

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 10
June 13th 2012

A couple of Sundays each month I go to Mass at St Francis' at Paddington. I always go to the 10am Mass and I only ever arrive a couple of minutes before starting time. I find little need to arrive any earlier; there is never a problem finding a seat. In fact I could bring along another 300 people with me and there would be seats for them too. Admittedly, it is High Mass, with all of the liturgical ritual that goes with such an event ('bells and smells' as some would call it), as well as a Mass at which the magnificent choir provides the music and so things take much longer and the music is of a certain style. I love it, but I also appreciate that it's not everyone's 'cup of tea.' And so while High Mass with a choir makes it easier to understand the glaringly small attendance, I think my experience is typical of what is happening across many parishes throughout Sydney – very few people who identify as Catholics are going to Mass on Sunday.

Interestingly, my last minute arrival at Mass found me floundering a couple of weeks ago. Parking was a little more challenging than usual but the last thing on my mind was finding a seat as I briskly strode up Oxford St toward the sound of the booming organ that was already in full swing and the melodious tones of the choir that announced the start of the liturgical procession. As I approached the church steps I noticed people lingering in the portico and as I stepped across the threshold I discovered why. There were no more seats available, not even among the extra chairs that had been put out to try and cater for the bulging congregation. My own fault for not having read the Parish Bulletin – it was First Communion Day.

And there they all were – the girls at least – adorned in white with the anticipation on their face that one only affords an angel. Even the boys, considered by some at that age to be flighty and inattentive, stood poised in their little black suits and ties. I meandered through the loiterers in the foyer and squeezed myself into a spot in the back corner of the church. There was something quite special, even magical about the occasion. It was obvious that so many people had made such an effort to make this gathering one of significance – it seemed to me that it mattered to people that it went well. And it did.

It was also clearly obvious to me that many, if not most of the people in the church hadn't been in one for a long time. That, though, was not what preoccupied me. I found myself caught up in the mood of importance and reverence that was palpable. The children had clearly been prepared well for the occasion and it seemed to me that they actually knew why they were there. This was no dress-up concert, some performance for the distracting flashes of the cameras that went off all too often. This was a significant life moment that was taking the children, and even some of the adults, to another plane. It was indeed spiritual. For years liturgists have muddled with the text of the Mass and in

recent times Church authorities have mandated a script that many find clunky and awkward, all in the name of making the Mass more reverent and spiritual. It doesn't seem to be working, but what did work for me was watching the First Communicants participate in a procession that brought the Book of the Gospels from the back to the front of the church. It was a sacred moment, and even some of the happy snappers paused to savour something of the ephemeral that connected us to the eternal.

But most of them won't be back - at least not on a Sunday - for a very long time. I don't get it. We seem to value and even hanker after things spiritual and yet rarely participate in things that nurture this human yearning. I'd love to know why. I use to blame the non-attenders, smug in the assumption that professional church people like me had something of value to offer that would suit everyone. It doesn't, and for all sorts of reasons. Scandal in the Church, particularly in relation to the sexual abuse crisis has done untold damage. Bishop Pat Power, in an interview this week where he announced his resignation, identified this scandal as the gravest thing the Church has faced since the 16th century Protestant Reformation. In the same interview, he went on to say that the Church "must address the authoritarian nature of the church, the participation of women, clergy celibacy and teaching on sexuality." I was taken by the incisiveness of his thinking but I was drawn more to his desire for greater participation of all Catholics in the life of the Church: "The thing I have a heart for is to draw the people who are disillusioned and alienated to become part of the family again," he concluded.¹

Perhaps some of those people were among the many in the pews at the St Francis' First Communion celebration. What I'd be interested to know is why people don't want to be part of the life of a worshipping community. I find myself spurred on by the challenge posed by Bishop Michael Putney: "The entry point for the Christian gospel to find its home in the culture of Australian young people in a way that is truly contemporary and yet authentically the gospel as it has been transmitted to us is not easily discernible. The Church needs to find doorways through which contemporary Australians can enter."²

I'd welcome your comments on what these doorways might be: secretary@marcellin.nsw.edu.au

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall FMS
Headmaster

¹<http://www.theage.com.au/national/bishop-quits-church-mired-in-serious-trouble-20120612-2086c.html>

²Michael Putney, "A New Ecclesial Context for Catholic Schools," in *Catholic Schools: Hope in Uncertain Times*, ed. Anne Benjamin and Dan Riley (Mulgrave, Vic: John Garratt Publishing, 2008), 20-21

NOTICES AND NEWS

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to all these boys on their Special Achievements. Well done!



Jordan Foote and Abaina Davis
Year 11

Selected to represent NSW in AFL at the National Championships



Daniel Jewiss
Year 10

Selected to be a Referee at the PSSA National Championships for Soccer



Nathaniel Sharpley
Year 8

Selected in the MET U14 State Title Squad for Soccer and will play in the state titles at Wagga Wagga in July

CONGRATULATIONS

The following students made the 2012 Under 14 Junior Bunnies squad: Kurtis Preece, Kel Obrien, Jayden Azzopardi, and Jed Bouris.



TERM 2 CALENDAR EVENTS

Tuesday 19th June

- Year 10 Senior Subject Information Night (see note on next page).

Wednesday 27th June

- Years 10/11 Parent Teacher Evening - 3.45-8.30pm.

Thursday 28th June

- Last day of classes for Term 2.

Friday 29th June

- Staff Development Day. Pupil free day - no classes today.

TERM 3 CALENDAR EVENTS

Monday 16th July

- Term 3 commences.

Wednesday 18th July

- Year 7 Parent Teacher Evening 3.45pm-8.30pm.

FEES/ACCOUNTS

Term 2 accounts have been sent out. If you haven't received your account please contact the College.

CHAMPAGNAT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to the following students on their Champagnat Awards.

Year 7: Daniel Brightwell, Lachlan Falato, Aidan Guilherme, Thomas O'Sullivan, Cooper Stevens and Francesco Strati.

Year 8: Daniel Bassil, Prince Chakona, Jeric Palomares, Nicholas Pavlakis and Timothy Ryan.

Year 9: Cory Barron, Nat Butcher, Joshua Dever, Jake Irvine, Michael Jenkins and Jacob Siles.

Year 10: Luke Burke, Jack Harrison, Rory McGuinness, Dean Moutopoulos, Jaydan Tuohy and Jarrod Wachman.

Year 11: Noah Castillo, Andrew DeHaart, Thomas Pantle, Daniel Romeo and Matthew Waller.

Year 12: Kade Ashton, Blake Benson, Jacob Burke, Michael Hallam, Don Riley, Hugh Sherwood-Meares and Matthew Tan.



Champagnat Award Winners

NOTICES AND NEWS

SUBJECT INFORMATION NIGHT

Students in Years 8 and 10 recently received a letter regarding subject selection for 2013. (Copy available on the school website). For students in Year 8 (Year 9 2013) subject information will be sent home with your son on Friday 22nd June and subjects must be chosen online between 22nd–30th June. Students in Year 10 (Year 11 2013) will have an information evening with their parents where they will receive subject information on Tuesday 19th June. Subjects must be chosen online between 19th–30th June. Year 10 Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday 27th June to assist in the decision making process.

Mr Chris Shields, Director of Teaching and M-Learning

CHAMPAGNAT AWARDS ASSEMBLY

The Champagnat Awards Assembly was held on Friday 1st June. Special guest speaker and ex-student Mr Michael Daley MP made a very moving tribute to Mr Lionel Bowen who attended the College in the 1930's. He spoke of his character as an exemplar of Champagnat's call for young men to be a 'good Christian and good citizen'. He acknowledged his outstanding service to the community during a distinguished career in public office that saw him represent at local, state and federal government levels. Mr Bowen was Deputy Prime Minister from 1983-1989. Mr Bowen's family were in attendance at the Assembly that also recognised students at the College with the highest honour – the Champagnat Award. It was a wonderful expression of the values that are at the core of our Marcellin community. *Mr Brian Vane-Tempest, Director of Development and Communications*



CHAMPAGNAT DAY MASS AND CELEBRATIONS

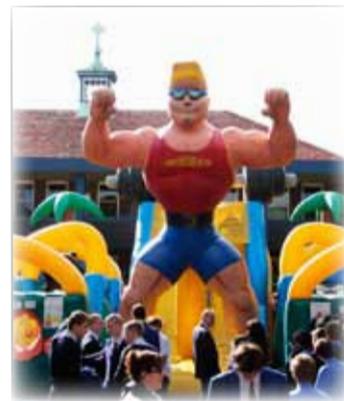
ENCOUNTER – Saint Marcellin Champagnat's encounter with the dying youth Jean-Baptiste Montagne was the explosive moment that made the dream he had been nurturing for some time to come true. Moved by the Holy Spirit he brought together a group of men dedicated to living a life In the Way of Mary, dedicated to the service of young people through the ministry of education.

This was some of the text taken from the introduction to our Champagnat Mass celebrated last Friday 8th June in the Marist Centre. We were fortunate to be led in the sacramental celebration of our Founder by Fr Prasad MSC and Fr Max Blumenthal. We were joined by the Brothers from the Randwick Community and the boys offered a blessing for the Brothers for their continued fulfilment in their vocation. It was a vibrant and engaging Eucharistic celebration with the musicians and singers leading us in our hymns and many of the responses. A particular highlight was the presentation of Champagnat Awards to four members of staff Ms Jane Evans, Mr Chris O'Connell, Mr Wayne Lobo and Mr Garry McDonald. All most worthy recipients of this award and in their own unique and special ways reflective of Champagnat's vision to serve with strong minds and gentle hearts. Additionally Ms Jenny Dove, Ms Donna Rugless and Mr Garry McDonald received awards for 25 years of service in Marist education, a fitting way to recognise these most significant contributions.

Mr Anthony Boys, Religious Education Coordinator

After Mass there was an opportunity for a bit of fun with a number of inflatable obstacle courses 'Iron Man Challenge' and other games in the playground and the College's talent show 'Marcellin's Got Talent' in the Marist Centre. There were some extraordinary performances including singing, instruments and dancing. Each year group also ran a food stall raising a total of \$2447 for MAPS (Marist Asia Pacific Solidarity).

Mr Wayne Lobo, 'Marcellin's Got Talent' Judge



SPORT AND NEWS

SEMI AND GRAND FINALS

It's hard to believe the MCC Winter season proper has concluded and we move into the semi final series. Last week's games against Wahroonga were abandoned due to the poor condition of grounds. I am pleased to announce that all Rugby League teams have qualified for the semi finals and all but two Soccer teams have also qualified.

I have spoken to all rep boys about the way we have carried ourselves over the last couple of weeks and that now is not the time for complacency. We have been reminded during the round competition that our opposition is quite keen to 'knock Marcellin off'. This is the time where we train hard and remain focussed to ensure success. The School Sports Captain Jacob Burke spoke about this after the Champagnat Mass. I wish all the teams and coaches the best of luck this week in the semi finals and in the upcoming finals.

The Grand Finals will revert to a full day format on Thursday 21st June. The Rugby League will start from the U13 Division 2 game at 9am at Leichhardt Oval through to the A Grade at 2pm, and the Soccer will follow a similar format at Seymour Shaw Soccer Fields Miranda. More details will be provided as they come to hand.

Over the past few weeks, we have had a number of boys involved in NSWCCC tournaments where Marcellin Boys represent the Metropolitan Catholic Colleges team at various team carnivals. Over the past two weeks Marko Bozic has been picked to represent the Combined Catholic Colleges team in the Opens Soccer and Thomas Wong has been picked to represent the CCC in the U15s Touch Football. This Friday 15th June 14 MCR boys will represent the MCC Cross Country team at the NSWCCC Cross Country Carnival at Eastern Creek. Judging by their success at the MCC carnival, these boys will no doubt do well.



MCC U18 captain Alexander Thomas presenting Braith Anasta with a gift.



MCC Rugby League reps (except Jaiden Brown) with ex student and current first grade footballer Braith Anasta. He presented their representative gear before the carnival.

MCC WINTER SPORTS - ROUND 6 RESULTS

Soccer	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14	Under 13 Div 1	Under 13 Div 2
	Opposition	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah
	Result	W: 3-1	L: 0-4	L: 0-5	L: 0-1	L: 0-4	W: 1-0
Player of Match	Nicholas Giannopoulos	Dylan Cartwright	Luke Bond	Evan Davis	Andre Goncalves	Kosta-Zane Alexander	

Rugby League	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14	Under 13 D1	Under 13 D2A	Under 13 D2B	
	Opposition	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah	Lewisham 2	Lewisham 3
	Result	L: 12-18	W: 14-12	D: 12-12	D: 24-24	W: 24-10	W: 8-0	L: 10-24	W: 32-0
Player of Match	Tom Perrin	Jack Unicomb Laird	Ryan Larrosa	Kurtis Preece Joseph Galea	William Harrison	Lucas Varnier Charlie Poche	Ryley Smith-Murdoch	Martin Wilkins	

PROPOSED MCC SEMI FINAL SCHEDULES

Rugby League

Grades	Venue	Starting Time
U13 Div 1 v Kogarah	Scarborough Park	2:15pm
U13 Div 2a v Lewisham	Camperdown Oval	1:15pm
U13 Div 2b v Pagewood	Camperdown Oval	2:15pm
U14 v Pagewood	Nagle Park	2:15pm
U15 v Kogarah	Nagle Park	1:15pm
B Grade v North Shore	Marcellin Fields	1:15pm
A Grade v Lewisham	Marcellin Fields	2:15pm

Soccer

Grades	Venue	Starting Time
U13 Div 2 v Nth Shore	Heffron Park	1:15pm
U14 v Lewisham	Heffron Park	2:20pm
B Grade v Kogarah	Scarborough	1:15pm
A Grade v Kogarah	Scarborough	2:30pm

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sports Coordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Catherine's School Winter Holiday Program: Provides a safe and stimulating environment where children can go during the holidays to play, relax and learn. For more information go to www.stcatherines.nsw.edu.au or call 83056200.

First Aid Training: Thursday 21st June at 6pm at the Prince of Wales Hospital Randwick. Please reserve your place with Elizabeth on 93824263 or email elizabeth.thomas@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au