

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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15 August 2008

Absentee Message Bank - 9844 0280

Prayer Lead me this day, Lord, to live fully in the present moment and enjoy all that is good around me. May all that is life-giving remind me of your life and love that surround me now. Amen

Reflection

This week's reflection features various thoughts of Mother Teresa of Calcutta

I never look at the masses as my responsibility. I look at the individual. I can love only one person at a time. I can feed only one person at a time. Just one, one, one. You get closer to Christ by coming closer to each other. As Jesus said, "Whatever you do to the least of my brethren, you do to me".

So you begin... I begin. I pick up one person - maybe if I didn't pick up that one person I wouldn't have picked up 42,000.

The whole work is only a drop in the ocean. But if I didn't put the drop in, the ocean would be one drop less.

Same thing for you, same thing in your family, same thing in the church where you go just begin ... one, one, one.

(Mother Teresa, Words to Love By p. 79. Ave Maria Press. Notre Dame. IN 46556)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians, Families, Students and Members of our College Community,

Albany Districts Primary School Sports Association

We have been in ongoing discussions regarding the involvement of schools in the Albany Districts Primary School Sports Association. The Association is responsible for running the Inter-School athletics, swimming and cross country carnivals.

Last Wednesday I received a letter from the DET District Director of Schools, which says in part:

"The Principal's of the public primary schools remain committed to running a carnival with their public school colleagues in 2009... the intention is for the eight public schools to withdraw from the ADPSSA."

I am extremely disappointed that this course of action has been taken and regard it as divisive in the community, and unjust to all students in our region who compete in the (Junior School) ADPSSA carnivals.

Important Dates & Coming Events							
Sat/Sun 16/17	Mon 18 August	Tues 19	Wed 20	Thur 21	Fri 22		
	Children's Book —— Week Inter-House Athletics Carnival (Yr 7-12)	Uniform Shop Open 8.00-9.00am & 2.30-4.30pm	Confirmation Reflection Day (Yr 7) Sports Ready Football Cup (Yr 10)	Senior School Parent Night (Yr 11 2009) 7pm Ave Maria Chapel	► Children's Book Week Parade Gym 9am		
Sat/Sun 23/24	Mon 25	Tues 26	Wed 27	Thur 28	Fri 29		
	Yr 8 Camp	Uniform Shop Open 8.00-9.00am & 2.30-4.30pm		Confirmation Visit	Confirmation Visit		

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I will continue to oppose this decision and, with the Principal's of Bethel and Great Southern Grammar, will look to the best solution for our students.

Exchange Students

At an assembly this week we welcomed the Japanese exchange students. This programme is a great opportunity for our (and the Japanese) students to learn first hand about different cultures.

Thanks

Special thanks this week to Gary Berg and SRS. Gary recently spent his own time re-doing the line markings in the car park.

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Senior School Information Night

There will be an Information Night for parent/guardians of students going into Year Eleven in 2009. This information night is crucial for students given the changes to senior school courses and to the West Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) requirements. All students should be in attendance with their parent/guardian at this evening on Thursday 21 August, 7.00 pm in the Ave Maria Chapel.

An Information Night will also be held for Parents/ Guardians/Students for current Year Nine students who are going into Year Ten in 2009. This session will be held on Thursday 11 September at 7.00pm in the Ave Maria Chapel. More details will be available closer to the date.

Uniform Issues

While most of our students are to be commended for their attention to detail in wearing the correct uniform, there are some students that need to improve in this area. Of late, one concern is some Middle and Senior School girls wearing the incorrect shoes. Ballet pumps are for dancing, black lace up school shoes are for school. I would ask parents to support us in this matter. If you are unsure of requirements, please read the College Diary where student uniform is outlined comprehensively.

COLLEGE NOTICES

Inter-House Athletics Carnival

The Inter-House Athletics Carnival for all Years Seven-Twelve students is scheduled for next Monday 18 August. The carnival is a full day carnival allowing students to showcase their talents in athletics and team novelty games in the name of fun, fitness and House points! The Years Seven-Nine students have been preparing for the event for a number of weeks in their Physical Education lessons while the Years Ten-Twelve students have sampled athletics this week with the pre-carnival events.

Students are required to attend in their full College Sports uniform and are asked to bring books for normal classes in case the event is postponed due to inclement weather.

Medallions for champions and runners-up in each year group and the overall House shields will be presented at the completion of the carnival.

Mr Paul O'Donnell - Physical Education Teacher

Learning for Life Scholarship Programme What does *Learning for Life* do for your family?

Learning for Life scholarships and other support programmes increase the chance of success at school, TAFE and university. This means better job prospects, the security of a regular income and more ways to get involved and enjoy your community. The programme provides

- Financial scholarships to help with the costs of education
- Access to a local *Learning for Life* Representative who can provide advice and information about a wide range of community and educational programs
- Ongoing access to programs offered by Anglicare WA

Members of your family may also be invited to *Learning for Life* events. Some events provide information; others

celebrate the achievements of individual students and their families.

Mr Bradley Hall - Principal

COLLEGE NOTICES

What are the scholarship amounts and when are they paid?

Scholarship amounts vary according to year level. Payments are made twice a year, usually into your bank account.

	Primary	Junior	Senior	
	School	Secondary	Secondary	Tertiary
Semester 1	\$150	\$250	\$350	Ask for
Semester 2	\$100	\$100	\$154	TAFE &
TOTAL	\$250	\$350	\$504	University
				information

For further enquiries, contact Mrs Ann Morris, College Business Manager or contact: Debbie Morhall, Supervisor/Learning for Life Rep. Bridges Programme, Anglicare WA Unit 1, 87 Aberdeen Street, Albany. Ph: 9845 6666 e-mail: debbie!@anglicarewa.org.au

Children's Book Week



Commencing Monday 18 August - 22 August

We will hold the Book Week Parade as the grand finale on Friday 22 August in the College Gymnasium at 9.00am

Students from all sections of the College are encouraged to join in the fun and dress up as a book character for the day. There will be a book prize for a student in each year for the best represented characters.

Parents most welcome to attend.!

Other events during the week include some class visits to the City of Albany Public Library for storytelling, author sessions and fun activities, competitions and displays in the College Library.



Communication The Theme: Fuel Your Mind

COLLEGE NOTICES

Meghann's First Avon Descent

On 2 & 3 August our College's Psychologist, Ms Meghann Old competed in the Avon Descent (between Northam and Bayswater).

Meghann came fourth in the grueling two day event, competing in the Female Single Long Plastic Section of the competition. A very swollen Avon and Swan River had not seen water levels so high since 1996. Meghann's time was 10 hrs and 38 mins over the two days which broke the old female record for the 133km race.

Congratulations Meghann and we're glad to see you back, still in one piece!





Above: Meghann negotiating Bells Rapid

Left: Crossing through the finish line

Canteen News Next Wednesday's Special



Sausage Sizzle and Bottled Water \$3.50

Children's Book Week

Next week Junior School students in Years Two-Six will be visiting the Albany City Library as a part of Book Week celebrations.

Permission forms regarding these visits were sent home earlier in the week. Years Two and Three students will be travelling to the library on Monday 18 August, Year Six students on Wednesday 20 August and Years Four and Five students on Thursday 21 August. As well as viewing the library Book Week displays students will have an opportunity to be entertained and informed by visiting storytellers and authors Jon Doust and Diane Wolfer.

Many thanks to our College librarian Linda James who organised the library visits for the Junior School students.

OPEN TO

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Year Ten Students - Course Selection for Next Year Students in Years Ten and Eleven have been given information to begin the process of making subject/ course selections for 2009.

All Year Ten students and parents/guardians are reminded that there will be a very important information evening next Thursday 21 August starting at 7.00pm in the Ave Maria Chapel. The selection process for courses in Years Eleven and Twelve will be explained within the context of pathways that will be available to students once they finish school. It is essential that ALL Year Ten students and at least one parent/guardian attend this evening, as it is the first step of the course selection process that will continue during the rest of the Term.

To assist students in this process, parents/guardians are very welcome to arrange a meeting with Ms Jude Stringer to discuss their child's options. Please contact the College to make arrangements.

I look forward to seeing you on the evening. Mr John Bova – Head of Senior School

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

AFL Sports Ready Cup Football

The team for the AFL Sports Ready Cup Football competition for Year Ten students has prepared for next Wednesday's full day carnival with training over the last two weeks.

Their first training session was held last Wednesday as a scratch match versus the Clontarf Football Academy held at North Albany Senior High School. With many players not having played together before, the game was seen as an ideal opportunity to experiment with new players and playing positions.

The game was played out in fantastic fashion with both teams running the ball well out from defence and using the full expanses of the North Albany oval. The score was close at half time with St Joseph's trailing by one goal but this was extended by Clontarf to a three goal deficit by three quarters time. Despite Tom Palfrey being resolute in defence in the final quarter the score was Clontarf 10.8.68 defeating St Joseph's 4.4.28.

The best players for St Joseph's were Gerry Rielly, Michael Betti and Jake Pollard with impressive performances by newcomers Rhys Masters, Fraser Grant and William Boston. The team is looking forward to the challenge of next Wednesday's full day carnival versus Mt Barker Senior High School, Great Southern Grammar and North Albany Senior High School.

Mr Paul O'Donnell - Physical Education Teacher

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

Footy Tipping

Congratulations to the Round 19 winners:Gary Adams\$50Erica CooperCivic Video Voucher and the
No Winners Jackpot - \$10

This week was a close round with three people scoring 8 games with only the point margin separating them. Well done.

Mrs Chris Annison - Footy Tipping Co-ordinator

SPIRIT OF WORLD YOUTH DAY LIVES ON

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SPIRIT OF WORLD YOUTH DAY LIVES ON

Following the return of the WYD pilgrims here in Albany, we are currently reflecting on this amazing experience, which we believe is life changing. The atmosphere was literally amazing. It is very hard to describe, but to be part of the largest event (and it being a Catholic event) in Australia was very special. Over the past weeks we have been recovering from the after shock of this grandiose experience and now we are out and about, sharing our faith encounter with our local parishioners and of course within our College community, via assemblies and various other special presentations.

The organisation and planning that was required prior to our pilgrimage was stressful and testing, due to registration errors, delays in confirmations and a cancelled flight and long waits at the airport, long bus trips and lengthy queues, and the list goes on. It was in every sense of the word a pilgrimage, there was very little sleep or access to showers. We shared three showers amongst three hundred! We were unprepared for the WYD spirit of camaraderie, to be amongst thousands who were proud to be branded Catholic was life changing.

The extension of welcome and hospitality that was given by the host school Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School; the host city Sydney; WYD volunteers and the police was so positive. Even the non Catholic community was welcoming towards the pilgrims, as was the general public who had to alter their everyday transport pattern to accommodate our requirements.

In many of the events we were packed together like sardines, but the attitude displayed by the crowd in my experience was very polite and considerate. To be united together by your faith is a very powerful experience. It has formed bonds in our Bunbury Diocese that will last a life time. Every event was attended by pilgrims from all over the globe, different cultures and language barriers seemed to be no barrier at all in Sydney with everyone celebrating their faith in unity and joy.

One of the biggest highlights of WYD without question was the arrival of Pope Benedict XVI or "Benedetto" as we chanted and sang with countless others over there. The emotion in the crowd when Benedict arrived after his boat-a-cade at the welcoming mass at Barangaroo was electric. Our pilgrims were among the many of those who ran madly across to the barriers to try and get close to the pope-mobile as it drove by to catch a close up glimpse!

We were lucky enough to attend all the main events, and also got to venerate the WYD Cross and Icon again, where we were re-acquainted with Fr Chris Ryan. Our persistence to visit the St Mary's Cathedral as part of the pilgrimage paid off at our third attempt. We prayed for 'Our Lady of the Southern Cross' and saw the Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati's pine coffin, which was quite emotional for most of our pilgrims.

Re-enactments of the Stations of the Cross were a moving experience. The organisers had selected significant locations within the Sydney city which provided the right backdrop and atmosphere for those events that changed our lives for ever. Recalling the expressions of pilgrims gathered that afternoon, it was obvious we all felt an aura of devastation and joy sweeping through our bodies.

Taking part in the 10km pilgrimage walk from North Sydney was brilliant. Although carrying our heavy backpacks and sleeping bags made our backs ache after a few kms. There were many trials but most of our attitude was that a pilgrimage is not meant to be easy.

The evening vigil and sleep-out at Randwick Race Course was certainly an event of significance, where the crowd so spontaneously cheered the Pope as he arrived, that it took several minutes for him to quieten them enough so he could speak. Being united with the crowd, with our common love and respect for the Pope, gave us a great sense of unity.

Our College pilgrims also got the opportunity to visit some of Sydney's tourist attractions as part of the pilgrimage. We toured through the famous Queen Victoria Buildings, Darling Harbour, The Sydney Opera House, Taronga Zoo, Aquarium, Maritime Museum, hot shopping spots such as Westfield Shopping Centres, China Town Markets, trips on the Sydney Ferry and a cruise on the twilight harbour cruise, enjoying the magnificent views of Darling Harbour and surrounding suburbs of Sydney. Given the beautiful weather conditions we were blessed with we visited the Bondi and Cronulla beaches.

It was a great faith enriching experience; it's hard to pick out an overall WYD highlight. What impressed me the most about WYD was that there were so many young people, who were enthusiastic about their faith; this made me feel that I wasn't alone in my own little corner of the world.

Our life style in this time has many blessings and drawbacks which tend to overpower the importance of spiritual life. During our youth and young adult life our faith and personal spirituality often waxes and wanes, however, we feel this experience of WYD somehow gives us clarification, and a greater sense of community with our faith.

The theme of WYD "Receive the Power of the Holy Spirit" was very powerful. We believe that you could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in the atmosphere of joy, happiness and passion for our Catholic faith. The experience of WYD lives on, as each week goes by a new perception or inspiration is either formed or drawn on. The power of the Holy Spirit through WYD is still with us. This light within us it eternal and it will guide us and inspire us to guide others towards God. It has shown Australia an experience that has singled the Catholic Church out in the most positive way ever seen in this Great South Land.

Going to WYD was a great affirmation of our faith and also gave us a greater sense of belonging to a truly universal church. Where culture and language were no barrier and our shared faith something that made us really aware for the first time that we are truly children of God. Last but not least we felt that we belonged to an exclusive club, world wide, just by being Catholic, which of course means universal.

We are grateful for the prayers, donations of time, financial contributions extended to us by the St Joseph's College and parish community as well as the business community for their support during our fundraising efforts.

Thank you everyone, we will look for your support in three years time, for the Madrid, Spain WYD in 2011.

WYD Pilgrims and Mrs Rumeena Wood