



8 May 2019

TERM 2, 2019 CATHOLIC SPECIAL CHARACTER NEWSLETTER

Seasons Prayer

Loving God, Creator of seasons,
There is a winter in all of our lives,
a chill and darkness that makes us yearn
for days that have gone,
or put our hope in days yet to be.
Father God, you created seasons for a purpose.
Spring is full of expectation
buds breaking
frosts abating and an awakening
of creation before the first days of summer.
Now the sun gives warmth
and comfort to our lives
reviving aching joints
bringing colour, new life
and crops to fruiting.
Autumn gives nature space
to lean back, relax and enjoy the fruits of its labour
mellow colours in sky and landscape
as the earth prepares to rest.
Then winter, cold and bare as nature takes stock
rests, unwinds, sleeps until the time is right.
An endless cycle
and yet a perfect model.
We need a winter in our lives
a time of rest, a time to stand still
a time to reacquaint ourselves
with the faith in which we live.
It is only then that we can draw strength
from the One in whom we are rooted
take time to grow and rise through the darkness
into the warm glow of your springtime
to blossom and flourish
bring colour and vitality into this world
your garden.
Thank you, Creator God
for the seasons of our lives.

John Birch



Class Programmes

Room	Liturgical Year	Prayer Module	Strand	Title
1	Easter	Traditional and Devotional prayer	The Holy Spirit God	God the Holy Spirit God is Creator
2	Ascension 2 June		The Holy Spirit God	God the Holy Spirit God is Creator
3	Pentecost 9 June		The Holy Spirit God	The Holy Spirit in People's Lives Our Gracious God
4			The Holy Spirit Jesus	The Fruits of the Holy Spirit Jesus Gives Himself in the Eucharist
5			The Holy Spirit Church	Pentecost Called to Service
6			The Holy Spirit God	Titles and Symbols of the Holy Spirit God is Faithful
7			The Holy Spirit God	Baptism and the Holy Spirit Te Atua - Who is God?
9			The Holy Spirit Church	The Holy Spirit in Scripture The Teaching Church
8			The Holy Spirit Church	The Mission of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in the World The Living Church

[Roster of Class Masses with the Parish in the School Hall.](#)

HAPPENINGS	
3 May	Teresa Shanks speaker from Caritas
7 May	Young Leaders' Day
13 - 17 May	Catholic Special Character Home Sharing
15 May	First Reconciliation
16 May	Caritas Challenge/Social Action
19 May	Roncalli College Open Day
26 May	Parish/ School Mass
26 May	Presentation of Starting School Booklets
29 May	Catholic Special Character Staff Meeting
16 June	First Holy Communion
27 June	Mufti Day
Catholic Special Character Focus	
Catholic Special Character Internal Review	
Catholic Special Character External Review	

Caritas Speaker

On Friday 3 May Teresa Shanks, Social Justice Education Advisor for Caritas, visited St Joseph's School to talk to students about the work of Caritas throughout the world. Teresa spoke specifically about Caritas projects in South Sudan providing a context, and more information for us, as we plan and take part in the Caritas Challenge - the social action event which is our response to the learning based on the Caritas Lent resources and our Integrated Curriculum focus PARTNERSHIP 'Being in a relationship with God, self and others'.

Young Leaders' Day

On Tuesday 7 May, Year 7 and 8 students from catholic schools in South Canterbury, gathered at St Joseph's school, Temuka to participate in prayer, workshops and seminars around leadership.

Please pray for all students who attend catholic schools that they may experience true encounter with the risen Lord and become authentic examples of servant leadership.

Home Sharing of Religious Education Learning

During the week of 13 - 17 May students will share Religious Education learning with their families. The purpose of this is to inform parents and prompt students to talk about, or demonstrate, their learning. Thank you for taking the time to engage with, and encourage, your children through your discussions and comments.

[The Family Whanau Book](#) has some helpful suggestions around ways parents can be involved in, and support, their child's learning in Religious Education

First Reconciliation and First Communion

On Wednesday 15 May students enrolled in the First Communion Programme will make their First Reconciliation. This celebration of God's loving mercy and forgiveness is at 6 pm at St Thomas' Church

Please continue to pray for these students and their whanau as they prepare to receive the First Communion on 16 June at the 10:30 Mass at St Thomas' Church.

Caritas Challenge/Social Action

In his quote *'Live our lives with love,'* Pope Francis reminds us we are called to live our lives with genuine love - for others and for God.

Peace, Love and Life: Hope and Challenges in South Sudan is the title of the Caritas resource used by classes throughout Lent which highlighted the challenges faced by millions of South Sudanese who have encountered ongoing conflict and food insecurities.

We are participating in the Caritas Challenge and the Integrated Curriculum social action by experiencing aspects of daily life similar to a South Sudanese child. This whole school activity is scheduled for May 16.

Activities are based around three themes **MOVE IT** (walking from Caroline Bay to St Joseph's School),

LIVE IT (eating a diet and playing games similar to that of children in South Sudan) and

STOP IT (forfeiting the use of devices for a day). To view a promotional video and read more go to [Caritas Challenge](#).

More Information and sponsorship forms will be issued on Wednesday 8 May.

Roncalli College Open Day

[The Roncalli College Open Day for 2019 is Sunday 19 May](#)

Parish/ School Mass

The Holy Family Parish and the St Joseph's School community gather on Sunday 26 May, at St Thomas' Church at 10:30, for this term's parish/school mass.

Our students have many roles in this eucharistic celebration. Students and staff spend considerable time preparing for this, and it is always gratifying to have the support from, and witness of parents/whanau.

Starting School Books

Students most recently enrolled at St Joseph's School as new entrants will be presented with a Starting School Booklet at the parish/school mass on Sunday 26 May.

We welcome: Jacob Chapman, Matilda Lee, Charlie Roberts, Carter Carroll, Harriet Diamond and Thomas Prue.

Catholic Special Character Staff Meeting

Cushla O'Connor, the Religious Education Advisor from the Catholic Education Office, will facilitate a professional development session for staff on 29 May. The subject of this session is assessment in Religious Education - best practice. Cushla's presentation will look at the HOW of effective RE assessment and build on staff learning around knowing and considering our learners and current pedagogy and delivery in Religious Education teaching and learning.

Mufti Day

Term Two's mufti day is on Thursday 27 June. Students donate a gold coin to wear mufti clothing to school on this day.

The money raised will be donated to Mufti Mania, which is a joint initiative of the Catholic Primary Principals' Association and Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand. This year Mufti Mania is supporting Doputz Primary School in Bougainville (Papua New Guinea).

We are encouraged to join with all the Catholic primary schools around New Zealand as the NZCPPA and Caritas raise money through Mufti Mania to help re-open these schools by:

- providing new water tanks and toilets
- repairing classrooms

Thank you for your ongoing generosity of the fundraising events/activities we organise/support.

Catholic Special Character Focus for 2019

The theme for this year's Catholic Special Character focus is Partnership. The underpinning concept is communicated through:

- the quote from John 13:34
"Love one another as I have loved you"
- and the whakatauki "Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi."
With your food basket, and my food basket, the people will thrive .

The Catholic Special Character focus is presented visually in the 2019 Catholic Special Character poster



Catholic Special Character Internal Evaluation

The major evaluation dimension for 2019 is TE WHAKAATU KARAITIANA / CHRISTIAN WITNESS.

Your responses to evaluation statements/questions, along with the views of students and staff, will assist us to evaluate how St Joseph's School Timaru "provides a hope-filled witness which empowers its community members to integrate their faith and their life."

Your participation in the review for development process is important as it helps identify strengths and areas for future development in the FOCUS AREAS of Catholic School Community, Partnership and Collaboration, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Pastoral Care and Service and Outreach.

[Parent Pastoral Care Survey 2019](#)

External Review

In Term Four we are to have a Catholic Special Character External Review for Evaluation.

This is designed to look at the work the school has done, in its internal evaluation and development, to grow Catholic Character. It affirms what the school has done and the opportunities for further development the school has discerned. It challenges the school to be more transformational. Reviewers encourage and commend best practice, and work with the school to analyse opportunities to further strengthen and develop the Catholic culture.

Our reviewer is Mr Mark Gregory from the Catholic Education Office Christchurch. The review is scheduled for week 2 of Term Four.

As with the internal evaluation you will be invited to contribute.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Lord Jesus Christ,

You promised to send your Holy Spirit that we may live and love like you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon us now, to dwell within us and among us;

To remind us how to live according to your word;

To help us when we struggle to pray;

To encourage us to worship and honour God's holy name;

To transform us into your Living Body that we may be your hands, your voice, your feet in our world;

And to embolden us to courageously stand with those in need of justice.

We ask this in your name.

Amen



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

Attached/linked for your information and reflection:

- [Holy Spirit Year level Focus statements](#)
- [Easter, The Ascension and Pentecost Year Level Focus Statements](#)
- [The Ascension](#)
- [What is Pentecost?](#)
- [Prayers to the Holy Spirit](#)

God Bless.

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