Dear Members of the St Gregory’s Family,

I noticed a Psalm in last week’s readings and it was talking about God being merciful and gracious and slow to anger. It is important for all of us to be slow to anger. We are told on many occasions that God is merciful and full of kindness and that he is slow to anger.

It is something for everyone to think about. How often is it that something happens to us that we disagree with and we lose our temper very quickly without reflecting on the situation. It is true to say that there are some things that we have no control over but most of the occurrences in our daily lives are situations that we can always stop and count to ten before we respond.

There is outrage in the world at present over the Malaysian Airline that crashed in the Ukraine. Listening to one priest on the television commenting about the incident, he mentioned that violence will not solve problems, only talking about the problem and moving it towards a solution is the way forward. This is true in our own lives and no doubt on the world stage as well, but people have to come together in good faith and be prepared to listen openly to both sides of a conflict.

Staff Changes

Due to a reorganisation of the Health Centre with the appointment of a registered nurse, Mrs Jaime Underwood, and the re-siting of the Centre closer to the Administration area, Brother Daniel will finish his work at the College where he has been the infirmarian since 1998. Brother Daniel will take on some special assignments for the Provincial for the remainder of the year. We thank Brother Daniel for his contribution to the College over the last sixteen years. We welcome Mrs Underwood to the College staff and hopefully she will have a long and rewarding experience at the College.

Congratulations

Well done to our Year 12 Debating Team and Mrs Davison who had an exciting win on Friday evening and now face St Ursula’s tonight at Kirribilli. Well done to Mrs Harmour and her team of supporters on the successful NAIDOC Assembly that was held last Friday.

Quae Seminaveris Metes.

Damien Millar
Headmaster
Mission

Fiji Immersion

On 21 June a group of young men embarked on a journey of a lifetime. After two plane flights we landed in Suva with a driver waiting for us and the first instance of a comparison between our society and their’s was noticed: no seatbelts. The group learned quickly that this immersion was going to be an eye opener. On the way to the Marist Primary School we noticed the living conditions change from very underprivileged tin shack homes in one street to conditions similar to ours in other streets, with some areas even having a McDonalds. On arrival we unpacked and went for a freezing cold shower with geckos on the roof and moths buzzing about the lights. Instantly we knew that the world around us was very different to our own comforts.

On Monday we were aligned with our buddies from the Marist Institute and after a nervous, yet warm welcome and a lot of awkward photos together we went to class with them. Tuesday was another day full of surprises with some of us heading to Marcellin’s Angels preschool for the morning. The little rascals were full of energy and extremely thrilled to see us, the teachers serve the way of Marcellin in their own way being a guide for the young children. After another school day full of nerves about the next few hours that were ahead we ventured home with our buddies from the Institute for the night. Wednesday a tour of Marist Brothers High School, the best Rugby school in Fiji. Thursday we met up with our little buddies from the Primary School. Friday we said our goodbyes feeling like we had made as much an impact as we could to everyone we had met throughout the immersion.

Overall, it was a once in a lifetime immersion experience, being out of our comfort zones, adapting to the change yet serving others generously any way and every way we could.

I would like to thank Miss Wray for her positive and outgoing attitude, Mr Graham for being our guide and overseeing all our actions and decisions but mostly for being a role model and an inspiration for all the boys who went on this immersion.

Blake Williams (Year 11)

To see Blake’s full report go to Fiji and tp Fiji images for photos.

Sacramental Programme

Lessons for our Sacramental Programme commenced today for all Sacraments and will continue on 1 August for Baptism only, 8 August for Eucharist and Reconciliation and 22 August for Confirmation. The Sacraments will be received at morning Mass on Friday 29 August.

Mums’ Retreat

We seem to have enough numbers to go ahead with the Mums’ retreat, so details will be forwarded home very soon to those Mums who have expressed interest. It is not too late to join the list, so even if you think you’d like more information, don’t hesitate to contact me by phone or email.

Cathie Clarke, Director of Mission/RE Coordinator
2014 has seen many of our Year 10 students mature throughout semester 1. A large number of students in Year 10 have been involved in numerous activities during the first half of the year that have certainly left an unforgettable impression on their peers and staff alike. It is a pleasure to see so many young men putting up their hands to help out and be involved in all parts of College life. Their solid attitude and solid work ethics have been noted by many members of the College community.

During Term 2 Year 10 attended a drug and alcohol presentation by Mr Paul Dillon; they were asked to find suitable Work Experience and started to consider their senior subject selections for 2015. To help with their subject selections, the students have been exposed to a variety of talks by heads of subject departments and were able to attend our Careers Expo held Wednesday of this week in the Donovan Centre.

At the end of the year, Year 10 students will participate in the ‘Boys to Men’ program and will be able to choose from: The College Camp at Kincumber; the Murrumbidgee River Paddle Canoe trip, the Open Sea Tall Ship Adventure or the Tasmania National Park Hike.

Finally I would like to remind parents and students of the Community Service program that has been ongoing since the start of the year. It’s never too late for the boys to apply and get started but time is slowly running out.

Baldino Vetrano, Year 10 Coordinator

The full Year 10 report can be found at: Year 10.

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**Student Profiles**

Congratulations to Ashleigh Nisbet, Alex Masima, Jai Gunton, Joshua Brady, Cameron Menzies and Jordan McCarty (all from Year 12) on their successes as shown below.

**Ashleigh Nisbet Year 12**
Selection in Australian School Boys Rugby League Team
Tour of France and England

**Alex Masima Year 12**
Selection in NSW 2 side for Australian School Boy Rugby Union Championships

**Jai Gunton Year 12**
Selected for The Country Rugby Union Tour to Spain

**Joshua Brady Year 12**
CDSA Debating Final

**Cameron Menzies Year 12**
CDSA Debating Final

**Jordan McCarthy Year 12**
CDSA Debating Final

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**Year 10 News**

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The very busy final week of Term 2 was highlighted many sporting events including our Annual Athletics Carnival. Congratulations to Kilian (Green) House, the clear winner on the day. Our Athletics Squad is now preparing to defend our MCS Athletics Championship.

GIO SCHOOLBOY RUGBY LEAGUE COMPETITION
The First Grade Rugby League team travelled Tamworth to play Farrer High School in the final Pool game of GIO Schoolboy Championship. A disappointing 10 – 26 loss placed St Gregory’s third in their Pool and concludes our participation in this year’s Championship.

MCS FOOTBALL AND RUGBY LEAGUE
MCS Grand Final Day for Soccer and Rugby League was a great success. Grand Finalists from Football included the First XI, Second XI, Year 9, Year 8A, Year 8B and Year 7B teams. Rugby League Grand Finalists were the Third XIII who played in the Second Tier Championship and the 15 years A team. It was a terrific experience for all teams with the Second XI, Year 9 and Year 7B Soccer teams winning their respective Premierships.

NSW CCC BASKETBALL REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
Our First Grade Basketball team recently participated in the NSW CCC Regional Tournament at Penrith. The team had five wins from seven games and won the Plate Division of the competition. Another strong year in Basketball concludes with our Senior Squad being MCS Semi Finalists and really good performances at the National Marist Carnival in Sale and the NSW CCC Regional Tournament.

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS
Following the great success of the NSW CCC Open Rugby League team at the National Championship Ashleigh Nisbet (Year 12) has been selected to the Australian Schoolboys team to tour England later this year.

Joseph Lantz, Sports Coordinator

The full sports report can be found at Sport

ANAPHYLAXIS INFORMATION
If you haven’t yet returned your Anaphylaxis form, can you please do so as soon as possible.

This information will enable us to update our records and provide appropriate care to your son, should a need arise.

Important Dates to Remember
Monday 11 August
Year 7 Immunisations
Wednesday 27 August
School Photo Day

Students are expected to arrive at school in full winter uniform and be appropriately groomed as per the student diary

Barry Graham, Director of Administration

Changes to Canteen Price List
The following new prices will become effective next Monday 28 July:

- Muffin $2.50
- Chicken Chilli Tender $3.00
- Finger Bun $2.00
- Lasagne/Macaroni Cheese $3.50
- Chicken Burger $3.50
- Meat Pie $3.20

YOUTH MASS at PICTON/TAHMOOR every 4th Saturday of the month
The next YOUTH MASS at St Anthony’s Church, Tahmoor is on Saturday, 26 July at 5pm. Join in the fun with a large band (5 guitars, Clarinet, Flute and a wonderful set of new drums.). Sing along with the stunning choir from St Anthony’s school and enjoy refreshments afterwards in the foyer.