



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

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Wednesday, 5th April

Bulletin

2023 Term 1, Week 11

Diary Dates

Thursday 6th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Thursday • School closes for Term 1
School Holidays	
Monday 24th April Staff Professional Learning Day <i>(Student Free Day)</i>	
Tuesday 25th April • ANZAC DAY	
Wednesday 26th April Students Return for Term 2	
Monday 1st May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinder 2024 Interviews Commence

Easter 2023 Message from Bishop Vincent

Dear sisters and brothers,

In the Gospel of Mark, the Resurrection takes place in silence! The three women went to the tomb in the silence of the night. They met an angel who told them Jesus, the crucified one, had risen. Then, trembling and bewildered, they fled..... How could the Resurrection, which had begun in fear, not end in joy? How could it end in silence and even fear? The Easter mystery is so dazzling; it is beyond our rational comprehension. Where can we turn as Easter people full of hope?.....

Jesus is our only answer to these great mysteries that sometimes seem to overwhelm us. For all that we know of God is, of course, revealed definitively in Jesus of Nazareth. But have you noticed how many times in the Gospels Jesus himself asks questions, rather than gives answers? Our journey living the Paschal Mystery is often more about the questions than the answers.....

Is this not the journey of our whole lives: the movement from sorrow to courage to grief to waiting to joy, often holding elements of each at the same time? What are the questions stirring your soul these days? Can we make space to live in them, not needing to have the answers? The Synodal path we are on as a diocesan local church, is one way for us to listen to those on the margins and make room for the Holy Spirit in our busy lives.....

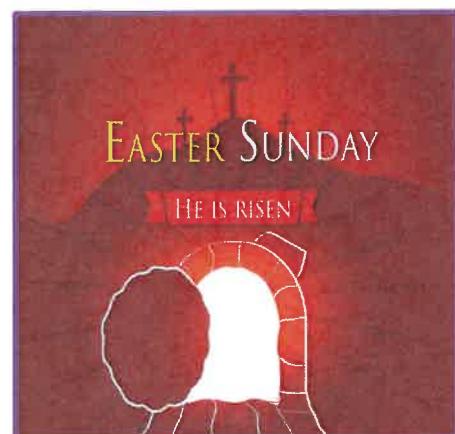
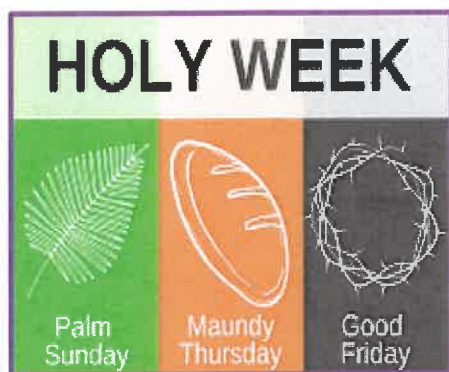
In the face of painful transition, let us be empowered by the presence of the risen Lord, calling us beyond the fear of the unknown. The paschal rhythm summons us to die to the old and rise to the new.

My sisters and brothers. Jesus is Risen! Let's journey with him once more on the road to Emmaus and encounter his mysterious presence in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia! (Parts of Bishop Vincent's 2023 Easter Message)

On behalf of the staff of StMM's, I would like to thank all in our community for their ongoing support and generosity. I wish you all the peace and joy of the Easter season. Take care and stay safe.

Take care and God bless,

Kevin Mills
Principal



Administration

Staff Professional Learning Day

The staff on Monday 24th April will be engaged in Professional Learning for the day. This is a pupil free day for all students at StMM's. Our learning will focus on Student Wellbeing and our JigSaw pedagogy.

Social Media & the Holidays

Mr Mills has spoken to the senior classes about the challenges and dangers of social media. He stressed the importance of only sharing positive aspects and words on the many platforms the children are able to access. If parents are concerned, it is always an option to remove the student from the platform (chn have to be 13 yrs old to access).

The Library Refurbishment

Our school library and LARC area will be completely refurbished during the holidays. This includes new carpet to all spaces, painting, additional pinboards, repair to walls & surfaces and eventually new shelving. Thank you to our students and staff (especially Mrs Balogh-Caristo) for all their hard work and patience. We will keep you up to date.

Kindergarten 2024

Enrolments are now taking place. *If your child was born between 1st August, 2018 and 31st July, 2019, please collect an enrolment form from the school office.*

Emails have been sent out to all families with an interview date and time to those who have returned their Kindergarten enrolment form.

If you have not yet returned your enrolment form please do so by tomorrow to receive an Interview date & time.

Term 2 Uniforms

We would like to inform your that students will have the option to wear their summer or winter uniform for the first 2 weeks of next term. All students will be expected to be in full winter uniform from Monday 8th May.

School Holidays

As we come to the end of Term, it is a good time to remind your children about the importance of Stranger Danger.

School Fees

Term one school fees are now overdue unless you have entered into an arrangement with the school or with CSPD. Any queries with regards to your 2023 statements or arrangement, please contact Maria Pagano in the School Office.

Administration

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to StMM's in Term 2, please let the office know in writing as soon as possible, as we have several families on our waiting list. It is a CSPD 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.

School Photos and Videos

All photo's and videos taken in school during Term 1 can be found on our school website under Community in the gallery.

Important Dates for End of Term 1

Thursday 6 th April	Holy Thursday School Closes for Term 1 at 3pm
Friday 7 th April	Good Friday
Sunday 9 th April	Easter Sunday
Sunday 23 rd April	Fr Janusz Farewell

Important Dates for Term 2

Monday 24 th April	• Staff Professional Learning Day • Student Free Day
Tuesday, 25 th April	ANZAC DAY
Wednesday, 26th April	Students Return for Term 2
Monday, 1 st May	Kindergarten 2024 Interviews Commence
Thursday, 4 th May	Whole School Athletics Carnival
Monday, 8 th May	All Students to be in Full Winter Uniform
Wednesday, 10 th May	• Diocesan Cross Country • StMM's Choir Visit Cardinal Gilroy Village
Friday, 12 th May	Mother's Day Liturgy
Sunday, 14 th May	Mother's Day
Thursday, 18 th May	Ascension
Sunday, 28 th May	Pentecost Sunday
Thursday, 1 st June	Year Five History Excursion
Friday, 2 nd June	Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day
Sunday, 4 th June	Holy Trinity Sunday
Monday 5 th – 6 th June	Year Six Canberra Excursion
Tuesday, 13 th June	Whole School Photo Day
Friday, 16 th June	Feast of the Sacred Heart Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day
Monday, 26 th June	Year Four Excursion
Wednesday, 28 th June	Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day
Friday, 30 th June	School Closes for Term 2
Monday, 17 th July	School Resumes for Term 3

Faith Community

Project Compassion

St Margaret Mary's answered the Lenten call to almsgiving and raised a **MASSIVE \$3518.75** for Caritas' Project Compassion.

Thank you to all members of our school community who showed kindness and generosity and supported this important appeal by donating spare change into the Project Compassion boxes, buying treats at the Orange Stall, wearing mufti or buying a water drop for our Water Wall. Our donation to Caritas will help to make a difference in the lives of others in Australia and around the world.

Mrs Del Monte



Holy Week

Way of the Cross (Thursday)

StMM's Way of the Cross will be open for any parents who wish to walk the journey with their children. The process is as follows:

- The school gates will be opened at 2pm on Thursday 6th April.
- Parents will be directed to a sign off sheet coordinated by our Year 6 Leaders.
- The Yr 6 leaders will arrange for your children (+bags) to meet you at the hall entrance.
- Please take the time to read and reflect on the statements at each Station.
- After completing the walk, parents may take their children home.
- Have a Holy and Joyful Easter Season.

Mr Yearsley Farewell

On Friday, 31st March, the whole school celebrated the time that Mr Yearsley had here at St Margaret Mary's Merrylands. Many people such as teachers and students expressed their fondest memory of his time here. The students brought the items that made Mr Yearsley what he is today. The choir sang a farewell song. The P&F shared memories and what they loved about Mr Yearsley. We all wish Mr Yearsley all the best at his new school.

By Garang.D & Noah.M



Personal Growth

Morning Assembly

On the 3rd April STMM's had a morning assembly in the hall. Parents and carers were invited to hear Mr Mills talk about the important events happening this week. Mr Mills spoke about how Holy



Week is the most important week in our faith, and how Jesus went from celebrating to dying on the cross. Mr Mills started the assembly by ringing the Jerusalem bell to celebrate that Jesus is coming into Jerusalem. Some of the events he

talked about were, Palm Sunday where he used children from Year 6 and gave them palms to hold. Miss Mekdessi chose four Year 3 students to represent what happened in the Cleansing of the Temple. Miss Golack chose a student to act as Pontius Pilate, the person who crucified Jesus. The infants teachers chose 4 students from Kindy, Year 1 and Year 2, to represent what happened in The Last Supper. Mr Mills led us through the stations of the cross and read a verse about each station. Lastly Mr Mills informed parents that the gates will open at 2pm on Thursday 6th April and they are invited to walk the stations of



the cross with their child. They are also allowed to take their child home.

By: Ella K. Mariam G. and Zayne O.



Tuesday Assembly

On Tuesday morning the 4th April Mr Mills led the morning assembly. He showed us the 14 stations of the cross. Then he got the Year 6 to buddy up with the Kindergarten students. Each grade walked reverently around the school



looking at the 14 crosses. We walked through the hall, out of the hall's back door, passing by the back of the primary classrooms, into the lower grass and back under the cola. We then quietly walked back up to class and each grade went one by one down to go back to the stations of the cross with a short prayer and reflection. The teachers took turns reading out the prayers and reflections for each station of the cross. Katrina Y and Claire L



Teaching and Learning

Year 3

Over the last couple of weeks, Year 3 have been reading the book 'Michael Recycle'. This book has taught us about recycling, reducing our waste and reusing different things in our home and school environments like plastic, clothes, and lots of other things. One of our tasks was to create a poster using the website Canva. Our posters show students what they can do to make a positive change in their homes and our school and even the world! Here are some things you can do:

- Bring your own bottles so you can refill from the bubblers.
- Don't leave your rubbish or food on the ground.
- Don't pick the flowers from the garden because bees need to use the pollen to pollinate.

By Mia Z, Aria R, Rafqa B

Library News



Students have until Friday, 18th August, to complete the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) online. Students must read the required number of books from the Challenge to complete the PRC.

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

Holiday Reading

StMM's Holiday Reading

The students will be given a formal break from reading this Easter, as a reward for an outstanding Term 1 effort with their Reading Logs. Our Year 6 leaders have done an outstanding job in leading this strategy.



If your child would like to continue reading during the holidays they do have access to SORA eBooks from home. Students need to use their Google Login and Password to access the eBooks and then click on ACEN Collection - where school name is required. Students can borrow up to 3 eBooks at a time for usually 3 weeks. The books can be read on an iPad if you download the SORA app. or on a computer if you use the direct link to SORA:

<https://soraapp.com/library/cenetau>

Mrs Balogh-Caristo (Teacher/Librarian)



Partnership

New P&F Room

Congratulations to our P&F for all their efforts in relocating the P&F room to their new space. This has enabled easier access to their equipment and materials. At the same time, it is now an excellent space for our second-hand uniforms.

Easter Raffle Winners

The major prize winners of the Easter raffle will be announced in our Newsletter next term.

St Margaret Mary's Parish

PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION of the LORD
SATURDAY (01 April) - 6:00pm - Vigil
SUNDAY (02 April) - 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 6:00pm
(Blessings of palms and olive branches at all Masses)
MONDAY (03 April) - 9:15am
TUESDAY (04 April) - 9:00am & 7:00pm
WEDNESDAY (05 April) - 9:00am {NO 7:00pm Mass}
Thursday of Holy Week (06 April) - No Morning Mass
Thursday of the LORD'S SUPPER - 7:00pm
Friday of the PASSION of the LORD
Good Friday (07 April)
Stations of the Cross - 10:00am
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord - 3:00pm
Holy Saturday (08 April) - No Morning Mass
The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night (08 April) - 6:30pm
EASTER SUNDAY of the RESURRECTION of the LORD
(09 April) - 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 6:00pm

FAREWELL MASS OF FR. JANUSZ PAWLICHA 23 APRIL 2023 - 10:30AM

Eight years ago St. Margaret Mary's Parish was truly blessed with a Parish Priest like none other than FR. JANUSZ. *'Giving to others seems to come so naturally to you. You go the extra mile, take the extra time, give the extra thought...and it really makes a difference'.*

Thank you Fr. Janusz for being such a wonderful example of God's Love. We have been fortunate to have an outstanding role model like you, who has managed this Parish with invaluable and inspired excellence. You have helped our Church and community to grow spiritually and have given so much to this Parish and done much for it. Your contributions and dedication will always serve as an inspiration to others.

May our Triune God and our Blessed Mother guide and protect Fr. Janusz always. We pray that the Lord will bless you abundantly as you journey towards the next chapter in your ministerial life and that the Holy Spirit will guide you in your pastoral duties.

A farewell Mass for Fr. Janusz will be held on Sunday 23 April at 10:30am followed by a Parish Brunch in the Parish Hall. All are welcome and we request you to kindly bring a dish to share.

For those who wish to contribute towards a farewell monetary gift for Fr. Janusz, please contact Priscilla Newman, Gwen D'Silva or the Parish Office during office hours.