Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

With joy and expectation, we prepare for the coming of your Son Jesus.

Give us the strength and perseverance to ward off all temptations of fear, anxiety, and indifference as we await the coming of your Son.

Daily Prayer 2012. Liturgy training publication

As we prepare for Advent and renewal we take this opportunity to share important news regarding Samaritan College Leadership for 2013. We are pleased to announce to our community that we have secured a replacement for Eleni Vailis whilst she takes leave. Ms Georga Tyson has accepted the position of Acting Deputy R-12 for 2013. Georga comes to us with much experience having worked in Whyalla, London and Adelaide. Georga is a hard working educator who has children’s learning at the heart of all she does. She has also worked in Acting Deputy positions in Adelaide which will add a richness of experience to our leadership team. We know you will join us in welcoming Georga and working with her next year.

Therefore, in 2013 our Executive Team will consist of:

Co-Principals: Mrs Terissa Shepherd and Mr Damien Judd
Acting Deputy Principals: Mr John Lyons and Ms Georga Tyson
Assistant Principal in Religious Identity and Mission: Mr Bernie Meixner.

Together we will lead our R-12 community with faith, wisdom and compassion.

This week at our student Masses and Liturgies, we have been blessing and farewelling individuals leaving our community. We will be farewelling the following staff whilst they take one year’s leave: Ms Eleni Vailas, Ms Lou Gogoll and Ms Kate Nolan and Mrs Lucy Kuchel. All have given tirelessly to our communities over many years thus we support them in their leave, career discernment and professional and personal learning in 2013. We would particularly like to thank Eleni, who has worked for the college for 17 years. We know that the community will miss Eleni as she takes leave in 2013, as her ethic of care and ethic of work have gone hand in hand to frame her leadership. We also farewell Prue Lange who has been a part of the Whyalla community this year, and given generously to college and community life; we wish Prue well in her new ventures.

continued from p2
We have farewelled Kirsten Davenport recently to have her baby, also Kimberley Owens and Kristen Davies have taken maternity leave for 2013.

Lastly, as Chris Sloan retires, we are having many farewell opportunities. We encourage all families to be a part of the celebrations of Chris’ work and of the 2012 Samaritan school year at the Family and Carols Nights coming up. Chris will address Prize Night as ‘guest speaker’, as her farewell tribute to the community.

**Parish News**

**An Advent Wish List**

Even though Christians don’t commence their Christmas celebrations until Christmas Eve, we are conscious that the next few weeks are very Christmassy for the world around us – lots of parties, shopping and cooking.

This time of busy-ness for the world around us (and us in it!) contrasts with the beautiful but more reflective time for Christians known as Advent.

So I thought of putting off the Christmas wish-list for a few weeks and concentrating on an “Advent Wish List”! Here goes! I wish for …

- **Peace in the Middle East**: more talking, less shooting, more listening, less threatening; let’s acknowledge God in Ashura (Shi’ite Muslim feast about now), Hannukah (Jewish Feast in December) and in Christmas;

- **Peace in our families**: more talking, less “shooting”, more listening, less threatening; let’s acknowledge God in our daily prayers with the children, around the dinner table or at bedtime;

- **Generosity balanced by fairness**: as well as giving generously to the poor through St Vincent de Paul, let us ask why the poor are poor, and work for change;

- That our **Sacrament families** (First Eucharist, Confirmation and First Reconciliation) will be prominent with their children at the Advent Masses and liturgies in the Churches;

- That all our Samaritan families will invest in a safer, healthier and more reconciled world, by bringing themselves and their children to the **Communal Reconciliation liturgies** (Thursday, December 13 at St Teresa’s, Tuesday, December 18 at Our Lady Help of Christians, both at 7:00 pm)

- **More Fasting** during Advent (self-denial when the opportunity offers, random acts of kindness, words of encouragement and healing), **and More Feasting** (food and drink in moderation, and words of thanksgiving and appreciation) during Christmas.

While this wish list may not help the commercial economy, it could lead to a boom in the spiritual economy!

*Fr Jim Monaghan*

*ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH TEAM*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Teresa’s Church</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 8:30am</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Religious Dimension**

As this Year of Grace unfolds, this prayer, that was composed by the National Planning Team, reminds us of our call to live the Gospel in our daily lives.

*Gracious God, You have blessed this ancient land with many gifts, especially its people.*

*We thank you for the Year of Grace, a time to start afresh from Christ.*

*You invite us to contemplate the face of Jesus your Son, that we may experience a new wave of grace,*

*and that the light of Christ may burn more brightly in our lives.*

*Attune our hearts and minds to the presence of your Holy Spirit, that our Church may be transformed,*

*our relationships be healed, and our nation grow in compassion and justice.*

*With the intercession of St Mary MacKillop, who showed us new ways of living the Gospel, we make our prayer through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us.

Last night the Year 12s attended their final, formal Mass as part of our College community. It was a wonderful way to remind them of all the gifts they have been blessed with.

As this Year of Grace continues I pray that they are open to contemplating the face of Jesus and, as they move on to the next phase of their lives, that their hearts and minds be attuned to the presence of the Holy Spirit.

*Christine Duffield*

*DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS*
POSITION VACANT

Samaritan College offers Catholic education in a community environment for Reception to Year 12 students. Incorporating three campuses, Samaritan College endeavours to educate the whole person in faith, wisdom and compassion.

EDUCATION SUPPORT OFFICER
Indigenous Education Worker
15 hours per week contract

Position Commences: January 23, 2013
Enquiries: For role clarification contact Co-Principals' Assistant: Karen McGinnis.
Applications close December 10, 2012
Forward to:
The Co-Principals
Samaritan College
PO Box 351
Whyalla SA 5600
Telephone (08) 8645 8568
Email info@samaritan.catholic.edu.au

CANTEEN ROSTERS
Monday, December 3 – Friday, December 7

ST TERESA’S CAMPUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Marina Schwerdt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Judi Kneebone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Donna Clark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>Rebecca Bubicich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Belinda Denny</td>
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</tbody>
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Annette Cameron
CANTEEN MANAGER

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CAMPUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>No Help Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Antonetta Rogers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Sunny Chung</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rose Cassar
CANTEEN MANAGER

SAINT JOHN’S CAMPUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Donna Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Mark Plunkett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>Monica Pennimpede</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Roseanna Wragg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Marg Coad
CANTEEN MANAGER

UNIFORM SHOP
In preparation for 2013 the uniform shop will be open normal hours in the final week of term.
Wednesday, December 12 - 8:00am-10:30am
Thursday, December 13 - 1:00pm-4:30pm
In the new year the uniform shop will be open prior to school returning on the following dates.
Monday to Friday
January 21-25, 2013
8:30am-4:30pm
CLOSED Monday, January 28 (public holiday)
School resumes January 29

PARENT COMMUNITY RAFFLE

Raffle books for the Christmas raffle need to be returned by Friday. The draw is on Sunday at the Bubblegum markets.

All sold ticket stubbs, money and unsold tickets are to be returned please.

Tania Taylor
ON BEHALF OF THE PARENT COMMUNITY
**PRIMARY CAMPUS NEWS**

**END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS**

**Wednesday, December 5**
OLHC Campus Carols Night
6:00pm (arrival) for a 6:30 pm (start) - OLHC Campus

Please bring along picnic rugs, chairs and BYO dinner and drinks.

**Friday, December 7**
St Teresa’s Family Night
6:00pm (arrival) for 6:30pm (start) St Teresa’s Campus

Please arrive early to find a seat. BBQ tea and drinks available. Children’s disco to conclude the evening.

**END OF YEAR LITURGIES**

This week we have celebrated our end of year liturgies, as we approach our Advent journey and give thanks to God for our school year.

The Celebration of Primary Years Mass and Dinner/Disco were a lovely celebration for the Year 7 students, recognising their last year in their Primary Education. May God be with them through their next phase of learning and development.

At these celebrations we brought forward donations of gifts and food for distribution by the St Vincent de Paul Society at Christmas. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

**END OF YEAR REPORTS**

The end of year reports will be sent home on Monday 10th December, as will the information regarding which class your child will be in next year.

**2013 CLASSES**

On Tuesday December 11, at 9am, the students will be placed in their 2013 class and will spend the morning with their new teacher.

Each year we receive calls regarding changing the placement of students because they are disappointed about being without friends and having to change teacher. Changing student placements is not as simple as moving one child from one class to another. A great amount of consultation with parents and teachers has already taken place, **therefore placements are final**. Please be positive and be supportive of students in this transition from one year to the next, and recognise change as a natural part of learning.

Yours in Faith, Wisdom & Compassion

Eleni Vailas
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

On Saturday, November 24, Ms Hancock’s/Daniel’s R/1 class and Mrs Raymond’s 1/2 class entered a float into the Whyalla Christmas Pageant. The theme of the float was “Annie Jnr” – following on from the hugely successful Samaritan College Production held in early November.

Children and adults alike had a wonderful time – a very special thank you to all staff who came out to help and enjoy the occasion. We are very grateful to Jock McLauchlan from QSM, who donated the use of his work truck for the float and a big thanks to all of the parents who helped put the finishing touches to the float. One extra special BIG thank you to Brad Raymond and Allen Gurnett – without their support, guidance and ingenuity, this wouldn’t have been the success it was. What a wonderful Samaritan community effort.

Di Hancock / Stacey Raymond
CLASS TEACHERS

On the weekend I was in the pageant. I was an orphan and I was walking and giving out lollies to all the girls and boys. I saw my family and I also saw my some of my friends. The funniest bit of the pageant was when Duke jumped out of the truck.

Shanae Luxton (Yr 2)

On Saturday it was the pageant. Miss Hancock’s class and our class were in the pageant as Annie Jr. My highlight of the pageant was when I saw my family. It was awesome.

Bianca Gould (Yr 1)

On Saturday I went in the Christmas Pageant. First I put my orphan clothes on. Then we got in the float. Next we waved to people. I liked the Christmas pageant and I got my face painted.

Chloe Hammond (Yr 1)

On Saturday I went to the Christmas pageant. I saw Mum and Dad. I liked going on the truck.

Cohen Leopold (Reception)
SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWS

END OF YEAR
To clarify for parents, Friday, December 7 is the last day for Year 10s, with dismissal at 1pm; and Tuesday December 11 is the final day for Year 8 and 9 with dismissal is at 3:25pm. Staff remain at the College until Friday December 14. Reports are distributed on December 7.

STATIONERY
All information relating to stationery requirements for 2013 can be found on our website. We encourage families to keep any unused or semi-used work books from this year and re-use in 2013. There is no need to purchase a new book if an old one has plenty of room in it, provided it is still in a good condition.

STUDENT LEADERS
Interviews for the position of Head Boy and Head Girl of the College were held this week. It can be a truly inspiring and humbling experience to sit and listen to the aspirations and goals of our young leaders. The Head Boy/Girl and Deputy Head Boy/Girl for 2013 will be announced at Prize Night on Monday.

PRIZE NIGHT
Hopefully all parents of prize winners have been notified that their child is receiving an award on Monday evening. Instructions on how to purchase tickets are included in that letter. It is important that parents sort their seating immediately as this event is normally is sold out very quickly.

END OF YEAR MASS
The Year 8 to 10 end of Year Mass will be at Saint John’s Campus in the Piazza on Friday, December 7 at 9:30am. Parents are welcome to attend.

Bernie Meixner
APRIM

YEAR 10 PLP DISPLAY
The Year 10 cohort will be presenting a ‘Civics Expo’ on December 6 from 7:30-8:30pm in the CBC area (the Year 11/12 area) of the college. The expo will be a chance for the Year 10s to showcase what they have learnt as part of their research into community organisations for the Civics component of their Personal Learning Plan (PLP). All Year 10s will need to be at school on December 6 to help their group with its display. They are required to be in full summer uniform (unless an alternative has been arranged with their PLP teacher).

All parents/caregivers/extended family members are welcome to attend.

Christine Duffield
DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS

ALTERNATE PROGRAM
During the weeks of Murray Venture the students who were at school were involved in some alternate life skills programs. One week the students spent their time doing ‘normal lessons’, helping keep their study up and also start preparing for their exams, and the other week they were involved in a series of activity sessions. These sessions

WHYALLA DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS CARNIVAL
Table tennis carnival was an excellent event enjoyed by all students. Despite the heat, they all played well and scored each others’ games. Congratulations to St Teresa’s campus coming second and winning the attitude award. A big thank you to all participants for their fantastic behaviour on the day.

Lou Gogoll    Cassie Francis
CARNIVAL TEACHERS
included things such as banking and saving, budgeting, planning a holiday to buying shares. I would like to thank all the guest speakers that made the effort to make this program successful; Marlene Kenny, Bev Carlson, Rebecca Shaw and all the staff who assisted.

**MURRAY VENTURE**

Well it is that time of year again when another 100 plus students have been and conquered the Murray Venture. Again this year was a long wait for the students after it was cancelled in Term 2 for weather reasons. Students each choose their own group to spend the week with; which included, sleeping, walking, kayaking, completing their chores with and even going to the toilet! We had a great bunch of students over the three weeks that used team work to overcome the challenges of the venture. They endured pain, tears, stress but most importantly they walked away with a sense of achievement and enjoyment from the experience.

I walk around and hear the students still telling their weekly stories and I know this experience will be with them for many years to come.

Thank you must go to all staff who attended the week to help make this a positive experience for the students; Kirby Howell, Josh Boden, Tom Gilligan, Carly Higgins, Kirby Heath, James Keating, Kim Ryan, Tony Hall, Maddy Osborn, Ryan Baker, Tariro Ndoro, Matt Thursby and Cristina Torres.

A big thank you to Kirby Howell for running the first week allowing me to stay at school, to all the staff at school that support this program for the students, Brother Pat Guidera for being my support car over the three weeks, and most importantly the students, you are part of a tradition now and I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

Kate Nolan
YEAR 10 COORDINATOR

**TRANSITIONS**

This time of the academic year focuses on transitions..... Year 7s have had their one day immersion into the College way of life and next on the radar is the Year 11 into 12 and 10 into 11 transition days. Both these year levels have made their subject choices for the following year and are about to learn more about the expectations of their respective subjects. It is important for students to attend these transition days as they serve as yet another checkpoint to make sure that they have chosen the correct subjects.

Year 11 students have had their transition day today, Thursday, November 29, and Year 10s will have their opportunity next Thursday, December 6. Students and/or parents are more than welcome to approach me for more information regarding subjects or the SACE in general.

Maresa Lyons
ACTING SACE COORDINATOR

**FORMAL PHOTOS - STILL AVAILABLE!**

The formal photos can be ordered online from Clive Palmer Photography.
www.clivepalmer.com.au
1. Select – click here to view and buy photos
2. Select – click here (in first paragraph) to log in
3. To view photos enter:
   User name: samaritanformal
   Password: 2012
4. Under photo categories on the left click Samaritan Formal
5. Click on the times to view and order

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

FREE!!! January 2013 School Holiday Activities

ALL THESE ACTIVITIES ARE PROVIDED BY PLAZA YOUTH CENTRE,
9 – 11 Colebrook Street, Whyalla Stuart

AGES: 10-21 YEARS OLD
NUMBERS ARE LIMITED!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Transport Provided</th>
<th>Max. Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 14th Jan</td>
<td>11am – 4pm</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Whyalla Leisure Centre (meet there)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, 17th Jan</td>
<td>11:30am – 7:30pm</td>
<td>Drop In</td>
<td>Plaza Youth Centre</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, 18th Jan</td>
<td>10am – 5pm</td>
<td>Beach/BBQ***</td>
<td>Whyalla Foreshore (Meet at Plaza Youth Centre)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat, 19th Jan</td>
<td>3pm – 8pm</td>
<td>Movie during Drop In</td>
<td>Plaza Youth Centre</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs, 24th Jan</td>
<td>10:30am – 4pm</td>
<td>Cricket/BBQ/Footy***</td>
<td>Civic Park (Meet at Plaza Youth Centre)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, 25th Jan</td>
<td>10am – 5pm</td>
<td>Cricket/Footy/Picnic/Swim***</td>
<td>Point Lowly (Meet at Plaza Youth Centre)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*** = If the temperature is 35C or more that day, Plaza Youth Centre will provide alternative indoor activities

ALL THESE ACTIVITIES ARE FREE AND FOOD IS PROVIDED!

To register your child, please phone at Plaza Youth Centre, on 8645 3999

November 29, 2012
An attitude of gratitude

Cultivating gratefulness in our children enhances family life and will reap long-term emotional rewards for them throughout their lives, writes Karen Fontaine

Article contributed by Karen Fontaine

In the materialistic age in which our children are growing up, it’s common for them to expect plasma TVs, overseas holidays and marshmallow-strewn babycinos as givens.

But rising levels of affluence seem to have had an inverse effect on our kids’ levels of gratefulness. For example – was the last time any child you know wrote a thank-you note for a gift, or said (without prompting) a heart-felt “thank you” for dropping them at the train station when it was raining?

As adults age, our feelings of gratitude – for health, for family, for good food and even something as simple as a sunny day – generally tend to increase. Gratitude allows us to celebrate the present. It magnifies positive emotions.

But for kids, whose sense of entitlement can be epic, the power of gratitude is not only in magnifying the positive but in also blocking the toxic and negative emotions such as envy, resentment and regret.

“We know that grateful kids are happier (and) more satisfied with their lives,” says Jeffrey Froh, an assistant professor of psychology at Hofstra University near New York who focuses on the topic.

“They report better relationships with friends and family, better academic achievements, less materialism, less envy and less depression, along with a desire to connect to their community and to want to give back.”

The good news is, it is possible to teach gratitude. One of Froh’s studies found that early adolescents who simply counted their blessings in a journal every day for a fortnight were more appreciative than those who didn’t, as well as more optimistic and more satisfied with their lives.

Froh and his co-authors also found that schoolchildren exposed to a specific “gratitude curriculum” reported more appreciation and happiness than those who didn’t get the lessons, even up to five months later. They were also much more likely to act on their feelings, writing 80 per cent more thank-you notes for a school event than the control group.

Froh acknowledges that gratitude comes more naturally to some kids than others, although he’s not suggesting there’s a “gratitude gene”.

“But I do think environment can play a major role,” he said. “I always point out to my kids, James, six, and Julianne, two and a half, instances when they could – and should! – be grateful. The other day, James said to me, ‘Daddy, today was such a great day. We went to the beach in the morning, then we went to a park in the afternoon, then we went to the beach again at night, and for dinner you made my favorite chocolate chip waffles. I’m the luckiest boy in the world’. For a five-year-old to understand how ‘lucky’ – that is, grateful – they are is something very special. Had my wife and I not encouraged gratitude in him, I wonder if he would have drawn the same conclusion. Maybe, maybe not. But I’d like to think we played some role.”

At our dinner table, everyone takes turn in answering the question ‘What made you happy today?’ The responses, from ‘having a wrestle with Dad’ to ‘the picnic lunch we had in the backyard’, are great ways that our three children – aged 12, five and three – inadvertently verbalise their appreciation of something simple.

And so, with our eldest on the cusp of turning into a teenager – an age when gratefulness generally comes as naturally as a rambling conversation style – I ask Froh: is it expecting too much for teens to show gratitude at a time when they are expressing a fundamental desire to individuate from their family? Is pushing parents away, and exhibiting total ignorance of all you’ve done for them, all behaviours that conjure independence?

“I know people say this, but I disagree,” he says. “Yes, teens want independence. But who said they can’t acknowledge, let’s say, how much their efforts played into getting them into their dream school while simultaneously acknowledging the efforts of the many others who helped get them there? Sure, it’s a balancing act. But it can be done.”

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Jeffrey Froh shares his top five tips on how parents can help cultivate in children an attitude of gratitude.

1. “Learn to limit kid’s commercial consumption and commercial activity and to maintain experiential activities that engage them in topics that they are curious about or interested in.”

2. “Encourage children and teens to write simple yet effective thank you notes or letters that acknowledge the efforts of teachers and coaches in their lives. Or adults could also remind teens to text ‘thank yous’ to friends who have been there for them, stood up for them, or helped them in important ways. This strategy shows how we can promote gratitude as a life skill in teens, too.”

3. “Some general but necessary habits that adults can practice and which are especially helpful early on (say with children as young as three) is to model gratitude and thankfulness regularly as well as encouraging and reinforcing such behaviours in children.”

4. “Help kids to process benefits with ‘grateful lenses’. That is, help them understand the importance of intent, cost, and benefit when someone does something kind for them. For example, our eight-year-old cousin, Olivia, helped James with his homework. To help increase his gratitude for this, I said, ‘How nice was it that Olivia went out of her to help you with your homework (intent)? She even gave up going on the trampoline to do so, and we know how much she loves that (cost)! And because she did, you were able to finish your homework before it got dark so you had more time to play outside (benefit)?’”

5. “Tune into your child’s interests and strengths. Nurturing this in them will give them even more to be grateful for.”

Karen Fontaine is a Sydney-based journalist.
Blessing of the Crib

A special way to involve your family in preparing for Christmas during Advent

Bring a piece of your existing Nativity scene

Bring a piece of your nativity scene from home to have it blessed at Mass. Bring the blessings of the church back into your home as your family prepares for Christmas.

Make your own Nativity scene

Make a Nativity scene as a family activity out of recyclable materials. Decorate it and discuss its meaning as a family. Bring your home made nativity scene to Mass and have it blessed before returning it to your home.

~ Everyone welcome ~

Blessing of the Crib ~ any Mass on the weekend of December 8 and 9
See the college newsletter for Mass times