



St Joseph's School

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Term 3 | Week 10

Dear St Joseph's Families,

This week, I had the privilege of sharing a conversation with a parent about Jesus, discussing who He was, how He lived, and what He continues to teach us today. It was a meaningful reminder of the central place Jesus holds in our faith and in the life of our school community.

The article below, *God with a Human Face* by Jim Quillinan, was presented to our staff during our recent Religious Education Professional Learning Day. Following this conversation, the article resonated with me even more deeply, and I encourage you to take some time to read and reflect on it.

Jesus was an historical figure and, through our faith, we believe He is also the Son of God. As a Catholic school, our understanding of Jesus is grounded in His humanity. He lived a simple life and experienced the full range of human emotions: joy, sorrow, affection, fear and even anger. Through His words and actions, He showed us how to live with courage, generosity and faith.

At St Joseph's, we share the story and teachings of Jesus with our children. They are learning that God loves them just as they are, embracing all of their strengths, challenges and uniqueness. Through their everyday actions, they are discovering that they too can follow Jesus' example by showing empathy, respect and concern for others. This term our Religious Education Inquiry Question is "Who is my neighbour?" We are looking forward to the conversations that this will kindle in our classrooms and across the school.

As we end another term of learning and friendship, I want to thank you all for your ongoing support, encouragement and partnership. May the holidays ahead be a time to rest and rejuvenate in readiness for the new term. There will be a 2 week transition period to the Summer Uniform, however hats will be compulsory from the start of the term.

Sharon



God with a Human Face

Pope Benedict called Jesus 'God with the human face.' Pope Francis added if you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus.

It is always helpful to take a bit of time occasionally to refresh what we know — to think again about who Jesus is, to come to understand what he did and why, and what he asks us to do.

What were the key influences on his life? What nurtured his faith — what images and words and experiences and people made him the person he was? His faith was nurtured by many of those same images that nurture our faith.

From an early age, both at home and in the synagogue, he would have heard about the God who created us out of love; God as the loving parent who cares, who is there in good times and in bad; and he would have been nurtured by the beautiful images of the Shepherd, God as the potter, God as the mother who cannot forget the child of her womb, the lover who comes in search of the beloved. He sang the psalms as we sometimes do and read the same scriptures that we often do.

Nazareth was a small village with a population of up to four hundred or so. Village life was simple, very communal. Sometimes six or eight houses were built in a circle with the stable in the centre of the courtyard.

Jesus spoke Aramaic. He had an accent; when he spoke, people knew where he came from. He worked with his father as a carpenter, a plumber, a stone mason, a tiler, a builder - he is what we might call today 'a tradie' or a handyman. Nazareth was not big enough to support a craftsman, let alone a father and son, so Jesus probably did seasonal work on the local farms and the large estates. That comes through in some of the stories he later told.

He saw how badly some people were treated, how they were overworked, how they lost their farms because of crippling taxes. The villagers he knew depended on each other; seasons could be very hard so at times life was tough. He came to know the lives of the battlers from the inside.

As far as we know, Joseph died relatively early in Jesus' life and he became the breadwinner.

Some time later, Jesus took the unusual step of leaving home. He joined up with his cousin John for a while, but then Jesus gathered a group of men and women - and what a group! Fishermen, a tax collector, a doctor, men and women seeking a better way.

He visited villages and towns across the country and offered a very different message about God — not a God who is remote and untouchable, judging and punishing, but God who is very near, inviting us into friendship, everyone — the outcast, the sinners, the poor and despised, not just the elite.

And it wasn't just talk. In Jesus, God's love took flesh we can see it in his actions. He 'lived' compassion, he welcomed the outcast, the sinner, those who thought God had abandoned them. He put his arms around the lepers and the outcasts. He shared meals with people who were considered to be 'sinners', considered to be 'lost' and unredeemable. He cured the sick, the lepers, the lame and the crippled. He spoke of God's passion for fairness and justice, and God's love in actions and words we could understand and relate to.

We can see the Good News in his works, and in the stories he tells us about God and he tells them in ways that relate to the people of the time, using images, examples, things from nature and their lives that they understood.

They were stories of freedom, of healing and reconciliation, of God's faithfulness and enduring love, stories of hope, trust and compassion, like the stories of the Prodigal Son and the Good Samaritan.

People came to see and hear the Good News — they had never heard anything like it and many were transformed by it! Others rejected it. It was all too much, too hard.

His Sermon on the Mount upended long-held beliefs and customs:
Blessed are the poor, not the rich and influential.

Blessed are the meek, not those who seek power and prestige and authority.
Blessed are those who sympathise with others, who walk with those who mourn, who share their sorrows and sufferings.

Blessed are those who stand up for what they believe.

Blessed are those who work for justice and fairness and peace.

What thoughts come to mind when you think of all this?

Regards Jim Quillinan
Email: jquillinan@dcsi.net.au

RUOK? DAY

Last week AUSLAN classes acknowledged RUOK Day. The 1/2s delivered daffodils and a beautiful card to each of the teachers, checking that they were all okay.

Zahli and Hugo, check in with Mrs Kratz to make sure she is okay.

Lani and Ollie bring a special RUOK surprise to Mrs Riseley.

Thank you to Mrs Grimley for this act of kindness.



SEASON OF CREATION MASS

The Season of Creation is a special time for Christians around the world to pray and take care of our planet. Care for our Common Home is one of our Catholic Social Teaching principles which teaches that the earth and all living things are gifts from God. It starts on September 1, when we pray for the Earth, and ends on October 4, the day we remember Saint Francis of Assisi, who cared deeply for nature.

This year, the theme is Living Water. During this season, we work together to make our world better through prayer, taking care of nature, and speaking up for what's right. All children prepared for yesterday's Season of Creation mass by writing and drawing inside a water droplet template naming their commitment/s to caring for our 'common home'.

Congratulations to all those beautiful readers we heard read from the lectern and the joy-filled singing of our students who have been practicing singing these songs in their classrooms.

We thank Fr Stanly for celebrating our Mass and for the parents and parish members who also joined in our celebration.

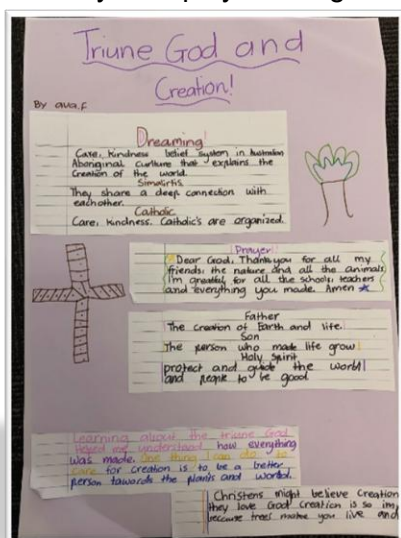


GRADE 3/4

Triune God and Creation

As part of our ***To Infinity and Beyond*** Religion unit, students explored the Christian belief that God is Creator and reflected on how people experience connection, spirituality and belonging through creation. Students investigated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives on Country and discussed how Country is deeply connected to identity, relationships, responsibility and spirituality. They also explored the Christian understanding of the Holy Spirit as God's presence in creation and learned about stewardship, the responsibility to care for the world and one another.

To celebrate NAIDOC Week and their learning, students worked collaboratively to create a foyer display. Through artwork, symbols and reflections, students expressed themes of connection, respect, responsibility, hope and care for creation. This learning encouraged respectful understanding of diverse perspectives while deepening students' appreciation of their role as caretakers of the world around them.



Animal Projects and Expo!

This term, Grade 3/4 have been working hard on a project about an animal and explored their habitats, diet, life cycles and more. They spent time researching, creating a poster and making a diorama to display their work in an expo. We were thrilled to be able to showcase this work earlier this week and the 3/4 students did a fabulous job presenting their projects to the whole school, families and friends. Thank you to you all who were able to make the afternoon special for our students, we know they appreciated the support they received!



SCHOOL DENTAL VAN

Dental van forms were sent home with students last week. Thank you to those families who have already completed the forms and returned them to school. If you haven't done so and would like your child/ren to visit the Dental van, please return on the first day back of Term 4, Tuesday 6th October. Alternatively, you can use the QR code to complete online.

the dental van.

GOOD NEWS, PARENTS!

THE DENTAL VAN IS COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL!

Give your child a healthy smile with a convenient on-site dental check-up.

WHY ON-SITE DENTAL CHECK-UPS MATTER

- FREE CHECK UP FOR NON ELIGIBLE CHILDREN**
We come to you!
- COMPREHENSIVE DENTAL EXAMINATION**
Thorough check for your child's oral health.
- EARLY DETECTION OF DENTAL PROBLEMS**
Helps prevent pain and future issues.
- ELIGIBLE CHILDREN MAY ACCESS TREATMENT THROUGH CDBS***
Bulk Billed under the Child Dental Benefits Schedule.
- PROFESSIONAL & FRIENDLY DENTAL TEAM**
We make visits comfortable and positive!

WE ARE VISITING YOUR SCHOOL!

DATE OF VISIT: Monday 26th - 30th October

TIME: 9.00am - 3.00pm

SCHOOL NAME: St Joseph's Primary School

COMPLETE YOUR CHILD'S CONSENT FORM TODAY
to secure their appointment and support their healthy smile!



CALL US
(03) 9108 3666

INFO@THEDENTALVAN.COM.AU
WWW.THEDENTALVAN.COM.AU

NOTICES



**BUILT BY
BELONGING**



**JUST
FOR
GIRLS**

**INVERLOCH *ALL GIRLS*
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**



FIND OUT MORE

VENUE INVERLOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL (OVAL)

THURSDAY 1st OCTOBER

9AM - 3PM

ALL GIRLS AGED 4 - 12

COST: \$35 APPLY DISCOUNT CODE EEAB6FEE FOR \$20 OFF

PLAY PLAY *PLAY* PLAY PLAY PLAY *PLAY*



KORUMBURRA **SWIM** **CLUB**

OPEN NIGHT!

COME & TRY SWIMMING
FUN • FITNESS • FRIENDS



MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER
6.00PM TO 7.00PM



KORUMBURRA INDOOR POOL

Swimmers must be able to demonstrate that they are competent in two strokes and able to at least swim 25 metres if under 10 years of age and 50 metres if over 10 years of age.

SWIMMERS AGED 7-12
ALL WELCOME!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE
INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
DYLAN MUIR
0400032734

Dates to Remember	
Fri, 18 th Sep	Last day of Term 3, 2.30pm dismissal
Term 3 School Holidays: Monday 21st September – Friday 2nd October	
Mon, 5th Oct	School Closure Day – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Tues, 6 th Oct	First day Term 4 for students
Tues, 6 th Oct	Dental Van consent forms due 9am
Fri, 9 th Oct	Assembly 9am
Tues, 13 th Oct	Year 3/4 camp
Wed, 14 th Oct	Regional Athletics for selected students
Fri, 16 th Oct	T20 Cricket in Leongatha for Year 6 students
Mon, 26 th Oct	Dental Van at school



St Joseph's Child Safety and Wellbeing Statement

St Joseph's Primary School is committed to embedding a culture of Child Safety and Wellbeing in everything we do, adhering to the Child Safety Standards – Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools and School Boarding Premises (**Ministerial Order no. 1359**). We believe that ensuring the safety of the students in our care is an integral part of who we are as a Catholic Faith community. The school acts in accordance with the Ministerial Order through policies, procedures, measures and practices, staff training and, ultimately, through the strategies used in working with the students and families within our school community. We continue to maintain and develop a safe and supportive learning environment where staff are focused on engaging students in a meaningful, relevant, and challenging learning experiences.

If at the time you have any issues or concerns you feel you need to raise, please contact our Principal Sharon Anderson or our Child Safety Officer Robyn Brownnett on 5655 2040.