

**Focus for the Week: First Sunday of Advent** *Mark 13:33-37*

Sunday was the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Liturgical Year in the church. We begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.



**Values Focus: Love of God, Self and Others – Week 8**

The guidelines for how we should live our lives are outlined in the Ten Commandments. In understanding the meaning of the Commandments God asks that above all we heed "Love God", followed closely by "Love your neighbour". Indeed all the commandments are underpinned by these understandings.

Jesus Christ died to strengthen our relationship with God and our neighbour.

He offered us a perfect example of how we should live according to God's will. One of the most powerful ways he showed us was to forgive others, even those who put him to death. When we forgive, we are doing as God asks, and as difficult as it may be to forgive those who have done us wrong, it begins a healing process, through which God gives us the power to continue with our lives.

*"Forgiveness is the economy of the heart... forgiveness saves the expense of anger, the cost of hatred, the waste of spirits."*

[Hannah More](#)

*"Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself". [Romans 13:9]*

**Maori Language:** *Miharo!* Wonderful!

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

**Principal's Reflection**

***Congratulations to Team One Nativity Play***



On Friday we were treated to an outstanding Nativity Play performed by Team One. The students were amazing and the teachers are to be congratulated for the preparation and organisation of this event. The students thoroughly enjoyed performing for their families and sung beautifully the special Christmas Message. Thank you to both Mrs Anderson and Mrs Cullingworth for putting the music and lyrics together, thank you to our pianist, Mr Malcolm Barr and thank you to staff of Team One for their invaluable support. It was great seeing the Gerry Sullivan Events Centre full of proud families - thank you for your ongoing support of your children and our school. A very special Merry Christmas to you all.

Over the next three days, Team 3 will be spreading the Christmas message around Hamilton East by offering homemade shortbread and a Christmas message to the local Hamilton East community shoppers.

**Farewells**

It is with sadness I have received a resignation from Mrs Kerrie Martin. Mrs Martin has accepted a position at SchoolKit. Therefore, Kerrie has resigned from the CRT position and leading Arts within the school which she was taking up next year. This will be a huge loss for us at Marian Catholic School. We will miss Kerrie's energy and passion for the Arts. Kerrie will leave with all our very best wishes for her exciting new position.

Mrs Kim MacPherson has also won a position at SchoolKit. Mrs MacPherson has a connection of 13 years with our school teaching in both full time and part time positions during this time.

We thank Kim for her contribution to Team Four and the work she has done with Enviro schools during her time here. Kim will leave with all our very best wishes for her exciting new position.

Mrs Paula MacLeod has won a position at Rototuna School where she will be teaching full-time. Paula has a connection of 5 years with our school where she has held part time and daily release positions. We thank Mrs MacLeod for her contribution to Team Three and the work she has done with Team Three choir this year. Paula will leave with all our very best wishes for her exciting new position.

Mrs Chloe James joined our staff in Term Three working in Room 11. Mrs James has won a position at Whitiara School Hamilton. Thank you Mrs James for the work you have done within Team Two and Room 11 this year. Chloe will leave with all our very best wishes for her exciting new position.

Congratulations to Mrs Anna Cornille who is expecting her second baby due in April. We plan to see Anna around relieving during Term One.

***Congratulations to our past students who gained the following Leadership positions at Sacred Heart Girls College***

Head Girl	Lushomo Thebe
Deputy Head Girl Special Character	Emily Maree
Deputy Head Girl Learning	Nikita Raman
Pasifika Perspective Leader	Frances Turaganivei-
Technology Leader	Teagan King
Publicity/Communications Leader	Sophie Douglas
Arts Leader	Kellie Petrin
Aubert House Leader	Victoria Goodwin
Mackillop House Leader	Jade Staples
Avila house Leader	Anna Biladi

**Stranger Danger:** Please talk to your children about the dangers of strangers. There have been two separate incidences over the last two weeks of men trying to lure young boys into cars or offering them sweets.  
Remind children to talk in a loud voice telling them to go away and carry on home quickly or go into the nearest shop for help.

**ASC:** School finishes at 12:30pm on **Friday 15 December.**  
**There will be no ASC that day**

### **Marian School After School Care Holiday Programme:**

*End of Term Holiday Programme will run as follows:*

Mon 18 Dec to Thurs 21 Dec, 2017

Cost: \$32.00 per day per child.

Bring your own wheels and lunch daily.

*January Holiday Programme*

Mon 15 Jan to Fri 19 Jan

Mon 22 Jan to Fri 26 Jan

Cost: \$32.00 per day per child

Please bring wheels and lunch daily.

*Bookings are essential. Contact Maree Coman*

*[mcoman@marian.school.nz](mailto:mcoman@marian.school.nz), 027 3081 84007 or see Maree at the Hall after school.*

### **Weetbix Triathlon ...EVENT DETAILS:**

**Event:** Hamilton TRYathlon

**Location:** University Fields, Hamilton East

**Date:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

**Earlybird Cut Off Date:** Midnight, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> of January, 2018

**School Group Cut Off Date:** Midnight, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2018

Team has now been created for Marian Catholic School.

Congratulations to our two winners of the free triathlon entries -

Please enter your child online at home, and register with our school. Team entries are eligible for spot prizes!

Entries before Dec 20th will be cheaper.

### **Team 4 Updates-**

- **Leaders-** Please ensure all badges are returned to Mrs Martin ASAP. If lost, please provide \$15 for replacement cost.
- **Camp 2018-** All camp parent helpers have been contacted to confirm that we would appreciate your help next February. When you can please make the required \$120 parent payment to Marian Catholic School. Payments to be made into the School Account: **ASB 12 3152-0132786-00**, include "Camp Team 4" and your name in the windows provided. Student payments of \$160 and the last of the health forms are also due.
- **Carol Service Thursday 14th December**, ALL Team 4 students are expected to attend in full school uniform (no need for jerseys and please leave phones at home or with your parents). Please ensure students are seated in the Team 4 reserved seating at the Cathedral, no later than 5.20pm.

**The Toys Hit Run-** The bus will be visiting Marian catholic School this Friday morning. We encourage all students to bring a wrapped toy to school, and deliver it to their own class before Friday. The gifts will be donated to St Vincent de Paul for distribution to those less fortunate, in our community this Christmas. Please add a label stating the age and gender that the present is intended for. Please support this good cause and celebrate the 'Reason for the Season'.

### **Ham Orders close this Friday** - \$50.00

A reminder that delivery is on Tuesday 12 December

**Celebrating Success:** Congratulations to **Alexandria Endres** who has made the *NZ Junior Pool Team* and will be going to the World Champs next year. Well done Alex!

### **Second hand Uniform Shop:**

The shop will be open the day before school starts, Tuesday 30 January, 2018 from 11am to 1:00pm. All articles are \$2.00 each.

**Jubilee Catholic Early Childhood Centre:** Did you know your child can start their Catholic Education journey at age 3? Look at our new website for information [www.jubileecatholic.co.nz](http://www.jubileecatholic.co.nz). Feel free to pop in anytime to have a look around. There are limited spaces left for the beginning of term one 2018, if you are interested in enrolling your child please contact us before the end of term 4. We look forward to you becoming part of our Jubilee whanau/family.

### **Kia ora, - from Fonterra**

We've got some exciting news to share with you on behalf of our Fonterra Farmers! Across the country, some of our Farmers are opening their gates for you to come and visit a dairy farm.

On **Sunday December 10** Fonterra invites you and your family to come to one of the farms we're opening to see what happens down on the farm.

You can talk to a farmer about what they're doing to help care for New Zealand's waterways, see where milk comes from, and enjoy a fun day out with activities for kids and a free ice cream for everyone!

If you would like to come and visit, book your visit at [www.opengates.co.nz](http://www.opengates.co.nz) or call **0800 OPENGATES**.

**Enrolments open for Jazz** Unlimited Dance Studio – 2018: register by email [jazzunlimited@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jazzunlimited@xtra.co.nz) or [planetdance@xtra.co.nz](mailto:planetdance@xtra.co.nz). Phone 838-0096 for more information of visit the website.

### **Important Dates**

<b>Tonight</b>	<b>Op Shop Ball – Team 4</b>
7 Dec	Gold Card Assembly - 1:30pm Drama Performance – in the hall
8 Dec	Prizegiving -Teams 3 & 4 @ 9:15am in the Cathedral Ham Orders Close - \$50.00 ea
11/12 Dec	Yr 7 and 8 retreat/fun days
12 Dec	Hams delivered
14 Dec	Full School Mass - 9:45am Community Morning Tea - 11am Carol Service – 5.30pm
15 Dec	Last day of term – 12:30pm close <b>No ASC Today</b>

**Sausage Sizzle:** This Friday - \$2.00

God Bless

Mrs Debra A White  
**Principal**

Flyers:

- Sport
- Energise Tip sheet