

Star of the Sea Catholic College

Newsletter

7th April 2020

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.

- Saint Pope John Paul II

Attentiveness
Hospitality
and
Compassion



Corner Friend & William Street
George Town
TAS 7253
(03) 63821242

From the Principal

This week is Holy Week, the most important week on the Christian calendar. During this week we relive the last days of Jesus as he dies on the cross, then rejoice on Sunday as he rises to new life.

When Jesus died on the cross it must have been a time of great uncertainty for his followers. Everything they had believed in, everything they had thought about this man had been challenged. Everything that provided stability in their lives had disappeared. They were now lost, unsure of what to do or where to go.

Many of the disciples scattered. Others hid for fear that they too would be captured and killed, just as Jesus was. None of them could make sense of it, despite Jesus assuring them while he was alive that he would be back.

We too are living in times of great uncertainty. Everything that we could usually count on, whether it be going to school each day, watching the football on a Friday night, or getting what we need from the supermarket, has changed. Most of the things that usually provide routine and stability to our lives have now gone. Where do we turn to in such times?

Perhaps a couple of stories from the New Testament can help us here.

The first is the story of the road to Emmaus (Lk 24:13-35), the story of two disciples who tried to get away from it all. On the third day after Jesus' death they left Jerusalem, clearing out while they could. The second is the story of Jesus appearing to his disciples (Jn 20:19-23), which begins with the disciples locked inside a house because they were afraid. In both of these stories the disciples are reacting to the current situation out of fear. But in both of the stories Jesus appears to the disciples and invites them to react in other ways. He invites them to react with love, with peace, with the opportunity to share.

In these days of uncertainty, we too can choose to act out of fear. Or we can choose to react with love for our fellow human beings, we can react with peace as we spend time inside our own homes, and we can react by taking up an opportunity to share when we make contact with others by making phone calls or sending messages of support.

In the Star of the Sea Catholic community we are called to face the future as people of hope. May the way we respond to the current crisis show that we are indeed people who do not react out of fear but instead react out of love, peace and sharing.

We wish everyone in the community a happy, holy and peaceful Easter.

Mr Richard Chapman
Principal

Star of the Sea Catholic College acknowledges the Leterremairener people as the traditional custodians of the land on which our school stands.

Religious Education and Faith Development

Holy Week



Holy Week is an important time in the Church year. It is the last week of Lent and our final preparation before Easter, the most important celebration in the Church. Easter is the completion of Holy Week and it ends in the resurrection of Jesus, who conquers sin and death.

As we go into this season and the holiday period we pray that the renewal of life at Easter will bring happiness, good health and peacefulness to all our families.

The main days of Holy Week are:

- **Holy Thursday**, when Jesus instituted Communion and taught us to serve one another.
- **Good Friday**, the arrest, trial, crucifixion, death and burial of Jesus Christ.
- **Holy Saturday**, the Sabbath in which Jesus rested in the grave.
- **Easter Sunday**, when Jesus rose from the dead.

During this time, when we are called to love and be responsible for the care of one another by being absent from Mass, you are invited and encouraged to make use of other creative ways to continue to nourish your relationship with God and your community. Here are some suggestions:

Daily Mass live –streamed:

From the Archdiocese of Melbourne <https://melbournecatholic.ort.au/Mass>

From Brisbane (St Stephen's Cathedral) <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/web-cast/>

Sunday Mass from St Mary's Cathedral in Hobart will be live-streamed at 10.30am.

Go to: <https://youtu.be/sQ0NWbB8mcl>

Online prayer sites:

Sacred Space - a daily prayer page by Irish Province Jesuits <http://www.sacredspace.ie/> There is also a Free App for daily scripture and reflection.

Pray – daily prayer by Australian Jesuit Ministries www.pray.com.au

Awareness Examen – A form of prayerful reflection on our day to help us become more aware of God's presence in our daily life. Free App: EXAMEN reimagining the Examen

Spiritual Reading suggestions:

<http://www.madonnamagazine.com.au/> <http://www.ignatianspirituality.com/>

Free App "Laudate" Catholic reference material <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/laudate-1-catholic-app/id499428207?mt=8>

Call into the Church in George Town:

The church will be open during the day for your personal prayer time (please do not gathering in groups). (Lilydale will be open for a few hours on Sundays). You are encouraged to visit .

On the table in the entrance you will find:

- a weekly bulletin with Gospel reflections etc.
- Other material you might like to use for personal prayer and reflection.

You are encouraged to keep in contact with each other in the community by phone or email. Check in on each other. Maybe ask "where have you felt God's presence this week?"

You might like to set up a prayer focus in your home with items and colours that remind you of the liturgical season and our focus on Jesus.

You could decorate a Paschal candle for your home ready for Easter. There may be a possibility of lighting yours from the large Paschal Candle in the church at Easter (information regarding the symbols will be available in the church entrance.)

Heart

Spirituality



Attentiveness

Hospitality

End of Term Assembly

Our End of Term Assembly is a chance to recognize the great work our students have put in this term. It will be held on Thursday at 11am and you can join in via Zoom. Keep an eye on Compass for the code to join.

Next Term

- Term 2 commences on Monday 27th April.
- During Term 2, Star of the Sea Catholic College will remain open and staff will work to support students' *Learning at Home* program.
- Some students may attend the school on-site when learning can't be supported or supervised at home.
- Our *Learning at Home* program will be a combination of online and offline materials.
- Daily posts on Compass will provide parents, carers and students with the information for the day's learning.
- Students and parents and carers will have the opportunity to be in contact with teachers each day through email or ringing the school, and there will be at least one opportunity per week for a Zoom meeting. The schedule and codes for these meetings will be available through Compass correspondence.
- This is new for all of us, so we will learn as we go and make improvements every day to what we deliver.
- Parents and carers are not asked to be teachers, but to support the program. We fully appreciate that some families have quite young children who also need to be looked after, and others are trying to work from home themselves, so go easy on yourself!

Thank You

Star of the Sea Catholic College would like to take the opportunity to thanks:

- The amazing staff at our school who have worked through this term under quite difficult circumstances, being able to adapt to changing situations quickly.
- To all of the families who have supported the school through this difficult time.

We hope the term break brings a well-earned rest for everyone.

Mini Vinnies Easter Raffle

A huge thank you to everyone in the community who supported our Mini Vinnies Easter Raffle.

We are grateful for your support in raising over \$600 with all proceeds going directly to the George Town St Vincent de Paul group.

1st Prize: *Natasha Davis*

2nd Prize: *Adam Condric*

3rd Prize: *the Clarke Family*

4th Prize: *Alby Hawkins*



Parents and Students
you are invited to join our
End of Term 1
Assembly
11am Thursday
via Zoom
Please join us



Hi SetUp families. Hope you're all coping well in these unfamiliar times.

I'm sure today's activity is something many of you have done at home anyway. Building blanket cubbies is a fond memory from many people's childhoods and now is a great time to get your children involved in making one.

Children can lose themselves for hours transforming blankets, sheets, chairs, tables, pillows and other household items into their own secret hideaway.

Once the children have built their cubby let them have a picnic there, provide them with torches and books, teddies and other little buddies to play with.

This is such a great activity for developing their imaginations and problem-solving skills.

Stay safe and healthy everyone.



Trudy Hoffman