



29 April 2010

TERM 2, 2010
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

Easter Reflection

*Easter has come and gone.
the tomb is empty, the apostles go
back to work.
The shadows seem to gather again
as the Easter candle melts away,
and in a while resurrection will fade
from a happy reality to a dim hope.*



*If that is all there is to it, then it was hardly worth Christ's
while.*

*If there are no stones rolled away by forgiveness
if the binding bands of anxiety are not untied,
if no hand takes the cloths of guilt from the shamed face*

*then Resurrection was just a flash in the Divine pan two
thousand years ago and a time for Easter holidays today.*

*What it boils down to is,
if Christ hasn't made His home in us,
He might as well have stayed at home.*

CLASS PROGRAMMES

Room		Strand	Title	Liturgical Year
1	Prayer and Sacramental Celebrations Traditional and Devotional Prayer	Holy Spirit Jesus	God the Holy Spirit Jesus - My Friend	Easter Pentecost Ascension
2		Holy Spirit Jesus	The Holy Spirit in people's lives Jesus showed His love in different ways	
3		Holy Spirit Jesus	The Fruits of the Holy Spirit Jesus Gives Himself in the Eucharist	
4		Holy Spirit Sacrament	Pentecost Food for Life	
5		Holy Spirit Jesus	Titles & Symbols of the Holy Spirit The Life of Jesus	
6		Holy Spirit Jesus	Baptism and the Holy Spirit Jesus - the fullness of God's Revelation	
7		Jesus Holy Spirit	Jesus - Saviour & Liberator The Holy Spirit in Scripture	
8		Holy Spirit	The Mission of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in the World	
		Jesus	Jesus - His Values and the Role of Disciples Today	

**CLASS MASSES WITH THE PARISH AT ST THOMAS' CHURCH
THURSDAYS - Term 2**

Week	Date	Room
3	6 May	5
4	13 May	1
5	20 May	8
6	27 May	-
7	3 June	2
8	10 June	4
9	17 June	3
10	24 June	7
11	1 July	6

Please note the change of date from Wednesday to Thursday.
Classes will not attend Mass as indicated on the above roster if a Requiem Mass is scheduled for that day or if there is no priest available.

Our sincere thanks to the parents, other relations and members of the parish who provide transport for our students after class masses.

HAPPENINGS	
Sunday 16 May	Roncalli College Open Day
Tuesday 18 May	Roncalli College Information Evening
Wednesday 19 May	Catholic Schools' Day
Sunday 30 May	Parish/School Mass
Sunday 6 June	First Holy Communion
Friday 18 June	Middle School Paraliturgy
Friday 25 June	Mufti Day

Roncalli College Open Day & Information Evening

Information about the above is attached in the promotional flyer.

Catholic Schools' Day

Catholic Schools of South Canterbury will gather and celebrate Catholic Schools' Day with a Eucharist at Sacred Heart Basilica at 11:00 am on Wednesday 19 May. Following this Mass students will participate in activities and sports. The venues and times for this will be published when finalised.

Parish/School Mass

On Sunday 30 May at 10:30 am our Parish/School Mass will be celebrated. This day is Trinity Sunday - a fitting occasion on which to focus on relationship, love and unity. This is a special event in the school calendar so all students and their families are encouraged to be present.

First Holy Communion

On Sunday 6 June at 10:30 am at St Thomas' Church a group of students will receive their First Holy Communion. Please support these young people and their families with your prayers.

Middle School Paraliturgy

On Friday 18 June at 9:45 am in the Marchwiell Community Centre, the students of Rooms 4, 5 and 6 will lead the school in a Paraliturgy focusing on the Eucharist. You are welcome to join us for this time of thanksgiving, prayer and reflection.

Mufti Day

The Mufti Day for this term is on Friday 25 June. Students donate a gold coin to wear mufti clothing on that day. The proceeds will go to MissionNZ in support of the missionary work/projects this group undertakes.

Focus on the Eucharist

The student survey from the Catholic Special Character Internal Review 2009 highlights the need for a focus on the Eucharist to improve our students' understanding of, participation in, and appreciation and love of the Eucharist. To this end Fr Chris Friel will be working with staff and students around the Eucharist.

The Religious Education Programmes, Catholic Special Character Poster, the Paraliturgie this term, and class and school masses enable students to learn about and participate in the Eucharist. This excellent exposure is more effective when regular family attendance at Sunday Eucharist is practised.

There is a real need for families, school and parish to work together to acknowledge, by our presence and participation, that Eucharist is central to our lives as Catholics.

Communication

The internal and external review of Catholic Special Character in 2009 identified the sharing of Religious Education Learning with the school community as an area for development. To facilitate this development, teachers will be trialling different ways of sharing your child/children's RE learning with parents and caregivers. Please assist by providing feedback about students' learning and methods of communicating this.

Please find attached the summary pages for The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ strands, and the contents page for the Family - Whanau Book.

The summary pages give a brief outline of the concepts taught at each year level. The Family-Whanau Book is an excellent reference and source of practical suggestions for ways of being involved in your child's/children's faith development and religious education.

These books are purchased on enrolment. Replacement copies are available from the school office for \$10.00.

For your reflection/information – attached material on

Student Contributions - Holy Week
Roncalli College
The Eucharist
What is Eucharist?
The Holy Spirit - Te Wairua Tapu
Prayer to The Holy Spirit
Jesus Christ - Hehu Karaiti

May God Bless You

Trish McCambridge
Director of Religious Studies

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Office: 12 Mountainview Road, Timaru
Parish Phone: 686 2010 (all general enquiries)
Presbytery Address: 22 Mountainview Road, Timaru
Presbytery Phone: 686 2013 (emergency after hours number)

Parish email: timarunorthparish@xtra.co.nz

Diary Entries

Written by Participants in the First Holy Week

Matthew 21:1-11 (Crowd member)

I was so surprised. The Lord was riding down the road on a donkey. Crowds of people were frantically following him and shouting "*Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!*"

It was so exciting. Everyone was waving palm leaves around madly and putting their coats on the ground and then I couldn't see him any more. I tried to push through the crowds but I was pushed back roughly. It was no use. I couldn't see or get to him. It was disappointing but at least I saw him. I ran all the way home to my mum to tell her the good and exciting news.

Julia - Room 6

Judas

I am Judas and today at the Passover meal Jesus said something terrible. He said, "*One of you will betray me.*" At that moment everyone went quiet. Then we all said things like "*Surely not I Lord!*" Jesus answered, "*It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread.*" And with that he passed the bread to me and said, "*Do quickly what you are going to do.*" I knew what I had to do. I got up from the table quickly but anxiously and made my way to the high priests. Feeling angry with myself, I said to the priests, "*Follow me.*" I led them to where Jesus had been praying and said, "*The one I kiss is the one you want.*" Then I went to Jesus and kissed him. The priests took hold of Jesus and handed me 30 pieces of silver. I was worried that what I had done would not go to plan. The other disciples looked as worried, sad and anxious as I felt. It was a horrible feeling to know and see what was happening.

Sophie - Room 6

Judas

Oh, why did I do this? Why couldn't I have said, "No", and walked away? It would have been better. It would have been better if I was not born. It is so horrible watching Jesus struggle with the cross. I wish I could help him but the guards would probably beat him and I do not want to cause him any more grief. Mary is weeping badly. I should have been the one to die.

Sam - Room 6

Crowd Member

I was in the crowd looking out for Jesus. There he was panting up the hill. I saw a woman rush out of the crowd and wipe Jesus' face. For some strange reason the picture of Jesus stayed on the cloth. Just then Jesus stumbled and I saw Jesus' shoulder was bleeding from where the cross was digging into him. Finally he reached the Mount of Olives. Jesus was stripped and whipped. Then he was nailed to a cross. Bang, Bang, Bang. I couldn't watch any more . . . I fled.

Gabriel - Room 6




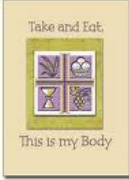

Crowd Member - Child - 11 years old

I am in town and you are carrying a big wooden cross. The sound of jeering and the smell of blood makes me want to run away. I am angry and confused. A few days ago they treated you like a king, but now you seem like a simple toy they no longer want to play with. What! You fell down! You are covered with sweat, dirt and blood. Someone has been pulled out of the crowd to carry your cross! I should run away. I feel like I fell down too. I remember the day your disciples told me, my sisters and the other children to go away, but you said, "*Let the children come to me.*" I listened to your teaching and saw the miracle of the loaves and the fishes. As I pull my sisters home, I pray to Jesus . . .

Thank you Lord for all you have done. I promise never to forget you. Amen

Grace - Room 6

The Eucharist

THE FIVE STEPS OF THE MASS	THE FIVE STEPS IN THE LIFE OF JESUS
<p><u>Come</u> The first part of the Mass is concerned with the making of community. People come together, believing that where two or three are gathered there Jesus is present. The people forgive one another and ask for forgiveness not only of God but of one another also.</p>	<p><i>"Come, follow me."</i> Mark 1:18 One of the very first things that Jesus did early on in his public life was to call some people to follow him. In this way he formed a community. It is as members of a community of people, that Christians come to God through Jesus.</p> 
<p><u>Listen</u> Today it is very difficult for people to listen, yet an effort has to be made. Catholics believe that when the Scriptures are read in Church, Jesus, the Risen Lord, himself is present just as really as when he walked the roads of Galilee.</p>	<p><i>"Listen to me, all of you, and understand"</i> Mark 7:15 Once he had assembled his group Jesus began to teach them the secret of his life. It was the story of his relationship with God, whom he called Father. The good news for his followers is that they also are now part of that relationship. This good news is also ours because of our baptism. Jesus says that the one who hears his message and lives by it is like a person building on solid rock. No better foundation can be had.</p> 
<p><u>Thank</u> The central action of the Mass is that of giving thanks. The one who is being thanked is God the Father. He is being thanked for sending us his Son, Jesus, as our Saviour. At Mass we remember that Jesus has died for us and that he was raised to life by the Father.</p> 	<p><i>"Thanks he gave to God"</i> Matthew 14:19 The followers of Jesus noticed that he prayed a good deal. His prayer was often one of giving thanks. Whenever he took and broke bread he gave thanks. He often praised and thanked God his Father for the great things he was doing. Jesus was a thanking person</p>
<p><u>Eat</u> Through the action of the Holy Spirit the bread and wine are changed into the body and blood of Christ. At communion the people are joined more to Christ and are nourished by him becoming more and more the Body of Christ.</p>	<p><i>"Take and Eat. This is my body."</i> Matthew 26:26 For a long time Jesus wished to have this special meal with his disciples. It was at the Last Supper that he asked them to continue this action down through the ages in his memory, in memory of his life and in memory of his message. For 20 centuries now, Christian men and women have remained faithful to this wish.</p> 
<p><u>GO</u> The words 'Go in peace to <u>love</u> and <u>serve</u> the Lord' help us to understand that we now go out, sent by Jesus himself, to live in such a way as to make the world a better place for others, especially the needy as Jesus taught his followers to see him in the poor.</p> 	<p><i>"Go out to the world, tell the Good News, and baptize."</i> Mark 16:15 and Matthew 28:19 This was the last command of Jesus before he ascended to his Father. Every time a Christian mother or a Christian father brings a child to baptism or tells a story about Jesus at home, or leads the family in prayer, they are putting this into practice and inheriting a mighty blessing.</p>

Year 1 - God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is God - the third person of the Trinity. We use symbols like fire and wind for the action of the power of the Holy Spirit at work in peoples lives.

Year 4 - Pentecost

The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost revealed the Trinity to the Church and enables people to live like Jesus, and to know the Father. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus fulfilled his promise to be with his followers, through CHURCH, WORD and SACRAMENT

Year 6 - Baptism and the Holy Spirit

In Baptism, people receive the Holy Spirit in a special way which strengthens them to believe, hope and love, and overcome the power of original sin. The Holy Spirit helps people to believe in Jesus and grow more like Him.

Year 2 - The Holy Spirit in People's Lives

We can respond to the Holy Spirit at work in our lives in many ways. Two important ways the Holy Spirit is at work in the church - the people of God - is through prayer and the Eucharist.



Year 7 - The Holy Spirit in Scripture

From the Scriptures we learn of the role of the Holy Spirit. Present at the creation and speaking through the prophets, God's spirit of love and truth was with Jesus, and with the early Christians as they walked in Jesus' way. This Spirit still remains the life principle of the Church today.

Year 3 - Fruits of the Spirit

The fruits of the Holy Spirit are traditionally listed as: love, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. It is God's work through the Holy Spirit which enables people to exercise their mana and bear these fruits. It is again the Holy spirit who helps us to recognize when we have violated tapu and have sinned. Through the Holy spirit we can learn to forgive and be forgiven.

Year 5 - Title and Symbols of the Holy Spirit

We gain appreciation of the role of the Holy Spirit through a knowledge and understanding of the titles and symbols for the Holy Spirit found in Scripture and the tradition of the Church.

Year 8 - Mission of the Holy Spirit in the Church & in the World

The Holy Spirit opens peoples minds to the meaning of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. The Holy Spirit enables the community to experience Christ and make his saving work present through the sacraments. The Holy Spirit guides, sustains and renews the church, and leads people to live the way of the Gospel.

Year 1 - Jesus My Friend

Catholics believe that Jesus is both human and divine. As a human, Jesus was born into a particular culture, lived in a certain location in a precise time in history. To appreciate Jesus' messages we need to know the realities of his life. In learning about his friendship with his disciples, we can become friends with him today

Year 4 - Jesus Came to Show People How to Live and Lead them to God

Jesus invites people to grow closer to God by sharing in his life through the gift of God's grace. By accepting this invitation, people share in Jesus' mission of worshipping God and bringing about the Kingdom or Reign of God on earth as it is in heaven.

Year 6 - The Fullness of God's Revelation

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, revealed to the world that God is Abba - loving Father. In his mission on earth Jesus called on people to repent, through the grace of the Holy Spirit and to live lives of faith, hope and love. Jesus' whole life was a response of love for God and *for* people.

Year 2 - Jesus Showed His Love in Different Ways

Jesus showed his respect and love for people in many ways - talking, listening, sharing, touching, healing and dying *for* them. We are called to follow Jesus' example. We can learn about how Jesus lived by reading stories in the Bible.



Year 7 - Jesus - Saviour & Liberator

Through his life, death and resurrection, Jesus saves people from sin and death. As risen Lord, he is with his people, freeing them from all that prevents them from responding as disciples in faith and love.

Year 3 - Jesus Gives Himself in the Eucharist

We can give thanks to God for Jesus by joining in the Eucharist. Eucharist helps us to grow in grace and recognize Jesus' presence in the gathering of his people, ministers and word. Above all, people recognize him in the transformed bread and wine.

Year 5 - The Life of Jesus

Catholic belief is that Jesus, called Christ, is both human and divine. We need to understand Jesus' reality. To appreciate his message we can study and reflect on the Scriptures.

Year 8 - His Values and the Role of Disciples Today

The beatitudes have a place in the lives of Christ's disciples in the world today. People have received the message from Christ in terms of forgiveness in original, personal and social sin. Jesus was an advocate for the poor, weak and powerless, and he challenges his followers to bring about justice and peace in the world today.

