Dear Members of the St Gregory’s Family,

Today is the Feast of All Saints. A day when we reflect and celebrate the lives of those people who have been declared Saints by the Church.

What gets a person formally recognised as a saint is evidence that he or she lived a life of heroic sanctity and stands as a worthy example for others. When we think about saints it is natural to focus on what they did which is well and good as long as we appreciate that what they did was really in cooperation with God.

If we reflect on St Marcellin, we know that he was gifted with natural intelligence but due to Marcellin’s lack of formal education he struggled as a student. Once he entered the seminary, he was able to complete his education and become a priest. Marcellin was a man like any other and had to makes choices which, thankfully for us, is one the reasons we are here at St Gregory’s today. He demonstrated determination and perseverance on many occasions just like we all can do. He had to overcome obstacles in life in order to develop the Little Brothers of Mary and see his vision materialise.

We all have to deal with difficulties in our lives as we are all ordinary human beings just like many of the saints. We need to hear God’s message and place our faith in him and go about our daily business and do it to the best of our ability.

Brother Bill Connell

Brother Bill passed away recently. Brother Bill was a former Headmaster, teacher and student of the College. The funeral for Brother Bill was held last Friday and was well attended by ex-students, Brothers, family and friends. Brother Bill was Headmaster from 1989 – 1991. Brother Bill was not unlike Brother Coman in his work ethic and was not one to want to be noticed. Another quiet achiever who believed in hard work.

Information Evenings

The Information Evening for Year 7 2014 was held last Wednesday and the Year 12 2014 Information Evening was held last Monday. Both nights were successful in their own way. The number of enrolments for Year 7 is very promising and they are all excited about becoming part of the College. The Year 12 students received their Reports and Assessment booklets for 2014 and after some encouraging words, I am sure that we can look forward to some exciting results in the HSC of 2014.

Congratulations

Mr Kennaugh was been appointed to the Principalship of De La Salle College Ashfield. He will take up the position in 2014. I am sure that we all wish Mr Kennaugh well in his future endeavour.

Year 11

The Academic Assembly was held last week and was well supported by parents and friends. Congratulations to Jacob Mitchell who was announced as the Dux of Year 11 for 2013. Congratulations to the following boys who received Awards. Luke Hughes – Year 11 Service Award, Cameron Menzies - The Br Paul Hough Award for Social Justice and Action, Anthony Fanous - the Anthony Esler Mathematics Award, David Tranby - GIO Perpetual Trophy for Consistency and Effort in Academic Studies and Adam Dzelvan - the Reuben F Scarf Award.

The Year 11 students are attending the Retreat at Mittagong this week and also participating in the Insight Programme before returning to the College next week to settle down to their studies for Year 12.

Quae Seminaveris Metes.

Damien Millar
Headmaster
Important Dates

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Until Friday 8 November 2013</td>
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<td>HSC Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 4 November 2013</td>
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<td>Years 7-9 Co-curricular Night Commencing at 7.30pm in the Br Luke Hall</td>
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<td>Wednesday 6 November 2013</td>
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<td>Year 8 Geography / History excursions</td>
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<td>Friday 8—Monday 11 November 2013</td>
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<td>Pupil Free Days Boarders’ Free Weekend</td>
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<td>Friday 8 November 2013</td>
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<td>Year 7 2014 Orientation Day</td>
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<td>Tasmania Practice Walk</td>
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<td>Friday 15 November 2013</td>
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<td>Years 10 and 11 Co-curricular Awards Assembly Commencing at 9.00am in the Br Luke Hall Years 7 and 9 Immunisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 18—Friday 22 November 2013</td>
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<td>Years 7—10 Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 18 November 2013</td>
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<td>Parent Forums Commencing at 9.00am and 7.30pm in the Donovan Centre</td>
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From the Deputy Headmaster …..

**Being a Good Sport**
We have started the cricket and basketball seasons with a great deal of success. The most impressive part of the games that I have witnessed is the sportsmanship that our boys have shown. I have witnessed first-hand a number of games where our boys have been in a commanding position yet have maintained respect for the opposition at all times. It is a credit to the sportsmanship and their upbringing.

**Excellent behaviour of our students**
Thank you to the many boys who assisted with the Year 7 2014 Information Evening, and the funeral of Br Bill Connell. Our boys are only too willing to assist with an event or helping a person in need. The number of boys who have volunteered for the Year 7 Orientation Day next week is evidence of this.

**Sports Shoes**
A number of our boys have been pushing the boundaries in relation to the sport shoes they are wearing on Thursdays. I spoke to the boys at Assembly on Monday to reinforce the College expectation of predominantly white shoes and laces. We are having a Uniform Blitz on Thursday to reinforce this expectation.

Stephen Kennaugh, Deputy Principal

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**Year 11 Major Awards for 2013**

- **Dux of Year 11 and UWS Most Outstanding Year 11 Student** Jacob Mitchell
- **Year 11 Service Award** Luke Hughes
- **Br Paul Hough Award for Social Justice and Action** Cameron Menzies
- **Year 11 GIO Perpetual Trophy for Consistency and Effort in Academic Studies** David Tranby
- **Anthony Esler Award for the Outstanding Mathematics Student** Anthony Fanous
- **Reuben F Scarf Award for Commitment** Adam Dzevlan
- **Headmaster’s Award for Effort and Consistency** Jordan Paine, Keiran Longhurst, Gregory Sokolsky, Corey Russell, Jack Hudson, James Fawbert, Jay Tonkies-Holmes
- **Academic Achievement Award** Nicholas O’Neill, Luke Vella, Jordan Paine, Cameron Menzies, Matthew Dunshea, Hamish Brill, Adam Dzevlan, Ashwin Pillay, Hamish Albany

Congratulations!

Mrs Sue Dein, Year 11 Coordinator
The end of the year is filled with many activities and events that Year 10 students will be involved in.

Late last Term all of Year 10 were briefed by a number of staff members regarding the different activities and events that will take place in Term 4.

A Social Justice Day organised by Mrs Monte was first on the agenda followed by Community Service cards being collected and Big Brother nominations submitted.

Below is a summary of the Social Justice Day that the boys attended. I would like to thank Mrs Monte for her organisation and supervision of the boys on the day.

On 18 October, a group of nine Year 10 boys and Mrs Monte went to St John the Evangelist Catholic High School in Nowra. We were attending a Social Justice Day, hosted by Wollongong Catholic Education Office, on the subject of world poverty. As well as us there were students from a number of schools across the Diocese who took part in the day. The title of the day was “Lazarus at our Gate” which highlighted the very important issue of the international poverty currently waiting on Australia’s doorstep.

I believe the day was very beneficial and informative. It helped us to go deeper into the situation surrounding poverty around the world and as well as in our own country. The first thing we did after arriving was to take part in a game called “Basti Life”. This game was a simulation on what it is like to be living in a cramped area with other people, trying to work for enough money to continue living. We made paper bags which were sold to the shopkeepers in return for money. This money we made then had to pay for things like rent, food and basic necessities. It showed us that when you are in a situation and you are just scraping by, all your priorities are different and things we take for granted have little importance.

After this we had a look at the Faces of Poverty. This meant hearing about the stories of some people from inside Australia who were experiencing poverty. Their situations varied but it was clear in each case that the help they received from others was very important but still not enough. This was led by the guest speaker for the day, Jeannine Ashton from the St Vincent de Paul Society. She also talked to us about Faces of Poverty outside of Australia and what we can do to help them.

Finally, we celebrated Mass with the rest of the schools after lunch to finish the day. The reading for the Mass was the story of Lazarus begging at the rich man’s gate. It was a good way to finish the day after finding out so much about the state of the world around us.

On behalf of the other boys who took part in the day, I would like to thank all those involved in the organisation of the day, especially Mrs Monte who gave up a lot more of her time than was originally expected to get us back to school. I hope that in future years other boys are given the same opportunity to experience days like we have been able to.

Sam Limbrey

In the next few weeks, students will complete their yearly exams, some students will head to Tasmania for an intense hike, others will embark on a canoe trip and the rest on the Year group will attend a three day leadership camp in the central Coast, not to mention the ‘week long’ Work Experience program in week 9.

Please note the following dates in regards to Year 10:

- **Week 7** Yearly exams
- **Week 8** Tasmania trip Tuesday 26 November departs [9 days]
- **Week 9** Work experience [5 days] and Canoe trip departs Monday 2 December [8 days]
- **Week 10** Year 10 Camp Kincumber Monday 9 December [3 days]

Mr Vetrano, Year 10 Co-ordinator

**MATHS COMPETITION**

On 1 August 2013, 140 students of the College participated in the Australian Mathematics Competition where they competed against students of the same age across NSW. It has become a truly international event, with countries throughout the Pacific and South East Asia, and some from even further afield taking part.

This year we had some satisfying results across all year levels with 6 boys receiving a Distinction, placing them in the top 15% for Juniors and the top 25% for Seniors, and 61 boys achieving a Credit, placing them in the top 50% for Juniors and 60% for Seniors. The following boys deserve a special mention:

**Year 7**
Cameron Bowden (Distinction)

**Year 8**
Kurt Mills (Distinction)

**Year 10**
Justin Stewart (Distinction)

**Year 11**
Joshua Brady (Distinction)
David Tranby (Distinction)
Zach Stewart (Distinction)

Congratulations to all boys who competed.

Mrs Sawyer, Coordinator Australian Mathematics Competition
MCS BASKETBALL AND CRICKET

Week 2 of the MCS Basketball competition saw defeats to all St Gregory’s teams by the strong Patrician Brothers College, Fairfield except for the outstanding 41-17 win by the First Grade team. Two wins to First Grade makes a good start to the competition.

The great start to our Cricket season continued with 8 wins from 8 games against teams from Greystanes, Fairfield and Penrith. Individual highlights include from First Grade: **Lachlan Inger** 35 runs, Second Grade: **Luke Hughes** 3-1, Fourth Grade: **Kevin Fraser** 83no and **Josh Cavanagh** 2-11, Year 9 “A”: **Tom Sowden** 60no, Year 9 “B”: **Bailey Sandoz** 4-6, Year 7 “A” **Cameron Middleton** 72no and **Matthew Saunders** 5-4 and Year 7 “B” **Joshua Fetterplace** 4-5. Player of the Round would be Third Grader **Alex Bullow** who was 112no against Parramatta in Round 1 and backed it up this week with 50no against Penrith. This was an excellent effort by all teams and players.

Week 3 of the MCS Basketball competition saw all St Gregory’s teams with a BYE. A good training session at Minto last Thursday for all teams have them ready for this week’s game against Marist College, Parramatta.

With the First and Second XI having BYEs in the MCS Competition our other cricket teams played each other in Thursday’s games. The Year 7 and 9 “A” teams defeated their counterpart “B” teams. The Year 9 “A”’s defeated the “B”’s by 7 wickets and the Year 7 “A”’s defeated the “B”’s by 10 wickets. The major upset of the day was our Fourths defeating the Thirds by 19 runs. Rumour has it the Third Grade Coach will be doing extra Yard Duties this week.

Highlights from these games include Third Grade: **Alex Bullow** 25, Fourth Grade: **Kevin Fraser** 4-17 and **Jack McCarthy** 4-12, Year 9 “A”’s: **Steele Brown** 47 and Year 7 “A” **Ryan Clark** 31no and **Cameron Middleton** 35no.

NSW CCC DOWNIE TROPHY COMPETITION

Our First Grade Cricket team played their first game in the NSW CCC Downie Trophy competition with a really good win over St Patrick’s College, Sutherland. Winning the toss and batting first, Sutherland was all out in the 30th over for 65 runs. **Tom Sowden** had 3-11, **Jonah Price** 2-12 and **Joshua Institoris** 2-2. Openers for St Gregory’s passed the opponent’s total in the 9th over with **Lachlan Inger** 32no and **Mitchell Taylor** 36no. The team will be playing De La Salle, Revesby in the next Round.

ISA BASKETBALL AND CRICKET

In the ISA Basketball competition the Under 15 year and Opens teams remain undefeated. A disappointing 2 point loss leaves the Under 17 team still looking for their first win. In Cricket, Campbelltown RSL were 8-135 after 35 overs. Best bowlers were **Harry Wighton** 3-7, **Sam Groves** 2-14 and **Vince Ryan** 2-22.

Joseph Lantz, Sports Coordinator

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Vinnies Christmas Appeal

There are hundreds of reasons to donate. You only need one.

Christmas is only 9 weeks away!

Whilst we celebrate the birth of Christ by hopefully having the opportunity to spend time with loved ones, there are many people out there that find Christmas to be the loneliest time of year.

Many of us receive gifts and share in the joy of giving gifts, engage in dinners and celebrations together. However, there are many people in our wider community that don’t have the luxury of partaking in this aspect of Christmas.

This Term please get behind our Christmas Hamper Appeal for Years 7, 8 and 9 and our Socks, Jocks and Razors Appeal for Year 11. Your son has received information about his allocated initiative.

Year 10 students are not targeted as they have a shorter Term, however if anyone wishes to donate gifts please do not hesitate to do so. You can pass them onto your homeroom teacher or to student services and I will make sure they are part of the offertory at our end of year Mass.

Mrs Debra Monte, Marist Solidarity Coordinator