“It has touched me forever ... We must remember that the people of Vietnam live only 7 hours away and 37% of the country lives in poverty. We must make it our duty as Catholics to remember and help these people.”

“I think my first day back in Perth after Pilgrimage was probably the most pivotal moment of the journey for me.”

“My heart sank as I remembered the blank faces of some of the babies who had given up crying.”

“We remember that even through such poverty we found such warmth.”

Loving God, today I recognise even more that I am your child sustained by Your love, guided by Your light and alive through Your blessings and gifts in me. Today I am grateful for this gift of life through which I am able to serve. Today my loving God, I ask You to continue to use me. Use my mind. Use my eyes. Use my hands. Use my feet. Use my being and Your gift of life in me to serve those in need. Use me as an instrument of peace. Use me as a tool of strength. Use me as one with patience, healing, and love that I may serve those in need.

Lover of life, thank You for Your call to me to move towards greater growth. Each moment, You offer me Your deep embrace. You fit into every space of my life and no place is too small for growth. You slip into the passages of my thought. You glide through my relationships. You flow into the creases of my work, You pass among my many emotions, You squeeze into my busyness and You nestle in my solitude.

I promise You my daily discipleship so that I can be an instrument of Your love.

Amen
Aims of Pilgrimage

The main aims of Pilgrimage are:

- To develop a deeper relationship with God through the service of others
- To further develop the qualities of a John XXIII graduate: Competence, Compassion, Conscience
- To develop an appreciation of the Charism of the Loreto and Jesuit Congregation.
- To develop relationships with individuals and communities very different from our own.
- To develop personal qualities of empathy, sensitivity and generosity.
- To develop the capacity to reflect on God in self and others.

College Mission;

In the spirit of John XXIII, Mary Ward and Ignatius, our College seeks to develop people of competence, conscience and compassion who are committed to God and the service of others.

Timeline & Application Process

The timeline for Application and Process is as follows;

- 28 Feb: Pilgrimage Parent Information Night
- 28 Feb: Application open to students
- 6 March: Application due date
- 11-15 March: Applications read, interviews called
- 12 April: Offers sent to 2013 Pilgrims
- Approx. 30 July: Information Evening for families
- 6 May – 27 Sept: Preparation & planning for pilgrimage
- 24 Sept: Commissioning Mass 6.30pm
- 28 Sept - 11 Oct: PILGRIMAGE 2013

How to Apply:

To apply for Pilgrimage students are asked to write a letter of application addressed to Ms Wooltorton outlining the reasons why they hope to participate in Pilgrimage. I suggest no longer than two pages for the application and some possible inclusions might be;

- Personal strengths they are aware that would enrich the pilgrimage experience.
- Any previous experiences of Christian Service either at school or in the community.
- Involvement in College activities.
- Any parish involvement or any activities relating to the development of spiritual or religious identity.
- Any fears or anxieties they might be feeling about the Pilgrimage.

Students are also asked to have 2 referee forms filled out;

1 x current or past teacher at John XXIII College
1 x friend/family member who knows the student well.

Costs

The approximate cost of all International Pilgrimages is $3000 per person. Final costings are confirmed with the offers.

Passport and vaccination costs are separate and to be met by the Pilgrim.

No student will be denied this opportunity due to financial reason. If support is required this can be talked through confidentially with Anne Fry.