

St Stephen's  
Catholic College



# St Stephen's News

Issue 13 - Term 3 - Week 6

**Principal:** Ms Kerry Manders  
**Deputy Principal:** Mr Simon Vaughan  
**Assistant Principal Religious Education:** Ms Janai Sugars  
**Assistant Principal Administration:** Mr Rohan Priestly  
**Business Manager:** Mr Hadyn Flynn  
**College Leader Pastoral Care:** Mr Matthew Draper

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## Honouring Vietnam Veterans



St Stephen's Catholic College was represented at Vietnam Veterans Day on Tuesday, by the College Captains and year nine student, Luke Rantucci, who sounded the last post.

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# NOTICES

## UPCOMING EVENTS:



**Monday 24 August**

QTAC Year 12 School Presentation

**Thursday 27 August**

Year 10 Cairns Careers Expo

**Friday 28 August**

Shake and Stir - Performances at College

**Saturday 29 August**

Year 12 Formal (Private Event)

**Thursday 3 to Monday 14 September**

Year 12 Mock Exams

**Friday 4 September**

Student Free Day

**Thursday 17 September**

Year 11 Biology Excursion

**Friday 18 September**

St Stephen's Day

**REMINDER:** The lifting of some COVID-19 restrictions has allowed some return to "normal". Whilst we can have whole College assemblies, please remember that any adults onsite must adhere to social distancing requirements and COVID safe regimes, washing hands, avoid touching our faces, keep a safe distance (1.5 meters), sneeze and cough into the elbow and if unwell, stay home and follow the Queensland Government recommendations to have a COVID-19 test.



Keep up-to-date with COVID-19 by clicking on the link above.

## CHESS CLUB

with Mr Harnischfeger (Mr H)  
**Room: MCR - during Recess 2**  
**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



## TERM DATES 2020

Term 3: 13 July - 18 September

Term 4 : 5 October to 27 November

### CELEBRATING SUCCESS!

Please inform the college if your child has achieved success in an extra-curricular activity not directly related to school, so that the college community can celebrate these achievements. Please email the principal ([ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au)) with any information and photos.

### Change of Details

To ensure communication is received, please advise the college if you have changed your email address. Please email the office: [ssm.office@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ssm.office@cns.catholic.edu.au) or telephone: 4086 2500. This also applies to any other contact details.

### ABSENTEE EMAIL

If your child is absent, please email:  
[ssm.absentee@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ssm.absentee@cns.catholic.edu.au)

## Maths Tutoring Available

**Tuesday and Thursday**

Recess 2 - MCR

(all students welcome)

**Wednesday**

3.00 pm - 4.00 pm - Library

Years 10 -12 only



Dear Parents and Carers

This week the College Captains and I had the great honor to commemorate Vietnam Veteran's Day. We listened to Fr Robert Greenup and Mayor Angela Toppin reflect on the contribution of Australian men and women in difficult times. Before the ceremony we had the opportunity to meet up with staff and students from the other local schools and there was a real sense of community as we came together to show our respects. I was very proud to feel part of the Mareeba community, one that honours and respects the sacrifice of others. I was also very proud of the College Captains and how they presented and held themselves, and in particular the way they welcomed and respected those around them. Listening to Fr Greenup's and Mayor Angela Toppin's words provoked understanding of the sacrifice of those who went before us and their subsequent pride in their community and the uniform they wear as an indication. I reflected on how our students wear their uniform and the importance of this small act of wearing the uniform well.



There are many reasons why wearing a uniform is important. When you put on the uniform you identify with the school and in doing so identify with the aims, traditions, ethos and reputation of the school. These traditions and reputation have been developed over the last 15 years and it is the collective property of those who have gone before us. It is owned by the toil and sacrifice of the past community members - every student, parent and staff member and those present who continue to contribute. We have the right to enjoy it, but we do not own it. We have the responsibility to build on it and uphold this good name and reputation. Each time a student puts on our uniform, they take on this responsibility and the collective expectation of our community.

The uniform invites us to show self-discipline and self-control, the core components of sacrifice and success. Self-discipline is a small act that builds; it needs to be repeated until it is internalized and becomes a way of life and an attitude of mind. The first step for every successful person in every walk of life is self-discipline. The act of submitting to wearing a uniform is an act of self-discipline and a step on the road to success. Some teenagers find it very difficult to submit to the authority of another and fail to see the bigger picture. I would suggest that this is often the tip of the iceberg, where difficulties in accepting the act of wearing the uniform is a snapshot of a much greater issue of self-discipline and delayed gratification, essential components of success. It is often the very same teenagers who will not make their beds or tidy their rooms or complete their chores. These are examples of a lack of self-sacrifice of those who take all that is good without giving anything back.

Our College Mission Statement asks us to strive for our personal best with respect for all community members. To create a place of learning and growth as whole people in body, mind and spirit. The importance of uniform encourages us to focus on both the simple act of self-discipline and the real person within – not the number of earrings or the haircut. This means at St Stephen's our uniform is important, it is not optional. Our uniform draws to us those who went before us, those with us now and the community members of the future. Every time you wear our uniform correctly your act of humility and compliance builds your self-discipline, your strength and leads you one step closer to the self-control needed to be successful in the modern world. It is the St Stephen's equivalent of "What starts here changes the world". According to Admiral William McCraven at the University of Texas Commencement address in 2014, "What changes the world, is to make your bed".

*It was a simple task — mundane at best. But every morning we were required to make our bed to perfection. It seemed a little ridiculous at the time, particularly in light of the fact that were aspiring to be real warriors, tough battle-hardened SEALs, but the wisdom of this simple act has been proven to me many times over. If you make your bed every morning you will have accomplished the first task of the day. It will give you a small sense of pride, and it will encourage you to do another task and another and another. By the end of the day, that one task completed will have turned into many tasks completed.*



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*Making your bed will also reinforce the fact that little things in life matter. If you can't do the little things right, you will never do the big things right. And, if by chance you have a miserable day, you will come home to a bed that is made — that you made — and a made bed gives you encouragement that tomorrow will be better. If you want to change the world, start off by making your bed”.*

To every member of the St Stephen’s community let us start the day right, start off by getting the little things right, getting your uniform right. It sends a clear message to each other, I am here to show up, step up and commit to my learning. When we see everyone else in uniform you know they are too! From the start of each day we are all working together.

In talking about uniform, there seems to be some confusion around the number and placement of earrings for girls. The Student Record Book currently states two earrings. In keeping with the intention to have a conservative uniform and to provide clarity for parents and students, the 2021 Student Record Book will read a maximum of two earrings in each ear, worn in the lowest holes in the earlobe. Please be mindful if you are considering any further piercings as we will be requesting these other earrings be removed.

Let us work together get the simple things right in preparation for the big acts of self-sacrifice we will need to make to achieve our personal successes.

May the sacrifice of Christ inspire you.

God bless

**Ms Kerry Manders**

**Principal**

**Email:** [ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au)



**Queensland Government**

Department of Education

### 2020 Early School Leavers Survey

The Queensland Government is seeking the support of the school community for the annual survey of Year 10, 11 and 12 students who left school in 2019, before completing Year 12. This short, confidential survey collects information about what young people are doing the year after leaving school. The results of the survey help provide valuable information to improve services available to school leavers in the future.

Between August and September, these school leavers can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Thank you for your support of Next Step post-school destination surveys in 2020.

For more information, visit [www.qld.gov.au/nextstep/](http://www.qld.gov.au/nextstep/) or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

As part of our Catholic Education Week celebrations, around 50 students had a small taste of what sleeping rough would be like at the Vinnies School Sleepout on Friday 7 August. While gathering together for activities on a Friday may sound like a fun slumber party, it was actually an act of solidarity with the thousands of Australians who experience homelessness each night.



Through the sleepout experience, the students learned that people experiencing homelessness face complex issues and that homelessness is more than being without somewhere comfortable to sleep. For some students, the act of sleeping out revealed how homelessness affects an individual’s ability to meet their most basic needs such as privacy or health, impacting them emotionally, physically, psychologically, financially and socially.

The students and staff voluntarily gave up the comfort of home and their Friday evening in order to place themselves in the uncomfortable position of sleeping on the concrete outside the classrooms. An instant noodle dinner and a thin piece of cardboard for a bed were reminders of the realities that more than 105,000 Australians face each evening.

Students particularly struggled with issues of noise and lack of privacy, facing distractions well into the night. These disruptions to sleep became more even more apparent in the morning when students had to continue with their weekend commitments such as schoolwork, part-time jobs and chores. For those who participated, this highlighted some unexpected consequences of sleeping rough like it affecting a person's wellbeing and their ability to learn and interact with others long-term.

Students left the sleepout with a better understanding of the issue of homelessness and empathy for those who are experiencing it. The students also gained sponsorship from family, friends and peers for rising to the challenge and raised over \$300.00 in donations to the St Vincent de Paul Society. This money goes towards giving a ‘hand up’ to those experiencing hardship in our community.

**Ms Janai Sugars**

**Assistant Principal Religious Education**

**Email:** [jsugars2@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jsugars2@cns.catholic.edu.au)



## CERTIFICATE II - INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESOURCES

We recently had a number of year eleven and year twelve students complete a Certificate II in Resources and Infrastructure Work Preparation. This course was delivered by the Australasian Drilling Institute and provided a range of opportunities to upskill for this industry. Competencies included:



- Provide first aid
- Work safely at heights
- Read and interpret maps
- Carry out measurements and calculations
- Working safely
- Identify and assess environmental and heritage concerns
- Conduct local risk control
- Communicate in the workplace

Students undertook a three day camp and practical sessions for first aid, working at heights and mapping. This certificate provides pathways not only into mining but also drilling, quarrying and civil construction. At the conclusion of this certificate students will obtain a Certificate II in Resources and Infrastructure Work Preparation, statement of attainments in First Aid and Work safely at heights, four QCE points but more importantly vital employability skills. This course will be offered on a yearly basis and for future information please contact either myself or Mr Paul MacCallum.

**Mr Simon Vaughan**  
Deputy Principal

Email: [svaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:svaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au)

**Mr Paul MacCallum**  
VET and Vocational Learning

Email: [pmaccallum@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pmaccallum@cns.catholic.edu.au)



## HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Health and Physical Education Department has taken the next step in ensuring that the students are best prepared for maintaining physical welfare. First Aid is a large part of our curriculum with some the junior grades getting introduced to the topic and methods, while the seniors, as part of the Certificate III in Health Services and Certificate III in Fitness, get their First Aid and CPR training qualifications. We have recently acquired our own AED Trainers (Automated External Defibrillator Trainers) that will be embedded into the learning opportunities. This has added to our well-rounded resources for the First Aid training unit for students. The students have, in the past, been able to complete training and practice in some of the essential steps of first responder First Aid, such as DRSABC (Danger, Response, Send for help, Airways, Breathing, CPR). They will now always be able to practice the final step of D (Defibrillation) to complete the steps of first aid, DRSABCD.



**Mr Dean Sullivan**  
Middle Leader - Health and Physical Education

Email: [dsulliva@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dsulliva@cns.catholic.edu.au)



## NORTH QUEENSLAND CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Tuesday 18 August, 3 of our students participated in the North Queensland Cross Country Championships held at St Mary's Catholic College, in Cairns. Congratulations to Emalina Fogale who placed second, Nicholas Fogale who also placed second and Natalie Millerd who placed fourth in their age groups. Great work!



Above, from left to right: Natalie Millerd, Nicholas Fogale and Emalina Fogale.

## TRAINEESHIP/APPRENTICESHIPS - POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

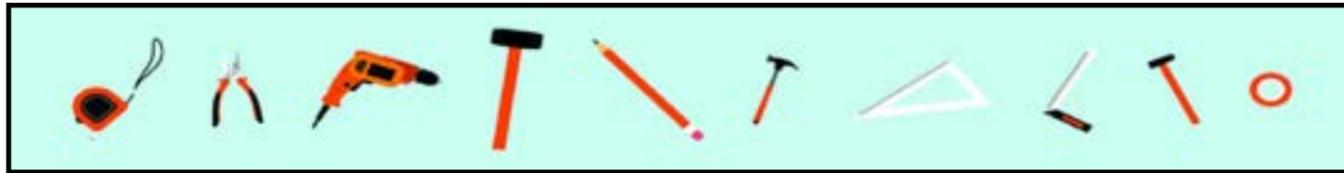
### FULL TIME JUNIOR TRAINEESHIP AVAILABLE - MAREEBA

TRAINEESHIP WOULD BE TAILORED TO THE RIGHT APPLICANT. Must have some gymnastics experience either as an ex-gymnast or as a beginner coach. Position would suit a year 12 graduate, as the traineeship will begin at the completion of the 2020 school year. For more information, please see Mr MacCallum or Mrs Bale.

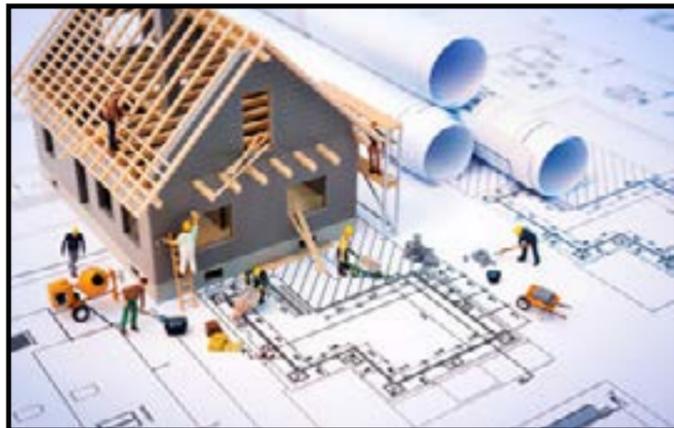


### SCHOOL BASED APPRENTICE CARPENTER - TOLGA

Must have a current white card, commencement as soon as possible, following work experience period, position extension into full time work. For more information, please see Mr MacCallum or Mrs Bale.



### FULL TIME BUILDING APPRENTICESHIP - ATHERTON



Seeking an apprentice to join our small team. Start date is negotiable for the right person. For more information, please see Mr MacCallum or Mrs Bale.

**Mr Paul MacCallum**  
Middle Leader - VET and Vocational Learning  
Email: [pmacallum@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pmacallum@cns.catholic.edu.au)

**Mrs Linda Bale**  
VET Administration  
Email: [lbale1@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lbale1@cns.catholic.edu.au)

## YEAR 9 NEWS

We are now entering the second half of term three where students will continue to work on assessments and prepare for exams. The year 9s have certainly taken on this challenge and are getting the job done.



### Recognition Luncheon

On Monday 27 July we had our student recognition lunch in which we had over 45 students attend the luncheon. This was a great opportunity to thank the students who have displayed a strong work ethic and excellent behavior in class. I am very proud of all of year 9 students for the effort they have put in this year and the way they have handled themselves, especially in our changing climate.

### Organisation

This term the year 9's have been focusing on organization and making sure they are prepared for class as well as their assessments. I have been working with them to help them achieve their goals - especially those students who felt they needed a bit more support. We have been particularly focused on the Student Record Book which is a great way to help students stay organised for assignments, communication between home/school and for homework. Students should be using their SRB regularly to help support them with their organisation.

### Drama Activities

Students were asked this term to come up with suggestions for extra activities they would like to access at lunch time and what help they felt they needed. The students emphasised the need for support with learning to relax. From this, the following lunchtime activities have been organised to help support them:

- Monday - Meditation
- Tuesday - Movie in a minute
- Wednesday - Drawing Club
- Friday - is flexible depending on the need

There has been an excellent turn out from all year levels with students appreciating the opportunity to unwind and relax as well as learning strategies to help them in their daily lives. If you need any more information or if there is anything I can help you with, please let me know.

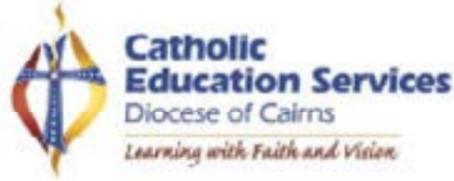
**Mrs Samantha Malcolm**  
Middle Leader - Year 9  
Email: [smalcolm@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smalcolm@cns.catholic.edu.au)

## AMY DONOVAN - GRADUATING STUDENT OF 2011



Staff and students were fortunate to have Amy Donovan return to St Stephen's this week. Amy graduated from St Stephen's in 2011, has completed her Degree in Medicine and now works at the Logan Hospital.

She provided an overview of her journey into Medicine. Pictured with Amy are some of the students who attended her talk, along with Mr MacCallum, Ms Chiesa and Miss Zazzi (who graduated with her in 2011).



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13 August 2020

Dear parents and members of our Catholic school communities,

At this halfway point in Term 3 it is timely to provide this update on our ongoing responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. The situation has been brought into sharper focus given the current health crisis in Victoria in particular. The tragic consequences of community transmission of the virus have been well evident to us all and our thoughts and prayers are with those communities now battling to stop the virus from further spreading.

We continue to draw strength from our school families who have shown resilience, support, compassion and understanding as we share existing, future and possibly unknown challenges ahead. It is how we always hope Catholic school communities will respond to a crisis and we thank you for your support. I would especially like to thank our school families and parent groups who have initiated assistance for families currently facing tough circumstances.

We can take comfort, both from this support as well as the demonstrated capacity of our teachers and school staff, that we will be ready for whatever lies ahead. We continue to build on the lessons learned during the Term 2 remote learning experience, as well as our ongoing measures for school hygiene and safety.

There are four key matters to raise in this letter:

1. We need to guard against complacency. This pandemic appears to still have a way to run and we must maintain our strict health and hygiene practices – social distancing, hand washing, and cough and sneeze etiquette. Please reinforce and model these behaviours with your children.
2. If your child is unwell, particularly with flu-like symptoms, keep them at home and [have them tested](#). If you are unsure, call 13 HEALTH for further information. Err on the side of caution to keep everyone safe.
3. Our 100% tuition fee discount is still in place for holders of a range of Health Care Cards. This discount will now continue into Term 4. Relief is also available for families without the card and who are in financial difficulty. Our support is available. We mean what we say that no child will be denied a Catholic education because of their family's genuine financial difficulties. Contact your school Principal to make arrangements. It is also important that those who can, continue to pay their school fees – this means we can continue to support our families in need while still providing a quality education for all our students.
4. Please reconsider any non-essential travel outside our region. The situation with 'hotspots' is changing quite regularly, and restrictions are increasing rather than easing – you may find your family in an unintended quarantine. We are aware that compassionate travel will still be required for some families – please advise your Principal of any travel that might involve hotspots. This may also be a time that, by staying close to home, we can support our local businesses.

Our schools are continuing to plan around a range of possible scenarios relating to the pandemic and are continuing to implement strict hygiene practices. Our approach is to continue to act on the advice and direction of our governments and their chief health officers. Our priorities continue to be the health and safety of all in our school communities and the ongoing quality education of your children. With your continued support we will not waver in this commitment.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Dixon  
Executive Director



The Roman Catholic Trust Corporation for the Diocese of Cairns

## TABLELANDS 10-12 YEARS BOYS HOCKEY TEAM



Congratulations to year seven student, Eli Smith, who was selected in the Tablelands 10-12 years boys Hockey Team. The team will go onto compete at the 2020 Peninsula Hockey Championships being held in Cairns on Thursday 20 August.



Well Done Eli!

## DENTAL SERVICES

The dental van is currently at Mareeba High school and the school dental clinic is situated at the Mareeba Primary School. Just a friendly reminder for all students (especially year 12), to book in for a check up and clean before the end of the year. Please phone 1300 300 850, for an appointment.

Yours in Teeth  
The Dental Team



Cairns and Hinterland  
Hospital and Health Service



Our  
Shared  
Values

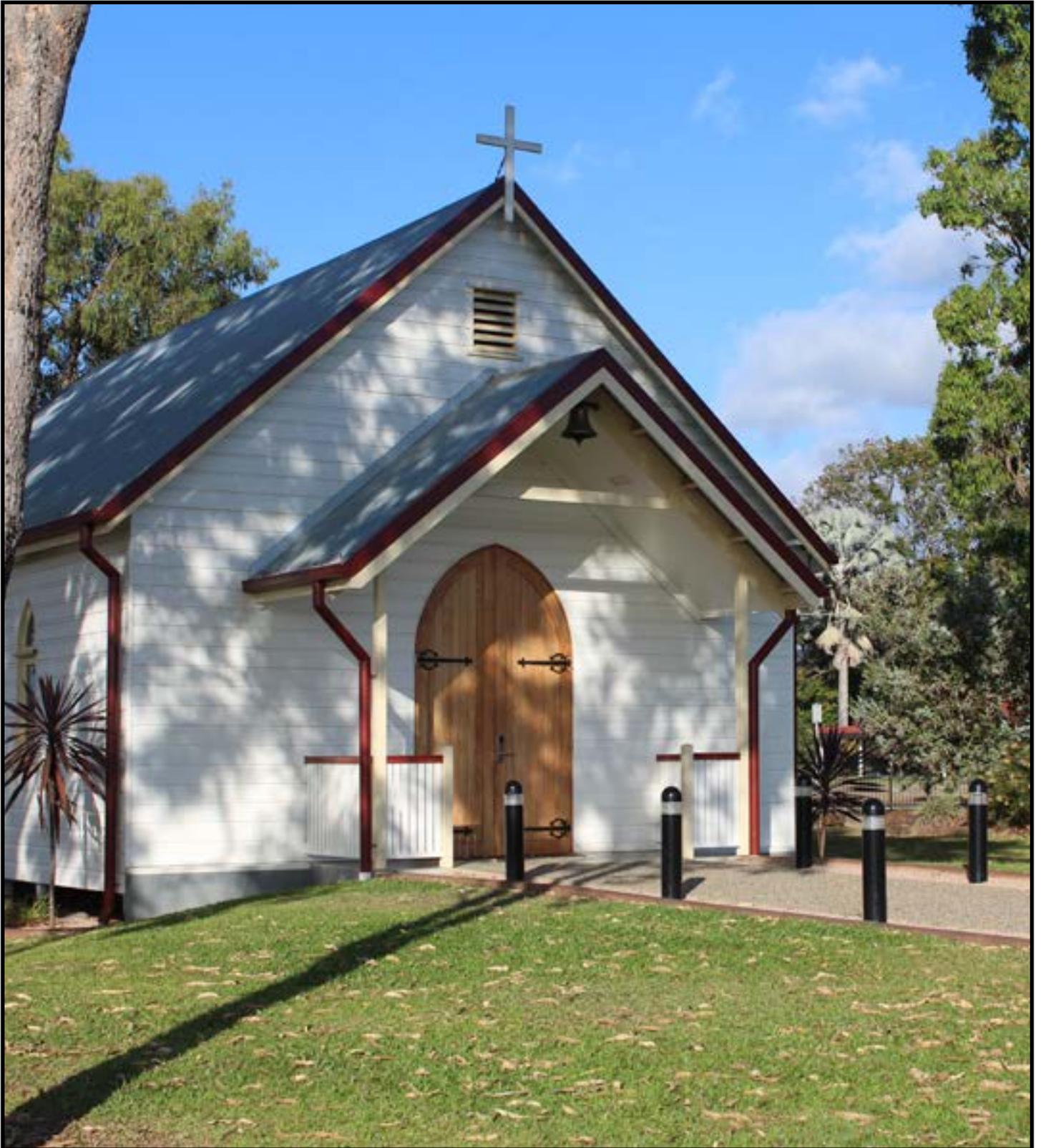


Queensland Health acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, and pays respect to Elders past, present and future

## LADY OF THE CHAIN - 2020

Due to the constraints imposed by the Industry COVID Safe Plan, it is not possible to hold the traditional Parish celebration of Our Lady of the Chain this year. The Committee of Our Lady of the Chain has, however, decided that it would be still most appropriate for the Parish to honour Our Lady with private devotions and a special Mass in St Thomas's Church on the weekend of 12 and 13 September. Regrettably, because of strict limits on the number who can now gather in the church, attendance at the Mass will have to be limited to Committee members only. The Committee sincerely apologises to the many other people who would wish to attend the Mass but, given the current Government regulations, this seems to be the most practical course of action to adopt. The Committee is investigating the possibility of Live Streaming the Mass to a wider audience and we will advise if this eventuates.





- Celebrating 15 years of Quality Catholic Secondary Education -