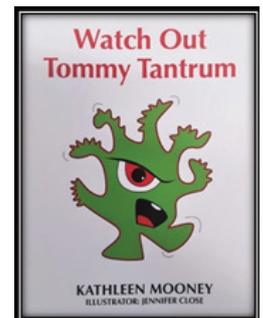


Bobs The Dog

This book is by Diane Phillips rsj and illustrated by Catherine Sandric. The story is told by Mary MacKillop's pet dog, Bobs. He tells you how he helped make Mary's life more enjoyable with the help of a Josephite Sister who befriended him. Priced at \$16.95.

Watch Out Tommy Tantrum

In this book by Kathleen Mooney, the tantrum is externalised. It becomes something outside the child who experiences more control over the tantrum. In this book a naughty little mouse learned, with Mother's help, to give up Tommy Tantrum and have more fun and happiness. Illustrated by Jennifer Close, the book is priced at \$16.95.



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

Come & enjoy New Year's Eve in Sydney!
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.



MARY MACKILLOP PLACE

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