

- ◆ In 1954 the vestry, confessional and priest's flat were attached to the chapel. The flat was removed in 2004.
- ◆ The present Stations of the Cross were added in 1961.

By 1970 it had become necessary to carry out major renovations in the Chapel. This included the redesign and relocation of the altar in accordance with the instructions of Vatican 11 which stipulated that the Celebrant face the congregation.

Archways were cut in the walls in order to create more space in the sanctuary. Two wooden carvings of Mary and Joseph, which are of Spanish design, were added. The marble altar rails were removed and some of the marble was used to make the lecturn stand and the pedestals for the statues. The large painting of the Sacred Heart was moved from above the altar to its present site on the side wall of the chapel. It was replaced with a crucifix. The floor was carpeted.

Renovations to the Crypt under the Chapel were completed in 1974. This housed the South Australian Josephite Archives until 2004. It was also the forerunner of Mary MacKillop Museum which was opened in 1995

The carved wooden sculpture of Mary MacKillop in the chapel porch, was donated to the Sisters of St Joseph in South Australia by the Knights of the Southern Cross. This gift was to commemorate the Beatification of Mary MacKillop in January 1995.



Taking a walk you will see ...

- ◆ The round structure near the driveway is set up as a quiet prayer space and is a focal point for the Christmas Crib and Lenten Devotions.
- ◆ The statue in the front driveway is that of St Roch, the Patron Saint of Epidemics.
- ◆ Two Statues of St Joseph: one is visible in a photograph taken in 1899 and the other was installed in 1928.
- ◆ The Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes with St Bernadette was erected in 1940.
- ◆ An Aboriginal Memorial and Garden near Second Creek flows through the grounds.
- ◆ Max Harris, a journalist, was a long time friend of the Sisters of St Joseph and his ashes are buried in the adjacent Mary MacKillop Park under the plaque unveiled in 1994.

St Joseph's Chapel...

MARY MACKILLOP'S MUCH LOVED PLACE OF PRAYER

St Joseph's Chapel is listed in the Archdiocese of Adelaide as a Private Chapel, but is open to the public daily from 8.30am - 4.00pm. Visitors to the Chapel may write a prayer intention in a special prayer book located at the back entrance of the Chapel.

WEDDINGS

The Chapel is available for weddings from February to December. The wedding is entered into the Marriage Register of St. Ignatius' Church, Norwood.

FOR VISITOR INFORMATION & WEDDING BOOKINGS

Ph: 08 8130 5900

E: infos@sosj.org.au

CHAPEL LOCATION

Enter via

4 High Street, Kensington or
Side gate in Phillip Street.

Please note: there is no on-site car parking



Mary MacKillop Precinct

The Kensington Story

*Come ... walk on the land
Mary MacKillop walked on ...
breathe in her spirit ...
pray where she prayed so often ...*



A place of pilgrimage and peace

Mary MacKillop



Listening to the Heartbeat of the World

www.marymackillopelaide.org.au

Josephite Beginnings ...

Penola, in the south east of South Australia, was the birth-place of the religious Congregation known as the Sisters of St Joseph. It was here in 1866 that the young Mary MacKillop and Father Julian Tenison Woods responded to the request of the Bishop of Adelaide to establish a school for the education of the poor.

Mary was asked to come to Adelaide to open similar schools and, together with her companion Rose Cunningham, disembarked at Port Adelaide on 23 June 1867. By July 1867 the first Josephite school in Adelaide was in operation in St Francis Xavier's Hall next to the Cathedral in Wakefield Street.

Over the next four and a half years the care for the poor had extended to include 45 schools and charitable institutions throughout South Australia.

In September 1871 Mary was excommunicated. However, five months later in February 1872, her excommunication was lifted! Soon after this, Fathers Joseph Tappeiner SJ and Christopher Reynolds, who later became Bishop of Adelaide, stressed the necessity for the Sisters to find a home which would be their own.

The Kensington Story ...

In August 1872 a property belonging to Mrs Elizabeth Main became available. It was a triangular block with frontages on Kensington Terrace, (now Portrush Rd), High Street and Charles Street, (now Phillips St). On this block were two buildings: an eight-roomed house in the centre of the grounds, and a four-roomed gate-house near the present entrance to Tappeiner Court Nursing Home. Mary and some Sisters moved into their first official Mother House, on 29 August 1872.

The property was rented until 1875 when the Deeds were made out in the name of Mary MacKillop. Thanks to the assistance of Bishop Reynolds and the

generosity of the Barr Smith family the Sisters finally had a place of their own.

The four-roomed cottage was the first Josephite school in this district and the Sisters had classes there between 1872 and 1900.

With the growing number of women joining the Order these facilities soon proved inadequate. On 7 May 1876 a new Chapel, Convent and Novitiate were blessed and opened. The chapel was on ground level with sleeping and living quarters above and below. The ceiling (the floor of the dormitory above) extended almost three quarters of the way along the length of the chapel. The basement below became the Novitiate.

Bethany ...

In December 1881 a wood and iron structure known as *Bethany* was constructed at the back of the original house. This provided much needed accommodation. A second *Bethany* was constructed on this site in 1951. This was demolished in 2003 to make room for the present Regional Administration Centre and Archives. Also in this complex is a large room which is used for community gatherings as well as school and church group activities. It too has been named *Bethany*.

Mary MacKillop in Kensington ...

Mary lived here from August 1872 until November 1883 when Bishop Reynolds called an unauthorised Apostolic Commission to look into the affairs of the Sisters of St Joseph. This resulted in his banishment of Mary from South Australia. Although she came back several times to visit the Sisters in South Australia – her last visit was in 1905 – she never returned here to live.

By 1903 it was apparent that further additions to the convent were needed. The main two-storey building which faces Portrush Road was added. It was blessed and opened by Archbishop John O'Reilly on 24 June

1906. This building was largely paid for by Mrs Scanlon, the mother of Sister Hyacinth Scanlon.

In 1926 the original eight-roomed house was demolished to make way for further accommodation for the Sisters. This building was opened on 20 March, 1927 and included an area for the aged and infirmed Sisters. For many years the Province Offices were also located on the ground floor.

Chapel changes over the years ...



- ♦ The artworks, "The Passion" and "St Joseph and the Christ Child" were painted by E. Dite in the 1880's and were gifted to the Sisters by a Jesuit Priest.
 - ♦ In 1928 the original wooden altar in the Chapel was replaced with a marble one – this was a gift from the family of Sister Flavia Sheedy.
 - ♦ In 1935 the refurbishment of the sanctuary and the marble altar rails were donated by the family of Sister Liguori Sinn.
 - ♦ In 1938 the curved porch at the entrance was constructed, the original front doorway of the convent was closed in and the upstairs dormitory was cut back and is now the choir loft.
 - ♦ The square top windows were changed to the present circular design.
 - ♦ The timber floor was renewed and the original long pews were replaced with the present smaller seats. Memorial plaques were added to each seat.
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