

22 March

Focus for the Week: John 4: 5-42

Third Sunday of Lent

Without food we can live for a few weeks but without water we will die in a couple of days. Water is life, purification, cleanliness, peace, economic prosperity or ruin. Water is a powerful symbol.

In Sunday's Gospel we see the compassion and tenderness of Jesus when he meets the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus helps her to become aware of her true thirst. Like the woman at the well we are invited to accept Jesus in order to quench our spiritual thirst for life. It is only by trusting God that we can experience the living water that will satisfy our spiritual thirst. This trust allows God to be within us. Through the experience of trusting God in our lives, we are able to share and bring others to experience God's gifts of love and life.

Value Focus: Diversity – Week 8

Never judge a book by its cover" is perhaps a pertinent phrase on which to hang the premise that we should respect everybody. Often we are led to judging people by first impressions. These might be of thoughts, ideas or even appearances. However, if we are to respect everybody, a different tack is required. If we pause to reflect that there are always underlying values, indeed histories of why people act and speak as they do, respecting others does come a whole lot easier. Even if we can't agree, or like, respect in our thoughts and actions towards all others is a courtesy we can all afford. This respect needs to be shown to others we communicate with and about in a virtual world as well as the physical world.

"I'm not concerned with your liking or disliking me... All I ask is that you respect me as a human being." Jackie Robinson

Maori Language Phrase: - *That is correct***E tika ana**

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Reflection

'Each Person Is a Gift Deserving Acceptance, Respect'

Lent 'is a favorable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ,' Pope Francis 2017.

An absolute highlight is our **Monday morning prayer assemblies**. During this time our whole school gathers as one, in our beautiful Cathedral church. The prayer assembly is led by our senior students from Rooms 17 - 23. Each week the students take the school through our selected value focus. This term our focus is "diversity". I believe Pope Francis would enjoy listening to our students who this week spoke to the school community on the importance of respecting difference and accepting the uniqueness of each other. Lent is a time to challenge ourselves to grow in our Christian lives to be more Christ like in our interactions with others.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mr Stuart has been appointed to the position of Principal, St Peter's Catholic School, Cambridge. **Mr Grant Stuart** will leave our school at the end of this term to take up his new role at the beginning of Term Two, 2017.

I would like to offer our congratulations to Mr Grant Stuart on winning this promotion. He will be missed as an excellent teacher and leader both within Team Three and across our whole school. During his time here at Marian Catholic School he has played an instrumental role within the Leadership Team initiating a number a curriculum initiatives. He will take with him many fine qualities and all our best wishes as he takes this very exciting next step in his teaching career.

At the end of this term we will be also be farewelling **Mrs Liz Summerville**. After much thought, she and her husband have decided to take early retirement. They will be moving to the far North to enjoy all that life has to offer.

Mrs Summerville is a well-respected teacher in our school and has taken a number of lead roles within the school. The work she has done with the Young Vinnies and Water Polo teams has been much appreciated over the years.

I would like to thank Mrs Summerville for the many years of excellent service and contribution to Marian Catholic School and

wish both Mrs Summerville and her husband all the very best as they take up this next exciting step in their lives.

Welcome: We warmly welcome into our school community the following students and their families; Kattya Grueso (Rm20), Melani Grueso (Rm7a), Josue Grueso (Rm2) and John Bondoc (Rm5).

Mass: Mass will be celebrated on Thursday at 9:10am with the students from Teams 1 and 3. All welcome.

Bereavement: We extend our deepest sympathy to the following:

- Justin Dimaano and family on the death of his much loved grandfather in the Philippines.
- To Colin Smith and family for the loss of his loved wife Barbara. Barbara was the School Secretary here at Marian School and also the piano player for school choirs, singing competitions, accompanist for student music exams and end of year celebrations. She will be missed by many of her colleagues and musical associates.

May they rest in peace.

Holiday Programme Cancelled Due to the demolition of our neighbouring, Euphrasie House, our holiday program will not be operating these holidays. Our apologies for any inconvenience this causes.

Solidarity Day: A reminder that we will have our annual Full School Mass for Solidarity Day next **Thursday 30 March**. Students are encouraged to share a simple rice meal on that day. We rely on donations of rice and chilly bins. The cost is **\$2.00 per child** will the proceeds going to **Caritas**. Notices were sent out last week so if you did not receive one, please collect a form from the school office.

Diversity: This term we have had a focus on our value Diversity. To finish off the term we are having a Diversity day celebrated in a variety of ways. We would love to have some maths games, songs and stories from different cultures. It would be great if you could

share with your children a maths game and story from their culture in readiness for this.

Team 3 Swimming: On Friday 26 Team 3 Students attended the South East Cluster Inter School Swimming event at Hillcrest Normal. While the competition was fierce, our Marian kids swam their little hearts out. Special congratulations to Neo Ulrich who placed 3rd in the 10yr old boys Backstroke event and to Amelia Sharp, Amelia Kepa and Tannika Leger-Walker for making finals. Thank you to the wonderful parent helpers who assisted with transport on the day and to Mel, Alice and Claudine for their time keeping expertise! God bless, Becki Botherway

Adult Ballet Classes

Have you ever wanted to try ballet. Sandy is keen to start an adult ballet class next term for the moms, dads and even grandparents. No experience needed. Contact davey_sandy@yahoo.com. Classes will be held in Te Whare, Marian School, Tuesdays 4.00 to 5pm

Transport Angel Needed: Someone to help a child get to and from school from Nawton area for the rest of this term. Please contact Martha if you can assist.

Team 4 Parents: All Team 4 classes will visit Waikato Museum on Tuesday 4th or Wednesday 5th April. We will walk to and from the Waikato Museum, to view the Sunlight- Ihi Komaru Exhibition and would welcome parents who would like to join us on the day your child is attending. Rooms 19 and 20 will depart at 9am, Tuesday 4th and be back by lunchtime. Rooms 21 and 22 will depart 11.45am, Tuesday 4th and be back by 3pm. Rooms 17 and 18 will depart at 9am, Wednesday 5th and be back by lunchtime. Please contact your child's class teacher via their email, if you are able to accompany us.

Nothing Naughty Protein Bars and Fruit Bars:

Now for sale at the school office. A variety of flavours on offer and are low in sugar and gluten free. An excellent choice and alternative to muesli bars. \$20.00 per box. Get in while stocks last.

Incredible Years Parenting Programme (for parents of 3 – 6yr olds): Are you interested in attending a morning session, once a week for 12 weeks.

Either Thursday mornings or an evening programme. We will go with the majority. Please email Martha; martha@marian.school.nz

Fill a Bag for Free Op Shop: A generous donor has given lots of clothes and household items. Come and fill a bag for free. Open on Thursdays from 2:30 – 3:30pm in Room 1 (by the juniors).

Reminder: Please keep sending those Easter Eggs along to the school office. A big thank you to all who have so far contributed. Tickets for the raffles will be on sale next week. Young Vinnies

Parking Complaint: Parking, dropping off or picking up by Notre Dame Court (Nuns area) is out of bounds and is privately owned property. **This area does not belong to the school. Please use the Beale Street car-park.** We are fortunate to own a reasonably sized park so we expect our parents to be respectful of all our neighbours.

Pink Bike: A bike with a flat tyre has been left by the bike stands for over two weeks. If not collected by the end of the week, it will go.

Lost:

- A woollen jersey named K Fong. Please return to Room16

This Week's Health Nugget:



Theatre Cats Speech and Drama.

Creative girls in years 6 and 7.1 still have three places available on Thursday afternoons from 3.15 - 4.15 pm in The Whare. If you have an interest in acting and would like to join our exciting performance class, contact Sandra Timlin asap. Email: lynn18@xtra.co.nz or tel: 8590377

WSA Autumn Art Holiday Programme - suitable for 5 – 13 year olds. 9am – 12noon each day. Fees are \$30 See school notice board for more information.

Hillcrest Childcare We are celebrating 25 years in Early Childhood Education and want to contact families who have had association with us. On Friday the 7th April at 5 pm we are having a party to celebrate this milestone. If you would like to join us, please phone the centre on 07 8568707 or email hhcentre@xtra.co.nz for further information.

Sausage Sizzle: This Friday - \$2.00 per sausage.

OFFERS:



God Bless You

Debra A White
Principal

Flyers

- Sport

An oak veneer dresser that has served its purpose, is now for sale to the person with the highest offer. Proceeds go to the School Welfare Fund.

Please see Mrs Debra White or email dwhite@marian.school.nz