

Reflection

I asked God to take away my habit.

God said, "No, It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up"

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.

God said, "No, his spirit is whole, his body is only temporary"

I asked God to grant me patience.

God said, "No, patience is a by-product of tribulations; it is granted, it is learned"

I asked God to give me happiness . . .

God said, "No, I give you blessings; happiness is up to you"

I asked God to spare me pain.

God said, "No, suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me"

I asked God to make my spirit grow.

God said, "No, you must grow your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful"

I asked God for all things, that I might enjoy life.

God said, "No, I will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things"

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me.

God said . . . "Ahhh, finally you have the idea"

THIS DAY IS YOURS - DON'T THROW IT AWAY

May God Bless You,

*'To the world you might be one person,
but to one person you just might be the world'*

*'May the Lord Bless you and keep you, may the Lord make His face
shine upon you, and give you Peace . . . forever'*



St Joseph's School
50 Kelvin Street
Timaru

TERM 1, 2010
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

10 February 2010

CLASS PROGRAMMES

Rm	Exploration of the Mercy Charism	Prayer Module: Introduction to Prayer	Strand	Title	Liturgical Year - Lent CARITAS Resource 'Working Together in True Communion'	Liturgical Year
1			God	Our Gracious God		Ash Wednesday Lent Palm Sunday Holy Thursday Good Friday
2			God	God is Creator		
3			God	God is Present in the World		
4			God	God is Love		
5			God	God is Faithful		
6			God	Who is God?		
7			God	God's Desire for Humanity		
8			God	The Mystery of God		

HAPPENINGS	
	Young Vinnies Group
Tuesday 9 February	Commissioning Mass
Monday 15 February	Visit from Andrew Chinn
Wednesday 17 February	Ash Wednesday
	CARITAS - Lenten Programme
Friday 19 March	St Joseph's Day
Friday 26 March	Mufti Day
	Charism of the Sisters of Mercy
Thursday 1 April	Holy Week Paralitury
Friday 23 April	Easter Assembly
	First Holy Communion Programme
	Catholic Special Character Focus 2010

Young Vinnie's Group

This group provides opportunities for service, leadership, faith development and socialization. Year 7 & 8 students are encouraged to join the Young Vinnies Group. The co-ordinator, Mrs Liz Fuller, will be meeting with senior students, informing them of the role of the group and inviting them to join.



An example of the projects undertaken by Young Vinnies was the organisation of a mufti day in Term 3 2009. The money raised was used to purchase Christmas gifts, which the Young Vinnies wrapped and delivered to Women's Refuge and the St Vincent de Paul Society.

COMMISSIONING MASS

Teachers and support staff from Catholic schools in South Canterbury have attended a Commissioning Mass at the Sacred Heart Basilica. Please pray for everyone involved in Catholic education.

ANDREW CHINN

On Monday 15 February, Andrew Chinn is holding workshops with students and choir members followed by a whole school concert in the Marchwiell Community Centre at 1:40 - 2:45 pm. You are invited to join us for the concert. Andrew has an extensive background in Catholic education. He is a composer and musician with a special interest and gift in "providing quality resources to enhance the teaching of Religious Education with a particular emphasis on the Catholic faith."



ASH WEDNESDAY

The students of Rooms 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 are to attend Mass with the parish at 9:00 am at St Thomas' Church, Mountainview Road on Wednesday 17 February. The students of Rooms 1, 2 and 3 will attend a Paraliturgy with distribution of the ashes in the school library at 9:00 on this day.

Further details will be provided closer to the date.



CARITAS LENTEN PROGRAMME

The 2010 Lenten Programme continues the theme of *Partnership for Change* used in 2008 and 2009. The focus this year is *Partnership for Change - in Communion with one another* and illustrates how faith and action can work together for the common good to create a more just world.

Partnership projects in Cambodia, Tonga or Guatemala will be the focus for student learning and social action (this may involve fundraising). Classroom teachers will communicate details of your child/children's involvement in this. The Lenten theme this year reinforces the message from Pope Benedict XVI in the newest social encyclical:

*"The development of peoples depends, above all, on a recognition that the human race is a single family, **working together in true communion**, not simply a group of subjects who happen to live side by side.*

Whakatauki

Nāu te rourou, nāku to rourou, kā ora te iwi

With your food basket and my food basket, the people will live

ST JOSEPH'S DAY – School Mass

Our whole School Mass for Term One will be on St Joseph's Day, Friday 19 March at 9:00 am at St Thomas' Church. Please join us to celebrate our patron saint's feast day. Special activities will be organised for the afternoon. More details will be communicated in March.



MUFTI DAY

On Friday 26 March, students are able to wear mufti clothing to school for a gold coin donation. The proceeds of this term's mufti day will go to the CARITAS Lenten Appeal.

CHARISM OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY

As a whole school we are increasing our knowledge and awareness of the Charism of the founding order of St Joseph's School - The Sisters of Mercy.

This is an integral part of our culture and identity and as such needs to be recognized, appreciate and witnessed to in our philosophy and practice.

Attached to this newsletter are a summary of keywords/phrases from an article titled "*Let Loose the Charism of Mercy*" and information on the Mercy Charism.



HOLY WEEK PARALITURGY

A Paraliturgy based on the events of Holy Week will take place on Thursday 1 April at 9:30 am. in the Marchwiel Community Centre.

Please join us for this very special time of prayer and reflection.

EASTER ASSEMBLY

On Friday 23 April at 9:40 am in the Marchwiel Community Centre our school community celebrates Easter with an Easter Assembly, to which you are invited.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

This parish based programme begins on Tuesday 23 February and concludes Sunday 6 June. Participants need to be eight years old at the beginning of the school year AND in Year 4 upwards.

Enrolment forms and programme dates and information are available from the school and parish offices.



CATHOLIC SPECIAL CHARACTER FOCUS 2010

The Catholic Special Character poster for 2010 will focus on and be based around our school motto "Enter to Learn, Live to Serve". This focus combines an important characteristic of a Catholic school and an aspect of the Charism of Mercy - 'mission and service'. You will be kept informed and be consulted about this.



Please read and reflect upon the attached information –

- Catherine McAuley
- Mercy Charism
- Lenten Life Style Calendar 2010
- God Te Atua Programme Overview

God Bless.

Trish McCambridge
Director of Religious Studies

PARISH CONTACTS

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