



# JOURNEYS

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3 | ISSUE 1 | FEBRUARY 2011

## DESTINATION ROME: TRUSTEES HEAD TO THE VATICAN OFFICES

During the first week of March, each of the Trustees will gather in Rome for a two-fold purpose:

- to present the *Inaugural Report* concerning the mission, vision, philosophy and Catholic identity of the Ministries entrusted to us, and
- to deepen their own formation programmes by visiting Ignatian and Jesuit sites and by engaging in conversations with those well versed in the ways of the Vatican offices.



The Trustees for Mary Aikenhead Ministries.

*The Inaugural Report: 1 July, 2009 – 31 December, 2010*, contains the Trustees' Sponsorship Report, and Mary Aikenhead Ministries' Financial and Ministry Oversight. Several appendices, which the Trustees think will be useful for the examination and discussion of the Report, have also been included.

The visit to Rome will, of course, culminate in the Trustees' presentation of the Report within the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life dicastery on Saturday, 5 March at 10:00am. We do hope that all our colleagues will join us in prayer at this time as we represent the various Ministries in which each of you is engaged.

*The experience of treading the marble floors of the Vatican offices is one that is not easily forgotten...*

We shall be greeted by the dicastery officials. The experience of treading the marble floors of the Vatican offices is not one that is easily forgotten, nor is that of being ushered from one waiting room to the next before the conversation takes place.

As yet, we do not know if the new Cardinal Prefect, who has replaced His Eminence Franc Cardinal Rode, will be available for the meeting. We have been told that the new Cardinal Prefect will be a recent arrival in Rome and may not be able to keep the appointments made with his predecessor. Nevertheless, we shall be well prepared for the presentation. We do know that Sister Mary Wright ibvm, an Australian, former Principal of a Victorian Secondary College and now a canon lawyer, will be there to support and encourage us.



St. Peter's Square, Vatican City.

# FORMATION: AN ONGOING PROCESS

One of the primary responsibilities of the Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries is to engage in ongoing formation processes that foster collaborative leadership and discernment at the heart of our decision making. The Trustees are highly committed to guaranteeing that Leadership Formation is central in the development of all members of Mary Aikenhead Ministries to ensure that Hope, Justice, Compassion and Love are at the heart of our call to proclaim the Mission of God, especially to the poor and marginalised.

## Trustees formation

The Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries have engaged in a discernment process over several months to arrive at the Foundational Scripture story for all our Ministries. This has involved personal and communal reflection on the Scriptures. On Friday 28 January the Trustees invited Dr Michele Connolly rsj to break open the two texts: Luke 4: 16-21 *The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry* and John 13:1-17 *Jesus Washes The Disciples' Feet*.

Michele enabled the Trustees to delve into the richness of these seminal passages, evoked new insights within us and invited us to reflect on how they relate to the contribution of all members of Mary Aikenhead Ministries, to bring about the Mission of God – which we all share.



Left to right: Linda Ferrington rsc, Mark Hales, Leone Wittmack rsc, Maryanne Confoy rsc, April Honeyman and Stephen Campion.



Dr Michele Connolly rsj.

## The Leadership Formation Coordinating Group

The role of the Leadership Formation Coordinating Group is to assist the Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries in the identification, development, integration, ongoing monitoring and evaluation of Leadership Formation programs across the Education and Healthcare Ministries (including Welfare) in accordance with the philosophies, mission and values of Mary Aikenhead Ministries.

The membership of this group is:  
Mark Hales (Chairperson),  
Stephen Campion, Maryanne Confoy rsc,  
Linda Ferrington rsc, April Honeyman,  
Marcelle Mogg, Leone Wittmack rsc.

The inaugural meeting of this Group took place on Monday, 7 February at St Columba's College, Essendon.

*'In our Catholic tradition, when we talk of preparing people to share more effectively in the mission of Jesus, we speak of 'formation'. Formation is much more than training or education because it is about the internalisation of values, attitudes and ways of seeing, and the maturation of faith. It is something that we do in co-operation with God. Formation seeks to develop in us a sensitivity to where God is leading our lives and our mission.'*

Fr Steve Curtin sj, Australian Provincial  
(*Companions*, Winter 2010)

# INTRODUCING JULIETTE MARSH WILLIAMS



Juliette Marsh Williams.

We are delighted to announce that Juliette Marsh Williams has accepted our invitation to be the keynote speaker at our 2011 Mary Aikenhead Ministries Conference. Juliette has a wealth of ministry experience as a lay woman in the Catholic Church, from Parish to Archdiocesan level – as a preacher, workshop leader, teacher, advocate and spiritual counsellor.

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Juliette was recently honoured by Leadership America and Women's Resources as one of 40 young women leaders in the United States. She is the first married woman to be extended the invitation to study Canon Law for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, being awarded a JCL, Canon Law from the Catholic University of America.

During this year's Conference, Juliette will consider lay leadership, exploring specifically what we need to do to ensure our organisation and culture support the Ministries' role in furthering the mission of God and remaining a vital part of the Catholic Church.

The Conference is to be held in Melbourne commencing on Wednesday, 20 July, 2011 with the Eucharist to be celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart at St Francis Catholic Church. The conference will conclude the following day at the Novotel on Collins.

The Trustees look forward to formally inviting Directors and Executives from across Mary Aikenhead Ministries, to share in this wonderful event. Conference registration will be available in the coming month.

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY AIKENHEAD AN UPDATE ON THE 2011 PILGRIMAGE

A team of senior Ministry Executives and Directors has now been selected to participate in the 2011 Pilgrimage to significant places relating to our heritage, and to sacred sites in Ireland.

Those participating will have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the tradition and charism of the Sisters of Charity, as required by the Mary Aikenhead Ministries Constitutions and Statutes.

The pilgrimage experience will also deepen appreciation and commitment to the mission and call of our Ministries within Education, Welfare and Health.

The experience will enable participants to make the connection between our heritage and their role as a leader of one of the Ministries conducted by Mary Aikenhead Ministries.

Workshops and seminars, which will be conducted by Sisters of Charity based in Ireland, are a new element of this year's pilgrimage.

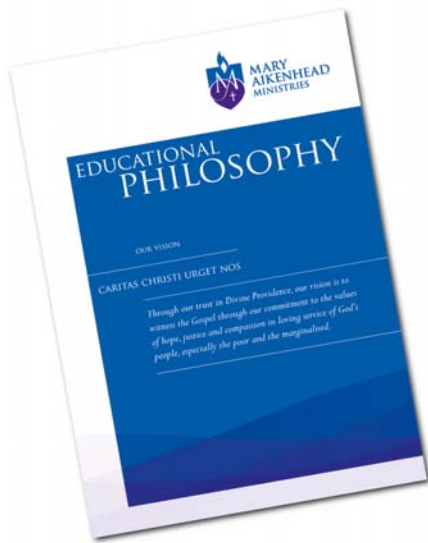


The South Chapel, Cork City.

*More details are available on the Mary Aikenhead Conferences website. Please note the new website domain: [www.mamconferences.com](http://www.mamconferences.com)*

# EMBRACE THE EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY!

THE EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY BROCHURE WAS DISTRIBUTED THROUGH ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA AND MARY AIKENHEAD EDUCATION IN DECEMBER, 2010 AND JANUARY, 2011.



The Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries invite all engaged in educational endeavours across each and every Ministry to accept Mary Aikenhead's invitations (as outlined within the brochure) and to embrace our Educational Philosophy.

The Trustees are eager to learn about leadership/formation opportunities given to Executives and Directors.

Please email:  
[info@maryaikenheadministries.com.au](mailto:info@maryaikenheadministries.com.au)

so that workshops and seminars given on this statement can be passed on to all Trustees.

## VIVA MADRID!

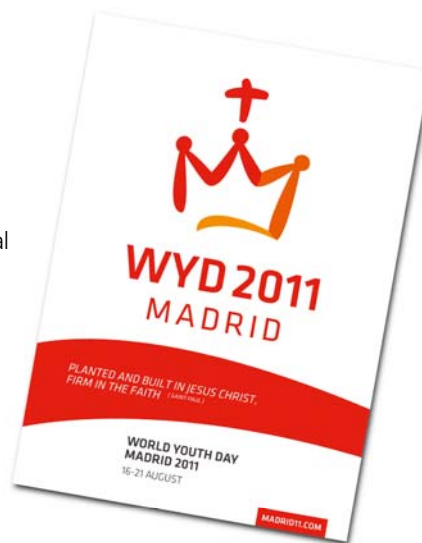
### World Youth Day 2011

World Youth Day will be celebrated on 16-21 August, 2011. The scriptural passage on which the celebration is based, is Colossians 2:7

*Planted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the faith*

The Trustees would be delighted to hear from any Ministry facility which may be sponsoring participants to this world event.

Please email:  
[info@maryaikenheadministries.com.au](mailto:info@maryaikenheadministries.com.au)



## NEW WEBSITE DOMAIN

### FOR MARY AIKENHEAD CONFERENCES

Please note that the website domain for Mary Aikenhead Ministries Conferences has changed to:

[www.mamconferences.com](http://www.mamconferences.com)



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SUITE 2.01 LEVEL 2 EDGECLIFF CENTRE  
203 NEW SOUTH HEAD ROAD  
TELEPHONE 02 9335 5400  
FACSIMILE 02 9327 7811  
[WWW.MARYAIKENHEADMINISTRIES.COM.AU](http://WWW.MARYAIKENHEADMINISTRIES.COM.AU)