Hello Parents and Friends of the College,

This week we have devoted the front page of our newsletter to a most exciting event in the life of our Church: World Youth Day. For many of our young people this is a once in a lifetime event and I encourage everyone to be involved.

Welcome to this very special WORLD YOUTH DAY Edition of the Good Samaritan Catholic College Newsletter!

It is hoped that this newsletter will provide the answers to some of the burning questions you may have about the involvement of your families in World Youth Day 2008.

'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses.' Acts 1:8

What is World Youth Day (WYD)?
World Youth Day is the Catholic Church's week of events for youth and with youth. Thousands of young people from around the world will celebrate and learn about the Catholic faith and build bridges of friendship and hope between continents, peoples and cultures. While World Youth Day celebrates the Catholic faith, its message is relevant to all people and all are welcome. Many non-Catholic Christians and others have taken part in previous WYDs.

When will World Youth Day be held in 2008?
WYD will be held from Monday 15th July to Sunday 20th July 2008. This will occur in the second week of the July school holidays next year.

Join the pilgrimage!
A pilgrimage is a journey to a sacred place or shrine. In the context of WYD, the physical journey to the host country or locations allows pilgrims an experience of discovery, not only of the places that they visit, but a spiritual experience of the beauty and awe of the universal church shared by those that are present. The Catholic church shares in a rich tradition of pilgrimage, where pilgrims of ancient times have traveled “in faith” to places of religious significance. The physical journey becomes a vehicle for the journey within, a journey with and towards God.

Why is it called World Youth DAY when the events go for a week?
The week of festivities and events of World Youth Week culminates with the celebration of the Eucharist by Pope Benedict XVI on the final day, which is Sunday 20th July 2008. Prior to this Mass, which will be held at Randwick Racecourse, the pilgrims participate in festivities and events during the preceding week that will enable them to unite and celebrate their faith with pilgrims from all over the world as well as share in the hospitable spirit that Sydney has to offer.

Come and be involved!
Every Catholic is encouraged to be involved in World Youth Day, however, the target age range for WYD08 is 16 - 35. It is emphasised that the event is open to people outside the age range with, in some cases, limitations and restrictions. It is expected that a higher proportion of families and a higher number of school...
groups will attend WYD08 than at previous events.

Whilst the target range is listed above, the success of WYD08 will largely be dependent on the practical support and involvement of Catholic families from our Catholic schools and parishes. There are many ways that students, parents and families can get involved which are listed below in the “How do I become involved?” section. Also refer to the “Age for Registration Policy for Pilgrims” on the website for more details.

What happens during the week of WYD?

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<td>Monday 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July 2008</td>
<td>International and interstate pilgrims are due to arrive in Sydney and will be forwarded to their accommodation lodgings. These accommodation lodgings include schools, parish halls and parishioner homestays.</td>
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<td>Tuesday 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July 2008</td>
<td>Opening Mass of Welcome celebrated by George Cardinal Pell, followed by a concert.</td>
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<td>Wednesday 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July to Friday 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July 2008</td>
<td>Catechesis (teaching) sessions every morning and Youth Festival events in afternoon / evening.</td>
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<td>Thursday 17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July 2008</td>
<td>Arrival and welcome of Pope Benedict XVI.</td>
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<td>Friday 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July 2008</td>
<td>Stations of the Cross - a re-enactment of Our Lord's Passion and Death.</td>
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<td>Saturday 19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July 2008</td>
<td>Pilgrimage walk to site of Closing Mass (Randwick Racecourse), evening Vigil with The Holy Father and sleep out 'under the stars'.</td>
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<td>Sunday 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July 2008</td>
<td>Closing Mass and concluding events.</td>
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WYD is a celebration for people from across the world.
An estimated 500,000 participants are expected to attend at least one event during the World Youth Day week. We expect Sydney to receive 300,000 visitors during this time, including 125,000 from overseas. A media contingent of 3,000-5,000 is anticipated. At the last international WYD in Cologne in 2005, 1.2 million people attended the Final Mass and 7,000 media personnel covered the event.

HOMESTAY—a great way for families to be involved in WYD
HomeStay is a program that will accommodate thousands WYD08 pilgrims in homes across Sydney in the week from Monday 14 July 2008 (in) to Monday 21 July (out). HomeStay hosts will provide bed and breakfast to pilgrims from overseas or from other parts of Australia (ie, outside Sydney). It will be managed at the parish level through local coordinators.

REGISTRATION
All participants in WYD08 will need to officially register. Details will be provided to students in Years 9, 10 and 11 about how to do this in the coming weeks. Students may register with their parish groups, ethnic groups and the school group. There are several packages which are available for registration.

VOLUNTEERING
Participants over the age of 18 years are able to involve themselves by volunteering on the WYD website to offer help during the event.

Opportunities for Good Samaritan Students in World Youth Day?
Towards the end of Term 3, there has been a huge focus towards WYD in CAS classes. Most classes viewed a new promotion DVD about WYD and participated in a Bingo game that focused on general information about WYD.

Attendance at the WYD student committee is also a way that students can become involved and assist in actively promoting the excitement that is beginning to build as WYD draws closer.

Every student in Year 9, 10 and 11 (in 2007) is encouraged to register as a pilgrim. Many of the events are ticketed and we would not want people to miss out. The college is at present seeking ways to reduce the costs and we will certainly make a commitment to keeping costs down.

Join the excitement and register for this very exciting event.
Miss A Darmody, WYD Co-ordinator
Last Monday the staff met to review Parent and Student surveys and develop our Strategic Management Plan. It was a most productive day and the plan is now well underway. The planning group met on Wednesday to bring the plan together and analyse information from all groups. The Strategic Management Plan will be available to parents at the beginning of next year. The results of the surveys will be included in future newsletters.

Congratulations to our Year 10 and Year 12 students who completed their respective School and Higher School Certificate Exams. We now eagerly await the results which will be available in December.

Recently I was contacted by the Catholic Education Office informing me that five of our Year 12 students had received teachers scholarships for 2008. Congratulations to Jaimie Selvage and Ashley Azzopardi on receipt of the Executive Directors Teacher Education Scholarship and Bianca Losurdo Christopher Carson and Joshua Whiteford on receipt of the Sydney Catholic Schools Scholarship. These scholarships are well deserved and will certainly help students meet the costs of their respective university courses.

Once again at our recent Assembly I had the pleasure of presenting Gold Awards to five very deserving students. Congratulations to Helen Said, Robert Borg, Jessica Bugeja, Breannah Mattiuzzo and Leah Brown on their tremendous efforts which led to the receipt of this prestigious award.

Last week our nation recognised Remembrance Day. Let us not forget the significant contribution and sacrifice that these men and women made to this wonderful nation.

Prayer for Peace
God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Mr J Lo Cascio
Principal
Parenting Corner

GETTING KIDS TO TALK
A few months ago I can remember being amused by an advertisement on TV about a new chocolate bar. Conversation between mother and son was only in grunts until she produced the chocolate bar which at least offered a conversational starter.

“How was your day, dear?”
“Aw right!”
“Anything good happen today?”
“Nuh
THEN COMES THE CHOCOLATE BAR! MUM THIS IS GREAT!

Talking with some children can be as much fun as getting teeth pulled as they withhold information as if their lives depended on it. It’s frustrating as you just want to show your interest and also get a picture about their state of mind and emotional well-being.

Even the toughest nut will crack and open up given the right time and conditions. Here are some ideas from the psychologist, Michael Grose, to help you open up some dialogue if you have a conversational clam in your family:

SET THE MOOD FOR COMMUNICATION. Turn the TV off at mealtime and perhaps share a little about your day.

TALK ON THEIR TURF. Many kids will open up in the privacy of their own bedroom as they feel comfortable and relaxed. Think of where your adolescent feels most comfortable and least threatened next time you begin a conversation.

TALK WHILE DOING SOMETHING TOGETHER. Boys in particular, are more likely to open up when their hands are busy. So go for a walk or bike ride, do a job or make something together and watch the tongue loosen as they become lost in activity.

DRIVE WITH THE RADIO OFF. If you drive long enough someone has to break the silence!

SAY IT WITH A NOTE. Some children find it easier to put their thoughts down on paper than rely on the spoken word. You can begin written communication by supplying a diary or message book. You may even initiate it by writing a note from time to time when you have something important to say.

The best communication in families happens when no one is working at it. However there are times when parents need to be PROACTIVE TO GET COMMUNICATION GOING.

Feel blessed if it all just happens!

Sr Marj Carroll

Career News

MTA Apprenticeships
Over 100 apprenticeships available in NSW and ACT, light vehicle mechanic, auto electrical, spray painting, parts identification, panel beating and detailing. See the list of urgent vacancies with Mr Berry or contact MTA Apprenticeships Plus on 47 32 200 or www.mtaplus.com.au.

Metal and Engineering Apprenticeships
6 apprenticeships in the Campbelltown and Liverpool area for 2008 start. Contact Johanna Vance at SW Sydney Institute of TAFE on 9825 7352.

KFC are recruiting!
Jobs with flexible hours to suit your lifestyle. Part-time and full time positions – call in and speak to a store manager or visit www.kfcjobs.com.au.

Hospitality Certificate III traineeship at Hotel Intercontinental
Paid positions to complete a Certificate III qualification in Food and Beverage and Room Service. 2007 HSC graduates preferred, especially Hospitality students – visit www.ihg.com/careers to apply.

QANTAS Apprenticeships
Engineering and Maintenance apprentices are currently being recruited for the Mascot Jetbase in; Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Avionics Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Mechanical Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Structures Aircraft Mechanic Mechanical Aircraft Mechanic Avionics

Applicants must have completed Year 10, (Year 11 for Avionics), pass a medical examination and Federal police Criminal History Check and be over 15 years old.

Apply at Apprenticetraining@qantas.com.au or find out more at www.qantas.com.au/info/about/employment/engineering.

ACCESS Pre-apprenticeship courses
Alliance People are running a series of short courses at TAFE colleges in various locations for carpentry, electrical, automotive, paint and panel, hairdressing, baking, chef and Army Reserve apprenticeship seekers. All candidates must attend an information and testing session at the TAFE that will hold the relevant course. To attend one of these sessions, call 1300 657 925 and get session times and location details. All candidates must take along a resume and dress for an interview.

Child Support Agency website
Help and advice for families suffering issues such as separation, visit www.youth.csa.gov.au.

UTS Information Event
For Year 10 and 11 students and their parents or caregivers; “Preparing for uni” Saturday, November 24th, 9.30 am until 12.00 pm, University Hall, Building 4, 745 Harris Street, Broadway, City Campus. Register by visiting www.uts.edu.au or call the School Liaison Unit on 9514 1711 or email school.liaison@uts.edu.au.

Mr S Berry, Careers Adviser
What are Catholic school communities seeking from political parties in the 2007 election?

One in five Australian students is currently being educated in a Catholic school. On behalf of these children, their families, teachers and school communities, the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) has made the following requests of the major parties contesting the Federal Election on 24 November 2007, for the period 2009–2012.

1. Increase recurrent funding for all schools — government and non-government
   • Ensuring that no school will be disadvantaged in any funding agreement.
   • Providing additional funding for all schools, especially those in greatest need.

2. Increase funding for the capital needs of Catholic schools
   • Meeting a growing demand for new schools and the urgent need to upgrade and modernise facilities to meet contemporary teaching and learning requirements.
   • Increasing by 50% Capital Program Funds and continuing the Investing In Our Schools Program.

3. Increase funding for students with disabilities, as enrolments have increased by 91% between 1996 and 2006
   • Ensuring that students with disabilities receive comparable funding irrespective of the school they attend.
   • As an interim measure, funding students with disabilities equivalent to 65% of the cost of educating a student with disabilities in a government school.

4. Increase funding in areas of particular need
   • Support for refugee students under the ESL New Arrivals program and for students in rural and remote areas.
   • Addressing other needs through a 10% increase in funding for targeted programs.

5. Increase funding for Indigenous students, as enrolments have increased by 55% from 1996 to 2006
   • Providing additional financial support through the existing programs.

6. Increase funding for Vocational Education and Training (VET) given the skills shortage
   • Providing schools with an additional amount of 25% of the cost of educating a student in a government school to undertake school-based traineeships/apprenticeships.

Questions to candidates
Where opportunities arise — through meetings arranged with local members and candidates, public meetings and forums, and other relevant events — schools should inform and advise members of their community to seek answers to the following key questions.

1. Will your party support increasing recurrent funding for all schools, so that none are disadvantaged and those in greatest need receive the greatest increase?
2. Will your party support increasing funding to improve capital facilities in Catholic schools?
3. Will your party support increasing funding for students with disabilities in Catholic schools?
4. Will your party support increasing funding for students in rural and remote areas and new arrival students, particularly those who are refugees?
5. Will your party support increasing funding for Indigenous students?
6. Will your party support increasing funding to support Vocational Education and Training in Catholic schools?
Helping learner drivers become safer drivers

Free workshop for parents

To help you with practical advice about:

- Supervising learner drivers.
- Completing the Learner Driver Log Book.
- Understanding the benefits of supervised on road driving experience.

The RTA and your local council have set up free two hour workshops for parents and other supervisors of learner drivers.

The next workshop in your area will be held on: Wednesday 28 November 2007 6-8pm

Venue: Liverpool City Council’s Administration Centre
1 Hoxton Park Road, Liverpool

Bookings are essential. Book now on 9821 8835

Presented in collaboration with:

**Families Matter….**

Family life can be fun, satisfying fulfilling—and sometimes very hard work.

Free Seminars
With a Christmas Perspective

**Tuesday 20th November 7.30—9 pm**
“What Every Parent Needs To Know”

**Tuesday 27th November 7.30—9 pm**
“Children’s Needs—How To Listen To Them”

**Tuesday 4th December 7.30 –9 pm**
“Parents Have Needs Too”

Presenters:
Rosemary Pearce (Family Therapist)
Alan Dennes (Speech Pathologist)

Casula Community Centre
39 Ingham Drive Casula
(Next to the Library)

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

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*If you have any free time the Canteen would welcome your help...*