Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of Marcellin,

Irrelevant, conservative, judgemental, overly-cautious, exclusive, uncompromising, triumphal, hypocritical – all words that have been increasingly used over the past few decades to describe the Catholic church. Particularly by those outside the church, but not exclusively. Inside or outside, it would be fair to say that the mood in and about the church has not been as positive as we would like for a while now. I’ve been in it all of my life and I remain committed to it but I have become increasingly unsettled that we seem to be so irrelevant to so many people. We just don’t seem to be connecting with people’s lives in the way we used to and yet the message of the gospels is so good – that’s what the word gospel means – Good News. Perhaps we haven’t been communicating it the right way. Good News is supposed to ignite and excite, and bring some buoyancy to the human spirit.

But have you noticed the mood starting to shift with our new Pope. He hasn’t changed the news but he sure has changed the emphasis he places on it and the way he delivers it. Take for example the issue of homosexuality. In recent decades this dimension of human sexuality has moved from back-stage to front-stage across many societies in the world and incrementally various cultures have become more accepting and respectful of homosexual people. Not so, the Catholic church. Some of the most vehemently bigoted voices can be found in some Christian churches, not excluding our own. Pope Francis has not changed church teaching on this issue but he sure has changed the emphasis he places on it and the way he delivers it. Take for example the issue of homosexuality. In recent decades this dimension of human sexuality has moved from back-stage to front-stage across many societies in the world and incrementally various cultures have become more accepting and respectful of homosexual people. Not so, the Catholic church. Some of the most vehemently bigoted voices can be found in some Christian churches, not excluding our own. Pope Francis has not changed church teaching on this issue but he sure has changed the emphasis he places on it and the way he delivers it.

Unfortunately, this message of respect and inclusion made some people within the church nervous and there was a brief flurry of attempts to emphasise that the Pope had not changed the Church’s teaching and they quoted yet again a particular section of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: a homosexual inclination is objectively disordered and homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered. The Pope knows this, but perhaps he was cognisant of the fact that this dimension of the Catechism has been emphasised and underlined often and not enough attention has been given to the other aspects of the Catechism on this issue that emphasise that homosexual people must not be marginalised or excluded from the embrace of the church and society.

I’m nervous that some people may be trying to water-down the Pope’s call to all of us for a new epoch of mercy and compassion. We see it in the gospels. Adultery was forbidden in Hebrew law and one of the stories of the gospels recounts the event where a woman was caught “in the very act of committing adultery,” and the law is clear on the matter – the punishment is death by stoning. Jesus could very easily have insisted that the law be upheld, that’s what the mob wanted, but instead he challenges them: “you who have not sinned, throw the first stone.” I think Pope Francis is calling us to the same response. I think he’s saying to us ‘why bother yourself with judging when, instead, you could be merciful and loving.’ Judge less, love more. Include more, exclude less.

Have you noticed the very odd, glaring omission in the gospel story of the woman “caught in the very act of committing adultery?” Where was the man? Why wasn’t he also brought forward for stoning? It is as if the woman is the target of evil. Patriarchy has long inhabited religions of the world and our own church is no exception. Patriarchy marginalises women. And marginalisation is out in the epoch of mercy that Pope Francis proclaims. He has called for a ‘theology of women’ – a genuine search to articulate our understanding of the deep and profound role women play in the building up of church and society. I think Pope Francis is saying that we haven’t done enough in honouring the significant role and place of women and it’s time we embraced this issue more ardently.

Similarly he’s brought into the limelight the issue of asylum seekers. He very intentionally chose to visit the island of Lampedusa off the coast of Italy – the arrival point for so many of Europe’s ‘illegal immigrants.’ While there he said: “I felt the duty to come here today to pray, to perform a gesture of closeness, but also to awaken our consciences to that what happened doesn’t repeat itself.” Francis compared apathy in the face of the suffering of immigrants to the Gospel story of the Good Samaritan, in which a half-dead man lying in the street is ignored until the Samaritan finally stops to help. “So many of us, and I include myself, are disoriented,” the Pope said. “We’re no longer attentive to the world in which we live. We don’t care about it; we don’t take care of what God created for all; and we’re no longer capable even of taking care of one another.”

The Pope’s news is Good News, but its challenging Good News and it’s a message for all of us.

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall FMS
Headmaster
It seems like prayer really shouldn’t be that hard: bow your head, close your eyes, talk to God. But a lot of times, it is hard. You might get distracted. You might feel phony and wonder if you’re just talking to yourself. You might fear that you’re doing it wrong or not doing it enough. Instead of making you feel closer to God, prayer makes you feel uncomfortable and inadequate.

Way back in the 1600s, a French monk named Brother Lawrence devoted his life to walking as close to God as he possibly could. For him, that meant making prayer not just something he did, but something he lived every moment of every day. He shared this way of life with others through conversations, letters and short writings. The following reading was taken from three of his letters:

If you can … devote yourself entirely to praying to God you will have accomplished a great feat. God does not ask much of us, merely a thought from time to time, a little act of adoration, sometimes to ask for God’s grace, sometimes to offer your sufferings, at other times to thank God for the graces, past and present, that have been bestowed on you, in the midst of your troubles to take solace in God as often as you can. Lift up your heart to God during your meals and in company; the least little remembrance will always be most pleasing to God. One need not cry out very loudly; God is nearer to us than we think.

It is not necessary to be always in church to be with God; we can make a private chapel of our heart where we can retire from time to time to commune with God, peacefully, humbly, lovingly; everyone is capable of these intimate conversations with God, some more, others less; God knows what we can do. Let us begin—perhaps God is only waiting for a single generous resolution from us. …

Become accustomed then little by little to adore God in this way: demand God’s grace; offer God your heart from time to time during the day in the midst of your work, at every moment if you can; do not burden yourself with rules … but act with faith, with love and with humility. …

Have a nice week ahead and try and find some time for prayer.

Mr Buxton

TERM 3 CALENDAR EVENTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 30 August</td>
<td>Headmaster’s Assembly - Winter Sports Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 31 August</td>
<td>Old Boys Mass &amp; Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19 September</td>
<td>Year 12 Graduation &amp; last day of classes for Years 7 to 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20 September</td>
<td>School Holidays commence</td>
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OLD BOYS ANNUAL REUNION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Saturday 31 August</th>
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<tr>
<td>Where</td>
<td>11am Mass at Marcellin College followed by lunch at 12.30pm at Coogee Surf Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>$65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookings</td>
<td>Available through the College Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact</td>
<td>Mrs Sharon Elliot: (02) 9398 6355 or <a href="mailto:sharon.elliot@syd.catholic.edu.au">sharon.elliot@syd.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
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CLASS REUNIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class of 93</td>
<td>Friday 27 September</td>
<td>Randwick Labor Club</td>
<td>contact Mr Jamie Grant on 0438 398 669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes 61-63</td>
<td>Saturday 16 November</td>
<td>Randwick Labor Club 12pm.</td>
<td>Contact Kevin Thomas: <a href="mailto:kevthomas_ranger@hotmail.com">kevthomas_ranger@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 83</td>
<td>Postponed until further notice</td>
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YEAR 10 - WORK EXPERIENCE

Work experience is a valuable opportunity for all Year 10 students to participate in a job that they are considering undertaking after school. The students worked in a diverse range of occupations such as medical research, plumbing, law and building. It is an opportunity to gain an insight into the roles, skills and tasks that may be needed in the workforce in which they will enter after school. It is a rather daunting thought that a 160 15-16 year boys entered the community as workers shadowing professionals in their fields. The Year 10 cohort performed fantastically and did themselves and the College proud. The Year 10 students have another opportunity to participate in another work experience week during term 4 in week 8 Monday 25th to the 29th of November. The Work experience paper work needs to be completed and submitted by the end of Week 1 Term 4.

Is your Business or Company seeking an apprentice?
If you are seeking an apprentice in any trade we have a number of senior students who are seeking apprenticeships. Please forward your details to Ben Proctor: benjamin.proctor@syd.catholic.edu.au
Over the past 14 weeks the Year 8 Newman Steam class participated in a pilot Engineering unit – Downforce Racers. The Downforce Racer is a driver controlled, scaled Formula (open wheeled) styled race car. The Downforce Racer utilises an electric motor and gears to propel it down the track, and uses wings to produce down force much like a Formula race car. Down force is created when the air passes over the car’s wings pushing the vehicle onto the ground and giving greater traction to the back and front wheels. This unit enabled collaboration between TAS and Science staff to enhance the active learning experiences of the boys.

In science, Ms Clarke taught the students about friction, down force, aerodynamics, electronics and mechanical systems. Ms Toohey followed on in TAS presenting the students with a brief – to design and manufacture a Downforce Racer to specifications.

The students developed concept sketches and peer assessed the success of their ideas using the theory learnt in Science. From this, 3D modelling software was used to create a digital model. The students then exported these graphics to the 3D printer which machined an accurate prototype of their design. Motors, gearing, wheels and electronics were then fitted along with custom decals designed on Photoshop.

The students completed a series of test runs to evaluate and improve on their designs. This led to the final race day where two students raced one another, with the winners advancing into the semi–finals and then ultimately into the grand final. Congratulations to Cormac Murray who won the final race!

The students are to be congratulated on the way they embraced the experiences presented to them both in their TAS and Science classes, and it was clear that they thoroughly enjoyed the unit. Well done to Ms Toohey and Ms Clarke for their collaboration in enhancing the active learning opportunities here at Marcellin College.

Ms Bourke
TAS and Creative Arts Coordinator
MCR TAS AND SCIENCE JOIN FORCES!

Tom O’Sullivan

Cormac Murray & Darren Cheng

Jimmy Gordon & Angus Fraser

Preparing to race

Darren Cheng

Angus Fraser & Cormac Murray

Watching the action
It was with great anticipation that our four WYD pilgrims, Daniel Ivancic, Jack Thornton, Sebastian Johnson and Mitchell Law gathered at Sydney Airport to embark on a three week pilgrimage to South America.

We were to travel as part of the Sydney Catholic Schools group for World Youth Day 2013. The Pilgrimage was to be broken up into three main components; mission work in Lima, World Youth Day celebrations in Rio and a retreat program in Iguazu. The challenge set forth to all Pilgrims on the trip was to serve in the mission of “Go and make disciples of all nations” (Mt 28:19).

The pilgrimage began with the trip to Lima and a mission component in the shantytowns of the Peruvian city. There, we had the opportunity to participate in catechesis and a dental awareness programme in a local high school. We were also able to partake in the building of steps, a community centre and a community kitchen in the suburb of Pamplome. These few days certainly opened our eyes: although the extreme poverty was confronting, the chance to give something to another community was an invaluable opportunity for our students.

World Youth Day ‘week’ in Rio was a tremendous experience for all involved. It began with the group being ‘tourists for a day,’ where we visited both Sugarloaf Mountain and Christ the Redeemer on Corcovado Mountain. With the sightseeing over, the rest of the week revolved around activities on Copacabana Beach including the Opening Mass, arrival of the Pope and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The highlight of the week, was the Final Mass, celebrated with over 3 million members of the World Church after a sleep-out on the beach the night before. During his Homily, Pope Francis reaffirmed the message of ‘Go and make Disciples of all the Nations,’ encouraging all present to take experiences of the week home to their communities.

During the pilgrimage it was clear that new friendships have been shaped within the group and a sense of unity amongst our new companions has been formed. Each student entered into their own personal journey as well as a journey together as a group. This became particularly clear during our opportunities for reflection during the retreat at Iguaçu Falls. This was the first opportunity for all to reflect on their time away and it quickly became apparent that the young men who gathered at the airport three short weeks ago had deeply grown in faith and were ready to bring their experiences back to the community.

Mr Mullaly
Youth Ministry Coordinator
MEN THAT MATTER

To celebrate Fathers’ Day, we are asking for ‘Men that Matter’ to our boys to attend Mass in the Vaughan Centre on Friday 30th August.

Boys can invite any significant men in their lives whether it be their fathers, brothers, uncles, teachers or coaches. It would be great to see many of these significant men come to the College to celebrate the Eucharist with our boys. Mass will begin at 8am and will conclude by 8.40am.

Please RSVP to ian.laing@syd.catholic.edu.au by Wednesday, 28 August.
FROM THE SPORTSMASTER

MCC ATHLETICS
Our Athletics squad has been preparing well for the MCC Carnival to be held this Thursday 22nd August at ES Marks Field. Boys involved in the Athletics squad are to be at the venue by 8.15am. Parents are welcome to attend on the day to support our boys. I’d like to wish our athletes and coaches all the best of luck for the carnival.

CCC CUP RUGBY LEAGUE
Our A Grade Rugby League team played their quarter final of the CCC Cup last week against St Pauls, Greystanes. Another great performance from this team saw them run away winners by 52-0. They progress to the semi finals where they will meet Patrician Brothers, Blacktown. This match will be played next Tuesday 27th August at Marcellin Fields, kicking off at 1.00pm. Parents and friends are welcomed and encouraged to attend and support our boys.

AFL
Our U16 AFL team have progressed to the finals of the Swans/Giants Cup. They will compete on Wednesday 21st August at the Blacktown International Sports Park against schools from all around NSW. The matches will be played at 2.00pm & 4.00pm, with a presentation at 6.00pm. Once again I encourage parents and friends to come along and cheer for our students.

WINTER SPORTS AWARDS ASSEMBLY
Our Winter Sports Awards Assembly will take place on Friday 30th August, commencing at 9.30am. We will be recognising achievement in Rugby League, Soccer, Athletics and Cross Country. Our special guest for this assembly will be NSW Waratahs coach Michael Cheika (pictured) who is an Ex Student of the College. All parents and families are welcome to attend this assembly. Parents of those boys receiving an award will be notified prior to the day.

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOYS SELECTION
“Rabbitohs Holden Cup player and Marcellin College Randwick student Cheyne Whitelaw has been selected to play for the Australian Schoolboy’s Rugby League side, to take on the New Zealand 18 Years Residents side in a two-match series.

The Souths Junior was selected for the side at the conclusion of the 2013, 18 years Championships after representing NSWCCC.

The Australian schoolboys’ first match will be played on Monday 30th September at Toll Stadium, Northland, with the second match to be played on Saturday 5 October at Westpac Trust Stadium Henderson in Waitakere City (West Auckland).

The South Sydney Rabbitohs would like to congratulate Cheyne on his selection and wish him all the best for the upcoming tour.”

Mr MacNamara
Sports Coordinator

YEAR 8 - ACTIVITIES WEEK: A SNAPSHOT
COMMUNITY NEWS

THANK YOU

On Wednesday 13 August, the College hosted a community gathering with guest speaker Andrew Fuller. Parents and friends of Marcellin and local Catholic primary schools were informed and entertained by Andrew’s presentation ‘Creating Resilient Families’. Andrew addressed the issues that are faced by families as their children make their way through life and respond to the challenges they encounter during school years and beyond. He provided very valuable tips and advice for families on how best to support their children through the disappointments they all experience at some stage. It was a rewarding experience for the many parents in attendance. My thanks to all who attended the evening – your support of the College is very much appreciated.

Mr Vane-Tempest
Director of Development & Communications

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Marcellin College is collecting blankets for the St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal and Night Patrol. If any families can donate blankets, either new or used (in good condition) please send them along as soon as possible. They can be brought in to the front Office or your son can bring them to my Office. Please do not hesitate to call at the College or email me if you have any questions.

With many thanks for your continued support of St Vincent de Paul.
Damian Chase
Yr 12 and Solidarity Coordinator
email: damian.chase@syd.catholic.edu.au

OLSH Primary School Fundraiser

Are you thinking of selling your house? Would you like the commission you pay to stay within our community? During the auction at our annual parent night, on September 7, one of our parents, Doreen Wilson & Morgan Ryan of Di Jones Real Estate are offering to sell your property commission free to help raise funds for OLSH Primary School. If you are planning to sell your property in the next 18 months, this opportunity is too good to miss!

The industry standard commission is 2.2%. That’s $22,000 on a property worth $1 million. We are offering the winning bidder an opportunity to dramatically reduce their selling costs by securing their services for a very attractive price! And of course the school greatly benefits from your winning bid!

Bids can be made prior to the auction to Mary-Anne Tanner on maryannetanner@optusnet.com.au.

More information and contract details are available through Mary-Anne on 0416218167 or Doreen Wilson 0412 228 750
doreenw@dijones.com.au

THE POWER TO CHANGE A LIFE IS WITHIN US ALL.

Do something about it and please donate to the Vinnies Winter Appeal.

Call 13 18 12 or visit
dosomethingaboutit.org.au

Vinnies good works

OLSH Primary School Fundraiser

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