



St Joseph's School
50 Kelvin Street
Timaru

3 August 2018

TERM 3, 2018 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

A WISH FOR YOU, MY CHILD

*If there could be only one thing
in life for me to teach you
I would teach you to love . . .*

*To respect others so that you may
find respect in yourself*

*To learn the value of giving
so that if ever there comes a time
In your life that someone really needs you,
you will give*

*To act in a manner
that you would wish to be treated;
to be proud of yourself*

*To laugh and smile as much as you can,
in order to help bring joy
back into this world.
To have faith in others;
to be understanding . . .*

*To stand tall in this world and
to learn to depend on yourself*

*To only take from this earth
those things which you really need,
so there will be enough for others*

*To not depend on money or
material things for your happiness, but
to learn to appreciate
the people who love you,
the simple beauty that God gave you, and
to find peace and security within yourself*

*To you, my child, I hope I have taught
all of these things,
for they are love.*

CLASS PROGRAMMES

Rm	Strand	Title	Liturgical Year	Prayer Module
1	Sacrament Church	Holiness Belonging	<p>The Transfiguration 6 August</p> <p>The Assumption 15 August</p>	<p>Traditional and Devotional Prayer</p> <p>or</p> <p>Imaginative Prayer - Karakia and Meditation</p>
2	Sacrament Church	Holiness Belonging		
3	Sacrament Church	Welcome Gathering, Celebrating, Living God's Presence		
4	Sacrament Church	Forgiveness Called to be like Jesus		
5	Sacrament Church	Food for Life Called to Service		
6	Sacrament Church	Healing The Church Celebrates		
7	Sacrament Church	Called to Others The Teaching Church		
9	Sacrament Church	Called to Others The Teaching Church		
8	Sacrament Church	The Living Church Commitment		

[Roster of Class Masses with the Parish](#)

HAPPENINGS	
15 August	The Feast of The Assumption
19 August	Parish/School Mass
9 - 15 September	Social Justice Week
17 - 21 September	Religious Education Home Sharing
20 September	Mufti Day
Catholic Special Character Poster 2018	
Internal Review	

THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

The Feast of the Assumption, 15 August, falls on a Wednesday this year.

Mary of the Assumption is the Patronal Feast of the Church in New Zealand. It is a time when we recall the origins of the Catholic Church here in our country, when Bishop Pompallier, as he celebrated the First Mass on New Zealand soil, dedicated this mission to the Assumption of Mary.



This Feast Day is a time to pray for our country - that the mother of the one who embraces all people without distinction, might help all of us.

Students in Rooms 1 - 4 will participate in a paraliturgy based on the Assumption.

[Notice for parents/caregivers re the Mass of the Assumption](#)

If the principals' and primary teachers' proposed three-hour stoppage is extended to a full day, and mediation is not successful, our participation in the Mass of the Assumption will be cancelled.

PARISH/SCHOOL MASS

The Parish/School Mass this term is to be celebrated on Sunday 19 August at 10.30 am at St Thomas' Church. We encourage all students and families to be part of this celebration. Many students will have roles in the liturgy. Students are to wear school uniform and sit in class groups please. We look forward to gathering as a community of God's people to participate in this Eucharist.

The following Room 1 and 2 students will be presented with a Starting School booklet at this Mass -

Mackenzie Bell, Cara Welford, Lila Cooper, Irene Thomas, Emeliah Hansen, Olivia Trotter.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Programme begins on **Sunday 9 September.**

All students from Year 8 and above are eligible to be confirmed.

Enrolment forms will be available from the parish, school offices and church foyer/porches and need to be returned before **Wednesday 5 September.**

The sacrament will be celebrated at the Saturday evening Mass on 13 October.



SOCIAL JUSTICE WEEK

Each year the Catholic Bishops of New Zealand set aside a week in September for Social Justice Week, inviting us to reflect and take action on a current social justice issue.



This year, from 9 to 15 September, we focus on disability and participation. How can we encourage more enabling communities, affirming that everyone has a part to play in our society?

“Every child, every person, needs to know that they are a source of joy; every child, every person, needs to be celebrated. Only when all of our weaknesses are accepted as part of our humanity can our negative, broken self-images be transformed.” Jean Vanier, *Becoming Human*, 1998.

In New Zealand, almost a quarter of us live with disability, often experiencing more discrimination and marginalisation than those of us without disability.

Disability is not about individual impairment, but about society. The New Zealand Disability Strategy says: *“Disability is something that happens when people with impairments face barriers in society; it is society that disables us, not our impairments . . . It is something that happens when the world we live in has been designed by people who assume that everyone is the same.”*

We are all valuable before God, and we all have the same desire to experience life more abundantly, as Jesus promised us. God has called us together as one body - in fact, it is our diverse gifts and abilities that make us the Body of Christ. As St Paul wrote to the Corinthians, *“If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.”* (1 Cor 12:26).

It is the duty and responsibility of each of us to play our own part to the fullest and remove every barrier that stands in the way of our brothers and sisters from doing the same.

Classes may be using the Caritas Social Justice Week resources between 9 - 15 September or as an integrated learning focus during Terms 3 and 4.

RELIGIOUS HOME SHARING

During the week of 17 - 21 September, students will share their current Religious Education learning with families in the form of flipped learning, worksheets, games or activities. The purpose of this sharing is to inform parents and prompt students to talk about, or demonstrate, their learning. Thank you for your encouragement and support in this. Parents are often asked to comment on their child’s work. A bank of suggestions for this can be found on pages 39 and 40 of the [Family Whānau Book](#).

MUFTI DAY

On Thursday 20 September, students donate a gold coin for the privilege of wearing mufti clothing to school. This term the monies raised will go to the Caritas Social Justice Week focus as described above.

CATHOLIC SPECIAL CHARACTER POSTER

The 2018 Catholic Special Character poster is centred around the whakataukī “*He waka eke noa*” - We are all in this together. This encompasses many concepts including belonging, inclusion, cooperation, respect, responsibility, whānau, and teamwork.

Representations of this proverb are in several classrooms and provide a focus for Key Competency discussion and development.

The Catholic Special Character poster will present a school-wide focus around “*He waka eke noa*” and will be published when the graphics are completed.

CATHOLIC SPECIAL CHARACTER INTERNAL REVIEW 2018

Updated Review Document Focus

The review focus for 2018 is DIMENSION 2: TE WHAKATUPU MĀ TE MĀTAURANGA | GROWTH IN KNOWLEDGE

The overarching question is: *How does the school assist its community to grow in the knowledge and understanding of Jesus Christ, his teachings and the Catholic Church?*

FOCUS AREAS:

1. Leadership
How does effective leadership enable growth in knowledge and understanding which are necessary factors in the disciples' journey?
2. Religious Education
How is the Religious Education programme given high status, and what evidence is there that it is soundly managed, appropriately resourced, and professionally delivered by qualified kaiako (teachers).
3. Catholic Curriculum
How is the Catholic worldview integrated into the daily practices of the school and into all curriculum areas?

During 2018 we are reviewing our commitment to ensuring that our Religious Education programmes, “*enable children to understand and appreciate how people live, pray and celebrate [in the Catholic tradition] and how they can respond freely to God according to the gift of faith.*” (p.11, REBD).

Your responses and feedback from students and staff will be sought and used to inform future developments and decision making, and contribute to a formal report for the Christchurch Catholic Education Office. In Week 9 of this term, students will be sharing their RE learning with you and will have some questions for you that will help us with this review.

CLOSING PRAYER

Mary, Mother of Jesus

pray for us.

Mary, Mother of the Church

pray for us.

Mary, Patroness of Aotearoa New Zealand

pray for us.

Please find attached for your information and reflection -

- Prayer to the Mother of God, Mary
- [St Mary of the Cross Foundational Beliefs](#)
- [St Teresa of Calcutta Quotes](#)
- Prayers to Saint Anne and Saint Joachim and Grandparents

God Bless,

Trish McCambridge
Director of Religious Studies

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Office: 12 Mountainview Road, Timaru
Parish Phone: 686 2010 (all general enquiries)
Presbytery Address: 7 Craigie Avenue, Timaru
Sacred Heart Presbytery: 684 4263
Parish email: parishoffice@holymfamilytimaru.org.nz

PRAYER TO THE MOTHER OF GOD, MARY

Holy Mary,
Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ,
priestly woman and holy prophetess,
who carried in your very body
the Gospel of Peace -
we greet you
and we ask you to be our mother as well.



Holy Mother of God
whose sign in our presence is creation,
whose sacrament is the earth,
mother who is to us both womb and tomb -
we praise you.

Your jewels are the riches of beauty in all creation
sparkling forth in flower bloom,
bird wing and rainbow-singing-sign.

We honor you, Mary, wife of Joseph and mother of Christ.
Hostess to angels, patroness to contemplatives,
guide to pilgrims, inspiration to poets,
light to those who wander in the darkness
in response to the voice of God -
we honor you
and ask to be united with you.

United with you, we will be one with God.
United with you, we will be open to the will of God.
United with you, we too will feel the mystery of Christ,
alive within us.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us.

Amen.

Prayer to Saint Anne & Saint Joachim

Feast day - 26 July

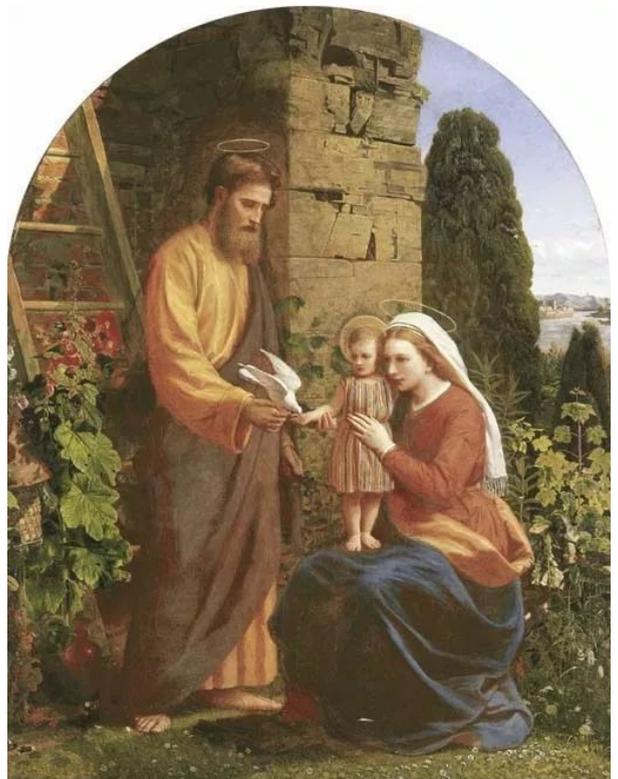
GRANDPARENTS' PRAYER

Good Saint Anne and Saint Joachim,
Parents of Mary and grandparents to
Jesus,
Be with us and all grandparents
that we might be wise and loving,
may share our time and stories and sense
of humour,
and may enjoy and not spoil too much the
grandchildren
who are close to our hearts,
for they are the sign of God's life to us.



Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
be with our grandchildren and all other
grandchildren
that they may love and respect their
grandparents
and all older people,
may remember to call,
visit or write,
and grow in wisdom,
age and grace before God.

Amen



A Prayer for Grandparents

Lord, thank you for grandparents, for the support and encouragement they give, the warmth and love they show their grandchildren and their wisdom and patience in difficult situations.

We give thanks too, for the joy that grandchildren bring and pray for their relationships with their grandparents.

We pray for grandparents who have lost sight of their grandchildren through global movement or family breakdown and for those who care full time for their grandchildren.



A Prayer for Grandchildren

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for our grandchildren.

We realise what a precious gift they are and how fortunate we are to be blessed with them.

Thank you for the time we are able to spend with them whether it is often, or just occasionally, and may we endeavour to be a good influence on them in their formative years.



We pray for their parents, our children, as they seek to raise our grandchildren in the way they think best. Help us to be supportive even if we don't always agree with their modern ways. May we remember that being a parent is not an easy role to play (we've been there!) and that we have an opportunity to advise and guide, but no right to criticise.

Grant us a long life to enjoy seeing our grandchildren grow to be adults. May we take pleasure in the part we can play in their lives, and them in ours.

Amen

a prayer for grandparents by Yvonne Bray, herself a grandmother



Grandparents

Whether small town farmers or big city professionals, grandparents have influenced our lives for the better. We reflect on and celebrate everything they have done for us - instilling family values, teaching us things no one else could and showing us love that knows no bounds. Our grandparents have helped to shape and strengthen our lives, and many of us have that most important relationship of all because of their example - a relationship with God.