

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury Newsletter

Email: office@smmc.nsw.edu.au

Phone: (02) 6045 9422

Website: <http://smmc.nsw.edu.au>

197 Urana Street Jindera, NSW, 2642

Week 4, Term 4, 2020

Friday 6th November



Dates for your Diary:

Sat 14th Nov – Yr. 12
Graduation Dinner

Mon 9th – Fri 13th Nov – Yr.
7-10 Exam Week

Fri 20th Nov – 2021 Kinder
Orientation Day

Mon 23rd – Fri 27th Oct –
Primary Intensive Swimming

Wed 25th Nov – Secondary
Swimming

Fri 27th Nov – Cardinal
Newman Book Store Visit

Fri 27th Nov – 2021 Kinder
Orientation Day

Tues 1st Dec – Deadly
Animals Visit

Wed 2nd Dec – Secondary
Swimming

Fri 4th Dec – 2021 Kinder +
New 2021 Student
Orientation Day

Tues 8th Dec – Presentation
Night

Tues 8th Dec – Last Day of
T4

Dear Parents,

I was struck by something Fr Murphy said in his homily for the Solemnity of All Saints: that the saints in heaven urge us on, not unlike the supporters of a sporting team, cheering and encouraging the players. And not unlike us when we pray for our deceased family and friends, especially during this month of November.

Fittingly, the week at school began with a procession to the St Mary's Cemetery to offer prayers for the dead, and ended with Years 3-12 visiting the Jindera Golf Club for the long-awaited Cross Country. In each case, students supported and encouraged their team, and classmates, on.

I would like to urge on Year 7-10 students, who will be undertaking examinations next week. If adversity brings out the best in us, I hope that the exams are a true test and that our students rise to the occasion.

Thanks to Mrs Mott and Mr Couture for their organisation of the Cross Country and to all staff for their unfailing support this week and all year.

Warm regards,
Ian Smith
Principal

2021 Enrolments

For those families who have submitted a 2021 enrolment application form and have received a letter of offer, please remember to return a signed copy of the letter of offer before the end of this term to secure your child's place. Thank you.

Kinder Orientation Days

The first Orientation Day for the 2021 Kinder class will be held on **Friday 20th November**. A letter with further details about orientation has been sent out to families with a child beginning kinder next year. Please contact the office if you have any further questions.

Cross Country Run

Today our year 3 to 12 students ran our annual cross-country event at the Jindera Golf Course. The weather was perfect and the students did a fantastic job of finishing the course. Thank you to all the parents that volunteered for the event, your help is greatly appreciated.

All Saint Day

Thank you to all the students who dressed up on Monday in celebration of All Saints Day. Thank you also to all the parents for once again ensuring your children looked amazing. A photo page for the parade is attached.

7-10 Exam Week

The Year 7-10 exams will take place next week. A timetable for the exams has been sent home with students. We wish the students all the best and ask families to keep the students in their prayers.

Yr. 12 Graduation

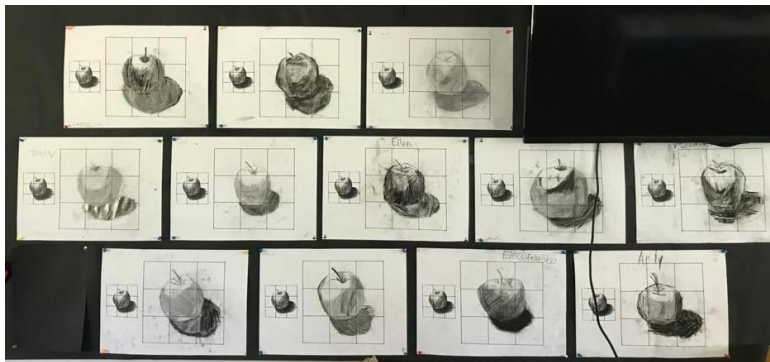
Next Saturday 14th November we will be holding our Year 12 Graduation Dinner. Our graduating students are in the midst of sitting their HSC exams. We wish them all the best for the last few exams that are coming up this week. Thank you to all families for your continuing prayers for our HSC students.

School Production

Some of our talented drama students will be performing Oscar Wilde's romantic comedy "*The Importance of Being Earnest*" on **Thursday 3rd December**. If you would like to come see the play please email the office with the number and names of attendees as seats will be limited. Please see attached flyer for more information.

Curriculum Corner - Mrs Maria McCrohan

Grade two have been conducting an in depth study of the structure of apples. The students initially conducted science experiments that involved all 5 senses including; looking at apple fragments under the microscope and using torches to look at light and shadows. Students collaborated to closely examine the apples, finding all the colours on the fruit. They also tasted apples and looked at contrast and shading using watercolours to create a still life portrait. The students then completed a still life in watercolour.





Living Out the Faith In Family Life

November- A Month for Saints and Sinners.

November is the month designated to the holy souls. This brings to mind the nature of the Church which consists of the Church militant- those of us on earth fighting the daily battles of good versus evil. The Church suffering- those souls suffering in purgatory. Also, it is a time to reflect on and rejoice in the Church triumphant - the saints in Heaven.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassatti is a classic example of the triumph of the Church. A most unlikely individual to become a saint. He was an Italian man born in 1901. His father was a wealthy agnostic who had a comfortable life, working at times as a foreign diplomat. His mother was a lukewarm Catholic who, as he said of her, "never went to Communion or was seen to kneel and say a prayer." Not the classic catholic home that many of the saints came from. He also had to deal with the new social climate within his country as a youth of atheistic fascism. God, in his infinite wisdom raises up saints as beacons to dispel the darkness. Sainthood is for everyone and we in our hearts know that is what we were made for.

What made him a saint? It was truly God's grace and his co-operation with that grace in his life. As a child, he was tender hearted, giving away his shoes and socks to a beggar and child at the door before his mother could stop him. When he graduated in mining engineering his father wanted to give him a car, but Pier just wanted the money, which, unknown to his father, he gave away to the poor. He saw his service of the poor as a return of the favour he received in Jesus coming to him, a poor sinner, in Holy Communion each day. He was actively involved and passionate about social justice, joining a Saint Vincent de Paul society in 1918 which was his avenue to serve the poor. He was obedient to his parents, not marrying a girl whom he loved, as it displeased them. His life, like all the saints, was marked with the pursuit of virtue. He became a third order Dominican in 1922, taking the name of a Dominican martyr. He said of him, "May I imitate him in the struggle and in virtue."

His life was full of joy. His family could not understand his joy. He had an unsuppressed joy that comes only from a grace filled soul. Even though he died of poliomyelitis, which paralysed him totally, he hid his suffering until the very end. He cared so much for others that in his final days he fetched the doctor for his dying Grandmother. He died only days later in 1925, aged 25. When he died, a steady procession of the poor and destitute came to pay their last respects. The procession of the people to honour a saint. Following his death his family converted to fully living their faith and worked towards the cause for his canonisation.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati was beatified by John Paul II in 1992. JP II said that, "By his example he proclaims that a life lived in Christ's Spirit, the spirit of the Beatitudes, is blessed...."
(facts and quotes taken from "Faces of Holiness" by Ann Ball)

Virtue of the Month

∞ Zeal ∞

Being Driven By an Intense Love for God

“No sacrifice is more acceptable to God than zeal for souls.”

- Pope Gregory the Great

We should not be fearful of the virtue of zeal. It springs from love and does not exclude moderation. It fires our passion to a flame and enables us to be more effective, productive, and alive.

Some ways children can practice the virtue of Zeal this month are:

- Every day this month, tell someone something about God.
- Choose something which can tempt you to be lazy (like cleaning your room) and do it with extra energy this month as a gift to God.
- Do you know someone who is Catholic but doesn't go to church anymore? Pray for that person this month and offer sacrifices for him or her.
- Interview a priest or religious to find out about their life. Let them inspire you with ideas about what you could do for God this month.
- Join in on a mission trip.

Lord, I offer to You all my work and my talents. Use them for Your glory. Help me to have true zeal for Your Kingdom and to work tirelessly for Your glory. Jesus, I desire to be an instrument of Your perfect Mercy in the world. Use me as You will. Jesus, I trust in You.

Resources

<https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/culture/catholic-contributions/zeal.html>

<https://www.nashvilledominican.org/>



All Saints Day

