Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

We keep Mr Dante Moscol in our prayers as he has been quite unwell again. He would be most appreciative knowing our community is praying for him. We also pray for Hannah Moriarty’s Grandmother who is also unwell.

What a great treat I had last Friday from the SMMC Kitchen. The Year 3/4s under the expert tuition of Mrs Galvin whipped up the most delicious Eggplant Parmigiana and I had a portion delivered to my desk. If you haven’t tried the recipe yet, it is a must! Even more impressive was the washing up skills on display when I delivered my empty plate back to the kitchen. What a great opportunity this program provides for our students. Thank you Mrs Galvin and Mrs Tingle for your hard work.

Mother/Daughter Camp
From all reports the Mother/Daughter Camp was a great success! Thank you to all involved in making it happen – staff, parents and students. A huge amount of organisation goes into a camp: food; room allocations; organising for parents to take time off work; loading up trailers with mountains of bikes; and the list goes on, so thanks to everyone. The photos within this newsletter tell the story. It looked like a lot of fun was had with some great spiritual input across the weekend.

To our Dads: The Father/Son Camp date has been in the newsletter each week. If you haven’t taken note of it yet, please do so and work towards being there in November!

Parent Information Evening
As advertised, next Wednesday we have our first Parent Evening for the year. These nights are a really crucial part of our school and it is important you make every effort to be there. If you are unable to find a babysitter for your children and this is preventing you from attending, please contact us and we will do our best to arrange a high school student to assist you for a small fee. The topic for the evening will be “Marriage – Living out our Vocation”. Fr Joe Pich, an Opus Dei Priest from Melbourne will be our guest speaker. He will outline some of the current challenges we are facing in trying to uphold Christian Marriage and also give some insights into how we can live out our roles as husbands and wives, fathers and mothers. Looking forward to seeing you there.

St Patrick’s Day
Next Thursday 17th March, we will celebrate St Patrick’s Day. This day has become somewhat a secular celebration across the years, so we will be conscious of celebrating the missionary work of St Patrick and also the Irish Missionaries who helped to bring the faith to our country. Students may wear a green ‘accessory’, but please no face paint or hair dye. Hot Dogs will be available for $1 at lunchtime and the SRC will provide cupcakes at recess, also for $1. Please bring money and give to your class or homeroom teacher in the morning and they will send to the office. At 12:15pm we will hold a small performance in the hall to celebrate the Life of St Patrick and maybe an Irish Jig or two! Please come along if you can.

Today is the Feast Day of St Dominic Savio, one of our classroom names. He lived a short, but remarkable life dedicated to living according to the teachings of Jesus and having a great influence on those around him. Interestingly, he was under the tuition of St John Bosco, one of our school’s patrons. St Dominic Savio, pray for us.

God Bless

Luke Burton
Principal
Consider Yourself…Invited!

Charles Dickens’ classic tale, Oliver Twist is set to hit the stage with a musical adaptation for the entire family to enjoy. Presented by the border’s leading amateur theatrical ensemble, The Albury Wodonga Theatre Company, this lively production is sure to entertain. With a gifted line-up of local performers, including a large cast of children, Oliver! will be staged with four performances from 7:30pm on Thursday April 28th, and a matinee on Saturday May 30th at 2pm at the Albury Entertainment Centre, Swift Street Albury.

Oliver! is the memorable story about an orphan who runs away from a workhouse and meets up with a rag-tag group of trained pickpockets, who under the guidance of the unscrupulous Fagin, manage to thieve their way through the grimy streets of Victorian London right under the nose of the law.

You’ll be entertained by some of musical theatres most much loved characters such as the rambunctious Artful Dodger, the heroine Nancy, the devious Fagin and his gang of thieving children, the offensive Bill Sykes and of course the innocent Oliver Twist.

The hugely talented cast will sing and dance their way into your heart with such iconic songs as ‘Food, Glorious Food’, ‘Consider Yourself’, ‘Who Will Buy?’, ‘You’ve Got to Pick a Pocket or Two’, ‘Oom-Oom-Pah-Pah’, ‘As Long As He Needs Me’ and many more.

If you love musical theatre then you’ll love this production of Oliver!, suitable for all ages.

Book today online www.alburyentertainmentcentre.com/whats-on/oliver or call the Albury Entertainment Centre Box Office on: 02 6043 5610.

Mother/Daughter Camp (in pictures)
Sincerity is that virtue of living truthfully. “To thine own self be true”. It is the virtue of honestly saying what is appropriate to the right person at the right time. It is about saying what you think and mean. It is about fully disclosing one’s inner self when required without any falsehood. (from De Marco-The Heart of Virtue)

Young children have a natural sincerity about them. They are enthusiastic about many day to day events and joyfully proclaim this. The opposite is also true, they certainly let you know when something is not right. They generally need a bit of work to say what is appropriate at the right time. Recently a young girl had been learning about modesty in dress. Whilst out with her mother in K-Mart one day she remarked, “That lady isn't very modest Mummy, you can almost see her knickers under her skirt, it is so short!” The mother replied that she should just say a “Hail Mary” for the said lady. The little girl then started at the top of her voice, “Hail Mary full of grace....” Sometimes it takes a while to get the right balance for the virtue!

As with many virtues an understanding comes with knowing the lack of this virtue. This virtue is one of the easiest to feign, you may not be able to pretend to be courageous but you sure can pretend to be sincere. Marriage infidelity is fraught with the pretence of this virtue. A husband may be telling his wife he loves her while carrying on with someone else. The wife is shocked the day the unfaithful husband walks out. Insincerity includes giving false compliments or pretending to be someone you are not. It may be going through the motions of being married whilst having thoughts of hatred and resentment towards your spouse.

Father Peyton, was a priest who was famous for his television evangelising in the 1960s in the USA. He is the priest who was responsible for the “Family Rosary Crusade”, his most famous quote being, “The family that prays together, stays together”. When this priest was a seminarian he was afflicted with advanced TB. It was the sincere words of his ethics lecturer which turned the tide. This priest was the sort that didn't mince his words saying, “Our Lady will be as good to you as you think she is. If you think she is a fifty per-center that is what she will be; if you think she is a hundred per-center she will be for you a hundred per-center... (they) do not do as much as they could do, but the reason is we think they are not able. We limit them by the extent of our faith.” He prayed for recovery with renewed devotion and was cured. Believing his cure was due to Our Lady and her intercession he spent the rest of his life promoting devotion to her. His simple sincere message spread devotion to Our Lady all around the globe.

In a world confused by lies and deceit, promote sincerity in your family life as a virtue shining out into the world proclaiming the truth of Christ. When people see you or your family, “what they see is what they get”.

VIRTUE FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH: HOPE

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.”

Heb 10-23