Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

I wonder how many of us dwelt on the axiom “a week is a long time in politics” as we reflected on the Gospel from Palm Sunday. From the hero’s welcome into Jerusalem to be being hunted down and crucified within the space of a few days, what Jesus experienced certainly has parallels for society in our culture of trial by media.

Even though Jesus was welcomed back to Jerusalem as a hero, he did not arrive with great fanfare. As usual his arrival befit his humility and he returned on a donkey. As those around him turned against him, he did not rail against them – he forgave them and went to face his impending death with calmness and in prayer.

There are many lessons for us to learn from Jesus that will benefit us in our daily lives. While the media wants to tear down the Church and focus on negativity, the life story of Jesus provides us with a model way in which to conduct our lives. We may find fault with the Church, we may find fault with those around us as we can find fault in ourselves, but how much better our world would be if, when finding fault, we focused our thoughts on how Jesus might have reacted in our situation. How many of today’s problems might be solved (or would not have eventuated) if we approached life with humility, calmness and in prayer?

I hope each of you have a holy, restful Easter and I look forward to working with you again next term.

God bless, Brad.
From the Leader of Welfare

Last Sunday was Palm (Passion) Sunday in our Catholic tradition. Using some thoughts provided by Br Julian McDonald cfc, Chancellor of the Australian Catholic University, I share this reflection on this significant day. All four Gospels give a gruesome account of the passion and death of Jesus. Jesus’ passion story also provides an insight into the various motivations that underlie human self interest. Characters like Pilate, Judas, the Soldiers and indeed the onlookers who gathered for the spectacle, show something of the depths to which we can all sink whenever self-interest controls our decision making.

Pilate for instance, knew that the man dragged before him was innocent, the victim of a well orchestrated smear campaign. However justice was not Pilate’s concern. To hold onto his prestigious and comfortable position was what mattered to him. To achieve that, it was important for him to please his Roman masters by keeping the masses under control. It mattered little to him that an expendable Jewish carpenter from some obscure little country town might be crushed in the process. So Jesus is crucified on the cross of Pilate’s cowardice.

Judas didn’t need the thirty pieces of silver. What he was doing was cutting his losses and moving on. Originally he had been captivated by Jesus but over time he came to realise that he and Jesus did not share the same vision. Judas had hoped to find in Jesus a Messiah who would restore his people’s political and economic power. However Jesus kept talking about a kingdom of peace and justice, a kingdom built on selflessness, compassion and humble service to the poor, the forgotten and the alienated. There was not enough action for Judas so he decided to take the money and find another Messiah. Jesus was crucified on the cross of Judas’ impatience and his need to push his agenda through and over whoever got in his way.

And what of the soldiers who arrested Jesus and tortured him? They could always claim they were just doing as they were ordered.

And the crowds of onlookers who watched Jesus stumble through the narrow streets, weighted down by the crossbeam strapped to his back? He did a lot of good for ordinary people, but stirred up the authorities. If you are going to take on the big boys, then you can only expect to get hurt.

And the passers-by, some curious, others embarrassed by the spectacle they came upon? Please, we don’t want to get involved. This is none of our business!

Jesus ends up being crucified on a cross that is made of cowardice, self-interest, rigid self-righteousness, Expedience, fear, silence and reluctance to get involved. Jesus’ crucifixion continues when we and others bring those attitudes to the ordinary momentous decisions and challenges of our living. The story of Jesus’ passion and death is a drama that will be acted out before our eyes in the days of Holy Week. It is also a mirror which reflects to us our own potential to get involved in crucifying.

Easter is the pinnacle of our Catholic faith and I pray that we can all be empowered by the Easter message of hope and that the miracle and mystery of the Resurrection also provides us with a profound reminder of the gift and joy of life.

First term has been a very busy one and so much has been achieved. All of our new students have settled well and the level of confidence bodes well for a solid term of consolidation after the break.

Term Two:
The new term begins on Monday 19 April. Students are requested to dress in full College Winter Uniform, including blazers.

Student uniform guidelines including shoes/hair and jewellery are outlined in the College diary:

* Senior Diary Page 6a
* Junior Diary Page 6a

Needles:
Year 7 will receive:
♦ 2nd dose HPV
♦ 1st dose Varicella
♦ 1st dose dTpa

On Thursday 22 April Year 7 students are to wear the full sports uniform. Permission forms will be distributed on Monday 19 April and are to be returned to the front office by Wednesday 21 April.

Cross Country:
Will be held on Friday 23 April from 12.30pm – 3pm. ALL students are required to attend in FULL and CORRECT sports uniform.

Mrs Jennifer Wakeling.
A Big Thank you from the Library.

Thank you to the Library volunteers this past term, particularly Mrs Wilde and Mrs Asimus. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Mr Donovan and the Library Staff.

Careers

Student Log in Instructions: Career Central:

Please note Parents/Guardians are welcome to log in too.

When accessing the site you will need to enter the website:

http://www.careercentral.edu.au

- Select “site login” at the top of the screen
- Enter your user name - your personal email address
- Enter your password – Gilroy
- Select “Student” under “Choose Type”
- You are now at the home page!
- Save in your favourites.

Check out the following on the above website:

- Social Work Career Days
- UNSW Year 10 Info Evenings
- Natural Therapies Open Day
- USYD Combined Medicine Degrees
- Auto Apprenticeships
- USW Medicine
- Accounting Cadetships

The Hills Shire Council Youth Week:

Take Charge, Aim Large: Career Training

When: Saturday 10 to Sunday 18 April
10am – 4pm each day
Where: Learn 2 Centre, Level 1, Suite 101
Vinegar Hill Memorial Library & Community Centre
Rouse Hill Town Centre, Rouse Hill
RSVP Monday 5 April.
Contact: Sarah Keen on 9891 1455 (sessions are free)

How Do I Choose a Career Pathway?

For: Young People aged 15-25 years
When: Wednesday 14 April 2010
7pm – 9pm
Where: Pioneer Room, Castle Hill Community Centre
Corner Pennant & Castles Streets, Castle Hill
Contact: Caroline Gardner on 9639 7999 or info@hillsSIP.com.au (free event)

Youth Business Forum:

When: Monday 12 April 10am – 4pm
Where: Function Room, The Hills Shire Council
129 Showground Road, Castle Hill
Cost: $25 pp
Contact: www.shiftinternational.net

For further information contact:
www.thehills.nsw.gov.au
Mr David Credaro, Careers Advisor.

LOTE Department

Year 8 French:

Year 8 French students have been enjoying practising their French role-plays this week. Students performed very well, demonstrating a solid talent for drama and great French accents! C'etait très amusant!

FRENCH/ITALIAN SPEAKING VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED!!

This is a call to any French or Italian-speaking members of our school community who can spare some time to come in and converse with our Year 12 students. They will be doing their HSC Speaking exams from August onwards. I will provide a list of questions to guide the conversation which will take place with students individually, during class time or after school, in Term 2 and beginning of Term 3. If you are interested, please call and leave your name and contact number, and any other details regarding your availability at the school office. Everyone is welcome - Seniors, uni students, ex students (but we cannot permit the conversation to be in a dialect - sorry). Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Lisa Deep.
LOTE Continued:

Year 9 French Lunch:
Bonjour!
This term the Year 9 French students have been studying the unit 'Bon appetit!' To celebrate the end of the topic we were given the opportunity to have a French lunch. This included la quiche lorraine, le pain, la salade verte, le pate, le fromage, le jus d'orange et pour le dessert, les biscuits au chocolat.

We would definitely have to say that the quiche was tres miam miam and the chocolate biscuits were delicieux!

During this topic we had to perform a role play based around either a restaurant or a cafe. We all had a great time and even a few laughs!

Tayla Campion et Stephanie Rayner.

Update from CAPA

CAPTIVATE NEWS for 2010:

Attention all Performing Artists!!

The Catholic Education Office, Parramatta, are once again sponsoring workshops and ensembles in Drama, Dance, and Music (Rock) lead by industry professionals.

Gilroy students have been invited to attend ‘Captivate’ auditions over the Easter School Holidays, at various locations within the diocese.

Students are encouraged to read the flyers/posters in lower D Block for more information or see Mrs Scott.

DRAMA Auditions: What’s it all about?

The Drama Auditions are being held to establish leading representative drama ensembles within the Parramatta Diocese. We are looking for the most motivated actors in our secondary schools who are interested in working with some of Sydney’s leading directors to produce sustained dramatic works of the highest standard. Captivate will showcase these ensembles at major venues such as Parramatta Riverside Theatre and The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre and other events to showcase their exemplary talent and help provide our talented drama students with pathways to professional and/or tertiary acting opportunities.

Shaun Parker Ensemble: What’s it all about?

We are working with Shaun Parker, one of Australia’s leading artists, to create original dance theatre based on the urban dance styles and contemporary popular culture of western Sydney youth. We will seek government and community funding to take this work to the widest possible audience, here and internationally. It will be of international standard. Last year’s work has attracted significant praise and interest in this project’s further development from arts and government organizations. Shaun Parker’s work “Happy as Larry” was a sold out hit at this year’s Sydney Festival and has just completed a national and international five festival tour.

Commercial & Contemporary Dance: What’s it all about?*

The Commercial and Contemporary Dance Auditions are being held to establish leading representative dance ensembles within the Parramatta Diocese. We are looking for the best dancers in our secondary schools who are interested in working with some of Sydney’s leading choreographers to produce dance routines and sustained works of the highest standard. Captivate will showcase these ensembles at major venues such as Parramatta Riverside Theatre and The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre and other events to showcase their exemplary talent and help provide our talented dance students with pathways to professional and/or tertiary dance opportunities.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ROCKSHOPS

APRIL 13-16, 2010
VENUES: DELANY COLLEGE, GRANVILLE APRIL 13-14 XAVIER COLLEGE, LLANDILO, APRIL 15-16

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN ROCK?
You have dreams of ARIAs, Grammys, and world domination. The question is, do you have what it takes to get there? Successful bands will enjoy 2 Rock-filled days of performance and songwriting with Music Industry professionals. Limited places.

To register, see your school Music teacher or apply online @ www.rock-ed.net

For Further Details:
Contact Mark Hopkins or David Russell:
CAPTIVATE, Catholic Education, Parramatta Diocese
email captivate@parra.catholic.edu.au and check website www.parra.catholic.edu.au/captivate
Year 7 Report

Apparently Year 7 have had an excellent start to the year (according to Mr Morin). Is he just being biased or is it really true that Year 7 is a good grade?

With over 190 awards handed out to students across the year, I think it is fair to say that Year 7 is all right….

Sorry guys, but now we have to talk about uniforms:

School Uniform for Boys:

Make sure that you don’t wear shirts with logos underneath your school shirt (sport or summer). If your hair is too long, make sure you get it cut otherwise you will attract your Year Coordinator’s attention. If you are shaving your hair, it needs to be cut no shorter than a number three.

NO FOOTBALL SOCKS, NO BODY PIERCINGS (UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CAN THESE ITEMS BE WORN TO GILROY CATHOLIC COLLEGE). Black belts are COMPULSORY if your pants are low riding.

Now it is time to move onto something we obviously have a lot of knowledge on…..

School Uniform for girls!!

-NO sloppy joes or sweatshirts
-NO socks over or under stockings
-NO necklaces, bracelets, or anklets are permitted!
(Although plain crucifixes are allowed to be worn underneath your blouse). Watches are allowed, but if expensive watches are misplaced it is unlikely items will be found.

-NO makeup of any description is allowed to be worn.

-NO colorful zoo York shoes (skater shoes) are allowed to be worn, otherwise believe us you will get into trouble.

- Girls, do not roll your sleeves up, as you will get a detention. This goes for sport and normal uniform

Many valuables have been misplaced recently, or have been possibly stolen. So guys, if you don’t want your valuables to be lost or stolen then don’t bring them to school!!!! If you do bring them to school, use common sense and put them in your locker or keep them in your pockets.

We all know the expectations Gilroy Catholic College has, where our classes are, our teachers’ names and have found so many friends!

By Tesha Letherbarrow and Shannon McRitchie

Year 8 Report

Wow! What a week in Year 8. We have had achievements in both academics and sports.

A HUGE well done to Bella Liddle!! In her last two futsal games she scored an AMAZING 12 goals, 6 in each game and her team has gone through the season undefeated! She was also awarded Sports person of the Week.

Lachlan Date also passed his martial arts grading. A huge mention to Brendan Cole who competed in a cycling competition in Melbourne. He came an outstanding sixth place and he also competed in Auckland, New Zealand. The competition was over three days and at the end of the third day he finished an incredible fourth.

And now, Bec Wightman and Stefanie Messina got full marks in their Hiragana test for Japanese. Also, Lauren Thurbon and Matt Hourigan received an A on their Art Assignment.

A big shout to Joel Davidson who got an B his Art Assignment as well!!

Adding to the list, Year 8 has been awarded over 100 merits! That’s about half the grade. Job well done Year 8!

Mr Phillips would also like to say that he is REALLY impressed with the Geography Speeches so far. The respect we are showing one another during these presentations is great.

Luke Pearce also deserves a mention. Mr Phillips was impressed with his Geography Speech. He is also trying his best in class.

Have a great and safe holidays.

Written by Bridie Hill & Jessica Gibson.
Year 7 Camp:

From the 15th - 17th of March half of Year 7 and school leaders went on camp to Narrabeen Sport and Recreation Camp. We had an exciting and a very memorable time at camp.

To start the camp experience we had a one hour bus trip which was filled with lots of laughter, and everyone’s spirits were high. Everyone was eager and couldn’t wait to arrive at Camp.

When we arrived, camp instructors sat us down and all rules were explained to us. We then moved to our rooms.

After lunch we were off to our first activity. We were split into our groups and off we went. Some went to the river/regatta for sailing or kayaking, others went to the high ropes course, abseiling or spent time relaxing at the beach. At the Regatta Centre we got to sail big sailing boats or kayak around the lake. Sailing was very hard but when you caught the wind it was really fun.

We got to experience things that we would not normally do, such as abseiling down a 20 metre cliff!!! For some it was their first time abseiling and very scary. We all encouraged each other which helped some of our friends overcome their fear of heights.

A fantastic activity was the high ropes challenge. You could choose to do a 4m or 8m challenge and complete different obstacles like walk across ladders and tightrope walk. It was SCARY!! We also went to the beach. My group went to Narrabeen beach. We had a nice time chilling out and enjoying the sun, wearing SPF 30+ obviously! We all agreed and have to say though that Regatta was absolutely the best activity ever.

The bus trip home was really exciting but everyone was sad to go. Year 7 had an awesome time and we will never forget camp.

We would like to thank all the teachers for spending time with us at camp, away from families and other commitments they have. Without them, it would not be possible to have a great time.

By Abbey Urwin and Anna Costa.
**Student Update**

**Uniform Shop:**

**Just a reminder.**
All students return to school in the second term in their winter uniform.

The winter uniform is:
- Long sleeve shirt for both girls and boys
- Tie for boys
- Blazer for everyone

Also the uniform shop will be open in the holidays:
Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 April 9am - 12 noon.
Thank you, Mrs Jenny Owens.

**English Department:**
From the start of Term Two, on Wednesday evenings from 5-7pm I will be running ESSAY WRITING WORKSHOPS for Year 12 English students. I look forward to seeing you there.
Mrs Chris Cigan, English Coordinator.

**Student Services:**

**Lost Property**
- 1 blazer found last year-no name in it.
- 2 pairs of black lace up school shoes.
- 2 pairs of joggers.
- Oz sport bag with black Bloch shoes.
- Denim Jacket.
- Black jeans with black and red top & converse boots.

Please phone Jacqui Ashdown in Student Services.

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**Easter Mass Times**

**St Michael's Baulkham Hills:**

Holy Thursday: 7.30pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross: 10.00am
Good Friday Afternoon Liturgy: 3.00pm
Easter Vigil Mass: 7.00pm
Easter Sunday Mass: 8.00am, 10.00am & 6.00pm.

**Our Lady of Lourdes Baulkham Hills South:**

Holy Thursday: 7.00pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross: 10.00am
Good Friday Afternoon Liturgy: 3.00pm
Easter Vigil Mass: 6.00pm
Easter Sunday Mass: 7.30am & 9.30am.

**St Bernadette’s Castle Hill:**

Holy Thursday: 7.30pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross: 9.30am & 12 noon
Good Friday Afternoon Liturgy: 3.00pm
Easter Vigil Mass: 6.00pm
Easter Sunday Mass: 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am & 6.00pm.

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**National eConference**

**Mary – First Disciple**

**Tuesday 18 May**

It’s free and will be fantastic! Fr Frank Moloney SDB will engage you as he shares his insights into Mary as disciple, woman and mother. To register go to www.bbi.catholic.edu.au and follow the links to Mary-First Disciple and be in the draw to win a pilgrimage for two to Italy in 2010 with Harvest Travel.
DRAGON’S TEETH
COMING TO 40KMH SCHOOL ZONES

Watch for the new Dragon’s Teeth, slow down in school zones and help us keep children safe.

www.rta.nsw.gov.au
40km/h school zones

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The 40km/h school zone slows traffic in the vicinity of the school. Most 40km/h school zones operate between 8am and 9:30am and from 2:30pm till 4pm. The 40km/h school zone speed limit must be observed even if school children cannot be seen.

A 40km/h school zone operates on all gazetted school days including staff development days (pupil free days).

While some schools may operate on different term dates, school zone speed limits MUST be adhered to during NSW Government determined school terms. Gazetted school term dates for 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 are listed below. Gazetted school term dates can be found on the RTA website and the websites of the NSW Board of Studies and the NSW Department of Education and Training.

**Western Division**

A small number of schools in the Western Division of NSW commence the school year one week later than schools in the remainder of the state.

**Non-standard 40km/h school zone times**

There are a small number of non-standard school zone times in NSW. Red signs at these schools display the non-standard times which apply. The minimum penalty for speeding in an operating 40km/h school zone is a $141 fine and the loss of 2* demerit points.

**Dragon’s teeth road markings**

To increase motorists’ awareness of 40km/h school zones, triangular dragon’s teeth road markings will indicate that the vehicle is entering a school zone.

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### GAZETTED SCHOOL TERM DATES

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<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
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<tr>
<td>TERM 1</td>
<td>27 January to 9 April</td>
<td>27 January to 1 April</td>
<td>28 January to 8 April</td>
<td>27 January to 5 April</td>
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<td>TERM 2</td>
<td>28 April to 10 July</td>
<td>19 April to 2 July</td>
<td>26 April to 1 July</td>
<td>23 April to 29 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>TERM 3</td>
<td>27 July to 2 October</td>
<td>19 July to 24 September</td>
<td>18 July to 23 September</td>
<td>16 July to 21 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>TERM 4</td>
<td>19 October to 18 December</td>
<td>11 October to 17 December</td>
<td>10 October to 20 December</td>
<td>8 October to 21 December</td>
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Minimum fines and loss of demerit points for exceeding the 40km/h speed limit in an operating school zone

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<th>Speed limit</th>
<th>Minimum fine</th>
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<tr>
<td>10 km/h and under</td>
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<td>2*</td>
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<td>More than 10km/h but less than 20 km/h</td>
<td>$253</td>
<td>4*</td>
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<td>More than 20km/h but less than 30 km/h</td>
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<td>More than 45 km/h</td>
<td>$1,859</td>
<td>7*</td>
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*These values are higher for provisional drivers and are doubled during designated holiday/long weekend periods.

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Move Ahead with Street Sense is a road safety education program delivered as part of the PDHPE program in all NSW primary schools.
GILROY CATHOLIC COLLEGE COUNCIL INVITES PARENTS & FRIENDS TO

The Great Gilroy Muster

26 June 2010
The Hills Club
Jenner St
Baulkham Hills
7.30pm - Midnight
$40.00 per person
Buffet Dinner & DJ

Pull on your boots, roundup your table of 8 and scoot on down to the Hills Club for our annual social get together.

DRESS: COUNTRY
MUSIC: 70’s, 80’s and 90’s

Further details in future newsletters

Enquiries: Loretta Wilson – 0419 260 637
Jacquie Anchique – 0401 684 325
**ALL THINGS DRIVING**

Are you learning to drive?
Then allow us to teach you…

We are a Gilroy Family-owned business based in the Hills District. Your instructor, Peter, is a former police officer with over 25 years experience. Peter holds a Certificate IV in Driving Instruction and a Certificate IV in Training & Assessment.

We have single lessons, multi lesson packages and gift certificates available.

or
Belinda: 0409 049 424

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**Bishop Anthony’s Installation**

**Mass DVD**

A DVD of the Liturgical Reception and Solemn Mass of Installation of Bishop Anthony Fisher OP as the third Bishop of Parramatta will soon be available. Place your order now for a special commemorative recording of this joyous event in the life of our Diocese. Price: $19.95 (incl. GST + P&H). For an order form go to:

[www.parra.catholic.org.au](http://www.parra.catholic.org.au)

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**Enjoy Cardmaking, Stamping & Papercrafts**

Classes available in Castle Hill.
Enjoy a relaxed, fun environment and make some great projects to wow all your friends and family.

Check my blog for class times and ideas.

Or call Sue on 0411 222 501