

Religious Education Newsletter

Term 4 - 2020



*Each one of you has received a special gift;
put yourselves at the service of others. 1 Peter 4:7b-11*



This Term's virtue is *Service ~ Awhinatanga*

Our school statement:

I give service when I give to others and want to make a difference in their lives.

I see that the needs of others are as important as my own.
When I work with the spirit of service, I give any job my best effort.

Why practise it?

Without service, no one would be there to help when someone needed help unless they were going to be paid or had a selfish motive.

With an attitude of service, we do our work with heart.

People feel our compassion.

When we are being of service, we accomplish everything that has to be done without anyone having to ask.

How do you practise it?

- ❖ Look for opportunities to be of service to others.
- ❖ Find little ways to make life easier and happier for them.
- ❖ Think of thoughtful things to do to help your family and friends.
- ❖ Work with enthusiasm.
- ❖ Don't wait to be asked when something needs doing

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The main strand to be taught in Religious Education this term is the **Communion of Saints ~ Te Kotahitanga o te Hunga Tapu** Strand. At the end of the Term we will be learning about the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

We have appreciated having our new chapel as a place to gather to pray together as a school during this month of the Rosary. Each class will have the opportunity of attending Friday Mass during the term. It would be lovely to see as many parents as possible joining their child's class at Mass.

Jubilate: On Monday 23rd November the senior students will be participating in the Jubilate at St Mary's Pro Cathedral. Jubilate offers catholic students a chance to get to know our church's sacred music, as well as underpinning their formation in the faith. Jubilate also brings the singers of our schools together in song and prayer. The children have been preparing for this with Ken Joblin. Their singing was a great contribution to the Chapel Dedication and Classroom blessing liturgy last week.

End of Year School Mass: Our end of year Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 10th December at 6pm at St Mathews Church, Jeffries Rd.



October is Mission Month. On Tuesdays, the children are encouraged to bring 10 cent coins as a contribution to our fundraising efforts for

Missionz. Ideally, they will be generous with their own money or undertake extra chores at home to earn money to share.

God bless,

Catherine Quinn, DRS

School Masses and Liturgical Celebrations

- ❖ Saturday 21st November 5pm & Sunday November 22nd 10:30am at St Bedes - Parish Mass to farewell old parishes and gather as a new parish
- ❖ Monday 23rd November: "Jubilate" - Senior students
- ❖ Friday 4th December 9:30am: Reconciliation Rooms 4 & 5
- ❖ Thursday 10th December 6pm: End of Year School Mass (all students)

Classes will be attending 9am Mass on Fridays*:

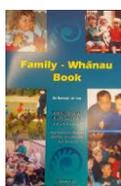
Week 3: Room 4 **Week 4:** Room 3 **Week 5:** SHOW DAY **Week 6:** Rooms 1 & 2
Week 7: Room 5 **Week 8:** Room 4 **Week 9:** Room 3

*These dates may change.



The following is a brief summary of the Communion of Saints ~ Te Kotahitanga O Te Hunga Tapu Strand to be covered by each class this term:

| Room | Theme | Communion of Saints Strand Summary |
|------|--------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Mary | As a Church one of the ways we honour Mary, the greatest of the Saints, is as the Mother of Jesus. 'We reflect on how Mary's holiness was magnified by her encounter with the holiness and power. Family/Whanau Book Pg. 19 |
| 2 | Saints and Inspiring People | Those officially declared by the Church to be Saints because of their virtues, are now with God. They act as models for the members of the Church on earth, and are linked to them through prayer. The saintliness of ordinary people can inspire others and lead them to God. Family/Whanau Book Pg. 22 |
| 3 | Life, Death and Christian Hope | Suffering and death are part of life. Catholic beliefs about the resurrection of the body and life after death provide meaning and a reason for hope. The rituals of Catholic funerals and tangi provide consolation for the bereaved. The Church encourages people to remember those who have died and to pray for them. Family/Whanau Book Pg. 25 |
| 4 | Choice | Our life journey - Te Wa, is a journey towards God; The choices we make on that journey have significance in terms of our final destination, our life after death. Traditionally the Church has spoken of life after death in terms of heaven, hell and purgatory. Family/Whanau Book Pg. 28 |
| 5 | Saints and Inspiring People | Catholics believe in the <i>Communion of Saints</i> - the unity of community of all members of the Church: those now living, those who are with God in <i>heaven</i> , and those undergoing purification before entering into the fullness of life with God. The living may pray to the saints for their intercession, and for those in <i>Purgatory</i> . The living and the dead are all joined in praise of God. Family/Whanau Book Pg. 31 |



The **Family/Whanau Book** can be viewed or downloaded as a PDF on **Faith Alive** website (<http://www.faithalive.org.nz/>) under the **Families** tab.

Saints



God has given us many special gifts. These gifts are to be used.

There are some people who use God's gifts all the time.

They live their lives as God wants them to, and they are there to help us live our lives that way too.

We give these people a special name ~ we call them saints.

When we hear stories of saints, we are listening to stories about members of God's family.

The stories teach us more about the way God wants us to live.

Two important days in the Church's year are celebrated at the beginning of November.

November 1st: All Saints Day

- ❖ We remember our Heavenly family - those men and women of virtue and faith who lead lives of holiness, courage and generosity and are now saints in heaven. Their heroic lives inspire us and provide excellent role models for ourselves and our children.

November 2nd: All Souls Day

- ❖ We pray for all the dead, including our own special friends and family. The Feast of All Souls reminds us of our obligations to live holy lives and that there will be purification of the souls of those destined for Heaven. It is a time to pray for their souls that they may be received into heaven.



Catholic Parish of
Christchurch North

Celebrating our new Parish

YOU ARE INVITED

On the weekend of

Saturday 21st November and Sunday 22nd November

to gather as the

Catholic Parish of Christchurch North
at St Bede's College gymnasium for Mass.

These will be the only two Masses this weekend in the North Parish.

SATURDAY 5 pm Vigil & SUNDAY 10.30 am

This will be a great chance to gather and farewell our old parishes and celebrate the beginning of our new parish.