

15 November

Focus for the Week: Be Ready Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time. Matthew 25: 1-13

In Sunday's gospel Matthew writes of the parable of ten bridesmaids waiting for the groom. Some of the bridesmaids are wise and some are foolish. Matthew writes to remind us that the wise have the spiritual wisdom of love, faith and forgiveness. The parable warns us that we cannot rely on changing our lives at some 'future' last minute. We must live each day making it our best. He uses this story to remind us that we must always be ready for Jesus.

This Weeks Value Focus: Love of God, Self and Others – Week 5

As upholders of the Catholic Faith, gathering together to share and celebrate our beliefs empowers us further collectively to do God's will. This is on the strength of the conviction that when two or more gather in God's name, our Lord is present.

The faces which greet us when we attend mass as a school and community bear testimony to this. Central to our attendance is the belief that Jesus is present at the Eucharist and that in receiving communion we strengthen our commitment to spread the teachings Gospel in our words and actions, and to living Christ-like lives.

Every time we gather, Let us celebrate our unity with pride.

"The communion of the saints means, not a series of loosely related cliques, but an all-embracing and self-abnegating fellowship." -

H.M. Carson

Maori Language Phrase:

Āe, taihoa ake nei.

Yes, one moment please.

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Principal's Reflection:

Fire at Sacred Heart Girls College

It was an absolute shock to read that our neighbouring Sacred Heart Girls College had suffered extensive fire damage. All our prayers and thoughts are with Catherine Gunn, the Board of Trustees, the staff and students as they navigate their way through the next stages of recovery and rebuild.

MUFTI DAY - FRIDAY 17th November

To show our support for Sacred Heart community, on **Friday 17th November (this Friday) we will have a Mufti Day** and ask for a gold coin donation. This money will purchase morning tea treats for the Sacred Heart students. Our Young Vinnies will take the treats over to the students. Please Note:

Unfortunately for the Year 8 students who are visiting their High Schools this Friday - Mufti Day does not apply to you. Full school uniform is required.

Markets @ Marian

Congratulations to our wonderful PTFA. Another fantastic community building event was held last Wednesday. We have a great representation of families attend our Markets at Marian. Thank you to the families who ran a stall - we have an impressive range of wares to purchase. Thank you to the PTFA for the food stalls - the burgers were delicious and all sold out within an hour!

New landscape area and playground

You may have noticed our new landscaping and playground is well underway. This project is rejuvenating a previously unattractive and unused area. This will be completed by the end of the year.

Mrs Kerrie Martin and students from our EnviroArts group are working closely with Leon Rutledge a landscaper to develop a child friendly interactive playground. A HUGE thank you to the efforts of the PTFA and the support from our parent community has made this landscaping possible. Thank you to the Hamilton Diocesan office for their financial grant towards the project. A great team effort which will enhance our environment and benefit all our students.

Update on National Standards

Schools have been informed that our new government is going to make changes to the National Standards reporting requirements. However, all schools are required to meet the Education Act guidelines until legislative changes are made. In the meantime our teachers will make an Overall Teacher Judgement (OTJ) against National Standards on each of their students. Parents will receive this information as part of the End of Year reporting.

As you are well aware, National Standards have sat at the centre of many of the policies that have been introduced in the past decade. They have been the lynch pin and central measure of the performance of schools, students and teachers and the measure by which schools have been publicly compared through the construction of league tables. Minister Hipkins has made it clear that his ambition is to see every school a great school and does not subscribe to the global reform movement that has led us to our present place. He wants to see a shift in philosophy where we move from a 'one size fits all' standardised approach to a focus on bringing out the best in every individual student.

As we have developed comprehensive systems of assessment we will continue these best practices. We are just in the process of implementing an online reporting system which will enable us to enhance our reporting to parents using an online system.

Please be assured that high quality reporting to parents on the learning progress of their children is a paramount priority for us.

Congratulations to all the Year 13 students – prizegivings

I would like to pass on our congratulations to all the Year 13 students who have completed their secondary education and are taking their next steps in their future. We have been delighted to hear how well our past students have achieved at their prospective high schools.

Welcome: We warmly welcome into our community, the following students and their families; Avlynn Melvin (Rm5),

Olivia Owen (Rm16), Amber Owen (Rm11), Daniel Owen (Rm4), Darius Van Der Nest (Rm5), Dongxin Ji (Rm13) and Isabel Joseph (Rm5)

Team one nativity play

Mark your calendars now

Date: Friday 1 December

Time: 2:00pm

Venue: Gerry Sullivan Event Centre

All welcome



Remembrance Wall During the month of November, we think especially of those people who have died. In the School Office foyer, a special Remembrance Wall has been created. We welcome anyone from our school and parish community to come into the Office and fill in a heart with the name of a loved family member or friend who has died.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

Parents of Year 8 Students: This Friday we have many of our current Year 8's out at their future Secondary Schools, for orientation days and testing. We ask that you send a note or email into your child's current classroom teacher to inform them they will be away and what time they will be expected back to Marian School that day, if at all. All secondary schools have informed parents directly of the times students are required to attend. If you have any questions please contact the secondary school directly. Please also make your own travel arrangements.

All Year 8s attending their Secondary School this Friday MUST wear full school uniform, so mufti does not apply to them. ie. St Johns, Sacred Heart, Dio and HBHS sports testing (they could wear it as they are asked to attend in sporting attire).

From the PTFA: Thank you to all the stall holders, volunteers and market goers. You helped create a great community event and raise approx. \$2,000.00. Special thanks to Burger Fuel for their support.

Team 1 and 2 Disco Thursday 23rd November, \$2 per child. Permission slips will come home next week. Snacks and glow sticks available on the night all proceeds to team 1 and 2. Great opportunity to meet other parents by volunteering to help out. Get in touch if you can help by contacting

marianptfa@gmail.com

Bakers and Volunteers also needed for the night. Email if you can help. This is a great chance to meet other parent helpers.

New Fieldays Volunteer co-ordinator needed. All interested parties to please email marianptfa@gmail.com

Children's Christmas Choir: It's not too late to join!

Any students interested in singing in the Children's Choir at the Children's Christmas Eve Vigil Mass are invited to practise with Mr Malcolm Barr on Tuesdays at 12:50pm in the School Hall.

The Mass will be at 6pm on Sunday 24th December

Children are to Meet Mr Barr on

Tuesday 14th at 12:50pm (straight after eating their lunch).



Reminders:

- **PTFA Calendar:** Orders close Monday 20 November. Cost is \$12.00 per calendar.
- **Champagne Hams:** Orders of Half Hams for Christmas close 8 Dec. \$50.00 each. Delivery is 12 Dec

Round The Bridges 2017 The event is this Sunday!

Remember to wear your bibs if you have already received yours. If not, you will have missed the early bird sign up and will need to collect on the day from registration, ensure you do this well prior to the event as it can take a while.

As it is a weekend event, it is the caregivers responsibility to organise their own children.

The 2km Challenge starts at 8.30 Sharp- please ensure children are at start line ready to go well before then.

6km starts at 10am - If you would like to run with some of the Team 3 and 4 Teachers- please meet no later than 9.45 outside the Library in Garden Place.

Students to wear Marian PE gear and runners if part of the Schools challenge.

Good luck, have fun and enjoy a Sunday morning of activity.

If you require any information please see the Round the Bridges website or check out Facebook

Website - <http://www.roundthebridges.co.nz/>

Lost: - A pink mouth retainer/plate – please return to Indy Rm14.

Calling all old Mobile Phones to help Sustainable Coastlines look after NZ's coastlines and waterways.



It would be great if you could have one last rummage around in your drawers and toy boxes and bring into School any unwanted mobile phones before the end of term.

Phones collected help our School gain valuable rewards and also the environment benefits by keeping our landfills free of mobile phones and their array of hazardous toxic substances. Please drop any unwanted mobile phones you may have in the collection box in the reception area at School.

This Week's Health Nugget



Sausage Sizzle: This Friday \$2.00 each

May God Bless You
Debra White
Principal