

1 November

Focus for the Week: Matthew 22:34-40 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

In Sunday's gospel Jesus combines two commandments as the central meaning of life –love of God and love of one's neighbor. Love is not a feeling but a faithful relationship with God. By spending time in prayer we strengthen our love for God and we come to realise that God loves each one of us and our weaknesses.

Jesus also shows us this love through his words and actions. He is totally open and devoted to his Father and this flows out into the compassion and truth of his relationships with people. Our challenge is to listen with new ears and a receptive heart!

Value Focus: Love of God, Self and Others – Week 3

Looking out for and after ourselves in the context of "Love of self" means not to have a selfish outlook but, an understanding that to best help others, we should have our own lives in balance. If we take the analogy of the flight attendant's pre-flight safety check, whose oxygen mask are we asked to attend to first? Our own. The reason being – if we cannot breathe ourselves – who can we help?

Likewise, we should be prepared to set time aside for our own interests, our own health and leisure, so that when we are called upon to help others, the perspective and assistance we give to others is our very best.

"Take care of your body. It's the only place you have to live." Jim Rohn

"You should take care of yourself, because God helps those who help themselves" James Brown

Maori Language Phrase:

He pene tāhau? Do you have a pen I can borrow?

Āe he pene āku Yes I have a pen

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Reflection:**All Saints Day**

Today is All Saints' Day which is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1. This day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. It should not be confused with All Souls' Day, which is observed on November 2, and is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven. Although millions, or even billions of people may already be saints, All Saints' Day observances tend to focus on known saints --that is those recognized in the canon of the saints by the Catholic Church.

Homily of Pope Francis' Canonization Mass for 35 new saints

On 15th October 2017 over 35,000 pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for the Canonization Mass, Pope Francis said "They did not say a fleeting 'yes' to love, they said 'yes' with their lives and to the very end". Using the Parable of the Wedding Feast, Pope Francis explained how "The wedding inaugurates a lifelong fellowship, the communion God wants to enjoy with all of us. Our relationship with him, then, has to be more than that of devoted subjects with their king, faithful servants with their master, or dedicated students with their teacher. It is above all the relationship of a beloved bride with her bridegroom. In other words, the Lord wants us, he goes out to seek us and he invites us. For him, it is not enough that we should do our duty and obey his laws. He desires a true communion of life with us, a relationship based on dialogue, trust and forgiveness."

As we celebrate All Saints Day this year we can ask ourselves how are we showing our love for God through our

actions? How are we doing more than just obeying the rules?

Resignation

Mrs Becki Botherway has won a new position at St Peter's Private School beginning January 2018. While we feel proud of Mrs Botherway winning this position, we will miss Becki's energy and her commitment to delivering exciting authentic learning for her students. Becki has initiated many team wide activities and developed strong links with our community, enabling our students to benefit from wonderful collaborative learning projects. I am sure you will join me in wishing Becki all the very best for her exciting new position.

New Appointments

We welcome the following new appointments for 2018;
Assistant Principal

Mrs Erin Sawyer has been appointed as Assistant Principal to lead the Year 5-8 area of our school. Erin is an innovative and passionate educator. A mother to two young girls. Erin and her husband have lived in Hamilton for almost 10 years. Erin has been Assistant Principal at a middle school and a senior teacher in both full primary and intermediate. She specializes in future focused education with particular focus on student ownership of learning and how technology can best support children's needs.

We also welcome Miss Anna Gerritsen, Mr Ryan Jordan and Miss Raewyn Casey who will be joining our teaching team.

We were delighted with the outstanding calibre of applicants for these positions. These are all experienced New Zealand

trained teachers, with many key skills to bring to our school. We look forward to working with these teachers next year. Congratulations to Mrs Vania McKeown who was appointed to a permanent position.

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS - PLEASE PAY

Calling for parents to please pay any outstanding payments due to the school. **We currently have \$22,958 owing for the year. Of this \$11,359 is the parent donation.** We have over \$12,000 of outstanding payments owed for various activities children are involved in throughout the year. Invoices have been sent out by email throughout the year. As these may not have been received, Mrs Stephens our Bursar is sending our reminder invoices by mail this week. We rely on parents to pay for these activities in order to balance our books at the end of the year.

New Zealand Catholic Primary Principals Association (NZCPPA) - Executive Meeting

I will be attending the NZCPPA Executive meeting in Wellington on Wednesday to Friday this week. These meetings provide an excellent forum to discuss and share best practice in Catholic schools across the country. I thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to network with other Catholic Principals and be part of the bigger picture of Catholic Education in New Zealand. In my absence from school this week Mrs Kay Petchell will be leading the ship.

All Souls Day Mass: This Mass will be held tomorrow, Thursday at 9:10am in the Cathedral. All welcome.

Bereavements: We offer our deepest sympathy to Isabel Kidman (Rm5) and her family, whose much loved grandfather passed away. May he rest in peace.

Team 4 Camp, 2018: Parents wishing to attend camp as a helper, please collect or request the information pack. Payment of \$160 for student fees can be paid at any time, into the School Account: **ASB 12 3152-0132786-00**. Please include "Camp Team 4" and your child's name in the windows provided. If you wish to discuss payment options, this can be done by contacting the school bursar Jeanette Stephens, JStephens@marian.school.nz

PTFA Calendars: Students have the opportunity to design their own artwork for any calendar orders. Please see flyer.

Out of School Music: Twilight Concert

Date: **TOMORROW** Thursday 2nd November 6.00pm
Venue: Gerry Sullivan Event Centre
We are celebrating your children's success and involvement in the Out of Hours Music programme. Children need to arrive at **5.30pm**. All children need to be dressed in **school uniform**. The evening should be over by 7pm. Please come along and support your children for this wonderful musical occasion. We look forward to seeing you all.



Markets at Marian Bring the whole family to a fun evening! The PTFA will be selling hotdogs and burgers for dinner. Gold coin donation to enter the market. A huge range of market products for sale!

Date: **Wed 8 November**

Time: **6pm – 8pm**

Venue: Gerry Sullivan Centre

Please email morag@placegroup.co.nz if you are interested in being a stallholder. There are limited tables left.

Pedestrian Crossings: Please talk to your children about the importance of using proper pedestrian crossings to cross streets. Unfortunately a child from another school was hit by a car on Beale/Grey Sts.

Lost:

- A school hat and PE shorts named Ollie – please return to Room 1

With Hearts Burning - Module 2 Release A Ministry of Presence Bishop Nicholas Hudson from Westminster, UK will be giving two presentations on Evangelisation.

Bishop Steve Lowe will be in attendance and open the discussion. Sunday November 5, in the Gerry Sullivan Events Centre 2.30pm

Check out the Diocesan website at the following page whb.cdh.nz to find out about the details of this spiritual and pastoral reflection. You can access the modules and some resources (for adults & children) and share your findings and reflections in the SHARING section <https://www.proudtobecatholic.org.nz/with-hearts-burning>.

Sacred Heart & St John's Rowing Joint Event

"Taste of Waikato"

To support 2017/18 Rowing Programme.

@The Grain Exchange

Friday 10th November 7-10pm

(MC: Jordon Vandermade. Band: Sylvia's Toaster Band.

Auctions and Raffles during the evening)

Cost : \$25 per person

Any Queries/Purchases to Elaine Cooper at

ecooper@farmside.co.nz or ph 021944489

Rosa Mystica, the Catholic Shop open 8-4 Thursdays and Fridays and every Sunday in Advent.

New stock arriving weekly for First Holy Communion and for Christmas.

FAIRFIELD SWIM CLUB

Learn to swim and junior squad programme

Qualified Coaches, Heated outdoor pool

We have classes available now for your children

For an assessment and more information

Call **Angela** 0274633776 or 8537400

Email nickoang@hotmail.com

Sausage Sizzle: This Friday - \$2.00 each

God Bless You

Debra A White

Principal