

## FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATIONS

Trinity College Colac celebrated part of their tradition recently when students and staff gathered to participate in the Founders' Day activities. Following a shortened period one and two, students and staff travelled to St Mary's Parish Church for a Eucharistic Celebration led by College Governor and Parish Priest, Fr Michael O'Toole. Mass is a wonderful way to express our thanks for all that has been, is now and will be into the future at Trinity College Colac.

Following Mass and in line with our College Core Values, we gathered in the Colac Botanic Gardens for our third Walkathon. This event is fast becoming a tradition at Trinity College, as a time where we can raise awareness and funds to assist others in society. This year the focus on awareness and fundraising was to assist the Mercy Foundation to provide support to those affected by homelessness. In this Year of Mercy, our Founders' Day activities are a wonderful way to move from a feeling of compassion to an action of mercy.



I thank all staff and students who participated on the day. I particularly warmly thank Ms Anne Hughes (Director of Faith and Mission) for the preparation of our celebrations, our Year 12 students for their leadership of this day and for all those who took part and made our time together such a great community celebration, so enjoyable and so productive in terms of the funds raised for this wonderful cause.



Sue Mowbray, Manager of Projects from the Mercy Foundation, sent us this note:

*“Thank you for helping to fundraise for the Mercy Foundation – I know you are very aware of homelessness, its causes and solutions, and we appreciate your support of the recent Youth Awards. You may know of our Home in a Box project, providing essential homewares for people moving into housing after spending time homeless. Last week we sent three boxes out – one to a 22-year-old man who had been homeless for over a year; now that he is housed he is trying to help his siblings who also face insecure housing. Another went to a man who had been homeless for six years, and another to an older woman who had been living in a refuge and now moving into housing. Your fundraising helps us to continue to support the Home in a Box program, our grants and advocacy to bring about an end to homelessness, particularly chronic homelessness. Thanks again for thinking of us.”*

A big thank you to Barwon Water for their support of our Founders’ Day. Barwon Water kindly donated the delivery, installation and collection of a hydration station for our students’ use at the Walkathon.



*Mr Tim O’Farrell - Principal*