

Volume 12

*The
Associates Newsletter
Sisters of St Joseph of the Apparition*

December Edition 2011



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

St Emílie de Vialar

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 2011



***GOOD NEWS AND GREAT JOY TO ALL THE WORLD
TODAY IS BORN OUR SAVIOUR CHRIST THE LORD***

The Christmas Season is a special time:

- To reflect on the many graces and blessings the year 2011 has given, and to look forward in anticipation to the New Year and the graces and blessing that 2012 holds for each of us.
- To say a sincere thank you to all who have kept in touch throughout the year and for your generous and prayerful support of our missions, and especially the Associate Klong Lan project. You are remembered in our prayers
- To say a special thanks to the Committee Members, the Newsletter Editor, Coordinators, Presenters and all involved in behind the scenes tasks that enabled the various Associate events throughout the year to take place .

Looking ahead, there are various Associate events in the planning stage for 2012 mentioned in this Newsletter. Further information and details will be available in the next edition . I hope to meet up with you at these events in the New Year. Meantime.....

***WISHING YOU ALL THE LOVE, JOY AND PEACE OF
THE CHRISTMAS SEASON***

Sister Jeanette Hevron



The gift of the incarnation
"God so loved the world, that he sent His Only Son."
Needs to be revealed to the world Jn 3,16

The Gift Of Emilie's Words To Ponder

How satisfying for the heart when it is given to bring happiness to someone
and to relieve suffering humanity.



What could be of greater excellence than to please God and give him glory?

We shall continue to devote our strength, and our fortunes, our future, even our life if
necessary,
to the relief of the distressed, the care of the poor and the sick, the education of the children
– and to all works of charity.



*Never lose sight of the aim for which we are united;
God and his greater glory,
the service of the neighbour and the ardent desire to be of use to him.*



The will of God is preferable in all things.



**The circumstances which manifest God's will to me
determine all my decisions. All I do is to follow them.**



Man's greatest happiness on earth is to be able to say that in all his actions he is doing God's will.



In everything we must submit to the events which God allows.
I know that his help will not be lacking to us in important matters.
That should be enough for me.



**May they (the Sisters/ Associates) contribute by their feeble efforts to make God known,
adored, and loved in all truth!
In this is my only desire, my only ambition.**



**What does it matter who sows
and who reaps, provided the harvest is abundant.**



*God is present everywhere.
He carries you engraved on his palm.....
You are his child.*



*Jesus Christ, God and Man, is in your house.
In your moments of suffering, go and speak to him;
pray to him to come to your help;
ask him to enlighten you,
to console you with his grace;
You are his child;*



**Go! And with what you have
and will receive, do all the good you can.**



The General Meeting of 30 October 2011

Sister Gemma welcomed the Sisters and some twenty Associates to the meeting.

Associate Matters

Wendy Cronin spoke, saying that central to being an Associate was accepting the Congregation's invitation to take up St Emilie's charisms and use them where we can in our own life.

Also a Retreat Day is planned this year and for those interested some small group meetings to provide information about St Emilie's life.

Sister Margaret Anne's Report

Sister Margaret Anne was unable to attend and sent an apology and a report which Germaine Matison read out. The report gave details of where our project money was spent in 2011. As well as continuing assistance with educational needs, (uniforms, books, fees and travel), Sister Margaret Anne suggested other projects Associates may wish to support in 2012. One of these was to provide some equipment for the nursery school.

Sisters Alma, Elizabeth Rose and Bernadette reported on their recent visit to Thailand

All three Sisters were in Thailand during the recent floods and shared their experiences. Those present were most effected by what they had to tell us about the poverty in the villages where the Sisters minister, particularly, the elderly and very young who lack sufficient clothing and the basics of life. Their photos and personal insights gave us some understanding of the many needs the Thai Sisters have to deal with every day. Sisters Alma and Bernadette also visited Sister Noelline working in the refugee camps on the Thai/ Burma border.

Our Project For 2012

Germaine announced that we will continue to provide for the educational needs of children. She also explained that while we were considering providing equipment for the nursery school, flooding of Klong Lan and the surrounding four villages where the Sisters minister may produce more pressing needs. A decision on a project will be made when it is clear what needs there are after the floods.

Afternoon tea concluded the gathering.

Associates at the meeting contributed \$580 towards 2012. More contributions arrived the following week.

Thank you to all.

The General Meeting of 30 October 2011



Mrs Wendy Cronin addresses the Meeting



Mrs Senta Migro and Mrs Yvonne Vegliante



Some of the Associates who attended



Sisters Kathleen and Alma with Mrs Shirley McKay



Sister Rose and Sister Bernadette



Sister Kieran and Ms Caroline Bourke

Klong Lan Project 2012

Recent events have had some effect on the direction of this appeal. Wendy's trip to Thailand was postponed because of the floods. Sisters Bernadette and Alma's visit to all our Communities there, with one exception (again because of the floods) has shed some light on the current situation in the Klong Lan Mission.

The two Sisters in Klong Lan both requested clothing and care for the elderly and the very young in the poorer villages where they minister. These were considered the most basic and immediate needs, as well as something towards Christmas.

Concerns expressed by Associates at the recent meeting at Beaconsfield were taken up by the Associate Committee. A decision was made to make this a priority and to forward money donated on that day, together with the contributions from the Albany Associates. A cheque for \$1000 has been sent to Klong Lan.

We have already received a letter of appreciation. Sister Marie Therese says "Thank you" and she will be off to buy the clothes etc. and will report back soon.

In 2012 With Your Help We Will

- Continue our prayer support for the Klong Lan Sisters
- Continue to provide for the educational needs of children
- Continue to monitor and provide money for the basic needs of the elderly and very young
- If possible, provide equipment to revitalise the nursery school.

Grateful thanks go to those at the meeting who contributed \$580 on the day and to the Albany Associates who contributed \$160.

Those who wish to give financial support to this project, your donations of any amount are always needed and appreciated. Please choose a way which is convenient to you.

Cash given directly to the Sisters or paid direct into the Klong Lan account at any Commonwealth Bank.

Account Name:

**The Community in Western Australia of St Joseph of the Apparition Inc.
Project Account**

BSB No: 066 102 Account No: 10184483 Reference: Your Name

Cheques made payable to:

**Sisters of St Joseph of the Apparition
Project Account**

Retreat Day

Date: Sunday 20 May 2012

**Venue: Epiphany Retreat Centre
50 Fifth Avenue
Rossmoyne (close to the Freeway)**

The Retreat is a day retreat where you can reflect on life of St Emilie and her charism, and on the blessings bestowed on you and your family. It will be a time of renewal and spiritual growth.

If you think you may be interested in attending the Retreat Day please send us your contact details now. We already have a small group from the General meeting who have expressed interest and it would be lovely to see more of you join again.

This is not a commitment, but early next year we will send you details of what is planned for the day and then you can decide whether you will attend or not. The first Newsletter next year will not give us sufficient planning time or you enough notice to reserve the date on your calendar.

Contact details can be sent to:

Germaine ph: 9335 1639, email: germaine.m@optusnet.com.au

OR

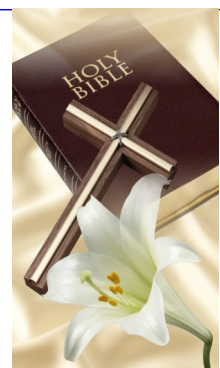
Wendy ph: 93301723 email: mickcronin@iinet.net.au

**Our deceased Sisters, Associates,
Relatives and Friends**

“Eternal Rest Grant to them O Lord”

Patricia Litherland

Sister of Michael Hurn



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

From Albany Associates

We had our last meeting for the year on Sunday 20 November 2011. Sisters. Gemma and Alma visited us and we thoroughly enjoyed a slide-show of a recent visit to Thailand by the Sisters to join in the 50th Anniversary of the Foundation of the SJA Sisters in Thailand. Sister Alma's commentary was most interesting and enjoyable, while Sister Gemma's operation of the visuals shown on the digital projector was very professional.

Thankfully, the intrepid travellers weathered the storms and brought back memorable footage of a most successful visit. It was wonderful to see so many Sisters gathered, including Sister Pat and Sister Noelline, who are looking extremely well.

Though the number of Associates able to attend was down on previous meetings, the quality of the presentation and discussion was top notch.

We are still trying to get a comprehensive list of all who wish to continue receiving the Newsletter. If you no longer wish to receive the Newsletter or have changed your address or phone number please let us know by telephoning 9841 4327, or leave a note with details at the Parish Office.

We wish all Associates a Happy and Holy Christmas and thank God for our Sisters who continue to follow in the steps of St Emilie on that Christmas night 1832.

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Betty Tulloch
Coordinator



On being an Associate



So many experiences shared by Wendy Cronin in our August newsletter ring true for me as an associate of our Sisters Congregation . Every association has a cause or central core which binds its members and it can do great things through its shared commitment. Being an Associate for me has this capability as we pray with the Sisters all over the world for the continued success of their work done in so many different and difficult situations.

This is no different from what St Emilie faced as her Order grew. The path that St Emilie chose is full of pointers as to how we conduct our lives in a search for holiness. In this we share with the Sisters common goals for the greater good. I have found this approach most beneficial for prayer life. Also, the interaction with other Associates and members of the Emilie group enriches my life and keeps me focused.

Glen Stevenson (Brindley)

2012Calendar

Associate Gatherings and Meetings

Reflection Day

20 May 2012

Epiphany Retreat Centre

50 Fifth Avenue, Rossmoyne WA

Feast of St Emilie

Mass and Luncheon will be held in celebration of this Day in June

*Emilie Group and Albany Associates will meet during the year
(dates to be confirmed)*

Details as to dates, venues to follow

***May the Blessings
that come with the Feast of Christmas
be with you
and your families
always.***