

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 9
May 26th 2010

Dear Parents, Students, Staff, and Friends of Marcellin,

I spent many years of my life believing that religion and faith were the same thing – synonyms, in fact. That's what we were taught, and I believed it. In more recent years I have come to understand just how erroneous, and therefore unhelpful, this understanding can be in developing as a person of mature faith. Let me explain by reference to the current crisis in the Irish Catholic Church.

As many of you are aware I spent the last two years undertaking doctoral studies in an American school of theology – a place where almost half of the students were international, like me. I was privileged to study with people from an extraordinarily diverse range of backgrounds and among those who became my friends were several people from Ireland. It was during my two years of study that the scandal of sexual and physical abuse within the Irish Church came to the fore, and what a mess it has turned out to be. The Church in Ireland got this one terribly wrong: that abuse happened is abominable, but the way in which it was handled by Church authorities, and a number of bishops in particular, was found to be wanting in the extreme. Cover-up, deceit, ignorance, insensitivity and arrogance are among some of the ways people have described the Church's handling of the matter.

In dialogue with my Irish friends, all marred by this scandal, and all of them people who work in Church ministries, I came to feel the lament of a people for whom religion meant so much. On one occasion they related to me the comments of a senior Church official, one who seems to be responding to the crisis with genuine remorse and deep sensitivity, who expressed regret that the abuse scandal may well see the demise of the faith of the people of Ireland. In response to this comment there was an outcry from many Irish Catholics who made a clear distinction between faith and religion. "We have lost our faith and confidence in religion, and in religious authorities in particular, but not our faith in God." For the Irish, God didn't get this one wrong, religious authorities did. For them, faith is not under threat, but religion is.

*"Too much religion,
Not enough God."*

I reflect on this experience with the Marcellin community because I think we are working hard on the 'religion' bit, and are trying to get it right, but we must never lose sight of the fact that religion must serve God. The inspiring American theologian and spiritual writer Fr Ron Rolheiser asserts that countries like his and ours have focused so much on religion that we have lost sight of God. In his challenging book, *The Shattered Lantern*, he writes:

We are interested in virtue, justice, a proper way of life, and perhaps even in building communities of worship, support and justice, but, in the end, too much evidence suggests that moral philosophies, human instinct, and a not so disguised self-interest are more important in motivating these activities than are a love and a gratitude that stem from a personal relationship to a living God.

Religion can be helpful, even if it does fail us terribly at times, but religion must serve only one purpose, and that is to bring us into relationship with a loving God of tenderness and mercy. A God who calls us into cooperation with our creator so that we can contribute in God's work: the transformation of the whole of creation. At the end of the day it means absolutely nothing if we can get an A grade in a religion test but fail to treat other people, and the rest of God's creation, with deep respect and compassion. And this is most likely to happen when we take the time to listen to the voice of God in our lives. On other occasions I hope to reflect on this notion of how we might become better listeners for God. In the meantime we would all do well to ask ourselves each morning: What is a God of tenderness and mercy asking me to do today?

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall, FMS
Headmaster



FROM THE HEADMASTER

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

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



Benjamin Gordon
Year 7

Won a Gold medal in the 50m Backstroke, a Silver medal in the 50m Freestyle and a Bronze medal in the 50m Breaststroke



Benjamin Davis
Year 7

Came 4th place in the U13 50m Breaststroke at the CCC Swimming Carnival



Luke Irvine
Year 9

Came 5th place in the U14 50m Butterfly at the CCC Swimming Carnival



Samuel Disalvo
Year 10

Won a Gold medal in the U15/16 100m Breaststroke and a Gold medal in the U16 50m Backstroke



Brendan Irvine
Year 12

Won a Silver medal in the U17+ 50m Breaststroke and a Bronze medal in the U17+ 100m Breaststroke

CONGRATULATIONS

The CCC Swimming team are now in the top three Catholic Schools in NSW. Well done boys! Congratulations U14 4x50m Medley relay team (Abaina Davis, Luke Irvine, Dominic Trupke and Conor Docherty) who won the Silver medal at the NSW Swimming Carnival. Congratulations Open 6x50m Freestyle relay team (Benjamin Davis, Benjamin Gordon, Luke Irvine, Brendan Irvine, Benjamin Thornton and Denver Burns) who won the Gold medal at the NSW Swimming Carnival. Congratulations U16 4x50m Freestyle relay team (Denver Burns, Samuel Disalvo, Benjamin Thornton and Timothy Watts) who won the Bronze medal at the NSW Swimming Carnival.

Year 8 student Connor O'Toole has been selected in the Australian U13 Soccer team to play in Malaysia.

James McKenzie, Duncan Rogers and Brayden Sorge represented MCC in the NSWCCC Soccer carnival with their team winning the Open Competition. James has been selected in the Open Soccer squad for the NSWCCC.

DEBATING

In the fourth round Marcellin won all debates against Waverley College. Round 5 was held on 21st May against St Pius Chatswood. Marcellin won the Years 7,10,11 debates. Years 7,9,10,11 and 12 now go through to the Elimination Finals which we will be hosting this week. Parents and students are most welcome to attend and show their support. Well done to all boys and coaches on their results. Congratulations to the Year 11 Debating team (Cameron Black, Nicholas Saady and Thomas Langford-Clarke) who have now won 5 out of 5 rounds. Good luck to all boys in the Finals.

Mr Stephen Davidson, Debating Coordinator



Year 11 Debating team

CHESS

We are currently in Round 2 of the Metropolitan Secondary Schools Chess competition. Lachlan Lum, Edison Fernandez, Christopher Zarzour, Alexander Fattah and Garath Turner played well against Rose Bay High school during week 3, drawing 2 all. The Intermediate Junior teams also won overall against Ascham. Charles Stinson and Cameron Wells deserve special mention for their well played games against JJ Cahill Memorial High school in Round 1.

Ms Melissa Gerke, Chess Coordinator



Gareth Turner



Christopher Zarzour



Lachlan Lum

NOTICES AND NEWS

TERM 2 CALENDAR EVENTS

- Tuesday 1st June** • School Photo Day. Boys are to be in full college uniform. Parents who wish to purchase photos are to use the envelope that will be provided to your son. Boys who are purchasing photos are reminded to bring their money in the envelope provided on photo day. No money is to be given to the Front Office.
- Friday 4th June** • Headmaster's Assembly. Champagnat and Summer Sports Awards.
- Friday 11th June** • Champagnat Day Mass and activities.
- Monday 14th June** • Queen's Birthday Public Holiday.
- Tuesday 15th June** • Years 7/8/9 Exams commence. Conclude Friday 18th June.

DATE CHANGE - PARENT CONVERSATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Please note the Parent Conversation with the Executive Director will no longer be held on May 26 but will now be on June 23 from 7.30pm-9.30pm at the Eastern Region office, 33 Banks Ave Daceyville. Parents are invited to attend.

COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Marcellin College is committed to the provision of a safe, focused learning environment. So as to help achieve this objective - one that helps boys give full attention to their studies - the College does not allow, under any circumstances, the use of iPods, MP3 players, mobile phones, iphones, iTouch, pagers, or any other communication devices on College property, between the hours of 8am and 4pm. Boys who breach this College regulation will have their storage/communication devices confiscated for a period of two weeks, upon which they can be retrieved from the Deputy Headmaster. Repeated offences may result in more serious sanctions.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE

Apart from medical appointments all requests for leave are to be submitted in writing to the Headmaster **well before the date for leave**. Extended holidays are not encouraged so thanks in advance for your support with this.

BUMPER LENTEN COLLECTION IN 2010

As Paul Shane Spear remarked, "As one person I cannot change the world, but I can change the world of one person." Our individual acts of kindness **can** have an effect on global kindness. Our individual goodness **can** affect global goodness. Our individual belief in and commitment to the dignity of every human being **can** affect global acceptance and harmony. But we do not have the luxury of time for now is the moment. It was on this premise that the College commenced its Lenten journey, attempting to be authentic advocates for those in need. It is with enormous pride that we announce that the College raised in excess of \$22,400.00 during the Lenten period. This marks a significant increase in the total raised last year and represents the combined efforts of our senior leaders, in particular Madalitso Masache (Social Justice) and the generous support of all students and teachers alike. I am confident that those organisations that we intend to support (Caritas, Marist Solidarity and the St Vincent de Paul Society) will benefit greatly from these efforts. A sincere thank you for the response to this most valuable initiative.

PARENT AND SON MASS

Fr Peter Herne presided at the Parent & Son Mass hosted by the staff and students of Year 8. The Marcellin choir and String Ensemble were wonderful additions to our Eucharistic celebration. A special focus for the Mass was that of 'love' and 'trust' and how valuable these elements are in the family. In a touching tribute, Dean Moutopoulos led the Year 8 boys in 'You raise me up' dedicated to the parents; one small way to show how much love and gratitude that exists for our parents; a special moment at a very special Mass.

Mr Anthony Boys, Religious Education Coordinator



Year 8 students

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS - BULLETIN NO. 1

Did you know that almost one in five school students are in Catholic schools? Support from Federal and State governments is welcomed and essential to the provision of a Catholic education for these students. The Council of Catholic School Parents is the peak parent body for parents and carers with children in Catholic schools in NSW & the ACT. Their mission is to provide leadership, advocacy and support to parents. The Council is committed to an education system based on quality education for ALL children irrespective of where they may attend school. For details go to www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au

CHAMPAGNAT DAY MARIST FAMILY MASS

All staff, students, family members, ex-students are welcome to attend, celebrate Champagnat Day and see the refurbished facilities at La Valla, the Hermitage, Mittagong on Sunday 6th June. To assist with catering please RSVP by 30th May to Mrs Julie Sligar on 0411 261 231 or jsligar@fms-sydney.org.au or Br Tony Leon on 0407 208 195 or tleon@fms-sydney.org.au

A PLEA FOR HELP

Matt Talbot Hostel is in urgent need of towels. We have already received a generous donation of towels from Melicks House Linens, 58 Belmore Road Randwick, to start our towel collection. Many thanks to John Melick for this great donation. St Vincent de Paul are also in need of blankets. If you have surplus towels or blankets, please ask your son to drop them in to my office or the College reception. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Mr Paul Leary, Social Justice Coordinator

SPORT

Round 4 against Lewisham was washed out and will be replayed on June 10. On May 13 Marcellin played Pagewood in the local derby recording some big wins and winning all but one game in both Rugby League and Soccer. Round 6 against Ashfield will be played this Thursday and with another good round we should see most of the teams cement their place in the semi finals with two rounds to play. On May 17th and 18th James McKenzie, Duncan Rogers and Brayden Sorge represented the Combined MCC Soccer Team at the NSWCCC carnival. MCC won the competition and James went on to be selected for the Combined Catholic Colleges team. Well done to all of the boys. We wish James the best of luck in his upcoming competition. Special mention to Connor O'Toole from the U13 team who has been selected to represent Australia in the U13 National Squad to play in Malaysia May 29. This is a huge achievement and we wish Connor the best of luck when he is overseas. The following boys all represented the MCC at the NSWCCC carnival at St Mary's last Friday and Saturday in the U15s and Opens Rugby League competitions: Blake Hurley, Ethan Natoli, Alexander Sorge, Lucas Aldous, Luke Dooner, Cheyne Whitelaw, Aidan Davis, Mason Jones, Lars Roy, Andrew Norton, Jack O'Brien, Aaron O'Brien, Cameron McKinlay, Matua King-Brooks, Jackson Garlick and Alexander Thomas. Jake Richards and Bronson Garlick also represented the U15s Presidents team. Congratulations Cheyne Whitelaw and Blake Hurley for being selected in the preliminary NSWCCC U15 Rugby League squad which begins training next Tuesday. Well done to all the boys who competed at the carnival.

MCC WINTER SPORTS - ROUND 3 RESULTS

Soccer	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14	Under 13
	Opposition	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore
	Result	W: 5-1	D: 0-0	W:2-0	W:4-0	W: 6-1
	Player of Match	Lee Ramsden	Joshua Stedman	Matthew McKenzie	Liam Langford-Clarke	Campbell Schwaiger

Rugby League	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14	Under 13 D1	Under 13 D2A	Under 13 D2B
	Opposition	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	North Shore	Kogarah
	Result	W: 52-12	W: 52-0	W: 50-7	W: 40-8	W: 52-0	W: 52-0	D: 18-18
	Player of Match	Matua King-Brooks	Andrew Panousis	Ethan Natoli	Tom Perrin	Connor Mirotsos	Luke McKaig	Matthew Solomonson



Cameron Murray



Cooper Smith



Cameron McKinlay

MCC WINTER SPORTS - ROUND 5 RESULTS

Soccer	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14	Under 13
	Opposition	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood
	Result	W: 9-1	W: 4-0	D: 1-1	W: 4-0	W: 7-0
	Player of Match	Daniel Mifsud	Harreson Baldwin	Alec Faulkner	Claudio Fabiano	Daniel Brito

Rugby League	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14	Under 13 D1	Under 13 D2A	Under 13 D2B
	Opposition	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Lewisham 3
	Result	W: 44-6	W: 40-0	W: 52-0	W: 14-0	W: 24-10	W: 36-0	W: 28-0
	Player of Match	Alexander Thomas	Luke Phillips	Cheyne Whitelaw	Jake Oliveira	Jaiden Brown Cameron Murray	Jayden Azzopardi Benjamin Jones	Thomas McCusker

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sport Coordinator

Uniform Shop: Opening hours Tuesday 8am-11.15am and Thursday 8am-1pm. Open Wednesday 23rd June (Year 10/11 Parent/teacher evening) 4.30pm - 6.30pm and Wednesday 21st July 4.30pm - 6.30pm (Year 7 Parent/teacher evening).

Canteen Helpers: Volunteers are needed to help in the College canteen. If you are able to help please contact Mrs Jan Maroon at the College on 9398 6355. Any help would be very much appreciated.