

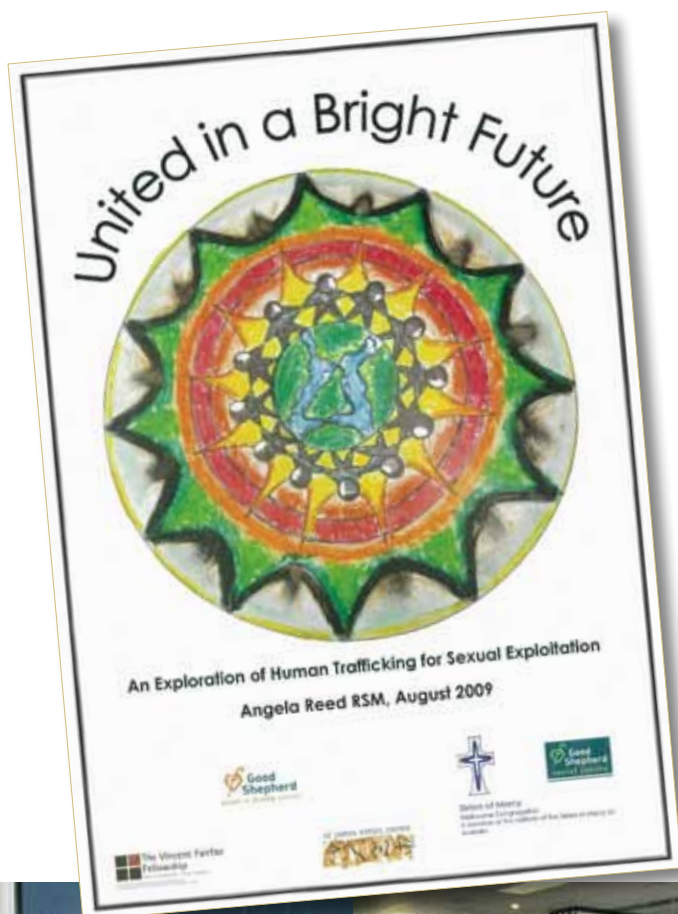


MercyEd 2010

The Newsletter of Mercy Secondary Education Inc. A00356608 ■ Volume 15 No. 1

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Address by Sr Angela Reed rsm to Principals and School Council members



On the evening of Friday 12 March at the annual School Council seminar, Sr Angela Reed rsm, engaged and inspired her audience of Principals, School Council members and MSEI Board members. The topic of Angela's address was, 'A Study on Woman and Human Trafficking in the Philippines'.

In 2008-2009, Angela was awarded a Vincent Fairfax Fellowship in Leadership and Ethics which, as part of the immersion phase, saw her travel to the remote locations of Kakadu in the Northern Territory and Weipa in far north Queensland. Following this 'field experience', her leadership program moved into other phases including time for personal and professional growth and development through extensive reading, meeting members of the Fairfax family and setting her learnings into action through research in a regional context. It was in the Philippines, in the city of Cebu, that Angela chose to undertake her research into the human trafficking and exploitation of woman.

In October 2009 Angela spoke at the Asia Pacific NGO Forum in Manila. Currently Angela is continuing her research in this area through her PhD studies at RMIT University. Angela's own inspiration has come from other inspiring women such as Joan D Chittister OSB, Deidre Mullins rsm and Mother Ursula Frayne who spoke of, "the move from thinking charity to doing justice".



Congregation Leader, Sr Kath Tierney, MSEI Board member, Dr John Brick with Sr Angela at the seminar.



editorial

2010 sees another year of celebration for Mercy Education with the sesquicentenary, that is, the 150th anniversary, of the founding of Sacred Heart College Geelong. Coupled with this, 2010 celebrates the centenary of Our Lady of Mercy College Heidelberg, 'the youngster' of all the Mercy secondary Colleges within the Melbourne Congregation. Celebrations at both schools will see the gathering of current students, past students, former principals, community members and friends of Mercy Education. A brief account of initial celebrations at OLMC is featured in this edition and a feature on the celebrations at SHC Geelong, to be held on 19 April, will be published in the next edition of the Mercy Ed.

Although well settled into their roles, we welcome new senior staff to their schools and positions. We wish them well as they take up the joys and challenges of their leadership positions. We also congratulate and acknowledge the outstanding achievements and commitment of the 2009 Mercy scholarship recipients who worked very hard over the past year to promote Mercy and justice at their schools.

The definition of long service has found new meaning with the length of service in Mercy Education by Mary Flinn. Forty-seven years is an outstanding length of time to be working in Catholic education – all at Mercy schools. To commit forty-three years of service to St Joseph's College, Mildura is an incredible effort and an extraordinary contribution to the school community. We wish Mary much happiness in her retirement.

Members of the MSEI Board look forward to another exciting year of Mercy Education, supporting the works of the Congregation, working with Principals, staff and students, and sharing the joys and celebrations of the year ahead.

Eugene Lynch
Editor

Centenary celebrations underway at OLMC



Sr Antoinette Burke rsm helps cut the OLMC centenary cake

Staff, students, alumni and friends of Our Lady of Mercy College (OLMC) Heidelberg have commenced their centenary festivities with high measures of joy, grace, and pride.

On 2 February 1910 the College (then named the 'High School') opened its doors for the first time. Under the direction of the Superior of the Academy of Mary Immaculate, five Sisters responded to the request of Father Parker, the parish priest of Heidelberg, to staff the primary school and start a secondary school in the area. Sister Basil Emoe who led the group commenced teaching six secondary-aged girls in one room of their rented home in Cape Street. At the same time they assumed responsibility for the education of approximately fifty primary-aged students at St Monica's school in Cape Street (now St John's).

Exactly 100 years later, close to 1130 OLMC students and 130 staff gathered on 2 February to mark the occasion. They did so through some simple, traditional rituals, including singing 'Happy Birthday' after a special centenary cake was cut by Sr Antoinette Burke rsm (one of OLMC's earliest past pupils, a school captain and a former teacher at OLMC), and one of the youngest girls in Year 7.

A more formal Centenary School Assembly took place on 11 February at LaTrobe University. In addition to several presentations about OLMC's history, the occasion featured the presentation of the Excellence Awards for 2009. The College community was joined by Congregation Leader, Sr Kath Tierney, MSEI Board Chair, Ms Patricia Ryan, past Principals of OLMC, College Council members and members of the Centenary Committee. The assembly was an enjoyable and meaningful tribute to the College's history and achievements.

Throughout the year the centenary events will pay homage to the founding Sisters of Mercy and those who succeeded them. Fitting tribute will also be extended to the parents and parishioners of the Heidelberg community who over many decades made an immeasurable contribution to OLMC's growth and success. And, importantly, there will be many opportunities for past pupils to connect, re-connect and share recollections of school days.

The OLMC community is grateful for the support, goodwill and birthday greetings extended by the MSEI Board and by Mercy schools and their affiliates.

Welcome new Senior Staff

Sacred Heart College Kyneton



Margaret Leahy – Director of Religious Education

My appointment as Religious Education Coordinator at Sacred Heart College Kyneton brings me to a very happy point in my teaching career. Having finished four years at Mercy Regional College in Camperdown, I consider myself very fortunate to be able to remain within the Mercy education family.

My earlier teaching career includes twelve years at Saint Patrick's College in Ballarat followed by three years at Loreto College. During my time at Camperdown I was privileged to take part in the Mercy Ethos Program at Baggot Street in Dublin. I have come to know many of the people in the Mercy system and as a result to feel very much at home here at Sacred Heart.

I am most inspired by the energy and commitment of the staff here as they go about the very busy work of term one in a spirit of deep prayer and concern for our beloved principal John Arthurson as he completes his treatment and prepares for a return to us in semester two.

My husband Gerry and I have settled in Woodend and are thoroughly enjoying all that this beautiful area has to offer. Having family close by was a prime reason for our decision to move and we are certainly enjoying that part of our life here as well.



Emmanuel College, Warrnambool



Peter Waters – Religious Education/Faith Development Coordinator

Peter is well known to many members of the school community as he served as the Secondary Religious Education Consultant for the Ballarat Diocese from 1990-2003. In that capacity he worked closely with members of the Religious Education faculty and

presented many staff formation programs. Obviously there have been many staff changes in those intervening years and the College has grown in size but Peter feels that he has returned home and he is thrilled to be part of the Emmanuel family.

Peter taught in a number of schools in England before coming to Australia in 1986 when he began to teach here at Nagle College, Bairnsdale. Following this, he was appointed to the staff of the Religious Education Centre and Peter and his wife, Patsy, and their two daughters, Cara and Kerry, moved to Ballarat. Whilst working with the Diocesan Secondary Colleges, Peter undertook part-time study and completed a Masters in Religious Education and a Masters in Theology, both at the Australian Catholic University.

In 2003 Peter returned to the classroom and served as the Religious Education Coordinator at MacKillop College, Swan Hill, for two years before accepting the role of Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. There is no doubt that Peter brings many years of significant educational experience to the Emmanuel community. He believes that the key to good Catholic Religious Education is a personal passion for the Good News of Jesus Christ and a desire to communicate that passion to young people.

Outside of school hours Peter likes to play golf and enjoys going to the races. He will have no problem in pursuing those two interests in Warrnambool! We wish him well as he settles into his new role and new community.



Welcome new Senior Staff

Catholic College Bendigo



Alannah Darmody – Director of Catholic Identity

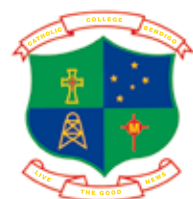
It has been a great joy to begin working in the role of Director of Catholic Identity at Catholic College Bendigo this year. As a previous student of Catholic College Bendigo, the College community has always played a core role in my formation. Whilst I

have had wonderful experiences in other educational systems I never really felt 'complete' in these settings; I knew that something was missing.

Faith has always been central to my everyday life. When I began working at Catholic College Bendigo in 2004, I quickly realised the 'something' that had been missing is what we hold at the core of Catholic Education – our faith. It was then that my perceived 'career' as an educator was transformed into a vocation. It is within Catholic Education that I can give of my whole self, and in which I feel fulfilled and energised. What an absolute privilege it is to be in a role where our identity as a Catholic community is its basis.

A vocation in Catholic Education brings with it an awesome and challenging responsibility. I believe that everyone within Catholic Education, and indeed, all the baptised, are called to be leaders of faith – to exemplify what it means to Live the Good News (our College motto) for the benefit of all creation. The area of leadership, particularly faith leadership, is a deep passion of mine. This passion was cemented in 2005 and again in 2008, when I had the wonderful opportunity to lead groups of young adults to World Youth Day in Germany and Sydney. Witnessing the outward transformation of the young adults and accompanying staff who were immersed in this experience, helped me to understand more fully the precious nature of my vocation.

Last year I was excited to complete studies in Educational Leadership at Australian Catholic University. As a member of the College's Leadership team, I enjoy putting the knowledge and experience gained into practice and sharing the many joys and challenges that leadership offers. In such a vibrant community, based on the Good News of the Gospel and our Mercy and Marist charisms, I hope that my leadership helps to create fertile soil for the ongoing growth of all those within our community.



Mount Lilydale Mercy College



Lucia Tabacchiera - Co-Campus Director, Barak Campus

Lucia began her teaching career nine years ago on the Mornington Peninsula at Padua College and in her third year of teaching was appointed Year 10 Coordinator at the College. She then returned to the Yarra Valley and started teaching at Mount Lilydale Mercy College.

Whilst teaching at Mount Lilydale Mercy College she has held several leadership positions; Acting Year 9 Coordinator, Assistant Key Learning Area Head of Humanities and most recently Faculty Leader of LOTE and a leader for World Youth Day in Sydney. She was appointed to the position of Co-Campus Director of the Barak Campus for Years 10-12 students. She has always had a strong desire to become a person in leadership. She believes that this may stem from her early years, having been school captain at St Mary's Primary School in Mt Evelyn and then further being involved in the SRC throughout secondary school and finally School Captain in Year 12 at Mount Lilydale Mercy College.

Lucia has built many strong and positive working relationships with staff, students and parents. She strives to excel in all she does and is aware that leadership comes in many forms. She strives to live her life as an example to those around her and knows that leadership opportunities occur in everyday situations.

Lucia regards herself as a sign of the future of leadership within Catholic Education. As a younger member of staff she hopes that she will be a positive influence on the younger generations to achieve their best and strive for their goals.



Welcome new Senior Staff

Academy of Mary Immaculate, Fitzroy



Jim Constantinou – Head of e-Learning

The position of Head of e-Learning is a new and very significant position at the College and we are delighted to welcome Jim Constantinou to the Academy of Mary Immaculate. Prior to joining the Academy Jim worked at Emmanuel College where he was Systems Manager from 1996 to

2009 and Head of ICT curriculum from 2005 to 2009. Over the years Jim has also taught in the Information Technology and Mathematics areas and is teaching in these Areas at the Academy as well.

During the 15 years that Jim worked at Emmanuel he was responsible for running and maintaining the school network across two campuses, developing innovative ICT curriculum and supporting the integration of e-Learning tools into the curriculum. Thus he brings this experience and significant expertise to the Academy.

Jim is married to Andrea and is the father of two young boys, Jacob who is 1 and Luca who is 4. He is an avid soccer fan and an always hopeful supporter of the Richmond Football Club.



St Aloysius College, North Melbourne



Antonia Caridi – Director of Learning

I had not walked through the gates of St Aloysius College since I completed my final HSC exam, as an excited sixteen year old in 1986. To return on the day of my interview was somewhat surreal and confusing as I entered the school from the opposite end to that which I had been

accustomed. There had been renovations!

Like many of my colleagues, I had always wanted to be a teacher and promptly completed an Arts Degree at LaTrobe University, majoring in English and Mathematics. I then

undertook a Graduate Diploma in Education at Mercy Institute of Education as my faith inspired me to want to teach Religious Education also.

My first full time job was at Santa Maria College, Northcote, where I taught all three of my methods for almost seven years. I found the first year there particularly daunting as I was teaching Year 12 students who were only two to three years younger than I.

Throughout this time, computers were being introduced to schools and my interest in this technology was immediately piqued and quickly grew into an obsessive passion. I embarked upon a Graduate Diploma in Business Computing at Victoria University while I was teaching full time and midway through 1997 I left teaching and worked in Computer Information Services for the Department of Defence. This environment was totally foreign – I had been in Catholic Schools, except for university, since the age of 4 and had grown accustomed to their charity, care for others and sense of community. Unsurprisingly, I did not last long and in 1999, I once again took up my vocation at Ave Maria College, Abergeldie

I have always loved learning and my zeal for curriculum change and empowering students to be independent and inquiring learners was continually fed with my involvement with VCAA and Victorian Information Technology Teacher's Association (VITTA). I have been on the writing panel for the VCE Information Technology Study Design 2007-2010 and 2011-2014; I have provided PD in Information and Communications Technology for over ten years; I was part of the IT VELT Progression Points development process; I have published several articles and exams for VCE IT and I am co-author of VCE IT texts to be released later this year. At VITTA I have been Secretary, Vice President and currently Treasurer.

And so in the spirit of "Ad Altiora" – "Strive for Higher Things" I embarked upon a Master of Education in 2007 at the same time as I commenced teaching at Sacre Coeur. Last year I successfully completed a thesis entitled, "The impact of school leadership upon the successful integration of ICT across the curriculum in secondary schools."

I am delighted to be the Director of Learning at St Aloysius College. It combines all that is important to me and my philosophy on education. It is a role through which I can, as the St Aloysius Mission Statement advocates, "...foster spiritual growth, life-long learning and academic excellence... and ...encourage students to be generous, hope-filled and resilient and to become responsible members of society" in an environment of Mercy – charity, compassion and justice.



Farewell Mary Flinn



St Joseph's College, Mildura bids farewell to Mary Flinn after 43 years

Members of St Joseph's College community recently recognised the retirement of Mary Flinn. Mary's working life has amounted to 47 years of dedicated service to Catholic Education – all at Mercy Schools and all in Victoria. While 43 years have been spent at St Joseph's College Mildura, Mary has always epitomised the work of Catherine McAuley in her dealings with students, parents and colleagues and the wider community.

During Mary's 43 years at St Joseph's College, she has taught every subject, although her main passion was Maths. At one stage she was even the Paymaster! She spent several years as Senior Mistress and can be credited with helping to build the foundations of our great College. She initiated timetabling for the school with cardboard squares, coloured shapes, drawing pins and many hours of labour. In all, she held nearly every position in the school.

In later years, she added Welfare to her qualifications and has been successful in this role for almost twenty years. Mary's many talents portray her caring, compassionate persona, but in particular she has the ability to make those around her reach their full potential as a complete person.

Mary's colleagues recognised how special she is to each of them; because she is considerate, generous, thoughtful, loyal, helpful and fun to be with. She has become part of many families which is greatly appreciated. Congratulations Mary on a job well done – good and faithful servant.



Sr Rosemary Graham rsm joins Mary at the farewell dinner



Mercy Scholarships

2009 Mercy Scholarships Recipients

The annual Mercy scholarship offered to each of the nine Mercy sponsored and co-sponsored schools, recognises students who demonstrate leadership in the Mercy tradition. Students chosen by their schools are acknowledged for their involvement in promoting school spirit, community service, fund raising and for their genuine concern for others less fortunate. Students featured below were the recipients of the 2009 Mercy Scholarship and we offer them, their families and their schools hearty congratulations.



Academy of Mary Immaculate



Phuong Dong - Year 7

Phuong Dong is an excellent role model for her peers. She is polite and helpful to both staff and students and demonstrates an acute understanding of the issues of others. She is willing to assist and has been instrumental in organizing the fundraising efforts of her homeroom. Furthermore, she

is always the first to volunteer when a task is needed to be done. She is an active member of the Drama, Art and Knitting clubs. This dedication of going the 'extra mile' is also demonstrated in her studies. Phuong attends a selective Mathematics Group and attends Vietnamese school every Friday night. At Vietnamese school she assists teachers with the organization of classes and events, as well as the Vietnamese Dance Group. Phuong is always quietly working in the background to help others, never asking for or seeking thanks and that is why she is so deserving of the Year 7 Mercy Scholarship for 2009.



Katherine Truong - Year 8

Katherine has really blossomed over the year. She is a respectful and hard working student who always listens and follows instructions carefully. She is always pleasant and offers a calm and kind presence in the classroom. Katherine is also

very keen to learn. She attends Justice Meetings and actively participates in Social Justice Initiatives. She is ready to lend a hand and to help anyone who needs assistance. Katherine has a gentle presence and genuine concern for others. She is considerate of her fellow students and willing to help in any way possible.



Anh Thuy Nguyen - Year 11

Anh Thuy is indeed a most deserving recipient of the 2009, Year 11 Mercy Scholarship. Her commitment to fairness, equality and justice is inherent in all that she does, whether through her interactions with her teachers and peers, or through her work with those who are less fortunate. As Class Captain of 11 Blue this

year, Anh Thuy has shown excellent leadership, serving the members of her homeroom with diligence, pride and, above all, humility. Her genuine caring nature for her peers has always been at the fore as she places the needs and concerns of others before her own. It is only fitting that she now embarks on her role as a member of the Senior SRC for 2010.

Over the years, Anh Thuy has been an exemplary ambassador for the Academy; whether through her involvement in the Justice Group, a Young Blood Ambassador or through her dedication to the Atherton Gardens Homework Club. Anh Thuy's involvement in fundraising initiatives for Sr Mary Geason's work in Africa and her involvement in collecting items for the Christmas appeal are all further examples of how she truly epitomizes the ideals inherent in the Mercy ethos.

Mercy Scholarships



Sacred Heart College, Geelong



Claire O'Reilly

Claire is a very well-respected student who is personable, hard-working, good-humoured and very committed to making a difference for others. As one of the student leaders in the College, Claire is often called upon to represent the school at community functions and forums. She assists in the organisation and work of the

Student/Staff Representative Council, and takes a lead in major events such as College festivals and feast days. As a leader, she is part of the Catholic Leaders of Geelong Schools Group which organises events for students and fundraises for charities. However, it is her work in the areas of Social Justice, volunteering her time and talents for the sake of others, and Church commitment which form the basis of her being awarded the Mercy Scholarship for 2009.

Claire has for several years been a member of the Social Justice Committee at school. She has been involved in sharing her ideas for the Committee, manning stalls, helping with charity fundraiser collections and taking part in actions such as collecting signatures for petitions and the staging of races at our athletics carnivals that have highlighted justice causes. Claire was also a member of the inter-school group which created the TRlumph Fest for schools in Geelong. This event, a music festival, raised close to \$50,000 for education in East Timor and promoted social justice issues to the young people who attended the event.

Other areas in which Claire has given generously of her time include:

- Volunteer Work – serving meals to needy in Geelong, tutoring Sudanese children, Felicity Project and Edmund Rice Camps;
- Church commitment – at school, parish and deanery level, participant in World Youth Day, Sydney 2008. Faith and activism go hand in hand.
- Initiative – bringing awareness and understanding of the Millennium Development Goal of Maternal and Child Health to Sacred Heart College;
- Modelling of what it means to be a Christian leader to the school community – being generous, good-humoured, ready to “have a go”, organized, committed, of service to others, work for other’s betterment.



olmc
heidelberg

Our Lady of Mercy College, Heidelberg



Kayla Kearns

Kayla has displayed leadership in many key areas of College life; The Arts, Sport and Social Justice. No task is too difficult for her to attempt and her willingness to contribute is exemplary. Kayla is driven to succeed in all areas. Her initiative to represent OLMC and be involved in the Banyule Council Youth

Forum highlighted her willingness

and desire to be a voice for young people. Her academic and sporting success is a tribute to her commitment to all she is involved in and her desire to achieve the best outcome not only for herself and her family but the College she so proudly represents.

Kayla demonstrates an emphasis on helping others and providing service:

- Basketball/netball coaching at St Martin’s Parish;
- Austin and Repatriation Hospital Community Service;
- Fund raising and promoting social justice activities;
- Involvement in Duke of Edinburgh and World Challenge Expedition (Thailand/Cambodia);
- Involvement with the Environment Club;
- Leadership positions since commencing in year 7.

Kayla embraces all areas of school life but most importantly she is welcoming and respectful of staff members and students alike. She makes a difference by her willingness to become involved and by demonstrating the role model qualities that make our community proud of her.

Mercy Scholarships



Sacred Heart College, Kyneton

Louise Black



Louise is a member of the SHC Justice & Service Group and has taken part in many fundraising and awareness raising activities. She has also attended the Mercy Seeds of Justice Conference and Young Mercy Justice Tree Conferences and regularly serves in the St Vinnie's Soup Kitchen. Louise's main area of passion is for

Human Rights, particularly Indigenous Australian Rights. This year, Louise attended a Victorian Government Human Rights Conference and took part in the College excursion to Jarlmadangah Aboriginal Community, WA. This community recently visited SHC for a day and Louise was involved in the organisation of this day. Louise actively campaigns for Close the Gap (life expectancy of young Aboriginals to non-Aboriginals). Louise's philosophy is that if we have the power to change things for the good, we should do it and hope that the world will follow.

Sophie Forrest



Sophie is a member of the SHC Justice & Service Group and has attended the Mercy Seeds of Justice Conference and Young Mercy Justice Tree Conferences. She regularly serves in the St Vinnie's Soup Kitchen, has helped run the 40 Hour Famine event and helped raise money for Bushfire Victims. Sophie has attended the

Global Leadership Convention; is a LOTE Leader assisting younger students to develop an enthusiasm for French; takes part in Galway Sports Association events and CAS soccer; and is a keen musician. Sophie's philosophy is that everyone can make a difference and show Mercy through kindness and compassion to one's fellow man.



Mount Lilydale Mercy College

Jordyn Belli



Jordyn embodies the Mercy charism in word and action. Throughout her time at Mount Lilydale Mercy College, she has displayed a passionate commitment to social justice and has been involved in initiatives including Seeds of Justice, Reconciliation Week, Close the Gap, St Vincent de Paul Week, Relay for Life and

the Caritas ACU Justice Conference. She has been an active participant and leader of student social justice committees. Jordyn has a passion for those less well off or marginalized in society; this passion has been reflected in her generous support of the College's programs in indigenous awareness including the Jigalong relationship and our partnership with Worawa College in Healesville.

Jordyn is a very popular member of the College community who has held a variety of student leadership positions and has been appointed as 2010 College Captain. She was a key member of the Mount Lilydale Mercy College pilgrimage to Sydney for World Youth Day 2008.

Jordyn is a strong and active supporter of the College's Sports program and has led by example through her involvement in in-house and interschool swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals. A notable aspect of Jordyn's leadership style is her capacity to motivate others and engage them in a range of sporting, social justice and other co-curricular endeavours.

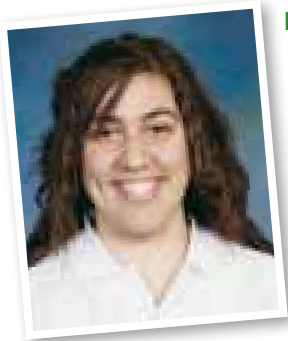
Through her enthusiasm and capacity to work with others, Jordyn is also a strong supporter of the Performing Arts. In her years at the College, she has been in many College plays and musical productions as well as the College choir.

Mercy Scholarships



St Joseph's College, Mildura

This year the Mercy Scholarship has been awarded to two students, Nicola op't Hoog and Alivia Opie. Both are Year 12 students in 2010.



Nicola op't Hoog has been an active member of the College community since commencing in Year 7. She has been a peer mentor, is on the Leadership Team of her House, Padua, attended Seeds of Justice and has been a member of the Mercy Action Group. She has also been the school's representative at Young Mercy Justice Tree in 2009. In response to YMJT, Nicola

organized a series of classroom lessons which highlighted the plight of those less fortunate in our world. These she taught to all religious education classes from Years 7 to 10.

Nicola has been involved in all aspects of school life, has a strong academic record and continues to give generously of her time and talents to make our school community a better place. As such, she exemplifies the spirit of Mercy.

Nicola writes: *"This year my school sent me to a series of Social Justice Conferences. These conferences involved other Mercy secondary schools from around Australia. The conferences were part of the Young Mercy Justice Tree (YMJT) and helped me greatly to fully understand the need for social justice."*

In the past I have attended the Seeds of Justice conferences and have been involved in school fundraising events, the proceeds of which were distributed to those in need. All of these were great experiences, but it wasn't until I went on YMJT that I truly understood the importance of educating young people on the issues of social justice.

Throughout the year, I have assisted the Mercy Action Group with various activities, such as cooking pancakes, selling homemade biscuits and fundraising for Mercy Missions. I have also tried to input as much of the Mercy theme into the school as I could. After returning from YMJT, I ran classes for the junior students on child labour and poverty, simply to expose them to the different aspects of our world that they may not have had the chance to find out about otherwise.

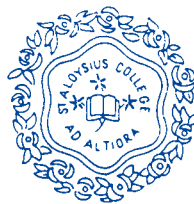
It has been a truly rewarding year and I am anticipating many great years in the future in which I can continue to make a difference."



Alivia Opie has been significantly involved in social justice at St Joseph's College and in the wider community. Her involvement with the Mercy Action Group at St Joseph's has allowed her eyes to be opened to injustices in the world. Alivia has taken a stand on these injustices through her organisation of and participation in various fundraisers throughout the school year for

Project Compassion and for Mercy Missions. She has also been active through her encouragement of others to also act on these issues by speaking at school assemblies and to younger year levels. Alivia has also been involved with school sports days, liturgies, assemblies and other extra-curricular activities.

Alivia writes: *"My involvement in social justice within the school has led me to take a stand on human rights. I have become more aware of human rights violations around the world and I have contributed to solving these problems by encouraging others to take a stand. I believe I have helped to foster the Mercy spirit, shown in compassion and justice, in my behaviour towards others."*



St Aloysius College, North Melbourne

Joanne Tran



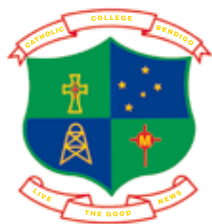
Joanne Tran is a committed and conscientious student who has made a significant contribution to the life of the College since she started in Year 7. Her involvement has been across a broad range of endeavours: Music, Soiree, Public Speaking, Cabaret, Musical Productions, Tour Guide and Social Justice activities.

Joanne has held a position of leadership since Year 7 and has been elected College Captain in 2010.

She has been an active volunteer with various organizations as well as participating in the Lions Youth of the Year Competition in 2009. She is a member of the Social Justice Committee and participated in the Seeds of Justice and Winter Sleep Out as well as playing the part of Gaston in 2009 College Production of "Beauty & The Beast".

Joanne is a great role model, a real contributor to the community and is a worthy recipient of the 2009 Mercy Scholarship.

Mercy Scholarships



Catholic College Bendigo

Jessica Curnow



The theme for 2009 at Catholic College Bendigo was 'Let their stories change our heart'. Jessica's story begins with a fork in the road – she describes her decision to enrol at Catholic College Bendigo as destiny, making her who she is today. Jessica proudly speaks about having a better understanding of her faith and

with this, her spirit is brimming to capacity; amplifying her gifts of compassion, empathy and a love of helping others, both friends and strangers.

Jessica's love of singing is intertwined with her volunteer work particularly with her involvement in the Sacred Heart Cathedral Choir, as Choir Leader of the Bendigo Youth Choir, established to assist the disadvantaged youth in Bendigo. She has spent a number of years as a volunteer for the Kangaroo Flat Safety House committee and is committed to Seeds of Justice, V-Jim (St Vinnies), and describes her trip to Samoa to work with those less fortunate as empowering. Oscar Romero spoke of hope and justice; that fork in the road for Jessica has led her onto a highway to do more and to BE MORE. Well done Jessica!

Melissa Mewburn



Dignity is a word that Melissa Mewburn uses freely and with enlightened reason. Melissa is an advocate for dignity and justice for all and works tirelessly within our College, throughout the Diocese and the community. Her faith enables her to confidently believe and trust that her work as House Captain for MacKillop House in

2009 has in some way exemplified the good works of Mary MacKillop. Melissa describes her participation in World Youth Day Sydney 2008 as life changing; enriching her soul with the gifts of other cultures and giving her the courage to openly speak about her faith as a guest speaker within the community.

In her spare time, Melissa is heavily involved in 'Justice Matters' and works 'one on one' with different needs students at the Catholic Education Gymnasium Centre. The Physical Education Consultant describes Melissa as "mature, caring,

compassionate and with a level of understanding and acceptance that is quite remarkable." Does Melissa Mewburn uphold the dignity of others? Does she truly live her beliefs and foster the spirit of Catherine McAuley and Mary MacKillop? The answer is a resounding 'YES'. Melissa Mewburn is a very worthy recipient of the Mercy Scholarship for 2009.



Emmanuel College, Warrnambool

Ben Smith



Ben was a Year 11 student leader in 2009 and achieved very well academically in all subject areas. Ben always displays excellent interpersonal skills and is renowned for his ability to interact positively with all members of the school community. His leadership style is very inclusive and he readily gives of himself, always

ready to lead by example. He has been involved in the liturgy program in the college.

Ben has regularly represented the college in a variety of sporting teams including Football, Athletics, Swimming and Cross country. Most importantly he is a tremendous role model for all students at Emmanuel and his friendly and courteous approach enhances his obvious leadership skills. As testament to this Ben has been elected one of the College Captains for 2010; he is a most deserved recipient of the Mercy Award.

Manon Ellis



Manon was a Year level leader in 2009 and has achieved excellent academic results throughout her time at Emmanuel. In 2009, Manon was part of a small group that participated in the Seeds of Justice and was a key player in bringing this project back to the college and forming a Year 11 Social Justice Group. During

these regular meetings, Manon displayed passion and concern and she was an integral part in the Year 11 College Personal Development Day on Social Justice. In her role as a Year level leader, Manon always conducted herself with Integrity and displayed the courage to voice her thoughts and ideas when it was warranted. Manon has been elected a student leader in 2010 and is a worthy recipient of the 2009 Mercy scholarship.

Callaghan Building



A new building named after Catherine and James Callaghan to accommodate Design and Technology, Home Economics and Hospitality and VCAL facilities has just been completed at Mount Lilydale Mercy College. Years of planning and construction have led to the occupancy of the building in the last week of February.

Students are enjoying classes in Home Economics, Design and Technology Textiles, Wood and Metal. Many years of waiting has been rewarded as students now have facilities that are large, bright and purpose designed to suit the needs of these specialist subjects. A commercial kitchen, three computer laboratories to be used for design work and two VCAL rooms have also been included in the building.

The official blessing and opening of the Callaghan Building will be scheduled later this semester.

