“If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward. … But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone around his neck.”

Mark 9: 41-42

This scripture taken from the readings of the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time teaches that those who participate in simple acts of kindness such as giving a drink to a thirsty person are following the teaching of Jesus. Those whose actions teach children that kind acts and compassion are not important are working directly against the teaching of Jesus. The passage from the Letter of James 5:1-6 condemns members of the community who accumulate wealth and material possessions at the expense of the poor.

The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church (2004) says that ‘Riches fulfil their function of service to man when they are destined to produce benefits for others and for society.’ (329)

The 26th Sunday on September 30 is Social Justice Sunday. This year the Bishops of Australia have focussed on families in their Social Justice Statement. It celebrates the role of families in our society and urges all Australians to consider the pressures and challenges that families face. As followers of Jesus we are called to give good example to our children and to act with kindness and compassion. We must be supportive of all families, including those not like us, and especially those in crisis or great need.

Copies of the Bishops’ statement can be downloaded from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference www.catholic.org from the week commencing September 23. Read this carefully and see what action can be taken to live out the call to justice.


Catherine McAuley

Prayer

Lord God, we pray for all families and especially those who are in crisis. We pray that we may be strengthened in our commitment to justice so that we may join with other people and groups who are caring for them.

Amen

In this Year of Grace, we have the opportunity to celebrate the great gift of families. The Holy Family is our inspiration. It faced difficulties and was in crisis on many occasions, commencing with even finding a place for Mary to give birth to Jesus followed by a period of time as refugees and the pain and suffering of Mary as she watched her son suffer and die for others.
Dear Parents and Carers, Students, Staff and Friends

Mercy Day gave us all the opportunity to show a little kindness to others and to celebrate our Mercy Traditions. In recent years we have spent a short time praying at the graves of several of the Sisters of Mercy who served in the Lilydale community and are buried in Lilydale. Two of the founding Sisters, Sister Patrick Maguire and Sister Brigid Bradshaw and several of the past Principals after whom buildings have been named are buried in Lilydale. We honoured their lives of service and paid tribute to their commitment to Mercy and Justice. The celebrations continued with the Eucharist on the eve of Mercy Day and this year we were blessed to have Sister Marie Ralph, Sister Pat Phillips and Sister Meredith Evans with us as we prayed for those in need, including ourselves and our family and friends. Mercy Day itself commenced with a Parade and was then followed by a series of activities, rides, food sales and competitions designed to raise funds for the Mukuru Promotion Centre and McAuley Community Services for Women.

Details of the funds raised for these projects will be published once all costs have been calculated.

CONSECRATION OF THE CHAPEL
The Our Lady of Mercy Old Collegian Memorial Chapel will be consecrated by Archbishop Denis Hart on Friday morning. Approximately 200 members of our community will participate in this special ceremony following a welcome to the Archbishop by the students and staff in the Doyle Centre at 9.00 a.m.

A chapel of this size will allow Year Levels, classes and individuals to pray, together or alone. The Chapel will be open for private prayer and parents, carers and grandparents are invited to visit the Chapel at any time during the day.

YARRA VALLEY EDUCATIONAL PRECEPT COMMITTEE
With the closure of Swinburne Lilydale, a group of concerned citizens, supported by the Yarra Ranges Council, Schools and local businesses have formed a committee dedicated to the provision of a ‘Centre for Life Time Learning’ in this region. The goal is to secure a site for the provision of learning ranging from specialist courses for school students, Vocational Educational and Training (VET) courses, Technical And Further Education (TAFE) courses, University courses and Mature Age courses.

The goal of the committee is to make use of the current Swinburne site with alternative providers offering the courses required.

The group supports the Council’s communication strategies and a Public Forum will be hosted at Mount Lilydale Mercy College on Wednesday September 26. The Forum will be held in Centennial Hall commencing at 5.30 p.m.

Parents, carers and members of the community are invited to attend. The Committee is aware that this first public forum is during the school holidays and that many teachers and parents will be unable to attend. However, it is hoped that a large gathering will be able to receive a current update on the situation, listen to information about the need for tertiary education and training in the outer east and have the opportunity to participate in discussions on action that can be taken to ensure that the full range of learning opportunities our community needs are provided locally.

If you would like to attend, please send an email stating the number of people attending to publicforum@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au so that appropriate arrangements can be made regarding parking and a welcome to the Forum.

Parents, carers and community members who are unable to attend this forum, but who would like to indicate their support, are invited to forward their name and email address and mobile number to publicforum@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Jake Ashton on his success in the winter season where he competed in the Victorian Interschool Mogul Division One and was placed first in the competition. In the Junior National competition at Mt Buller he was placed 4th and in the Australian Mogul Championship at Perisher he was placed 3rd in the Junior two day competition. Jake was also placed 9th at the ABOM Mogul Challenge. These were international competitions with competitors from China, Korea, Russia and the United States. Following these events Jake has now been selected in the national team.

Congratulations also to Vanessa Ciccotelli, past student Year 12, 2011 and College Dux on being the equal 3rd prize winner of the Franco Schiavoni Memorial Scholarship 2012. This is an important scholarship and one which is in high demand.

STUDENT PROGRESS INTERVIEWS FOR YEARS 7-11
Student Progress interviews are scheduled for tomorrow. It is no coincidence that so many parents of students who are doing so well and achieve at a very high standard in VCE and VCAL are well known to the teachers. They are regular attendees of student progress interviews.
**GOVERNMENT FUNDING: GETTING FUNDING RIGHT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS**
Governments have never funded students with special needs in Catholic schools in the same way they fund students with the same needs in government schools.

This is despite more and more families with Indigenous, poor or refugee backgrounds, or with children with disabilities, choosing to send their children to a Catholic school.

As part of their social justice mission, Catholic school communities welcome these students, despite the small amount of funding they receive to support them.

Government funding for Catholic students with special needs often falls short of what students with special needs require.

If these Catholic students were enrolled in government schools, they would receive more funding to support their needs.

It is about time governments fund students equally, based on their needs, and not the school they attend.

**THANK YOU**
Thank you once again for your wonderful support during this term. I encourage Year 12 students, and those in Year 11 studying Units 3 & 4, to use the holidays well by completing work and projects and revising for their final assessments. Practice Examinations for Units 3 & 4 of VCE will be conducted during the second week of the holidays. Other students should use this break to catch up on outstanding work and relax so that they can return for a successful Term 4.

I wish those who are travelling over the holidays a safe and pleasant journey and I look forward to working with and for you in the final term.

Bernard G Dobson
Principal

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**COLLEGE ADVISORY COUNCIL’S RECOGNITION OF MR DOBSON’S SERVICE TO MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE**

At our next College Advisory Council meeting on Thursday, September 20, the Council will unveil a plaque dedicating the Resurrection Window in Our Lady of Mercy Chapel to our College Principal Mr. Bernard Dobson.

On behalf of the College community the Advisory Council dedicates this plaque to Bernard in appreciation of his outstanding service and contribution to the Mount Lilydale Mercy College Community. Bernard has led the College with commitment and passion, overseeing six capital development projects, providing excellent facilities and learning opportunities for students.

A man of deep faith he has espoused Mercy Values and immersed the College in the traditions of Catherine McAuley and the works of the Sisters of Mercy today. We give thanks for the significant contribution Bernard has made over the last 12 years.

Mrs Marianne Birtchnell
College Advisory Council Chair
On Saturday August 25, five teams represented the college at the Regional Finals of the Tournament of Minds held at Swinburne in Lilydale.

Teams in Tournament of Minds must work as a group to design a solution to a challenge and then prepare a 10 minute dramatic presentation for the judging panel that explains their solution.

This year's challenges saw teams journeying to the future to find solutions to current social problems, building a device that could be seen and explained from three different perspectives and trying to compare the writings of Shakespeare, Dickens, Roald Dahl and the Beatles.

In their presentations teams used masks, props, song and dance to enhance the message of their solution. The creativity and hard work of our teams was obvious to the judges and they were very impressed with the teamwork and commitment shown by:

Patrick Biggin - 8SI, Jamieson Bolt - 8BL, Katherine Boyle - 7PU,
Skye Broekate - 9SI, Shaylee Burns - 8OR, Sarah Byrne - 10GO,
Sam Di Pietrantonio - 7OR, Dylan Doherty - 9OR, Brayden Douglas - 8JA,
Alex Duncan - 7OR, Sarah Dunstan - 9JA, Timeka Eales - 7PU,
Tyler Ennis - 9PU, Dylan Finlay - 7GR, Natalie Hamment - 9WH,
Katelyn Hay - 9GR, Ashleigh Henry - 8OR, Sean Herrmann - 8BL,
Gina Ingham - 8RE, Kayla Jackson - 7BL, Tom Janssen - 10WH,
Mitchell Kalika - 8GR, Alex Keuken - 8SI, Sarah Laan - 8WH,
Steven Martin - 7JA, Ryan McSpadden - 7GR, Kelsey Mulligan - 8OR
Brigid Peeler - 10BL, Isabella Preston - 7PU, Bella Price - 7GO,
Gabby Savariss - 9WH, Declan Scott - 7OR, Bryana Sloane - 9BL,
Makeely Stolzenhain - 8OR, Cassie Treverton - 8GR,
Shardee Worroll - 9RE and Georgia Yapp - 8GO

Congratulations to all our Tournament of Minds team members on representing the College with such enthusiasm and commitment.

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FROM THE REGISTRAR

I would like to say a very big "THANK YOU" to the many parents who helped on Mercy Day to feed the hungry masses. The students and staff appreciate the time and effort you put in.

Remember that summer uniform is optional from the beginning of Term 4. The Parents and Friends uniform shop will be open this Thursday and then every Thursday next term from 12 noon until 1.30pm.

Mary Ryan
Registrar
On Monday August 27 we had Glen Gerryn come to our school as a guest speaker. He spoke about how to set goals and that you can achieve anything you want as long as you try your hardest. He told us about the disappointments in his life and how he got through them and ended up creating something he never thought he could.

Rachael Blanchard 8 Purple

‘On Monday August 27 we had Glen Gerryn come to our school as a guest speaker. He spoke about how to set goals and that you can achieve anything you want as long as you try your hardest. He told us about the disappointments in his life and how he got through them and ended up creating something he never thought he could’.

Rachael Blanchard 8 Purple

‘On August 27 the Year 8’s experienced the ‘Day of Hope’. It was a motivational day, presented by Glen Gerryn. We had to sit in Centennial Hall for six periods, but I didn’t get bored at all! Glen was really enthusiastic and entertaining. He came to talk to us about how we CAN achieve our dreams if we work hard. No matter how many times you fail, get back up and try again! I definitely think after Glen spoke to us, nearly everyone had a different view on life and their dreams’.

Holly Purcell 8 Purple

‘I think Glen really helped us get motivated for the rest of the year’.

Natalie Virgona 8 Purple

‘Yesterday was awesome, I learnt that in life you have to start step-by-step’.

Chris Osborne 8 Red

‘The speaker yesterday was really good. I thought it was going to be boring because it was going to be for a whole day. It was very interesting and a great experience’.

Thomas Hodgett 8 Gold

On Monday August 27 Glen Gerryn from the ‘Oxygen Factory’ came to speak to all Year 8 students for the day. He is an inspirational and motivational speaker and he highlighted the importance of making goals and reaching for the stars. He was energetic and captivates everyone, students and teachers alike. The day was wonderful and a really beneficial day for all the Year 8 students.

Emily Tineo
Year 8 Wellbeing Coordinator

DAY OF HOPE
A group of enthusiastic authors from Year 9 and 10, along with Miss Stanley and Mrs Coney, made their way into town as part of the celebrations for Literacy Month at the College. Students were engaged in several presentations that lead them to ask questions challenging the presenting authors to share their ideas, inspirations and journey into authorship.

It was great day of being immersed in literature and companionship with friends of similar interests.

Andrea Coney
Head of Library and Information Services

BARAK HOLIDAY HOURS
Opening Hours for Barak Library during the two weeks of the September School Holidays
Monday to Friday - 8.30am to 3.30pm

NEW UNIFORM SHOP

During school holidays the Bob Stewart new uniform shop will only be open on Saturday October 6 from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

When school resumes for Term 4, the shop will resume normal hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 12.30pm to 4.00pm and the first Saturday of each month from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

For any enquiries please phone the College Shop on 9735 4370 or Bob Stewart of Kew on 9853 8429.

Maddies Embellished Garden….from Trash to Art
Open Garden and Sale
On Sunday 14th October from 10am-5pm
80 Pembroke Road, Mooroolbark (cnr. Pine Rd.)
Cost $6 per adult and $1 per child
Refreshments and Devonshire Teas will be available.
Visitors will be delighted with our fabulous “Garden Themed” SALE of Goodies contributed by many local artists and gardeners

Proceeds will go to Mary Mackillop East Timor Mission

Anyone wishing to volunteer to help on the day would be really welcomed.
Please phone 9728 5628 or email maddiesw@bigpond.com

MLBC LAKERS BASKETBALL CLUB
Live it. Love it. Lakers.
Are you looking for a fun Team Sport?
Are you wondering how to get involved?
MLBC Lakers Wants You!

5-7 years Boys & Girls
Jo Reid 0419 540 910
8-20 years Girls
Michelle Morstead 0408 534 995
8-12 years Boys
Ann-Louise Stromehen 0412 518 178
13 years Boys
Monica Schneider 0402 942 245
14-15 years Boys
Peny Vierch 0419 134 962
16-18 years Boys
Monica Schneider 0402 942 245
e-mail: MLBClakers@bigpond.com for all inquiries.
www.mlclakers.com.au

NOW RECRUITING
Summer Season Term 4 & 1
Winter Season Term 1 & 3
Team Training conducted at Mt Llydale Mercy College
Glen Park Community Centre Incorporated
...a vibrant hub for learning and generating community spirit

BUILDING TOMORROWS MEN
COMMUNITY SHED

9TH OCTOBER–21ST DECEMBER 2012
TUESDAYS 4:00PM–7:00PM
11–14 YEARS OLD

Are you finding it hard to always do the “right” thing?
Have your Mum & Dad separated?
Do you miss having your Dad around?

“BUILDING TOMORROWS MEN” is a Glen Park Community Centre Initiative funded through Maroondah City Council Community Grant Scheme. This project is to assist young males to become strong, positive role models in their community. Participants will make a variety of products such as equipment & toys for donation to local organisations.

Glen Park Community Centre
30 Glen Park Road
Bayswater North, VIC, 3153
☎️ 9294 7525
✉️ office@glenparkcc.com.au
🌐 www.glenparkcc.com.au

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE
FOR DINNER EACH WEEK
B.Y.O. DRINK

CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE TODAY!
NO CHARGES • NO FEES • FULLY FUNDED BY MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME

A representative from the Victoria Police will be present to discuss issues facing young men today.
Representatives: Rob King & Peter Williams

Maroondah City Council
Visit us on Facebook

Glen Park Community Centre
...a vibrant hub for learning and generating community spirit
Black Saturday & Beyond

Have you stopped to take time out for yourself?

Learn how complementary health therapies, creative arts therapies, and psychological and emotional support services can all play a vital role in your ongoing personal recovery from the losses of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires.

Discover who your local service providers are and how to access their services should you need them - including how to access Wellness and Psychological vouchers from the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund to financially assist you in your self-care 'Beyond Black Saturday'.

EACH is a community health centre which has worked extensively with individuals, families and communities across more than 92% of the fire affected areas of Victoria. As part of this work EACH has been contracted to work with people who have had a bereavement from the fires. This evening is part of a series of nine Self-Care Forums “Black Saturday & Beyond” across the state during September.

Recovery often is a complex path & different support methods assist people in different ways

Our presenters have all been involved in the bushfire recovery work in many different roles since February 2009. They will discuss:

Complementary Health Therapies:
Aim to treat the whole person. Therapies include acupuncture, massage, kinesiology and homeopathy.

Creative Arts Therapies:
A great approach for anyone who may find ‘talking therapies’ difficult, and include storytelling, dance, music, drama, poetry, and visual arts.

Psychological & Emotional Supports:
From time to time we all need a little extra support in our day to day lives. Supports include a wide variety of counselling and psychotherapy options to help with developing and strengthening coping skills, and to regain our sense of well-being.

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<tr>
<td>Tues 4 Sept</td>
<td>Mudgegonga - Town Hall</td>
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<td>Wed 5 Sept</td>
<td>Yea - Sacred Heart School</td>
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<td>Tues 11 Sept</td>
<td>Kinglake - Comm. Centre</td>
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<td>Wed 12 Sept</td>
<td>Kilmore - Library</td>
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<td>Tues 18 Sept</td>
<td>Melbourne - Town Hall</td>
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<td>Thurs 20 Sept</td>
<td>Bendigo - All Seasons</td>
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<td>Mon 24 Sept</td>
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<td>Tues 25 Sept</td>
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<td>Tues 2 Oct</td>
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<td>Thurs 4 Oct</td>
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<td>Tues 9 Oct</td>
<td>Flowerdale - Comm. House</td>
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6.30pm - 9pm
all sessions
includes showcase of local service providers and light supper

To book, or for more details contact:
Jodie Bowker - 9871 1890/ jbowker@each.com.au

EACH together with the Bushfire Bereaved Community Advisory Group, and with support from the Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement.