

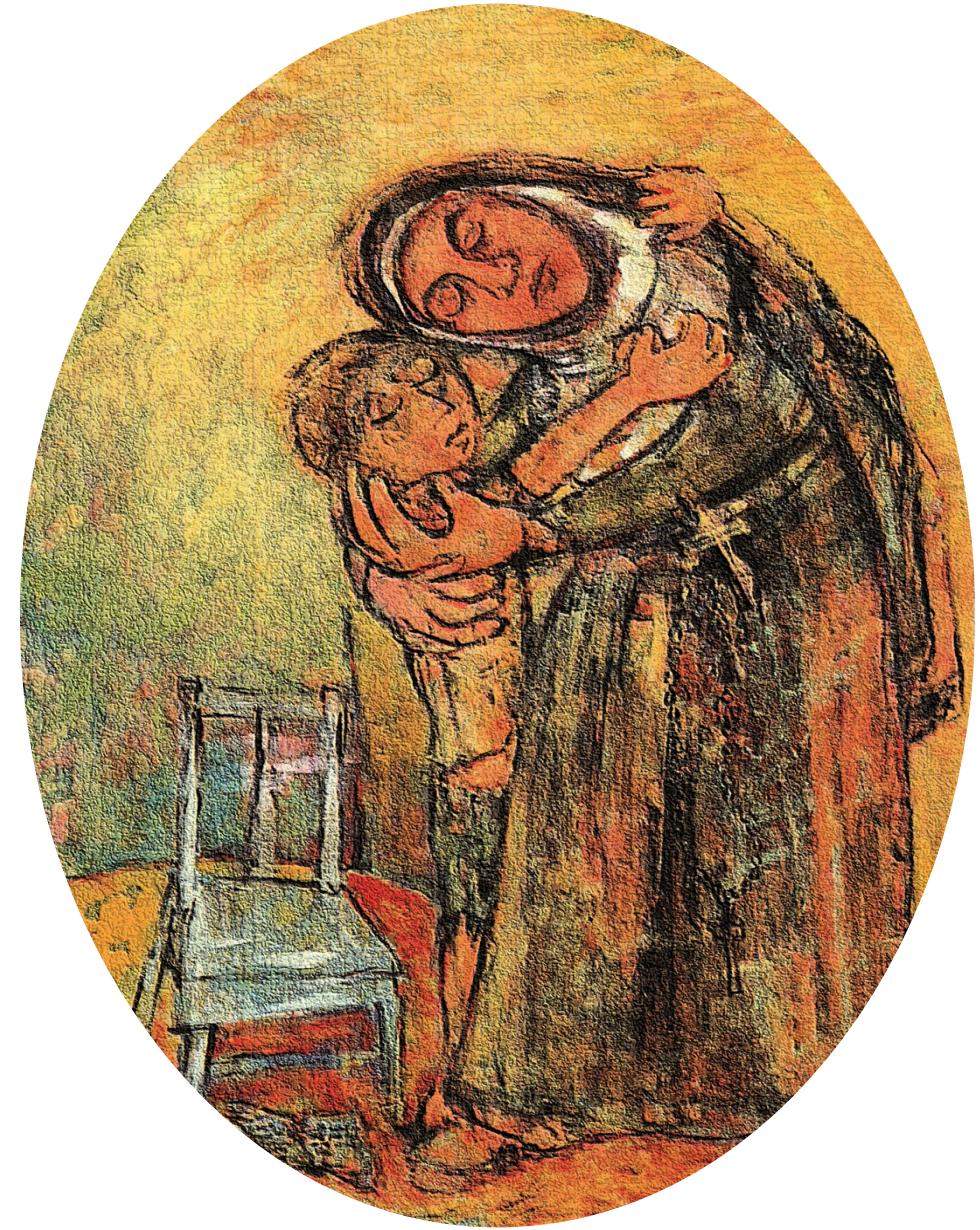
Mary MacKillop

and

Junior Joey

Groups

Children living into
the
Josephite Story,
Spirit and Charism



Nothing could come between her and a child in need
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Index

- 2 Why ‘Mary MacKillop’ or ‘Junior Joeys’ group?
- 3 - 6 Mary MacKillop’s Charism: alive in Australian schools
- 7 Outline: a suggested process for developing a group
- 8 - 11 Resources for starting a Group:
 - Section 1: 1st year - Introduction ‘Come and See’ time
 - Section 2: Resources for 2nd, 3rd and subsequent years (*2-year cycle*)
- 18 Helpful websites & Additional Teacher/leader resources
- 20 - 22 Books, CD’s and DVD’s available from Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre
- 23 Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre – information for teachers
- 24 Mary MacKillop’s Birth-site: 7 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy

This resource was created by Veronica Madigan rsj and Mary Ryan rsj - © Sisters of St Joseph, 2012; Revised 2014
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Why a 'Mary MacKillop' or 'Junior Joeys' Group' ?

These childrens' groups give hope for the future, keeping alive the Vision and Mission of Mary, Julian and the Sisters of St Joseph.

The groups provide an opportunity:

- To have Mary MacKillop known and loved by the children – as an inspirational Australian 'Gospel woman' and role model
- To foster a sense of belonging that supports and empowers the children to follow in her footsteps, responding to the needs of our time
- To foster links to other 'Josephites': Sisters of St Joseph, Josephite Associates, other 'Josephite' school communities, and those whose lives are inspired by the Josephite Charism

There are three main areas of focus for the groups:

- **Spiritual:** coming together in the spirit of Mary MacKillop, in friendship, prayer and service
- **Educational:** learning about Mary MacKillop, her life and work
- **Service:** seeking to respond to needs within the school and the wider community



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The Josephite charism: alive in Australian Schools

Some schools around Australia have formalised their connection to Mary MacKillop through groups known as a 'Mary MacKillop Group', 'Junior Josephite Associates' or 'Junior Joeys'.

Junior Josephites' Group – Whitefriars School, Woodville Park, South Australia

Whitefriars is a Catholic Primary School located in the western suburbs of Adelaide. It has had a long association with the Sisters of St Joseph. The school was established in 1912 and, through the years, the work of the Sisters has kept the spirit of their founder St Mary MacKillop alive in the hearts and minds of Whitefriars' students as they strive to action the school motto "In All Things Kindness". While the Sisters of St Joseph no longer work in the school, their presence and influence continues through the efforts of a group of Years 4-7 students who share the Josephite charism. They are the *Junior Josephites*.

Over the years this group has actioned a number of projects, including raising money for Josephite Missions in Timor and Peru and for the Warnum Community School in the East Kimberley of Western Australia. They have also knitted squares to make blankets to provide warmth to the homeless.

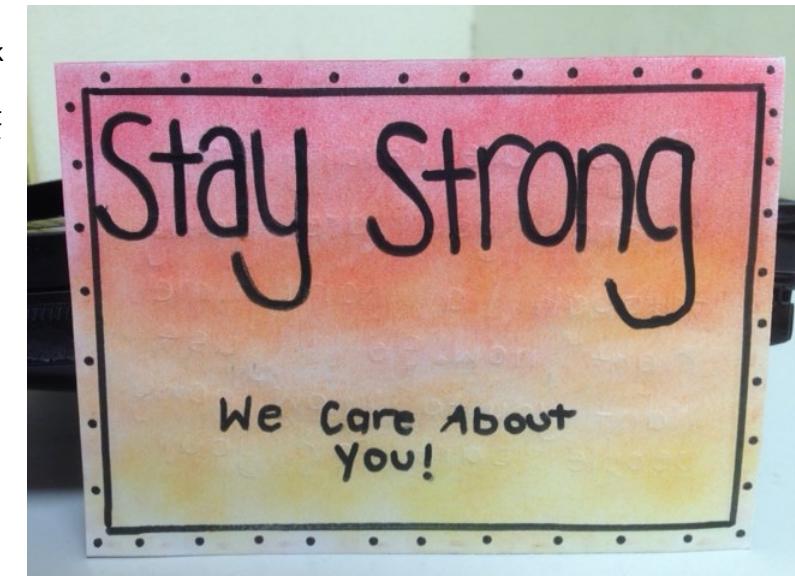
Meeting weekly during their lunchtimes, the students are eager and enthusiastic with the goal of walking in the footsteps of St Mary MacKillop. Like Mary and the Sisters of St Joseph, the Junior Josephites at Whitefriars are committed to prayer, the education of others and helping those in need. Meetings begin with prayer. The Junior Josephites pray to be more like St Mary MacKillop and for the needs of others. They also volunteer to prepare and coordinate the weekly Community Prayer held at the school on occasion.

Celebrating the feast of St Joseph and remembering the struggles of asylum seekers and refugees during Refugee Week are events close to the hearts of the Junior Josephites and they chose these times to host prayer. They look forward to celebrating St Mary MacKillop's Feast Day in August and the anniversary of her canonisation in October.

This year (2014), the students elected to highlight the plight of asylum seekers. This has meant that they have had to first educate themselves on the issues before they have been able to educate others. Reading Anh Do's story *The Happiest Refugee*, researching the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and listening to guest speakers have helped the Junior Josephites learn more about refugees and asylum seekers. Inspired by Mary's words, "Be kind to the poor foreigners. Remember that I was a foreigner once, and as such was never laughed at, nor unkindly treated" (1875), they have spoken at school assemblies and made posters to help bring awareness of this issue to others in the school community.

The Junior Josephites have taken action. In keeping with their focus on asylum seekers and refugees, the group collected baby goods that were then made into 'care packages' for asylum seeking mums-to-be who had been moved to the Inverbrackie Detention Centre to await the birth of their babies. A hand- made card was attached to each package letting the women know that there was someone thinking of and praying for them and their babies. The Junior Josephites have also initiated a post card writing campaign across the school - where students wrote and drew messages of hope on postcards to be sent to asylum seekers held in off-shore detention centres.

The Junior Josephites at Whitefriars School are inspired by Mary MacKillop and believe that they can make a difference in the lives of others.



Mary MacKillop Group – Holy Child School, Dallas, Victoria

The staff and children of Holy Child School, Dallas (in Melbourne's northern suburbs) are proud that their school, was the first in Australia to start a children's Mary MacKillop group! Their special connection to Mary MacKillop has come about because there have always been Josephite Sisters working and teaching at Holy Child.

The Mary MacKillop group is well supported by the staff of Holy Child School. The two staff leaders, REC Jo-Anne Murphy and Veronica Madigan rsj, have reported that: *'The ongoing support of our Principals has been particularly invaluable in ensuring its success. They have placed a high personal value on the group, and this has been demonstrated by the structures that have been put in place, including allocating some school resources to support us financially and making the task of co-ordinating the group a part of the role description of the Religious Education Co-ordinator. This gives a high profile and continues to be part of school life, regardless of changes in personnel.'*



Holy Child's Mary MacKillop group has three main areas of focus:

- Spiritual: coming together in the spirit of Mary MacKillop, in friendship, prayer and service
- Educational: learning about Mary MacKillop, her life and work
- Service: seeking to assist in our school and in the wider community

The school community works hard at following Mary's motto "Never see a need without trying to do something about it." This includes being aware of the immediate needs of people both within and beyond the school community, supporting people through prayer, friendship and acts of kindness and generosity. Beyond the school, they try to support:

- the work of the Josephite Sisters, both locally and overseas
- their 'twin' parish in East Timor
- the work of their former parish priest (Fr Joe Ruys) in Peru.

The group has its own banner, which is displayed in the office foyer and is used at special Masses and outings. Membership of the group is open to students in Years 4-6. There is a Senior Group - Years 5&6 led by Jo-Anne, and a Junior Group - Years 3&4 - led by Veronica. . The groups meet either weekly or fortnightly during lunchtime. As the number of involved students has continued to grow, a 'Mary MacKillop Student Leadership Group' (president, two vice-presidents and a secretary) has been established. This meets fortnightly to plan with the REC. The leaders, who are elected by their peers, have the responsibility of leading prayer and promoting Mary MacKillop in their own classrooms, e.g. in their 'Circle Time'.

Mary MacKillop's feast day is August 8th. Veronica and Jo-Anne have said that: 'Over the years, we have celebrated this day by having a special Prayer Service or Mass, during which the children who are presently members of the Mary MacKillop Group re-confirm their commitment to the group and new members will make their first commitment, receiving their Mary MacKillop badge.' Each year, a saying of Mary MacKillop's is chosen as the school's motto for the coming twelve months, and this becomes the theme of the feast day Mass or Prayer Service. It is then displayed in prominent places around the school: the entrance foyer and every classroom, and it is featured on the weekly parents' newsletter. This coming year's motto will be: 'Trust in the goodness of God' (MMK1873).

Feast day activities over the years have also included Mary MacKillop classroom activities, and fund-raising events, such as casual clothes days and a mini fete. All the funds raised are donated on a rotating basis to the local and overseas projects named above.

Over the years, the children have participated in a range of activities. This year's special project is assisting once a week with the school's 'Healthy Breakfast Programme'. The School has always received invaluable support from Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre (East Melbourne) and other Sisters of St Joseph who have worked closely with the group to give the students an understanding of how the work and charism of Mary MacKillop continue today.

Junior Josephite Associates (JJAs) – St Philomena's, Moree, NSW



The Junior Josephites or JJAs began in 2007 for years 3 and 4. Years 5 and 6 children join 'Mini-Vinnies'.

The meetings are held at lunch time once a month, and their motto is:

'Do your bit for God. Do your bit for your family. Do your bit for your school.'

The JJAs use the children's Mary MacKillop Prayer and include all their intentions, e.g. for world peace, and for the African girls who were hostages. Different children compose a prayer and bring it to the group, which learns about Mary MacKillop and her spirit. They have taken Mary MacKillop's quotes and stories from her life and mimed them in groups.

The children are keen to bring used stamps which are sold and the proceeds given to the Josephites' ministry in Peru. At the end of the year, the JJAs have Christmas Party at which each child receives a different saying, a message from Mary MacKillop.

15 children were newly enrolled in 2014 and there are 4 helpers from Year 5 who have acted as Coordinators. The children received medals of Mary MacKillop and a certificate which the newly-formed Boambee group designed. The Moree JJAs keep in touch with the Boambee group.

Mary MacKillop Group – Cana Catholic School, Hillside, Victoria

As members of the Mary MacKillop group, we wear our Mary MacKillop badges each day and try to be good leaders at our school, Cana. At our meetings we learn a little more each week about Mary MacKillop and how we can be like her. In the Mary MacKillop group, we gather each Monday at lunch time. During this time:

- We prepare and take part in a short prayer to Mary MacKillop
- We decide our roles in the group in helping with school activities. We have "Inside Play" at lunch times on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This play is for those children who like some quiet activities.
- We take it in turns to be captain and we organize:
 - the coloring group
 - board games group
 - reading library books

– We write articles for our school newsletter to let people know about Mary MacKillop and what our group does.

We have a Mary MacKillop prayer board.

We visit the classrooms and take the names of those who need our prayers.

We have made a Mary MacKillop mosaic in the shape of the Sisters of St Joseph's emblem and placed it on the outside wall of our new classrooms, behind the Mary MacKillop roses our parents planted.

We enjoy being in the group and have fun as well as trying to be like Mary MacKillop following Jesus.



Junior Joeys – Tasmania

Why Junior Joeys?

For the Sisters of St Joseph, the idea of a Junior Josephite movement gives hope for the future. It provides reassurance that their story will live on through the works of those connected with the Charism.

For the individual school or college, the Junior Josephite movement would keep alive the founding story and spirit of each school, and their Vision and Mission, providing links to the wider communities and indeed the Sisters of St Joseph. Junior Joeys would also provide links between the curriculum and action, as the group allows for spiritual formation and outreach — at a level relevant to the individual students. Junior Joeys also allows for leadership of the participating staff and students who may not be named ‘leaders’ in the school.

What IS Junior Joeys?



Read about this 'Sister Wood Carving'
at Sacred Heart School, Geevestone, Tasmania:
<http://shg.tas.edu.au/about/the-sister-woodcarving/>

Simply, Junior Joeys is a group of students from Grades 4-6 who show enthusiasm about the Josephite Charism and are committed to sharing Josephite values through their daily life, faith and outreach.

The *Junior Joey* program has three main components: *Learn*, *Pray* and *Practise*, and encompasses a range of formal and informal sessions, both educative and outreach-based.

- **Learn:** using the resources of the kit that is provided for teachers, the Junior Joey Program aims to allow students to learn about and further to emulate the virtues of Mary MacKillop, Julian Tenison Woods and the First Sisters of St Joseph.
- **Pray:** through our special Josephite Charism students are given the opportunity to pray for Josephites throughout the world, for their own intentions, that of their schools and their families.
- **Practise:** In the Spirit of the works of the first Sisters of St Joseph, and the writings of Mary MacKillop: “*find happiness in making others happy*”, and “*never see a need without doing something about it*”, Junior Joeys are encouraged to practise some form of outreach. This action will be chosen by the students and Junior Joeys’ Coordinator at each school. Depending on the resources of the school, it could be as simple as collecting stamps, or writing to retired Sisters of St Joseph.

When?

The meetings are held at lunch time, once a month, for no longer than 30 minutes, on a day that is appropriate to the life of the School. Depending on the chosen outreach activity and the culture of the school, the outreach may take up more time than the set monthly 30 minutes.

“Junior Joeys are people who go out of themselves and think of others”



A suggested process for developing a Mary MacKillop/Junior Joeys' Group

1ST YEAR

- **Term 2:** Invite all children from senior grades (5 & 6) to participate in the introductory phase (Refer Section 1 for ideas for these meetings)
- **Term 3:** Early in August, children who have participated in the introductory programme are invited to make a commitment to joining the Mary MacKillop Group on her Feast Day (August 8th)
- **Term 4:** A group is formed of those who make this commitment: the group continues to meet with the designated *teacher-leader/s* at lunch time on a regular basis
(Continue with Section 1 for ideas for these meetings)

2nd YEAR

- **Term 1:** Continue with the children from the previous year (now Year 6). They meet with the designated *teacher-leader/s* at lunch time on a regular basis e.g. fortnightly.
(Refer Section 2 for ideas for these meetings).
- **Term 2:** Invite all children from Years 4 & 5 (and the Year 6's who did not previously participate) to take part in this year's introductory phase
(Refer Section 1 for ideas for these meetings)
- **Term 3:** Early August, children who have participated in the introductory programme are invited to make a commitment to joining the Mary MacKillop Group on her Feast Day (August 8th)
- **Term 4:** Those who choose to make this commitment continue to meet with their designated *teacher-leader/s* at lunch time on a regular basis e.g. fortnightly.
(Refer Section 1 for ideas for these meetings). The original Year 6 group continues to meet separately. (Refer Section 2 for ideas for these meetings)

3rd YEAR

- **Term 1:** The children from the previous year - now Years 5& 6 - meet with the designated *teacher-leader/s* at lunch time on a regular basis
(Refer Section 2 for suggested themes and resources for these meetings. Please keep in mind that the resources in the section are intended to be sufficient for two years, after which they can be re-used)
- **Term 2:** Invite all children from Years 4, and the Year 5's who did not previously participate, to take part in this year's introductory phase
(Refer Section 1 for ideas for these meetings)
- **Term 3:** Early August, children who have participated in the introductory programme are invited to make a commitment to joining the Mary MacKillop Group on her Feast Day (August 8th). Children who make this choice receive a Mary MacKillop badge/medal.
- **Term 4:** Those who choose to make this commitment continue to meet with their designated *teacher-leader/s* at lunch time on a regular basis e.g. fortnightly.
The senior Year 5 & 6 group continues to meet separately. (Refer Section 3 for ideas for these meetings)

4th YEAR

Repeat process for 3rd Year. Use Section 2 resources for Senior group - taking care to use ideas that have been used with the group in the previous year

5th YEAR

Continue as for 4th year.

Section 1: Resources for your Group – 1st Year

It is recommended that, in this introductory stage, the following nine themes will be covered, and that each session with the children will have the following components: *educational* (learning activity), *spiritual* (reflection/prayer) and *service* (action/outreach)

	Theme	Resources	Planning notes
1	MARY'S FAMILY AND BACKGROUND	Teacher background: <i>The Black Dress: Mary MacKillop's Early Years</i> – Pamela Freeman Black Dog Books, 2005	<i>The Black Dress</i> : Recommended reading: a well-researched novel (easy reading!), which provides excellent insights into Mary's early life: both childhood and young adulthood (1842-1861).
		Teacher background: <i>Mary MacKillop website</i> - www.marymackillop.org.au	'Beginnings' section: as far as 'Work in Melbourne'
		<i>Letters from Mary: the Story of the Life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj; St Paul's Publications 2010	Pages 3-9 [Suitable for Years 4 - 6]
		<i>St Mary MacKillop: Friend of Jesus</i> – Judith Steer rsj; St Paul's Publications 2010	Pages 5-17 [Suitable for Years 4 - 6]
		<i>The Story of Mary MacKillop: Australia's First Saint</i> - Bernadette Doyle, Lila El-Hage and Anne Walsh; John Garratt Publishing, reprinted 2010	Teacher's book, pages 14-15; Extension activities, pages 40-41 Student's book, pages 4-9 [Suitable for Years 5 & 6]
		<i>Light and Shadow: Stories about Mary MacKillop</i> – Anne Marie Power rsj Story: 'Who would have guessed it?'	Story, pages 3-7 Activity Sheet related to story in <i>Light and Shadow: Stories about Mary MacKillop</i> – Activity Kit #2
2	MARY MACKILLOP GROWS UP	Teacher background: <i>Mary MacKillop website</i> - www.marymackillop.org.au	'BEGINNINGS' section: from 'Moving to Penola' to 'Dreams and Desires'
		<i>St Mary MacKillop: Friend of Jesus</i> – Judith Steer rsj	Pages 18-19 [Suitable for Years 4 - 6]

		<i>Letters from Mary: the Story of the Life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj	Pages 10-11
		<i>The Story of Mary MacKillop: Australia's First Saint</i> - Bernadette Doyle, Lila El-Hage and Anne Walsh	Teacher's book, pages 16-17; Extension activities, page 44 Student's book, pages 10-15 [Suitable for Years 5 & 6]
		<i>Light and Shadow: Stories about Mary MacKillop</i> – Anne Marie Power rsj Story: 'Tale for Horse Lovers' Story: 'Snubbed'	Pages 9-20 Activity Sheets related to stories in <i>Light and Shadow: Stories about Mary MacKillop</i> – Activity Kit #2
3	MARY MACKILLOP BECOMES 'SISTER MARY'	Teacher background: <i>Mary MacKillop website</i> - www.marymackillop.org.au	'BEGINNINGS' section: from 'Education in Penola' to 'Commitment to God'.
		<i>St Mary MacKillop: Friend of Jesus</i> – Judith Steer rsj	Pages 20-23 [Suitable for Years 4 - 6]
		<i>Light and Shadow - Stories about Mary MacKillop</i> – Anne Marie Power rsj Story: 'Spring Days'	Pages 27-33 Activity Sheets related to story in <i>Light and Shadow: Stories about Mary MacKillop</i> – Activity Kit #2
		<i>Letters from Mary: the Story of the Life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj	Pages 14-15 [Suitable for Year 4]
		<i>The Story of Mary MacKillop: Australia's First Saint</i> - Bernadette Doyle, Lila El-Hage and Anne Walsh	Teacher's book, pages 18-19; Extension activities, pages 45-46 Student's book, pages 17-21 [Suitable for Years 5 & 6]
4	THE SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH BEGIN & GROW	Teacher background: <i>Mary MacKillop website</i> - www.marymackillop.org.au	'GROWTH' section: from beginning to 'Mary of the Cross'; 'LEGACY' section: Following Mary's death
		<i>Letters from Mary: the Story of the Life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj	Pages 18-20 [Suitable for Year 4]
		<i>St Mary MacKillop: Friend of Jesus</i> – Judith Steer rsj	Pages 25-27 [Suitable for Years 4 - 6]
		<i>The Story of Mary MacKillop: Australia's First Saint</i> - Bernadette Doyle, Lila El-Hage and Anne Walsh	Teacher's book, pages 20-21; Extension activities, pages 47-50; 53-54 Student's book, pages 22-27 [Suitable for Years 5 & 6]

5	MARY IS MISUNDERSTOOD BY THE BISHOPS (including THE EXCOMMUNICATION)	Teacher background: <i>Mary MacKillop website - www.marymackillop.org.au</i>	‘GROWTH’ section: from ‘Woman of Strength’ to end ‘CHALLENGES’ section: from beginning to ‘The Cross becomes the Tree of life’ [Suitable for Years 5 & 6]
		<i>St Mary MacKillop: Friend of Jesus – Judith Steer rsj</i>	Pages 28-29 [Suitable for Years 4 - 6]
		<i>The Story of Mary MacKillop: Australia’s First Saint - Bernadette Doyle, Lila El-Hage and Anne Walsh</i>	Teacher’s book, pages 22-26 Extension activities, page 51 Student’s book, pages 28-37 [Suitable for Years 5 & 6]
6	MARY MACKILLOP VISITS THE POPE IN ROME	Teacher background: <i>Mary MacKillop website - www.marymackillop.org.au</i>	‘CHALLENGE’ section: <i>Leaving all for a great cause</i>
		<i>St Mary MacKillop: Friend of Jesus – Judith Steer rsj</i>	Pages 30-31 [Suitable for Years 4 - 6]
		<i>Letters from Mary: the Story of the Life of Mary MacKillop - Joan Goodwin rsj</i>	Pages 21-24 [Suitable for Year 4]
		<i>The Story of Mary MacKillop: Australia’s First Saint - Bernadette Doyle, Lila El-Hage and Anne Walsh</i>	Teacher’s book, pages 27-28 Student’s book, pages 38-43 [Suitable for Years 5 & 6]
7	MARY THE TRAVELLER	Teacher background: <i>Mary MacKillop website - www.marymackillop.org.au</i>	‘CHALLENGE’ section: <i>Pilgrimage</i>
		<i>Letters from Mary: the Story of the Life of Mary MacKillop: Joan Goodwin rsj</i>	Pages 25-28 [Suitable for Year 4]
		<i>St Mary MacKillop: Friend of Jesus – Judith Steer rsj</i>	Pages 34-35; 36-39 [Suitable for Years 4 - 6]
8	MARY’S LOVE FOR CHILDREN	<i>St Mary MacKillop: Friend of Jesus – Judith Steer rsj</i>	Pages 32-33 [Suitable for Years 4 - 6]
		<i>Letters from Mary: the Story of the Life of Mary MacKillop - Joan Goodwin rsj</i>	Pages 30-31 [Suitable for Year 4]
		<i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</i>	Page 12, paragraph 2 only

9	SUMMING UP MARY'S LIFE	<p><i>Long have I loved You: the Story of Mary MacKillop</i> (Video) – Trustees, Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney.</p>	<p>Conversation about Mary MacKillop: an old man and his grand-daughter</p>	
		<p><i>The Mary MacKillop Prayer Book for Children – by the children of Australia</i></p>	<p>Pages 6-17: Summary of Mary's Story.</p> <p><i>This book also contains prayers written by Australian children around the following Mary MacKillop themes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Finding courage</i> • <i>Forgiving our enemies</i> • <i>Giving thanks</i> • <i>Caring for everyone</i> • <i>Believing in goodness</i> • <i>Meeting challenge</i> • <i>Trusting in God</i> • <i>Welcoming all people</i> • <i>Praying together</i> 	
		<p><i>Mary MacKillop: A Resource Book</i> – Theresa Swiggs rsj et al.</p>	<p>Pages 3-8: Summary of Mary's Story.</p> <p><i>This book also contains many worksheets, puzzles and activities for both junior and senior students. These could be both enjoyable and helpful for revision around all of the eight introductory themes.</i></p>	
		<p>SONGS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'A Cross of Stars' – Andrew Chin (St Mary MacKillop: Beneath a Cross of Stars – CD and music book) • 'Never See a Need' – M.A.C. (Josephite Dreaming – CD only) • 'In Mary's Hands' – Mike Brady (CD only) • 'Woman for Today' – Michael Herry fms (in 'From Penola's Plains' – CD and music book) • 'If I could tell the love of God' - album (CD and music book– 8 songs) 		

Section 2: Resources for 2nd, 3rd & Subsequent years

To begin each year, it is suggested that there would be some revision around Mary's life before advancing to the themes on Mary MacKillop's 'Special inspirational qualities' which follow.

	Theme	Resources	Comments	Planning notes
	REVISION: THE STORY OF MARY MACKILLOP	DVD: <i>Mary MacKillop: Australia's First Saint</i> Salt and Light Television, Canada 2009	Suggestion: Teacher previews and selects sections relevant to children; Pause at times for discussion. Some possible themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Excommunication</i> – implications, Mary's response (forgiveness, peace) - <i>How Mary responded to the needs of her time</i> e.g. education, care of the poor (orphans, women, prisoners) - <i>Mary inspired others</i>: the growth of the Josephites - <i>Young people's comments about Mary</i>: What do YOU think of her? 	
		DVD: <i>Long have I loved you</i> Trustees: Sisters of St Joseph	Conversation about Mary MacKillop: an old man and his grand-daughter	
		SONGS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'A Cross of Stars' – Andrew Chin (<i>St Mary MacKillop: Beneath a Cross of Stars</i> – CD and music book) • 'Never See a Need' – M.A.C. (<i>Josephite Dreaming</i> – CD only) • 'In Mary's Hands' – Mike Brady (CD only) • 'Woman for Today' – Michael Herry fms (in '<i>From Penola's Plains</i>) • 'If I Could tell the love of God' • (CD and music book– 8 songs) 		
	IMPORTANT DATES IN THE LIFE OF MARY MACKILLOP	<i>Never see a need without doing something about it</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj	Page 39	
		<i>The Story of Mary MacKillop: Australia's First Saint</i> – Bernadette Doyle, Lila El-Hage and Anne Walsh	Teacher's book, Extension activities, pages 55-56 [Suitable for Years 5 & 6]	

Special Inspirational Qualities that Mary showed in her life

It is recommended that each session with the children will have the following components:
educational (learning activity), *spiritual* (prayer/reflection) and *service* (action/outreach).

Leaders may wish to prepare more than one session on any particular theme, and to present the themes in any order –
 keeping in mind that there is a 2-year cycle.

	Theme	Resources	Mary's Words Taken from her letters
FORGIVENESS	Memories of Mary by those who knew her – Sisters of St Joseph 2010	Page 64: Paragraph commencing <i>Mother was very forgiving to forget as well as to forgive.</i>	I forgive him. I forgive all who had any part in these matters (1871) I bear them no ill-will (1871) Forgiveness is love (1871) Help one another, and forgive and forget anything painful in the past (1882) Try to excuse what you cannot understand, and be blind to the faults around you (1887)
		Page 27 : Final paragraph of story	Let us show this love in our acts, bearing with one another, forgiving and forgetting (1890)
	Mary MacKillop: A window of Hope – Monica Cavanagh rsj (‘Forgiveness of those who hurt her’ - pages 51-52)	Reflection on Mary’s life-long commitment to forgiveness of others – no matter how great the hurt or injustice inflicted on her.	
2	ST MARY MACKILLOP: FRIEND OF JESUS – Judith Steer rsj Story: Mary MacKillop helps a dying child (pages 34-35)	<i>Mary's whole life – her whole dream was an act of trust in God ... ‘God will provide’</i> In spite of the danger, Mary trusted that God would get her to the dying boy	Lean on God (1871) God will take care of us (1871) Trust in the goodness of God (1873) God kept my heart full of trust (1874) When I could not see my way, God kept my heart full of trust (1874) God knows what is best for us all (1898) Have courage, trust in God and you need have no fear (1905) Do not be afraid (1909)
	Mary MacKillop: A window of Hope – Monica Cavanagh rsj (‘Trust in God’ - pages 67-68)	Reflection on Mary’s trust in a good and loving God	

	Theme	Resources	Mary's Words Taken from her letters
3	COURAGE	<i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010	Pages 6-7 : Story in paragraph commencing: A Sister was dying ... last moments of the dying Sister
		<i>Never see a need without doing something about it: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj	<i>I was sick and you visited me</i> – Pages 31-34 Story, discussion, worksheet and action response
		<i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010	Page 42: Story related by Sr Lawrence Cunningham
4	SENSE OF GOD'S PRESENCE	<i>Mary MacKillop: A window of Hope</i> – Monica Cavanagh rsj ('The presence of God' - pages 66-67)	From an early age, Mary had a deep sense of God working in her life
		<i>Mary MacKillop: A window of Hope</i> – Monica Cavanagh rsj ('The presence of God' - pages 66-67)	Reflection on Mary's on-going sense of God's presence in her life
		<i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010	Page 3: 'She saw God in everything ... beauty of God'

	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Mary's Words – Taken from her letters</i>
5	KINDNESS & COMPASSION	<p><i>Never see a need without doing something about it: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj</p> <p><i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p> <p><i>Never see a need without doing something about it: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj</p> <p><i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p> <p><i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p> <p><i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p> <p><i>Mary MacKillop: A window of Hope</i> – Monica Cavanagh rsj ('Kindness and support to the suffering': pages 49-50)</p>	<p><i>Behind bars</i> – Pages 35-37: Story, discussion, worksheet and action response</p> <p>Page12 : Story in paragraph commencing: <i>She came to visit us once ... these are children I love</i></p> <p>Pages 27-30:<i>The toss of a dice</i> Story, discussion, worksheet and action response</p> <p>Page 6: Story in paragraph commencing: <i>Mother Mary was devotedly attached to the orphans ... steal another.</i></p> <p>Pages 20-21 : Story from beginning to: <i>Mother was especially kind and good to me (Page 21)</i></p> <p>Page 22 : Story in 2nd paragraph only: <i>After Mother's death ... since he knew Mother</i></p> <p>Reflection on Mary's extraordinary kindness</p>

	Theme	Resources	Mary's Words – Taken from her letters
6	RESPECT FOR EVERY PERSON / LOVE FOR THE POOR	<p>Teacher background: <i>Mary MacKillop website - www.marymackillop.org.au</i></p>	<p><i>INFLUENCES</i> section: 'Respecting the dignity of all'</p> <p>Reject no-one. You never know what grace can do (1871)</p> <p>We must teach more by example than by word (1867)</p> <p>Never be ashamed of work done for God and God's poor (1874)</p>
		<p><i>Never see a need without doing something about it: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj</p>	<p><i>When I was hungry - Pages 12-14</i> Story, discussion, worksheet and action response</p> <p>Remember on this earth no one is perfect (1889)</p> <p>Let us really love one another (1890)</p> <p>Seek first the poorest and most neglected parts of God's vineyard (1900)</p> <p>God loves us all (1906)</p>
		<p><i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p>	<p>Page 45: Paragraph commencing: <i>I have heard from a Sister I love to get the blessing of these poor people.</i>'</p> <p>If we cannot speak well of others, let us be silent (1909)</p>
		<p><i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p>	<p>Page 49 – Introductory paragraph</p>
		<p><i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p>	<p>Page 71 : Paragraph commencing <i>My first experience life-long impression on me</i></p>
		<p><i>Never see a need without doing something about it: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj</p>	<p><i>I was thirsty and you gave me a drink – Pages 16-17:</i> Story, discussion, worksheet and action response</p>
		<p><i>Never see a need without doing something about it: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop</i> - Joan Goodwin rsj</p>	<p><i>I was hungry and you gave me food – Pages 8-10:</i> Story, discussion, worksheet and action response</p>
		<p><i>Memories of Mary by those who knew her</i> – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p>	<p>Pages 51-52 : Story related by Sr Borgia Healy</p>

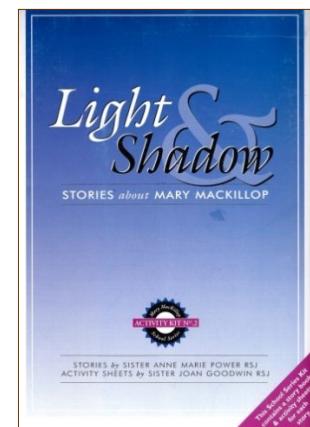
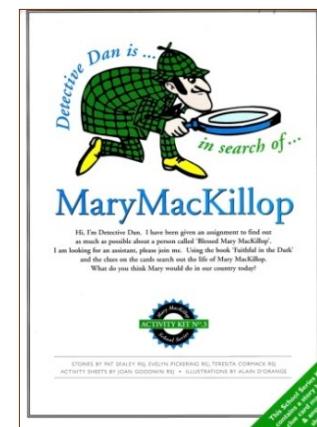
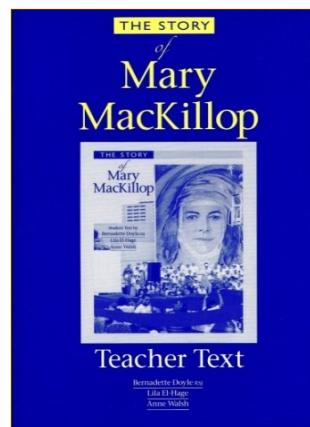
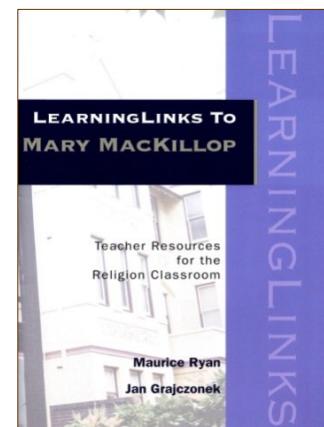
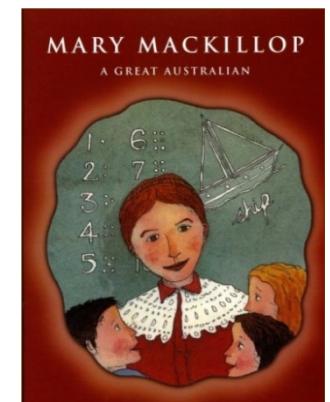
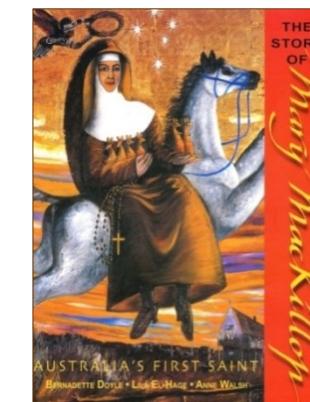
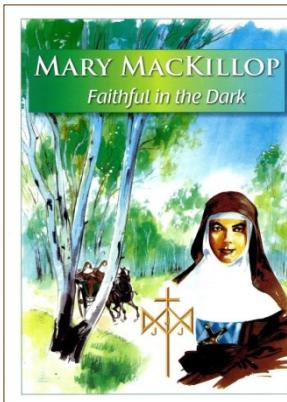
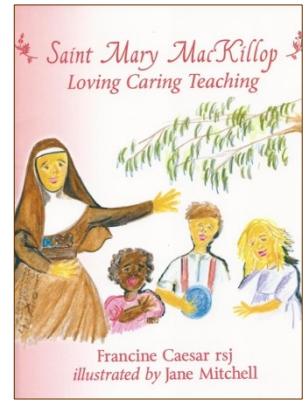
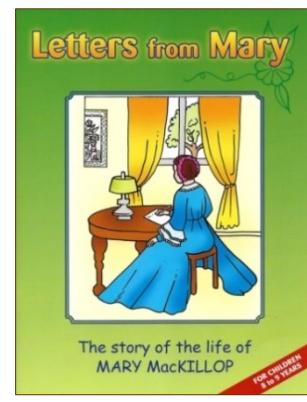
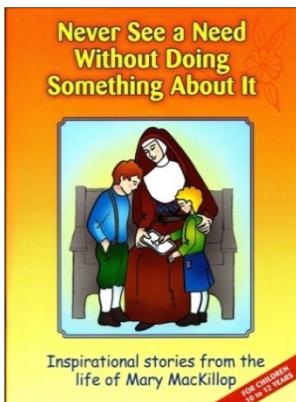
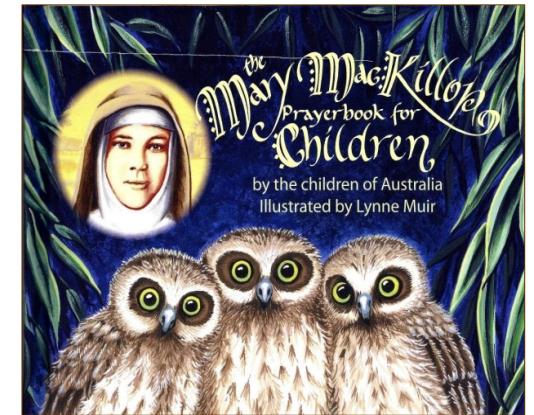
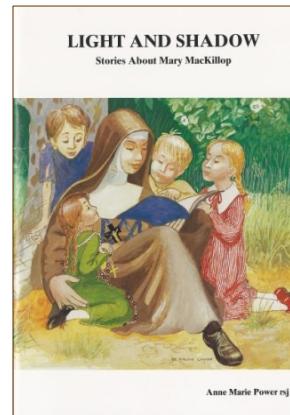
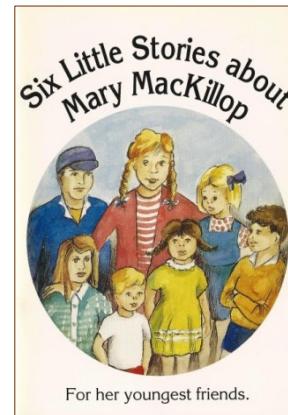
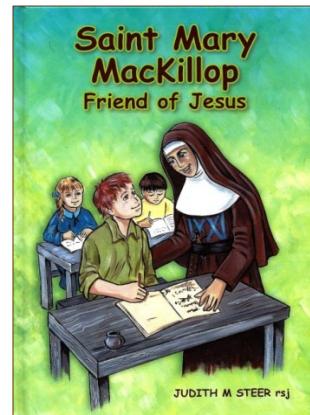
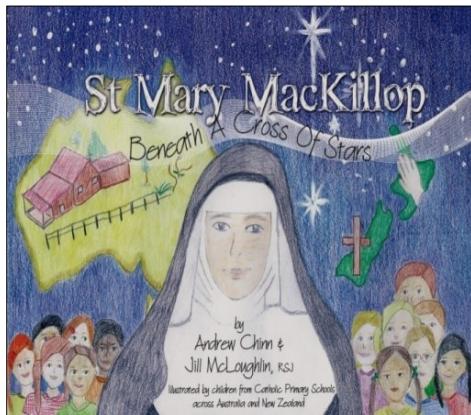
	Theme	Resources	Mary's Words: Taken from her letters
7	HUMOUR / JOY	<p>Memories of Mary by those who knew her – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p> <p>Page 53 : Paragraph commencing <i>On one occasion ... she only treated it as a joke.</i></p> <p>Memories of Mary by those who knew her – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p> <p>Pages 6-7: Story in paragraph commencing: <i>Before the Sisters ... Mother Mary's own face</i></p>	<p>I could not go with my sad face among the Sisters (1869)</p> <p>I had time to be much amused (1873)</p> <p>Enjoy yourselves and be happy above all (1900)</p>
8	GENEROSITY	<p>Never see a need without doing something about it: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop - Joan Goodwin rsj</p> <p>'When I was hungry you gave me food' – Pages 8-10: Story, discussion, worksheet and action response Song: <i>Never See a Need</i> – Josephite Dreaming</p> <p>Never see a need without doing something about it: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop - Joan Goodwin rsj</p> <p><i>I was a stranger and you welcomed me</i> – Pages 20-22: Story, discussion, worksheet and action response</p> <p>Never see a need without doing something about it: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop - Joan Goodwin rsj</p> <p><i>I was naked and you clothed me</i> Pages 24-26: Story, discussion, worksheet and action response</p> <p>Memories of Mary by those who knew her – Sisters of St Joseph 2010</p>	<p>Try always to be generous with God (1882)</p> <p>God loves generosity in us (1882)</p> <p>Do your best, and God will bless your efforts (1889)</p> <p>If you have love in your hearts, you will have God with you (1890)</p> <p>Help one another and bear with one another as God does with each of us."(1899)</p> <p>Love one another and bear with one another and let love guide you in all your life (1909)</p>
9	THE CROSS: ACCEPTANCE OF SUFFERING	<p>Teacher background: Mary MacKillop website - www.marymackillop.org.au</p> <p>Mary MacKillop: A window of Hope – Monica Cavanagh rsj 'Perseverance in the face of adversity' - pages 46-47</p> <p>Mary MacKillop: A window of Hope – Monica Cavanagh rsj 'The Cross' - pages 68-72</p>	<p>'CHALLENGES' section: from beginning to 'The Cross becomes the Tree of life' to end of section</p> <p>A reflection on Mary's attitude to suffering and hardship</p> <p>A reflection on Mary's life - lived beneath the shadow of the Cross</p> <p>God will carry you safely through every struggle (1870)</p> <p>The cross appears lighter when carried with Jesus (1874)</p> <p>We feel our crosses hard at times, but our courage should rise with them (1882)</p> <p>The little crosses are harder to bear patiently than the thumping big ones! (1884)</p> <p>Have courage, no matter what your crosses are (1890)</p> <p>Whatever crosses may be before you - accept them cheerfully, remembering whom you are trying to follow (1890)</p> <p>Whatever troubles may befall you, accept them bravely (1909)</p>

Helpful websites ...	Comments ...
www.marymackillop.org.au http://www.marymackillop.org.au/canonisation/vigil/index.html	General background: Mary's story, spirituality and legacy; Canonisation Vigil: the Story of Mary's Life (ACU students in Rome)
www.sosj.org.au	Sisters of St Joseph: Mary's legacy in 2011
www.mackilloppenola.org.au	'Where it all began' – story of Josephite beginnings
http://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/museum/education_resources.asp	Mary MacKillop resources for all school levels
http://www.mackillopfoundation.org.au/travelling_sisters_roadshow/for_schools/teacher_resources	Teacher/school resources
http://www.mercuryne.com.au/documents/MaryMacKillopworkbook1.0.pdf	Mary MacKillop: Workbook produced in 2010 by the Tasmanian Newspapers – leading up to Canonisation (<i>free download</i>)

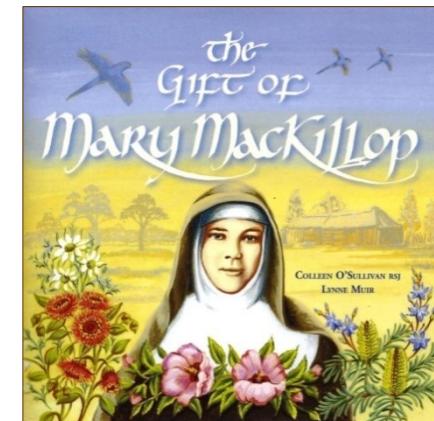
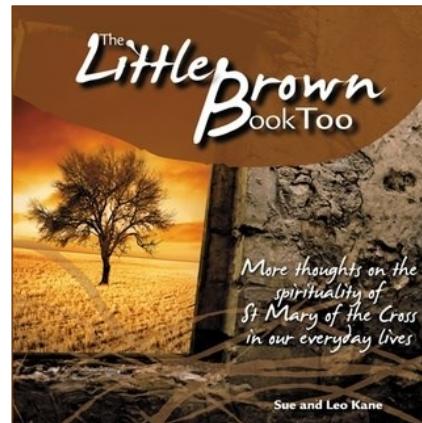
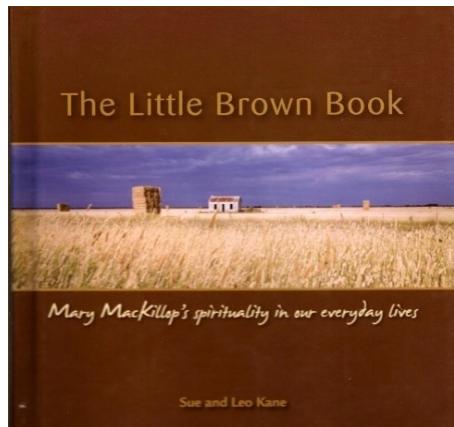
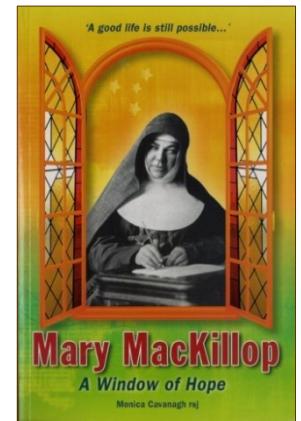
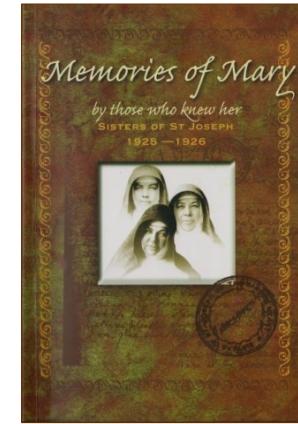
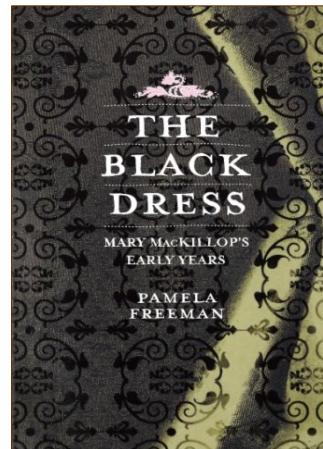
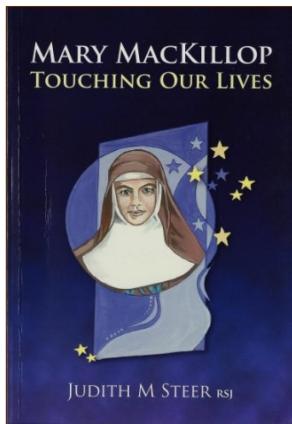
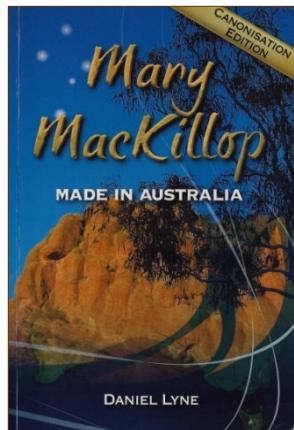
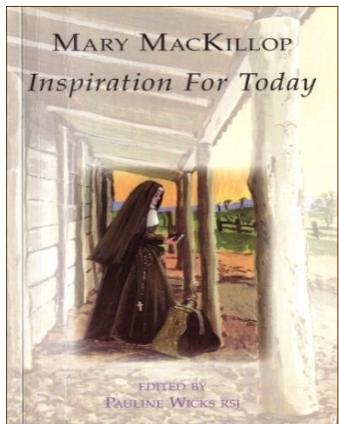
Additional Background Reading / Resources ...

<p>Mary MacKillop: Touching our Lives – Judith Steer rsj Revised edition: St Paul's Publications, 2008</p>	A brief biography that explores the 'human side' of Mary MacKillop, and how she touches the lives of people today in remarkable, yet very ordinary ways.
<p>The Little Brown Book: Mary MacKillop's Spirituality in our everyday lives – Sue and Leo Kane St Paul's Publications, 2009</p>	Series of two-page reflections that explore the personality and spirituality of Mary MacKillop, and what she could mean for each of us.
<p>The Little Brown Book Too – Sue and Leo Kane St Paul's Publications, 2011 http://www.sosj.org.au/news-events/view_article.cfm?id=634&loadref=7</p>	A second series of reflections suggesting ways to allow Mary's experiences and words to open a new door into one's own prayer experience through pondering the insights of our first Australian canonised saint.
<p>Mary MacKillop: Made in Australia – Daniel Lyne Revised edition: St Paul's Publications, 2010</p>	A small book telling the story of an Australian woman who grew into wholeness and holiness and is a model and inspiration for all of us.
<p>Mary MacKillop: Inspiration for Today – edited Pauline Wicks rsj Trustees of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, NSW Province, 2005</p>	Series of articles inviting readers to reflect on their own lives and, inspired by Mary's living of the Gospel, to live with concern and compassion for others.
<p>Learning Links to Mary MacKillop: Teacher Resources for the Religion Classroom – Maurice Ryan and Jan Grajczonek Lumino Press, Brisbane, 2009</p>	A resource book offering resources for researching Mary MacKillop's life and work, prayer liturgies and celebrations, prayers for use with students and families, reproducible worksheets
<p>St Mary MacKillop: Beneath a Cross of Stars – Andrew Chinn & Jill McLoughlin rsj Butterfly Music, Bowral, 2010</p>	Book with CD featuring two children's songs: 'A Cross of Stars' and 'In the Footsteps of Jesus'. Mary MacKillop's life story is told through song and supported by the biographical text. The book is illustrated with artwork from children in schools across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand
<p>Mary MacKillop: Faithful in the Dark – Pat Sealey rsj, Evelyn Pickering rsj and Teresita Cormack rsj Revised edition: Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney, 2007</p>	Mary's life story told in cartoon format.

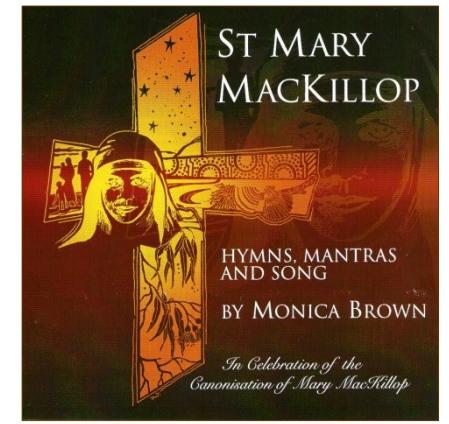
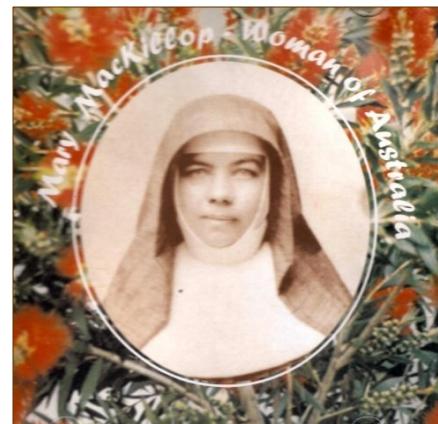
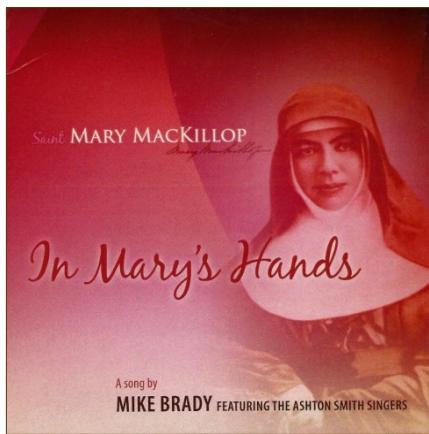
Resources available from Mary MacKillop Centres Bookshops: Children/Teacher



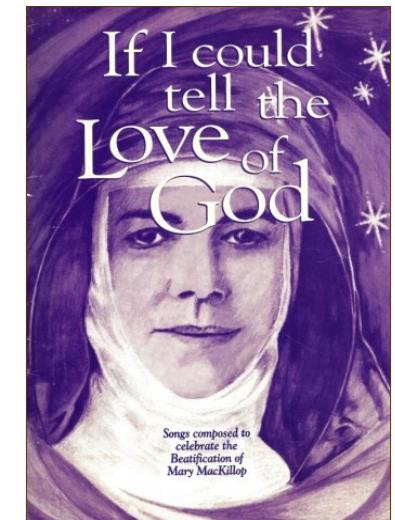
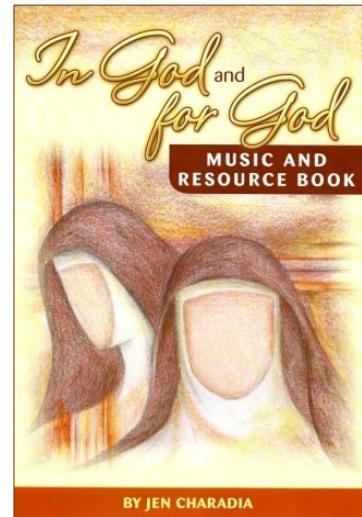
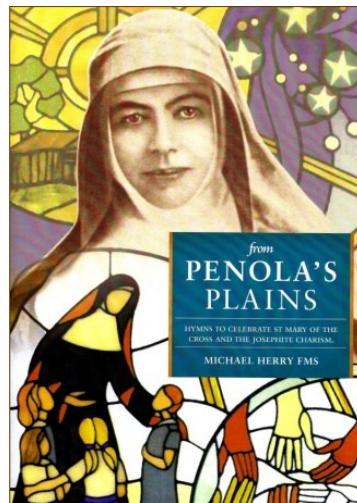
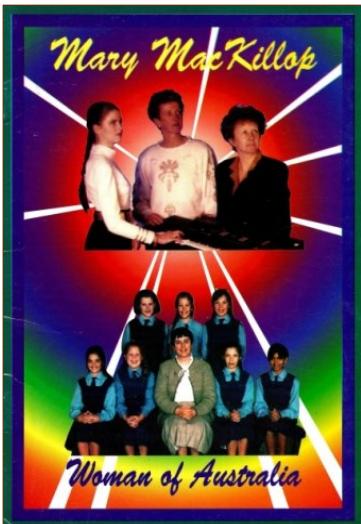
Resources: Teacher Background Reading – Individual, Staff and Parent Reflection



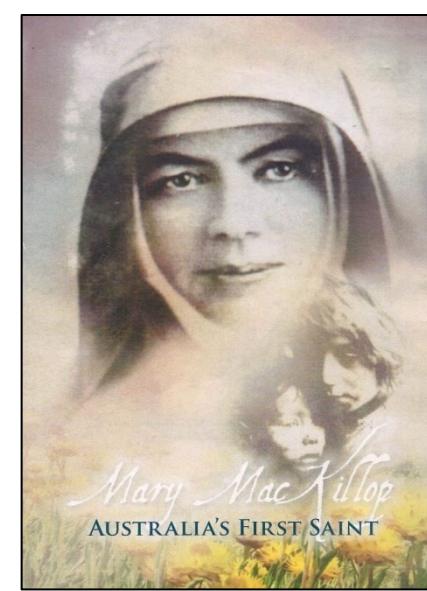
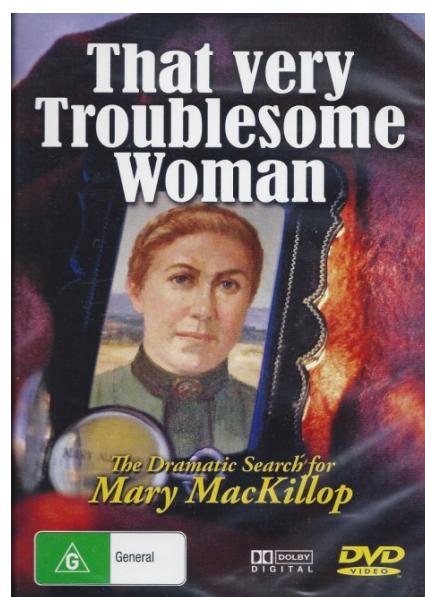
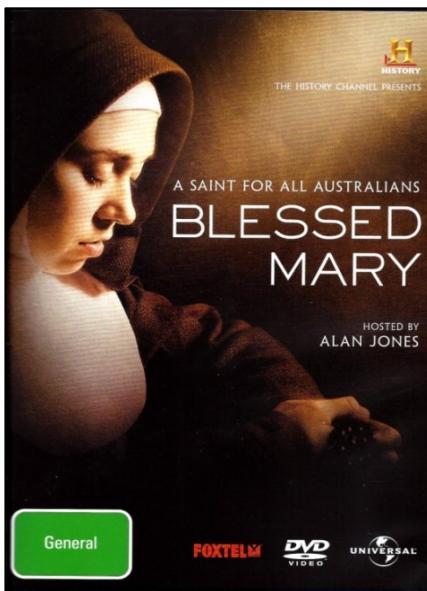
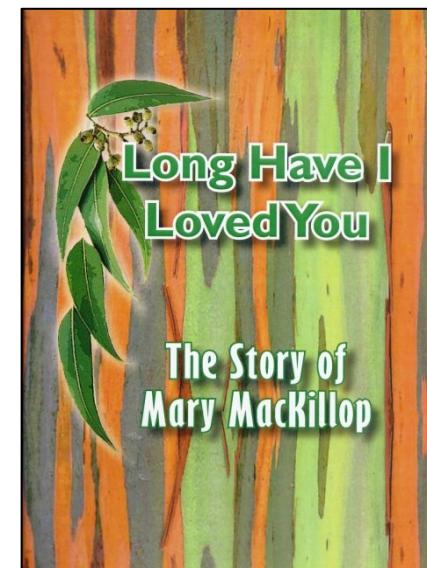
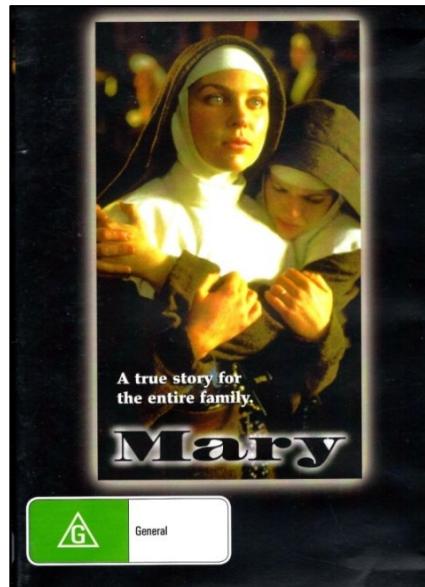
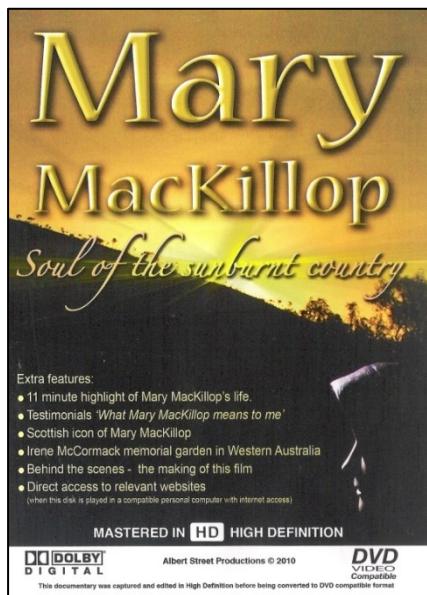
Resources: Music – CD only



CD and Music Book



Resources: DVD's



Organise a visit to the Mary MacKillop or Josephite Centre in your State:



THROUGH A VARIETY OF LIFE-GIVING MINISTRIES, MARY MACKILLOP CENTRES PROMOTE MARY MACKILLOP'S LIFE, WORK AND SPIRITUALITY.

These Centres are focal points for pilgrimage, learning and growth in the spiritual dimensions of life, hospitality, prayer and pastoral concern. People who visit these Centres celebrate the story and rich heritage of Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph.

For locations and full contact details of all these centres, visit:

www.marymackillop.org.au

MARY MACKILLOP PLACE

MARY MACKILLOP PENOLA CENTRE

MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE BRISBANE

JOSEPHITE MISSION AND HISTORY CENTRE HOBART

MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE PERTH

MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE

MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE ADELAIDE

HUB OF SPIRITUALITY • EDUCATION • HOSPITALITY

Find out more about St Mary MacKillop and her Sisters of St Joseph ...

The homepage features a large banner at the top with the text "Saint MARY MACKILLOP" and a portrait of St. Mary MacKillop. Below the banner is a navigation menu with links to Home, Mary's Story, Legacy, Prayer, Resources, Centres, and Online Store. A central section highlights "Australia's first saint" with a quote: "Let not weakness make you discouraged." Below this are three main call-to-action boxes: "EXPLORE further resources", "TAKE A TOUR of Mary's Place", and "PRAY with Mary".

www.marymackillop.org.au

The homepage features a banner with the text "WE HEAR THE CRY OF EARTH, the cry of children, WE FEEL HUMANITY DIMINISHED." Below the banner is a "Featured NEWS & EVENTS" section with several news items. To the right, there is a sidebar for "MARY MACKILLOP Centres" and "MARY MACKILLOP eNews".

www.sosj.org.au