

SERVICE AND STEWARDSHIP

THE VALUES OF SERVICE AND STEWARDSHIP

St Francis and St Clare gratefully lived the whole of their lives understanding that "all is Gift", and held deep respect for all persons and nature as God's special presence on earth. Francis' *The Canticle of Brother Sun*, reflects the wonder he held in his entire being for all creation. More importantly, both Clare and Francis fostered a simple lifestyle, emphasising the dignity and empowerment of people and the thoughtful stewardship of all natural and material resources.

This means that at St Francis College, we strive to seek ways of living and working sustainably, of caring for all of God's creation and the free sharing of the gifts entrusted to us with those who need it.

Stewardship and service are inexplicably linked.

In the words of Pope Francis:

"Please," he said "I would like to ask all those who have positions of responsibility in economic, political and social life, and all men and women of good will: let us be protectors of creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment." "... protect all of God's people and embrace with tender affection the whole of humanity, especially the poorest, the weakest, the least important, those whom Matthew lists in the final judgment on love: the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and those in prison."