

14 February

Focus for the Week: Jesus Cures the Leper Mark 1: 40-45

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Sunday's gospel the leper truly believed that he could be healed by Jesus. But Jesus knew the man needed to be healed not just physically but spiritually as well.

We are reminded how to be followers of Christ. Whatever we think, do or say must be for God. We grow in faith through being open to God's teachings in the Bible and through reflecting on what we have heard, we are loved and accepted by being "touched by Jesus" through the lives of others. When we accept and acknowledge we need help spiritually, we can then be more open to the support and care of those around us as they encourage us to grow closer to Jesus.

Today is **Ash Wednesday** which marks the beginning of Lent

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Reflection:**DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?**

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from words and listen

Fast from grudges and be reconciled

Fast from being busy and be prayerful

Fast from worries and have trust in God

Fast from anger and be filled with patience

Fast from sadness and be filled with
gratitude

Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with
joy

Ash Wednesday

Today we celebrate Ash Wednesday, with a mass to mark the beginning of Lent. **The season of Lent** is a Catholic liturgical season consisting of forty days of fasting, prayer, and penitence beginning at Ash Wednesday and concluding at sundown on Holy Thursday. Many Catholics were taught as children to "give up something" for Lent. Perhaps the words from Pope Francis above can inspire us to rather than 'give something up' we can add something into our daily lives to enhance our relationships with others close to us.

Welcome

We welcome Miss Tara Fernandez-Riches (a past student) who will be our pianist for school masses. She will work with Mrs Louella Pareira and her group of musicians and singers to lead our school in music. We welcome Mr Jonathan McBride who has joined us as a Teacher-aide for Term One working in our senior school.

We welcome Mrs Megan Drake who will be working two days each week in Room 20.

Congratulations to past students

St John's College - Corban Hall has been elected as Head of Sports for 2018.

Cameron Burgess is a House Leader for 2018

Hamilton Boys High School - Tom Martin is Head Boy for 2018.

We are very proud of these fine young men and wish them every success in their leadership roles.

AIMS GAMES 2018 Sunday 9th September to Friday 14th September 2018.

AIMS Games is an international sporting tournament for our elite competitive sports students in Years 7-8. This tournament gives the students an opportunity to compete at a high level. I am including this information for parents of Year 7-8 students who feel their child is at an elite level and interested in competing. There are 23 sporting codes. Check out the website for information <https://www.facebook.com/ANCHORAIMSGAMES/>

We have clear school procedures we follow and a timeline to guide our planning and organisation. These are available in our school office for parents.

PTFA Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20 February at 7:30pm in the staffroom. New parents are most welcome to join. See Flyer.

Team 1 Nativity DVDs... there are still a few from Christmas available if you wish to purchase a copy.

Cost is \$5

Please see Mrs Vosper – Rm2

OOS Music – registrations are now closed however, spaces are still available for Saxophone and Clarinet for Yr 5 –Yr8 and Flute for Yr 4 to Yr 8 .

Attendance Dues from the Catholic Diocese Office: As from **Term 1 2018** the charge for Primary students will be:

\$444.00 per annum (inc. GST) [i.e. \$111.00 per term or \$8.54 per week]

Attendance Dues are a compulsory charge invoiced from and payable directly to the Catholic Integrated Schools Office (CISO) within the Diocese. Attendance Dues differ from school fees, which may be invoiced from and payable directly to your school/college. Dues are **not** tax deductible. If any Parent/Caregiver has a problem in paying Attendance Dues then they should apply for assistance either through their Parish Priest, Principal or direct with Martha.

Catholic Character Contribution has increased slightly to \$50.00 per student with a maximum of \$150.00 per family. This is a voluntary donation and these funds are used to support the delivery of religious education programmes in our schools for which no other funding is available. Attendance Dues income cannot be used for this purpose.

Reminder: Easter break is before the end of term. School will be closed Good Friday (30 March), Easter Monday and Easter Tuesday (3 April). However, Wednesday 4th April is a **TEACHER ONLY DAY** and school will be closed for instruction as teachers attend a course.

Vision and Hearing: The technician will be at school on Friday 16 March to screen children who;

- have not completed the checks as part of their B4 School Check.
- Were absent from the previous visit
- New immigrants
- Year 7 students vision
- And requests by teachers or parents.

If you do not wish your child to be tested OR your child is under a specialist, please send along a letter to the class teacher.

Saints United (Year 7 & 8) Netball and Hockey

Registration forms are now available in the Atrium and School Office.

Please complete and return ASAP.

Netball Trials: 3rd March @ Minoque Park. (Yr 7's @ 8am & Yr 8's @ 11am)

Hockey Trials: 11th March @ Sacred Heart Turf. 3.00 – 5.30pm & 19th March @ St John's Turf. 4.00 – 5.30pm)

Theatre Cats Speech and drama group for year 4 +

5 girls. Enjoy creative acting lessons in the Whare on Wednesday afternoons from 3.15 - 4pm. Limited number of students. \$95.00 for 8 sessions.

Contact: Sandra Timlin 8590377 or lynn18@xtra.co.nz

This Week's Health Nugget:



Hilton Brown Swimming: 'Lessons for Life' - Come to a FREE TRIAL SWIMMING LESSON and you'll soon be swimming like a fish.

- Children are constantly assessed and progressed.
- Qualified instructors offer quality lessons from infant to adults
- Over 45 years' experience successfully teaching swimming.,

Book now – 12 Queenwood Ave, Hamilton

Phone 855 8666

www.hiltonbrownswimming.co.nz

Sausage Sizzle: Our Friday sizzles will start again this week. \$2.00 per sausage. This is a fundraiser and the proceeds are distributed amongst the teams.

A big thank you to Bakers Delight who supply our beautiful fresh bread.

God Bless You

Debra White

Principal

Flyers:

- **From the Diocese:** Please see the next module of With Hearts Burning. It focuses on the "Ministry of Listening". Please read it and carefully consider the questions on the back.
- **PTFA:** Help form
- **Sport**



GARDENING FOR LENT

First plant five rows of **PEAS:**

Preparedness
Promptness
Perseverance
Politeness

Next to them plant three rows of **SQUASH:**

Squash gossip
Squash criticism
Squash indifference

Then plant five rows of **LETTUCE:**

Let us be faithful
Let us be loyal
Let us be unselfish
Let us love one another
Let us be truthful

No garden is complete without **TURNIPS:**

Turn up for Mass
Turn up with a smile
Turn up with a new idea
Turn up with real determination

Then see what a wonderful garden you can grow!