

## *Timeless Mission*



Today, Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2024, we gathered at our elderly Sisters' home to honour two remarkable Sisters whose lives have been a testament to the vows they took so many decades ago. Sister Patrick Botriell and Sister Jeanette Hevron. Their journey has been one of deep commitment to God, the Church, and the communities they have served with love and humility. As we reflect on their six decades of religious life, we are reminded of the extraordinary impact of their devotion, the countless lives they have touched, and the spiritual legacy they continue to build. This celebration is not just a recognition of years but of the grace, perseverance, and fidelity that have characterized their every step.

In his homily, Father Hugh Galloway reminded us that each of us is uniquely chosen by God and by our Congregation to carry forward this sacred mission. As we grow older, our role may shift, but our mission remains vital; to pray fervently for the intentions of the entire world and for the well-being of our Congregation. Father Hugh reflected on the enduring legacy of Saint Emilie, imagining what she might feel if she were to return today. Though much has changed in how we carry out our work, the essence of our mission remains unaltered. We are still called to be living witnesses of God's incarnate love in the world. Every day, we are reminded that our greatest duty and privilege is to love, reflecting God's infinite love through our actions, prayers, and presence in the world.

Here is an idea about our two Jubilarians;

**Sister Jeanette Hevron** is the fifth of six siblings in her family, with three boys and three girls. Educated by the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition, she spent eight years working in an office. Tennis and swimming were her favourite pastimes before making life's big decisions. In 1962, she joined the SJA, with her First Religious Profession in 1964. Since then, she has had varied mission experiences, starting with teaching children musical rhythms using additions and fractions. Her next adventure took her to parish pastoral work in the hills, followed by driving senior Sisters to their appointments and handling community bills.

In 2008, her main task became balancing the books and reconciling accounts. Outside of accounting, she balanced her life with crochet, creating new rugs for the needy.

**Sister Patrick Botriell** entered the SJA Congregation on 3rd September 1962 with six others, but by 1970, only three remained. Over her 60 years of profession, she taught from Preps to Year 7 in both city and country schools and had the privilege of working with children with disabilities.

In 1996, she was missioned to the Philippines, where she taught English and Religion and served as the RE Coordinator for MAPSA schools. Upon her return to Australia, she worked in Albany, overseeing Sacramental Programs and the RE Home Program. Later, she was missioned to Thailand, assisting the Delegation Head and accompanying sisters preparing for Final Profession.

Back in Australia, she was Sister-in-Charge in Manning and Samson and worked with Catholic Missions. Throughout her journey, God has blessed her abundantly. She is deeply grateful for His constant guidance and prays to continue following St. Emilie's example: "Go, and with what you have and will receive, do all the good you can." She trusts in Jesus' words, "I go before you."



Sister Vicky GIACAMAN

