



St Joseph's School
50 Kelvin Street
Timaru

28 October 2021

TERM 4, 2021

CATHOLIC SPECIAL CHARACTER NEWSLETTER

I dreamed I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there.
The clay they used was a young child's mind
And they fashioned it with care.
One was a teacher,
The tools he used were books, music and art.
One a parent.
With a guiding hand and a gentle, loving heart.
Day after day the teacher toiled
With a touch that was loving and sure;
While the parent laboured at his side
And polished and smothered it o'er.
And when at last their task was done,
They were proud of what they had wrought
For the things they had moulded into the child
Could neither be sold or bought.
And each agreed he would have failed,
Had he worked alone,
For behind the parent stood the school,
And behind the teacher
The home.



CLASS PROGRAMMES

Room	Strand and Title	Liturgical Year	Prayer Module
1	Sacrament Holiness Communion of Saints Mary	All Saints All Souls	Imaginative Prayer
2	Sacrament Holiness Communion of Saints Mary		
3	Sacrament Welcome Communion of Saints Saints and Inspiring People		
4	Church Called to be Like Jesus Communion of Saints Life, Death and Christian Hope		
5	Sacrament Food for Life Communion of Saints Choices		
6	Communion of Saints Saints and Inspiring People		
7	Communion of Saints Mary		
8	Communion of Saints Choices		
9	Communion of Saints Life, Death and Christian Hope		
		Advent and Christmas	

Class Masses

To promote safety and well being, and as a result of the uncertainties and logistics of complying with Covid 19 regulations at Level 2, the class masses in the school hall have been cancelled for Term Four.

HAPPENINGS	
October	Mission Month
October	Recitation of the Rosary
1 November	All Saints Day
6 November	Confirmation
November	Advent Reconciliation
Weeks 8 & 9	Food Drive
9 December	Non Uniform Day
10 December	End of Year School Mass
	Christmas Liturgical Celebrations
	Liturgy of the Word for Children

MISSION SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER IN NEW ZEALAND

Please refer to the school newsletter “Newsletter 21 October 2021” or this [link](#) for further information about Mission Sunday.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY

Throughout October (traditionally the month of the Rosary) students from Rooms 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 are rostered to organise and lead the praying of, and reflection on, a decade of the rosary.

We gather in the library at 8.40am daily to participate in this Gospel prayer.



ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints Day (1 November) falls on a Monday this year. To celebrate this feast day at St Joseph’s School, Room Two’s prayers at assembly on **Thursday** 4 November, will focus on All Saints.

CONFIRMATION

On Saturday 6 November at the 6.00pm mass at St Thomas’ Church the following students are to be confirmed: Hunter Anderson, Harry Boyce, Zara Brunton, Mikayla Grant, Rose Hardy, Millie Humphris, Peter Rooney, Alexander Sugrue, Dylan Stewart, Dalton Todd and Lui Tupuola.

We congratulate these young people as they strengthened, and renew their commitment to follow Jesus.

Lord,

We pray that you guide our Confirmation candidates on the path of faith, that they might daily turn to you, and know and follow your son, Jesus, throughout their lives. Amen.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

As part of our Advent preparation, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at school, to all students who have made their First Holy Communion. Students will prepare for this sacrament at a liturgy on Monday 8 November, and receive the Sacrament on Wednesday 10 November.

FOOD DRIVE

The annual ADVENT FOOD DRIVE will run from **Monday 29 November to Friday 10 December**. During this time, students are invited to bring non-perishable food items to donate to the St Vincent de Paul food bank. Usually, the food donated is taken to the altar as part of the Offertory Procession at the End of Year Mass.

Traditionally, the Food Drive generates an impressive quantity and array of food which enables the St Vincent de Paul Society to make a difference for many members of the community who might otherwise have a cheerless Christmas. Festive food items are particularly appreciated.



This is also an opportunity to involve your children in the true spirit of Christmas giving.

NON UNIFORM DAY

On Thursday 9 December, students will donate a gold coin for the opportunity to wear non uniform clothing to school.

The money raised will be donated to [MissioNZ](#).

The website linked provides an outline of the expressions and work of MissioNZ.



SCHOOL MASS Friday 10 December

We are planning two possibilities for the setting and congregation for the End of Year Mass in 2021.

Option One:

A Mass at St Joseph's School with Year Eight students, and a limit on staff and parent numbers. (Time to be confirmed).

Option Two

The traditional whole school celebration at **1.30pm** on Friday 10 December, at St Thomas' Church.

The Covid Alert levels will determine which option is taken.

You will be informed closer to the date.

CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Traditionally there are two opportunities for children to participate in liturgical presentations of the Christmas event at St Thomas' Church -

The Vigil Pageant at 7.00 pm on Christmas Eve;

The Christmas Play at 10.30 am on Christmas Day.

Covid conditions will dictate if these events can take place.

Details of practice times will be published in the parish bulletin.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN - ST THOMAS' CHURCH

(Covid 19 regulations permitting)

At the 10.30 am Mass at St Thomas', children are invited to go to 'Children's Liturgy'. The children are guided through the Liturgy of the Word at their own level. The Gospel story is read, the children discuss the message, and then complete a short activity. Children rejoin the congregation to celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The programme is suitable for children between the ages of three and nine. It is wonderful to see the children at Mass.

If any parents or older high school students would like to help teach Children's Liturgy, Sarah Stuart would love to hear from you.

The programme is set out clearly and is very easy to teach. New helpers will be rostered in pairs and teach once a term. Any students considering a career in teaching are encouraged to volunteer.

If you have any questions regarding either the programme or helping, please contact Sarah Stuart, either at school or via email at sarah.stuart@stjosephstimaru.school.nz

Please find attached for your information and reflection -

- ❖ [Communion of Saints Summary of Theological Focus](#)
- ❖ [Some Concepts in the Communion of Saints Strand](#)
- ❖ [Liturgical Year - Year Level Summaries for Advent, Christmas, All Saints and All Souls](#)

PRAYER

Advent Blessing

Amidst the sounds of Christmas - the ringing of the bells and the singing of carols - we recall that Christ was born at a moment when all things were in stillness. While our hearts are full of the sound and excitement of Christmas, help us to create in them small silent places for Christ to be born again in us.

May we learn the secret of Bethlehem - that God chooses the small and simple,

The quiet and hidden places for divine visitations.

May we create a Bethlehem of stillness in our hurried lives, lest there be no room in us for God to come this Christmas - and stay.

O Little Town of Bethlehem, remind us to be like you if we desire to make the miracle of Christmas appear in our busy and noisy world.

God Bless,

Trish McCambridge
Director of Religious Studies

PARISH CONTACTS

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