

Rosebank College

GAZETTE



RULE OF BENEDICT

WHENEVER WE WANT TO ASK SOME
FAVOUR OF A PERSON WE DO IT HUMBLY
AND RESPECTFULLY (RB 20:1)

Celebrating
140 years

VOLUME NO.8
19TH MARCH 2008

Dear parents, students and friends of Rosebank,

You are probably wondering why Easter has come so early this year. The reason can be traced back to several hundred bishops including Aristakes of Armenia, Protogenes of Sardica, Spyridion of Trimythous, and Eusebius of Caesarea who decided at a meeting 1,683 years ago when Easter should be celebrated. All the leading clerics of the Christian world were invited to the Council of Nicea which was held in AD325. It had been called by the Roman Emperor Constantine and its outcomes included the Nicene Creed (the first unified Christian doctrine represented by the Nicene creed we recite today at Mass) and determining when Easter falls.

Before Nicea, the Easter celebration was tied to the Jewish feast of Passover. After the council meeting, the day was set as the first Sunday after the full moon following the vernal (spring) equinox. This latter event is now fixed on 21 March. Thus, the earliest that Easter Sunday can be is 22 March, the latest, 25 April. This year's date of 23 March is the earliest since 1913, and the next such occurrence will be in 2160.

As we enter into the Easter mystery we are called upon to ponder on the very essence of who we are, what does it mean to be alive and why we exist. It's a celebration rich in imagery and hope. It commences with the liturgy of Holy Thursday evening commemorating the first Eucharistic celebration.

This is followed by the Stations of the Cross at 10 am and the Good Friday Liturgy at 3.00 pm. If you want to experience the Stations in a unique and interfaith way, why not join the thousands of people who gather, march and pray through the streets of Hunter's Hill. Commencing at 10.15am from All Saints Anglican Church in Ferry Street, the procession moves on to the Hunters Hill Club in Madeline Street, the Congregational Church in Alexandra Street, then St Joseph's Hostel in Gladesville Road, before finishing in the grounds of Villa Maria Catholic Church (Rocher Avenue).

Finally the Easter celebration itself commences with the Vigil (evening) mass on Saturday and continues into Easter Sunday. It celebrates that Jesus is alive and present among us - the most significant event in the Church's

calendar.

In having the Easter weekend separated from the holiday break the focus centres on the religious celebration. I hope that you can make a concerted effort to join your local church community to give this moment in the year its proper time.

Our series of parent teacher interim nights for Yrs 7, 8, 9 and 11 will continue after Easter as will our preparation for Open Day which will be held on Sunday May 4th. Please ensure that you mark this date in the Calender as all students will be required to attend.

May the blessings of the Risen Lord be with you all and may the long weekend be a safe and happy occasion.

Tom Galea
Principal



Yr 7 girls pray the Stations of the Cross in the College Chappel

From the Assistant Principal

Open Day

This year Rosebank College will be holding its Open Day on Sunday the 4th of May. The attendance of all students will be required on the day and in full uniform.

Parental Reminder

It is College policy that all disruptions to teaching and learning during normal College hours are kept to a strict minimum. Thus medical, dental and other appointments will only be permitted as a rare exception. Parents are asked to make such appointments outside school hours or in the school holidays. All parental requests for short leave will be handled at the discretion of the relevant Year Co-ordinator who must receive the request prior to or during morning Homeroom. Your support and cooperation in ensuring continuity of learning for your child is appreciated.

Miriam Berlage
Assistant Principal

Up-Dates from the Coordinator of Mission

The spiritual life of Rosebank College continues to be truly alive and active.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday (16th March) signalled the start of Holy Week. Placing palm branches along the road is for us a symbol of preparing the way for Christ's triumph and victory. However, the road to that victory for Jesus was via Calvary. As we journey with Jesus through the events of Holy Week, we have so much to reflect upon. The events of Holy Week hold such a vast depth of experience for us to explore. Christ's passion is a story of betrayal, false accusations, lies, cover-ups, sacrifice, forgiveness and compassion. It truly is "the greatest story ever told." Through it all, Jesus remains faithful. He remains faithful to his cause—that is, to living a life of love. He remains faithful to himself, not compromising his own beliefs and principles. Above all, he remains faithful to God, his Father. There is nothing more steadfast than the crucifix.

Holy Week, therefore, reminds us of what is important in life as well as the variety life has to offer. What is important is that we be prepared to make appropriate sacrifices. Sacrifice brings with it a sense of looking out for the needs of others. This time of the liturgical year reminds us to follow the example of Jesus whose awareness of the needs of others was finely tuned. The events of Holy Week also remind us that sacrifice brings with it great reward. For Christians, that is the supreme prize: eternal life.

The themes of Holy Week were explored in a dramatic way during a Holy Week celebration held in the College Hall on Holy Thursday. The students of Ms Taubert's very capable Year 11 Drama class helped the whole Rosebank College community to pray about and reflect upon the life and death of Jesus. Ms Coleman's talented and able choir group also contributed to the celebration's prayerfulness.

We thank these two groups of students for giving their time and their selves in service to others.

May the life and love of Christ fill your families with joy and peace throughout the Easter season.

Project Compassion

Words of thanks and congratulations are extended to all the students who so generously contributed to Project Compassion. It is with much pride and deep appreciation that we announce that the total collected for Project Compassion this year is approximately \$3,000. Special mention must go to the Year 12 students from 12A Homeroom who led by example and raised the most money; that is, over \$600. Special mention must also be made of 7C Homeroom, the members of which raised approximately \$380. Well done, to these students in particular.

World Youth Day

On Monday, 7th April, the World Youth Day Cross and Icon will arrive at St Brigid's Church at Marrickville. Rosebank College staff, students and their families have been invited to participate in this exciting event. Commencing at 4:30pm, there will be an international food festival (all at reasonable prices). At 6:00pm, the Cross and Icon will arrive and this will lead into a procession of the Cross and Icon around the streets of Marrickville. It has been scheduled that the Cross is to be handed over to Rosebank College students at approximately 9:00pm, at which time, the Rosebank group will process with the Cross for about ten minutes. Your attendance at this event is most welcome and your support much appreciated. If you require further information, please contact me at the school.

Also in reference to WYD, students wishing to participate in WYD events must first register. Interested students have received a letter about registration. If your daughter or son wishes to register, they need to speak with me and to receive a letter which explains the first step in the registration process. As with the WYD Cross procession, your support of WYD is much appreciated.

Mr Angelo Gattone
Coordinator of Mission



**In the Chapel we have
WEDNESDAY MORNING
COMMUNITY PRAYER
8:20-8:30am
Sisters, staff, students
& family are all very
welcome to join us.**

Smart Finance with Yr 9 Commerce Girls

Our Year 9 Commerce Students were visited by a representative from the Commonwealth Bank last week: Casey-Anne Featon.

Casey gave a very informative and interactive presentation to our students, who learnt more about Smart Spending and Smart Saving. Casey's message to the girls was that they already exist in the world of Spending, and she provided them with lots of strategies for spending wisely, as well as giving them some ideas on how to commence being responsible Savers. The girls were kept entertained by the various scenarios, case-studies and guessing competitions which Casey included in her presentation. The information gained at these seminars will help the students in Year 9 Commerce with their further studies about Consumer



Notice for Parents

At Rosebank College, we aim to create the best possible learning environment for our students so that they can work in a safe and secure learning centre. As from Monday 10 March students will no longer be permitted to play computer games in the library during non-class times. We would like to encourage all students to come and work on the computers before school, recess and lunchtimes and will provide a conducive atmosphere as well as support in their learning endeavours. Please contact Mrs Sinclair in the Library should you have any questions.

Dates for the Diary

21 - 25 March	Easter Break (Inclusive)
25th March	Pupil-Free Day
26th March	Year 7 & 11 Parent -Teacher Interviews Year 12 Half-Yearly Exams commence
27th March	MCCS Swimming
28th March	CSDA Public Speaking
29 & 30 March	Duke of Edinburgh camp
31st March	Year 8 & 9 Parent-Teacher Interviews
8th April	Yr 7 Hepatitis B, Yr 7 -10 HPV Vaccinations
11th April	Term 1 Concludes
28th April	Term 2 Commences

**HIT THE LIGHTS
FOR EARTH'S SAKE**



**8pm
March 29, 2008**

**Please join Sydneysiders in turning
off your lights at the appointed
hour of 8pm.**

Enlighten the world! Rosebank College

Your environment committee

Environmental Message for Easter

It's official...

**POLLUTION
IS A SIN**

***According to a new Vatican list of seven deadly sins for
the 21st Century.**

Do the RIGHT thing – clean up after yourself!

Weekly Careers News

Term 1 Week 8 2008

See Ms. McAloon or log on to www.careercentral.com.au

Drama Workshops If you are looking for something different to do during your school holidays, then try a short course with the National Institute of Dramatic Art. Autumn Holiday program runs from 12 - 27 April.

Gifted Holiday Program GERRIC at UNSW offers holiday programs for gifted school children. The Scientia Challenge Program for students in Yrs 7-10 will run July 9/11. 2008 Brochure/Application Form for April and July Workshops now available.

Fire Brigade Work Experience The NSW Fire Brigades offer a 1 week Work Experience Program for students in Yrs 10-12. Young women especially encouraged to apply. Limited places. Apply ASAP.

School Holiday Workshops in Design CATC offers fun, practical and hands-on 4 day workshops in Interior Decoration or Graphic Design during the school holidays. A great way to find out if this is the career for you! 14-17 April; 7-10 July; 29 September – 2 October. Early bookings advised!

Design Comp Make Your Mark sponsored by Student Exchange Australia is an online T-shirt design competition giving students (14-18yrs) the chance to win \$3,500 towards an overseas student exchange trip plus win heaps more. Entries close 28 March.

Meet A Chartered Accountant! The Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia invites students in Yrs 10/11 to a FREE 'Meet the Business Leader Dinner' on 5 August allowing students a personal insight into the life of a 'Chartered Accountant'. Limited numbers. Apply ASAP.

Gap Year Volunteer Placements Overseas Antipodeans Abroad offers the Year Out program for Year 12 school-leavers to undertake 3 month volunteer placements in a developing country. FREE information night in on 25 March.

Holiday Sports Camps Camp Australia will run Sports Camps in Melbourne and Sydney during the March/April school holidays. Learn and develop skills in various sports, meet elite athletes and make lots of new friends! Bookings essential.

Sydney Uni Info Tours The University of Sydney offers regular tours of the Camperdown and Darlington Campus to prospective students in years 10-12 and their parents/guardians throughout the year.

Next Tours: April 16, May 21, June 11... Bookings required.

USYD 2008 Key Dates The University of Sydney has recently released its 2009 Undergraduate Prospectus with details on courses, admission requirements, scholarships, accommodation, UAI cut-offs, university life and key diary dates.

Sports Scholarships to America College Prospects of America (Australasia) is a sports marketing service for Student-Athletes seeking Scholarship opportunities at American Universities.

Electrical Pre Trade Course Mt Druitt College (TAFE NSW) is offering a 9 week electrical pre vocational course to help you gain an entry-level job or an apprenticeship. Job seeking skills included. Compulsory Info and Testing Session on 10 April.

Hospitality Training Want to work in bar service, hospitality or the gaming industry? Sutherland and Ultimo Colleges - Sydney Institute TAFE NSW, are both offering a discounted rate on combined RSA + RCG training until 31 March. 18yrs+.

NIDA Open Day Once every two years NIDA opens its doors and invites you to explore. Satisfy your intrigue and find out what goes on inside the studios and theatres of Australia's most prestigious performing arts school. Saturday 31 May 2008.

UMAT Test Prep Program The UMAT Test on 30 July is a compulsory part of the selection process for Medicine and some Health Science courses. Icarus College offers Test Preparation programs and Medical School Interview Training in all capitol cities. Enrolling now.

Please see Ms. McAloon, Careers Advisor, for more information on any of the above notices or visit www.careercentral.edu.au. Parents and teachers can also register online at Career Central. To open a user account, click 'registered' and follow the prompts.

ROSEBANK COLLEGE

OPEN DAY

Sunday 4th May

11:00 - 15:00



National Assessment Program

The National Assessment Program (NAPLAN) is a national testing instrument that is replacing state assessments such as Basic Skills, ELLA and SNAP. The purpose of NAPLAN is to assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. In 2008, all four year groups across Australia will undertake the assessments in the same week. Parents will receive information on their child's performance through individual student reports.

The following is a summary of some important information for parents relating to NAPLAN:

Test dates:

- Language and conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)- **13th May**
- Writing - **13th May**
- Reading - **14th May**
- Numeracy - **15th may**

Students who are unavoidably absent on any of these days may sit the assessment any time between Friday, 16th May and Friday, 23rd May.

The numeracy assessment will be broken into two sections – calculator and non-calculator. All students in Years 7 & 9 must bring a College approved calculator on the day of the numeracy test. Students in Year 7 who have not yet purchased a calculator may do so from their Maths teacher.

Newly arrived students (less than a year before the test) and students with significant intellectual delay may be exempt from sitting the assessment – please contact Ms Laing at the College if you wish to apply for exemption for your daughter.

Parents may withdraw students who have a confirmed disability or difficulty in learning from the test – please contact Ms Marina Laing at the College if you wish to do so.

Students in Year 8 at Rosebank will no longer sit a literacy and numeracy assessment.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Marina Laing at the College.

Enrolling for Year 7 next year?

Enrolments for year 7 2009 are filling up quickly, with a lot of new interest being generated by the expansion to co-education. Interviews of applicants are already underway.

To ensure that a place will be available, it is essential that you forward your application to the school as soon as possible. Please note that if you intend to enrol a sibling of a student already at the school, you still need to put in your application in good time to avoid possibly missing out.

If you have not yet picked up an enrolment application form, or have mislaid it, they are available from the office. Contact the Registrar on 9713 4205 or email: enquiries@rosebank.nsw.edu.au.

The Sacrament of Confirmation



The Sacrament of Confirmation will be given at the following four places on the dates provided.

✠ **St Joachims**, 2 Mills Street, Lidcombe on Saturday 10th May by **Bishop Terry Brady**.

Contacts for queries:

Maryanne on **9649 3259 / 0407 322305**
or Antoinette on **9649 7030**

Email office@stjoachimslidcombe.org.au

✠ **St Ambrose**, 2 Burke Street, Concord West on Sunday 15th June 2008.

Contact for queries:

Phone: **9743 1023**

Email ambrosec@bigpond.net.au

✠ **St John Vianney & St Thomas More Parish**, 31a Rawson Road, Greenacre on Wed 14th May at 7.30pm by **Bishop Terry Brady**.

Confirmation information night and enrolment for this Parish will be held on Wednesday 12th March 2008 at 7.30pm in the Parish Church. Children from Year 6 and above wishing to be confirmed and who live in the Parish of St John Vianney and St Thomas More, Greenacre, will need to attend the Parish's 6 week Formation Program and the Retreat Day to be held on Friday 9th May 2008.

Contact for queries:

Judy Beke (Parish Secretary) **9759 6263**

Confirmation, First Holy Communion & Reconciliation

✠ **St Joseph's Parish, Enfield**

126 Liverpool Road, Enfield, NSW 2136

<u>Sacrament</u>	<u>Enrolment Dates</u>	<u>Sacrament Date</u>
CONFIRMATION	Thurs April 10 7pm	Sat 31 May 10am & 2pm
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION	Thurs Aug 7 7pm	Sept Weekends 13, 14, & 20
RECONCILIATION	Thurs Oct 23 7pm	Wed 26 Nov 7pm

Please contact Sacramental Co-ordinator Heather Donnelly on 02 9747 4884, for any information/details regarding enrolment or availability times.