

The Associates Newsletter

Sisters of St Joseph of the Apparition

September Edition 2012



In St Emilie's Own Words

Our schools and hospital in Western Australia and Victoria were part of St Emilie's vision. As you will recall, she sent four sisters to the new colony in Western Australia in 1855, the year before she died. In **The Account of Her Interior Life** she tells us... *"I felt a strong attraction for the Foreign Missions. My heart went out spontaneously to infidel regions, every time I entered a Parish church dedicated to the Missions, while in Paris; or when I knelt, in one of the churches of Gaillac, before an altar dedicated to St. Francis Xavier. At the age of eighteen years, I made a vow to invoke this great saint daily by reciting certain prayers in his honour."*

Glen Stevenson (Brindley)

Blessing of St Emilie's Statue at Canning Vale

On Sunday 17 June, Feast Day of St Emilie de Vialar, the Canning Vale Parish of St Emilie's Church hosted the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition at Mass and the blessing of the St Emilie's statue with children. The statue was sculpted in stone by our Sister Camille's brother Gerard Darwin and was originally in the courtyard of de Vialar College, then at the convent in Kalamunda.

The statue is an eye-catching presence, situated to the right of the main Entrance to the church. Mass was celebrated by Fr Emmanuel Dimobi and the blessing of the statue by Father Robert Carillo.

Glen Stevenson (Brindley)

*"Go, and with what you have and will receive
do all the good you can"*

St Emilie de Vialar

The Provincial Chapter

In July, we held our Provincial Chapter at St John of God's Retreat Centre Safety Bay. This was a unique gathering as we were joined by seven Sisters from Thailand. Our reflections and discussions centred on the theme "***We are Called to be Co-creators for Mission***" and were facilitated by Sister Marie Therese Ryder RNDM.

One of the speakers, Mr Jim Smith spoke to us of his work with *Earth Care Australia* and challenged us to consider the call to ecological conversion which involves us reducing our 'ecological footprint.' As people of faith we are called to celebrate the splendour of God's creation, be good stewards of the earth and to appreciate the interconnection of ecosystems. Ecological conversion is the radical change of mind and heart that recognises all creation is a precious gift to be loved, respected and protected. Above all, as co-creators, the future is something that each of us creates every day. Together we prayed for the inspiration to work for the transformation of our world and a deeper appreciation of its beauty and wonder.

On Tuesday 11 September, Sisters Gemma and Bernadette and seven Associates commence their Pilgrimage to Lourdes, Gaillac and Rome. We wish them well, safe travel and an inspiring and enjoyable time.

from Sister Margaret Anne Beech

Mass to Open the Provincial Chapter

On 15 July, a small group of Associates gathered with the Sisters at the 9:00am parish Mass at St Emilie's Church, Canning Vale, to mark the opening of the Provincial Chapter. It was wonderful to see so many of our Sisters gathered together. Seven Sisters from Thailand had also come to take part in the Chapter. Among them was Sister Noelline, who many will remember was commissioned by Sister Margaret Anne at a St Emilie Feast Day Mass, to go to work in the refugee camps on the Thai, Burma border.

Father Emmanuel welcomed the Sisters and Associates warmly. He declared the Mass a special occasion and a time for celebration, and encouraged all attending to share in a spirit of celebration. Sister Margaret Anne was invited to speak and she explained the work of the Chapter, and the decisions that it would have to make. She asked the congregation to pray for the success of the Chapter. Special prayer cards were distributed. Associates were invited to renew their Associate promise. At the Offertory, Kath Trafalski an Associate from Albany, presented the Associate book '*A Way Of Life*' Lay Members of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Apparition.

It was a joyful Mass with a special spirit which owed much to the choir and the appropriate hymns, and to the special spirit Father Emmanuel brought to the occasion.

Following Mass, morning tea was shared at the Sisters Convent in Campbell Road.

Wendy Cronin

Information – Fr Robert Carrillo, Parish Priest of St Emilie's Parish thought some Associates might be interested in the Canning Vale Pilgrimage taking place in **May 2013** and asked for information to be included in the Newsletter. The 21day Pilgrimage includes a *SPECIAL FEATURE* of visiting *GAILLAC* in France, the birth place and town of Emilie de Vialar the Patron Saint of the Parish. **Please direct enquiries to:**

Father Robert – Tel: 08 9456 5130 Email: st.emilie@bigpond.com

Sheila – Tel: 0433 771 979 Email: sheila@alternative.com.sg

***Reflection on: Retreat held on 20 May 2012 at the Epiphany Retreat Centre,
Rossmoyne***

Theme: "The Wondrous Mystery of God in our Universe"

About 24 Associates attended a mind-challenging Retreat, led by Sr Gemma at the Epiphany Centre in Rossmoyne.

I say "*challenging*", because we were encouraged to widen our spiritual horizon by linking the reality and mystery of the Universe with the reality and mystery of a loving God in relationship with his people.

Altogether, perhaps a bit difficult for most of us who try very hard to keep our feet firmly planted on solid ground.

God's love for me personally is quite different from the manifestation of God's creative power, so evident when we look around us to the wonders of nature and up into the sky to the wonders beyond. And yet, in the bigger picture, the two are surely connected.

Sister Gemma Grant pointed out how humanity's wonderful curiosity about the philosophical and scientific ramifications of our material Universe will very likely prove to be a significant factor in bringing peace to the world.

The Retreat was another splendid opportunity for us to come together in a group of like-minded people, as members of the "Associates".

Regards from Thea Ziegelaar

Sister Jeanette writes....

Your continued support for all our missions is greatly appreciated, thank you.

As you would have seen in the news in recent weeks, and we have heard from our Sisters, the situation in Syria is very grave. Please pray especially for our Sisters in Aleppo that they may be able to continue to bring help to the people.

Coming Event: All Associates are invited to attend **The General Meeting of Associates** to be held on 14 October - full details are on the back page. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Thank you for your continued support of the Thailand Project and for donations towards the production of the Newsletter

May God bless you.

Sister Jeanette Hevron

From the Editor

As you will recall from the last newsletter, I put out an expression of interest to have the Newsletter emailed to Associates as this would assist greatly with increasing postage costs. To date, I have only received around 15 replies agreeing to have the newsletters emailed. As this is not viable with this small number, I am putting out another request and ask that you email me on: rbarnett@corpus.wa.edu.au

Regina Barnett

Please Mark This Date on Your Calendar

SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER 2012

GENERAL MEETING

2:00pm

Beaconsfield Parish Hall

**cnr Lefroy Road & Moran Street
Beaconsfield**

ALL ASSOCIATES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

**Emilie's story & Associate matters
Report on the Thailand Project & Next Year's Thailand focus
Afternoon tea with the Sisters**

Please bring a small plate

RSVP by 7th October

Germaine: germaine.m@optusnet.com.au Ph: 9335 1639

Wendy: mickcronin@iinet.net.au Ph: 9330 1723

Sister Jeanette: srjeanette@powerdsl.com.au Ph : 9313 4961

Our deceased Sisters, Associates, Relatives and Friends

Joseph Kelly

Husband of Kath, brother-in-law of Sister Monica and Genevieve Kelly. Father of Michael, Carmel Gassner and Judy.

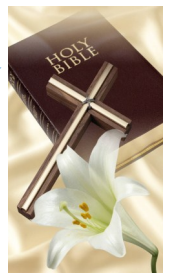
Maria Morosin

Eileen Glynn

Mary Lorrimar

Mother of Rosemary Lorrimar

“Eternal Rest Grant to them O Lord”



***We pray for all our sick Sisters, Associates, relatives and friends,
and for all who have asked our prayers at this time.***