Community Blessing...

May the God of blessing and hospitality Walk with us and beside us
As we journey together

Sharing stories
Laughing and lingering
Listening and learning....

“No duty is too little not to be done well.”
St Mary MacKillop 26.4.1873
Dear Parents, Caregivers, Students & Friends of SMCM school Community,

What a fabulous community celebration we shared last Sunday at the blessing and opening of the Farmhouse and Barn. It had a wonderful community feel about it and I feel sure that it will be the first of what will be many great events for our parish and school community here at Epping North. It was especially exciting for us to see so many school families in attendance, thank you to all who came – we hope you met new people and felt welcomed in this space.

On Tuesday evening we welcomed our Year 1-6 students and their parents. We spent some time discussing ideas of the kind of school we want to be, and what great suggestions we heard....

- I want to be respected
- I want to be part of an honest school
- I want to have good teaching
- I want lots of shiny things
- Fun, quiet, friendly, taking turns,
- Excursions
- Sheep (because it's a farm)
- A bird
- A school choir

We look forward to continuing this conversation with our foundation students when they return to the Farmhouse next Tuesday morning at 9.30 – 10.30am. Please note the change of location - we have decided to use the Farmhouse for our orientation sessions.

Today the Preps came to the Farmhouse for their first orientation to school session. What a great morning we had with our very enthusiastic, attentive and friendly Preps. Claire and Cathy were very impressed with the way the students mixed with each other enjoyed each other's company. We welcome the Preps again next Thursday to the Farmhouse. Parents of Prep are invited to an informal gathering at the Aurora Café to hear more about Student Well Being programs and the School Nursing Service and to ask any questions etc.

Opportunities for Participation
Thank you to the parents who have expressed interest in joining one of the following committees next year; there is opportunity for everyone to be involved in some way at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Below is an outline of what such groups will consist of, please think about joining these groups when the opportunity arises.

**School Education Board** – The School Education Board acts as an advisory group to the Principal and Parish Priest in the governance of the school. The School Education Board will foster the development of the school through: Representing the school in the community; Managing parent and community concerns; Developing and reviewing School Policies; Supporting the operational management of school finances; Providing guidance on the allocation of school budget for capital works to improve and maintain the school; Strategic planning to cater for the changing needs of the school community; Fostering school/community relationships; Collaborating with other school representative bodies.

**Parents & Friends Association** - The Parents and Friends Association has a vital role in the development of the school community through providing opportunities for socialising with other parents, families and staff. It's important that all parents have the opportunity to meet other families and readily feel included in the life of the school and parish. Another major aspect of this group is to initiate and co-ordinate fundraising for school amenities, resources & capital projects.

**Maintenance Committee** - The Maintenance Committee will be responsible for coordinating the maintenance and development of the school grounds.
“Good schools have keen community involvement, but this does not happen by chance. It is the outcome of good relations and hard work.” (Dr Linda Vining, Education Today)

School Fees
The school fees for 2013 have been ratified by Maurie and are attached to this newsletter today. Accounts will be sent to you early in Term 1. The school fee is a family fee. The Student levy is per student. Please note that the student levy of $360 per child covers all stationery requirements your child will need at school. Payment details are included and will also be outlined at the beginning of next year.

Sustainable School
Recently we submitted an application to ResourceSmart AuSSI Vic sustainable schools program for funding towards becoming a recognised sustainable school. ResourceSmart AuSSI aims to provide practical support to schools and their communities to learn to live and work more sustainably. The ResourceSmart AuSSI Vic framework was developed integrating state and federal programs and bringing together sustainability educators, facilitators and organisations. The framework aims to help Victorian schools minimise waste, save energy and water, promote biodiversity, and cut their greenhouse gas emissions. Its vision is for all Victorian schools to:

- become ResourceSmart
- make a whole of school commitment to become more sustainable
- understand how they can access the ResourceSmart AuSSI Vic framework.

This week we were informed that our application was successful.

As a new ResourceSmart AuSSI Vic school, we will receive full support to work through a sustainability module before the end of the 2013 school year.

Have a great weekend,
Geraldine
principal@smcmepingnth.catholic.edu.au

2013 term dates
Term One: Friday 1st February – Thursday 28th March  
(Easter 29th March – 1st April)
Term Two: Monday 15th April – Friday 28th June
Term Three: Monday 15th July – Friday 20th September
Term Four: Monday 7th October – Wednesday 18th December

Uniform
Our uniform supplier Academy Uniforms have started production of our uniforms. Our consultant from Academy is Mark. Mark has advised that uniforms will be available for purchase from 1st December. Price list and full uniform requirements were distributed at recent the Class Information evening and are attached to this newsletter.

Academy Uniforms
238 Wolselely Place
Thomastown
Ph.: 94608011
www.academyuniforms.com.au
Sales for SMCM from 1st December
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 15th</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Prep 2013 Orientation Session 1@ Farmhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 20th</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Yr. 1-6 Orientation - @ Farmhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 22nd</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Prep 2013 Orientation Session 2@ Farmhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 28th</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Scripture Workshop in Farmhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 29th</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Prep 2013 Orientation Session 3@ Farmhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 5th</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Scripture Workshop in Farmhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19th</td>
<td></td>
<td>Practical completion of SMCM school</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
<td>SMCM School Open for walk through.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1st</td>
<td>8.45am</td>
<td>First day of school for students at SMCM</td>
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YEAR 1 – 6 FAMILY NIGHT
TUESDAY 13th NOVEMBER

PREP ORIENTATION SESSION 1
THURSDAY 15th NOVEMBER
ST MARY OF THE CROSS
MACKILLOP CATHOLIC
PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL
FEES 2013

School Fees: 2013
First Term $600 per family
Second Term $600
Third Term $350
Fourth Term $350

If you have an established pattern of contributing to the Parish Thanksgiving Program at a rate of at least $400 per year ($8.00 per week) as of the last day of second term 2013 (Friday 5th July) you will not be billed for the next two terms.

Levies:
2013 Student Levy $360 per student
Extra charges - 2013 Camp if we decide to have one $250 per student
Sacramental levy $40 per student

Payment Terms:
At the commencement of Term 1 families will receive an account for School Fees and Levies for the 2013 school year.

Families will have the option to pay the total account in full at commencement of the school year or in 4 instalments at commencement of Terms 1, 2, 3 & 4. Payments may be made in cash, internet banking, by cheque, VISA, Mastercard or by instalments through our Direct Debit facility.

If any family is experiencing financial difficulties impacting ability to pay school fees, please discuss this with Maurie or Geraldine.

INTERNET BANKING: Account: ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP CATHOLIC PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL
BSB: TBA  A/C No: TBA  Ref: Your eldest child & family Name

Credit Card Payment Slip:
Card type: Visa □ Master □
Number: □□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□□□
Expiry date: □ □ / □ □  Amount: $
Name on card: ____________________________  Signature: ____________________
### Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop
**PRICE LIST - 01/09/12 - 31/08/13 (GST INCLUSIVE)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Pullover</strong></th>
<th>Embroidered</th>
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<th><strong>PRICE</strong></th>
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<td>14</td>
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| **Summer Dress** | 4-22 | $49.00 |
| **Winter Pinafore** | 6-22 | $56.00 |
| **Girls Blouse** | 6-22 | $25.00 |
| **Girls Tights** | 3-5 | $7.50 |
|                 | 6-9 |       |
|                 | 10-12 |       |
| **Boys Trousers** | 4-20 | $39.00 |
| **Boys Shorts** | 4-20 | $20.00 |
| **Boys Shirt** | 6-24 |       |
| Short Sleeve Embroidered | $28.00 |
| Long Sleeve         | $24.00 |
| **Socks** |          |
| Girls        | $7.50 |
| Boys         | $8.00 |
| **School Hat** |       | $18.00 |
| **Art Smock** |       | $18.00 |
| **School Bag** |       | $47.00 |

**CREDIT CARD ORDERS:** We accept MasterCard & Visa.  
CCV is the 3 digit number printed on the back of the signature panel.
Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop
PRICE LIST - 01/09/12 - 31/08/13 (GST INCLUSIVE)

<table>
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<th>SPORT</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
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<td>Zip Windcheater</td>
<td>6 - 22</td>
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<td>Track Pant</td>
<td>2 - 20</td>
<td>$32.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polo Top</td>
<td>4 - 22</td>
<td>$28.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport Shorts</td>
<td>4 - 20</td>
<td>$22.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport Socks</td>
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<td>$8.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

TRADING HOURS AT THOMASTOWN SHOP:

MON - FRI  9:00am - 5:00pm
SAT       9:00am - 12noon

PHONE/ FAX ORDERS WELCOME

WE ACCEPT EFTPOS, CASH, MASTERCARD, & VISA.

Cheques & American Express are not accepted.
Introduction: Another year starts to come to its end: schools are doing end-of-year things, exams will soon be over, holiday plans are being made, and Christmas is so closely upon us. What about the end of existence as we know it here on this earth with all its familiar ways? That can be an unsettling and confusing consideration: in our Eucharist we continue to trust in God’s life and the promise of life to come!

First Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

Responsorial Psalm: *Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.*

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14. 18

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Be watchful and pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. *Alleluia!*

**Gospel:** Mark 13:24-32

Next week's readings Christ the King: YrB: Daniel 7:13-14; Revelation 1:5-8; John 18:33-37

**Let us pray for the sick:** Justin Borden, Fr Francis, Rita Bartolo, Jane Malija, Maggie Sagaria, Matthew Condello, Mazened Francis, Jane Shambert, Nathan Wood, Bernadette DeVos, Domenic and Rosina Schiapino, Peter Reale, Grace LeTin, Jo Bonicci, Roshan Livera, Rebecca Englezakis, Simon Godinho, Jason Azzilla, Nicholas Lupersamy, Palmera Tarse, Mary Ghattas, Aidan Roshin & family

**Recent Death:**

**Anniversaries:** Bruno Primerano, Josephine Alfred, Bill Kerr, Mary McCormack, Elisa Cardeno, Lawrence Cassar

**Rite of Welcome for Baptism**

**Hmmmmm … what happens next?**

At this time each year the Readings wonder about ‘the end’ and what it might be like. Here is writer Billy Farrelly’s version:

I have a theory: I think that Judas Iscariot may well be in heaven. I am not prepared to stick my neck out and speculate about Hitler or Pol Pot or any one of a dozen others. But I would take a punt on Judas.

Would you be embarrassed if you met Judas? I wouldn’t. I’d be relieved. It would affirm what you and I already know: God’s mercy is infinite-

and so it can reach you and me.

It’s so easy to judge, isn’t it? I try not to judge, and not to act or form opinions loosely, but I know there are times I slip – and sometimes very seriously. If I become aware quickly I can make amends and forgive myself; but I wonder: how often do I err and remain ignorant? Then I have to rely on the infinite mercy of God.

But let’s get back to Judas. On second thoughts, let me digress a moment longer. Did you ever believe in Limbo? I guess I was quite young when I first learnt about Limbo but it simply made no sense to me. Why would God create a place where He Himself was essentially excluded? Why would God punish a child or an adult – His own creation – who never had the opportunity to learn about Him here on Earth? So I never believed in Limbo. My teachers were wrong. Decades later the Church made it clear – trust in the infinite love of God.*

The point I am making is that we often get things wrong. Judas got it wrong. He let greed overwhelm him, the way I have allowed selfishness and self-pity to overwhelm me sometimes. Jesus taught often about God’s forgiveness. Will that change at ‘the end’? I don’t think so!

[*In 1992 the official Catechism of the Catholic Church omitted mention of Limbo; last year Pope Benedict definitely excluded it: it was never formally part of Church doctrine. And on Purgatory: “the state of those who die in God’s friendship, assured of their eternal salvation, who still have need of purification to enter into the happiness of heaven” – and God will do that for us!*]
**Community News!!!!**

**Children’s Mass 24 December 2012** The Children’s Liturgy Group will once again be organising the Children’s Mass on Christmas Eve. It will be a combined Mass for Children from both the 9.00am and 10.30am groups. The Leaders will be asking for volunteers to play the role as Mary and Joseph, the three Kings, Angels and Shepherds on Sunday, 18 November 2012. Children’s Liturgy will be held every Sunday from the 18 November. We look forward to your participation.

**Reflecting with Scripture on ‘graced moments of our lives’**

at Currajeen 811 Bridge Inn road Doreen Thursdays 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.

**RCIA – Rite of Welcome and Acceptance** We now are moving into the next stage of the RCIA process for our Enquirers. As a community, over the past weeks we have been remembering them in our prayers as they have been learning more about the Catholic faith. They are now ready to formally accept Jesus’ personal call to them to be initiated fully in the Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation which will take place at the Easter Vigil in 2013. I am excited in announcing that on Saturday, 24th November at the 7.15pm mass, and on Sunday, 25th November, at the 10.30am, our Enquirers will be accepted as Catechumens and welcomed as a Candidate in the Catholic Church and will move into the final stage of the RCIA process. I hope many of our Parish community will join them and offer them our prayers and support as they continue on their faith journey.

**Prayer Group Mass** every 1st Friday of every month 7.30pm, celebrated by Fr Pius.

**Children’s Liturgy of the Word** 10.30am Sunday 18 November.

**Memorial Mass Tuesday 27 November 7.30pm, please bring a photo of loved ones, family and friends.**

The Annual General Meeting of the Epping Branch of the Catholic Women's League will be held Friday 23rd November, at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Centre, Epping North. Our plan is that we will attend the 9.15am Communion Service at St Peter's and then proceed to the Centre for our meeting, followed by lunch at Epping North. All Catholic women are invited to join us.

A gentle reminder to all members that membership fees of $20 a calendar year are due for on-forwarding to the Archdiocesan Treasurer who is required to have all membership lists to the General Treasurer by the end of November. Thank you for your support.

**Mothers’ Prayer** Wednesday after 9.15am morning Mass

**2013 Columban Art Calendar** now available for purchase in the foyer of church $8.

**2013 Josephite Calendar** now available for purchase in the foyer of church $6.

**Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre Open Day**

Saturday 24 November 10am- 4pm, 362 Albert Street East Melbourne. For further information call 9926 9300 or visit www.mmhc.org.au

**Shared Leadership Team** meeting Tuesday 20 November 7.30pm

**Charismatic Prayer Group** meet every Friday at St Peter’s 7.30pm.

**Cleaning Roster - Saturday 24 November**

Christine Hall, Mary Cuti, Jim Polidano

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.

**Year of Grace event: Scripture Workshop**

As part of the ongoing series of the ‘Year of Grace’ activities in our parish, we are conducting a two part “Scripture Workshop” event at the St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Centre” [Farmhouse] Epping North.

Part 1 “What is this book about” 7:30pm Wednesday, 28 November 2012 and Part 2 “Scripture in our Prayer” 7:30pm Wednesday, 5 December 2012.

Please ring the Parish Office on 9401 6300 to register.

We encourage all parishioners to attend.

**The Opening and Blessing of The Farmhouse and The Barn**

last Sunday was a wonderful event: **!!THANK YOU!!**

So many Parishioners helped in so many ways to make it a great success!! Now that we have gathered for that event, do you have suggestions for other events we can have there!! Let us know in conversation or via the Parish Office.