

Desert Creek House
802 Desert Creek Road - Numbugga
BEGA - NSW 2550 - AUSTRALIA

Phone: ++61 (0)2 6492 8498
E-mail: yumorsier@skymesh.com.au
Website: www.desertcreekhouse.com.au

**Mary MacKillop: Discovering the Heart of a Great Australian Woman
through her Correspondence**

October 2, 2010; 10 am to 5 pm

Welcome

Prayer: O God, you direct the life of the church through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
Joseph has been named its guardian and protector, and so we pray
Help us to walk the ways of truth and love.
In praise of Joseph, we recall his humility and goodness
- deliver us from harmful ambition and self-seeking.
Joseph entered into the mysteries of the life of Jesus
- grant us the faith to recognise and follow the call of Your Spirit in our lives. Amen.

1. **What is a Saint for me? What Image arises? (5-10 mins.)**

Sharing

Music: “*Litany of the Saints: All you holy men and women pray for us*”

2. **FAMILY TRAGEDIES: FAITH IN GOD’S PROVIDENCE**
3. **BEING PEACEFUL IN THE FACE OF PERSECUTION**

LUNCH

4. **DVD: Highlights of the Life of Mary MacKillop**
5. **HUMILITY: TO GIVE ALL WE HAVE IN USING OUR GIFTS AND TALENTS**

Intercessions: O God, you raised up Mary MacKillop to be an inspiration for many. In thanksgiving for the gift of her life we pray,

God is all Goodness and Love.

O God, at the time of her excommunication, Mary wrote “The calm beautiful presence of God I shall never forget”

- grant courage to those misunderstood or misjudged by ecclesiastical or civil authorities.

O God, Mary respected the human dignity of every person she met, whether they were a friend, a fellow traveller, a prisoner, an elderly or sick person, a child from a wealthy or from a poor background, and tried to treat everyone equally

- free us, Lord, from our limitations, our prejudices and blindness that we may respect the dignity of every person, so we may teach by example rather than by word.

O God, Mary had to face many difficult situations and sorrows in her life, as well as suffering from poor health, yet she remained steadfast as she embraced the Cross in her life

- grant that we too face our sufferings with patience and courage.

O God, Mary was a big-hearted woman full of compassion with a special place in her heart for those who were disadvantaged, marginalised or isolated

- grant that we love each other, help and comfort each other and so become a voice of God's love in our world.

Final Prayer:

God, we give you thanks for the life of Mary MacKillop.

May the values she cherished:

an inclusiveness that makes all welcome,

an ability to challenge a situation without judging the person,

and an attentiveness to the movement of God in her life,

inspire us to live also with deep love in our hearts,

forgive those who hurt us

and walk in constant trust with you, our Lord. Amen.