

12 April

**Focus for the Week: Palm (Passion) Sunday**

Matthew 26: 14-27



In the full version of this Sunday's Gospel, we heard the story of Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We are also told of the events of the Last Supper and the arrest, conviction and crucifixion of Jesus that followed.

To some, it may seem strange that we dwell upon the sorrowful events of Good Friday on the same day that we celebrate the joyful event of Palm Sunday.

To understand why we do this, we need to put Jesus's entry into Jerusalem into the correct context. Yes, Jesus came as the Messiah, the messenger of God and the saviour of His people, but not in the way that the Jews were expecting.

They believed that Jesus had come to lead and to liberate them, to be a ruler here on Earth, but His journey was always to be a journey to Calvary and to his death on the cross. His purpose was always to die for our sins so that we may be saved, and the only homage that Jesus was looking for was the glory of God the Father.

**Value Focus: Diversity – Week 11**

...and so we've come full circle. So what is diversity really about? Is it about understanding and celebrating our differences? Or showing tolerance and acceptance of others opinions and beliefs? Perhaps it is seeing through these and identifying behind all this variety and variation we are ultimately human with the same feelings? With this comes the responsibility of being trusting and sensitive to those who share their differences with us. Perhaps it is all these things rolled into one – knowing we are unique and being proud of it – would God want it any other way?

*"We have become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic.*

*Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings,  
different hopes, different dreams." - Jimmy Carter*

**Maori Language:**

Week 11 - Happy Easter

**Ngā mihi o te Aranga**

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

**Principal's Reflection:****He aha te mea nui o te ao**

What is the most important thing in the world?

**He tangata, he tangata, he tangata**

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people

This whakatauki comes to mind as I reflect on my first term here at Marian Catholic School.

The staff are amazing in their dedication and care towards our students and each other. Our Board of Trustees genuinely care about our students and their families and are vigilant in their commitment to ensure our students receive the highest quality learning experiences possible. Our PTFA are an energetic group keen to get their teeth into projects that will enrich our students learning. Our students are such a joy to work with. Beautifully prepared for learning by their families who value education and want the very best for their children. The strong link between our parish and school is to be treasured. I am so impressed by the warmth of the people throughout the school. A sense of care and support for others permeates our school as we fulfil our roles and responsibilities within this special Catholic School.

A wonderful example of the warm relationships in our school was our Diversity Day parade. Over 38 cultures were celebrated by our whole school. The sense of pride and acceptance was tangible as the applause grew as each culture was introduced and then paraded across the stage. I would like to thank our families for your support providing the amazing cultural costumes. I would like to acknowledge our families for instilling these wonderful values of acceptance within their children which we as a Catholic School can build on and extend. This is working in partnership having common values between home and school which support our young people to grow into such awesome positive adults.

We have started 2017 with an excellent Term One filled with a rich variety of learning experiences for our students.

Team Four's Lake Karapiro Camp, Swimming sports and Interschool events, CIS Lit Quiz, Top Team and Cheerleading competitions, Team Two Pentathlon, Team Two and Three Discos, Team One Te Reo and kapahaka programme, Learning Discussions, Solidarity Day, Diversity Week, a focus on assessment and goal setting for the term,

Many of these events would not be possible without the support of parents. I would like to thank the parents who have given their time this term to support the various learning experiences offered this term.

This week we farewell Mrs Liz Summerville and Mr Grant Stuart.

Mrs Summerville has been with us since 2002, starting as a reliever and taking on a full time class in 2004. Mrs Summerville is retiring to join her husband and move up north. She will be sadly missed for her wisdom, her creativity and her genuine care and support for both students and colleagues.

Mr Stuart has been with us since 2014. Mr Stuart is leaving us to take up a promotion as Principal of St Peter's Catholic School in Cambridge. Mr Stuart has been an inspirational teacher and leader here and has many fine qualities to make him a successful leader. We wish both Mrs Summerville and Mr Stuart all the very best as they take this next exciting step in their life journey. May God bless you both and your families.

I wish you all a Happy Easter and a restful holiday. May the risen Christ fill your heart with joy, bring you new hope and bless you with peace, Amen.

### **Cathedral Easter Mass Times**

Holy Thursday	7pm
Good Friday Stations	9am (suitable for families)
The Lords Passion	3pm
Saturday Easter Vigil	7pm
Easter Sunday	7.30, 10.30 and 6pm

### **Hillcrest parish:**

Good Friday	3pm
Easter Sunday	8.30am

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS** Get yours NOW before the holidays. Loads of useful vouchers to use including one free admission to Inflatable world, Jump, Waterworld, Megazone, Leap, Hamilton Zoo, Auckland Zoo, Kelly Tarltons just to name a few. Order your book or digital membership online at [www.entbook.co.nz/1540g39](http://www.entbook.co.nz/1540g39) or the books are available to purchase at the office. Still not convinced, have a look at the display model in the office. 20% of the purchase price goes towards PTFA fundraising.

### **SAINT JOHNS COLLEGE INFORMATION**

**EVENING:** An information evening for all 2018 prospective students and their families will be held Tuesday 16 May 6.30pm in the school gymnasium. The evening will provide information on the enrolment process, opportunities to meet with and speak to

teaching staff and a tour of the College grounds. For further information please contact the school office 07 856 7091 or email [principal@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz](mailto:principal@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz)

**ADVANCE NOTICE:** First Communion and Confirmation date this year is Sunday 26 November 10:30am Mass. Enrolments will begin in Term Two.

### **Lost:**

- A school bucket hat named Sophie B – return to Rm14
- A hat named Hayley Farrell – please return to Rm 19.
- A school jersey named Angelica Benham – please return to Rm 21

### **Found:**

- A lady's watch found by the car park – see Marian at the office.
- Swimming gear – there is a lot of gear left at the pools. Please see Mr Jordan

**Celebrating Success:** Congratulations to Brodie Thomas who competed in the Australasian Schools Karate Competition and gained a Gold in the 12-15 year old under 55kg boys, and a Silver in the Australasian Open Boys 12-15yr old boys in the same weight category.

### **Marian School Holiday Programme:**

For safety reasons, there will be **no ASC holiday programme** this holiday due to the demolition of the Boarders Hostel next door.

The programme will continue after the new term.

### **St Mary's Catholic School 75th Jubilee**

St Mary's Catholic School, 11 Thirteenth Avenue, Tauranga. 22 - 23 September 2017. Please register your interest through our school website [www.stmarystga.school.nz](http://www.stmarystga.school.nz).

God Bless You all

Have a Happy Easter and a very safe and relaxing holiday.

Debra A White  
Principal

