From The Principal

Lent, generosity and Liberation Theology

The Church season of Lent commenced on Ash Wednesday, marking the period of preparation for the death and resurrection of Christ at Easter. During Lent we are called to selflessness through prayer, penance, reflection and “almsgiving”. The term “almsgiving” is a very old fashioned one that simply refers to selflessness through generosity to others. While not underplaying the significance of prayer, penance and reflection, almsgiving is extremely important given its focus on the needs of other people.

Liberation theology is one of the most influential movements in modern theology. It emerged during the second half of last century in South America where a large proportion of the population are Catholic and very poor. The basic tenet of Liberation theology is often summarised as “a preferential option for the poor”. It does not suggest that poverty brings one closer to God, but rather that those of us who are not poor have a divine obligation to share. This sharing includes our political power, economic wealth and social capital. Mainstream Liberation Theology suggests that the primary purpose of the Church is to assist in changing oppressive social, economic, and political structures. Equality in access to earthly resources is seen as a predictor of equal access to salvation.

Liberation theology is a challenge to many of our traditional Catholic beliefs and understandings of the role and nature of our Church. I believe, however, that our Edmund Rice tradition and the historical reality of the work of the Christian brothers sits quite comfortably with the notion of a preferential option for the poor as it is articulated by liberation theologians. The language is different in that we speak and write of our obligation to the “marginalised” but the aim appears identical.

We see this confluence in St Bernard’s strong history of supporting those in need of our help. This was illustrated strikingly last week when the College community overwhelmingly supported the Leukemia Foundation’s “Shave For a Cure” program. College Captain, Andrew Zammit, who has experienced the illness in his own family, and the student leaders initiated the fundraiser in response to the need to fund research toward a cure for Leukaemia, a disease which Year 7’s Jyle Fuller is currently bravely battling. The final total raised and pledged exceeded an extraordinary $25,000, a testament to our amazing capacity to recognise and support those in need, along with generous caring culture and strong student leadership.

The commitment to those in need is also seen through our commitment to Project Africa. The major fundraiser for this is the Founder’s Day walkathon to be held early next term. While we all have finite resources I am confident that the characteristic generosity of the St Bernard’s community will see us able to continue to provide education for those most in need in Kenya.

A group of Year 11 boys will be visiting the Br Beausang School in Embulbul, Kenya in July. This will be a great opportunity to work in the school in a “hands on” capacity and to see the difference that our generosity makes. In preparation for this visit I will be accompanying John McKenna to Embulbul next week. During the last two weeks of term Mr Nick Scully will be acting Principal and Mr Geoff Caulfield will be acting head of the Clairvaux campus.

During this Lenten season we particularly remember those living in many parts of the world that are experiencing great distress and suffering.

A reflection:

1 Kings 19: 11 – 12

“Go out and stand before me on top of the mountain,” the Lord said to him. Then the Lord passed by and sent a furious wind that split the hills and shattered the rocks – but the Lord was not in the wind. The wind stopped blowing, and then there was an earthquake – but the Lord was not in the Earthquake. After the earthquake there was a fire – but the Lord was not in the fire.

And after the fire, there was the soft whisper of a voice.”

As a community we pray that those suffering, grieving and in distress across our world will hear and be comforted by the soft whisper of the voice of their God.

Best Wishes
Tony Paatsch

Please remember in your prayers
Mrs Carmel O’Dea, grandmother of Trent 11E and Mitchell 9F.
May She Rest in Peace

Honour Pockets

The College honour pocket system is an important mechanism for providing public recognition of the achievements of students. Details of the criteria for the awarding of honour pockets is set out on the website. Gold and silver honour pocket certificates earned during Term 1 will be presented to the boys at Assemblies early in Term 2. Arrangements for the embroidery of blazer pockets will be announced following the presentation of certificates.
Health Update
There have been two separate reports of infectious diseases on The Strand this term. One family has reported that their son has presented with Impetigo (school sores), whilst another family has reported that their son is suffering from Pertussis (whooping cough). Most families would have had their son immunized against these diseases whilst he was still in infancy. The adolescent booster shot for diptheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine will be issued to all Year 10 students on Friday March 25. For further information on both diseases please go to http://www.health.vic.gov.au/ideas/bluebook/impetigo_info or http://www.health.vic.gov.au/ideas/bluebook/pertussis

General News

From The Strand Campus Director

Interim Reports & PST Interviews:
The Strand PST interviews will be conducted from 2.00pm – 8.00pm on Wednesday April 6. Bookings for the interviews can be made through the Parent Portal from Friday April 1, once the reports have been received.

World’s Greatest Shave:
I am continually astounded at the community mindedness of our boys here at SBC. Helping others in need is certainly a major part of who we are and how we behave in a school that walks in the footsteps of Blessed Edmund Rice. I would like to acknowledge the following Strand boys who raised an incredible amount of money:

Mark Gregory 7F has raised $2,683
Mackenzie Lowe 7G has raised $1,841
Jack Franklin 8F has raised $1,186
Nicholas Dachs 7G has raised $884.45
Blake Manassa 7G has raised $549.00
James Ohanian 8B has raised $526.00
James Portelli 9C raised $430


Founder’s Day Walkathon
This week you should expect your son to bring home his Founder’s Day Walkathon sponsorship card. The level of charity demonstrated by the boys in the ‘World’s Greatest Shave’ will hopefully translate into this very important event, being our major fundraiser for the year. We are expecting that each boy will raise the minimum of $20, which is not a lot of money. However collectively our contribution becomes a significant donation to the Embul-bul community in Kenya.

There is six weeks until the big day. So the staff at The Strand are hoping that the boys can work hard to raise as much money as they can possibly raise in this timeframe. As an incentive to all the boys we are offering an apple iPod as a reward for the highest fundraiser from Year 7 – 12.

Homework Help
All students are welcome to attend our homework help scheduled on the following afternoons:

English on Mondays in 9D 3:05pm - 4:05pm.
Mathematics on Thursdays in 9C 3:05pm – 4:05pm.
Science also on Thursday afternoons in Discere from 3.00pm – 4.00pm
Assistance with homework or assignments is provided.

Dates to remember on The Strand
Monday April 4 – Year 9 Sovereign Hill Excursion
Wednesday April 6 – Last day of term for students and The Strand PST Interviews

Website News: The Parent Portal
Recently the Parent Portal, the newest inclusion to our College website, was launched by a mail out to all families, alerting them to our new development. The letter also contained the unique family ID and password for each family, with these details being necessary to access the features of the Portal, which include making bookings for Parent/Teacher interviews and, in future, access to Semester and Interim reports. Any parent who has not yet received this letter is asked to attend the Front Office in person to collect an extra copy of the letter, or call 9289 1105 to arrange for a new letter to be sent.

Mark Reedy
Applications for YEAR 7 2013 ENROLMENTS (for students currently in Year 5)

Parents who currently have a son at St Bernard’s are reminded that applications for Year 7 2013 enrolments officially close on MONDAY, APRIL 4th at 3:30pm. The online application, yellow registration form along with a copy of your son’s baptism certificate and $100.00 application fee need to be completed by the above date to fully complete the first part of the enrolment process.

If any parent is unsure of the above details or did not attend the Parent Information Meetings on March 15th or March 16th please do not hesitate to call me on 9289 1103 or email jnocci@sbc.vic.edu.au

John Nocci, Registrar

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Mark Reedy

VCAL News

After a sorting out a few issues with TAFE timetabling, VCAL classes settled down to business reasonably quickly in 2011.

So far the Year 11 students have commenced their Life Skills/Martial Arts program as well as Horticulture on Tuesday mornings.

The Year 12 students have commenced the SCOPE program: ‘See the person, not the Disability” and will be assisting at Highpoint Industries later in the month.

Last week a group went to the Air Show at Avalon as part of the special ‘Careers in Manufacturing’ schools program and coming up we also have a similar day at the Melbourne F1 Grand Prix.

Chris Mannix

Western Front Tour Fundraising Raffle

In three weeks time 28 students will be undertaking a spiritual journey to learn, pay respects and commemorate the efforts of the AIF during World War One. They will journey to England, along the Western Front line of Belgium and France and into Paris culminating at Villers-Bretonnuex for the ANZAC Day dawn service, where Matthew Catterall an SBC year 8 student has been given the privilege of participating in the service by reading a passage from the Gospel. An amazing honour felt by all of the WFE travellers and the SBC community. At a few memorial sites in Belgium and France we will be laying wreaths to honour our fallen. In order to fund the cost of these wreaths and help alleviate the cost to students attending these ceremonies a raffle is being held with the prizes as follows:

• First Prize: Autographed cricket bat T20 Australia v South Africa, 2009
• Second Prize: $100 voucher from Brumby’s
• Third Prize: $20 iTunes Voucher
• Fourth Prize: $20 iTunes Voucher

Tickets are $2 and can be purchased from any of the students going on the trip or by getting in touch with Year Level Coordinators. The raffle will be drawn at SBC on Friday April 1 at 7:30pm

Alex Cometti, Tour Organiser and Caroline Sheehan, Director of Learning

Santa Monica

For parents and students who missed the presentation night, all relevant information can be found on the school website. http://sbc/curriculum/programs/santa_monica_info.php

Jacq Wade, Year 9 Coordinator

Music News

Music Fees

Please note that invoices for Semester 1 music lessons will be sent to you shortly. A reminder that lessons are invoiced per Semester, based on 17 lessons per semester. Parents of year 9 students – you will be invoiced for a full allocation of lessons for Semester 1 (17 lessons), and a reduced allocation (12 lessons) for Semester 2. This is to accommodate Year 9 students attending Santa Monica. This will occur for all parents of Year 9 students regardless of when your son attends Santa Monica.

Music Lessons

Ever wanted to learn drums? There are a few positions still available to learn drums at the school with the amazing Mr Alastair McGrath-Kerr. Interested students can obtain an application from the music department.

Queensland Tour

The next installment of $250 for the tour is due on April the 1st. All monies should be paid to the front office. If you have not yet done so, please return your son’s health declaration form for the tour.

Luke Steward & Amy Crawford, Co-Music Directors
Year 8 Class Captain Assembly
On Wednesday March 23rd, Year 8 held an assembly in O’Brien Hall with each homeroom contributing some part to the agenda of the morning:

8B provided a reflection centred on The Beatitudes; 8A spoke of their recent retreat day; 8C on their journey to Santa Monica; 8E highlighted future events and 8F reviewed sporting highlights this term. 8H provided wonderful entertainment with Michael Lo Monaco on saxophone and Luke Sorensen on trumpet.

The Year 8 group also recognised the sixteen boys whom they had elected as their class captains. Before receiving their badges, 8D captains Liam Grogan and Nicholas Zoccali spoke about leadership and the qualities of a good leader. Our presenters from 8G, Darcy Heenan and Matt Modica, spoke about how it was worth recognising so many boys volunteered to represent their homerooms. Although only sixteen boys can be elected, it is wonderful that there was such a large group willing to assume leadership responsibility and this reflects well on the year group as a whole.

Siobhan Loukimitis and Brian Hall, Year 8 Coordinators

Get ready for Term 2
Year 12’s are urged to get in early and purchase the Year 12 tie from the Uniform Shop before it is due to be worn in Term 2. Further to this all students are reminded that full school winter uniform is to be worn in Term 2 so if you require a new tie, jacket, jumper or blazer the Uniform Shop is open on Tuesdays 3pm-7pm and Thursdays 8:30am-11:45am for the remainder of the term.

Renee Buhagiar, Uniform Shop

St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary Annual Ladies Luncheon
St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary Annual Ladies Luncheon is to be held on Wednesday June 8 at Ascot House, Ascot Vale. Invitations and Ticket Order Forms will be mailed home in the April Accounts or are available online at the Ladies Auxiliary website http://www.sbc.vic.edu.au/groups/la/la.php

Lisa Edwards, President St Bernard’s Ladies Auxiliary

Italian Students Visit: March 28 – April 9
On Monday, 28 March we will be welcoming 20 exchange students from our sister school in Treviso, Italy – The Istituto Mazzotti. The students will be hosted by the families of those boys who visited Treviso in September 2010. Our visitors will be welcomed at a special Assembly on Tuesday and will then attend classes, as well as visit important historical and cultural sites around Melbourne. St. Columba’s College will also be assisting in the hosting. A BIG THANK-YOU to all our families who will be hosting. We are looking forward to a very exciting experience!

Southern Italy/Sicily Tour – September 25 – October 7 (Term 3 holidays)
There has been considerable interest in the 13-day tour of Southern Italy (Amalfi Coast & Sicily) which is being offered to students & families over the Term 3 holiday period. Cost of the tour is $2,200 pp (land content only: twin share accommodation; bed &and breakfast and some dinners; transportation; guide) $200.00 refundable deposit is due by 15/04/11. For further details, please contact mer at the College.

Professore Bruno Spiller, Senior Teacher of Italian

College Foundation Hall of Fame Dinner
The annual Hall of Fame dinner will be held at The Australian Club, 110 William St. Melbourne, on Friday 8 April beginning at 7pm. This year we will be inducting a further three people into our Hall of Fame - Simon Madden, Dr Brian McNamee and Fr John Reilly. We will also be elevating Mrs Margaret Carey to Legend status. The cost is $100 all inclusive and to purchase a ticket or further information please contact Michaell Perrett on 9289 1006 or at mperrett@sbc.vic.edu.au

Congratulations to...
Luke Fletcher & Mitchel O’Dea who won a Silver Medal at the Victorian Beach Volleyball Tournament at South Melbourne Beach. Our year 10’s finished 3rd & 4th respectively in their grade whilst our Year 11’s also finished in 3rd place.

All who competed for the College at the recent ACC Swimming. In another fantastic effort we finished in third place behind Whitefriars and winners Mazenod, taking out the Intermediate division and a 2nd and 4th place in the Senior and Junior Divisions respectively.
Wanted for St. Bernard’s Old Collegians Football Club
A Young man with an interest in computers and football needed as data entry operator for senior football.

The Commitment: Most Saturdays from 1.30pm - 5pm for the duration of the football season (starting Saturday April 2).

The Pay: We are offering a payment of $40.00 per week. The operator would be given brief training in live data entry for the “Dartfish” statistics program. The work involves receiving statistics per player from a caller and entering via mouse clicks on a laptop computer screen. At the end of each quarter a simple report is to be printed for the coaches use.

Those interested please call Wayne Carey 0416 048 734.

The St Bernard’s Gift
The St Bernard’s Gift is on again from 10am - 4:30pm on Sunday March 27. There will be 9 finals as well as plenty of other activities on the day with a bookmaker attendance. Entry is $5 per carload with programs also available at $5 and both the canteen and bar will be open.

St Bernard’s Old Collegian’s Basketball Club
The St Bernard’s Old Collegian’s Basketball Club is currently looking for 2 players to join their Under 16 boys team which will play Saturdays beginning in early May. If you are interested and were born in 1997 or 1998 please contact Kerin Moloney on 0400 789 547 or at ka66@optusnet.com.au

Junior Volleyball League
All St Bernard’s students interested in playing volleyball are invited to join the Junior Volleyball League which begins on Friday May 6 after school in the College gym. Make a team with your friends or enter as an individual and a team will be found for you but just be sure to pick up a team and player entry form from Reception as soon as possible. There will also be a $100 prize for the winner of this year’s Senior Divisions competitions.

Angling For a Cure Fun Run
The Royal Children’s Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust will be holding their 6th Angling for a Cure Fun Run around the Maribyrnong River on Sunday April 10, 2011. In 2010 the Fun Run attracted over 500 runners who helped raise over $20,000 to support world class research into Cystic Fibrosis at the Royal Children’s Hospital. Cystic Fibrosis is the commonest lethal inherited condition in the Western World and remains incurable and life limiting. Some 350 children with CF are cared for at the Royal Children’s Hospital.

The Fun Run is a loop course around the Maribyrnong of either 4km or 8km starting & finishing at the Anglers Tavern.

If you are interested in volunteering for this event please contact Silvia Pozzuto on 0414684059 or email silvia.pozzuto@rch.org.au

Kickin’ Goals
Kickin’ Goals is a 10 week Soccer program for 5-12 year old boys and girls.

When : Saturday 30th April – 2nd July 2011 from 9am - 10:30am
Where: Fairbairn Park, Ascot Vale (Mel Ref#: 28 C9)

*Shinguards are mandatory for New Participants. Past participants may choose between New Shinguards or Puma Cap.

To register visit: www.kickinggoals.com.au and complete online registration form to reserve a spot in the program. Registration Day is Saturday, 2nd April 2011 from 9:00 – 11am @ Fairbairn Park. (Cash Only Payment accepted)

For more information, check out the website or call 0414 930 421

Marriage Encounter Weekend
Married couples, make 2011 the year that you prioritise your relationship and join us for a Marriage Encounter weekend this year. Our weekends helps you to remember why you married and gives you skills to maintain your love for each other. Couples and a priest will present on the weekend and, although it is based around catholic values, you don’t need to be Catholic to attend. The next weekends will be held on 8-10 April, 3-5 June and 19-21 August. For further information and bookings contact Peter & Erika Smith (03) 9899 0824 or email vicbookings@wwme.org.au. Checkout the website for more information on www.wwme.org.au

Treehouse Secrets Theatrical Experience
Treehouse Secrets Theatrical Experience is a unique drama program specifically designed for ages 10 – 15 to create self awareness and stage skills, culminating in a fully staged production. The program runs for 2 terms on Thursday nights from 6:15pm - 7:45pm at 89-91 Rose Street Essendon. For further information please contact Tracey Smythe on 0427 664 862 or visit www.treehousesecrets.com

Ace Fun Tennis School
Get fit in one of our programs for all ages and standards with classes starting from $10. For further information please contact 1300 223 386 or admin@acefuntennischool.com. Website: www.acefuntennischool.com
1. **ART / DESIGN DISCOVERY DAY.**
   Swinburne University has a great day for prospective students. Hands-on activities. Pick up details from careers office or www.swinburne.edu.au/artanddesign Get in quick!

2. **WORK EXPERIENCE.** I am now starting to revisit Year 10 homerooms checking on student progress. Questions? 1st step: student resources/careers and download ‘Work Experience Info Kit’. 2nd step: contact Mr. Rosel if still unsure.

3. **INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN AVIATION?**
   Understanding the application process and prerequisites for the Advanced Diploma of Technology (Aviation) can be challenging. It can be hard to know what you will be studying, and what kind of pilot licence you will receive. The Swinburne School of Engineering, Technology and Trades has put together a document of frequently asked questions, information on the entry and selection process, and the pathway opportunity into Swinburne’s Bachelor of Aviation. Info: www.future.swinburne.edu.au/aviation-faq. You can also study aviation at RMIT. A less well-known aviation career is airline and airport operational management and planning. This can be studied at Swinburne in the B. Aviation (Management). Another career to consider is in air traffic control. Airservices Australia and the RAAF are the trainers and employers of air traffic controllers in Australia. See: www.airservicesaustralia.com and www.defencejobs.gov.au.

4. **WANT TO BE A PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN?** After hours of practice it’s a musician’s dream to play to an audience and to share their passion for music - but how to get there? Learn skills to be a professional musician and how Flinders Quartet set up their concerts, from registering a name to front of house to registering with AbAF. Flinders Quartet is a long running chamber group. Get insights into the workings of a professional group, how to put on a concert and gain a career in classical music. Register: admin@flindersquartet.com. Info: www.flindersquartet.com.

5. **CHECK OUT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY** – The first ‘Talk and Tour’ for 2011 is in the holidays - an opportunity for Year 10-12 students/parents to find out about courses, see the university, have your questions answered. **When:** Fri 15 April; **Where:** La Trobe, Bundooma; **Register:** www.latrobe.edu.au/talkandtour (1300 135 045)

6. **ART / DESIGN AT SWINBURNE**
   Swinburne has an Art and Design Discovery Day at Prahran campus in the holidays. Find out about courses/careers. **When:** 9am-3.30pm, 21 April; reg’n: www.swin.edu.au/artanddesign; Questions: Montana Daknach, 9214 8904. Swinburne has a range of certificate, diploma and degree courses in design.

7. **THE AGE VCE AND CAREERS EXPO 2011** – Expos provide a great opportunity to collect information, ask questions and explore options at one location. The **Age VCE and Careers Expo** is one such opportunity. Universities, TAFEs, independent colleges, employer groups, defence forces and others will be represented. There will also be seminars you can book into. **When:** 10am-4pm, Fri 6, Sat 7 and Sun 8 May; **Where:** Caulfield Racecourse. DATES IN YOUR DIARY!

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David Rosel  
Careers Adviser  
9289 1159  
drosel@sbc.vic.edu.au
The Rotary Club of North Essendon proudly presents...

A Night with Professor Patrick McGorry

Australian of the Year 2010 & leading international researcher, clinician & advocate for the youth mental health reform agenda.

Date: Wednesday 20 April 2011
Place: Fredricks, 980 Mt Alexander Rd, Essendon
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start
Price: $45.00pp includes 2 course dinner.
Children under 16 years $25.00pp.
Drinks at bar prices

Enquiries/Bookings
Email: enquiries@fredricksrestaurant.com.au
Phone: 9379 3247

RSVP no later than Friday 15 April

This is a wonderful opportunity for all professionals, especially those who deal with our youth directly on a day to day basis. All are encouraged to attend this special event. Bookings are limited so please advise of your interest early.