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MERCY *Ed*

The Newsletter of Mercy Education ABN 69 154 531 870

EMMANUEL COLLEGE CELEBRATES 30 YEARS



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EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first edition of the Mercy Newsletter for 2021, Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes them meaningful. As we reflect on the year that was, we realise how many lessons we have learnt and how much we have to be grateful for. For many of us, when our home became our office, our school, our restaurant and everything else in between, it was easy to feel trapped.

Recognising the many benefits of living in Australia and being grateful for what we have, not what we don't have, are experiences many of us have realised. Let our lived experiences of 2020 not go in vain. After reminiscing and learning from the 'rear view mirror', it has become particularly important to look out of the windscreen and into the future, taking what we have learnt from the past to assist us and our school communities in moving forward and continuing to thrive.

200 Years of Catholic Education

A national launch was streamed on Thursday the 18th of February for Catholic School communities to mark the commencement of the bicentenary for Catholic education, which will be celebrated throughout 2021. Over 200 years, Catholic schools have grown to become the largest provider of schooling in Australia (outside government) with one in five school age students attending a Catholic school.

This represents some 768,000 students in 1,751 schools across the country and employing 98,000 teachers and staff. Nearly 40 per cent of Catholic schools are located outside of metropolitan cities in regional, rural and remote communities.

Our Mercy schools and colleges have contributed significantly to Catholic education in Australia and beyond. In 2021 several

our Mercy schools are celebrating significant historical milestones and we extend to them our prayers, our thanks, and our congratulations.

- Mercedes College, Perth - celebrating 175 years
- St Aloysius College, Adelaide - celebrating 140 years
- Mount Lilydale Mercy College, Lilydale - celebrating 125 years
- Emmanuel College, Warrnambool – celebrating 30 years (following the amalgamation of St Anne's and CBC)

I extend a very warm welcome to new Deputy Principals and senior staff to their leadership positions at various Mercy colleges. We wish these new leaders every success as they embark or continue their leadership journey in the Mercy tradition.

My congratulations and best wishes are also extended to the recipients of the 2020 Mercy Award across the Mercy sponsored and affiliated colleges. Families, College staff and Mercy Education are very proud of the leadership and the Mercy values espoused by these outstanding students and we wish them all the very best in their future endeavours.

With the current roll out of the extensive vaccination program across Australia, we hope and pray that in coming months we have less restriction on movement, both within and across borders and that once again there will be more opportunity to meet and greet in person.

Brenda Keenan
EDITOR

R.I.P. – HAZEL LYNCH

27 May 1958 – 27 December 2020

At the end of 2020 we farewelled Mr. Eugene Lynch from Mercy Education and congratulated him on his retirement.

Over the Christmas break, it was with great sadness that we heard of the sudden and tragic death of Eugene's wife, Hazel.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to Eugene, his daughters and family.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS



In 2021 Emmanuel College celebrates 30 years since its formation, after the amalgamation in 1991 of two schools. Emmanuel has a history of providing a Catholic education to the students of the Warrnambool district since 1872. 2021 is also the year the College returned to the Mercy Education family and the rich educational culture and history that has evolved from Catherine McAuley's vision.

On Thursday 4 March, Principal Peter Morgan, Parish Priest Fr Lawrie O'Toole, Mercy Education Board Chairperson, Sister Sylvia Williams RSM and Chief Executive of Mercy Education, Christopher Houlihan celebrated with the entire school body, the 30th anniversary of the College operating as Emmanuel College, following the amalgamation of St Ann's College (Mercy) and Christian Brothers College. Sr. Sylvia offered a blessing for the school in beginning its new chapter as a full member school of Mercy Education. Fr Lawrie blessed all present including those chosen to lead at the College in 2021.

The Gospel message of Mercy presents a powerful vision of compassion and kindness. As a Mercy school, Emmanuel College continues the tradition of connecting with and experiencing God's mercy within a dynamic learning environment where each person experiences respect and unconditional acceptance.

The existence of the Mercy network gives strength, support and solidarity to each of the individual schools. We are stronger together.

Peter Morgan

PRINCIPAL, EMMANUEL COLLEGE WARRNAMBOOL

A NEW MASTER PLAN IS UNDERWAY AT ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE



St Aloysius College
NORTH MELBOURNE

"If we don't take Tullamore, no other community will"
– Catherine McAuley.

Her legacy continues.

In 2023 St Aloysius College, North Melbourne, after 134 years of providing an all-girls' secondary education, will open its doors to Year 7 boys. In so doing, St Aloysius College will proudly become the first co-educational Catholic School in the inner city of Melbourne. Although this will be a significant and historic moment of change, what remains unchanged are our enduring core Mercy values of hospitality, Service, Justice, Respect, Courage and Compassion. Our commitment to providing the highest quality education for all young people also remains unaltered.

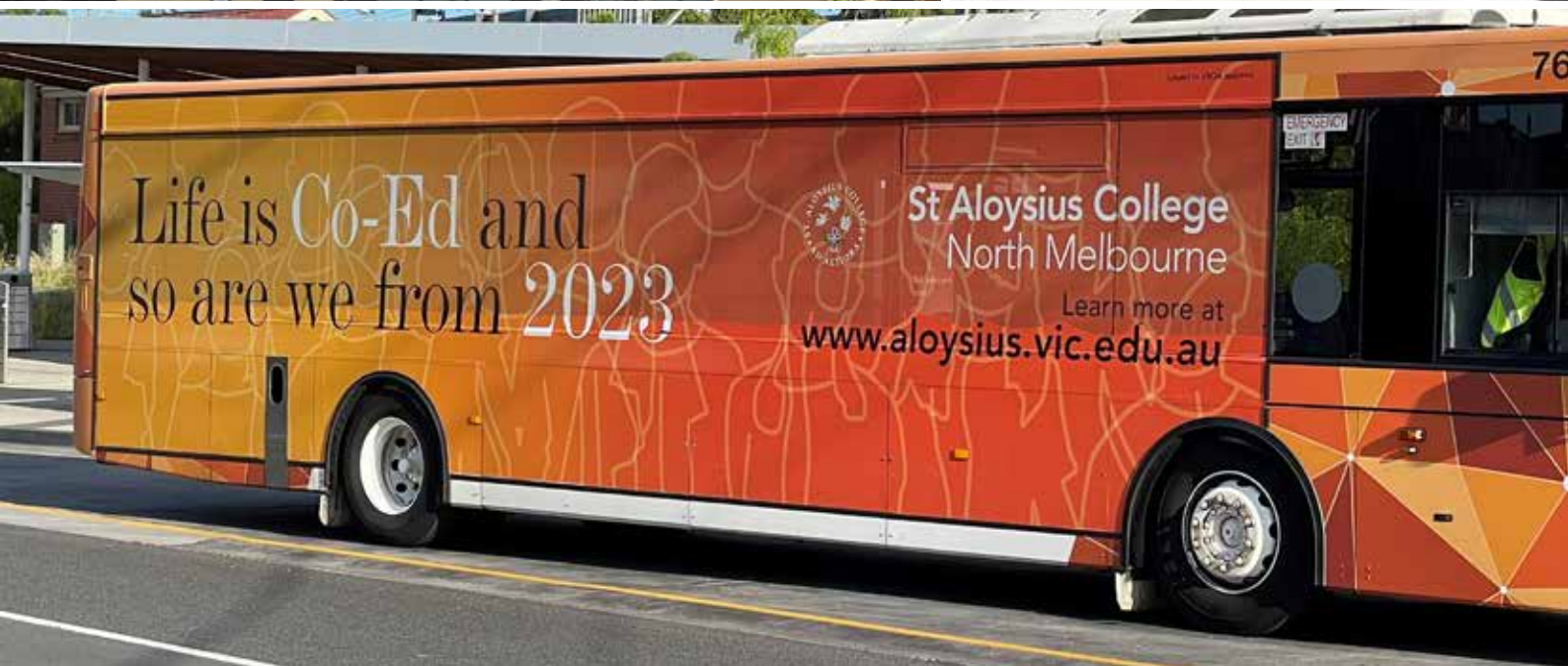
A new and exciting Master Plan is underway, complemented by short, medium, and long-term implementation thresholds of strategic vision. In the short term, our focus will be on sharing our vision with families new and old, and preparing our staff and our curricular and co-curricular offerings and programs.

Our Staff are excited to be part of this transition and all are ready to take the next step in our long College history. The inclusion of boys will bring a fresh perspective and new interests to St Aloysius College, building on a most wonderful legacy.

Mary Farah

PRINCIPAL, ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE





WELCOME SENIOR LEADERS



Mercy
Education

BRENDA KEENAN

HEAD OF MISSION AND EDUCATION

Mercy Education

Mercy Education is delighted to have Brenda commence in the inaugural role of Head of Mission & Education. The Head of Mission & Education role has its primary focus in Mission and Formation Leadership and in supporting schools to pursue excellence as espoused in the Mercy Education Charter for Schools.

Her work with school leadership members and the Directors of Mercy Education will be in supporting their Professional learning opportunities and developing scope and sequence for the various formal gatherings of the Principals; Deputy Principals; Faith, Mission, Catholic Identity Leaders and Social Justice Leaders in Mercy schools.

Brenda is a Mercy woman “coming home” – she is a former student at Sacred Heart College Shepparton (now Notre Dame College) and commenced her teaching at Catholic College Wodonga.

Brenda has experiences over 34 years of key educational leadership roles:

in schools, as a teacher with various positions of responsibility and in senior executive positions such as her appointment as Principal, St Augustine’s P-10 Kyabram; and

across Dioceses and Catholic Education systems as a Senior Education Officer, Deputy Director: Teaching and Learning, Deputy Director: Catholic Identity and Community Relationships, Assistant Director: Research, Policy and Governance while working in the CEO of the Northern Territory and at Sandhurst Diocese, and as Director of Catholic Education – Diocese of Port Pirie South Australia.

Brenda has also had experience working as a lay mission volunteer in various roles which have included teaching, lecturing, tutoring, project co-ordinating and in countries for

PALMS – Fiji Islands.

Marists – Bacau, Timor Leste.

Good Samaritans – Republic of Kiribati

Brenda has the following qualifications:

Master of Religious Education.

Master of School Management.

Bachelor of Arts and

Graduate Diploma of Secondary Education.

We wish Brenda every success in her new role and welcome her to the Mercy network.



ACADEMY
OF MARY IMMACULATE

SAM DI CAMILLO

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Academy of Mary Immaculate, Fitzroy

I am delighted to have been appointed as the Deputy Principal – Wellbeing and Operations at the Academy of Mary Immaculate. Not many schools have a portfolio that encompasses both of these areas and I was genuinely excited when I saw this opportunity arise and feel very humbled to have been appointed to the role. Throughout my career, which spans close to 30 years and having held a number of different leadership positions at senior level, I have taught in all boys, all girls and co-educational schools and whilst all three have their strengths, I feel that my time in girls' education has always been the most rewarding. In my previous roles, it has been an honour and privilege to serve and lead other school communities and I now look forward to the opportunity to continue to do so at the Academy of Mary Immaculate in 2021 and beyond. Over the years, I have developed a love for Student Wellbeing and Operations and I strongly believe that I have the relevant experience, knowledge and capacity to be a successful and a competent leader at the Academy at this senior level.

The role that we have as educators is becoming more important by the day as we continue to venture into the 21st century and society continues to evolve. I am a firm believer in holistic education, and I see that my role at the Academy is to continue to provide a supportive learning environment, where individuality is recognised, where student voice is heard, where achievement is celebrated and where students are encouraged to value education by having access to an extensive range of studies and programs that not only encourage them to be their best but do not limit their pathway based on gender.

Whilst the first month at school has been a very busy time with a steep learning curve, I have been made to feel welcome with open arms and I am very excited about being a member of the Academy of Mary Immaculate community. Into the future, I am looking forward to working with the entire community and, in doing so, make a very positive impact and add to the already rich and wonderful Academy story.

With every blessing,
Sam Di Camillo



Sharing Faith, Hope & Love
EMMANUEL
COLLEGE
WARRNAMBOOL

CLAIRE WRIGLEY

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – STUDENTS

Emmanuel College, Warrnambool

Through my years of teaching in a variety of leadership roles I have always placed priority on working to improve practice, programs and policy. My teaching and leadership approach is based on the ideal of education that nurtures the whole person. I provide leadership that is centred on compassion and respect.

Since 2018, I have been Assistant Principal – Students at Mercy Regional College Camperdown. Prior to this I taught at Mount St. Joseph's College and St Joseph's College, Geelong, where I held leadership roles including Year Level Coordinator, Community Service Coordinator, Transition Coordinator, Head of Health and Physical Education and Director of Sport.

My leadership experiences have been enhanced and supported by great colleagues, role models and my academic studies. I have a Master of Education (Student Wellbeing) from the University of Melbourne, a Graduate Diploma in Religious Education from the Australian Catholic University, a Bachelor of Education (Physical Education) and a Certificate IV in Training & Assessment.

At Mercy Regional College in Camperdown, I was responsible for founding the 'Respect Cup' and creating greater indigenous awareness through the FIRE Carrier leadership and community acknowledgment of indigenous Australia.

It is with a sense of great excitement that I commence my role as Assistant Principal – Students, at Emmanuel College in Warrnambool. I feel this year is particularly special as we celebrate 30 years as Emmanuel College with such a rich history having gone before. I look forward to serving the College community.



ANNE TAN

HEAD OF PRIMARY

St Brigid's College, Lesmurdie

St Brigid's College welcomed Ms Anne Tan as our Head of Primary in July 2020.

Anne writes, 'It is lovely to be back at the picturesque St Brigid's College'. My initial degree is in Marketing and Business Communications, and I also have a Masters Degree in Strategic Marketing. After attaining professional corporate degrees in Perth, Australia, I returned to Singapore and worked in International companies overseeing regional markets in the Asia-Pacific region after which I returned to Perth to pursue my passion, Education. My first teaching position, which I enjoyed, was in Kalgoorlie in the Goldfields. It was whilst there, that I realised that teaching is my preferred vocation and I was inspired to learn more about learning difficulties and to embark on attaining my Master's Degree in Education, specialising in Learning Difficulties. Following this, I studied for my second Masters in Religious Education. Being an innovative and life-long learner and having listened to inspirational researchers, Hattie and Dinham, I am now in the process of attaining a Masters Degree in Instructional Leadership through the University of Melbourne.

After leaving the Goldfields, and on my return to Perth, I had the opportunity to teach in the early years at St Brigid's College from where I left to join a team of foundation teachers at a college in Baldvis. I have also held a number of leadership positions in Catholic schools over the years. I am back now, glad to be a part of the Mercy Education Limited community at St Brigid's College.



olmc
heidelberg

SHANE TAYLOR

FAITH AND MISSION COORDINATOR

Our Lady of Mercy College, Heidelberg

I feel so blessed to join the faith community of OLMC, Heidelberg as I seek to journey, listen and learn from those living Mercy. In my 25th year of working in Catholic congregational schools, I have been invited into and given the opportunity to explore giftedness of several charisms and spiritualities and challenged how I can live the Gospel.

I am a passionate teacher of Texts and Traditions (Luke) and Religious Education, and in the past life, I have taught Music and Food Technology. I love scripture and liturgy! I see these are ways to invite our young people into a relationship with God, and they offer us a way to encounter the challenges and lived experience of Catherine and the Sisters of Mercy. They challenge us to reflect, engage and seek new ways of building a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

I love scripture and liturgy! I see these are ways to invite our young people into a relationship with God...



LAURA DILLON

ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Sacred Heart College, Geelong

It is a great honor to have been appointed to the role of Acting Assistant Principal - Learning and Teaching at Sacred Heart College. I feel privileged to have been at the College since January 2018 as a member of the Leadership Team in the roles of Director of Learning and Teaching 7-10 and Learning Design Leader. A 'sea change' brought me to Geelong and on arrival at Sacred Heart I was warmly welcomed into the school community. The kindness and generosity of my colleagues demonstrated that the Mercy Values of compassion, respect and hospitality are lived and provide the foundation for all relationships at Sacred Heart.

Throughout my leadership journey at the school, I have been fortunate to experience investment in my growth and I have benefited from a diverse range of professional learning opportunities. Just as I have been encouraged to strive for excellence and challenge myself, I look forward to leading a team of educators who inspire our students to approach learning with curiosity, courage, and passion.

2021 marks an exciting year for the College as we continue to develop our strategic priorities and provide our students with opportunities for clever and creative learning. Our girls are fortunate to experience a learning program which, underpinned by our Mercy tradition and future focused, ensures that we are educating our girls to make a difference in a changing world.

Catherine McAuley once wrote 'speak as your mind directs and always act with courage.' These words impress upon me the importance of acting in accordance with one's values, while also remaining accountable for the impact of one's decisions. I hope to bring these qualities to my new role, and I look forward to continuing to serve the Sacred Heart College community.



MATTHEW SHAW

BUSINESS MANAGER

Sacred Heart College, Kyneton

I would like to thank the members of Sacred Heart College Kyneton and Mercy Education for their warm welcome to me over the past two months. I am greatly enjoying my return to Schools and the opportunity to be a positive influence on students' education. Having 'dipped my toes' in the government sector I now realise that education is where my heart and passion reside.

Through 2019 and 2020 I was the Finance Manager at the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Corporation, prior to which I was the School Accountant at the Knox School in Wantirna, and the Finance and Project Manager at Plenty Valley International Montessori School in St Helena.

I am a Fellow of the Institute of Public Accountants, and completed my Master of Commerce in Professional Accounting through the University of New England. I look forward to networking with and learning from my peers through Mercy Education, and the Catholic Education Business Administrators. I highly value the support provided and ideas shared through these sorts of networks - to ensure best practice in all that we do as Business Managers, improve the effective operations of our schools, and in supporting our educators to help students flourish into their best selves.

The kindness and generosity of my colleagues demonstrated that the Mercy Values of compassion, respect and hospitality are lived...

2020 Mercy Education Scholarship Award Recipients



CLAUDIA PARRINO
Academy of Mary Immaculate,
Fitzroy VIC

Claudia has been a core and committed member of Earth at Academy for a number of years. She has shown enthusiasm and energy in the meetings and hospitality to all new members. Over the years, Claudia has made great contributions to our planning of events and has listened attentively to the various concerns of the group's members. She has displayed flexibility and open-mindedness, which has been greatly appreciated. While a naturally quiet student, Claudia has pushed herself to become a spokesperson for the Earth at Academy group by speaking in assemblies, meetings and conferences. She has been an enthusiastic participant in the presentation at the Environment Education Victoria Stories of Sustainability conference for teachers to explain the Synergy Sustainability unit. Her quiet resolve, good-natured participation and passion for sustainability have been a great boost for our group.



DEANNA DUANE
Catherine McAuley College,
Bendigo VIC

Deanna is a role model for other students at Catherine McAuley College, showing exemplary leadership, patience, care, and compassion for others. She has many talents in traditionally male-dominated disciplines, such as STEM, and has mentored other female students to encourage them to follow their passions in these areas.

Deanna has participated in many community outreach events and is the first to put up her hand to volunteer. She is a critical thinker and is always looking for ways to make the world a better place for everyone, especially the less fortunate.

Deanna has been an active member of the Student Representative Council throughout her time at Catherine McAuley College. She has demonstrated Mercy values through her involvement in many social justice activities and opportunities; initiating student activities for Caritas, St. Vinnies, and Mercy Works. Deanna's hospitality is evident as she is very inclusive of members of the college community. She is always considering ways to engage others in activities including sport, drama, science, and on special occasions such as Mercy Day.

Deanna shows respect to students, staff, and members of the wider Bendigo community and is a great role model for the younger students at CMC.



MITCHELL MAZZARELLA
Mount Lilydale Mercy College,
Lilydale VIC

Mitchell has been an active and committed member of the College since Year 7, demonstrating a deep commitment to his faith and his studies. A regular participant in Friday Masses, Mitchell has also supported the faith life of the College community through his willingness to serve at whole school Masses and be involved in other liturgical events. He is a regular and active member of the Ministry Lounge. A quiet, conscientious and focused young man, Mitchell approaches his life in the College with gentle determination and shows a quiet and inspiring leadership to his peers through this approach. He is respectful, thoughtful and kind in all of his interactions with both staff and students. In 2019, he showed his willingness to take risks in supporting others by participating in Shave for a Cure.

Academically, Mitchell has been described as hard-working, dedicated, and persistent and he can always be relied upon to produce work of quality. His dedication to his studies during Remote Learning has been praised by his teachers.

He has represented the College outstandingly in the Tournament of Minds and is actively involved in extracurricular activities in the College including the Remote Cross Country 2020, Humanities Week, and OzCLO 2020. He also shows interest and

dedication to sporting activities, winning the Year 9 Table Tennis Tournament and showing outstanding effort in Year 9 EISM Softball. Mitchell is a true all-rounder exemplifying many of the values that are central to Mercy and to our College.



WIL WOOLSTENCROFT

Emmanuel College, Warrnambool VIC

Wil is an outstanding student demonstrating the Mercy values of compassion, justice, respect, hospitality, service, and courage. Wil is a conscientious and thoughtful student who consistently achieves excellent academic results and is the first to help at school events, assemblies, and liturgies. He is an active volunteer in the community, including mentoring juniors at the Wesley CBC Cricket Club, helping at the OLHC Primary School after school care program, and assisting at ANZAC Day services. Wil completed the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and has been a school leader since Year 7. He was elected as College Captain in 2021 and was also accepted into the South West Emerging Leaders program which aims to develop young people recognised in the region for their leadership skills. Wil is a keen participant at the College's athletics and swimming carnivals, and has represented the school in cricket, football, and cross-country events. He is an approachable and reliable student who treats everyone with care and respect.



ORLA BURKE

Mercedes College, Perth WA

Orla has consistently demonstrated Mercy Values in her interactions with other and seeks to lead her peers with a view of improvement for all. She provides assistance in all aspects of College life. Orla engages with others in a positive way as she contributes to the life of Mercedes College. Orla's respectful approach is very much appreciated, as is her humour and enthusiasm. Orla is a most worthy recipient of the 2020 Mercy Education Award.



FATIMA RASULI

St Aloysius College, Adelaide SA

Fatima is an outstanding student who lives out the Mercy values of St Aloysius College. Her leadership skills and commitment to school life have been recognised by her peers and teachers through her selection as part of the Student Representative Council in 2021, one of only eight Year 12 students on the Executive. Fatima is a hardworking and passionate learner who has excelled in STEM subjects throughout her

education. Fatima's generosity outside of the classroom sees her actively involving her fellow students in Mercy Day and Can Drive activities. In 2019, Fatima was part of the Branding Mural Team, devoting hours to the creation of our Chancery Lane murals that capture so much about the identity of St Aloysius College. Fatima's confidence grew through this project and she was able to liaise with many community members and articulate the vision of the College on the mural promotional videos. Fatima is a very deserving recipient of the 2020 Mercy Education Award.



LILY-ANNA KELLY

St Aloysius College, North Melbourne VIC

Lila is a warm and courteous student who consistently demonstrates the true spirit of Mercy. Lila demonstrates a deep respect for the community; students and staff alike, treating all fairly and justly, showing care and compassion at all times. Her sense of hospitality and welcome, has offered warmth and comfort to all who needed support during this past year.

Throughout this year Lila has demonstrated a positive school spirit and a love of learning, involving herself in a variety of school programs. She was a member of the GATE Program, as well as a member of the College Choir. She also participated in Journalism Club, and more recently she was a member of the Junior Debating Team; a tremendous effort despite the challenges faced in

The simplest and most practical lesson I know is to resolve to be good today. but better tomorrow.

– CATHERINE MCAULEY

2020. Lila is well respected by her peers and was elected as a Year 7C Class Co Captain, where she has developed strong leadership skills. Outside of the College, Lila is a member of the North Melbourne Girl Guides, where she has taken on leadership positions, mentoring and supporting the younger members of the group.

Lila is a highly valued member of our College community and a most deserving recipient of the Mercy Education Award for 2020.



CATHERINE BARBONIO Sacred Heart College, Geelong VIC

Catherine Barbonio is an active member of both the College community and the local Parish. Catherine was described as a caring leader in our 'Mercy and Mission' program and has competently ran fundraising events within her house for Mercy works. She was a recipient of the Mercy Leadership certificate and has attended a number of student conferences, meetings and justice events. Catherine demonstrates a love for those in need and she is a most worthy recipient of the Mercy Education Award for 2020.



ANNA DONNELLY Sacred Heart College, Kyneton VIC

Anna Donnelly is a person of faith and plays an active role in living out her faith, both at school and in the community. She is a natural leader, a listener and considers the opinions of others. Anna has represented the College on a number of occasions at Conferences and Catholic Youth Festivals. She is passionate about social justice issues and has the courage to call out injustices. Anna has been a wonderful

Faith Captain this year and continues to show her commitment to the College by being elected to a leadership position for 2021.

Anna is a person of Mercy and a worthy recipient of the Mercy Education Award.



EIREANN ROBERTSON Santa Maria College, Attadale WA

Eireann is an outstanding Mercy Woman. Faith filled, she is prayerful, respectful and willingly serves at many liturgical celebrations. Eireann is passionate about making a difference and her actions embody the mercy values of compassion, justice and hospitality. Eireann worked tirelessly as a member of the Liturgy committee for 2020 and inspired other members to do the same. Eireann is very responsible young lady who seeks to contribute to her house and support staff in any way she can. Her peers and younger students find it easy to connect with her gentle and kind manner and Eireann always shows initiative and leadership by seeking opportunities to support and care for others in our College community. She is a most deserving recipient of the 2020 Mercy Education Award.



CATERINA DE MARIA St Joseph's College, Mildura VIC

Caterina De Maria has been a high achiever since commencing at St Joseph's College in 2017. Caterina epitomizes the core values of the college. This is shown through Caterina living her life at the college to the full by engaging strongly in the academic, social, cultural and spiritual facets.

Caterina's academic excellence is demonstrated through the many award nominations of Year 7, 8 and 9

Academic Awards and most recently being a recipient of the Mercy Academic Scholarship, generously provided by the college Principal Mrs Marg Blythman. Caterina's attitude towards learning and achievement is strong and she is determined to make the most of her education here at the college. Caterina has excelled in her studies over the past four years, which has now permitted her to accelerate and undertake a Year 12 subject whilst studying Year 11 next year.

Caterina has been an active member of the Mercy Action Group in helping with the Community Meals Program, assisting with the Swimming Carnival and ensuring she dedicated time to the group whilst in remote learning this year.

Caterina is a respectful student who is admired by her peers for her leadership qualities, gentle nature and the ability to make everyone feel welcome.



MADISON HALL St Brigids College, Lesmurdie WA

Madison Hall is an inspirational role model who continuously demonstrates the Mercy Education values of Compassion, Justice, Respect, Hospitality, Courage, and Service in her daily dealings with both staff and her peers. Madison is a passionate, articulate young woman who during her time at the College has displayed exceptional leadership qualities which have been recognised through her being the recipient of two Responsible Christian Learner Awards and the Parent Forum Boarding Community Award for demonstrating a commitment to serving others, being positive and supportive and encouraging the same in others. In 2018 she also represented the College in a 'Girls Take over Parliament' Initiative and was a keen advocate for issues affecting those in the pastoral and mining sector.

Madison is confident and always willing to work in a team and cooperate with others around her. She is a regular helper at all college events and often takes the lead showing initiative and a maturity well beyond her years.

Mercy is more than Charity - for it not only bestows benefits. but it receives and pardons again and again - even the ungrateful.

– CATHERINE McAULEY



MILA SEABROOK
Our Lady of Mercy College,
Heidelberg VIC

The Mercy Award is presented to a student who has espoused the core values of Mercy Education - Compassion, Justice, Respect, Hospitality, Courage, and Service. The award is presented to a Year 10 student.

Mila goes out of her way to help her peers and teachers. She is known amongst her peers as being a kind and caring person, who looks out for those around her and is a friend to all. Her teachers notice her 'can do attitude' - without being asked she will pack up equipment in classes; she is often the first to participate and took part in swimming this year when other Year 10s would not initially volunteer.

She participates across a wide range of areas in the school - music, social justice (particularly recently with Jesse fundraising); sport (GSV swimming and athletics as a start) as well as actively seeking leadership opportunities and engagement in Faith and Mission. Mila is also a high achieving student who takes pride in her studies and also seeks additional opportunities on offer at OLMC. Mila is a most worthy recipient of the Mercy Education Award.



KHYE SKODA
Bunbury Catholic College,
Bunbury WA

This award goes to a student who has demonstrated true leadership in the Mercy tradition, espousing the core values of Mercy Education - compassion, justice, respect, hospitality, courage and service. This young man has been involved in student leadership since Year 7. He is passionate about helping others to build life skills, both at the College and in the community. In one so young, his sense of compassion towards those who face personal struggles is remarkable. His sense of justice permeates his every action, even as he consistently places the needs of others above his own. This was never more evident than on the recent Outward Adventure camp, where he offered both support and encouragement to his peers along the way. Khye can justly claim to be a true role model for Mercy values in action.



HARRY PARTINGTON
Catholic College Wodonga, VIC

Throughout his time at Catholic College Wodonga, Harry has consistently lived out the values of Mercy Education: Compassion, Justice, Respect, Hospitality, Courage and Service. As a Year Level Leader of the MacKillop Learning Community, Harry has always been prepared to welcome, serve, and step out of his comfort zone for the benefit of all.

In 2019 Harry was a member of Wodonga City Council Red Carpet Youth Awards committee, which was planning an awards evening to recognise young leaders in our City. Given the Co-vid pandemic this night did not go ahead, however Harry and the team were determined that some acknowledgment was given.

Harry has also been a participant in social justice work in the Philippines – this work is close to his heart and is motivated by his strong sense of justice and our call to care for all of God's creation.

In November 2020 Harry was named as one of our School Captains for 2021. In a video presentation that Harry produced to explain why he was seeking the role he said:

I would like to serve our school with courage, humility and bring Life in Jesus' name to our community. Harry is truly a worthy recipient of this Award.



HAEDEN TUHORO

**Mount St Bernard College,
Herberton QLD**

Haeden Tuhoro is a student at Mount St Bernard College. He is in Year 10 and is also a residential boarder at the College. Haeden was a new student to Mount St Bernard College this year, entering at Year 10. Haeden quickly began to display key Mercy values.

Haeden is a witness to the value of service as he is always the first student to offer to help whether that being carrying books, cleaning up the dorm, or reading at liturgy. Haeden is also very hospitable as he always says hello and is inclusive of all members of our College community.

Haeden displays justice and compassion by including other students, including looking out for the younger students. Haeden is always respectful to both adults and peers.

The Mercy Education Award is due recognition for Haeden's outstanding contribution and witness to the Mercy spirit within our College.



RACHEL FISHER

Notre Dame College, Shepparton VIC

Rachel shows genuine concern for other students and always thinks of others first. In class or in the yard she is always caring for others, looking out for them, and making sure that their needs are catered for. Rachel has participated in many school activities including our Immersion to East Timor in 2019. She participates fully and has worked tirelessly raising funds for others less fortunate than herself. Rachel (and her family) worked tirelessly arranging a

raffle, BBQ at Bunnings, selling lollies etc. to raise funds, both before and after our travel to Timor Leste. Rachael has maintained contact with some of the students that she met and worked with when on immersion and is still communicating with them regularly.

Rachel strongly believes in equal rights and opportunities for others and is prepared to manage her time so that she can contribute time to different causes as well as maintain her high standards at school.

Rachel is an excellent role model of the Mercy values of Notre Dame College.



THOMAS HEATHCOTE

**Our Lady of Mercy,
Deloraine TAS**

Thomas has been at Our Lady of Mercy since Kindergarten and has developed into a fine leader of the school. He was elected as one of our two school captains in 2020 and has performed extremely well in this role. Thomas goes out of his way to assist others, consistently demonstrating our school Mercy values of courage, compassion and respect. He has led by example and courage by speaking up to others when 'things' aren't quite right courageously raising their standards and interactions. Thomas has developed great relationships with his peers and school staff and makes a concerted effort to look out for others, in particular our younger students. Thomas is a worthy recipient of this Mercy Education Award for 2020.



KRISHNA ONG

**Mercy Regional College,
Camperdown VIC**

Krishna is a valued member of our school community, who adopts a mature approach to her studies and builds positive relationships with her peers and staff. She clearly demonstrates the Mercy Education values of compassion, justice, respect, hospitality, courage and service. She has been an active participant and valued member of our school's Social Justice Team throughout her time at Mercy Regional College. We congratulate Krishna on receiving the 2020 Mercy Education Award.



SIENNA GARNER

**Our Lady of Mercy College,
Australind WA**

The Mercy Education Award is presented to a Year 12 student who has demonstrated leadership in the Mercy tradition and espoused the core values of Mercy Education. This award is presented to Sienna Garner.

Sienna is an excellent example of what it means to follow The Mercy Way. She has been an active member of the Ministry Team, performing the role of Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and reading at various liturgies throughout the year. Sienna was also involved in the Blue Tree Project in 2020, assisted younger students as a Peer Support Leader in Year 10 and represented the College in the Speak for Faith Competition in 2019. Sienna has also been an excellent leader as the inaugural Head Girl of Our Lady of Mercy College.



MACKENZIE DORNOM

Padua College, Mornington VIC

Mackenzie has been an incredible contributor to Padua College over her three years in the junior campus. She has shown a willingness to lead and set a fine example to her peers in terms of participation in all aspects of school life. Whether it be academically, or through extra-curricular activities such as sporting teams, cross country, or debating, Mackenzie is always doing her very best. She has led several initiatives at the College, including organising a casual dress day for Drought Relief when she was in Year 7. Last summer during the fires, Mackenzie wrote to several locally-based companies to assist people effected by the fires. As a result, products valued at over \$250,000 and cash donations were given to Food Bank Australia for distribution to those most affected by the fires. Mackenzie is a quiet achiever and in her words 'Leaders empower others to be their best by setting an example and you can only do that by being an active participant'. Mackenzie is a young woman who shows compassion, respect, and a willingness to serve others and is a well-deserved winner of the Mercy Education Award at Padua College in 2020.



BRODY BENJAMIN

Sacred Heart College, Yarrowonga VIC

Brody is an outstanding young man who has been elected College Captain for 2021. He is highly relational, demonstrating care for his fellow students, particularly the younger students at the College. Brody is very active in the wider community, volunteering his time and skills to the benefit of all. This year Brody was part of a team that raised \$3000 for our sister school on Malabago Island in the Philippines. In addition, Brody was integral in raising \$6000 for MND during remote learning this year.

Brody is a worthy recipient of the Mercy Education Award for 2020.



ALEXIA ZINTILIS

St Mary's College, Seymour VIC

Alexia arrived at St Mary's College at the start of 2020. Her friendly, warm and easy-going personality, soon saw her being a positive and influential role model amongst her cohort.

During our term one Leadership camp in Melbourne, Alexia demonstrated her ability to get students involved in group

activities. She encouraged her peers to step out of their comfort zones. She role modelled this behaviour even though she was new to the school.

Alexia has had her own personal challenges in her home life, which she has faced with much courage and a very supportive mother. Alexia never let her own personal struggles interfere with her positivity towards others. In the words of Catherine McAuley Alexia has been a "Shining Lamp giving light to all around her".



TAYLAH HASSETT

Trinity College, Colac VIC

Taylah Hassett is an outstanding student, person and leader who is a worthy recipient of Trinity College Colac's 2020 Mercy Education Award.

Taylah stands out for her leadership commitment and her strong compassionate stance on social justice issues. A perfect example of this was when she spoke out powerfully against those who were showing animosity towards a family in our school community who contracted COVID-19.

As 2020 College Captain, Taylah demonstrated her outstanding leadership through her efforts to maintain the morale and positive attitude of the entire student body through the challenges of remote learning. Taylah stands out as a pro-active person. She takes the initiative and motivates others.

Taylah has been very courageous throughout the entire year, she regularly puts others' needs before her own and has displayed strong person integrity.

The simplest and most practical lesson I know is to resolve to be good today. but better tomorrow.

– CATHERINE MCAULEY

We must strive to do ordinary things extraordinarily well. Catherine McAuley



MERCEDES COLLEGE
Perth, WA
1846



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE
Heidelberg, VIC
1910



St Mary's School commenced in 1880 in the 'old Church' which in later years became the Parish Hall.
ST MARY'S COLLEGE
Seymour, VIC 1880
Affiliated School



ACADEMY OF MARY IMMACULATE
Fitzroy, VIC
1857



ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE
Lesmurdie, WA
1929



MERCEDES COLLEGE
Springfield, SA
1954
Affiliated School



SACRED HEART COLLEGE
Geelong, VIC
1860



SANTA MARIA COLLEGE
Attadale WA
1937



MOUNT ST BERNARD COLLEGE
Herberton, QLD
1920
Affiliated School



St Ann's College amalgamated to
EMMANUEL COLLEGE
Warrnambool, VIC
1872



MERCY COLLEGE
Coburg, VIC
1965
Affiliated School



OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Deloraine, TAS
1895
Affiliated School



Catholic College Bendigo renamed in 2018 to
CATHERINE MCAULEY COLLEGE
Bendigo, VIC
1876



MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE
Camperdown, VIC
1973
Affiliated School



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE
Australind, WA
2020
Affiliated School



ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE
Adelaide, SA
1880



Sacred Heart College amalgamated to
NOTRE DAME COLLEGE
Shepparton, VIC
1902
Affiliated School



SACRED HEART COLLEGE
Yarrowonga, VIC
1963
Affiliated School



ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE
North Melbourne, VIC
1887



Stella Maris Regional Girls' College amalgamated to
MARIST REGIONAL COLLEGE
Burnie, TAS
1900
Affiliated School



ST FRANCIS DE SALES COLLEGE
Mount Barker, SA
1902
Affiliated School



SACRED HEART COLLEGE
Kyneton, VIC
1889



College of Our Lady of the Sea – 1898 / Padua Preparatory House for Little Boys – 1899; amalgamated to Padua College, Mornington 1946
PADUA COLLEGE
Mornington, VIC
1898
Affiliated School



TRINITY COLLEGE
Colac, VIC
1983
Affiliated School



MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE
Lilydale, VIC
1896



CATHOLIC COLLEGE WODONGA
Wodonga, VIC
1979
Affiliated School



ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL
Ballarat East, VIC
1914
Affiliated School



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
Mildura, VIC
1906