



Ash Wednesday

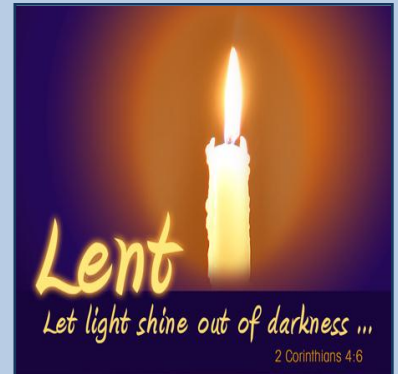
March 2011

**McAuley High School offers quality Catholic Education,
in the tradition of Mercy, which challenges young women
to strive for standards of personal excellence.**

Dear friends and family of McAuley High School

Tena Kotou Katoa, Talofa Lava, Kia Orana, Ni Sa Bula, Fakalofa Lahi Atu, Malo e Lelei

We are now into the season of Lent. Our school had a special and very moving liturgy on Ash Wednesday. The senior leaders of the school actively contributed, and distributed the ashes to the students. Prior to that the school acknowledged both the suffering of those involved in the Christchurch earthquake and the resilience of the human spirit. Fruit (symbol of new growth), flowers (symbolising the beauty of God's love for us), water (symbol of cleansing), our Mercy Cross (symbol of Christ's suffering) and three candles (symbols of Lent and Canterbury) were processioned in by the students. The gymnasium had the lights dimmed and to quote a student: "all around there was immense peacefulness, respect and love."



As we witness the immense suffering of our fellow human beings both in Japan and Christchurch our hearts are filled with compassion and prayer for those who are suffering. Marion College in Christchurch has had major structural damage and will not be used by students this year. Our fellow Catholic College is now sharing premises with St Bede's College. Our students and staff have consulted with the Marion College Principal and we have decided to "adopt" Marion College. The generous monetary donations of the students of our school have been sent to the College. Our senior leaders are writing to their senior leaders and our staff are looking at ways to support our colleagues. At present their principal is living in a tent with no power, water or sewage. We gratefully thank those parents who supported our appeal and our students who generously gave lunch money and found money to support others in need. Thank you. In this time of need the following prayer by Richard Becher is so beautiful.

*Hold us in your arms, Lord
Bless us with your Love
Whisper in the quietness, Lord
Bless us with your Word
Lead us through the darkness, Lord
Bless us with your Light
Touch us where we hurt, Lord
Bless us with your Healing
And through your Blessings Lord
May we grow and learn
To know your presence
Always walking with us. Amen*

Our Religious Education Programme in Term 1

Our Year 9 students are privileged to be going to the Friary for their annual retreat. There is a cost of \$7.00 for the bus fare and this money is to be paid to Mrs Mabey. The theme of the retreat is "Justice in our Lives." The topic they are studying is "My Story." Year 13 students are studying the topic "Making Meaning" whilst Year 12 are studying "Justice and Peace." Year 11 are investigating "Reverence for Life". Year 10 have a combination of two themes: "Discovering my Identity" and "Journey Stories."

Ash Wednesday Liturgy



Our school gymnasium formed into a silent place filled with silence and prayer. Students took their last squiz at light as they entered the gloomy room with only a speck of light from the lit candles visible. Fr Mike Wooller was the priest who officiated our liturgy. Our proud McAuley Head Girl, Carmelita Maletino, shared a reading from St Paul to the Corinthians, to us. A prayer focus was beautifully set up. We had leaders bringing in meaningful objects on the focus. We had the lit candles brought up, the red and black candles representing our brothers and sisters in Christchurch suffering from the earthquake and the purple candle representing Lent, the beginning of a special journey, a time for seeking help and remembering we are vulnerable. We had flowers representing the beauty and uniqueness that lies within us all, water which represents human tears, and a bowl of fruit representing nourishment. Most importantly to symbolise our Lord Jesus Christ a cross was brought up. "God be with you till we meet again" was amazingly sung by Telesia, Naomi and Tusi, drawing us closer to God. Prayers of the faithful were shared asking God to hear our intentions. The leaders were blessed, then shared their blessing with the whold school by putting the cross of ashes on their foreheads and turning them away from sin and making them faithful to the gospel.

Danielle Timu

Poverty is a Lack of Choice

A very powerful message. On the 11th and 12th of March, a group of 13 St Vinnies students were involved in a project called City Lights. Friday night we made our way to Kingland, where the project began. We arrived an hour early (something most of us don't usually experience) excited and eager to find out what City Lights was all about. The service began with praise and worship, where Pastor Dean led us in prayer and song, followed by testimony by Dave, who touched our hearts deeply with his moving stories. Within his testimony we were able to gain this powerful message of poverty being a lack of choice. This made us realise that we are really privileged to be able to be living the lives that we are living today. Another message was the idea of meeting Jesus every day through the people we are surrounded by, something that none of us had really thought about. We do this by giving our gifts back to God, and this was our challenge for the weekend. On Saturday the actual project began with a big clean up at the Women's

Refuge. This involved gardening, cutting down trees and outside work. It was hard work and really tiring especially with the heat, but we didn't let it stop us, because we kept in mind that by helping others we were giving back to our Heavenly Father. It was the work of God that we were doing. Our day ended back in Kingsland where dinner was prepared and the floor was open for feedback. It was an awesome fun-filled weekend and our girls did an awesome job. We were really proud and we can definitely say that we succeeded in accomplishing the challenge that was laid down. Thanks to all the girls who participated, and a huge thanks to Miss Clothier for all her hard work. Thank you also for Friday's dinner and the lunch you provided on Saturday.

Denise Venu, Laisene Emelio

Congratulations

Congratulations to Manu Huni who was selected by the new Auckland Super City as the Youth Representative for Otahuhu. This is a great honour for Manu and for the school as she is the inaugural representative. She had to go for an interview and must have shone at the interview to be selected. The meetings are every Monday after school and she has been given a train pass to enable her to reach the Auckland City Town Hall. Well done Manu. They could not have made a better choice. Manu writes as follows:

I have recently been accepted to become a member of the Auckland City Youth Council for 2011. Being a member of the Youth Council enables me to contribute in decision-making and civic opportunities. I will gain skills in working in diverse groups of young people, project management, team work and communications. Auckland City Youth Council helps us contribute to bettering our own communities and it has become a prominent and effective aspect of Auckland City. ACYC are also becoming involved in important issues and organising successful events which help the youth to get involved as well as making their voices heard. I am looking forward to an exciting and fun journey in the Auckland City Youth Council.

Manu Huni

Message from the Head Girl

The students define the school. Our student body makes up and comprises McAuley High School. With this message I want to share my personal ideas on school and homework studies. School is no doubt the pathway to the future because what we do today as students will blend us into tomorrow's adults. My study tip is 'planning'. Like any mission we undertake whether it is sport, a job interview or even an overseas vacation, a sound plan of attack is vital to ensure we succeed in our mission. Just as my parents prioritise the paying of household bills, we students should prioritise our study plans and upcoming projects. I know that we have the ability to succeed at whatever we undertake. We are all given the opportunity to succeed, how we achieve that goal is totally dependent on us. I like to call it 'the highway to success' rather than the 'shortcut to failure'. So that South Auckland stereotype of failure, listen to it. Let the South Auckland stereotype push you to study longer, work harder, and aim higher because the best way to get back at somebody is not through words and actions of violence, but by proving them wrong. I know that the students of McAuley High School have the capability to do just that.

Carmelita Maletino

Enrolment Evening

McAuley High School is now taking enrolments for 2012 and 2013. Our enrolment evening is on Thursday 7th April starting at 4.00pm. There will also be the opportunity to have a tour of the school. Enrolment packs have also been posted to our contributing primary and intermediate Catholic schools. If unable to attend on the 7th, enrolments can be presented at the school office. It is important to enrol as soon as possible to avoid the disappointment of not securing a place at our school. We look forward to meeting you all.

Healthy Food Option

We have a healthy food policy. Please do NOT pass unhealthy food through the fence. All healthy food needs to be handed in to the front office where it will be passed on to the students. We thank you for your support.



Identity Cards

It is compulsory for all students to purchase their identity cards. All Year 9 students who paid their enrolment fee received the card without further payment. All students in Years 10 to 13 have to purchase the card. This is needed, for example, to qualify for reduced transport costs and is a requirement to use the school library.

Year 11 Information Evening

On Tuesday 29th March at 5.30pm, the parents of Year 11 students are invited to attend an information evening on NCEA. Parents will be able to assist their daughters to succeed and achieve at McAuley High School. We are proud of our achievements and we need our parents to understand and be able to support their daughters. Please support us by coming with your daughters to the gymnasium.

School Safety

We ask parents to support the school by encouraging students to use the pedestrian crossings. There have been several incidents of students placing themselves at risk and annoying drivers by not looking when they cross the road.

We ask that all students remain at school once they have been dropped off by parents in the morning. We have an excellent tuckshop that meets the requirements of the Healthy Food Options of the Heart Foundation. Students are drifting off to the dairies and then arriving at school late. Your support for this would be much appreciated. We do not encourage students to congregate in Murphy Park before or after school.

Parents please do not drive into the school grounds to drop off your students. This is a congested area and a safety risk area with cars reversing and staff parking. Your daughter's safety is a great concern to us.

Attendance Dues

A reminder that the compulsory attendance dues are collected on behalf of the Catholic Schools Office. The school is the collection agency. Many parents find the payment less painful if they make a regular payment. Please see Mrs Mabey if you would like to discuss payment options.

Attendance dues are not charitable donations and cannot be used to claim a tax rebate. However, your donations to the school, the Proprietor, your parish and approved donee organisations can be used to claim a tax rebate. As an individual you are now able to claim 33% on all qualifying donations. You need to keep your donation receipts and attach them to your IRD claim form when you seek a tax credit. You can get Tax Credit Claim forms from the Inland Revenue Department website at www.ird.govt.nz or phone for a form to 0800 257 773. If you phone, you will need your IRD number.

Our School Library

We have an excellent school library with the latest publications available for students. All students are encouraged to read and it is wonderful to witness students reading at lunch times and before school. We are grateful to the NZ Herald for continuing with the free newspaper to each family from Monday to Friday. This is a wonderful opportunity for us all and an opportunity for parents to discuss news events with their daughters.

Visit to Otahuhu Library

The Otahuhu Library invited 10AL to attend a workshop, Monday 7 March to listen to a guest speaker. His name was Ant Sang, and he talked about his life as a designer, animator and comic book writer. Illustration is his thing. Ant talked to us about animation. He considers bro'Town New Zealand's most famous comedy, and he loves being a cartoon drawer. His favourite episode is "Survivor of the Fattest", which is really fascinating and interesting to watch. His favourite character is Mac and in 2008 he won an award for achievement and production. "Shaolin Burning" is his first book. It is not a comic book but a graphic novel, coming out next month. He will be talking about it on 20th March at the Auckland Art Gallery. He is also an award-winning designer. Everyone went back to school having learned something new from his presentation. He has also won a Quantas Award for production animation. Thanks to the staff at the Otahuhu Library for this kind invitation.

Veronica Salu

Level Two Geography Trip

Friday saw the Level 2 annual urban studies geography trip to three places, Ellerslie, Newmarket and Queen Street. As we walk along the three streets the girls gather information on building heights, landuse maps, pedestrian counts and traffic surveys. The girls were also encouraged to take photographs which they will use in their work. The pedestrian counts and traffic counts tend to produce the biggest reaction because they get increasingly more difficult especially in busy Queen Street. One group counted over 700 people in 10 minutes! Though trying to count the floors in Queen Street was fun especially with the tall glass buildings! But the girls gave it their best shot! The trip was very successful and the girls worked extremely well and we got back to school well before that rain came.

Ms Hart

Sports Report

Premier Volleyball – Auckland Champs

Our McAuley High School Premier girls played to their full potential during the week of Auckland Champs. They played with pride and great sportsmanship, especially in the semi-finals against Mangere College where they were knocked out in a nail-biting 5 setter-game that was almost 3 hours long! It was a very close game and our players did the school, the supporters and the coaches proud. Thank you to everyone that helped out with the team.

Results

Premier Volleyball: 3rd at Auckland Champs
Senior Touch: 2nd in Southern Zone Competition

Junior Swimming Carnival

The Junior Swimming Carnival was held last Friday 11th March and was very successful. The majority of the students successfully competed in the carnival, demonstrating what they had learnt in their swimming lessons leading up to the carnival. Stand out performers were Danielle Timu, Sandra Pole, Ana-Tessa Heka and Lidia Araboo.



Congratulations to Carlow for coming first in the junior swimming carnival. Second was Coolock, third was Tullamore and in fourth place was Stormanstown.

Well done all those who participated in the swimming programme.

Athletics

18 Students qualified from the school's athletics day to compete at the Eastern Zone Championships. Stand out performers were:

Jackie Bourne	1 st Senior discus
Teuila Fotu-Moala	1 st Senior shot put
Faafetai Motu	3 rd Senior long jump
Jennifer Lemisio	1 st Intermediate 200m, 2 nd 100m, 3 rd high jump
Makerita Siluuga	2 nd Intermediate shot put, 3 rd long jump
Laumanu Tupou	1 st Junior shot put
4 x 100 Relay Team	2 nd Intermediate Relay (Jennifer Lemisio, Makerita Faifili, Angela Fusitua, Makerita Siluuga)

The above students have now qualified for the Greater Auckland Championships.



Coaches/Managers Wanted

Anyone who is interested, or knows someone who might be interested in coaching a school sports team, please contact our Sports Co-ordinator, Colleen Robertson, on 2768715 ext 712. We desperately need coaches for the following teams (some coaching development is available): Netball, Badminton, Junior Soccer, Assistant Coach for Rugby.

Up Coming Competitions

Waka Ama Final Regatta Friday 25th March at Orakei Basin
Kilikiti A: 23rd March at the Auckland Domain
 B: 24th March at the Auckland Domain
Cricket NZCT Girls Comp, 24th & 25th March at Keith Hay Park, Mt Roskill



Rugby Fitness Training

Tuesday 22nd March and Thursday 24th March at McAuley High School, 3.30pm-5.00pm.

Netball Trials

Seniors	Tuesday 5 th April	3.30pm – 5.00pm
Year 9	Monday 11 th April	3.30pm – 5.00pm
Year 10	Tuesday 12 th April	3.30pm – 5.00pm

Basketball Academy starting Tuesday 29th March 3.30pm – 5.00pm

Thank you for your support of the school.

Anne Miles
PRINCIPAL



The Ball Committee on their way to the Ball Expo



Junior Swimming Carnival
House Colours

