

ST MARY of the CROSS MACKILLOP CATHOLIC PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL EPPING NORTH

NEWSLETTER

47 Farmhouse Boulevard
Epping North 3076
Principal: Geraldine Dalton
principal@smcmeppingnth.catholic.edu.au

20TH September 2012



*Welcome to
St Mary of the
Cross MacKillop
Catholic Parish
Primary School.*

*A place of
optimism,
excitement and
challenge.*

**Inspired by the life of St Mary of the Cross
MacKillop.**

Where every student, teacher, parent and community member is accepted and invited to make a contribution to a vibrant school community that seeks to fire the imagination, develop good citizenship and promote a life long thirst for God and learning.



Image from <http://www.broomediocese.org>

'There where you are you will find God'
Mary MacKillop 1871

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Students & Friends of SMCM school Community,

Message from Maurie



It's exactly this week that Spring really begins, as the winter sun starts to return to give us - eventually - summer light and warmth: and, as we've started to see, the world around us begins again to grow and show promise of new life.

What a great week, then, for the first newsletter from our new School: St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School - for right there on the Farmhouse Boulevard / Redding Rise corner new life is clearly taking shape. And behind that building that passersby can see, your family is giving life to this new life!

I have enjoyed meeting many of our School families as Geraldine and I chatted with you at the enrolment conversations in The Farmhouse: it's

so exciting, isn't it!!

That has also been a wonderful opportunity to draw your attention to the presence of the Catholic Church in your neighbourhood - already with The Farmhouse and The Barn, and our Parish staff that use those facilities as a base for their ministry. 'Watch this space!' as they say, as we develop our Parish presence more and more.

We have begun planning for the formal Opening and Blessing of The Farmhouse and The Barn - Sunday afternoon 11th November [around 5pm] with food, drink, music, games, displays ... as well as one or two speeches. And we have begun a research project in our Parish to consider having the celebration of Mass regularly in the Epping North area. Indeed 'Watch this space!'

People are rarely given the opportunity to do something brand new: we are in that fortunate position at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Centre and School - they haven't existed before, so we have the chance to make it as good, fruitful, useful and productive as we want to! And that will best happen when we do what we do together.

We have a strong connection with St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. The first Mass in this area was celebrated in 1848 in the MacKillop home with a Priest who had travelled from St Francis Church in Melbourne. Mary was 6 years old at the time. Her father was in and out of work constantly, and at that time the family was on a farm along Epping Road. Mary's adult approach is an inspiration for us in this new of Parish and School life: try something new ... and do all you can to make it work!!

It really is a time full of potential, isn't it?!?!

Maurie Cooney
Parish Priest

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

Leadership and Management encompasses the following areas: Organisation, Structures, Resource Management, Staff Wellbeing and Professional Learning.

Hello everyone and welcome to the first official newsletter of our new school St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School! This newsletter will be delivered to you every Thursday during the school term via our email distribution list.

I'm very proud and honoured to be the Principal of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School Epping North and am very excited about many aspects of this new role.

I'm especially excited about having *Mary MacKillop as our patron – a Real Woman with a Message for Today*. If we're looking for a model of how to live a good life, using Mary MacKillop as our example highlights some very human qualities of a person – an Australian - one of us – with connections to the Epping district - who was made a saint!

Mary lived a life full of challenges; she made positive life choices in spite of the hurdles that came her way. By learning about Mary MacKillop the person - we can be inspired by her courage, care for others, commitment to action and embracing God in the ordinariness of her life. Recognising and living these gifts is a wonderful foundation on which to create a new school community.

I'm excited about contributing to the building of a new strongly focussed learning centred school community.

I'm excited about providing an attitude of openness and welcome so that each person is able to contribute to this community.

I'm excited about the innovative and stimulating learning spaces that we are providing at Epping North, it is a dream to be able to design and plan a school for best educational practice to be implemented. And not forgetting the farmhouse and the barn that are already here – we have the best of the old and the new!

But what I'm most excited about is the reason we are doing all this...and that is the students of St Mary of The Cross MacKillop School.

I want these children to be lifelong learners by providing them with the mentoring and focussed teaching that leads to reflection and planning.



I want their time at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop School to be filled with many positive learning experiences, much joy and laughter and genuine opportunities to experience the love of Jesus in their lives.

I want them to value learning and to take risks in a supportive and empowering environment.

I want them to be engaged and motivated, to explore and question and create new knowledge... To be people who take action that matters in a world that will continue to change through their lifetime.

I'm excited about you joining me on this journey let's enjoy it together.

Geraldine

principal@smcmeppingnth.catholic.edu.au

Building Progress

Hopefully you have been watching the building of our school and have been noticing as I have how quickly it is progressing.



Walking through the building I now have a real sense of what it will look like inside and it is indeed a wonderful facility.



We have fortnightly site meetings and all is on track for our building to be completed by 19th December - we will then open the building for you all to come up and take a walk through – please see the diary dates that will be included in this newsletter and updated weekly.

We are now discussing the landscaping of our school site.

Planting will be consistent with the Aurora development recommendations with mainly indigenous plants being selected. We are blessed to have the instant shade provided by the beautiful Peppercorn trees that already exist on site. Plans for an adventure playground, basketball court, sandpit and kitchen garden are included in the landscaping.

Staffing for 2013

We have begun advertising and employing staff for 2013. We have been impressed with the number and range of suitable applicants for teaching positions at our new school. Staff will be introduced to you in our next newsletter.

Logo

Thornbury artist Dominic Sowersby has designed our school logo. The silhouette depicts a young Mary MacKillop as a sister of St Joseph and the Southern Cross star constellation that can be seen in the night sky anywhere in Australia and, is an identifiable symbol of our region of the world.

The logo is a symbolic representation of Mary MacKillop's canonised name St Mary of the Cross and also that fact that she is our first Australian saint.



Uniform



Amy, Mason and Vince modeled our new uniforms yesterday and they looked very smart. A full list of uniform requirements will be provided early next term.

Our school colours are aqua, charcoal, black and white.

Our uniform supplier is Academy Uniforms in Thomastown.
More details to come!

Letter drop

Have you received a brochure about our school in your letterbox? 1500 brochures have been delivered so far and we 1000 more to be delivered. Thank you to Mara (Sienna Yr. 1 2013) Josie (Yannick Year 1 2013) Andrea (Ben Yr. 4 & Catherina Yr. 3 2013) and Kathy (Conor Prep 2015!) for delivering these for us. If you can help deliver some brochures please email Geraldine principal@smcmeppingnth.catholic.edu.au.

DIARY DATES 2012

DIARY DATES 2012		
October		
Mon 8 th		Start of Term 4
Thurs 11 th	7.30pm	Social Justice Seminar in Farmhouse
November		
Thurs 8 th	7.30pm	Prep 2013 Parent information evening
Sun 11 th	5.00pm	Official Blessing of Farmhouse for all school families
Tues 13 th	7.30pm	Year 1-6 Parent & Student Information Evening
Thurs 15 th	9.30am	Prep 2013 Orientation Session 1
Thurs 22 nd	9.30am	Prep 2013 Orientation Session 2
Wed 28 th	7.30pm	Scripture Workshop in Farmhouse
Thurs 29 th	9.30am	Prep 2013 Orientation Session 3
December		
Wed 5 th	7.30pm	Scripture Workshop in Farmhouse
Wed 19 th		Practical completion of SMCM school
		BBQ and walk through SMCM school
2013		
February		
Fri 1 st	8.45am	First day of school for students at SMCM

SCHOOL COMMUNITY

School Community encompasses the following areas: Parents, Parish, School Education Board, Wider Community.

Enrolment Meetings

A highlight of recent weeks has been meeting the new families of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop School in the Farmhouse – beginning a relationship that is vital in the 3-way partnership between family, student and school.



Do you have any feedback or suggestions about SMCM School? Please contact Geraldine: principal@smcmeppingnth.catholic.edu.au

Leader Newspaper visit

Yesterday we had a visit from the Leader Newspaper to find out some information about our school. At short notice we were able to round up some models for the photo. Thank you to Vince, Mason and Amy all of Prep 2013 and to their mums Loreta, Sandra and Melissa for bringing them along. Look out for the next edition of leader Newspaper.





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

email: epping@cam.org.au
web site: www.jmpparish.cam.org.au

Parish Priest: Maurie Cooney

Northern Hospital:

Administration
[Mon, Tue 9-3pm]
Michelle Hood

[Wed, Thurs, Friday 9-3pm]
Monique Heckmann

Business Manager/Accountant
[Mon, Tues, Wed 9-4pm]
Gil Bell

Weekend Masses:
Saturday 7.15pm,
Sunday 9am & 10.30am

Weekday Masses:
9.15am Tuesday - Friday

Reconciliation:
Saturday 10.30 am – 11 am and 6.30 pm

Baptisms: By appointment, three months notice required. Parents are required to prepare for their child's baptism by attending a Baptism Preparation evening.
Contact: **Christine Hall** 9401 6311

Pastoral Coordinator:
Sandy Starbuck 9401 6306

Sacramental Preparation 9401 6300

Marriages by appointment.
Please contact the parish office.

Children's Liturgy of the Word:
9am 2nd Sunday
10.30 am 3rd and 4th Sundays

Schools
St Peter's, Epping Ph: 9401 1157
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop
Epping North Ph: 9401 6300
St Monica's Epping Ph: 9409 8800

St Vincent de Paul 1300305330

The Catholic Parish of Epping, Epping North

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B
Sunday, 23 September 2012

Introduction: Jesus tries to teach us a lesson in today's Gospel: that harmony amongst people matters, and to review and realign our thinking if necessary. 'Who is great and who is not?' 'Does rank matter?' 'Least is best.' 'Last is first.' The Lord sends us, "Go to my people. Take care of the small ones. Serve the needy, give to the poor. To help you do this, 'Receive the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.' " For those blessings we gather in Eucharist again today.

First Reading: Wisdom 2:12. 17-20

Responsorial Psalm: *The Lord upholds my life.*

Second Reading: James 3:16 - 4:3

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!*

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Next weeks readings 26th Sunday in Ord Time Yr B: Numbers 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

Let us pray for the sick: Justin Borden, Fr Francis, Rita Bartolo, Jane Maliya, 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 Lupersamy, Palmera Tanse, Jim Roberts, Mary Ghattas

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: Gemma Fabiani, Nazarena and Frank Seychell

Rite of Welcome for Baptism

Taydem Cross
Taenon Musolino
Rani Fleischmann
Cade Fleishschmann



As the Readings over these weeks continue to speak about the necessity of our putting our faith into action [for "faith without works is quite dead" in last week's Second Reading], perhaps one of the prayers of St Francis is helpful in guiding us:



**The prayer of St. Francis before
this crucifix:**

*All-highest, Glorious God,
cast your light into the darkness of
my heart.
Give me right faith,
firm hope,
perfect charity,
and profound humility,
with wisdom and perception,
O Lord, so that I may do
what is truly your holy will.*

Amen

Community News!!!!

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 September. This year's Social Justice Statement is titled: 'The Gift of Family in Difficult Times: The social and economic challenges facing families today'. The Statement celebrates the vital role of family in our society and examines the pressures that threaten its stability. Work demands, living costs and forces of consumerism are some aspects of our society that impact on families. As Christians we are called to be supportive of all families, especially those in crisis and greatest need.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or call (02) 8306 3499.

A seminar on Social Justice Sunday statement "Gift of Family in Difficult times" – Social and economic challenges facing families today" will be held in our Parish 7:30pm Thursday, 11 October 2012 at the Farmhouse "St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop Centre" Epping North. A flyer containing information about this event will be available by the church doors. Please ring the Parish Office at 9401 6300 to register.

We would like to thank the Parish Community for their kind donation of \$352.60 for the **Archdiocese's CatholicCare** annual appeal

2012 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN - The 2012 Thanksgiving Renewal Campaign will commence in early October and 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 donated 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 will be included with new sets of envelopes this week.

We can achieve many things together with just a little support from everyone.

The Catholic Parish of Epping, Epping North has a new email address epping@cam.org.au

Children's Liturgy of the Word 10.30am Mass today

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



St Mary of the Cross
MacKillop School Epping
North

*May the spirit of unity and
live reign amongst us. Mary
MacKillop 12.9.1884*

Approximately 1900 flyers advertising our school have been distributed to households and businesses in Epping North activating much interest regarding enrolment for 2013. Thank you to parents Mara, Andrea, Josie and Kathy for delivering the flyers.

Our first school community newsletter will be distributed this week. If you would like to be included on our distribution list, please email principal@smcmeppingnth.catholic.edu.au

We are now discussing the landscaping of our school site. Planting will be consistent with the Aurora development recommendations with mainly Indigenous plants being selected. We are blessed to have the instant shade provided by the beautiful Peppercorn trees that already exist on site. Plans for an adventure playground, basketball court, sandpit and kitchen garden are included in the landscaping.

We had a visit from Leader newspapers on Wednesday and 3 of our newest students Amy, Mason and Vincenzo modeled our new school uniforms. Look out for the pic in the Leader soon.

Can you help spread the word about our great new school? Please contact Geraldine at the Parish Office 9401 6300 or on the new email address principal@smcmeppingnth.catholic.edu.au if you can assist us by delivering flyers or if you have any inquiries about St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish School.

Enrolments are being accepted in all year levels and are open to all children of Catholic families in the Epping North area.

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 29 September

Rhonda Luscombe, Sue Ind, Carmel Mann

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.