SAINT TERESA OF KOLKATA

With these words, Pope Francis officially declared the Mother of the poor a Saint in the Catholic Church.

"We declare and define Blessed Teresa of Calcutta to be a Saint and we enrol her among the Saints, decreeing that she is to be venerated as such by the whole Church."

† 1910 Agnes Gonxhe Bojaxhiu is born on August 26 in Skopje, in what is now Macedonia, the youngest of three children of an Albanian builder.
† 1928 Becomes a novitiate in Ireland of the Loreto Order.
† 1929 Arrives in Kolkata to teach at St Mary’s High School
† 1946 Riding a train to the mountain town of Darjeeling, she receives a “call within a call” from Jesus “to serve him among the poorest of the poor”.
† 1948 Permitted to leave her order and moves to Kolkata’s slums to set up her first school.
† 1950 Missionaries of Charity officially founded in October as a religious congregation.
† 1952 Opens Nirmal Hriday “Pure Heart” a home for the dying, followed next year by her first orphanage.
† 1962 Wins her first prize for her humanitarian work: she then uses the money to found dozens of new homes.
† 1979 Wins the Nobel Peace Prize.
† 1982 Persuades Israelis and Palestinians to stop shooting long enough to rescue 37 children from a hospital in besieged Beirut.
† 1985 Awarded Medal of Freedom, the highest US civilian award.
† 1997 Dies September 5 in Kolkata and is given a state funeral.
† 2003 Beatified by Pope John Paul II
† 2016 Becomes Saint Teresa of Kolkata

“Let us always meet each other with smile, for the smile is the beginning of love.”
Mother Teresa
NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK.

September 4 marked the beginning of National Child Protection Week.

The objectives of National Child Protection Week are to raise awareness of the rights of all children to be safe and well, and to encourage more adults to play their part in making this a reality.

This year the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) encourages all Australians to continue to build on the idea that ‘Protecting children is everyone’s business: play your part’ by focusing on the theme ‘Stronger Communities, Safer Children’. This theme emphasises the importance and value of connected communities in keeping children and young people safe and well.

Research shows that communities where children are seen and heard, where their participation is valued, and where their families can gain the support they need are stronger communities that help to keep children safe and well.

LaSalle Catholic College is dedicated to upholding the values and practices that create safe learning environments for students. In this, LaSalle Catholic College is committed to the vision of the National Safe Schools Framework (NSSF) in that all Australian schools are safe, supportive and respectful teaching and learning communities that promote student wellbeing and student safety. Ensuring we have child safe schools goes to the heart of our faith and core purpose.

Here is a link to the NAPCAN site which contains materials for parents. There is also a video link.

NEW ASPIRANT - KENNETH GAN

As a junior secondary student at St Xavier’s all boys school in Penang, Malaysia, Kenneth Gan’s faith journey was fundamentally shaped by the De La Salle Brothers from a very young age.

Next year Kenneth will move to Sydney to join the Aspirancy Program and live in the Brothers’ community at Bankstown.

He will also be teaching science here at the College.

“I had an inspirational mentor, Br Ulrick Currie, who nurtured my faith and led me to become a Catholic when I was in Year 9.”

“I wanted to work in a teaching role and that’s what led me to the De La Salle Brothers because they are a teaching congregation and I knew the charism well from my schooling in Malaysia.”

“I also draw a lot of my inspiration from Pope Francis who is a great role model for us all, especially his remarkable humility and commitment to serving others, especially the disadvantaged.

St John Baptist de La Salle,
Pray for us
Live Jesus in our Hearts,
Forever

Michael Egan
Principal

www.lasalle.nsw.edu.au
SAINT MOTHER TERESA

Mother Teresa of Calcutta was canonised a Saint of the Catholic Church on the 4th September, 2016. People of all faiths worldwide witnessed this remarkable event in the Church calendar, with over 100,000 pilgrims present at St Peter’s Square in Vatican City.

St Teresa was an exceptional woman who made her presence known around the world. She is known as the ‘Saint of the Gutter’, where she aided the sick and dying in the slums of India and in the poorest neighborhoods around the world.

This merciful Saint defended the lives of those who did not have a voice – the unborn, sick and abandoned, and seeing in all of them their God-given dignity. She stood up to world leaders for ‘the crimes of poverty they themselves created.’

St Teresa performed two recognized miracles – healing an Indian Woman from stomach cancer in 1998 and healing a Brazilian man from a brain infection in 2008.

Pope Francis described St Teresa’s work as an ‘eloquent witness to God’s closeness to the poorest of the poor,’ which is also Pope Francis’ vision of the church. Many Catholics view her as a role-model for compassion.

St Teresa founded a religious congregation known as the Missionaries of Charity who are active in over 100 countries. This congregation emulates the qualities of St Teresa adhering to the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. They run many homes for the poor, sick, dying, orphans and those who need family counseling.

St Teresa was also a recipient for the Ramon Magsaysay Peace Prize (1962) and the Nobel Peace Prize (1979).

To be able to witness and reflect upon the inspirational work of this beautiful woman, only 19 years after her death is remarkable. It brings hope to many other people around the world to help make a difference, just like she did.

At the canonisation, Pope Francis mentioned that St Teresa loved to say ‘perhaps I don’t speak their language but I can smile,’ and challenged all people to ‘carry her smile in our hearts and give it to those whom we meet along our journey, especially those who suffer.’

Saint Teresa of Calcutta, pray for us.  
Stephanie Assad
FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MS LEONIE DOWD

ST BRENDAN’S YEAR 6 VISIT

On Tuesday 6th September, Mr Flood (LaSalle’s Learning Support Coordinator) and I were fortunate enough to be asked to visit the Year 6 cohort of St Brendan’s Catholic Primary School and it was such a delightful time.

The Year 6 students, their teachers and Ms Femia, the School Principal, gathered together in the contemporary Year 6 open classrooms to talk about life in a high school educational environment.

Mr Flood and I shared our experiences about life in a Lasallian community and the similarities and/or differences between primary school and the secondary environment.

The students were also offered question time and Mr Flood and myself were both impressed with the high caliber academic questions the students were curious about and seeking advice.

We were very impressed with the show of respect the students and the attentive way they listened to our conversation and advice. We look forward to working with the students who join the LaSalle community in 2017 with much excitement.

FROM OUR LEADER OF LEARNING: MR DAVID CLORAN

HSC Examination Preparation

As we prepare for our current Year 12 students to conclude their formal classes at LaSalle over the coming days, we also recognise the importance of the weeks ahead as they finalise their preparations for the 2016 HSC examinations.

All students have been challenged to commit themselves to these assessments, which are the culmination of a great deal of work, especially over the last 12 months. Teachers at LaSalle remain available to work with our students in the lead up, and throughout the examination period. Subject teachers are also available to work with students during their regular timetabled periods until the completion of their exam for each subject. I take the opportunity to congratulate all of our senior students on achieving this significant milestone, and assure them of our ongoing thoughts and prayers throughout this significant exam period.

Preliminary Examinations Commence

The 2016 Year 11 Preliminary Examinations commence next Thursday, 15 September, which is the final exam block for our Year 11 students before they officially enter into their HSC course from the start of next term.

While students are not required at school during times when they do not have exams, supervision will be provided for students that would like to undertake private study at the College for the duration of the exam period. It is essential that students use this time, whether at school or at home, to prepare for upcoming exams which conclude on Friday 23 September.

All students, regardless of their examination timetable, are required to be at school on the morning of Tuesday 20 September, to participate in the Year 12 Graduation Assembly.

I also take the opportunity to wish these young men all the very best during this significant assessment period.
FROM OUR LEADER OF LEARNING: (cont’d)

Year 9 Academic Forecasts

Over the past fortnight, students in Year 9 have received their 2018 Academic Forecasts. These documents give students an indication of their suitability to undertake certain subjects in Years 11 and 12, based on their current level of academic progress. Based on each student’s Semester One report, the Academic Forecast can be used as an indicator of the academic rigor required for students considering certain patterns of study.

If students note that they have been identified as being suitable for a particular subject, they are encouraged to maintain their current standard of performance over the coming 12 months in the lead up to the official subject selection process.

If students have been identified as falling short of the benchmarks necessary to complete subjects that appeal to them, they are encouraged to use the year ahead to focus on the subject areas necessary to achieve the prerequisites as identified in their assessment handbooks.

YEAR 10 FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Year 10 Food Technology students have been undertaking a practical assessment task. They were given a design brief and have undergone a design process detailing their evidence in portfolios. They were required to produce a cake for their nominated special occasion. They have really embraced this task and as you can clearly see went all out in fulfilling their design brief.

Mrs Cheryl Newton
LASALLE GOES TO WORK

With sweaty palms and loads of apprehension, almost forty Year 11 LaSalle students attended a mandatory week of work placement. The industries experienced by our students covered Automotive, Construction, Hospitality, Electrical and Information and Digital Technology.

Many students were expected to travel independently, arriving on site just after the sun rises and wearing the uniform of their chosen vocation. All students challenged themselves during work placements and definitely experienced the practical side of their pathways.

A number of teachers visited the students during the week. Much positivity surrounded the visits with teachers reporting high levels of attendance, punctuality, grooming, attitude and adherence to device-free sites.

Amidst the hard work, Nathan Nguyen was one of many highlights. Working in the kitchen at the Darling Harbour, Novotel. Nathan impressed the Manager, Lee to the point of work being offered and a potential future with one of the world’s largest hotel chains, Accor Hotels.

Well done to all students in completing the week and honoring not only, yourselves, but also the College and your families.

Keith Porter, Industry Partnerships Manager

GIFTS FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

On Wednesday during the Year 12 Meeting, the schools Captains from St Mary’s Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall came to visit Year 12.

On behalf of St Mary Catholic Primary School and Christ the King Catholic Primary School, Bass Hill, they presented the cohort with a gift made by a primary school students in their schools.

The gift included a personal prayer written to each Year 12 student for their upcoming HSC exams.

Year 12 were very touched by this generous and thoughtful gift.

Ms Kathryn White
MATHS CHALLENGE DAY

On Wednesday 24th August 2016, a number of students took part in the Mathematics Challenge Day at Mount St Joseph School, Milperra.

Eleven schools in the Bankstown and Revesby cluster came together to provide talented mathematics students from Years 4 -10, the opportunity to enrich their mathematics skills by working together in a challenging and fun day.

On the day, students worked together in small groups to solve various mathematical problems and mental computation activities involving estimation and measurement.

The Challenge Day also provided a wonderful opportunity for parents to see and be part of the mathematics that their sons or daughters are challenged with.

Students from LaSalle did the school proud with their enthusiasm and willingness to win each round of competition. Congratulations and a warm thank you to the following students who gave up their time to join me on the day and represent the school.

Year 7  
Martin Tran, Umar Bin Amjad, Jamie Jaajaa, Harry Nguyen, Jason Rahal

Year 8  
Andy Chu, Martin Nguyen, Peter Do, Jayden Lloyd

Year 10  
Justin Tran, Ryan Pham, Tommy Feng, Eric Nguyen

The students had a wonderful time meeting other students from different schools and should be commended on their tireless effort throughout the day.

Ms Vivian James
MCC ATHLETICS

On Thursday 25th August, students competed in the MCC Track and Field Championships at Homebush.

LaSalle overall finished in 8th place, with our Juvenile Squad finishing 7th, Junior Squad finishing 8th and our Senior’s finishing in 6th place.

Congratulations to all students who participated with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship on the day. LaSalle produced some outstanding results with 2 students receiving a 1st placing in the Championship events.

Special mention to the following first place winners:

- Vinncent Takataka Discus
- Faraj Haifa 200 Meters

SCC ATHLETICS

On Friday 26th August, LaSalle students competed in the SCC Athletics Carnival at Homebush.

LaSalle only competed in the junior competition and completed the Carnival in 9th place.

Congratulations to all girls for the way they represented the College on the day and a special mention to Youngor McGill who had a highly successful carnival. Youngor placed 2nd in the 200M and Shot Put, 3rd in the High Jump and 4th in the Discus and Long Jump.
Class of 1986 – 30 Year Reunion

It has been 30 years since the Class of 1986 graduated from MSJ! So a reunion has been organised to celebrate, reminisce and catch up! Details are as follows:

Date: Saturday 17 September, 2016
Place: Revesby Workers Club
Time: 6:30pm
Cost: $50 per head (includes cocktail menu and dessert). Partners welcome!
RSVP: 6 September, to: msjclassof86@gmail.com

Hope you can join us!

Nicole Roberts (nee Devereux) and Kathy Howard (nee Fulton)