Dear Members of the St Gregory’s Family,

This week we enter the fifth Sunday of Lent as we prepare for the coming of Easter. We have spoken about preparation with prayer, fasting and almsgiving and we also prepare ourselves by attending the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In Monday’s gospel it spoke about the adulterous woman. This was the story about the woman who was brought before Christ by the scribes and Pharisees in order to trap Christ into saying something that they could use against him. They wanted him to condemn the woman for her behaviour but instead he asked them to throw the first stone if they had not sinned themselves. They drifted away one by one until only the woman was left. Christ forgave her and sent her on her way.

How many times do we make judgements about people when really we have no right to judge others because we do not know the full story? At times, we might not always agree with a person’s actions but from their point of view their actions could be quite logical. Is it up to us to make judgements or cause comments about others?

Easter is now only a few weeks away and is it timely for us to reflect on our lives and our relationships with God. Do we always get it right? I am sure that we all agree that we make many mistakes in our lives and in our relationships and this is a time when we can take stock of where we are at.

Staff

Congratulations to Mrs Monte on the birth of her new baby boy, Harvey Lee Monte. Mrs Monte will now be on maternity leave until 2015. Mr Albery will be taking over her classes and Mrs Quirk will be taking on the role of Marist Solidarity Coordinator in her absence. Mr Smith is still with his ill son but hopefully will be returning next term. In the wake of Mrs Meagher’s departure, Miss Nguyen will remain on staff for the rest of the year. Thank you to Mr Wilson who has filled in as the Year 9 Coordinator in Mr Hogan’s absence this term.

Alex McKinnon (2009)

By now, I am sure that everyone would have heard about the Newcastle Knights player, Alex McKinnon, who was badly injured in a tackle recently. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Alex and his parents, Scott and Kate, as they work through a difficult situation.

Changes

Due to the rebuilding and renovation of the College Hall, we have decided to postpone Grandparent’s Day until later in the year. I am sure that many have seen that the Hall refurbishment has finally got under way with the western wall already down. Hopefully we won’t have too much wet weather so that the Hall can be completed by Christmas.

Activities

The first round of the Debating commenced last week with more than half of the teams posting wins against St Patrick’s College Strathfield, a well-known Debating school. The Toastmaster’s Course concludes this week. The MCS Swimming Carnival was recently completed with the College coming third. The Marist Basketball Carnival is underway in Sale, Victoria with a young development squad representing the College. The First Grade Cricket Team won the Downie Shield (State Catholic School Champions) and now will participate in the All Schools Carnival later in the year. The Show circuit is well under way with the students representing the College at the Camden Show this weekend. The first Rugby Union trial game gets underway this weekend against Chevalier College in Bowral. The Rugby League MCS Competition commences next Thursday. The Soccer competition has been in play now for four weeks. The students are leaving on the Western Front Tour next Saturday.

It is easy to see that a lot is happening for the students and staff outside the classroom and this takes commitment and effort on the part of both students and staff. The commitment is the most crucial part of the equation if we want to present ourselves well as a College. We are very fortunate as a College to have a staff who are prepared to be committed to the students and for providing the students the opportunities to develop their talents for themselves and for the good of others.

Quae Seminaveris Metes.

Damien Millar
Headmaster
Mission

We are most fortunate to belong not only to the Catholic system of schools but the particular group within the wider Church who are known as the Marists. As Marists, regardless of your place of ministry, we share many characteristics, one of which is the way we pray. Whenever you are at a Marist gathering, you will hear the same … St Marcellin Champagnat, Mary our Good Mother … pray for us … and let us remember to pray for one another.

In the spirit of this request to pray for one another, Mrs Sligar has organised for members of staff and their classes to support in prayer each Year 12 student in the next few months as they work through their yearly exams and then prepare for their Trial examinations, Graduation and the HSC. Each Year 12 student will receive a card indicating to them which staff member and/or class is praying for them. I thank Mrs Sligar for her work and hope that this simple act of accompaniment will be a source of encouragement to our Year 12 boys.

As we approach the last two weeks of our Lenten Appeal, there is still much for the boys to be involved in. One of these is a DVD/CD and electronic Games stall being run by Mrs Millar and her Year 10 homeroom. Suitable donations for this stall are being gratefully received (G and M ratings only please) and these will be sold at rock bottom prices. More information about how to sell your pre-loved items is available on the College website.

Cathie Clarke,  
Director of Mission/RE Coordinator

Year 7 News

Camp 2014 17 to 19 March at Sport and Recreation Academy Narrabeen

The camp was a great success with many of the boys experiencing some of the activities for the first time. The behaviour of the boys during activities and at night was exceptional and the help by the Year 11 Big Brothers was invaluable. We were very fortunate in having spectacular weather and this coupled with excellent instructors at the camp made for an overall successful camp. I would like to thank all the Year 7 boys, the Year 11 Big Brother team and teachers, Mr Limbrey, Mr Reyes, Mr Abra, Mr Clanfield, Mr Bullock, Mr Albery, Ms Linnenlucke, Ms Jackson, Mrs Price, Ms Allan, Ms Burke, Mrs Dash and Mrs Simmons.

Twilight Dance

On another note it was a disappointment to postpone the Twilight Dance for Year 7 but due to the poor weather situation it was the better option, we will reschedule this event later in the year.

Stephen Hartnett, Year 7 Coordinator
**Student Profiles**

Congratulations to the Jacob Aakhus (Year 11), Mark Perich (Year 8), John Spencer (Year 12), Benjamin Hall (Year 12), Daniel McIntosh (Year 11) and Joshua Brady (Year 12) on their successes as shown below.

---

**Student News**

We would like to acknowledge the work done by Nicholas Hresczuk (Year 10) at the College Farm. Nick has taken it upon himself to be at the College at 7am each day to work with a group of very eager Year 7 students teaching them how to safely work with cattle and the many jobs done each morning feeding, mustering and tying up cattle. Nick displays leadership and mentoring skills and is very supportive of these new students.
MCS FOOTBALL AND RUGBY LEAGUE
Our Football teams have continued their good start to the MCS competition with all teams defeating Parramatta and 6 wins from 8 games against Patrician Brothers College, Blacktown.

In the Rugby League “Weight for Age” competition the 13 year team remains undefeated and the 14 year team has had 3 wins and a one try loss to Penrith.

MCS SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Congratulations to the College Swimming Squad who placed third at the recent MCS Swimming Carnival. The 17 years Freestyle Relay team of John Spencer, Joshua Brady, Daniel McIntosh and Ethan Lazarus set a new MCS Record of 1:46.59sec and has qualified for the NSW CCC Championship next Term. Ben Hall (Opens) and Mark Perich (14 years) were Individual Age Division Runners. The team was coached by Mr Dixon assisted by Ms Wray and Mr Anderson.

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS
We have a number of students who have achieved Representative Honours.

For details of these and to see the full sport report, go to Week 10 sport report.

Joseph Lantz, Sports Coordinator

Dear Parents,

I would like to remind you that all students, at the beginning and end of each day, need to be dropped off or picked up at the drop off zone at the front of the College.

It is not possible to pick up the students in the staff car park or at the farm.

Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

Matthew Brennan
Deputy Headmaster

Under the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards 2005, St Gregory’s College is participating in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability.

During this process student data is entered into a secure Online Tool. If you do not wish your son’s information to be included in this data collection process, please email our Learning Support Coordinator, Mrs Joanne Dash joanne.dash@stgregs.nsw.edu.au.

UNIFORM SHOP
Open Saturday 26 April 2014
10am to 2pm
No appointment necessary

Have you changed address, contact numbers or any other details?

A link is available on our website to a form which can be used for updating Family and/or Medical information. This can be accessed via the Current Families tab. Alternatively, the information can be emailed to the College Registrar: kate.stott@stgregs.nsw.edu.au.