From the Principal

During the month of August we will be reminded of several significant Christian traditions and challenged to reflect on where they might fit in our modern lifestyle. There is the potential for significant spiritual inspiration and I encourage you to contemplate the stories, reflect on the issues presented and consider taking up the challenge.

The Feast of Blessed Mary MacKillop – August 8

MacKillop House is named of course after Mary MacKillop, an extraordinary Australian woman whose Feast is celebrated next Monday. Her story is an inspirational account of a person dedicated in faith and driven by the need to improve the well being of other human beings. Her work, primarily done here in South Australia, led to her beatification as Blessed Mary MacKillop by Pope John Paul 11 in 1995.

Blessed Mary was a very special Australian woman. Born in Melbourne in 1842 she moved to Penola in South Australia as a young adult and lived in Adelaide for some years. This kindly woman walked our streets, prayed and attended Mass in our cathedral, entered our shops, visited the homes of ordinary Adelaide people.

Mary became the family’s principal breadwinner at an early age and was 25 when she left her family in Victoria and moved to Penola where parish priest Fr Julian Tenison Woods and she planned to establish the Sisters of St Joseph to staff schools for the children of poor families.

The bishop was so impressed with their plans and the success of their school that he invited Mary and Fr Julian to Adelaide where there were very few Catholic schools. They opened a number of schools in Adelaide and country South Australia.

The Josephites also cared for orphans and other needy people. They established a House of Refuge for street women and unmarried mothers, and a House of Providence for homeless women and children of all ages.

Some believed that the Josephites were too radical and should change their way of life. Mary did not lose heart even when a bishop excommunicated her, another banished her from his diocese and a third saw that she was deposed from her position as superior of the sisters. She remained steadfast in her love for God.

Vocations Week – August 7 to August 14

Next week the Australian Catholic Church is celebrating National Vocations Awareness Week, to focus attention on the consecrated and ordained life of our nuns and priests and to invite young people to consider these vocations as future life options. Late last term Fr Dean Marin, the Adelaide Archdiocese’s Vocations Director, spoke to a large number of students at Xavier College about religious life.

“Students are losing that crucial interaction with priests” said Fr Marin. “It’s a very important relationship because it shows young people by example the varied and rewarding life of a religious calling”

Fr Marin said young people were interested in learning more about vocations and a monthly information Mass held at Parkside’s St Raphael’s Church is attracting more youth. He feels that young people are very interested to learn about what a priest does and the life of a priest. Next week the Archbishop will be sending schools a letter focusing on the role of community as the
ROAD AWARENESS & ACCIDENT PREVENTION PROGRAM (RAAP)

On Monday, 1 August, the SA Metropolitan Fire Service visited Xavier College and conducted the RAAP program for our Year 11 students. The program is delivered by firefighters at no cost to our students. Mr Peter Hall, the Community Education Officer, organised firefighters from the local Gawler Station to assist in the presentation of this informative and relevant program.

The first stage of the RAAP program involved a practical demonstration of firefighters using SAMFS extrication equipment (“jaws of life”) to show how victims are removed from vehicles in road accidents. The second stage of the program involved students watching some DVD presentations of road accidents and how they impact on peoples’ lives. During this part of the program, firefighters discussed personal experiences and how their work has impacted on their lives. The students were also privileged to have the opportunity to hear from a road accident victim who has had his life altered dramatically as a result of a road accident.

I have received some very positive comments from many students stating how impressed they were with the content of the program. Students felt that it had made a significant impact on their approach to driving on our roads. The College is very committed to providing ongoing education to our students regarding safe driving practices. Driving is a privilege that we should respect every time we get behind the wheel. We hope this program has made a difference to the attitude of our young drivers and we thank very sincerely, the SA Metropolitan Fire Service, for visiting our school and providing this service to our students.

Ms Michelle Rawady
Director of Students

I found the program very informative. The most fascinating part was the demonstration with the “Jaws of Life”. They stripped the car of its doors and roof in less than half an hour!

We learnt how the emergency services remove people from a car after an accident. Pictures were shown to us that presented victims and scenes of accidents. The pictures were graphic but effective in getting the message across to students.

We listened to Ryan, who was a passenger in a car involved in a major accident, which left him a quadriplegic. He strongly put across the message that you should never get into a car with someone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or has a reputation for driving irresponsibly because you might not live to regret it.

Caitlin Ripley
Year 11

The Road Awareness & Accident Prevention Program was a real eye opener as it reminded us of all the responsibilities which come with the privilege of driving. Seeing the fire services using the jaws of life, watching the videos and listening to the speakers really reinforced the way that one car accident can impact not only on our lives, but on the lives of so many others. Their motto of concentration and common sense really hit home, especially when a quadriplegic named Ryan spoke to us about his terrible accident when he was in year 11. I was certainly very careful on the drive home!

Russell Pascoe
Year 11
THE MALLALA NEWS AWARD WINNING ESSAY
By Rachel Kilpatrick - Year 11

“As a P plate driver how would you ensure the safety of yourself and others while you are driving?”

Seatbelts are the difference between life and death in the case of an accident. As a P plate driver the most important safety procedure apparent to me is that I make sure both my passengers and I are wearing our seatbelts correctly, before I drive off.

The car I’m driving should be roadworthy with good tyres and brakes.

I know that the number of crashes and hence injury and death caused by tailgating is devastating. I know that I do not want to become one of those statistics. Therefore I will stick by the minimum 2-second rule when travelling behind a car. In the case of a wet weather road, poor road surface or poor visibility I will increase the distance by at least 4 seconds.

It is my responsibility if anything happens to the passengers in my car while I am driving. I will make sure my passengers are aware that driving is a serious matter, and a car is used as a form of transport not a joy ride. This will prevent me from being pressured or encouraged to do stupid things.

While I’m driving I will use my utmost concentration. I will look ahead and if anything that could potentially become a hazard appears I will take my foot off the accelerator and cover the brake for fear that it will be necessary to use to avoid an accident.

When setting out for a destination where I am not 100 percent sure of how to get there. I will look in the street directory before 1 set off. If I happen to forget where to go 1 will pull over to read the street directory or I will have a navigator assisting me.

If I go to a place where alcohol is present I will ensure that I have a safe way of getting home. I will usually be with friends so we can organise a designated driver who will abstain themselves from alcohol, otherwise I will catch a taxi or I will totally abstain from drinking alcohol and continue to have a good time.

I will ensure that I will never use a mobile phone while driving. If someone rings I will pull over when safe to do so and answer the phone, or I can choose to ignore the call and ring the person back at a much more suitable time.

As a driver I will obey the road rules and the road signs and not be distracted by switching radio stations while driving.

As a P plate driver I will act responsibly and respectfully to ensure the safety of my friends, family and other road users. Our lives are too precious to be wasted by acting recklessly or carelessly on the roads.
Year 9 Boys Knock Out Football

Eventually the Xavier College Year 9 boys football team came up against some opposition in a quarter-final with Thomas More College. After 3 forfeits, the boys thought this knockout competition was effortless and did not realise the calibre of the opposition. A 6 goal to nothing first quarter from Thomas More woke the team up and we were shown how football should be played. They were putting their bodies on the line and playing a very team-oriented game even though there were some absolute stars. Although Thomas More were a much bigger unit, many Xavier players were being bumped off the ball too easily and we endeavoured to fix this in the second quarter.

Although the score-line read similar to that of the first quarter, Xavier were more physical in the second quarter and were rewarded with a goal from the boot of Frank Falco. There was little chance of a momentum swing however, as Thomas More kicked the last 3 goals before half-time.

The second half saw Xavier chasing the man more often than not as we did not have enough strong bodies to win the ball at stoppages. Angus Bruggeman was given the job of loose man in defence and he performed this well with some contested marks. Kai O’Callaghan and Terry Russell were two boys who displayed enormous courage for four quarters as the ball continually came deep into our defence. Stuart Ryan and Tyson Ruediger worked hard on larger opponents and their efforts were well appreciated. Ryan Appleton and Aaron Parsloe provided some flair to the game with dazzling agility and some high leaps. Well done to the boys for their eagerness this year and I feel it’s time to hit the weights room in anticipation of next year’s opponents.

Final Score: Thomas More- 20:14: 134 Xavier- 1:2: 8

Mr Daniel Searle
Sports Administrator

Open Boys Basketball

The Xavier College Open Boys Basketball team has reached new heights after beating Thomas More College in a tight, low-scoring affair at home. Our team has improved in leaps and bounds since last year, mainly due to the inclusion of two hard-working guards in Daniel Mifsud and Sam Harnett. Both these boys played pivotal roles in the game, giving the team extra options in offence and defence respectively. Thomas More came out of the blocks quickly, scoring a few unguarded three-pointers. Until Xavier tightened up the defence and started hitting their own shots. The final score of 34-32 was reflective of a very good quality, hard-fought match. Top scorers were D Mifsud, 10, M Krawczyk, 9, J Woods, 7, B Maksimovic, 4, J Warren-Smith, 4. We are now into the top 6 playoffs in two weeks time. Good luck boys.

Mr Lawrence Pascale
Coach

University Open Days

Adelaide’s three universities will be open to the public on the following days:

- **Flinders University**
  - Friday 12th August - 12pm - 5pm
  - Sunday 14th August - 10am - 4pm
- **University of Adelaide**
  - Sunday 14th August - 10am - 4pm
- **University of Adelaide (Roseworthy Campus)**
  - Friday 12th August - 10am - 3:30pm
- **University of South Australia**
  - Sunday 14th August - 9:30am - 4pm

This would be an ideal opportunity for prospective students to gather course information, meet lecturers, and enquire about future career paths.

Brochures regarding session times are available from G8, and the Career Information Office.

From Page 1

source of discussion about vocations.

**JESUS – All About Life**

Adelaide has been chosen to pilot an unprecedented national campaign aimed at encouraging people to consider faith, the Bible and Jesus. Starting on Monday, August 8, the campaign will involve prime-time TV, posters, billboards, radio and press advertisements. The program has the support of all the Christian Churches and is a deliberate focus on the person of Jesus rather than a Church community. It is hoped that the campaign will put Jesus back into people’s conversations and encourage them to talk about and share their faith.

The theme of the advertisements will be, “I have come to give you life, and life to the full” (John 10:10) and they will focus on everyday stories of people who are trying to make sense of life and what living life meaningfully and fully might really mean.

**The Feast of the Assumption – August 15**

A Holy Day of Obligation, it is hoped that all Catholics attend Mass to reflect on the life of Mary, who magnified God in her life by giving herself totally in all she did. More about the significance of this Feast next week.

Mr Lynn Martin
Principal

Invitation

Archbishop Philip Wilson invites you to join Monsignor David Cappo and the Diocesan Catholic Charities Committee for an Afternoon Tea and Exhibition

Date: Sunday 7th August 2005
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Christian Brothers College Conference Centre
214 Wakefield Street Adelaide
(entry off Ifould St)

Special Guest Speaker: Bernie Victory
Speaking on Kakoda and Centacare

R.S.V.P. Monday 1st August

Catholic Charities
Ph: 8210 8125
Email: charities@adelaide.catholic.org.au

This event is to personally thank you for your support to Catholic Charities and the agencies that are helped by your generosity.

The exhibition will showcase the work of the agencies which make a difference to the lives of those less fortunate.

Our thanks to Vill’s for supplying afternoon tea

“a school of the future in the present”