MAZENOD HOUSE DAY

'With a Generous Heart'

Who was St Eugene de Mazenod?

Eugene de Mazenod was born on August 1, 1782, in France. Eugene directed his work as a priest toward the poorest of the poor. Later Eugene was named Bishop of Marseille. There he built churches, founded parishes and cared for his priests and nuns.

Later he founded the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, and in 1841 the Oblates sailed for missions in five continents, including Australia where they arrived in 1894. After a life dedicated to spreading the Good News, Eugene died on May 21, 1861. He was beatified by Pope Paul VI in 1975 and he was canonized on 3rd December 1995. His feast day is May 21.

St Eugene de Mazenod and St Emilie de Vialar

St. Eugene de Mazenod was a very important figure in St. Emilie's life. When St. Emilie was young she received a large inheritance from her grandfather, so Emilie and three other women founded the *Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Apparition* on Christmas Day in 1832. In 1835, Emily and several of the *Sisters* arrived in Algeria to help the sick and she began her dream of missionary work.

During the next few years Emilie established 14 new houses, travelled far and wide, and sent missionaries anywhere that would accept them.

In the years until her death, she established 40 houses in Europe, Africa, and Asia, and the Sisters continue their good work all over the world today.

St Patrick's Community Support Centre

For many of us, our priorities centre around family, work, home, friends, sport and even our next holiday destination – The priorities for a homeless person, however, are simple:

"Where will I be safe tonight and how can I find my next meal?"

To celebrate our house day, we followed in the example of St Eugene de Mazenod by donating to the homeless at St Patrick's Community Support Centre with a generous heart. This is an important cause for our faction as it is supported by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, which as we discovered earlier was founded by St. Eugene de Mazenod.