



# NEWSLETTER

## Lavalla Catholic College

10 August 2007

### From the Principal

Dear Parents and staff

FRANK MESARIC MARY



This week over 200 Marist teachers from around Australia and New Zealand gathered in Melbourne for our 4th Biennial Conference. This year's theme was, "*She went in haste to the hill country*" giving us an opportunity to explore the role of Mary in our lives and in particular her role in our Marist mission. This conference is geared to Leadership teams in schools and the workshops and the presentations allows us to share our current experiences and dream our future together.

Worth noting is the significant contribution to this Conference made by our teachers and students. It opened on Sunday with the spectacular voices of our *senior choir* beginning the Liturgy, ably conducted by our Director of Music, *Shane Reid*. The performance of the choir left a lasting impression on all the delegates and the College was genuinely complimented. The Liturgies for the three days were composed by *Mike Hansen* our Director of Faith and Ministry and supported by our Director of Staff Development, *Lee McKenzie* and accompanist *Sophy Morley*. The Australian Marist Schools' Association (AMSA) commissioned our art teacher *Frank Mesaric* to paint an image of Mary that captured the theme and his magnificent work became the centre piece on stage for the three days. *Robert Tarraran* our Business manager co-ordinated the sponsorship and raise enough monies to ensure the conference became self funded. Ms McKenzie, Mr Hansen and Mr Tarraran, as members of

the organising committee have been involved in the preparation of this significant conference for the last 18 months and its success is largely attributed to their creative and inspiring work.

Further we congratulate *Ms McKenzie* for being elected on the AMSA Standing Committee for 2008-2009. This national Marist committee represents every state in Australia and meets four times a year to give direction and leadership to the Marist movement. This College is truly blessed to have such talented and dedicated staff who are able to share their vision and commitment to the Marist mission with the broader Marist community.

The College is in the process of recruiting for a *new Campus Director* for the Presentation Campus. Mr Chris O'Brien as the founding leader of the Campus after the consolidation has dedicated almost 13 years to this role in its various forms. We would all agree that one of Mr O'Brien's strength is his genuine love and respect for the students and his commitment to Catholic Education in the Newborough and Moe community. Nonetheless, after 20 years of teaching he deserves a good rest and will take Long Service Leave at the beginning of 2008. Interviews will be conducted in due course and we hope to be able to make an announcement before the end of term 3.

As you are no doubt aware by now, I am a member of the Preparatory Commission for the Marist International Assembly. After four years of planning, the time has come. The Conference will begin on 3rd September and I am needed for the final preparations a little earlier. *Mrs Rita Nainie*, currently the Director of Student Learning will be **Acting Principal** in my absence **from Monday 27th August until Friday 27th September**. We wish her well!

*Ms Erica Pegorer*  
**Principal**

## She went in haste to the hill country



*Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'*

Francis Sheridan, in his article *Mary's Magnificat*, further highlights Mary's life and struggles. Part of his article is quoted here and is offer for contemplation and reflection.

*Searching the scriptures for other examples of Mary's openness to God, we find it is Mary's openness to life that provides her with her life experiences, and some of them are confusing. She was unable to understand them, (Luke 2:50) but that didn't matter. She trusted in God's presence in her life, accepted it and never questioned it. Instead, she meditated on that mystery: Emmanuel, God was with her. 'And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her hear' (Luke 2:19, 2:51).*

*This is Mary's modus operandi, how she spent her time: meditating on the mystery of the presence of God in the experiences of her life. I believe this too is Marian spirituality.*

*Mary's declaration of self-gift to God the Annunciation and the witness of her life experiences help us to imitate her. But it is in her response to Elizabeth at the Visitation that we have a special gift. We are invited to look into the soul of Mary as she tells us her prayer to God - Mary's spirituality revealed. Luke chooses to put these words in mary's mouth because they personify the Palestinian spirituality of the early church. If not a quote, Luke feels the Canticle expresses a projection of Mary's sentiments.*

**Erica Pegorer**

At the 4th AMSA Biennial Conference the theme was, 'she went in haste to the hill country...' We were called together as Marist to examine the values that Mary emanated and in so doing deepen our own understanding and commitment to these 'hill side values'. Luke 1:39-45 tells the story.

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill county of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.'

### UP TO \$1,000 HELP WITH EDUCATION SAVINGS

The Saver Plus program assists individuals and families on lower incomes to establish a long-term savings habit, build their financial skills & knowledge, and save for education. Every \$1 saved by participants is matched with an additional \$1 (up to \$1,000) to purchase educational items like books, uniforms, computers, HECS, extra curricular activities and tools of trade. At the time of sign up to be eligible you need to have; 1. A Healthcare or Pension Card. 2. Some other form of income (seasonal, casual, part time etc.) 3. Be able to spend the matched savings on education related products for yourself or your child. For details contact Michael Easton at Berry Street Victoria on 03 5134 5971 or [measton@berrystreet.org.au](mailto:measton@berrystreet.org.au).

### REFRESH YOUR MARRIAGE

Marriage Encounter is a worldwide marriage enrichment programme that has been in Australia for over 30 years. Enhance your marriage by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend. The weekend is a time for you and your spouse to be alone together, to rediscover each other and focus on your relationship in a very positive way. Your marriage deserves that kind of attention. The next 2 weekends will be held at Lysterfield on October 19-21 and Marysville on April 11-13, 2008. For further information and bookings contact Peter & Erika Smith (03) 9899 0824 or E-mail [erika@hrpartner.com.au](mailto:erika@hrpartner.com.au). Checkout the website for more information on [www.wvme.org.au](http://www.wvme.org.au)

## Kildare Campus

Last week we had our Year 9 students from the Presentation Campus visit us. It was an opportunity for them to speak to some of our Year 10 students about life on Campus; take a tour of our site and have the opportunity to see what life at the Kildare can be. I was impressed with the questions and the genuine excitement that these students brought with them. Over the next few weeks there will be a number of opportunities for all Year 9's to learn more about what the Kildare Campus can offer them.

### VPSSA Soccer Competition

Lumen Christi Catholic Primary School in Churchill recently organised the local VPSSA Soccer Competition in Morwell. Four of our students were invited to coach and referee these soccer matches. *Gianni Romano, Taylor Jackson, Matthew Coad* and *Stephen Maselli* spent most of the day with staff guiding and coaching primary age students. The day was enjoyed by all. Thank-you to *Mrs Lorraine Glowacki* from Lumen Christi for inviting us to participate in this activity and to our students who not only had a chance to highlight their leadership skills, but also promote the notion of Catholic Education across the LaTrobe Valley.

### Diocesan Meeting of Student College Leaders

Last week three of our students attended a Diocesan Meeting of College Leaders in Warragul. Each of our Diocesan Secondary College's were represented. *Phoebe Trinidad, Lynton Tonta* and *Kaycee Ryan* spent the day at the Catholic Education Office discussing and learning about what it is to be a Christian Leader in today's world. Bishop Coffee shared his insights and inspiration with the students. He was a witness to them of what it is to be a guiding light and encouraged our students to recognise their baptismal call to be witnesses to Christ and respond to the power they receive from the Holy Spirit.

### Melbourne University Lee Kwong Dow Young Scholars

Last semester the College nominated a number of students for the Melbourne University Lee Kwong Dow Young Scholars Program. We were pleased to learn that *Jeremy Waanders, Louise Wykes* and *Mary-Claire McNulty* were selected as Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars. If these students enrol at the University of Melbourne they will be eligible for a range of benefits that include a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) enrolment, \$2500 relocation allowances, \$2500 study abroad scholarships and a leadership program. The program is named in honour of eminent scholar, leading educationalist and former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, Professor Kwong Lee Dow. Congratulation to these students.

### Year 12 University Trip *(Written by Maddie Black)*

*On the first two days of term a group for 43 Year 12 students travelled to Melbourne on the annual University Trip to help us gain a better idea of our options for next year.*

*We visited the University of Melbourne, LaTrobe University, Monash University, RMIT University (Bundoora & City campuses), Swinburne University, Box Hill TAFE and ACU National. At each institution we were able to look around the campuses, gain information on what they had to offer and generally experience something of the life of a tertiary student. As well as a movie at Crown Cinemas after tea at Southbank, we had the chance to stay at Ormond College, Melbourne University. This residential College is over 125 years old. Thanks to Mr Rijs and Ms Valentine. We had a great trip with lots of fun and an opportunity to learn a great deal of information to help us with our plans for next year.*

*Mr Marco Di Cesare  
Campus Director*

### OPEN DAY for Senior Students

in conjunction with CAREERS & COURSE EXPO  
Friday 17th August from 12.00pm - 5.30pm  
at the Kildare Campus

Prosepective students and their parents are welcome to visit on the day, tour the campus and apply to enrol. Take the opportunity to meet visiting presenters and representatives from Further Training organisations and to speak with College staff about:

- \* Career paths
- \* Subjects offered at each year level
- \* VCE, VCAL and VET possibilities
- \* Additional Needs programmes
- \* Student services and support

For further information call the Campus Director, Mr Marco DiCesare on 5174 8111.

**Years 7 only Student Free Day**  
**All other Year levels required!**

### Parents Returning to the Workforce

**Pollin8**, a Registered Training Organisation, is an Australian Government initiative. For more details [www.pollin8.com.au](http://www.pollin8.com.au).

Pollin8 are currently working with schools on a campaign to assist parents to return to the workforce.

If enough parents are interested they will deliver an information session at **Lavalla Catholic College**.

Once there is a minimum of 8 eligible parents interested they will deliver a Certificate II in Business Administration.

If you are interested in participating please contact Mrs Jennifer Bur, Principals Secretary on Ph: 5175 8205 by Monday 3 September.

## Forthcoming Events

### TERM 3

#### AUGUST

- 15-17 Aug Year 8.5 [SP] & 8.2 [P] Camp  
**17 Aug EXPO**  
 20 Aug Mid Term Break - *Student Free Day*  
 21 Aug Staff Consultation Day - *Student Free Day*  
 22-24 Aug Reconciliation Camp [SP]  
 22-24 Aug Year 8.1 & 8.2 Camp [SP]  
 27 Aug Family Life for Parents [SP] (7.30-9.30pm)  
 27-31 Aug Science Week [SP]  
 28-29 Aug Year 9 Family Life [SP]  
 28-31 Aug Year 11 Retreat [K]  
 29-31 Aug Year 8.6 Camp [SP]

#### SEPTEMBER

- 14 Sept Reports Distributed  
 20 Sept Parent / Teacher Interviews (4.00-7.30pm)  
**21 Sept Final Day Term 3**  
 21-22 Sept Debutante Ball

### TERM 4

#### OCTOBER

- 8 Oct First Day Term 4 commences**  
 9 Oct VCE Oral & Performance Exams  
 Year 12 English Practice Exams  
 15 Oct LOTE Poetry Competition [SP]  
 25 Oct Year 12 Last Day [K]

#### NOVEMBER

- 2 Nov Year 12 Exams commence

## PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING

Mon 13th August at 7.30pm  
 in the St Paul's Campus Library

All parents most welcome

## NIGHT TIME UNIFORM SHOP

A night time uniform shop will be available on Tuesday 9th October from 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Be prepared for the summer uniform to start in Term 4

## The Breakfast Club at Kildare

The Breakfast Club is a new venture, inspired by the cold Winter mornings and the opportunity for friendships to be developed. Specifically, the two main aims are:

- To offer a warm and friendly environment for students to have a simple toast and beverage breakfast *free of cost*.
- To offer the opportunity for on going voluntary mentoring between adult members of the local communities and Kildare students on a weekly basis.

It is not too late for parents and friends to be involved in this exciting initiative. This invitation is extended to all adults in the Valley region.

There are two ways you might like to be involved:

- Join the group of volunteers who roster themselves on for breakfast
- Assist in a practical way by donating food and beverages

**Enquiries contact:** Mike Hansen, Kildare Campus

## CANTEEN ROSTER

### ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

- Mon 13 Aug T. Roberts, R. Bermingham  
 Tue 14 Aug C. Towns, J. Gregg  
 Wed 15 Aug L. Hodder, E. Panayiotou  
 Thu 16 Aug Help Required x 2  
 Fri 17 Aug C. Bruzzese, help required

- Mon 20 Aug I. Gregson, J. Caffrey  
 Tue 21 Aug L. Barrett, (help required)  
 Wed 22 Aug S. Jones, M. Whitty  
 Thu 23 Aug M. Bird, (help required)  
 Fri 24 Aug **EXPO**

### KILDARE CAMPUS

- Mon 13 Aug I. Gregson, D. Buckley  
 Tue 14 Aug H. Vanberkel, K. Dugan  
 Wed 15 Aug J. Rowe, (help required)  
 Thu 16 Aug M. Johnson, G. Edegohls  
 Fri 17 Aug **EXPO**

- Mon 20 Aug K. Manson, D. Berryman  
 Tue 21 Aug J. Campbell, (help required)  
 Wed 22 Aug S. Bridges, (help required)  
 Thu 23 Aug P. Radovich, (help required)  
 Fri 24 Aug M. Tatlow, K. Drowley, (help required)

Postal address	Marcellin House Admin	Kildare Campus	Presentation Campus	St Paul's Campus
PO Box 1080	Coster Circle	Kosciuszko Street	John Field Drive	Grey Street
Traralgon 3844	Traralgon	Traralgon	Newborough	Traralgon
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