Prayer
Loving God, we pray that we might be open to your Holy Spirit to guide us in our lives. May we use our gifts to build community.

We make this prayer in Jesus’ name. Amen.

From the Principal

Reflection
The Easter season of the Church draws to a close. This time of hope restored and joy in the abounding love of God gives way to the gift of the Holy Spirit, celebrated at Pentecost. In the Gospel reading for this week, we hear some of the final words of the risen Christ, “The Father will send you an advocate, the Holy Spirit, to be with you forever....to abide with you and in you...I am in the Father....you in me and I in you.” Such reassuring words that God remains always in relationship with us. The Holy Spirit invites us to hear, see and be the breath of God.

Last week we were delighted to welcome Sr Majella Tracy FMM to the College. She shared memories of the founding Sisters and their great vision for Ave Maria College. I was struck by the story Sr Majella shared of the courage and conviction of Mother Marie Crysanthé (then Provincial Leader of the FMM sisters). Mother Crysanthé led discussions on the establishment of Ave Maria and insisted on it being a College which educated the ‘whole person’, providing learning excellence in a broad range of areas rather than having a restricted focus. We are indebted to Mother Crysanthé and the FMM sisters for their vision, their persistence and their commitment to educating young women for the modern world. Their legacy very much reflects the presence of the Holy Spirit with us and in us.

Staff News

Staff Long Service Leave in Semester 2

- Mr Patrick Jurd, Term 3 (Ms Jo Hammer, Acting Director Faith and Religious)
- Mr Michael Horne, Term 4 (Ms Jo Hammer, Acting Head of School Years 10-12)
- Mrs Lyndal McLean, Semester 2
- Mrs Susy Vianello, Semester 2

Teacher replacements in Semester 2

- Acting Head of School Years 7-9, Ms Jessica Hall replacing Ms Jo Hammer as above
- Acting Year 7 Year Level Team Leader – Mr Dino Conversano replacing Ms Jessica Hall as above
- Ms Nadia di Salvatore, Grad Dip. Ed, Grad Cert RE, B. Vis Art and Design teaching Visual Arts

New Staff

- Ms Voula Sotiriou, Dip Ed, B. Sci, teaching Mathematics
- Mrs Grace Ciavarella, B. Com/Arts, Dip Sec Ed, teaching Religious Education and Humanities
- Ms Antoinette Ciavarella, B. Ed, teaching Religious Education, Humanities and Italian
- Ms Jemma Anderson, B. ED (IT, PE), teaching Mathematics /Information Technology

Resignation

- Mr Joe Bilotta has resigned from the College and will take up a position at Sacred Heart College, Kyneton. We thank Joe for his service to the College and wish him every success in his new role.

Kick Arts
I commend the many students who took part in a very enjoyable evening at Kick Arts recently. Our College compere, Year 12 student Laura O’Gorman, did an amazing job in representing Ave Maria, showcasing her own great comedic talent in the process. In addition, I commend Ashleigh Coshan (College Captain) and all College Leaders for their fine work in organising and hosting on the night. Full credit goes to the participating students for their beautiful contributions in dance, singing or drama on the night. We congratulate St Bernard’s for taking victory on the night and for all who contributed to a very successful charity fundraising event.

Learning and Teaching Review
I thank all students and parents who participated in the community feedback forums for the Learning and Teaching Review last week. There was much discussion and commendation for the proposed improvements to our
Learning program. The Learning and Teaching Review draws to a close over the coming weeks and final determinations will be circulated to the whole community in readiness for the Subject Selection process. Semester 2 will see a priority given to the curriculum development of our innovative elective units in the middle years as well as the reconfiguration of existing courses to best reflect the directions taken.

I wish to draw attention to three matters which have been raised with the College and acted upon. I seek parent support and vigilance in assisting with our action in this regard.

1. Student use of Learning Device (Laptop). All students have been reminded of their User Agreement which outlines their legal and ethical responsibilities. Staff have been asked to be particularly vigilant to ensure students use their device in ways which enhance their learning and the reputation of both themselves and the College.

2. Student Winter Uniform. All students have been reminded of the importance of the correct wearing of their winter uniform. I am conscious of a number of students needing to adjust the length of their winter skirt to comply with College regulations.

3. Communication with Parents. I understand there has been some difficulty with parents accessing the Parent Portal and therefore the newsletters and other forms of correspondence. I refer you to an insert in this newsletter from our Business Manager, Mr Allan Thompson. I ask all parents to note the changes being made to better communicate with all families.

Peace,
Elizabeth Hanney
Principal

Head of School

Years 10 - 12

Examinations

Semester examinations give our students the opportunity to show us what they know in a controlled and fair environment. At the end of Semester One there is a formal exam period for Years 10 and 11. The Year 10 and 11 exams are designed to recreate the experience of the important Year 12 exams, building familiarity and confidence in students.
Head of School
Years 7 - 9

Learning and Teaching Review

On Tuesday, 20 May, all Student Leaders from Years 7-12 were invited to the Learning and Teaching Review presentation to students. During this lunchtime event, the students were updated on the proposed changes to the Learning and Teaching program that will be implemented in 2015. The students were made aware of the change to the day structure (moving to a 5-period day), as well as changes to subject offerings at each Year level. The response from the Student Leaders was a sense of excitement and support of the proposed program. Following the presentation the students were asked to present this information to their respective Year levels. These presentations have been taking place during Homeroom over the past week. On Tuesday, 27 May the Student Leaders (and any other student who would like to join us) then attended a feedback session where they provided the Heads of School with a summary of their Year levels feedback, as well as raising questions or concerns that the students have about the 2015 program. This consultation process has proved to be well received and appreciated by the students.

Appropriate Use of Student Learning Device

The provision of student learning devices is based on a measure of trust. Following a number of incidents of misuse of student learning devices, it was timely to give a reminder about the appropriate use of laptops, and the consequences for inappropriate use. Students in Years 7,8,10 and 11 were sent a memo from the Heads of School last week which reminded them of their responsibilities. The key points from this memo are outlined in the insert to this Newsletter.

Faith and Religious Education

On 13 and 14 August, the Year 10 students will undertake their FIAT (community service) program. The recent Year 10 Reflection Day was devoted to showing the girls the importance for Catholics of living our faith through caring for those in need and giving the girls the opportunity to think through their options.

On 30 April, all of the Year 10’s went to Moonee Ponds Bowls Club for our Reflection Day. We spent the day reflecting on the topic of “What Can I Give?”. We had some great guest speakers including a young volunteer from St. Vinnie’s, who motivated us to get involved in community service and taught us about being selfless in helping others. We also began a bit of discussion about our FIAT (Faith In Action Today) projects which will include volunteer work in August. It helped us to see how much we can offer to the community and we’re all excited to begin!

Sabrina Gleeson and Matea Hrkac
Year 10 Faith and Social Justice Leaders

Liaising with the local St Vincent de Paul shop, we invite members of the College community to contribute blankets or warm clothing to our annual Winter Appeal. Any donated items can be left in the College Chapel. Donations will be accepted until the end of May.

‘Cursed be anyone who deprives the alien, the orphan, and the widow of justice.’ (Deut 27:19)

Truth, Justice and Healing Council

Sexual abuse is harmful in many ways, most of them unseen. This evil work can be stopped when it is brought into the light. The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse is investigating how organisations such as the Catholic Church responded to victims and allegations of abuse over the past decades. The Truth, Justice and Healing Council is coordinating the Catholic Church's response to the Royal Commission with full disclosure and a commitment to justice for victims and survivors. To learn more, go to their website http://www.tjhcouncil.org.au/
It is a common misconception that the God of the Old Testament is ‘different’ from the New Testament. The Gospel thrust toward justice which is well known to Christians has its roots in this most fundamental of Jewish Scriptures, the Torah (the name given to the first five books of the Old Testament). We give our governments the responsibility to take care of those in need. Because they are human institutions, governments will always make mistakes. However, some current governments are falling well short of the mark outlined in this text and many others like in the Bible. As adults we have responsibility, thus we need to ponder ‘Is the government representing my wishes?’

Young people can have a passion for justice. It is vital that they are taught about the justice in the Scriptures and its moral claim on our behaviour. We also should ensure that they recognise the continuity between the Old and New Testaments. It is appropriate that schools continue to provide opportunities for young people to act for justice, especially for those ‘on the outer’ of society.

Patrick Jurd
Director of Faith and Religious Education

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**Pathways News**

**Year 10 Students**

Official Work Experience Week 23 June – 27 June 2014

Work Experience placement provides a valuable learning experience in regard to future career planning and subject choices beyond Year 10. Students will see what it is like in the workforce and in particular it allows students to try out a job they are interested in.

**Year 12 Students**

TIS (Tertiary Information Service) – Wednesday, 16 July 2014. Victoria University, Footscray Park Campus.

**Career News**

Items in the latest Career News on Learning Space Careers and Pathways include:

- Annual Cultural Care ‘Au Pair Week’
- Latitude Global Volunteering Information Night
- Defence Force Upcoming Information Sessions
- Career as a Paramedic
- News from RMIT University—Studying Industrial Design at RMIT and Studying Engineering at RMIT
- Career as a Civil Engineer
- News from the University of Melbourne—Oral Health Course and MyMelbourne Newsletter
- News from Deakin University—Introducing the New Communications Degree and Study Abroad Opportunities
- University of New South Wales Co-Op Program
- Real Estate as a Career
- Women & Career Fighting – Career Information Session
- News from Box Hill Institute
- Bachelor of International Business at the University of Canberra
- Discover Deakin School Holiday Program
- Bachelor of Creative Arts (Dance) at Flinders University
- Career as a Forensic Scientist
- Career in Journalism

Helen Aliaga
Careers and Pathways

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**Important Dates Term 2 2014**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 May</td>
<td>Excursion (SCSA Basketball)</td>
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<td>30 May</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
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<td>9 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday</td>
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<td>3-10 June</td>
<td>Year 10 and 11 Examinations (except 9 June)</td>
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<td>11 June</td>
<td>GAT Examination</td>
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<td>12 June</td>
<td>Year 12 Reflection Day</td>
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<td>13 June</td>
<td>Sausage Sizzle</td>
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<td>16 June</td>
<td>Assessment and Reporting Day</td>
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<td>17 June</td>
<td>VCE Semester 2 begins</td>
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<td>17 June</td>
<td>Excursion (SCSA Cross Country)</td>
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<td>19 June</td>
<td>Year 11 Reflection Day</td>
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<td>20 June</td>
<td>Year 8 Special Persons Mass</td>
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<td>20 June</td>
<td>Music Performance Gala Evening</td>
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<td>25 June</td>
<td>Excursion (SCSA Hockey)</td>
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<td>27 June</td>
<td>Term 2 Ends</td>
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**Student Absences**

To report a student absence please telephone Ave Maria College on 9331 9359 to leave a recorded message including student’s name, date of absence and Homeroom.

**Administrative Services**