



MAZENOD COLLEGE

EVANGELISATION PLAN

2018-2020

“LEARN WHAT YOU ARE IN THE EYES OF GOD.”



INTRODUCTION

The Catholic school is committed to the development of students as 'whole' persons. We become whole persons through our relationships with Christ and each other.

Helping students to learn how to participate actively in the celebrations of the Sacraments is essential for their integration of faith and life.

The charism of St Eugene de Mazenod came from his love of the Eucharist and the Word in the knowledge of Jesus who came to save us through His death and Resurrection. This charism inspires the key values of our College community.

OUR MISSION

Mazenod College is a welcoming, learning community, following Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Eugene De Mazenod. Working with the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate we seek to inspire both ourselves and others to "Learn What We Are in The Eyes of God". Along the path of that discovery, we seek to promote and protect and ultimately help create a community where all feel valued, respected and loved by God.

AN OBLATE COLLEGE

The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI) were founded as a Religious Congregation in 1816 by a young French priest, Eugene De Mazenod. Eugene was born into a wealthy family steeped in the traditions of French nobility. As a child these traditions were shattered by the French Revolution and the young Eugene was forced to escape to Italy with his mother and sister to escape the guillotine.

Returning to France as a young man Eugene was stunned by the chaos and destruction he experienced all around him. In particular he was saddened by a society which had lost its sense of God and had forgotten the unique dignity of every human person. Moved by the plight of his own people Eugene became a priest and dedicated himself to those who found themselves abandoned by society.

Eugene quickly realized that in order to fulfill his mission he needed a certain amount of autonomy and so, with a small band of fellow priests, he formed his new Religious Congregation – approved by the Pope in 1826 as the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

Above all else Eugene was a man of immense energy, passion, vision and unlimited enthusiasm for his people. His desire to bring people to appreciate their dignity before God moved him to constantly seek out the poor and those who were in most need so that they might realize just how precious they are in the eyes of God.

*"Learn what you are in
the eyes of God"*

One of Eugene's statements has become the motto of our College. Speaking to a congregation of poor servants in 1816 Eugene passionately prayed that those listening to him might: "Learn what they are in the eyes of God."



In so many ways this sums up the vision of Eugene de Mazenod –and the vision of Mazenod College.

The Missionary Oblates work to continue Eugene’s vision in all five world continents and his message of dignity, hope and God’s unique love for us is being shared today with many millions of people.

The Oblates arrived in Australia in 1894 –just 34 years after Eugene had died. On 3rd December 1995, Eugene De Mazenod was canonized a Saint by Pope John Paul.

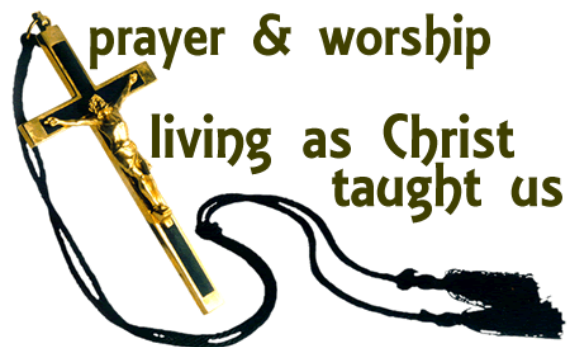
AN INVITATION TO A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

The mission of evangelization is to extend Christ’s invitation to a personal relationship with Him.

All members of the Mazenod community are on a journey of faith towards an increasingly personal relationship with Jesus.

We are all invited to have a personal relationship with Jesus. Our role as a Catholic school is to nurture the presence of God within us, knowing that Jesus shares with us the Holy Spirit, who guides and strengthens, who heals and encourages us.

We are called to do this through prayer, sacraments, worship and living as Christ taught us through his Word and by the way He lived.



EVANGELISATION FOCUS

Our Evangelisation focus for 2018-2020 will be
CALL TO FAITH AND CALL TO GROW IN DISCIPLESHIP

CALL TO FAITH

The Eucharist is the cornerstone of our community. The most important teachings Jesus left for his followers to draw on his power, are the sacraments which He instituted for this purpose, the greatest being the Eucharist.

The Eucharist gives us the opportunity through Sacrament and Word to enter into the experience of God's presence in our lives. This is what gives us life, sustains us, and brings us into a closer relationship with Him. Helps us grown in our faith and growth in discipleship.

During the period 2018-2020, we will work towards our College community growing in faith by building upon our relationship with Jesus through prayer, sacraments and worship.

Through our focus upon Eucharist and reconciliation we seek as a community to come to communion through prayer. Prayer is "the raising of one's mind and heart to God, or the petition of good things from Him in accord with His will" [Catechism Compendium 534]. Communion is the deepest of all human relationships.

Communion, from the Latin meaning "a sharing", implies that through prayer, through the Eucharist, and reconciliation we become increasingly bound as a community – bound in a personal relationship with Jesus, and bound to each other in a common vision of humanity. Through prayer, we bring together our common needs for healing, for help, for hope.

While personal prayer is important, communal worship is an equally essential expression of our response to God's invitation to enter both a personal relationship and a communal relationship with Him.

During 2018-2020 we will

- introduce the Year 12 Retreat program and develop further the Kairos program.
- Develop a clear secondary student leadership portfolio focused on 'Faith and Mission'.
- Move the Wednesday morning Mass to 8.10 am and develop a schedule for Forms to celebrate Tuesday/Thursday Mass.

The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.

Pope Francis (EG 47)

CALL TO GROW IN DISCIPLESHIP

An evangelizing community gets involved by word and deed in people's daily lives; it bridges distances, it is willing to abase itself if necessary, and it embraces human life, touching the suffering flesh of Christ in others. Evangelizers thus take on the "smell of the sheep" and the sheep are willing to hear their voice. An evangelizing community is also supportive, standing by people at every step of the way, no matter how difficult or lengthy this may prove to be.

Pope Francis (EG24)



Prayer and Worship bring us towards a better knowledge of Christ. Through this knowledge of Christ, his life and his teachings, we are able to live as He taught us.

All members of the Mazenod Community are called to be witness to Christ's teachings, to live as he taught us. This means that what we take from prayer and worship must be lived through how we build our relationships, how we learn from each other, and how we recognise the dignity of all people.

St Eugene de Mazenod called us to evangelise not simply by working with the poor, but by learning from them.

During 2018-2020 we will

- introduce a Staff Christian Service program, supported by professional development for staff to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the message of Jesus.
- further develop more tailored opportunities for staff faith formation to support existing programs like the Lenten and Advent programs.
- Expand the 'Hands of Eugene' program beyond Year 12 student leaders to include younger student and staff participation.

I prefer a church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security

*Pope Francis
EG 49*

