



Newsletter - Week 8 September 2013,

Lead with Courage
MACKILLOP
Catholic College

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The Newsletters will be uploaded to our website this year. Use the link above.



**"Never see a need without
trying
to do something about it"**

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BISHOP EUGENE HURLEY'S LETTER ON ASYLUM SEEKERS

Bishop Eugene Hurley emailed Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Opposition Leader Tony Abbott on August 16, after returning from a detention centre where he celebrated mass for Vietnamese families, including children and pregnant women.

Below is Bishop Hurley's full letter:

Dear Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Leader of the Opposition Tony Abbott,

I have just returned to my office from the Wickham Point and the Blaydin detention centres here in Darwin.

Sadly, I have been involved with detention centres since the creation of the Woomera centre, followed by Baxter and now, over the last six years, with the various and expanding centres here in Darwin.

I experienced once again today, the suffocating frustration of the unnecessary pain we inflict on one another. I celebrated Holy Mass with a large number of Vietnamese families, made up of men, women, children and women waiting to give birth. The celebration was prayerful and wonderful, until the moment of parting.

I was reminded of something a young man said to me during one of my visits to Woomera, all those years ago. I was saying something about freedom.

He replied, "Father, if freedom is all you have known, then you have never known freedom." I sensed the horrible truth of that statement again today.

I was also conscious of that beautiful speech made when the UNHCR accepted the Nobel Prize in 1981.

In part it states, "Throughout the history of mankind people have been uprooted against their will. Time and time again, lives and values built from generation to generation have been shattered without warning.

"But throughout history mankind has also reacted to such upheavals and brought succour to the uprooted.

"Be it through individual gestures or concerted action and solidarity, those people have been offered help and shelter and a chance to become dignified, free citizens again. Through the ages, the giving of sanctuary had become one of the noblest traditions of human nature.

Communities, institutions, cities and nations have generously opened their doors to refugees."

I sit here at my desk with a heavy heart and a deep and abiding sadness, that the leaders of the nation that my father, as an immigrant, taught me to love with a passion, have adopted such a brutal, uncompassionate and immoral stance towards refugees.

I imagine he would be embarrassed and saddened by what has occurred.

It occurred to me today that neither the Prime Minister or the Leader of the Opposition know the story of any one of these people.

Neither do the great Australian community.

/..

"May your journey always be filled with blessings, and may the life of Saint Mary MacKillop ignite in you the flames of faith and service"

Bishop Hurley's letter Continued:

I find that it is quite impossible to dismiss these people with all the mindless, well-crafted slogans, when you actually look into their eyes, hold their babies and feel their grief.

There has been a concerted campaign to demonise these people and keep them isolated from the great Australian public. It has been successful in appealing to the less noble aspects of our nation's soul and that saddens me. I feel no pride in this attitude that leads to such reprehensible policies, on both sides of our political spectrum.

I cringe when people draw my attention to elements of our history like The White Australia Policy and the fact that we didn't even count our Indigenous sisters and brothers until the mid 1900s. I cringe and wish those things were not true. It is hard to imagine that we as a nation could have done those things.

I judge the attitude of our political leaders to refugees and asylum seekers to be in the same shameful category as the above mentioned. In years to come, Australians who love this country will be in disbelief that we as a nation could have been so uncharacteristically cruel for short term political advantage.

It seems that nothing will influence your policy in this matter, other than the political imperative, but I could not sit idly by without feeling complicit in a sad and shameful chapter of this country which I have always believed to be better than that.

Sometime I would love to share with you some of the stories I have had the privilege of being part of over the years. I am sure you would be greatly moved. Sadly, for so many, such a moment will be all too late.

Yours sincerely,
Bishop E. Hurley

From the Principal's Desk



Lauretta Graham
Principal

I would like to introduce you to Dave Barnard, who will be at MacKillop Catholic College as the Flexible Learning Pathways Coordinator in 2014

This is a letter to you from Dave:

Dear Members of MacKillop Catholic College Community,

I have been given the opportunity to introduce myself ahead of taking the role in 2014 as the College's Flexible Learning Pathways Coordinator. My name is Dave Barnard and in January I will begin my twelfth year teaching in the Top End in a variety of roles that have had a common theme of assisting students in their transition to post schooling life.

Having previously completed five years of service at St Johns College, I am thrilled to be re-joining the Catholic education system. It is personally and professionally very exciting to be a part of the foundation of a new community and I look forward to the journey ahead.

It is the aim of the Flexible Learning team, in conjunction with all other College faculties, to strive to equip all of our students with the skills and resilience required to pursue their short, medium and long term goals. I hope to meet many of you over the coming months so that together in early 2014 we can hit the ground running.

Dave Barnard

Pray for Peace

POPE FRANCIS CONTINUED...

What can we do to make peace in the world? As Pope John said, it pertains to each individual to establish new relationships in human society under the mastery and guidance of justice and love (cf. John XXIII, *Pacem in Terris*, [11 April 1963]: AAS 55, [1963], 301-302).

All men and women of good will are bound by the task of pursuing peace. I make a forceful and urgent call to the entire Catholic Church, and also to every Christian of other confessions, as well as to followers of every religion and to those brothers and sisters who do not believe: peace is a good which overcomes every barrier, because it belongs all of humanity! I repeat forcefully: it is neither a culture of confrontation nor a culture of conflict which builds harmony within and between peoples, but rather a culture of encounter and a culture of dialogue; this is the only way to peace.

May the plea for peace rise up and touch the heart of everyone so that they may lay down their weapons and be let themselves be led by the desire for peace.

On 7 September, in Saint Peter's Square, from 19:00 until 24:00, we will gather in prayer and in a spirit of penance, invoking God's great gift of peace upon the beloved nation of Syria and upon each situation of conflict and violence around the world. Humanity needs to see these gestures of peace and to hear words of hope and peace! I ask all the local churches, in addition to fasting, that they gather to pray for this intention. Let us ask Mary to help us to respond to violence, to conflict and to war, with the power of dialogue,

reconciliation and love. She is our mother: may she help us to find peace; all of us are her children! Help us, Mary, to overcome this most difficult moment and to dedicate ourselves each day to building in every situation an authentic culture of encounter and peace. Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!"

A Prayer for Peace in Syria

God of Compassion,
Hear the cries of the people of Syria
Comfort those who suffer violence
Console those who mourn the dead
Give strength to Syria's neighbouring countries to
welcome the refugees
Convert the hearts of those who have taken
up arms
And protect those who are committed to
peace.
God of hope,
Inspire leaders to choose peace over violence
and to seek reconciliation with their
enemies
Inflame the Universal Church with compassion
for the people of Syria
And give us hope for a future built on justice
for all
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Prince
of Peace and Light of the world.
Amen



Catholic Diocese of Darwin
www.darwin.catholic.org.au
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SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

Praying for peace In Syria, middle east and the whole world

"I wish to make add my voice to the cry which rises up with increasing anguish from every part of the world, from every people, from the heart of each person, from the one great family which is humanity: it is the cry for peace! ... To this end, I have decided to proclaim for the whole Church on 7 September next, the vigil of the birth of Mary, Queen of Peace, a day of fasting and prayer for peace in Syria, the Middle East, and throughout the world, and I also invite each person, including our fellow Christians, followers of other religions and all men of good will, to participate, in whatever way they can, in this initiative."

Pope Francis, 1 September 2013





**Marie Butt
APRE**

From the Religious Education Department

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation 5pm Sunday before the 6pm Sunday Mass has begun

Confirmation, a sacrament of initiation, establishes young adults as full members of their catholic faith. This sacrament is called *Confirmation* because the faith given in Baptism is now confirmed and made strong.

Contact Marie Butt for details on: marie.butt@nt.catholic.edu.au

Those doing RCIA with Mrs Graham need not apply

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Peace be with you.

We have begun the preparation for Confirmation (Not Mrs Graham's RCIA group that meets at the College) on Sundays at 5.00pm at Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Emery Avenue. Followed by 6.00pm Mass.

This week, at Sunday Mass at 6.00pm there will be a rite of enrolment, followed by the handing out of Bibles.

All Welcome! Father Tom

College Calendar of Coming Events

20th September	Swimming Carnival at the Palmerston Pool
26th September	Student Leadership Training Day
27th September	MacKillop Has Talent Competition
27th September	LAST DAY OF TERM 3
7th October	STUDENT FREE DAY
Tuesday 8th October	1ST DAY OF TERM 4 FOR STUDENTS
Friday 6th December 2013	Date Claimer - FAMILY CHRISTMAS FAIR - Volunteers needed to join the Planning Committee





Science News

The Science Department has had an eventful month.

Early in August two teams from MacKillop competed in the NT regional final of the Aurecon Bridge Building Competition. Both teams competed well and brought home awards. Our Year 8 team of **Jasper Pfau** and **Liam Mulvahl** took out second place. Each boy was awarded a prize of \$100. In addition, they brought back a cheque for the college for \$1000. The Year 9 team comprising **Dustin Carter**, **Tai Terupo** and **Oliver Dulay** gained the award for the most innovative design, which attracted a prize for each of the boys of \$50 and for the College, of \$500.

As this article is written, Year 7 students and their families are preparing to enjoy a "Night with the Stars"; an astronomy viewing with keen astronomer, Mr Geoff Carr.

As the end of term approaches, Year 7 is finalizing the reports of their machines to lift loads. Year 8 is continuing their study of types of rock and The Rock Cycle. Year 9 is working on acids and alkalis, and their vertical garden while Year 10 is considering factors that affect our climate and environments.





Brodie McCutcheon
Sports Coordinator

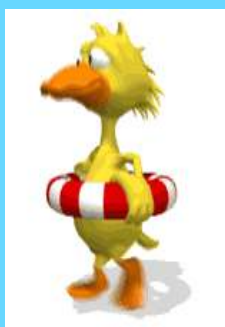
Swimming Carnival

**Friday
20th September**

**At the
Palmerston Pool**

**HELPERS
NEEDED!**
TO HELP COOK
THE BBQ
PLEASE
PLEASE
PLEASE
HELP!

Contact the front
office if you are able
to assist! Thank
you!



From the Sports Department

MacKillop Cross Country Event 2013!

The second MacKillop Cross Country Event was held on Thursday 29th August 2013! The pace was fast and furious and everyone had fun! See the results below:

Age Group	Winner
12 Year Old Boys	Jamie Thorne
12 Year Old Girls	La-Tonyia Norris
13 Year Old Boys	Jack Waddell
13 Year Old Girls	Grace Mayfield
14 Year Old Boys	Kaleb Pene
14 Year Old Girls	Alanah Wynd; Kayley Boye; Mikaela Higgins
15 Year Old Boys	Keanu Lee-Feeney
15 Year Old Girls	Mikayla Pene
16 Year Old Girls	Jessyka Hanson



Congratulations to Denzel Tulloch

of Year 7, who has just returned from representing the Northern Territory Basketball Team, which was held in Perth recently! Denzel's team finished 5th overall in the competition which was a great result!



NT Athletics Championships Results

NT Athletics and School Sport Championships that were held on 6th, 7th and 8th September. MacKillop Catholic College was represented very well by our gifted students. Such a great achievement for the following students-WELL DONE!

Name	Results
Alysha Healy – Under 14s	1 st in 100m, 2 nd in 200m and 2 nd in triple jump
Denzel Tulloch – 12s -	2 nd in 100m, 2 nd in 200m, 2 nd in 4 x 100m relay and 3 rd in 800m
Zoe Carrier – Under 16s	1 st in Discus, 1 st in shot put, 2 nd in javelin,
Kyle Collins – 12s	3 rd in triple jump, 5 th in Shot put, 9 th in long jump, 8 th in high jump, 7 th in discus
Shaquille McLeod – 12s	4 th in long jump,
Kaleb Pene – Under 16s	1 st in high jump, 9 th in 100 m sprint, 5 th in long jump, 7 th in 200m,
Cindy Coleman	100m sprint, discus, 400m,
Tyler Williamson- under 14	Shot put, discus

Denzel Tulloch was selected in the NT Athletics School Sports Team!

PARCS won the highest aggregate points of the School Sport NT Cluster division!



Year 9 Camp in Pictures!



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“May your journey always be filled with blessings, and may the life of Saint Mary MacKillop ignite in you the flames of faith and service”

College Notice Board



CURRICULUM MUSIC NIGHT

JOIN US ON
WEDNESDAY
25TH SEPTEMBER
AT 6:00PM

FOR A NIGHT OF
MUSIC
To CELEBRATE STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT



Date Claimer!

Parents & Friends Association Corner!



Family Christmas Fair

Friday 6th December 2013

6.00pm-10.00pm

Fun for all the family! Come and support us!

