

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

On the Feast of The Epiphany, January 16, 1958, of the sixteen Good Samaritan Sisters who were professed at Pennant Hills, NSW, five were past pupils of St Brendan's Coragulac. Dorothy McKay [Corunnun] entered on January 6, 1955, Myra Gleeson [Orford], Stella Gleeson [Coragulac] and Teresa Lanigan [Port Fairy] entered on March 19 and Margaret Malone [Cororooke] entered on July 2, 1955.

In the novitiate we were known as The Handmaids of Mary, Queen of The World because at this time, this feast had just been promulgated. We consider ourselves quite special because Hiro Kageyama [professed as Sr Maria Regina] came to join us, being the first Good Samaritan postulant from Japan.

Though we have lived in different states of Queensland, NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, the bonds of friendship from our novitiate days remain strong. We all qualified as teachers and for many years, this was our main ministry. With Mary as our model and following the Rule of St Benedict, we listen to the Spirit calling us to act boldly and courageously, to create a more just and peaceful world.

In early December, 2017, we returned to our former novitiate at Pennant Hills for three nights and many memories were recalled, lots of photos were seen and hosts of stories were told. On December 10, 2017, we all gathered at St Scholastica's, Glebe Point [our mother house] for a special celebration and were joined by a large number of our Sisters from various parts of Australia.

As true Good Samaritans may we show forth in our lives, love and compassion to all and, in the words of St Benedict, may we continue to set the love of Christ before all else. Another Good Samaritan [ex-pupil from St Brendan's Coragulac] has named us –“The Fabulous Five”.

Sr Stella Gleeson sgs



(B) Srs Dorothy McKay, Margaret Malone, Myra Gleeson (F) Teresa Lanigan, Stella Gleeson