

# IN THE WIND

Sisters of Saint Joseph production for Mary MacKillop Rural Network

<http://www.sosj.org.au> E: [mackillopruralnetwork@sosj.org.au](mailto:mackillopruralnetwork@sosj.org.au)

## MacKillop Rural Conference

29 September – 2 October 2016



AT  
Kevin Castles Centre  
152 West Street  
ROCKHAMPTON Q 4700

Applications for the MacKillop Rural Conference need to be returned by the **30 June 2016**. This is to ensure motels remain available and catering can be taken care of.

**Registration and accommodation information at the end of this newsletter.**

Contact: Di Phillips rsj  
[mackillopruralnetwork@sosj.org.au](mailto:mackillopruralnetwork@sosj.org.au)



Josephite Websites

Sisters of St Joseph

[www.sosj.org.au](http://www.sosj.org.au)

Visit Mary MacKillop's

tomb at

[www.marymackillop.org.au](http://www.marymackillop.org.au)

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Next Closing Date for

"In The Wind"

**17 September 2016**

**17 November 2016**

Continue to send articles to

PO Box 5

Miles Qld 4415

or email

[mackillopruralnetwork@sosj.org.au](mailto:mackillopruralnetwork@sosj.org.au)

## CELEBRATING THE SESQUICENTENARY OF THE SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH

### OF THE SACRED HEART WE REMEMBER:

#### Clair Cronin remembers:

I remember my days at St Joseph's School, Pittsworth from 1949 – 1953. The Sisters of St Joseph were very capable people. We started our day with morning prayers and we placed AMDG at the top of each page in our books. The meaning of this was "All my work is done for God". In our lunch break they also taught us to dance and how to play many sporting games. One of my favourite nuns was Sister Bonaventure who put me through Scholarship. She was so dedicated to us. We stayed at school until 4.30 each day plus two hours on Saturday morning. I will always have good memories of the Sisters of St Joseph.



#### Lloyd Cronin remembers:

I was taught by St Joseph's Sisters from 1946 – 1954 (9 years). My first teacher, Sr Lucille left a lasting impression. She was so kind. My last teacher for Scholarship was Sister Bonaventure. She was great. Years later I stopped off at Nundah, Brisbane, with my wife and two young children. Sister entertained me with tea and fruit cake. She enquired about all her old students for over half an hour. Over the years I received many lovely letters with beautiful handwriting. She was a special person.

Sister Pius also was excellent. After lunch she would drop the canvas of St Mary MacKillop over the blackboard and we would say prayers for her canonisation. I only have good memories of my years at St Joseph's, Pittsworth.

#### Joan Patterson remembers:

**Joan went to St Joseph's, Pittsworth.**

I remember a very deep trench dug out as a bomb shelter with two planks across it. One was for the children going to the convent for music practice and the other for the Sisters to go to the convent. At lunchtime we had two bells. One was a warning bell and the other was to go into school. In the lower grades we had slates which we cleaned with rags or sponges. How those rags smelled if they weren't washed every day! We had a good basketball team. Our only opposition was the State School. We had an excursion to Allora on the back of Barney Halley's cattle truck to play basketball. We were all rugged up with coats and blankets on a freezing day. It was great fun.

Laurel Hearn remembers:

Past pupil of St Joseph's Pittsworth from 1946 – 1953.



In 1946 I started school at St Joseph's Convent School in Pittsworth. I had never seen a Sister before as I had been a student at a country school. One day I forgot my lunch and the Sisters took me over to the convent. I was given a plate of baked custard. I didn't like it very much! One day a fellow pupil asked Sister if she was hot dressed in her habit. Sister replied, "No, I'm not". One thing for sure the Sisters wouldn't be hot in the winter months! A special occasion I remember was our first Communion when we had our 'breakfast' in the convent community room. I still have the small decorated place card which the Sisters made for each communicant. That was nearly 70 years ago. Congratulations and best wishes as 'The Daughters of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop' celebrate the sesquicentenary of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Laurie Harbort remembers:

I first met the Sisters of St Joseph about forty years ago when we came to live in Miles and sent our children to the Convent school. A Sister of Mercy had prepared us for the change. "You will find them the most beautiful Sisters". How right she was.

## St Patrick's Allora Centenary Celebrations



**Sisters gather before getting into the vintage cars for a drive around the town of Allora.**

(Photo by Patricia McGinley rsm)





Clare Elizabeth Cowley told the story of the Sisters' arrival in Allora with a wonderful painting with acrylic on canvas. She called her painting "In 1916 the Sisters Came".



View from a vintage car.

### MacKillop Club in Miles – Celebrating Pentecost



### Making 'stained glass' images for Pentecost



Children recording their commitments eg, I'll do my homework, tidy my room... These were put in boxes and placed in the church.



The finished 'stained glass' windows and boxes containing commitment statements.

## A Visit to Canada

Laurie Harbort from Miles



I have just returned home to Miles after having spent ten wonderful weeks with our youngest son and his beautiful wife who live in Toronto, Canada. It was a most enjoyable experience with plenty of time for knitting, reading and learning Spanish. We visited all the sights of Toronto and spent a few fantastic days at Niagara Falls, an unforgettable experience. We took the train to Montreal where memories of my High School French came in handy. It snowed when I arrived and, by the time I left, the trees were covered in new leaves and the tulips were flowering.

## St Patrick's School Allora Still Shining After 100 years

Robyn Phelan from Allora

Robyn Phelan from Allora Celebrating a century of Catholic Education in Allora on the weekend of 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March. The grounds of St Patrick's School and Church rang out with the sounds of singing by the present students and the chatter of past students reminiscing about their school days. The occasion was a time of gratitude and remembrance of the Sisters of St Joseph who pioneered the beginnings of the school and an opportunity to showcase how our wonderful school has developed.

A feature of the Centenary weekend was an art show titled "Art in the Convent" on the Saturday night with over 140 pieces exhibited in MacKillop House. Guests were delighted to view the high standard of art and roam the hallowed rooms of the fine old building which was the former Convent. A display of St Patrick's students' visual art paintings was on display in what was originally the boarders' quarters of the Convent. A delicious rustic grazing station of antipasto foods and specialty breads was on offer as well as sampling of wines. Also provided was musical entertainment from local talent who were either past students or who have or have had an association with the School.



"Grazing Station" at 'Art in the Convent'.

Winner of the Art Show's Centenary Celebrations section was a painting titled "In 1916 the Sisters Came" by Clare Cowley. The painting illustrates the arrival of the founding St Joseph Sisters at Allora's Railway Station in 1916. It was sold on the night and donated back to the Parish and now takes pride of place in the Parish Meeting Room. A canvas print was presented by the Parish to the School and it proudly hangs in the School's entrance foyer.





**Catherine Cowley and Sue Higgins at the launch of "Still Shining", a book detailing history of St Patrick's School with the painting by Clare Cowley titled "In 1916 the Sisters Came".**

In conjunction with the Art Show was the launch of a book titled "Still Shining" by Catherine Cowley. The book records the history of the School and was a year-long project which builds on a former publication "Shine Like Stars" published in 1991 to mark the occasion of the School's 75th Jubilee.

The School and Parish community welcomed past students and staff and visitors on the Sunday morning to a Celebratory Mass which was co-celebrated by Bishop Robert McGuckin, Parish Priest Fr Rod McGinley and visiting priests. Special guests were a number of Sisters of St Joseph, including several who had served at Allora over the years. Sr Monica Cavanagh, herself a former parishioner and student of Allora and presently Congregational Leader of the Sisters of St Joseph, also attended.

The Sisters of St Joseph, school students and staff and parishioners were all represented in the various ministries of the meaningful and joyous Eucharistic



Celebration. Sr Monica Cavanagh processed with a framed picture of Saint Mary MacKillop, Sr Annette Arnold, our Queensland Regional Leader, brought forth the Lectionary and the students of St Patrick's placed the school flag. To a packed church, the School students concluded the mass with a special presentation of their song and video clip titled "St Patrick's Way of Life" produced with Josh Arnold as part of the Small Town Culture Project.

The festivities continued with the school being open for viewing and a comprehensive memorabilia display which prompted groups of past students sharing memories of events and days gone by. Old fashioned games were held for the young ones with the sack race being a popular event.

The afternoon's official ceremony included cutting of the centenary cake which was performed by Audrey Doyle, the oldest pupil, and Sophia Fein and Logan Schelbach who are the youngest present day girl and boy students. Audrey (nee McVeigh) is a lifelong parishioner who was enrolled in the school in 1929, making her debut at the Catholic Ball and later marrying in the church.



**Cutting of centenary cake.**



A storyboard depicting the School's history was unveiled by Sr Monica Cavanagh. The colourful storyboard has since been installed at the front entrance to the school.

In its centenary year, St Patrick's School commemorates the past, celebrates the present and looks to the future.

**School children singing at the centenary Mass.**

# Sacred Space

**June is traditionally the month of the Sacred Heart. We pray:**

**Sacred Heart of Jesus, universal in your love for all,  
make my heart more like yours.**

## **Get Into Mercy Mode**

Pope Francis has called a Jubilee year for the Church and invites Catholics to experience the joy of giving and receiving mercy.

*Dear brothers and sisters, I have often thought about how the Church might make clear its mission of being a witness to mercy. It is a journey that begins with a spiritual conversion. For this reason, I have decided to call an extraordinary Jubilee that is to have the mercy of God at its centre. It shall be a Holy Year of Mercy. We want to live this Year in the light of the Lord's words: "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Luke 6:36)*

**Pope Francis Announcing the year of Mercy, March 13, 2015.**

Mindful of the words of Pope Francis, imagine the people you love, work with, associate with, those you barely know as acquaintances and any others you occasionally bump into -

1. Call to mind the relationships you value. Make a list.
2. Choose one that needs tending.
3. Make a list of things you could do to tend this relationship.
4. Choose one and do it.
5. Invite God's blessing on this relationship.



## Smell the Coffee. Savour the Tea.

Take a moment before the first sip of coffee or tea today. Thank God for this glorious gift that accompanies a moment of relaxation.



Let the steam waft towards you. Note the aroma. Hold your first mouthful and let the taste go to every taste bud. Feel it warm you as you swallow.

In this way we let stress go and enhance our wellbeing for a short time.

Sharing the moment with God helps faith to grow.

## Pope Francis: Laudato Si N. 84

The entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God.





The following is from *“Listen for a Whisper: Prayers, Poems and Reflections by Girls”*

Edited by Janet Claussen and Marilyn Kielbasa, 2001, St Mary’s Press, Winona, USA, page 22.

*Faith*

Is something  
that doesn’t come in a  
package. Faith is more like  
a mountain. In order to be close  
to God we have to climb the hill of  
life. On that road are many things to slow  
us down, rocks and roads that lead us astray  
from the true course. Like temptation and sin.

Jesus had to climb that MOUNTAIN too. It’s not hard  
to slip or fall along the way, many of us have. There  
have been times when I have slipped, or have just stop-  
ped along the way to think, but in the end, I will always  
get back up again and start walking toward God. I climb  
without fear because I know if I ever fall Jesus will be right  
behind me, waiting to catch me, for he too knows how it  
feels to fall. He too knows of the struggle to get close to God.  
He knows how hard it is to resist temptation. He knows. He  
too has been on the mountain with us. Lord, please help me on  
my way to you. Encourage my growth and development. Listen  
to me and answer my prayers. Catch me when I fall. Amen.

By Katie McGroarty age 13, Saint Odilia School, Shoreview MN.

**THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2016**

6.30pm PRE-DINNER GATHERING  
7.00pm DINNER  
8.00pm RITUAL OF WELCOME/PRAYER

**FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

PRESENTER: Carmel Street rsj

9.00am SESSION 1  
10.30am Morning Tea  
11.00am SESSION 2  
12.30pm LUNCH  
2.00-3.30pm SESSION 3  
3.30pm AFTERNOON TEA  
FREE TIME  
6.00pm DINNER

**SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER 2016**

9.00am SESSION 1  
Sharing of Resources  
History of the Network  
10.30am MORNING TEA  
11.00am SESSION 2  
Future Directions

12.30pm LUNCH  
2.00-4.00pm SESSION 3  
Ms Madonna King  
Q and A session  
4.00pm Afternoon tea  
4.30pm SESSION 4  
Free Time  
6.00pm Eucharist

**SUNDAY 2 OCTOBER 2016**

9.00am SESSION 1  
Session on Grief  
10.30am MORNING TEA  
11.00am SESSION 2  
Geraldine Doogue  
12.30pm LUNCH  
1.30pm SESSION 3  
Geraldine Doogue  
3.00 pm SESSION 4  
RITUAL OF CLOSURE  
4.00pm AFTERNOON TEA

**MacKillop Rural Conferences are an initiative of the Sisters of St Joseph Queensland**

The Conferences aim to

- gather Josephite people from rural communities
- nurture the participants in their ministry
- challenge participants on the theme
- provide space to share resources, experiences and ideas for ministry



*We are all in the loving hands of a good God*

*Mary MacKillop 1871*



## Conference Cost

Please register by completing the enclosed Registration form and returning it to

Sr Diane Phillips  
PO Box 4  
Miles Qld 4415

Email: [mackillopruralnetwork.sosj.org.au](mailto:mackillopruralnetwork.sosj.org.au)

**Registration Closes 30 June 2016**

## Accommodation

Participants are asked to choose and arrange their own accommodation bookings. Suggested Motels close by include

Central Park Hotel (close to the Venue)  
07 4927 2333  
224 Murray Street Rockhampton

Best Western The Stirling Motel  
07 4922 6222  
28-34 Albert Street Rockhampton



The Theme for the  
MacKillop Rural Conference  
2016  
is

*Listening to the  
Heartbeat of the World*



The Conference format will provide times of input, group conversations, challenges from our Guest Speakers and the sharing of insights on rural ministry.

There will be opportunities for relaxation and for individual Spiritual Companionship

# MacKillop Rural Conference

29 September – 2 October 2016

## Presenters

Ms Geraldine Doogue  
Ms Madonna King  
Sr Carmel Street rsj



*There where you are you will find God*  
*Mary MacKillop 1874*

AT  
Kevin Castles Centre  
152 West Street  
ROCKHAMPTON Q 4700







**MacKillop Rural Conference  
September 29 – 2 October, 2016**

**Kevin Castles Centre  
152 West Street  
ROCKHAMPTON Q 4700**

**Name:** .....

**Address:** .....

.....

**Phone:** ..... **Mobile:** .....

**Email:** .....

**Registration no later than 30 June 2016**

**Cost of Registration: \$100**

**Return form to:** Sr Di Phillips

**Email:** [mackillopruralnetwork@sosj.org.au](mailto:mackillopruralnetwork@sosj.org.au)

**Postal Address:** PO Box 4  
Miles Qld 4155

**Mobile:** 0427 825 536

**I am staying at:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dietary Requirements: Please indicate below if you have any special requirements**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



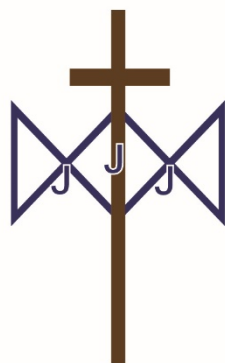
**ACCOMMODATION FOR THE RURAL CONFERENCE  
29 SEPTEMBER – 2 OCTOBER 2016**

**You are asked to do your own bookings and pay for accommodation for the Conference directly with the Motel**

The following two Motels have been approached re the Conference and are used by Catholic Education Rockhampton. However, you are free to stay at a place of your choice.

**Central Park Hotel (close to the Venue)                      07 4927 2333**  
**224 Murray Street Rockhampton**

**Best Western The Stirling Motel                                      07 4922 6222**  
**28-34 Albert Street Rockhampton**



**Sisters of Saint Joseph**  
*of the Sacred Heart*