

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 20
November 28th 2012

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of Marcellin,

"Is there any hope?" It was a genuine question asked in exasperation by a friend of mine who has, over recent years, become increasingly disillusioned with the Catholic church. The dinner party conversation had inevitably turned itself to the issue of the Royal Commission into child sexual abuse and the conclusion around the table was that the image of the Catholic church that prevailed across the media was not looking good. With mounting accusations of cover-ups, and in some cases hard evidence of poorly managed cases of abuse, the assertions that the Catholic church is a victim in a media 'witch hunt' don't seem to be gaining much traction. Some pundits have concluded that what some have perceived as the once rock-solid moral watchdog of the Catholic church has fallen, and fallen hard. In a recent interview on *Lateline* the professor, lawyer and Jesuit priest, Fr Frank Brennan, emphatically concluded: "I think the church is a very broken institution."

By the end of this week, when the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference concludes I am confident that we will have a firm recommitment from the church to cooperate fully in the Royal Commission, as well as transparent, practical and sustainable strategies that will ensure that this cooperation happens. Even with our errors, wounds and brokenness I, like Frank Brennan, believe that the church has a future and even a critical part to play in the building up of society. But the church of the future cannot be like the church of the past. I appreciate that such a statement is broad brush because part of the richness of the Catholic church is that there are so many varied ways in which it finds expression and does its work, but generally speaking the Catholic church needs a re-make. The renowned and esteemed Canadian Jesuit priest, Fr Bernard Lonergan, arguably one of the more influential theologians of the 20th century is quoted as saying: "... invariably the church arrives on the scene, late, and a little out of breath." This statement was made over three decades ago but perhaps Lonergan's observation still applies. In more recent times the Bishop of Townsville, Bishop Michael Putney, when reflecting on the challenge the church faces in trying to remain relevant had this to say:

"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." (Michael Putney, "A New Ecclesial Context for Catholic Schools," in *Catholic Schools: Hope in Uncertain Times*, p.20-21)

On this same theme of a church that needs to become more contemporary, Australian priest and theologian, now Professor at Boston College, USA, Fr Richard Lennan, is pretty clear on the matter:

"The contemporary church, then, needs leaders who can promote respect for, and engagement with, the tradition of faith, but who do so in ways that leave members of the church in no doubt that they are part of a communion, rather than a centralist bureaucratically administered state seeking to decree from above more or less everything that is important." (Richard Lennan, *Risking the Church: The Challenges of the Catholic Faith*, p.220)

Lennan's challenge is two-fold: leadership needs to embrace a new focus or paradigm, and everyone in the church needs to play their part in shaping and creating the church of the future.

And so back to my friend's question: "Is there any hope?" I think there is but I think the future will depend on whether more and more committed Lay Catholics are prepared to take seriously their vocation as Christians in the church and in the world, and to claim that right and responsibility when the slow-to-change institution of the church resists their embrace of the universal call to holiness and all that flows from laying claim to that call.



I think that if more Lay people embrace the call to holiness and take their rightful place in shaping the church we are more likely to create a church that is more balanced than the current one. In an address to the Roman Curia (the bishops and cardinals that make up the hierarchy in Rome) early in his pontificate, Pope John Paul II reminded his officials that the church had become too focused on hierarchy and the office of authority (Petrine/St Peter dimension) and was not giving sufficient emphasis to the equally important dimension of what has come to be called the Marian dimension. In an oft referred to homily delivered in the company of his brother Bishops when he was President of the Bishop's Conference, Archbishop Francis Carroll said:

"The Marian characteristics of the Church provide the remedy and the balance required. If Peter is united visibly with Christ through his divine commissioning, Mary is united invisibly through her divine maternity. The Marian dimension is associated with motherhood, which looks to the inner life of the people of God. Learning from Mary, the emphasis is on giving birth, and nurturing the Christ life of the baptised so as to lead to a maturity of faith." (Homily at Mass of Devotion to Our Lady, Mary Help of Christians, 3 May 2001)

This is a call to a humbler, more tender, more inclusive, more forgiving church and I think if we embrace this call then, "Yes," "there is hope!"

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall FMS
Headmaster

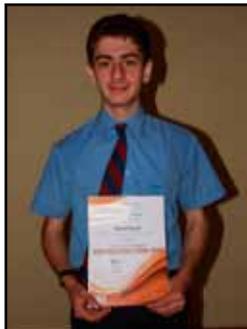
NOTICES AND NEWS

TOURNAMENT OF THE MINDS FINALISTS

Congratulations to the following students who were finalists at the Tournament of the Minds Regional Finals:



Year 7 students Oscar Strachan, Matthew Sulisty, Thomas O'Sullivan, Kurt Murray, Cristian Speranza and Cormac Murray



Daniel Bassil, Year 8



Year 9 students Thomas Waller, Ben Ventura, Thomas Thurn, Alexander Georges



Year 10 students Cameron Wells, Linus Gibson, Rory McGuinness, Caleb O'Brien, Daniel Jewiss, Kosta Botsikas and James Bassil



Aiden Debono, Year 8
Award for Commitment and Contribution to the CASPA Ensemble Program

TERM 4 CALENDAR EVENTS

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| Monday 3rd December | • Music Camp commences. Concludes Wednesday 5th December. |
| Thursday 6th December | • Year 10 Semi Formal. |
| Thursday 6th December | • Final Day of Classes for Year 11. |
| Friday 7th December | • Walkathon Reward Day. No classes. |
| Monday 10th December | • Year 10 Prizegiving and Last Day of School for Year 10. |
| Monday 17th December | • Picnic Day - School concludes for Years 7, 8 and 9. |
| Friday 21st December | • Last Day of Term. |

VACCINATIONS - YEARS 7 AND 9 STUDENTS

Boys in NSW high schools will be offered human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination from 2013 to provide protection against developing infections that can lead to cancer. In 2013, the 3-dose course of vaccine will be offered to Year 7 boys as part of the routine school-based vaccination program; and Year 9 boys as part of the national 'catch up' program in 2013 and 2014 only. The vaccine is registered for use from 10 years of age and is only provided free for male students who commence the course in Year 7 or Year 9. Parent Information Kits will be sent home to parents in early 2013. To consent to vaccination, parents are advised to read all the information provided, complete the Consent Form and return it to school. Students in Year 7 will also be offered vaccination against other diseases, including Diphtheria-Tetanus-Whooping Cough (dTpa), Hepatitis B and Varicella (Chickenpox). For more information please visit www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation

WALKATHON

The tally continues to grow for the Walkathon. Money collected to date is \$61,402.30.

LOST PROPERTY

There are currently many items of lost property at reception. Please claim your lost property before the end of term.

SOCIAL JUSTICE - CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Students have been generous in their gifts for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. The Social Justice group will continue to collect items up until Thursday 6th December. Remember your gifts and generosity can help give hope to families in need this Christmas.

Mr Damian Chase, Social Justice Coordinator

UNIFORM SHOP

The College uniform shop will be open for an hour after the Year 10 Prizegiving on Monday 10th December for the purchase of the Senior uniform.

2013 STUDENT LEADERS

On Friday 16th November the student leaders and their parents gathered for breakfast to celebrate their son's inauguration as a student leader for 2013. At the Headmaster's Assembly that followed the students were presented with their badges from Br David and pledged their commitment of leadership.

The 2013 student leaders are: Noah Castillo, Benjamin Liew, Thomas Pantle, Bronson Garlick, Benjamin Thornton, Luke Dooner, Cheyne Whitelaw, Jake Richards, Matthew Waller and Abaina Davis. *Mr Damian Chase, Year 11 Coordinator*



Br David with the 2013 Student Leaders (Absent: Abaina Davis)



Matthew Waller with his parents



Abaina Davis with his mum

WHITE RIBBON DAY

On Friday 23rd November Marcellin students participated in a walk to show support and commitment to stopping violence against women. White Ribbon Day aspires to work toward the elimination of violence against women. The event was organised by Randwick Council. The students walked from Randwick to Coogee and were accompanied by Mrs Ivancic and Mrs Kratochvil. For more information on White Ribbon Day please visit www.whiteribbon.org.au



Students with Mr Mario Fenech



Students participating in the walk

SPORT AND NEWS

SUMMER SEASON

The Summer Representative season will pause over the Christmas break and will recommence on Thursday 7th February against Marist College Kogarah. All teams are well placed with one game to go and we look forward to qualifying all teams in the semi finals. The Squash team, and the A grade and U14 Cricket teams have been playing under a different draw this season and have already qualified for the semi finals which will be played on Thursday 7th February. Training for all teams will begin on Tuesday 5th February 2013.

CRICKET

The A Grade Cricket team continues to do well in the Downie Shield. Their Round 2 fixture was played last week against Marist College Kogarah at Kensington Oval. After a slow start with the bat, Ryan Danne and Jaya Murdita steadied the ship with a 90 run partnership scoring 60 and 55 runs respectively. Marcellin finished with a competitive score of 10 for 183. Declan White and Harrison Yates opened the bowling and finished with fantastic figures of 2 for 4 and 2 for 16 respectively, both off 6 overs. Guy Rowles cleaned up the middle order with some great bowling finishing with figures of 4 for 8 off 5 overs. Kogarah were bowled out for 56. A convincing win for Marcellin after a shaky start. The next match will be played before the 7th December, however we still await other games to find out who we play next. Best of luck to all the A Grade boys in their next match. A number of boys have recently trialled for the NSWCCC Cricket teams in the U15 and U19 divisions. To gain selection in these teams, boys must play a number of games and the selection process is fairly rigorous. Congratulations to Jack Erickson who was selected in the U19 team. Jack has been a member of Marcellin's A Grade Cricket team for a number of seasons now and he will no doubt form an integral part of the CCC team.

THANKS FROM SPORTS COORDINATOR

At the end of 2012 I will be taking leave from my position as Sports Coordinator and teacher at Marcellin College. I have been blessed in the last five years of witnessing some gifted athletes and have been lucky enough to boast on numerous occasions the outstanding results from all teams. The boys are passionate about playing for their school, not to mention the staff who guide them. Put the two together, is it any wonder that Marcellin is the premier sporting school in the MCC association? I'd like to thank the staff for the selfless way they go about their sports duties, and it is fair to say that no request was ever challenged. This has made my job infinitely easier. Marcellin has been like a second home for me in the last 12 years and the friends that I have made and relationships that I have built will live with me forever. I will miss the daily interactions I have with the boys and watching them compete each Thursday. I wish all of the representatives the best of luck in their future endeavours and wish the College Community a happy, safe and holy Christmas.



Mr Robert Capizzi

MCC SUMMER SEASON - ROUND 5

Basketball	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
	Result	W: 37-25	W: 37-28	W: 52-28	L: 20-32
	Player of Match	Joshua Wilson	Daniel Ivancic	Derek Daquel	Lucas Toms

Cricket	Team	A Grade	Under 16	Under 14
	Opposition	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
	Result	W: 8/177 to 10/97	W: 4/192 to 5/92	L: 10/100 to 9/120
	Player of Match	Reuben Taucher	Thomas McCusker	Cormac Murray

Touch Football	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
	Result	D: 6-6	W: 5-3	W: 12-2	W: 9-1
	Player of Match	Thomas Wong	Joshua Brabrook	Kurtis Preece Kell O'Brien	Campbell Graham Jonathan Mitsias

Squash	Opposition	Results
	North Shore	L: 615 to 1093
	Player of Match	Oliver Poidevin-Albert



Simon Cusack at Squash

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sport Coordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS

Free Community Information Drug Forum: Coral Sea Park, South Maroubra, Saturday 15th December 12-2pm (BBQ provided). For information call Randwick Council on 1300 722 542 or email sharron.smith@randwick.nsw.gov.au

St Catherine's Summer Holiday Program: For the activities program please refer to www.stcatherines.nsw.edu.au or call 8305 6200.