God, the beginning and end of all creation,
In your name we come together to reflect upon
And plan for the future education of your young people.

We are conscious of the richness and variety
Of the gifts you have given us for our task;
We are conscious, too, of our human limitations.

We ask you to guide us as we search in partnership
For understanding of the signs of our times,
For insight into that tomorrow which begins today,
For a vision of possibilities which will fulfill
The mission you have entrusted to us.

We thank you for your enlivening Spirit
Who continues to inspire us
Through these times of change and growth.

We make this prayer through Christ, our risen Lord.

“We must teach more by example than by word.” (Mary MacKillop 1867)
Dear Parents, Caregivers, Students & Friends of SMCM school Community,

Welcome to Term 4, a time to prepare and look forward to a new school beginning and also a time of transition for many of our students. This term we look forward to welcoming you officially to St Mary of the Cross MacKillop as we begin our orientation and family information sessions.

Thank you for the feedback received after our first newsletter, personally it is wonderful to start communicating with parents. We even had feedback from Sardegna in Italy – thank you Mara!

2013 Staff
We are still in the process of employing staff for our school and as appointments are made they will be communicated to you. So today I have pleasure in introducing to you some of the foundation staff of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School.

Office Manager – Helen Burke
Helen comes to us from Mother of God Catholic Primary School in East Ivanhoe where she currently holds the position of Office Manager. Helen has a reputation for being a highly motivated, competent and enthusiastic administration officer. Helen will be the first point of contact for all visitors to our school and looks forward to meeting and building relationships with the entire school community.

Deputy Principal – Cathy McCarthy
Cathy comes to us from St Mary’s School in Greensborough where she has been Deputy Principal and Student Well Being Leader since 2009. As well as Deputy Principal, Cathy will be Student Well Being Leader and teacher.
Cathy is known as an experienced and dedicated educational and transformational leader with a passion for Religious Education, Student Wellbeing and engaged contemporary learning.
Cathy has demonstrated the ability to assume responsibility for the daily operation and management of all aspects of the school.
Cathy has successful experience and demonstrated ability to lead teams to achieve set goals and targets to improve student outcomes and school improvement.
Cathy has demonstrated the ability to build teamwork, clarity and empathy and to support a collaborative professional learning culture.

Learning & Teaching Leader – Claire Pitcher
Claire comes to St Mary of the Cross MacKillop School from Holy Trinity School in Eltham North where she has been Learning and Teaching Leader for the past two years. Claire will be Learning & Teaching Leader and teacher.
Claire will lead and coordinate the review and the development of curriculum initiatives, policies and programs in line with the School Improvement Framework and the Annual Action Plan.
Claire has demonstrated a proven ability to initiate and maintain contemporary approaches to curriculum in accordance with the AusVELS (Australian Curriculum - Victorian Essential Learning Standards) and the Learning Centred Schools A Sacred Landscape Framework (Catholic Education Office Melbourne).
Claire has a reputation as an enthusiastic and skilled teacher.

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT
Leadership and Management encompasses the following areas: Organisation, Structures, Resource Management, Staff Wellbeing and Professional Learning.
I am very excited about working with Helen, Cathy and Claire and warmly welcome them to the St Mary of the Cross MacKillop School community.

**Building Update**

Have you noticed that the rocks have been removed from the site? We have kept a pile for landscaping features between the farmhouse and the school, if anyone has any suggestions or contacts to help us move these into place it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact me if you can help.

The building is now at lockup stage and it seems like full steam ahead inside the building now. This week we completed our furniture list and the landscape drawings – hopefully the weather will allow us to move ahead on the paving and concreting next week.

Next week we have our site meeting and will also be meeting with traffic management from Whittlesea Council to discuss the placement of three school crossings surrounding the school.

Our first major school gathering will be the **Opening and Blessing of the refurbished Farmhouse & Barn on 11th November from 5-7pm….** this will be a great festive occasion with lots to entertain the children: jumping castle; games; Race Around the Farm and lots more… a great chance to meet your fellow school community members…please keep this date free.

Thank you once again for your enthusiasm and communication as we work together to create a really special place of learning here at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Geraldine
principal@smcmeppingnth.catholic.edu.au

ACCEPTING ENROLMENTS FOR ALL YEAR LEVELS FOR CATHOLIC FAMILIES IN THE NORTH EPPING AREA.
We have just received that exciting news that we were successful in our submission for a Languages Start-Up Grant from the Victorian State Government. This grant of $10,000 will enable us to offer a Language Other Than English (LOTE) as part of our curriculum in 2013. We will be offering Japanese as our LOTE; this will allow us to share the resources and expertise of our neighbouring schools that also offer Japanese. Our local Catholic Secondary College St Monica’s also offers a Japanese Immersion program in Year 7.

It has been great to meet with many parents, kindergarten teachers and health professionals recently regarding the successful transition to school for our foundation students. My intention is to contact all schools and kindergartens to visit our new students before their commencement at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School. Thank you to those parents who have been making contact regarding the needs of your child, it is our main priority and shared responsibility. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have anything you would like to discuss regarding your child’s transition to school.

As you are probably aware the article hasn’t appeared in the Leader Newspaper yet? I have spoken to Suzanne the reporter and we are still hopeful we will appear sometime soon!

Our uniform supplier Academy Uniforms have started production of our uniforms. Our consultant from Academy is Mark. Mark is currently working on pricing and distribution, we will forward this information as soon as it is available.

Lunch orders
Lunch orders will be available on Monday & Friday during the school term from the Aurora Café and General Store – menus and prices will be provided at our Parent Information Sessions.
Outside of School Hours Care (OSHC)

The OSHC service will be provided by the Wallaby Child Care Centre, Redding Rise – directly opposite our Farmhouse Gate entrance. The director of the centre Raylene MacManus, has provided the following information for us:

In relation to the Out of School Hours Program - for before school care, the parents are able to drop their children off at the centre between 6.30 a.m. and 8.45 a.m. During this time program activities and breakfast (up to 8.15 a.m.) would be provided. Staff would then take the children over to the school at 8.45 a.m.

In the afternoon staff would collect the children from the school at the end of the school day and bring them over to the centre. Again program activities and afternoon tea would be provided. Parents are then able to collect their children from the centre before the centre closes at 6.30 p.m.

The fees for before school are $10 and after school $15. Parents would be able to apply for Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate as a fee reduction with Centrelink (depending on eligibility).

If parents are interested in the Before & After School program, they are able to contact me directly on 9717 8074 and I would forward them an enrolment form

Raylene MacManus
Ph.: 9717 8074
Email: raylene@wallabychildcare.com.au
www.wallabychildcare.com.au
Raylene is happy to answer any queries about the full day care and Kindergarten Programs on offer.

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**Introduction:** During this week some of our young Parishioners will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. They have been considering the importance of choosing to live the way of Jesus in their own lives, and growing in humility and honesty to acknowledge when they ‘miss the mark’. Then, they know, we can call on God’s forgiveness and start again. These lessons are named for all of us in today’s liturgy.

**First Reading:** Wisdom 7:7-11

**Responsorial Psalm:** Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 4:12-13

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Mark 10:17-30

Next week’s readings 29th Sunday in Ord Time Yr B: Isaiah 53:10-11; Hebrews 4:14-16; Mark 10:35-45

**LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

- Justin Borden, Fr Francis, Rita Bartolo, Jane Malia, Maggie Sagaria, Matthew Condello, Mazened Francis, Jane Shanbert, Nathan Wood, Bernadette DeVos, Domenic and Rosina Schiapino, Peter Reale, Grace LeTin, Jo Bonicci, Roshan Livera, Rebecca Englezakis, Simon Godinho, Jason Azzilla, Nicholas Lapersamy, Palmeira Tanse, Jim Roberts, Mary Ghattas

**RECENT DEATH:**

- Raymond D’Couth, Vito Sinopoli, Catherina Bilota

**RITE OF WELCOME FOR BAPTISM**

- Laura Teao
- Tyson Kucera

**BEING ‘ON MISSION’**

With the 150th anniversary of our St Peter's church coming up in a couple of years, it’s easy to acknowledge that the life of the Church continues to be built up over time. Our Parish was established in 1910 with our own Priest in residence here. Before that our area was part of the ‘Coburg Mission’: Priests were based at Coburg and provided the Sacraments and other services to people across a wide area from their Coburg base. Our St Peter’s church and subsequent Parish life were built by contributions made by Parishioners in Coburg and other areas as well as those around Epping. And then other Parishes were established within that wide area over the years – Lalor and Thomastown West, for example.

This is the way it happens – that established parts of the Church are always looking beyond themselves to respond to emerging situations and needs: the Church is always ‘on mission’ to ensure that the life of Christ amongst us is seen to be present through the presence of the Church – through its people, its structures, and its services.

This is an important element in our current renewal of our THANKSGIVING Programme – that system that gathers in the financial contributions of Parishioners to ensure that our Parish keeps going and keeps growing.

Our continuing life and growth are ensured by our people’s gathering for prayer and the Sacraments, by our people’s being involved in the many aspects of ministry that exist in our Parish, by our own acts of charity and hope spurred on by our faith, and through the more formal services we provide. As the population in our area grows, it will cost more to maintain our structures and keep providing these services: our Parish needs your financial contributions through the THANKSGIVING programme.

One major project we need to consider is that our St Peter’s church is not big enough any longer for the number of people who want to come to Mass. In response to this I have initiated a project which one of our Parishioners is leading out: this project will “develop viable options for a second ‘worship space’ [in addition to St Peter’s church] for the Parish of Epping so that a decision can be taken in this matter by the Parish Priest and his advisers in October 2013”.

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**Parish Office:** 13 Davison St, Epping
**Ph:** 9401 6300  **Fax:** 9401 6350

**Email:** epping@cam.org.au  
**Website:** www.jmpparish.cam.org.au
MORE ON OPENING & BLESSING THE FARMHOUSE AND THE BARN! [Redding Rise, Epping North; between Farmhouse Boulevard and Creed’s Farm Lane; across the road from the Living and Learning Centre and the Coffee Shop] Plans are under way for a very festive Parish gathering on Sunday 11th November, starting at 5pm, finishing at 7pm. Sister Josephine Dubiel [Victorian Provincial Leader of the Sisters of St Joseph (St Mary MacKillop’s order)] will officiate for us to open our new facilities formally. There will be music, food, dancing, games; and the ceremonies of Opening and Blessing. Everyone is invited – come along and have some fun!!!! For preparations: WORKING BEE at our St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Centre [The Farmhouse and The Barn] – next Saturday 20th October, 8-10am: wheelbarrows, whipper-snippers, rakes, lifting muscles. WE’RE STILL LOOKING FOR: ‘market umbrellas’ and ‘gazebos / portable tents’ FOR THE Opening and Blessing - do you have one to lend for the event? RING Monique at the Parish Office. CATERING: food is going to be great – some good responses already: in addition, can you “bring a plate” on the day? Please ring Monique at the Parish Office and let her know what you’ll be providing [Aussie, Indian, Italian, Maltese, …; hot, cold; main, dessert ! ! !] - See the next notice for more information.

FARMHOUSE AND BARN FESTIVAL – 11 NOVEMBER 2012 REACHING OUT to all our Ministry Teams! – A call to arms! Your ministry has encompassed many tasks such as praying, taking communion, Special Ministers, cleaning the Church – all so valuable and providing such a service to our Parish Community. You are now being called to assist with making the Opening and Blessing of our Farmhouse and Barn in Epping North a BIG SUCCESS! I need names of those who are available to assist with our “Meet & Greet Your Neighbour Stand”, Sausage Sizzle, handing out of our informative “Showbags”, and overseeing the “Shared Meal” tables. Please call Monique and leave your name and contact details and I’ll be posting out a roster closer to the Festival Day! Thanking you in GREAT ANTICIPATION and PRAYFUL HOPE for your generosity! Sandy Starbuck – Pastoral Co-ordinator

Reflecting with Scripture on ‘graced moments of our lives’ at Currajeen 811 Bridge Inn road Doreen Thursdays October 25, November 22 and December 13 7.30pm-9pm. Each evening will be complete in itself. There may be a large group gathering, or small group conversations with prayer. Your reflection guide will be Maureen Delaney RSC. Please call on 9717 3355 or email maureen.rsc@gmail.com All are welcome.

2012 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN - The 2012 Thanksgiving Renewal Campaign continues this week. We have produced a brochure with information relating to the work our Parish has been involved with since the last Campaign. Our Parish has continued to provide services to all our Parishioners and used funds generously contributed by you by making our places of worship and gathering spaces welcoming and comfortable for all. The brochure also contains aspirations for 2013 and onwards, and to achieve this, our Parish will need your continued financial support. The brochure and sign-up cards are in the pews today: current contributors please fill in a new card, even if your contribution is staying the same, new contributors please fill in a card. We can achieve many things together with the support from everyone!!

RCIA JOURNEY 2012/2013 The Enquiry period for adults into the RCIA Journey has commenced! Over the next several weeks our Enquirers will be attending Mass and using this time to reflect on their own faith’s journey before formally announcing at the RITE OF WELCOME AND ACCEPTANCE in November that YES!!! They wish to proceed with RCIA! I ask that you pray for them to feel welcomed into God’s community here at St Peter’s and that they be opened to Jesus’ personal call to them to know our Heavenly Father. Sandy Starbuck, Pastoral Coordinator

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Our Parish based Sacramental Program Children and our Parish School children, will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this week. Please keep them and their families in your prayers over these final days of preparation for the Sacrament.

St Vincent de Paul Meeting Tuesday 16 October 7.30pm
Children’s Liturgy of the Word 9am today Mass Sunday 14 October.
Charismatic Prayer Group meet every Friday at St Peter’s 7.30pm.
Mothers’ Prayer Wednesday after 9.15am morning Mass
Prayer Group Mass every 1st Friday of every month 7.30pm, celebrated by Fr Pius.

Cleaning Roster - Saturday 20 October
Anne Toshack, Lorraine Hooke, Elizabeth Rozario Cleaners please note a key for the Church will need to be collected from the Parish Office. Please call 9401 6300 Monday-Friday 9am-3pm to make arrangements.