



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

7 Chetwynd Road, Merrylands 2160 Tel (02) 8633 8400
Email: stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au www.stmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au

Wednesday, 16th November

Update

2022 Term 4, Week 6

Diary Dates

Friday, 18 th November	Year Five Leadership Day at StMM's
Sunday 20 th November	Feast of Christ the King

Principal's Message

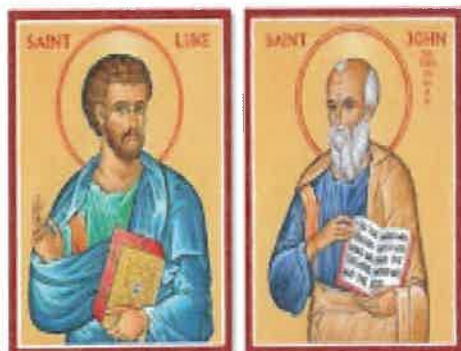
Dear Parents and Carers,

Aspects of our Mass & Liturgies

Sometimes during the Mass or our liturgies, I wonder how the different aspects came into our rituals. Last Sunday I was reading our parish bulletin where Fr Stan had shared some interesting information.



Why do we sign ourselves before the Gospel? The Church distinguishes between the 'large' sign of the cross (made with the right hand outstretched on the forehead, chest and shoulders) and the 'small' sign of the cross (made with the thumb on the forehead, mouth and chest). By performing this latter action just prior to the reading of the Gospel, we are asking God's blessing upon our thoughts, words and needs. Next time you make this sign, be aware that you are praying to open yourself to God's Word.



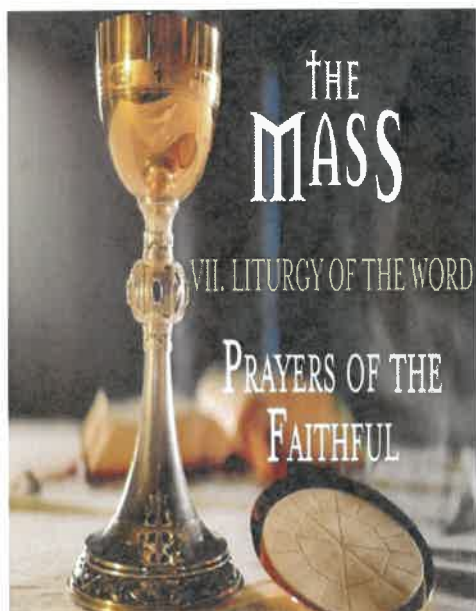
Why do we have the Sunday readings? Does your family enjoy looking back over treasured photo albums and re-telling the stories behind the pictures? While every historic detail of your ancestry may not be recorded, the photos do capture the highlights and carry a 'sense' of your family's history, identity, and values. The scriptures are a bit like that. They are our faith family's 'photo album', the inspired recordings of our Christian ancestors, re-telling the stories of God's revelation in their midst. As you listen to the readings each Sunday at Mass, allow God to speak to you through the stories of your faith heritage.

Why do we have a Prayer of the Faithful? In these prayers the congregation intercedes for all humanity. We pray that the Church will be a life-giving sign of salvation to the world. We pray for Church leaders and public authorities, for those oppressed by various needs, and for all people. In making these petitions we are conscious that the Church exists for others rather than simply for its own sake. United at the eucharistic table as the body of Christ, we are powerfully equipped to reach out as a loving and liberating force in the world.

It is important that we understand what we are saying and the meaning behind the ritual. This will lead to a great connection to our God.

Take Care and stay safe,

Kevin Mills
Principal



Administration

Students Sharing Money

We have been advised that some students have been sharing money with other students to purchase from the school canteen.

We ask that you speak with your child about the importance of money and not sharing money with students. Please only give small amounts of money for purchases at the canteen.

Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Ltd

From the beginning of 2023, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will have a new name, Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Ltd. The organisation will also have a new governance framework. It is not expected that these changes will have an impact on the day-to-day operation of schools, or upon students, parents and carers, and parishes. Further information is available [here](#).

CEDP Covid Information

NSW Health recently advised that COVID-19 transmissions within the community are rising. Whilst NSW Health has not changed its requirements, CEDP is recommending COVID-safe measures are taken to minimise infections. Students should remain at home if they are unwell and visitors should only attend school when they are symptom-free.

Positive COVID Case - Students

We will advise the parent/carer to keep the child at home whilst they are unwell. Where there is a known positive case and they have been in the school whilst positive, we will communicate to the school community. This is to increase vigilance in checking for symptoms, testing and taking precautionary measures.

Masks

Whilst face masks are no longer mandatory for staff or students or visitors, staff and students can continue to wear a mask should they choose to do so and should wear one if they are recovering from any illness.

Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) to families

StMM's will be distributing rapid antigen tests (RATs) to families during this term. Please visit NSW Health for the latest advice on managing COVID-19 at home.

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to StMM's in Term 4 or at the end of 2022, please let the office know in writing as soon as possible, as we have several families on our waiting list. It is a CEDP Policy that 10 weeks' notice is given to the principal before the removal of your child from the school, otherwise a full-term fees will be required to be paid.

Don Wood Photography

Group photos of School Leaders, Colour Captains, Media Team & Technology Committee can now be purchased online.

If you wish to order, please follow the instructions below;

School Code: 751R17

Extracurricular group photos:

1. Parent's login to Don Wood Photography website www.donwoodphotography.com.au
2. Click on – **ORDER SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS AND PORTRAIT DOWNLOADS** at the top left of the home screen
3. Enter Your School Code in the orange School Code box then **SUBMIT**. Your school's home page appears.
4. From the Menu near the top of the screen click on Group Photos.
5. On the left-hand side, headings of each photograph are there – click on the heading to view and purchase photographs.

FREE POSTAGE will apply for orders placed before Monday 7th December, as these will be delivered to the school. Orders will be clearly marked with students' name and class and sent home with your child.

AFTER this time- parents can still order Extra Group photos, a **\$10 postage fee applies** and photographs are posted to your address.

Enrolment for 2023

We have a limited number of vacancies in some grades for 2023. If you know of any family wishing to enrol at St Margaret Mary's please contact the office for an enrolment form.

Change of Details

If you have moved house or changed your contact details, please contact the school office as soon as possible to update your details.

End of Year Dates

Friday 16th December is the last day of school for students in 2022.

- Wednesday 14th December will be our last official function for 2022. We will be celebrating our Thanksgiving Mass in the morning. Parents are then invited to stay and have morning tea with their child/ren.
- After morning tea, the children will perform a Christmas song for each grade. Children may leave with their parents at the conclusion of the event. We will notify you of times as the event gets closer.

Faith Community

Remembrance Day

On Friday 11th November, St Margaret Mary's celebrated Remembrance Day. At approximately 12:00pm, we held a liturgy led by Mr.



Yearsley. The whole school took time to remember all the soldiers who fought in war, especially the ANZAC (Australian New Zealand Army Corps). After The

Last

Post was sounded, we listened to the Rouse or better known as the Reveille, a conjunction that follows up after The Last Post.

Thank you so much to Mr. Yearsley for hosting this liturgy for Remembrance Day.

By Bridget L, 5Y



Teaching & Learning

Kindergarten 2023 Orientation

On Wednesday 9th November, Kindy 2023 students attended their second orientation session. They learnt about the StMM's School Pointers and engaged in hands-on activities in

response to a read text.

We would also like to thank all the parents and carers who attended the

workshops in the hall with enthusiasm and a willingness to learn.

Looking forward to collaborating with you.

Kindergarten teachers



Year Four Forces IncurSION

Year Four had an exciting visit from 'The Ranger Science Show' on Thursday 10th November. We participated in so many fun and hands-on experiments about forces. We got to see friction, gravity, and air pressure in action with the blasting of our handmade

rockets and the chance to ride go carts. We also saw Ranger Jamie launch a barrel full of balls using liquid nitrogen – We were able to collect all 1150 balls in 41 seconds!



Personal Growth

Monday Morning Assembly

On Monday the 14th November Mr Mills talked about the sweets competition. It involves using 50c to

get a try and \$1 for 3 tries, if you win you will get a jar of sweets. Mr Mills also spoke about how to score your uniform from 1 to 5. He wants us to dress in the correct uniform. He also spoke about school diaries. Mr Mills will be

going into Learning spaces to check students diaries. Everyone in St Margaret Mary's is old enough to follow instructions. Reports will be finalised by week 6.

Mr Mills told the school that Mrs Albertin has added photos to the gallery on the school website with all the activities that have happened at St Margaret Mary's, for example Year 3 Motiv8 day.

By: Charbel B & Jessica H



Principals Morning Tea

The last Principal's Morning Tea for 2022 will be on Tuesday, 6th December. Students need to have received all 4 Pillar awards to be eligible to attend the morning tea.

Personal Growth

Year Three Motiv8 Incursion

This was such a fun day for year 3! We had groups – my group was called The Motive Club. Activity one was the vortex throwing. You had to step on a circle and throw the vortex inside a big, inflatable circle. *By Sarah*



My favourite activity was the sponge wars game. We had to knock each other's cones down with wet sponges. After a while I was wet and water was all over me. I felt very energetic

and it was great fun. *By Marcus*

My team had to roll the prodigious tyre close to the cone and roll it back. It was quite heavy and our team was challenging ourselves to complete the task! *By Nusang*



We ate Zooper doopers and they were very yummy.



Our team won four stations in a row. We won sponge wars, the obstacle course, vortex throwing and the bucket fill station. *By Hilton, Jaxson and Emily*



Lego Club

On Thursday Week 5, Stage 3 attended Lego Club in the Year 6 classroom. Every group had at least 4 people and the theme was 'Bridges'. There were 10 groups in total. Students and teachers have a chance to vote on who the best group is. Some of the bridges students built were the Golden Gate Bridge, a bridge under construction, a small bridge over water, an abandoned bridge and more. In the Lego Club you can be as creative as you want, we used all



4Cs to build our Lego bridges together. Thank you Miss Mekdessi for hosting the lego club! We look forward to future topics and buildings.

By Michelle W, Joyce S & Jessica N

Guessing Competition

Some Year Two students will be holding a guessing competition on Thursday and Friday this week.

Guess how many Lollies are in the Jar? 50c for 1 guess or 3 guesses for \$1.00. Winner takes All!



Partnership

Delany College

DELANY COLLEGE

Invites you and your family to the annual

CREATIVE EMERGENCE and DESIGN EVENING

Thursday 24th November
5 – 7pm

Showcasing talented student work from Music, Visual Arts, Photography and Industrial Technology 2022

Refreshments will be provided by our Hospitality students

LOWES

NOVEMBER 17TH & 18TH

2 DAY VIP EVENT

20% OFF

EVERYTHING*

INCLUDING SCHOOLWEAR

ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS USE YOUR CARD AT CHECKOUT!

SHOP INSTORE & ONLINE

*EXcludes savings off original price.

Due Date 7/12/22 Literacy Competition



Primary Christmas Challenge

Create a Christmas Character

Draw a poster about them

Draw or paste an image of your character on paper or a google slide, and write a description about them. Try and be creative.

Remember to write your full name and class on the entry.

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED, HAND IT INTO YOUR CLASS TEACHER.

Due Date 7/12/22 Literacy Competition

Infants Christmas Challenge

My Christmas Poster

For your challenge, you are to create a poster about Christmas.

This poster can include -

- **What is Christmas?**
- **What Christmas means to you?**
- **What you do on Christmas?**

Remember to write your full name and class on the entry.

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED, HAND IT INTO YOUR CLASS TEACHER.
