

## Media release

### **The Sisters of Saint Joseph elect new Congregational Leadership Team**

**Sydney, 17 October 2019** - The Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart has this week elected a new Congregational Leadership Team to take forward the vision and directions of the Congregation for the next six years. Sister Monica Cavanagh was elected as the Congregational Leader for a second term and Sisters Josephine Dubiel, Mary Ellen O'Donoghue, Clare Conaglen and Louise Reeves, also for a second term, will be General Councillors.

The new Congregational Leadership Team was elected by the 63 Sisters participating in the 27th General Chapter of the Sisters of Saint Joseph held at their Spirituality Centre in Baulkham Hills from 29 September to 15 October. The Members of the Chapter considered the skills, experience and current needs of the Congregation as together they discerned the leadership for the next six years.

Congregational Leader, Monica Cavanagh, says that she is humbled to be elected again and looks forward to leading the Congregation as it continues to have a significant impact in communities around the world.

“It is a great privilege and responsibility to be elected as leader. With such diverse challenges being faced across society, the role the Sisters play is more important than ever, and we will be looking to ensure people can continue to rely on us for our support.”

The Sisters of Saint Joseph minister throughout Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Peru, East Timor, Scotland and Brazil. The Congregation was founded in Penola, South Australia in 1866 by St Mary MacKillop and English priest, Reverend Julian E Tenison Woods. The Sisters of Saint Joseph have Ministries that support prisoner welfare, people living with disability, anti-trafficking and slavery programs, refugees, schools and young people, and indigenous people, amongst other areas.

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