

DONALD MACKILLOP: PRIEST AND MISSIONARY

No	Image	Teacher Instruction	Text
1	Title		Donald MacKillop Priest and Missionary
2	Donald MacKillop		Mary MacKillop was the eldest of eight children. Her brother Donald was born 27 April 1853. He was the seventh of the MacKillop children.
3	J T Woods		When he was thirteen, Donald studied Latin at Penola with Father Woods, who organized a scholarship for him to do further study at St Aloysius Jesuit College at Sevenhill, in South Australia.
4	St Aloysius, Sevenhill.	<p>Stop the PowerPoint and discuss/research answers to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ who began the Society of Jesus and when? ▪ Where was the Founder born? <p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Role play the story of the Founder's conversion. ▪ List some other well-known Jesuits? 	Donald was at Sevenhill for five years and in 1872 he joined the Society of Jesus. At that time he was only the third Australian to join them. We know the members of the Society of Jesus as Jesuits. Did you know that Pope Francis is a member of the Society of Jesus?

5	Annie, Mary & Donald		<p>Donald and Mary were very close to each other. When Donald was ordained to the priesthood on 20th September in 1885 he wrote to Mary saying:</p> <p><i>What a fine cry you will have over this! Immediately on returning to the Sacristy and before anyone else could get my blessing, I wrote it down for you. I intended filling out the whole sheet but it was only in pencil and got so crumpled that I have rewritten the blessing – but you had my first blessing. Before I could write the second – the one I enclose – Rev Fr Provincial was kneeling before me.</i></p>
6	Daly River Mission Staff and aboriginal children		<p>In 1886 Donald was appointed to the Jesuit Aboriginal Mission in the Northern Territory. He spent 13 years there, ministering at Rapid Creek Station near Palmerston, and in the Daly River area.</p>
7	Hymn Book	<p>Stop the PowerPoint. Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Survey the class – what languages, other than English, do the students in the class speak? ▪ From what countries do they come? ▪ What words are you able to say in a language other than English? 	<p>While he was at the Daly River he learnt the languages of the people: Mulluk Mulluk and Larrakia. He used these languages when teaching the people. The Jesuits also translated hymns into these languages so the people could worship in their own language.</p>

8	Aboriginal implements		<p>While working in the Northern Territory, Donald was a pioneer in seeking to understand and work with the Indigenous peoples of Australia. He studied their customs, languages and life. He worked tirelessly for the welfare of Aboriginal Australians by trying for many years to obtain financial support for them. He also worked to enable the preservation of their tribal life and culture. He honoured the peoples with and for whom he ministered. In turn the people of the Daly River held Donald in great esteem.</p>
9	Alligator	<p>Stop the Power and discuss the following questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do you think Mary would have felt on hearing this? ▪ How do you feel when you hear about people who are in difficult/dangerous situations? ▪ Think of a particular difficult situation someone you know was in? <p>Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draw a comic to illustrate what you could do to help a person through this difficult situation? 	<p>Donald had quite a sense of humour. When Mary MacKillop received the news that the Sisters of Saint Joseph had been approved as a Congregation, Donald wrote and congratulated her. In his letter he told her about being in a boat and having to wade ashore in the dark more than knee deep through mud – and alligators!</p>

10	Native foods	<p>Stop the PowerPoint and brainstorm other native foods that we can eat. How do you tell what plant foods are safe for us to eat? What native foods have you eaten? Record your ideas.</p>	<p>In another letter to Mary in 1888 Donald wrote:</p> <p><i>"I stayed with the natives three nights. They treated me like a king. Told me I was the first white man who ever trusted his life to them and gave me the best of everything. Snakes about seven feet long were served for dinner once and really there are worse things than snakes. However, I liked iguanas better."</i></p>
11	Donald MacKillop		<p>Donald left the Mission in 1897, due to constant ill health and the stress of dealing with ongoing difficulties such as flooding, influenza epidemics, inadequate food, cattle disease and deaths on the Mission. When Donald left the Daly River Mission he worked in Jesuit parishes in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide.</p>
12	Cross		<p>On the 27th May 1902 Donald wrote to Mary, glad that she was recovering from her stroke. In this letter he spoke of Mary's religious title "Mary of the Cross". He said:</p> <p><i>"Mary of the Cross! What a glorious name, my sister. How true, too, in your eventful life...God is good. If you have had the cross as your portion, you have also won the love of Australia. God bless you, my suffering Mary and repay to you in the gifts of his love, some part of the debt I owe to your sisterly affection."</i></p> <p><i>Ever your loving brother Donald MacKillop sj</i></p>

13	Procession of Mary MacKillop's body to St Mary's Church	<p>Stop the PowerPoint. Donald and Mary both had struggles and disappointment in life. Discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do you think Donald would have felt when he had to leave the Daly River Mission? ▪ How do you manage your disappointments? ▪ What do you think Donald meant when Donald said that Mary's title "Mary of the Cross" was a glorious name? <p>Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Write a letter to someone special to you telling them about how you manage your disappointments. 	<p>In 1908 Donald returned to Richmond, Victoria where he remained until 1910. When Mary died on the 8th August 1909, Donald was saying Mass for her. Both he and their sister Annie were present at Mary's Requiem Mass that took place in St Mary's Church, North Sydney, and her burial in the Gore Hill Cemetery, located in the present-day suburb of St Leonards.</p>
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14	Scotland		<p>In his later life, Donald wrote his memoirs, telling of his family's origins in the braes of Lochaber in the Highlands of Scotland and of their decision to migrate to Australia. He described having been told by Uncle Peter about the first Mass celebrated in Melbourne, when many MacKillop relatives had been present.</p>
15	Cross with resurrected Jesus		<p>Donald also recounted his mother's story about how Father Geoghegan, the first resident priest in Melbourne, had given Flora a relic of the True Cross to wear until her first child was born. Today, we know Flora's daughter as "Saint Mary of the Cross."</p>
16	St Ignatius statue & Norwood Church		<p>Donald MacKillop spent his last years at Norwood in Adelaide where he died on 17th February 1925, aged 71 years. He is buried in the West Terrace Cemetery in Adelaide beside his brother priests.</p>
17	Josephite Cross and plaque in St Ignatius Church		<p>The Jesuits at St Ignatius Church in Norwood, Adelaide had supported Donald's sister Mary during the time of her excommunication. They offered her shelter, hospitality and spiritual support.</p> <p>This Josephite Cross and plaque note the kindness of the Jesuits. It was in this Church that Mary and several Sisters were readmitted to wearing their habit on 19th March 1872.</p>

18	Donald		<p>Your teacher has some activities for you to do. I hope you will enjoy doing them and learn even more about Donald MacKillop.</p> <p>Thank you for listening to some of the story of Mary MacKillop's brother Donald, especially his work with the Aboriginal peoples of the Northern Territory.</p>
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Contact: Sr Annie Bond *Assistant Director, Mary MacKillop Place.*