



St Joseph's School
50 Kelvin Street
Timaru

TERM 1, 2012
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



Mercy Blessing

*May God grant you every blessing and make
you one of his dearest and best beloved.*

16 February 2012

Welcome

On 25 January our new parish, the Catholic Parish of Timaru was established. Fr Peter Costello is the Parish Priest and Fr Kevin Foote is the Assistant priest. We welcome Fr Peter and Fr Kevin, look forward to working with them and assure them of our prayers and support.

CLASS PROGRAMMES

Rm	Mercy Charism Prayer Module – Introduction to Prayer	Liturgical Year: Ash Wednesday Lent	Learning Strand Jesus Christ – Hehu Karaiti	Liturgical Year
1			Jesus – My Friend	Holy Week
2			Jesus Showed His Love in Different Ways	
3			Jesus Gives Himself in the Eucharist	
4			Jesus Came to Show people How to Live and Lead them to God	
5			The Life of Jesus	
6			The Fullness of God’s Revelation	
7			Jesus – Saviour and Liberator	
8			Jesus: His Values and the Role of Disciples Today	

HAPPENINGS	
	Young Vinnie’s Group
Tuesday 14 February	Commissioning Mass
Wednesday 22 February	Ash Wednesday
CARITAS - Lenten Programme	
Week 4	Religious Education Home Sharing

HAPPENINGS	
Monday 19 March	St Joseph's Day
Sunday 25 March	Presentation of First Day Booklets
Friday 30 March	Mufti Day
Thursday 5 April	Holy Week Paraliturgy
The Sacrament of Penance	
Friday 27 April	Easter Celebration Assembly

YOUNG VINNIES GROUP

This group is the student equivalent of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Members have opportunities for service, leadership, faith development and socialisation. Senior students will be invited to join the Young Vinnies Group as part of the Service and leadership Programme being introduced.

Mrs Liz Fuller is the Young Vinnies Co-ordinator and will inform parents of activities and projects planned.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

COMMISSIONING MASS

On Tuesday 14 February teachers and support staff from Catholic Schools in South Canterbury gathered to celebrate Eucharist and be commissioned for the new teaching year. This was a very beautiful liturgy at which we were reminded of, challenged by and re-dedicated to our work in Catholic education. Please continue to pray for the students, parents and teachers involved in all Catholic schools.

ASH WEDNESDAY

The students in Rooms 4-6 will attend Mass on Ash Wednesday, 22 February, at the Sacred Heart Basilica on Craigie Avenue at 9:00 am. Students from Rooms 7 & 8 will be on camp and will have a Paraliturgy with the distribution of the ashes.

Students from Rooms 1-3 will participate in a Paraliturgy in the school hall at 9:10 am.



CARITAS LENT PROGRAMME

As part of the Liturgical Year Module, classes will focus on Lent in Religious Education lessons. Teachers may also be using the excellent materials produced by CARITAS which are designed to support our work during Lent or at other times during the year. These resources are intended to encourage thinking about justice and peace.

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the CARITAS *"Keep it Simple for Lent . . . 2012" calendar*.

The calendar is to help us think about the things we may take for granted – food, goods, clean water and leisure time, and challenge us to take action to help create a more sustainable world for people now, and for our children/grandchildren.

Simply follow the daily suggestions, counting down each day in Lent until Easter Sunday. Your generous donations to CARITAS will go towards helping vulnerable people in their communities grow strong and more resilient.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HOME SHARING

During Week 4 (20 – 24 February) your child/children will be bring home Religious Education learning to share with you. The focus of this work will reflect what is being taught in class. Please respond to the invitation to comment on the work and return to classroom teachers.

ST JOSEPH'S DAY – 19 March

The feast day of St Joseph (19 March) is a Monday this year. As part of our celebrations we will gather as a school community for Eucharist at 9:00 am at St Thomas' Church. This is our School Mass for Term One, and our students will be involved in many aspects of this liturgy. Please join us on this special day.



Students will be involved in tabloid sports during the afternoon of St Joseph's Day. More information will be communicated through the school newsletter.

FIRST DAY BOOKLETS

On Sunday 25 March, at the 10:30 am Mass at St Thomas' Church, Mountainview Road, the following students will be presented with a First Day Booklet. This booklet records the student's first day at St Joseph's School. Congratulations to – *Pippa Nevin; Amber Goska; Phoebe Tree-Scully; Eliza Noone; Oliver George; Flynn Cooney; Joshua Fitzgerald; Shakira Smith and Sharnika Smith.*

MUFTI DAY

This term's mufti day is on Friday 30 March. Students bring a gold coin to school for the privilege of wearing mufti clothing. The money raised will be donated to the CARITAS Lenten Appeal.

HOLY WEEK PARALITURGY

A Paraliturgy based on the events of Holy Week will take place on Thursday 5 April at 1:45 pm in the school hall. Please join us for this very special time of prayer and reflection.

THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Reconciliation will be offered to students at school during Lent. A date for this has yet to be decided in consultation with Fr Peter Costello and Fr Kevin Foote.



EASTER ASSEMBLY

The first assembly of Term Two – Friday 27 April will celebrate Easter, with each class making a contribution which focuses on an aspect of Easter.

Please read and reflect upon the attached information –

- CARITAS – “*Keep it Simple for Lent . . . 2012*” calendar
- Material about and prayers for Lent
- Jesus Strand Summary and Theological Focus Overview
- St Joseph and a Litany to St Joseph

God Bless

Trish McCambridge
Director of Religious Studies

PARISH CONTACTS

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