

# Newsletter No 4

August 2015



## Prayer

In living  
Kildare Ministries into life,  
may we always offer:  
"openness of hand  
tenderness of embrace  
spaciousness of heart  
and graciousness of  
home." (Richardson)  
May we respect and  
Celebrate "the blessedness  
of earth and  
universe" (Richardson) we share.  
All this  
in and through  
the creative  
and generous Love  
we call God.  
Amen

Night Visions © Jan L Richardson,  
Wanton Gospeller Press, Orlando,  
Florida, 1998

Featuring in this issue are  
the ministries of:

- Clonard College
  - Star of the Sea College
  - The meeting of the Trustees
  - New Principals' profiled
- The Ministries to be featured in the next newsletter are:
- Brigidine College Indooroopilly
  - St Joseph's College Echuca

Please submit articles or photos of interest by August 24th

mlang@brigidineministry  
centre.org.au

Dear members of the Kildare Ministries community



On 23 July 2015, at their annual meeting the Trustees invited leaders within the ministries to consider the Foundational Statements for Kildare Ministries. Each Leader was called to consider the Vision and Mission statements and the accompanying Values. A copy of the Foundational Document can be found on the last page of this newsletter and our webpage has been update to reflect these new Statements.

Our reactions and responses, our voices and even our silences, will give expression to these Statements and Values and will define us as we continue to grow in our own understanding of who we are as members of the Kildare Ministries community. The Statements impel us to draw from the solid base of our Catholic Tradition but also to respond appropriately and with courage to our new emerging world and to the current needs of our community.

This week I listened intently to the *ABCs Four Corners* documentary on transgender children. Partly because of a similar issue in one, perhaps more of our schools and partly because of the growing awareness of this issue and the incredible hardship, discrimination and ignorance faced by the child and parents. In brief, the documentary highlighted that in Queensland there is a growing push for better understanding and support for transgender children in the education system. Parents of children who identify as gender diverse have now formed a support group in hopes of gaining better treatment and thereby reducing bullying and mental illness in their children. Their experiences back up findings from a recent University of New England study that recommended broad changes in government, schools, and the medical profession to help children who do not conform to the usual notions of male or female.

"The report, titled *From Blues to Rainbows*, surveyed 189 children and young people between 14 and 25 years who identified as transgender or gender diverse. It found a third of them always knew about their gender variance from when they were small children. Senior education lecturer and co-author Dr Tiffany Jones says the report recommends that appropriate facilities should be provided to students according to their gender preference, and that uniform policies should also allow them to appropriately express their identity. They really aspired to have their school documents changed and one-fifth had experienced physical transphobic abuse. Over 90 per cent of those who experienced physical abuse, for example, considered suicide. So it can have some real impacts for their wellbeing".  
(Excerpt, *Four Corners*, 24 July 2015)

How do we as Kildare Ministries respond? What values do we bring to bear on our response and care for students in our community that do not conform to the usual notion of being male or female? Being faithful to the Catechism of The Catholic Church stipulates that persons with gender identification issues must be treated with respect, compassion and sensitivity (sec. 2358), and is in accordance with Pope Francis' exhortations for all human beings to have their God-given dignity recognised.

***Respect for the conscience of every person, regardless of their religious beliefs; silence in the face of difference; affirmation of the dignity and blessedness of every person; offering, not coercing; suggesting, not dictating; leaving room for gracious acceptance. These are all good pointers for those of us dedicated to a culture of life. (Pope Francis, 2015)***

From what I have witnessed in our schools and community works, I say with pride and confidence that each has been strong advocates of the vulnerable and marginalised and while pastoral care for our community is strong, perhaps we could do more? This new papal style gives us confidence to work in the name of the Church as we attempt to create "an [inclusive] community where all people are valued, where all creation is recognised as sacred and where hope, justice and courage are our hallmarks". May we continue to be strong voices and advocates for all children regardless of their circumstances and vulnerability and for our Refugees, for humans being trafficked and enslaved, for unfair and unjust work practices (even in Australia!) and any other injustices upon our fellow citizens. Together, may we find the courage to act in the name of justice and in the name of our faith.

Erica Pegorer  
Executive Officer, Kildare Ministries



# CLONARD COLLEGE - HERNE HILL

## BRIGIDINE DAY

What the students had to say..



**Caitlin Bury: College Captain** : On the very last day of Term 2 Clonard College held its annual Brigidine Day, celebrating the heritage of Clonard College. Brigidine Day is a time where all students and teachers come together to have fun and create new and lasting memories. We gathered together for a liturgy to begin the day, celebrating Clonard's participation in the community throughout the years. This year, a new tradition for Clonard began. The "Tullow Gift" was held. We had the fastest runners from each year level, in each House, battle it out in a fun relay around the pathway of our new Tullow area. It was a great turn out and this year, Finian was lucky enough to take out the winning spot setting a new record for Houses to beat in future years.

One of the most anticipated events all year is the carnival atmosphere that Brigidine Day creates. A rave cave, an animal petting farm, a photo booth, face painting, henna, pizza, ice cream, a horizontal bungee and the Cyclone all added to the excitement of the day. The student leaders did a fantastic job in assisting with each activity.

Brigidine Day finished with one of the most competitive and talked about activity that Clonard hosts -the annual House Choir and Talent Quest. Each Tuesday lunchtime for a whole term, each House practised songs and dance moves in an effort to be the winning House performers. Leila sang a mash up of classic hits from the 80's, Kildare a Beyoncé mash up, Finian an old time classic "I wanna dance with somebody" and Xavier a pop mash up from the 2000's. The performances were amazing this year and we congratulate each and every participant.

Brigidine Day was an amazing turn out and definitely the highlight of the year so far. It's an amazing day to bring all the students and teachers together to celebrate our school and how lucky we all really are.

**Meg McKenna, Year 12 Visual Arts Leader** : As it was my last Brigidine Day ever it was great to be a part of the celebrations. I have always loved how the school comes together to enjoy all the fun activities that go along with this day and this year was no exception. From food, face paint and rides to House Choir and the Talent Quest - it was a fantastic day enjoyed by all.

**Madeline Baker, Year 12 Liturgy Leader** : It is not often that a whole school gets the chance to celebrate as one; but Brigidine day makes this possibility a reality every year. It highlights the talents of students and also lets us all celebrate the end of semester with our friends. It is a day we all look forward to!

**Lauryn Eyre-Walker, Year 8 Xavier Leader** : Brigidine Day was a huge success, it was very enjoyable and fun. I really enjoyed all the activities especially the Cyclone, the animal farm and the photo booth. On Brigidine Day I helped out in the henna booth, it was great fun. All the food was delicious. Overall it was a great day!



# STAR OF THE SEA COLLEGE - BRIGHTON

Star of the Sea College has been educating young women for more than 130 years. The College motto - *Facta non Verba* (Deeds not Words) reminds us that we need to be doers of the word, proclaiming the good news with courage and conviction. Our *Mission Statement* declares that *Star educates young women spiritually, academically, physically and creatively in a compassionate Catholic context*. We strive to empower young women to engage in critical reflection leading to positive action for our world. The College has a reputation for educating girls to exercise initiative, to be independent thinkers, to be articulate and practical in their response to matters of social concern, and to be active and contributing members in their church and their society.



Year 7 students enjoy the breakout space of *Trasna*

**THE WAVE PROGRAM** : *The Wave* program is an initiative introduced into the College in 2014. This whole school program aims to maximise current technology, the development of learning spaces and 21<sup>st</sup> Century pedagogy to effectively personalise teaching and learning at Star. Collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking underpin the development of curriculum that continues to engage each student. Totally redesigned teaching and learning spaces were opened for Year 7 and Year 8 students in 2015. The building which houses the new spaces was renamed *Trasna*: a Celtic word meaning “crossing place”. *The Wave* continues to inform the redevelopment of spaces throughout the whole of the College.

## SENIOR STUDENTS FLOURISH IN STAR'S VCAL PROGRAM

The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL), introduced in 2015 for students in Years 11 and 12, is an accredited senior secondary certificate of education that sits parallel with the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE). The VCAL aims to provide students with the skills, knowledge and attributes to make informed choices about career pathways to work and further education. Several VCAL students attended work placements in Term 2 related to their vocational interests and relevant studies - three have been offered ongoing employment. An example of VCAL students' teamwork in preparing a program demonstrating leadership, and event management skills: they prepared a wellbeing day for



Serving lunch to younger students



Relaxation techniques with primary students

Year 5 and Year 6 students from St Columba's Primary School. The day focused on nutrition, meditation, team building, friendship, healthy recreation... and lunch! It was challenging but great fun for the students – young and older!



Instructing Younger students in soccer

## STAR WOMEN SPEAK: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE

The Past Students' Association recently celebrated the accomplishments of three past students in the area of medical research.



Joanna Phipps, Sheila Crewther, Toula Tripaydonis (current Science Faculty Head) & Anne Tripaydonis

**Professor Sheila Crewther (1964)** is currently a lecturer at the School of Psychological Sciences at La Trobe University. Her research interests lie in understanding how vision drives and organises behaviour

**Doctor Joanna Phipps (1993)** is currently working in the Department of Anatomy and Neuroscience at the University of Melbourne where she is developing skills in retinal neurobiology

**Anne Tripaydonis (2010)** worked as a researcher at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research (WEHI) and is currently studying Medicine at the University of Melbourne

They all spoke about the importance of Star nurturing their passion for Science. They remembered their teachers fondly, as well as the limitations that they experienced in terms of the equipment and the laboratories in which they were taught. The audience heard about how they overcame the subtle discrimination against women in the workplace. It was a wonderful night.

## Introducing the new Co-Principals of Kilbreda College– Mentone



### Ms Nicole Mangelsdorf



Nicole has been an educator in Victorian Catholic secondary schools for over 20 years. Prior to being appointed Deputy Principal – Learning and Teaching at Siena College in 2009, she held various leadership positions including Head of Science, Senior Teacher – Programs and Director of Professional Learning.

Nicole is a passionate Science and VCE Biology teacher who is committed to leading a learning focussed school. She is a strong believer in girls' education and in promoting spiritual growth, a love of learning and encouraging students to become discerning young women with a commitment to social justice.

Nicole has a Bachelor of Education, Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Studies (Student Welfare) and a Master of Education from the University of Melbourne. She recently completed the International Leadership and Management Program (ILMP) Senior Leaders Program.

Nicole is an active member of the teaching profession and passionate about improving educational standards. She has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Victorian Catholic Secondary Schools Deputy Principals' Association (VCSSDPA) since 2012 and is the current President.

### Ms Teresa Lincoln



Teresa Lincoln has been teaching in Catholic education for 30 years and in some form of leadership for 29. She is currently in her third year as Deputy Principal Student Learning and Wellbeing at Genazzano FCJ College, Kew. Prior to Genazzano, Teresa has been in leadership positions at Our Lady of Mercy College, Heidelberg and Loyola College, Watsonia.

Teresa has a passion for education in the Catholic context and is inspired by Gospel values in her daily interactions. She believes that the future of innovative and excellent learning opportunities for students lies in the inspiration we provide as leaders and the support, opportunities and empowerment we offer to our staff.

Teresa has completed a Master of Education in International Education Policy and the International Leadership and Management Program (ILMP) Senior Leaders Program. The ILMP has strengthened her leadership capacity and commitment to leading a learning focused school. She believes that improved student learning outcomes is fundamental to all decision making.

Teresa is also a very active member of the Victorian Catholic Secondary Schools Deputy Principals' Association (VCSSDPA) having chaired the Conference Planning Committee for a number of years and currently holds the position of Secretary. Teresa is also on the Trinity Catholic Primary School, Richmond Education Board and the St John's Parish Heidelberg Finance Committees. Teresa balances out her experiences in the education of girls by being a member of the Marcellin College Advisory Board.

## Kildare Ministries Calendar of Events August 2015

Date	Event
3-4 Aug	Kildare Ministries Principals Conference, Hahndorf, SA
18 Aug	Kildare Ministries RE and Faith Leaders Meeting, BMC
20 Aug	Kildare Ministries Finance Committee Meeting, BMC
21 Aug	Kildare Ministries Staff Induction, BMC
21 Aug	Kildare Education Ministries Business Managers Meeting, Clonard College
25 Aug	Kildare Education Ministries Principals Meeting, BMC
31 Aug	Pilgrimage Briefing- 2015 Pilgrims BMC



Annual Meeting of the Trustees with the Members Council, Chairs of the Boards  
and Stewardship Councils, Principals and Managers  
23rd July 2015



On 23<sup>rd</sup> July the Trustees hosted the 2015 meeting of the Members' Council, Board and Stewardship Councils, School Principals and Managers of Community Works. The day was ably facilitated by Kerry Brettell and focussed on introducing the Foundational Statements of Kildare Ministries developed by the Trustees during the past few months.

Each of the values - **Justice, Compassion, Hope, Hospitality and Courage** - was taken in turn by the Trustees and given a deeply thoughtful context in scripture and in the traditions of Presentation and Brigidine communities. Energetic table talk followed drawing out implications for each of the ministries and the consonance of the values of Kildare Ministries with the values of each ministry.



# AROUND THE TRAPS...

## Seminar Day: Tuesday 28th July

Teachers from a number of Kildare Ministries' schools attended a Seminar Day late in July which focussed on the Foundational Statements and Values recently shared by the Trustees of Kildare Ministries. We enjoyed a day of robust conversation where we relished engaging with the Statements. We spent some time deepening our understanding of the stated values, through exploration of scripture and the tradition. We also examined current issues in the light of the Statements which produced some highly creative responses. The day was just one step in working with all across the ministries to deepen understanding of these significant Statements.

## Opening of the Brigid Arthur Centre, at Marian College Sunshine West: Wednesday 29th July



## Trustees at Work....

MISSION inclusive

Our mission is to build communities of hope, justice and Compassion by responding to the needs of our world through providing education and community works.

• KM will develop inclusive and socially just communities. We will do this through education and community works.

As we <sup>seek to</sup> respond to the needs of our world, KM will build inclusive communities of hope, justice and compassion by providing education & community works.

KM is inspired by the transformative vision of the <sup>Jesus</sup> Gospel and our rich traditions.

Our Vision .....



VALUES

Sacrificialness Celebrate/joy  
 Inclusiveness We are One  
 Advocacy Connected  
 Just, Social Justice Forgiveness  
 Authentic Welcoming  
 Collaborative Simplicity  
 Courageous Love  
 Compassion Kindness  
 Respect Generosity  
 Hospitality Hope  
 Fairness Dignity  
 Passion



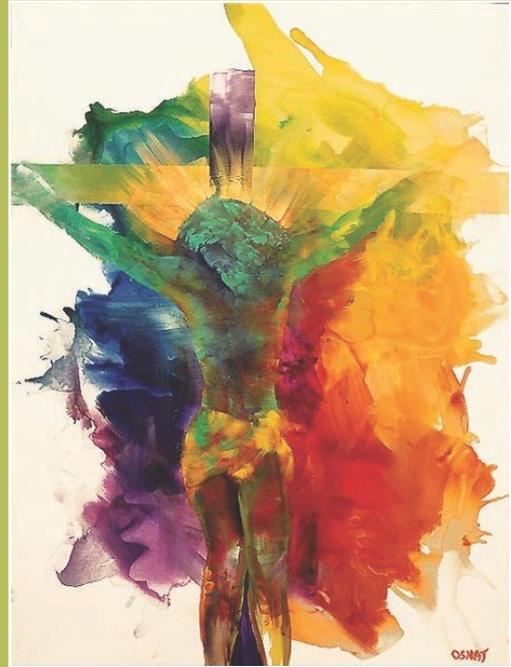
Kildare  
MINISTRIES

# Kildare Ministries

# Foundational Statement

Our footsteps are the road. There is no road, the road is made by walking. By walking one makes the road, and upon glancing behind one sees the path that never will be trod again.

Antonio Machado



Painting by Osnat Tzadok  
[osnatfineart.com](http://osnatfineart.com)

## Foundational Statement

***Kildare Ministries is inspired by the transformative vision of the Christian story and our rich traditions.***

## Our Vision

A community where all people are valued, where all creation is recognised as sacred and where hope, justice and courage are our hallmarks.

## Our Mission

Responding to the changing needs of our world, we strive to build inclusive communities through the provision of education and community works.

## Our Values

### JUSTICE

Accepting that the needs of the vulnerable are paramount

### COMPASSION

Walking with and having empathy for all

### HOPE

Being a presence and bringing a sense of purpose

### HOSPITALITY

Inviting all to feel at home

### COURAGE

Speaking and acting for those who have no voice