

# BOOK REVIEW

**David Bollen, (2009) *OPENING UP. A History of the Institute of Counselling*, John Garratt Publishing, Mulgrave, Victoria.**

The Institute of Counselling—‘The Sydney Archdiocesan Institute of Counselling’—was established in 1969. This book is a history of the Institute itself set against a long background of Catholic Church tradition together with an account of the environment in which the Institute is currently situated.

Counselling in the Christian tradition from the earliest centuries was pastoral care in monastic communities and in the confessional. Early in the seventeenth Ignatius Loyola and Francis de Sales pioneered spiritual direction for all, not just cloistered men and women, who sought to live the devout life. Thus counselling supported the development of the active apostolate in post-Reformation Catholicism.

The post-Enlightenment development of the secular disciplines of psychology and psychoanalysis were viewed with great wariness by the Catholic Church in the nineteenth century and on into the twentieth.

The Institute of Counselling was established in the Sydney Archdiocese in the early post-Vatican II period. We are given colourful portraits in this history of the principal Archdiocesan representatives and the determined pioneers of the In-

stitute and the story of their interactions.

A new ministry emerged. Courses were developed along with group therapies and skills training. The Institute developed ‘a wanted course that gave what it promised’ (p.48). In the early days it was wanted especially by members of religious congregations who sought assistance in coping with the new Church environment after Vatican II. The aim of the Institute was not the renewal of religious communities but the enrichment of individuals so that they could live in their communities. (p.120).

Gradually the demographic of participants changed, the Institute has been formally linked with the Catholic Theological Union, but through it all it remains a unique ‘agency of the Church’,

The concluding paragraph of the book captures the spirit that has always animated the Institute:

Begun in hopeful times, the Institute has ministered to perennial needs. It has lasted because what it does and stands for matters to the people who have been part of it – students, helpers, staff. It has been true to the vision of its founders. Many have taken fresh heart from it—may their story encourage still more. (p.178)

—Editor

*(The book can be purchased from John Garratt Publishing, Pauline Book and Media Centre, Gleebooks and the Institute of Counselling. Price \$29.95 concession \$25.00 plus \$5.00 per copy p&p.)*

## MORE BOOKS ON SAINT MARY

*The beatification of Mary MacKillop in 1995 saw the release of many new and reissued publications, and this has also been the case with her 2010 canonisation. Following is a guide to MacKillop-related books. The list below follows that given on p. 2 of Compass 2010, no. 4.*

Other Studies

**Mary MacKillop: A window of hope.** Monica Cavanagh RSJ; Wilkinson Publishing; PB \$9.95 [9781921667886]; 96pp; 2010.

**Sainthood in Australia: Mary MacKillop and the print media.** Sheila McCreanor; Sisters of St

Joseph of the Sacred Heart, , dist. by St Pauls; PB \$32.95 [9780957997608]; 312pp; 2001. *Detailed sociological study of the cultural presentation of MacKillop by the print media.*

**Building the Kingdom: Mary MacKillop and social justice.** Geoffrey Hull;

HarperCollinsReligious (Dove); PB \$4.95 [9781863715508]; 40pp; 1994. *Volume in the 'ACSJC [Australian Catholic Social Justice Council] Occasional Paper' series.*

**With Grateful Hearts! Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph in Queensland, 1870-1970.** Margaret M. McKenna RSJ; Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart; PB \$35 [9780646529455]; 378pp; 2010.

**MacKillop Women: The Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, Aotearoa New Zealand, 1883-2006.** Diane Strevens; David Ling Publishing, NZ, dist. by John Reed Book Distribution; PB \$39.95 [9781877378232]; 2008.

**Mary MacKillop's Sisters: A life unveiled.** Anne Henderson; HarperCollinsPublishers; PB \$24.99 [9780732291945]; 344pp; 205x130mm; 2010. *Revised edition of a popular presentation of the lives and ministries of contemporary members of the Sisters of St Joseph. First published 1997.*

Giftbooks

**The Gift of Mary MacKillop.** Colleen O'Sullivan RSJ; Lynne Muir (illustrator); John Garratt Publishing; HB \$22.95 [9781920721480]; 128pp; 2007.

**The Little Gift of Mary MacKillop.** Colleen O'Sullivan RSJ; Lynne Muir (illustrator); John Garratt Publishing; HB \$9.95 [9781920721497]; 8pp; 2007.

**Imaging Mary MacKillop: With whisperings from Mary.** Patricia Snudden; St Pauls; HB \$17.95 [9781921472688]; 72pp; 2010.

For Younger Readers

**The Black Dress: Mary MacKillop: A novel.** Pamela Freeman; Black Dog Books; PB \$19.99 [9781742031637]; 272pp; 2010. *Reissue of an award-winning novel for young adults, first published 2005 as The Black Dress: Mary MacKillop's early years.*

**Saint Mary MacKillop: Friend of Jesus.** Judith M. Steer RSJ; Dorothy Woodward RSJ (illustrator); St Pauls; HB \$17.95 [9781921472688]; 48pp; 225x165mm; 2010. *Illustrated biography for children aged 7 to 11 years.*

**Never See a Need Without Doing Something About It: Inspirational stories from the life of Mary MacKillop.** Joan Goodwin RSJ (author/illustrator); St Pauls; PB \$9.95 [9781921472817]; 40pp; 280x210mm; 2010. *Workbook for children aged 10 to 12 years.*

**Letters from Mary: The story of the life of Mary MacKillop.** Joan Goodwin RSJ (author/illustrator); St Pauls; PB \$9.95 [9781921472800]; 40pp; 2010. *Workbook for children aged 8 to 9 years.*

**Mary MacKillop: The Children's Saint: Colouring and puzzle book for small children.** Joan Goodwin RSJ (author/illustrator); St Pauls; PB \$9.95 [9781921472831]; 40pp; 2010. *Workbook for children aged 5 to 7 years.*

**Mary MacKillop: A great Australian.** Joan Goodwin RSJ; Terry Denton (illustrator); John Garratt Publishing; PB \$9.95 [9781920682316]; 32pp; 2010. *For primary school-aged children. First published 1985.*

**The Mary MacKillop Children's Prayerbook: By the children of Australia.** Lynne Muir (illustrator); John Garratt Publishing; HB \$19.95 [9781920682118]; 120pp; 2010. *Collection of 80 original prayers by children aged 5 to 12 years.*

Education Resources

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**LearningLinks to Mary MacKillop: Teacher resources for the religion classroom.** Maurice Ryan & Jan Grajczonek; Lumino Press; PB \$29.95 [9781921538032]; 48pp; 2009.

**The Story of Mary MacKillop: Student Text.** Bernadette Doyle, Lila El-Hage & Anne Walsh; John Garratt Publishing; PB \$14.95 [9781875938001]; 64pp; 1995. *For secondary school students.*

**The Story of Mary MacKillop: Teacher Text.** Bernadette Doyle, Lila El-Hage & Anne Walsh; John Garratt Publishing; PB \$19.95 [9781875938018]; 64pp; 1995.

—Kevin Mark

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