

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF
**MARY
MACKILLOP**

An official Pilgrimage
lead and run by the
Sisters of Saint Joseph
of the Sacred Heart

PILGRIMAGE - 9th - 20th September 2025



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EMBARK ON A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

Immerse yourself in the timeless tradition of pilgrimage and become a modern-day pilgrim on a transformative expedition that delves deep into the heart of faith.

WHY CHOOSE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP

The 2025 Pilgrimage will offer a unique opportunity to celebrate the Year of Jubilee as a Pilgrim of Hope.



Embark on a journey initiated by the Sisters of Saint Joseph 29 years ago, with over 1,000 participants having joined since. Accompanying and guiding you on your pilgrimage will be Annie Bond, a Sister of Saint Joseph, who is passionate about all areas of spirituality and pilgrimage.

Led by Sr Annie Bond, a Sister of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart, this pilgrim focuses on prayer and reflection as an integral part of pilgrimage.

At each of the sites we visit we take time to pray and reflect on our own lives in the light of Mary MacKillop's life.

NB: You will be provided with a beautiful pilgrimage book with prayer texts, reflection pages and hymns.

Flights, Breakfast Lunch & Dinner L/B/D together with occasional morning and afternoon tea are included.

Mary MacKillop Place invites you to The National Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop."

Join us on this profound journey, tracing the path of the Australian trailblazer, Mary MacKillop.

This pilgrimage invites you to explore sacred sites integral to her inspiring story. Through prayer and reflection, connect with the essence and spirituality of Mary MacKillop as she dedicated herself to addressing needs with compassion. Witness first-hand how her legacy continues to thrive both in Australia.

Reserve your spot today and be part of a pilgrimage resonating with the spirit of compassion, courage, and faith. Don't miss the chance to enrich your life with the remarkable story of Mary MacKillop and contribute to her legacy.

Annie has ministered as Pastoral Associate and leader of parishes in Queensland, as well as a Director of St Joseph's Retreat and Conference Centre, Baulkham Hills.

More recently you will find Annie working as the Mission and Ministry Manager at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney.

She holds a Graduate Diploma in Theology through Brisbane College of Theology, and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies, Certificate in Biblical Studies and a Doctor of Ministry degree through Catholic Theological Union, Chicago.

Annie will be joined by Garry McLean who was the inaugural Director of the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre in Melbourne.

Garry, has many years experience of leading this pilgrimage which promises to be a deeply immersive experience.

Be part of a pilgrimage that goes beyond a mere journey - it's a chance to let Mary's story inspire and uplift your spirit.



DAY 1

Tuesday 09/09/2025 MELBOURNE D Flight from point of departure

Coach from Tullamarine Airport to Accommodation at the Mantra, 133 Jolimont Rd, East Melbourne.

Meet and greet your pilgrimage companions at a special welcome dinner.

DAY 2

Wednesday 10/09/2025 MELBOURNE B/L/D

Today we travel by luxury coach to the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre: 362 Albert Street, East Melbourne, where we will be welcomed by the Centre Director.

Hear the story of buildings and their connection with Mary MacKillop.

- Introduction to the meaning of Pilgrimage
- Commissioning Liturgy
- Lunch
- Mass in the Heritage Centre Chapel

In the afternoon we visit St Francis' Church. Mary MacKillop's parents were married in the original church and Mary was Baptised, received her First Communion and was Confirmed here.

Travelling to Point Ormond we remember the arrival of the Glen Huntly in Port Philip Bay.

Catherine MacDonald, with two children Flora and Donald were on board.

At St Kilda Cemetery we take time to pray at the grave of Peter MacKillop, Mary's uncle, and Mary's sister, Annie. We remember all those who are dear to us.

We end the day with a beautiful dinner at the Il Dulca Restaurant and return to our accommodation.



DAY 3

Thursday 10/09/2025 MELBOURNE B/L/D

This morning, we visit the site of Mary's Birth, St Mary of the Cross Square and Chapel at ACU.

Returning to the MacKillop Heritage Centre we enjoy Morning Tea and then tour the Mary MacKillop Museum to learn more about Mary's life and work.

After lunch we travel to "Little Lon" - Lonsdale Street in the heart of Melbourne. Sisters ministered here to the poorest of the poor.

We visit St Patrick's Cathedral and return to our accommodation where we conclude our day with dinner.

DAY 4

Friday 12/09/2025 MELBOURNE to PORTLAND via HAMILTON B/L/D

Enjoy travelling through the beauty of creation as we make our way to Hamilton.

Enjoy lunch at St Mary's Parish Centre. Our lunch donation helps support a drug rehabilitation centre in Melbourne.

We take time to pray in the Church, remembering Alexander and Flora, then travel to Alexander's grave. Here we remember him as a man of justice and kindness.

As the day draws to a close, we head to Portland, where we enjoy dinner at the Richmond Henty Inn.

Then on to our overnight accommodation at the Quest apartments.



DAY 5

Saturday 13/09/2025 PORTLAND to PENOLA B/L/D

We begin our day in Portland by gathering at the Well from which Flora and the local residents drew water for their needs.

Once on the coach we make a short journey to the original site of "Fitzroy Cottage" where Mary lived with Mrs Duncan Cameron, a relative, and was governess to Mrs Cameron's daughters.

Then it is on to "Bayview House", now "Bayview College". This was the family residence where, for a short while, the whole family was happily together. We visit all Saints Church which is significant in Mary's story. She spent many hours praying here and so we take time to pause and pray with Mary.

Travelling on to Nelson we enjoy lunch along the picturesque river.

Then it is on to Penola via Mount Gambier. Time permitting, we visit the stunning Blue Lake and the Umpherstone Sinkhole with its beautiful sunken garden.

Our overnight accommodation is at the Alexander Cameron Motel and Coonawarra Motel if required.

The parents of the Mary MacKillop Memorial School host us for dinner.

DAY 6

Sunday 14/09/2025 PENOLA B/L/D

Today we join the Penola community for Mass.

After Morning Tea we are introduced to the Interpretative Centre, School House and Penola Station House. See here the chalice that belonged to Fr Julian Tenison Woods and the Clarke Medal that he was awarded.

There is plenty of time to explore the site and get in touch with the spirit of Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods.

After lunch we visit the Stable Park, where it all began, and enjoy a short tour of the town of Penola. You are then free to explore the historic township of Penola and get to know some of the other people of significance in the history of Penola.

We gather in the late afternoon for prayer and reflection before being treated to dinner by the parents of the school. Our contribution supports various projects undertaken by the school for the benefit of the students.

We are accommodated overnight at the Alexander Cameron Motel and the Coonawarra Motel.

DAY 7

Monday 15/09/2025 PENOLA to ADELAIDE via THE COORONG B/L/D

Heading off early we travel to the idyllic seaside town of Robe. Our Lady Star of the Sea Church was one of three that Fr Julian Tenison Woods commissioned to be built.

The Sisters lived at the back of the Church and taught school in the church itself. On the way to lunch today at Meningie, on the shores of the beautiful Lake Albert/Yarli, we travel through the Coorong and view the Pink Lakes.

While enjoying lunch you can watch the pelicans gracefully landing, riding the gentle waves, and taking off again.

On the way to Adelaide we travel alongside the "mighty Murray" before descending through the Adelaide Hills to our accommodation at the Royal Coach Hotel' and dinner.

DAY 8

Tuesday 16/09/2025 ADELAIDE B/L/D

Our first stop today is St Mary's Church, Port Adelaide. It was at Port Adelaide that Fr Woods met Mary MacKillop and Sr Rose Cunningham on their arrival from Penola.

He took them to St Mary's and introduced them to the community.

Lunch is at the Mary MacKillop Centre, Kensington. This was the original Mother House, before it relocated to North Sydney. Here we will be introduced to the content of the Museum where we will learn about a number of the early Sisters.

After a quick cuppa we will head off to St Francis Xavier Cathedral and take some time for our personal reflection in the Cathedral.

We return to our accommodation and evening meal.





DAY 9

Wednesday 17/09/2025 ADELAIDE to SYDNEY Flight B/L/D

Today we return to Kensington and celebrate Mass in the Chapel, where Mary would have spent much time in prayer.

After a light, and early lunch, we head to the Adelaide airport for our flight to Sydney.

There we will be met by a Coach and travel across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to Mary MacKillop Place, our accommodation for the next three nights, and dinner.

DAY 10

Thursday 18/09/2025 SYDNEY B/L/D

After breakfast in Anderledy Lodge we board our coach and drive through the Rocks area.

The Sisters ministered in the Rock providing food, accommodation and education for the poor.

We then travel to Waverley Cemetery, the burial place of Fr Woods. His grave overlooks the Pacific Ocean.

We enjoy lunch in Centennial Park and then travel to Gore Hill Cemetery where Mary was buried originally, and remains the burial site of our pioneer Sisters.

Returning to Mary MacKillop Place we have some free time until we gather for prayer at the tomb of Mary MacKillop.

DAY 11

Friday 19/09/2025 NORTH SYDNEY – Mary MacKillop Place B/L/D

Today is a time for praying and reflecting on the pilgrimage journey and how it touched our hearts.

We begin with prayer in Tenison Conference Room – originally St Joseph’s Chapel that Mary had built in honour of Julian Tenison Woods.

Mary lay in state in the Chapel before being taken to St Mary’s Church Ridge St for her requiem.

A guided tour though the Museum and the Mother House will help you delve more deeply into the life and ministry of Mary MacKillop, the early Sisters and our ministry today.

After lunch in the Lodge we gather again in Tenison to bring together the journey through reflection and sharing.

Our ritual will take us to the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel where we will celebrate Mass.

At the end of Mass we gather at the Tomb for a final blessing.

We close our day and the pilgrimage with a celebratory dinner.

DAY 12

Saturday 20/09/2025 B Flight to port of origin

Depart Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney.





**Reserve your spot today
and be part of a pilgrimage
resonating with the spirit of
compassion, courage, and faith.**

**Don't miss the chance to enrich
your life with the remarkable
story of Mary MacKillop
and contribute
to her legacy.**

ALL INCLUSIVE

**All inclusive costs (land and air)
for the National Pilgrimage –
In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop.**

**Flights are from your port of departure;
Adelaide/Sydney and return to your
port of departure.**

Port of Departure:

Melbourne	\$5,372
Sydney	\$5,237
Brisbane	\$5,553
Adelaide	\$6,075
Perth	\$5,486
Hobart	\$5,095
Canberra	\$5,623
Cairns	\$6,144
Single Supplement:	\$1,026

Payment Details:

ACC NAME:	Pilgrimage Account
BSB:	083 543
ACC NO:	748590581

FOR MORE INFORMATION

We strongly recommend that pilgrims organise
TRAVEL INSURANCE.

For more detailed information:

Contact: Sr Annie Bond RSJ

Phone: +61 406 195 861

Email: national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au

Or visit our website:

www.marymackillopplace.org.au/retreats-spirituality/australian-national-pilgrimage/

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