Dear Mazenod Families,

We have just begun the Season of Lent which is a great season in the Church year calling us to look into our inner lives as we approach the great celebrations of Easter. Elsewhere in the Newsletter will be a fuller understanding of the Season of Lent.

Tonight we celebrate our Inaugural Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral with Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM DD. We are all asked to be seated by 7.30 pm and we are very much looking forward to the fullest gathering of our College year. This Mass brings us together in St Patrick’s Cathedral, which is the great centre of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Each year, our prayers, songs, hopes and offerings are made in this beautiful space. Our prayers add to the sacredness of the Cathedral and the Cathedral brings us together in St Patrick’s Cathedral, which is the great

Bishop Vincent is a great friend to the College. He was the former Parish Priest at St Joseph’s Springvale and has been a member of our College Board. Bishop Vincent’s own personal journey and story are inspiring and I would like to share part of it with you. This article appeared on the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne website in May 2011.

A Vietnamese refugee who came to Australia in a refugee boat has been appointed a Catholic Bishop in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen was 18 years old when he, and his family, fled communism in 1980.

The Apostolic Nunciature in Australia advised Archbishop Denis Hart that Pope Benedict XVI has appointed Fr Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv as Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Welcoming the appointment, Archbishop Denis Hart said today:

"The appointment of Bishop Vincent as auxiliary in Melbourne is a historic one. He escaped from Vietnam by boat as a young man, came to Melbourne, joined the Conventual Franciscans, and has already given distinguished service as a pastor in Springvale, as a leader in his order and has made a generous and gifted contribution to the Church."

"We welcome him warmly as he returns from Rome, and look forward to his ordination as Titular Bishop of Tula in St Patrick’s Cathedral on Thursday 23 June at 7.30 pm. He is in our prayers at this important moment."

After the fall of Saigon, three brothers settled in Holland, a sister is still in Vietnam and his parents and a brother and a sister are in Melbourne.

In 1983, Bishop Nguyen became a Conventual Franciscan friar and studied for the priesthood in Melbourne.

After his priestly ordination on 30 December 1989, he was sent to Rome for further studies and was awarded a licentiate in Christology and Spirituality from the Pontifical Faculty of St Bonaventure.

He served as a parish priest for four years in Kellyville, NSW, and for seven years in Springvale.

He was elected superior of the Order of Friars Minor Conventuals in Australia in 2005.

Since 2008, he has been in Rome serving as Assistant General, responsible for the Asia-Oceania section of the Order.

It will be a wonderful occasion for us all to gather.

ACC Swimming

I remain very proud of our entire Swimming Team for their magnificent efforts and performance in the ACC Swimming Championships. We finished 2nd overall to St Bernard’s who thoroughly deserved their success. There were many memorable performances, and the U/14 Relay Team broke an ACC Record.

Team: Under 14 4x50m Medley Relay
Time: 2.10.88

Swimmers:
- Brian Fogarty (Backstroke)
- Kevin Phan (Breaststroke)
- Daniel Marotta (Butterfly)
- Jackson Myers (Freestyle)

Previous Record 2.14.91 (St. Bernard’s College)

I was particularly pleased that our Swimming Team went over to St Bernard’s and congratulated them. There is a very healthy respect between St Bernard’s and Mazenod and this was further enhanced on the evening. I thank the entire team, coached by Mr Emilio Montoya and all Staff for the ways in which they represented our College.

Gonski Review into Education Funding

With the circus in Canberra at the moment surrounding leadership issues, it would be easy to lose sight of the Gonski Review that was delivered on Monday. Essentially there are two things to report. The first is the report itself and the second is the Government response. Mr Stephen Elder is the Director of Catholic Education in Melbourne and he circulated the following initial response to the Review. I include it here in its entirety to help keep us all informed.

On your behalf I attended the briefing in Canberra provided by Prime Minister Gillard, Minister Garrett and David Gonski AC.

The full Gonski Review (286 pages) and a copy of the Australian Government’s response to the review are now available on the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) website.

An initial reading of the Gonski review suggests it contains a number of constructive suggestions to address long-standing issues in school funding, including:

1. An injection of around $5 billion in government funding for education to deliver additional funding to all school sectors.
2. A new schooling resource standard, representing the efficient cost of education, to determine base funding for all schools.
3. Government funding to non-government schools to be based on each school’s capacity to raise income from parents through a measure similar to the existing SES (with further refinement).
4. Additional funding for needs, such as those of students with disability, through loadings applied across all schools.
Simultaneous with the release of the report the Australian Government has provided an initial response to the review.

When we met with the Minister he commented that he believes the report is fair, comprehensive, balanced and well thought out. He believed that its recommendations aim to support the needs of students whatever school they are in.

Importantly the Government’s response recognises parents and children as the most important stakeholders in education. It acknowledges that parents face financial pressures and can’t afford for their school fees to continue to rise.

In response to Mr Gonski’s call for an additional injection of $5 billion into education funding, the government cautiously acknowledged the difficult fiscal environment and restated its commitment to returning the budget to surplus in 2012–13.

The Government has indicated that it believes the scope of the new funding arrangements proposed by the Gonski review is too large. This suggests it will be difficult for the Australian Government to implement the recommendations without additional funding from state and territory governments.

The Government has stated that ‘the Australian Government will ensure that the model adopted and the transition arrangements provide that no school loses a dollar per student as a result of this funding review’.

As you will be aware the position of Catholic education has been to ensure that Catholic education in Victoria receives no less funding with funding indexed to ensure it keeps pace with government school costs.

It is not yet clear from the Government’s response that a new funding model will accord with this position. The Government has indicated indexation will be part of any future funding model.

The Australian Government will initiate a consultation process from here to determine the detail of any future funding model.

Preliminary Summary of the Report of the Gonski Review of Funding for Schooling

The Gonski Review of Funding for Schooling report presents a number of recommendations for a future funding model for Australian schools.

The Review’s report is detailed and comprehensive. It provides recommendations on what it believes would constitute a fairer funding system for all students. It calls for an injection of an additional $5 billion into the education system, distributed across all schools according to need.

The allocation of these funds would be determined by three major planks of the Review’s report:

- a new schooling resources standard
- loadings for indicators of student need, particularly students with disability and special needs
- capital funding needs.

Schooling Resource Standard

The Review Panel has proposed a schooling resource standard, which aims to determine both the amount of funding required per student ‘to provide a high quality education’, and loadings that target disadvantage.

Primarily, the schooling resource standard will identify a base amount of funding for every student, determined from the actual cost of educating a child in an efficient and high-performing school. Such a school is defined as one where at least 80 per cent of students are achieving above the minimum standard on NAPLAN testing over the past three years of results.

The report estimates the schooling resource standard for 2009 for both primary and secondary schools. Under their proposal, the schooling resource standard for primary-level students has been estimated at $8,000, while secondary is estimated at $10,500.

The government funding a student would attract will reduce according to a measure of the school’s capacity to raise fees. Capacity to pay will be determined by a refined SES model. The initial model proposed would provide 90 per cent of the resource standard to schools in the bottom quartile of SES (less than 90). The initial proposal is to provide government funding to schools with an SES of 130 at 20–25 per cent of the schooling resource standard.

All Catholic schools will be expected to charge fees under this model.

Under this model funding is expected to be indexed each year in line with the cost of education in efficient, high-performing schools.

This proposed change to indexation should be met with caution by Catholic schools. It breaks the existing indexation link between Catholic school funding and the actual cost of government schooling.

Loadings for students with disabilities and special needs

The Review Panel suggests that the schooling resource standard should include loadings for:

- school size and location
- the proportion of Indigenous students and students with low-socioeconomic backgrounds
- the proportion of students with a limited English language proficiency.

Precise figures and loadings have not been determined at this stage. This would require additional detailed modelling.

The panel suggests a loading value could be determined when a nationally agreed approach to identifying disability is determined, and adequate data on the number of students with disability are collected.

Capital funding

The Review panel has called for the establishment of School Planning Authorities in each state and territory, made up of representatives from government and non-government sectors. The Authorities would be empowered to manage planning and development of new schools and major expansions, with funding support provided through a newly established School Growth Fund.

I sincerely hope that this update keeps us all aware of the issues involved. The Liberal/National Coalition is yet to provide its formal response to the document. When it does so, I will be pleased to forward that through for your consideration.

New Building Construction

Construction has now begun on our new (yet to be named) Multi-Purpose Sports and Gathering Centre. There are over 13,000 cubic meters of soil to remove and Kernot Avenue has been very busy with construction vehicles. With safety always the highest priority, we have placed Staff strategically and the construction company have also deployed staff. If you drop your son down at the Monash Gardens Nursing Home or he catches a bus that has him walking through Freeway Reserve to get to School, you are asked to remind him to be extra vigilant for the construction trucks. With everyone being as attentive as possible, we will continue to maintain a safe environment.

Take Care and God Bless
Fr Michael Twigg O.M.I.
If your son has grown out of his GOOD quality School/Sports Uniforms. Now is time to sell! We have a huge demand for all 'second hand' uniforms. If your son has grown out of his GOOD quality School/Sports Uniforms. Now is time to sell! We have a huge demand for all 'second hand' uniforms.

Guest Speaker for next Mothers’ Auxiliary Meeting 14th March, 2012
Fr Christian Fini O.M.I. will be the guest speaker at our next Mothers’ Auxiliary Meeting on Wednesday 14th March, 2012. Fr Christian will start the evening by celebrating Mass with the Ladies at 7.30 pm in the School Chapel. He will then join everyone in the Conference Room where he will be giving an informative talk on the Orphanage in China. This will give the ladies more understanding and knowledge on how the orphanage operates and also how the Oblates and Mazenod are involved.

The evening will finish with a light supper and drinks. All ladies welcome.

Up and coming events/notices for Term 1:
Keeping watching the Newsletter for updates.
- 2012/13 Entertainment book will be available soon. (Please support the Mothers’ Auxiliary and buy a book) Great savings to be made.
- Invitation for Mother’s Day Annual Dinner

Ash Wednesday Begins the Season of Lent
Ash Wednesday
22nd February was Ash Wednesday and in the Roman Catholic Church it is the first day of Lent, the season of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday, the season of Mercy.

During Mass and in our Homerooms, ashes were applied to our forehead in the sign of the cross as the words, “Repent and believe in the Gospel” are spoken to emphasize our call to continual conversion and holiness of life. The distribution of ashes symbolizes our mortality as well as our need for ongoing repentance. The ashes we receive are a reminder of our own sinfulness, and many Catholics leave them on their foreheads all day as a sign of humility.

Fasting and abstinence
On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday Catholics are to observe the law of fasting and abstinence (Canons 1250-1253). It is necessary for us to observe at minimum requirements of the Church as a matter of humility and obedience.
- The law of fasting requires all Catholics between ages 18 and 60 to reduce the amount of food eaten from normal. This means eating only one full meal and two smaller meals with no food in between.
- The law of abstinence requires a Catholic 14 years of age until death to abstain from eating meat. Besides Ash Wednesday and
Good Friday, Catholics are to abstain from eating meat on all the Fridays of Lent.

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving
During Lent, we seek to follow the mind of the Church in developing our spiritual life. The Church recommends three key penitential practices of Lent and these are prayer, fasting and almsgiving or mercy. St. Peter Chrysologus said that Prayer knocks at the door, fasting obtains and mercy receives. He said these three components are one, and they give life to each other. A great way to keep a particular focus on Lent is to read Pope Benedict XVI’s 2012 annual Lenten message www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/lent/documents/h_f_ben-xvi_mes_20111103_lent-2012_en.html

Giving something up
Usually during Lent it is practical for us to give up something. Be careful not to set your goals too high that it will be too hard for you to finish. Don’t let yourself get off easily from your goals. Pray and discern carefully before you set your goals. Give up something different from what you gave up in the previous years. Some people give up sweets for Lent and that is good. However, I recommend you to move beyond giving up sweets to giving up some habit of sin that marked your life. Perhaps something that you are addicted to; for example: facebook, internet, drinking, swearing, anger, TV, spending, gambling, eating, smoking, etc.

Remember, Lent is about conversion, turning our lives more completely over to Christ and his way of life. And that always involves giving up sin in some form. The goal is not just to abstain from sin for the duration of Lent but to root sin out of our lives forever. Conversion means leaving behind an old way of living and acting in order to embrace new life in Christ.

Doing something extra
Besides giving up something, it is also practical to do something extra during Lent. Again don’t set your goals too high but be reasonable. Some of the things that you can do for Lent are: go to the weekday mass during Lent. Besides giving up something, it is also practical to do something extra during Lent. Again don’t set your goals too high but be reasonable. Some of the things that you can do for Lent are: go to the weekday mass during Lent.

Have a holy and fruitful Lenten season.
The fine efforts of these boys saw Mazenod take out the U/14 and U/15 ACC Champions Title and our U/13 and U/14 teams combined to win the Junior Swimming Cup for the second year in a row. Other swimmers to record victories were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U/13 Freestyle</td>
<td>Danny Luong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15 Freestyle</td>
<td>Joel Watson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 B Breaststroke</td>
<td>Daniel Marotta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 A Breaststroke</td>
<td>Kevin Phan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15 Breaststroke</td>
<td>Joel Watson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/17 Breaststroke</td>
<td>David Burgess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 Butterfly</td>
<td>Daniel Marotta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15 Butterfly</td>
<td>Joel Watson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 B Backstroke</td>
<td>Daniel Marotta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 A Backstroke</td>
<td>Brian Fogarty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15 Backstroke</td>
<td>Joel Watson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/17 Backstroke</td>
<td>David Burgess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14 200m Freestyle Relay</td>
<td>Brian Fogarty, Jackson Myers, Kevin Phan,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Daniel Marotta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15 200m Freestyle Relay</td>
<td>Joel Watson, Vincent Nguyen, Nathan Huynh,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Husharn Duggan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the 55 events we raced in, we finished in the top 3 places in 28 of these. Congratulations to Lachlan Bray, Danny Luong, Nam Huynh, Stefan Moutsopoulos, Jackson Myers and Tan Quach who all swam at the ACC for the first time.

CHESS MATE!
Our Year 7’s have just completed their advanced Chess Program with great enthusiasm. The program has been running for the past 2 Sport afternoons and will continue to be developed with a further 4 follow up lessons, where tactics and skills will be refined. The program is designed to help the boys with their thinking skills and also provide an environment where students can mix socially and hopefully learn from each other. Chess will hopefully have a positive effect on the boys both academically and sportingly. Big thanks must go to Mr Cunningham and Mr Tranter for their preparation of the program and big thanks to our Old Boys Kingsley Chung, Sean Hyatt and Alistair Macaulay who have come into support the program.
The House Swimming was a great success on Tuesday. The main purpose of the day was to get maximum participation and though not a 100% success rate, we came very close. Our Year 7 and 8 boys went first and again our stronger ACC Swimmers showed their wares with some outstanding wins. More importantly, over 400 swam in the morning. The Year 9 and 10 boys followed and again produced some terrific swims and competition. The novelty events were well participated in and definitely added to the atmosphere of the day. Our Year Level champions for the Carnival were:

Year 7 Danny Luong  
Year 8 Daniel Marotta  
Year 9 Joel Watson  
Year 10 Jonathon Tang

The final results were:

1. Gerard  
2. Mackillop  
3. Albini  
4. Cebula  
5. Grandin  
6. Chisholm  
7. Charlebios  
8. Anthony

House Sport

House Sport resumed this Tuesday for Year 9 & 10 students, Wednesday for Year 11 & 12 and Thursday for our 7 & 8 students. Students are permitted to wear their Sport uniforms on the day with a reminder that their white polo must be worn to and from school. Students are permitted to wear Mazenod College shorts only during Terms 1 and 4 on warmer days. It is also worth reminding students and parents that appropriate footwear should be worn for sport. That means laced up shoes for support and protection. The casual slip on shoe is not allowed to be worn. Students will be advised soon as to the sport selection for the next Term.

ACC Athletics – 28th March

Trials and training will begin soon for our Athletics season. I encourage all students to stay alert for messages regarding training times over the next few weeks. Mr Cunningham, Mr May and Mr Connolly will be the contact people for this event if you have any queries.

Results:

Our Volleyball team continues to perform well with another strong victory. A big test waits this week with our game against St Bernard’s. The tennis boys had a narrow loss to Whitefriars and will need to win every game going forward to get the highest ranking for the Semi-Finals. Our Cricketers had a fantastic win against the 2nd placed Salesian team. The team finally played to its full potential and won convincingly. The Seconds were unlucky not to defend their modest total of 71 and their coach Mr Phibbs reminded the boys that “catches win matches” and unfortunately some dropped chances cost the boys a great win.

UP COMING SPORTING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>FINISH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 29th Feb</td>
<td>Senior Cricket</td>
<td>Mazenod College</td>
<td>5.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Seconds Cricket</td>
<td>Alama Park Vs CBC St Kilda</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Tennis</td>
<td>St Bernard’s College</td>
<td>4.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 8th March</td>
<td>Mazenod House Athletics</td>
<td>Knox Athletic Tracks</td>
<td>All Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 9th March</td>
<td>ACC Swim Squad Awards Breakfast</td>
<td>Mazenod canteen</td>
<td>7.45am-8.30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr Connolly, Mr Cunningham & Mr Montoya on behalf of the Sports Department

Mr Mass Times

Mass in the Mazenod Chapel – Monday to Friday, 8.10am during term

Sunday Masses in our Parishes - St Leonard’s, Glen Waverley, Sat 6.30pm, Sun 7.30am, 9am, 10.30am, Good Shepherd, Wheelers Hill, Sat 6pm, Sun 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 6pm

St Justin’s, Wheelers Hill, Sat 7pm, Sun 8.30am, 10.30am; St Joseph’s, Springvale, Sat 6pm, Sun 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 3pm(Viet), 5.30pm;

St. John Vianney’s, Springvale North, Sat 6pm, Sun 8.30am, 10.00am, 3.30pm; St Peter’s Clayton, Sat 6pm, Sun 8am, 10am, 11.15am (Italian)