

*Join us in marking the 25-year anniversary  
of the death of Fr John Corcoran Wallis,  
founder of the Missionary Sisters of Service  
in Tasmania*

*Tuesday 27 October 2026*



Dear family and friends of Fr John Corcoran Wallis and the MSS,

The Missionary Sisters of Service invite you to join us to remember, give thanks and celebrate the life of Fr John Corcoran Wallis on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death in 2001.

All are welcome to attend the 10am Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, 180 Harrington St, Hobart, Tasmania, with Archbishop Tony Ireland. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

RSVP essential for catering purposes to Glenn D'Souza by Sunday 11 October 2026.

Email: [businessmanager@missionarysisters.org.au](mailto:businessmanager@missionarysisters.org.au)

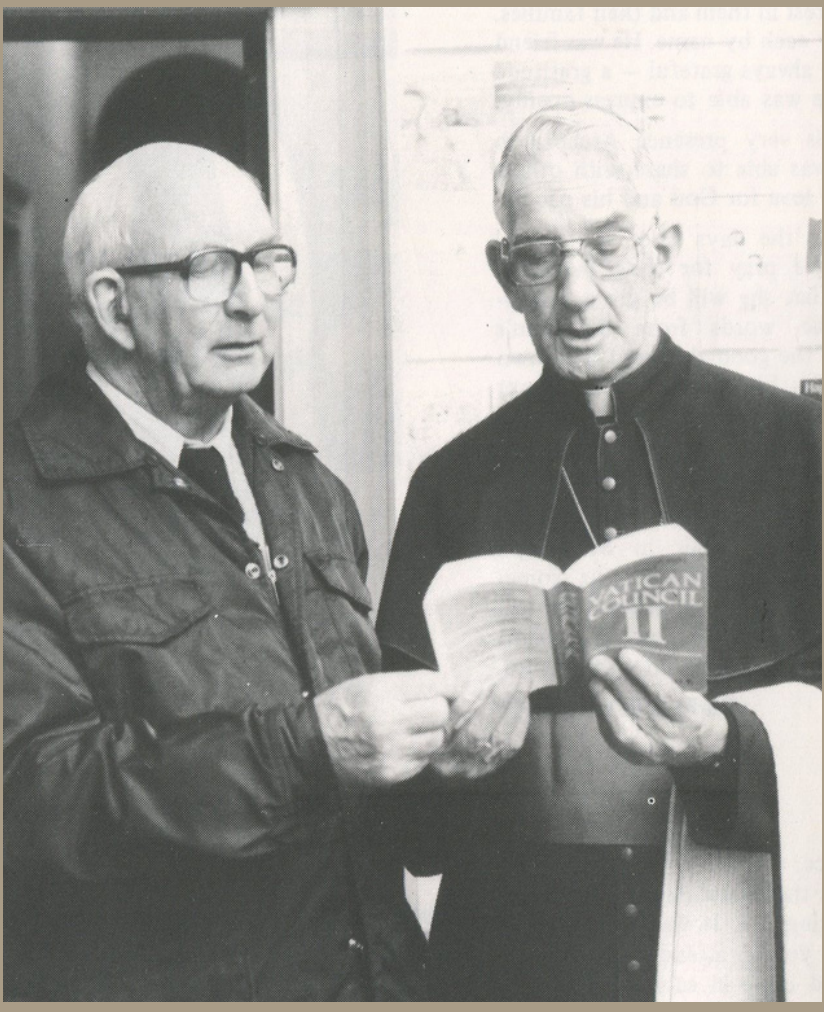
Phone: 0431 717 769



This event follows our pilgrimage to Bruny Island, off the southeast coast of Tasmania. All are welcome to also join us for mass at St Brendan's Catholic Church, Alonnah, Bruny Island, on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm.

We look forward to welcoming you!

*Make gratitude an integral part of your life,  
gratitude, gratitude, gratitude!  
- Fr John Wallis*



*In the spirit of the Good Shepherd  
go to people wherever they are.*

**Fr John Corcoran Wallis**

**1910–2001**

**Fr John Corcoran Wallis was a pastoral priest of the Archdiocese of Hobart, visionary founder of the Missionary Sisters of Service, and a man deeply committed to bringing hope, friendship and the Gospel to people on the margins.**

Born in Homewood, in the parish of Yea, Victoria, he was educated at Homewood State School, Sacred Heart School Yea and Assumption College Kilmore before studying for the priesthood at Springwood and Manly in NSW. He was ordained in 1932 for the Archdiocese of Hobart.

Throughout his priesthood, Fr John served as parish assistant, relieving priest, parish priest and chaplain across Tasmania, including Launceston, Hobart Cathedral Parish and Bruny Island, Burnie, Invermay, Westbury, Glenorchy, Warrane, Lindisfarne, Tarooma and Bellerive. He also served as chaplain at Calvary Hospital Hobart and later resided at Mary's Grange.

He was Vicar for Religious of Tasmania, established the Catholic Provident Fund, and founded a Catholic library and bookshop in Hobart. He helped establish churches at Glenorchy, Claremont, Chigwell and Warrane, and invited the Dominican Sisters from Sydney to assist with the new Catholic school at Glenorchy.

A gifted spiritual director and retreat leader, Fr John guided many religious congregations and lay groups, particularly in the years following the Second Vatican Council. Ahead of his time in pastoral outreach and lay ministry, he was passionate about bringing the Church into the “highways and byways” of Australia.

In 1944, Fr John founded the Missionary Sisters of Service, initially known as the Home Missionary Sisters of Our Lady. He remained a companion, friend and spiritual guide to the Sisters throughout his life, until his death in 2001.

*Look at Big Maps – Keep a wide vision.*

Photo: Fr John Corcoran Wallis with Archbishop Guildford Young (courtesy MSS Archives).

Quotes attributed to Fr John Corcoran Wallis.