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SOCKTOBER LAUNCHES AT ST LAURENCE'S COLLEGE

Nearly two thousand St Laurence's College students will gather in Brisbane on Tuesday in assembly for the national launch of Socktober, Catholic Mission's fun and exciting school's engagement program.

St Laurence's College in South Brisbane is the venue for the occasion – it is one of over one hundred schools that have registered for Socktober 2020. The school's entire student body will attend the launch, beginning at 12pm.

St Laurence's College Principal Mr Chris Leadbetter says the school is honoured to host the event.

"As part of this House-specific Faith in Action initiative for Xavier at the College, we're delighted to work with Catholic Mission to help raise awareness in the lead up to Socktober."

Socktober uses the world game of soccer to encourage students to learn about mission and social justice, core parts of the Catholic curriculum.

"Soccer is played in every corner of the world and is one of the few things that truly unify people of all backgrounds," says Matt Poynting, Catholic Mission's National Community Engagement Officer.

"One of the most important things to do when we look to support people in need around the world is to first learn their reality. Socktober helps students and their families to do that, while having fun and making a difference."

The initiative is divided into two key parts: the Socktober Challenge—a six-week program of mission and social justice resources and activities to do in class or at home; and the Socktober Shootout—a penalty shootout activity to be held as part of each school's Mission Day, usually in Term 4.

"Mission, social justice and advocacy are a strong part of the DNA of St Laurence's College. Students at the College are always engaged, through our Faith in Action programs, in activities that always challenge them and make them think about those in our society who are marginalised," says Mr Leadbetter.

"Socktober helps us walk in solidarity with others by trying understand them further. It is difficult to be able to walk in someone else's shoes as we may never be able to fully comprehend what life is like on a daily basis for those living in poverty in places like Cambodia or India but just maybe, as Br Damien Price says, we can try on their socks as an attempt to understand their plight."

Stay tuned to the Catholic Mission Facebook page for photos and video from the launch.

For more information about Socktober, or to register your school, visit the website www.socktober.org.au today.

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