



MARY MACKILLOP PLACE NEWSLETTER • 2022

Christmas Edition

Among the plants growing in the gardens of Mary MacKillop Place are the Agapanthus. Gazing at the buds one wonders will the flowers be mauve or white? And, how long will it be before the colour is revealed? The waiting begins, looking each day for the slightest indication that the bud is opening. Then one day a slight opening appears. Each day that opening grows bigger and bigger as each little piece of the whole unfolds until the mauve or white flower is fully revealed. As one views the whole garden, the Agapanthus are in varying stages, not all is revealed at once, there is an ongoing cycle.



The Agapanthus can be an image of our liturgical year, birth, growth, fulfillment, death, new life. For now, as we journey through Advent, a season of waiting, we might ask ourselves, for what are we waiting? And we would most likely answer, "Christmas; the birth of Jesus, the long-awaited Messiah." We also wait for the coming of Jesus, the Christ, into our daily lives. A presence that brings fruitfulness, healing, promise, encouragement, invitation. We are called to give expression to this presence in the way we live each day – the way in which we reach out to those in need; the ways in which we are kind; the way in which we care for our environment; the way we work for peace, justice, equality and dignity for all. These will be signs that the reign of God continues to become a reality.

The waiting of Advent gives way to the birth of Emmanuel – the one who comes as Peace, Love and Joy.

To what are you waiting to bring to birth on your journey of life?

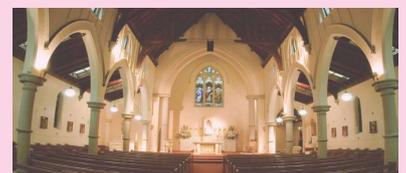
Annie Bond rsj – Assistant Director responsible for Ministries

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LEGACY OF
MARY MACKILLOP

A message from
**SISTER
COLLEEN**



MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP UPDATES



A message from SISTER COLLEEN



Another year has passed, and we are now in the time of Advent. As we know this is a time of waiting. Waiting has been echoed many times throughout 2022 when the uncertainty of COVID-19 was still very much in our lives, when we here at MMP have been waiting for our activities to return to 'normal', waiting for the rain to stop and so on. I'm sure each one of you has had your own time of waiting throughout the year as well. Advent is a time when we can reflect on the presence of God in our lives as we look back and anticipate the joy of celebrating that presence in the birth of Jesus.

During the past months, it has been good to hear the delight of guests expressed after they have experienced the new accommodation or the dining facilities in Anderledy Lodge. It has been wonderful to see school children after visiting the Museum, taking advantage of Glen Roy Green as they played together before returning to their schools. Welcoming back former guests has re-energised the staff and provided glimpses of normality. New staff, former staff and those who have been with us during the construction and COVID-19 lockdowns are all working together in their commitment to the mission of Mary MacKillop Place. In spite of the challenges that this year has presented, in Mary MacKillop's words *'we have much for which to be thankful'*. (1873)



The MMP Board has developed a new Strategic Plan to be implemented from 2023 – 2025. This will provide direction for the next three years, moving forward from the reopening of our site and facilities, ensuring sustainability into the future.

This Christmas may we all stay safe and well. For some it will be the first time families have been able to gather together since the pandemic outbreak. I pray that it will be a time of peace, joy and love for everyone as we celebrate the gift of God's love for us.



Colleen Keeble rsj,
Director.

May our good God grant you all a holy and truly happy Christmas. We can all meet together in spirit at the Crib of our loving Infant and can recommend our several wants and pray for one another. I wish you every grace and blessing of this holy time with fondest love. (19.12.1881)

Stories from THE CURATOR'S OFFICE

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have a long history associated with the Māori people of Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Museum's collection holds items that are identified as bi cultural in their expression of faith and cultural links. These objects once belonged to Sisters who had personal connections to the indigenous culture, in ministry areas, as early as 1880. It was in this period that four Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart from the Diocesan foundation at Perthville, NSW, arrived at Whanganui. Through their ministry over the decades to come, the Sisters encouraged all expressions of Māori culture and Māori language.

I selected this piece from the Māori collection for its detailed stylised carving and story of its creation. This small finely carved figure is a wonderful example of bi cultural expression and is carved from the shin bone of a cow. The tiki represents a human being, the face is slanted to the left with a protruding tongue and paua shell eyes, but the body is serpent-like, and unusual in form.

This Heitiki figure has a very personal story to tell. The piece was carved by a prison inmate for Pa Henare Tate in 1985, in appreciation for his spiritual and cultural guidance. The inmate included an inverted cross to the base of the carving in memory of St Peter with the wish that the inmate would not die in a like manner.



The significance of the object lies in the meaning of the tiki. To own a tiki is said to bring healing and wellbeing to the owner. It is said that the tiki was the first fully formed human male created by either Tūmatauenga or Tāne (ancient gods). His origin was in Hawaiki, the homeland in Polynesia. He is a styled figure of the human body because it was considered tapu - a restriction to safeguard sacredness and dignity - to depict an ancestor in human form.

*Edwina Huntley, Curator,
Mary MacKillop Place Museum*

Environment: 2022

Our new Anderledy Lodge Solar system has been quietly working away reducing our dependance on fossil fuels. Our Environmental Benefits, achieved using renewable energy are:

Environmental Equivalents of

- Operate a TV for 14,643 days
- The pollution an average passenger car emits over 20.7 years
- The energy to power 389 computers for a year.

Greenhouses Gases

- 207 022 lb. of Carbon Dioxide
- 84.40 lb. of Nitrogen Oxide
- 19.70 lb. of Sulfur Dioxide

Carbon Offset

- Ninety-four metric tons,

Our carbon offset is equivalent to the work of twenty acres of pine forest.

Australia leads the world in rooftop solar, so if you have been considering installing why not join us and enjoy the benefits.



Ross Handsaker, Environmental & Technical Manager.

SPOTLIGHT ON ANDERLEDY LODGE



As we now close in on our second Christmas in Anderledy Lodge and the Temuka Apartments after our relaunch in November 2021, our ensuite rooms are once again being fully utilised by our guests. As always, we endeavour to provide quiet and comfortable accommodation with the warmth of hospitality for which the Mary MacKillop Site has become known.

Our next project is to change the way in which we display our complimentary breakfast. We continually strive to reduce our environmental impact of the packaging. We seek to deliver unique and inspiring experiences that create an easy, no hassle environment for our guests whilst reducing waste from individual packaged products.

Our Conference facilities' occupancy has continued to increase throughout this past year. We welcomed back many former groups as we slowly returned to a more familiar way of life again after so many restrictions of the past few years.

We look forward to welcoming you to Anderledy and Temuka in the New Year 2023, be it for accommodation or for a day conference, where our friendly team will endeavour to help in any way we can.

For bookings call 89124800 or email anderledy.reservations@mmp.org.au

Trent Kerr-Smith, Hospitality Manager.

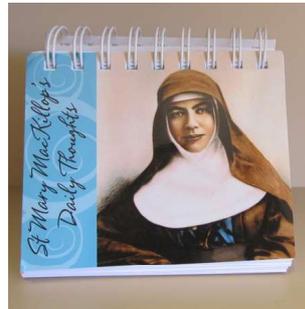
SPOTLIGHT ON THE GIFT SHOP

2023 Josephite Calendar

Family and friends will be delighted if presented with this beautiful and inspiring calendar as a Christmas gift. Inside you will find inspirational writings and quotes from the Founders - St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods. The calendar also features wonderful photographs taken by the Sisters and Companions, significant dates in Josephite History, contact details of Centres in Australia and New Zealand and much more for only \$9.95.



St Mary MacKillop Daily Thoughts Calendar



With this perpetual calendar we can journey through the year with St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

The calendar contains a selection of quotes from Mary's letters giving us a taste of her thoughts and spirituality. It sells at \$24.95 and would be perfect on a desk or bedside table for daily inspiration.

For all merchandise visit the MMP Gift Shop, order by email museum.shop@mmp.org.au or telephone 02 89124894.

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 Saint 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 MMP, please contact trish.downey@mmp.org.au for more information.



MARY MACKILLOP PLACE

OUT OF THE *Ordinary*

7 - 11 Mount Street
North Sydney NSW 2060
PO Box 1081
North Sydney NSW 2059
Tel (02) 8912 4800

www.marymackillopplace.org.au

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