“Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will not enter it.”

Mark 10:14-15

We must remember that in Jesus’s day children had no status or power. They were unimportant, other than perhaps as labourers in the field. They were very low on the social ladder.

Jesus by His action in rebuking the disciples from keeping the children away from Him is really turning the ladder upside down. He is challenging the traditional thinking and saying that each and every individual, especially children, must be treated with respect and dignity.

Children are a good example for us to follow and perhaps that is what Jesus is saying when He said that we need to welcome the kingdom like a child. Children absorb things quickly and learn without trying to make things too complicated. They are very trusting and have faith that adults will look after them. Unfortunately, this is not always what happens and throughout the world children are hungry, mistreated and abused.

Next Sunday is Respect Life Sunday. Jesus has shown how much He respects everyone in His society. He tells the parable of the Good Samaritan to show us how we need to reach out to those who are suffering. On Respect Life Sunday the Church is reaching out to parents who are grieving the loss of a child whether that grief is caused by miscarriage, abortion or an accidental or natural death. We are called to remember that nothing is impossible to God and to reach out to those grieving with the fullness of the Church’s message, which includes the offer of God’s healing compassion.

Dear Parents and Carers, Students, Staff and Friends

Welcome back to Term 4. A special welcome to Caleb Brilli entering Year 8. May the hospitality of God be extended to you and your family by all students and staff.

CONSECRATION OF THE OUR LADY OF MERCY OLD COLLEGIAN’S MEMORIAL CHAPEL

The ceremony led by Archbishop Hart to consecrate the Chapel was one of great significance for our community. The Archbishop explained for all present the important stages of the ceremony and we were able to give thanks to God for the gift of this place of worship.

The Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the Tabernacle, which is centered behind the Altar.

As you enter you will notice a font of water you can use to bless yourself. The bottom of the glass has a series of circles imbedded in it. These same circles can also be seen on the Resurrection Window to which our eyes are drawn from the font via the black carpet. The circle, also the basic shape of the inside of the body of the Chapel, symbolises God, with no beginning and no end. The grouping of the circles in this form is an Indigenous symbol of the divine. The lower section of the Resurrection Window represents Jesus on the Cross and moving up to the higher section to Jesus rising from the dead to a new and glorious life.
The Chapel is full of symbolism of everlasting life. The second main feature is located on the left as you face the Altar. This is a water feature symbolising the ‘Water of Life’, Jesus the water of everlasting life. This is the memorial wall and in front of it we will have a table upon which will be placed the names of the elect, all those Old Collegians who have passed into eternal life, and the date of their passing. These will be stored in a specially made wooden book. The black carpet section, forming a cross on the floor of the chapel draws our eyes from the ‘Water of Life’ to the Mercy Window, the symbol of the Sister of Mercy and of God’s unconditional mercy to us all. It is a reminder that we are the hand, feet and compassionate heart of Jesus.

The Tabernacle is the tabernacle removed and restored from the Chapel in Mount St Joseph.

The Tabernacle removed and restored from the Chapel in Mount St Joseph.

The Altar, Preacher’s Chair and Lectern have been made by Mr Mark Johnson (along with a Pascal Candle Stand and the Memorial Book) from wood taken from the Sisters’ Chapel in the former Hostel that was located on the site of Dublin House.

The Rostrum, Candle Holders, Stools and Missal Stand have been made by students and Mr Michael Callanan. Mr Colin Johnson has been also involved in the construction programme.

The shelf below the tabernacle and two tables have been made by Mr Jim Christie.

All of the liturgical furniture has been made by students and staff! We are truly blessed! I thank the Year 11 Design Wood students Daniel Burrows, Devlin Xereb, Josh Vanden Bronx, Matthew Churchill, Kate Bakkar, Jarrod Deith, Pearson Kitchin, Linden Hartley, Jayden Brewster, Austin Calverley, Michael Oliveri, Josh Bromley, Shane Kennedy, James Grixti, Michael Gillis, Adam O’Donoghue, Daniel Owens, Kairon Moody, David Lindorff, Ashley Cain for constructing the beautiful Presiders rostrum stand, the stools, the missal stand, the candle blocks and the memorial and credence tables. I thank also our artists Kate Williams (Year 12) “Faith Seeking Understanding”, Jo Van Der Linden (Year 12) “Virgin Mary”, Ellie Trezise and Holly Bell (Year 8) “Hope” and Denali Wraith-Tenson (Year 7) for the Lamb of God.
Congratulations to the following students on their appointment as Prefects for 2013. In congratulating them and re-assuring them of Mr Morison’s support in their roles, I urge all students to support them also and to do this by taking on leadership roles within the College that will result in improvements for all.

**College Captain**  
Tayla McConachy & Alex Grieve

**College Vice Captain**  
Maddison Alford & Jesse Duffield

**Year 7 Prefect**  
Daniella Gentile & Joshua Bromley

**McAuley Prefect**  
Ashleigh Pereira & Lachlan Glennie

**Sport Prefect**  
Isabella Andueza & Adrian Tomada

**Drama Prefect**  
Annie Italiano

**Debating & Public Speaking Prefect**  
Hannah Kelaart

**Maths/Science Prefect**  
Matthew Farrugia

**Indigenous Education Prefect**  
Matthew Churchill

**Social Justice Prefect**  
Rafael Mello

**Pastoral Ministry**  
Mardi Hodge

**Visual Arts Prefect**  
Jordan Macpherson

**Music Prefect**  
Josephine Brindley

**Yearbook Prefect**  
Olivia Nation

**Environment & Resources Prefect**  
Alexandra Carter

**Dance Prefect**  
Melanie Kooy

We welcome back from leave Mr Geoff Hopkins, Mrs Jo-Anne Hopkins, Mr Anthony Schepis and Mr Danny Katzen. On the community’s behalf I thank the following staff who have completed their contracts as replacement teachers. Linda Brasacchio, Tania De Simone, Marissa Tsoukatos and Nadia Fragnito have all provided excellent learning opportunities for our students. I also thank Mr Valdy Gravis, Mrs Urszula Faulkner, Mr Andrew Leaumont, Mr Nick Woodward, Mrs Gail Preston and Ms Carolyn Ellul who accepted Leadership Roles during Term 3 whilst their colleagues were on leave.

**Year 12 Students**

Year 12 students have just over three weeks of classes prior to the VCE Exams commencing on November 1. Those preparing for exams are strongly encouraged to ensure that they focus carefully in every class and private study period at school and ensure that they are spending at least 3 hours study every night and even more time on the weekends to prepare adequately for the exams. The last of these 3 weeks will also include their Celebration Day, their Final Assembly, Awards Ceremony and Liturgy.

Please remember our Year 12 students in your prayers.

Special thanks to the teachers who conducted classes and Practice Exams during the holidays.

**Year 12 Visual Arts Exhibition**

Parents, Students and members of the Community are invited to inspect the Exhibition of student work to be held on October 16.

**Please Pray**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Narciso Espero, the grandfather of Piolo (Year 9) and Troy Rimondo (Year 12). We pray that like a shepherd Jesus who knows Narciso will welcome him to fullness of life and commend him for his life of service and care of others. May his family give thanks for his life and may this and their belief in the resurrection provide them peace and hope.
**Young Environmental Ambassadors**

Senior VCAL students ran an environmental awareness session in the Eastern Regional Lilydale Museum last week with a class of preps from Lilydale Primary School. The event was called the **Young Environmental Ambassadors** and began with Chelsea Darnell reading a story that was co-authored by the class. The story was about the journey of a boy who left his polluted town to discover a clean and environmentally-friendly town. The story served as an introduction for the displays VCAL students produced.

Gareth Milloy hosted the event and invited prep groups to interact with the displays. VCAL students then facilitated activities with each display. Some of the displays included a wind farm, environmentally friendly homes with interactive lights, recycling plant that required children to shoot rubbish into the correct hoop, and a workshop on endangered animals that featured face painting. A photographer from the local newspaper arrived to capture the fun so look out for Lachlan Koger who may soon appear in the Lilydale Express.

VCAL students were commended by Eastern Regional Library staff and Lilydale Primary School teachers for the creativity of their displays and the welcoming and hospitable spirit they showed the children participating.

Steve Tarulli  
VCAL Coordinator

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**Chess Club**

Congratulations to Ashley Greene (8GR), David Remminga (9SI) and Brayden Douglas (8JA), our champion chess players for Term 3. Chess Club has finished for the year now, and will resume at the beginning of Term 2 next year.

I am sure there will be students in McAuley Library still catching a game at recess or lunch, any day of the week, so feel free to pop in for a game!

Katie Stanley  
McAuley Teacher Librarian
Congratulations to a large number of students who have performed excellently outside of school sport. With the end of various sporting seasons there are a number of students who have received best and fairest awards in their chosen field.

Emily Collins, 7 Purple, won the Best and Fairest for Lilydale U/13 Netball team. She also narrowly missed out on winning the Grand Final, coming Runner Up by 3 points.

Morgan Henri, 9 Bronze, won the Best and Fairest for Lilydale U/15 Netball Team.

Katelyn Sibbing, 9 Red, received the Runner-up Best and Fairest for Lilydale U/15 Netball Team.

Alex Condello, 7 Bronze, received the Runner-up Best and Fairest for Junior EFL U/13 B Football.

Jackson Lowe, 7 Orange, won the Best and Fairest for Junior EFL U/13 C Football.

Daniel Jensen, 12 Red, won the Most Valuable Player for the Kilsyth Cobra's U/20 Basketball

Adrian Tomada, 11 Orange, won the Most Valuable Player for the Kilsyth Cobra's U/18 Basketball

In other news, Matt Oakes, 10 Purple, represented Victoria in the prestigious National Tange Tournament. This was Matt's 5th year representing Victoria at a National level in ice hockey, an excellent effort.

Jake Ashton, 12 Silver, has had some excellent results in Mogul this season, despite his focus on his studies. He managed a top 30 finish in the NORAM US series and backed it up with a 1st place in the Vic Interschool Mogul Div 1 representing MLMC. Jake was also placed 4th at the Junior Nationals at Mt Buller, 3rd overall at the Australian Mogul Championships Perisher, and 3rd in the Junior ABPOM Mogul Challenge Mt Buller. The majority of these competitions are at international level, with Jake competing against skiers from Russia, Korea, US, and China. These are all excellent results, made more difficult by the academic requirements of VCE.

Max Handcock, 8 Green, recently competed in the Victorian Weightlifting Championships and received a Gold medal for U/15, a Silver medal for Juniors, and a Silver medal for Youth. Max has now qualified to compete at the Australian Weightlifting Championships, to be held in Sydney.

An excellent effort over the last few weeks from all our students. It can be seen that Mount Lilydale Mercy College has a high number of competitors in a wide range of sports. Superb work from all.

If you know of a student achieving in their chosen field of sport, please send us the details at Iworrell@exchange.mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au or mflood@exchange.mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au

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**EISM GRAND FINAL RESULTS**

The EISM Cross Country was a great success for Mount Lilydale Mercy College, with the following overall results:

2nd place Aggregate Overall
2nd place Girls Overall
3rd place Boys Overall
1st Open Girls Division
1st U/16 Boys Division

Individual results:
U/14 Girls – 2nd Kaitlin Seamer
U/14 Boys – 2nd Aidan Pace
U/16 Boys – 1st Laughlin Norney
Open Boys – 1st Calvin Amos

A very special mention to the Open Girls who came away with the trifecta, an awesome effort.

Open Girls – 1st Casey Wright
2nd Molly McConnell
3rd Sarah McConnell
I would like to say a very **BIG THANK YOU** to the following parents who came and took part in Mercy Day Celebrations, these wonderful parents started cooking from 8am and continued till 3.00pm: Michelle Gough, Helen Di Martino, Michael Forsyth, Andrew Preston, Victoria Alford, Lidia Johnston, Carol Treverton, Carolyn Chamberlain, Jenni Charles, Peter McDonald, Susan McDonald, Nick Brau, Karen Blundell, Marcia Fleming, Briony Cimo, Selena Puts, Maureen Giffin, Noella Kikidopoulos, Jenn Boyle, Laura Nation, Delean Leach, Linda Martin, Teang Laan, Edvidge Troiana, Corinne Dousset, Zoe Seaye, Jo Wolf-Short, Michelle Ennis, Lia Richardson, Michelle Morstead, Linda Martin, Angela Spirili, Maryanne Love, Joane Gaissel, Julie Keuken, Marissa Lasham and Ian Cook.

All current and past members of Family and Friends are cordially invited to our:

**Annual Dinner at**

THE GRAND HOTEL, YARRA GLEN OCTOBER 29 AT 7.00pm.

RSVP OCTOBER 1 2012

pfs@mlmcilbydale.catholic.edu.au

**THE PARENTS AND FRIENDS UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE MOVING**

We will be opened for business on Thursday October 11 from 12.00pm-1.30pm

The new shop is located in Portable 11 and entry is via The Eyr

OPEN EVERY THURSDAY IN FOURTH TERM 12.00PM-1.30PM

Jacqui Macdonald
President Parents and Friends

**MEDICAL RECORDS UPDATE**

**IF THERE HAS BEEN ANY CHANGE IN THE MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS OR TREATMENT PROVIDED FOR YOUR CHILD PLEASE CONTACT THE COLLEGE SO THAT WE CAN UPDATE OUR RECORDS.**

**ST MARY’S YOUTH MASS**

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 28 AT 5PM**

CLEGG ROAD, MT EVELYN

Please join us in celebrating the St Mary’s Youth Mass. For more information on how you can partake for example do a reading or be a part of the Choir, please ring Laura on 0439 031 085
TOPIC: HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED AT SCHOOL
Presenter: Andrew Fuller
Ages: Primary and Secondary

Whether your child is in Year 12 or just starting out, the skills and knowledge that you will gain from attending this session will help you to have a positive impact on your child's life. It will also save you hours of useless arguing about things that don’t make a difference to academic outcomes. Topics covered will include:

- What the latest brain research tells us about the most vital skills for success
- How parents can improve children's concentration, memory and sequencing skills
- How to build a positive mindset for success
- How playing games improves intelligence
- Why short sharp homework sprints are better for learning than long marathons of study.

DATE | TIME | LOCATION
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Wednesday October 24 | 7pm – 9pm | St Agnes’ – Highett (Ref Mel Map No. 77 B8)

COST: $10 PER PERSON TO BE PAID AT THE DOOR ON THE NIGHT

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL: Parent Seminar Coordinator: Shirley O’Sullivan shirley@stclaresthomastown.catholic.edu.au
or Tel: 9464.5225 Monday-Thursday during School hours

St John of God Accord, a division of St John of God Health Care, is a Victorian disability service provider. As a not-for-profit provider of disability services for more than 50 years, we are committed to meeting areas of unmet need. Our philosophy is to enhance the wellbeing of people with a disability through our five core values: hospitality, compassion, respect, justice and excellence in service.

You too can make a difference by visiting any one of our Op shops to pick-up a bargain and provide financial support or give your time to volunteer.

We are currently seeking volunteers in both our Mooroolbark and Wandin Op Shops.

The Mooroolbark Op Shop is opening soon at Shop 7, Mooroolbark Terrace, Mooroolbark. The Wandin Op Shop is located at 6 Union Road, Wandin North. For further information on volunteering, please contact Robert Dobin, Op Shop Manager on (03) 8804 4600 or via email Robert.Dobin@sjog.org.au. Information about all our Op Shops and how to contribute your donations (eg. Bric-a-brac, clothing, books and jewellery) are available online at www.sjog.org.au/accord. You can also like us or find us on facebook www.facebook.com/sjog.opshops.