NEWSLETTER

Volume 18 – Issue 7

Monday 18th May, 2015

Principal: Gerard Lewis
Parish Priest: Fr Barry Moran

Education Support: Erica Nastopoulos
Office Assistance: Robbie Bartlett & Janelle Adams

Teachers:
- Year FF: Jacquie Fleming
- Year 1J: Therese John/Daniela Borgese
- Year 2B: Gabrielle Berends/Jane Davy
- Year 3F: Ben Fahey/Eleanor Colaneri
- Year 4M: Maureen McDonald/Catherine Le Hunt
- Year 5B: Claire Butson
- Year 6: Paula Incretolli/Daniela Borgese
- Library: Anna Borella
- Phys Ed (Junior): Chris Kidman
- Number Intervention: Anna Side
- Library Tech: Janelle Adams
- Teaching Assistance: Judith Dellar

Reading Recovery: Clare Sabatino
Italian: Carmela Vozzo
Phys Ed (Senior): Matt Ottobre
Artist in Residence: Robbie Bartlett
Teaching Assistant: Shiny Pereira (Year FT)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>22nd May</td>
<td>Cross Country for Year 3 – 6</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>22nd May</td>
<td>Walk to School Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>23rd May</td>
<td>Parish Hall Working Bee 10am to 2pm</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>24th May</td>
<td>Parish Hall Working Bee 10am to 2pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>26th May</td>
<td>Book Fair</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>27th May</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28th May</td>
<td>Book Fair</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28th May</td>
<td>Excursion Year 4 to CERES</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>29th May</td>
<td>Biggest Morning Tea – School Event (Cancer Council Fundraiser)</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>29th May</td>
<td>Years 5 &amp; 6 Interschool Sports (St Mary’s vs Holy Eucharist)</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>5th June</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends Committee Meeting 9:10am</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>5th June</td>
<td>Years 5 &amp; 6 Interschool Sports (St Mary’s vs Our Lady of Lourdes)</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>8th June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday - Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10th June</td>
<td>Excursion Foundation &amp; Year 1 to CERES</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>11th June</td>
<td>Year 6 Confirmation Information Night</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>11th June</td>
<td>Parent Meeting on Restorative Practice at 2:30pm</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th June</td>
<td>Excursion Year 3 to CERES</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th June</td>
<td>Years 5 &amp; 6 Interschool Sports (St Mary’s vs St Anthony’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th June</td>
<td>Cake Stall hosting Year 6</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>14th June</td>
<td>Year 5 &amp; 6 Commitment Mass 10:30am</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>18th June</td>
<td>Year 5 &amp; 6 Netball Lightning Premiership</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th June</td>
<td>Year 5 &amp; 6 Football Lightning Premiership</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th June</td>
<td>&quot;Junofest&quot; Fundraising Trivia Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>22nd June</td>
<td>Student Reports sent home</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>25th June</td>
<td>Parent &amp; Teacher Interviews from 1:30pm</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>26th June</td>
<td>End of Term – Student’s breakup at 1pm</td>
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Term 2
- Monday 13th July: Term 3 Begins 8:55am

After Care is available until 6pm, booking is essential.
From the Principal’s Desk:

Congratulations
Congratulations to Shiny Pereira our teaching Assistant who graduated with a Masters of Teaching from Australian Catholic University last Wednesday.

Nepal Earth Quake
We are called this week to bring light to the people of Nepal who are struggling with the aftermath of two devastating earthquakes. Archbishop Hart has written to ask the assistance of Melbourne’s Catholic community. I encourage you to pray for the people of Nepal, for those who have died or are injured, for their families and loved ones and for the survivors struggling with continuing aftershocks, and lack of shelter, food, clean water and other items and to donate generously. Caritas is supporting local relief efforts. Several thousand households are expected to be in need of temporary shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene. You can donate generously.

Mother’s Day
Thank you to the parents/guardians who assisted with the Mother’s Day Stall. The children were certainly excited buying their presents. Whilst we celebrated Mother’s Day recently, spare a thought for mothers in Australian-funded Immigration Detention Centres and mothers in remote Indigenous communities in Australia. These women and their children live a very different life to what we do and some of them are suffering real hardship.

Faith Based Inquiry Learning
As part of our Faith Based Inquiry units, we will be using the principles of Catholic Social Teaching to help deepen our focus on the Catholic Faith. The second principle that I wish to share with you is Common Good. This principle is very important for us at St Mary’s as it allows us to focus on relationships with others. “We can only live life in all its fullness when we are in relationship with others through community”. In the next few weeks I will be talking about this principle at assembly.

National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
Last week our Years 3 and 5 students participated in the NAPLAN tests. The students seem to have coped well whilst participating in the four tests. We will receive the results later in the year.

Our New School Vision
Last Friday 15th May we commenced work on the new School Vision. We still have a lot of work to do in its development. However we had a very good start and we look forward to developing it further.

The Parish Hall
We will be having two Working Bees this Saturday 23rd May and Sunday 24th May. At these working bees we are hoping to clean and tidy the hall so that the children can start using the hall as soon as possible. After the working bees we will then look at resurfacing the floor. So far we have had a good response from families who are able to help with some of the cleaning. If you can help for an hour or two on Saturday or Sunday, please complete the form below and send it back to the office ASAP.

Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI) Survey
Two weeks ago every family received an invitation to participate in the Enhancing Catholic School Identity Survey. An essential element of this survey is for participants to communicate their Catholic Identity. These surveys will assist us in better understanding how our Catholic Identity at St Mary’s is expressed. The results will be used to inform our School Improvement Plan for the next four years. The surveys are detailed and take some time to answer, but the information that we will receive from them will be crucial for us to be able to provide a quality Catholic education for your children. The school computer laboratory will be open from 8:15 each morning if you wish to use these facilities to complete the survey.

I hope you have an enjoyable week.

Gerard Lewis
Principal
ENROLMENTS FOR 2016
We are currently taking enrolments for next year. If you have a family member who is scheduled to start next year please come to the office and obtain an Enrolment Form or download it from our website, as places are filling up quickly and numbers are limited.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS ENROLMENT FOR 2016
Families of Year 6 students, who haven’t returned their “Application Enrolment Form” for Secondary School, please do as soon as possible they must be in by this Friday 22nd May. If you have any questions please see Erica at the office.

RE NEWS
Gospel Reading
John 17:11b-19
Jesus prays for his disciples

Family Connection
One of the greatest gifts that we are given in our family life is protection from harm. Families work together to keep one another safe from physical harm. Think of the effort a family makes to childproof its home for infants and toddlers. Families also work together to protect each other from emotional harm. For example, we attend to the ways in which family members talk to one another so that we do not hurt one another’s feelings by our words. Most importantly, families work together to protect each other from those things that might harm them spiritually. We shield our children from those things in our culture that might tempt them. When families work together to strengthen their sense of God and community, they build the spiritual strength to turn from those things that would lead them away from God and the Church. Jesus’ prayer for his disciples can also be a prayer for family life.

Gather as a family and talk about the things that you want most for each other. Talk about the fact that as we work toward these things, we also work to protect one another from harmful things. Observe that in Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus shows these same two tendencies as he prays for something he wants for his disciples and prays for their protection as well. Read together Sunday’s Gospel, John 17:11b-19. Consider what Jesus wants for his disciples and what Jesus wants to protect his disciples from. We know that when Jesus prayed for his disciples, he was praying for us as well. Conclude by praying together the Lord’s Prayer.

Maureen McDonald – Education In Faith Leader

ST MARY’S PARISH NEWS
Dear Parishioners of St. Mary’s Parish
Sisterhood of St Elisabeth are delighted to invite you to see and purchase handmade religious articles by the sisters on Friday 22nd May after 9:15am Mass.

Sisterhood of St. Elisabeth was founded in 1996. Our missionary began in National mental hospital located not far from the Convent. Sisters take care of mentally challenged children and adults. Life of the child with diagnoses such as Down syndrome, birth traumas or congenital physical defects may be quite short and it is painful to see them suffering. Also the adult patients need constant support owing to the fact that their illnesses make it impossible for them to adapt socially.

In the recent years a shelter and house of Labor for former drug and alcohol addicted people was organized 20 miles away from the Convent. A lot of homeless, struggling and lost people get a chance for new start in life to find the God.

In order to help these people some workshops were organized on the premises of the Convent where vulnerable people have a possibility to express themselves in art for God working together with nuns and sisters and making

We are happy and thanking God for the opportunity to introduce and offer them to you.

With Love in Christ, Sisters of St. Elisabeth Convent

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

WALK TO SCHOOL
FRIDAY MAY 22ND
WALK, SCOOT, RIDE OR CATCH PUBLIC TRANSPORT
LEAVE THE CAR AT HOME
LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING WHICH GRADE MAKES THE BIGGEST EFFORT AND RECEIVES THE TROPHY IN THEIR ROOM FOR A MONTH
GOOD LUCK EVERYONE

Port Philip City Council will fund $1 for every child who makes an effort to walk, scooter, skate etc to school.
STUDENT VOICE
It is important at a school that the children have a voice within it to be a part of some of the decisions made. Recently we asked the children what they thought of early recess. The children were explained why there was a need and then asked how they felt about it. The reason for early recess is the growing number of children within our school and the need to have less on the playground at any one time. The classes get early recess once a week. The majority of children supported early recess.

Majority of responses said things like:

For
- Eating play lunch early is great.
- It’s nice to have the playground to ourselves.
- Access to the adventure playground and sandpit is a benefit to the older classes.

Against
- Disturbances for the Year 4’s
- Not all the playground is available when sport is being played.
- The Foundation children not seeing their buddies.

I have taken these responses to leadership and staff and tried to address the children’s concerns. The Year 4 classrooms now have blinds to cut out the distractions and teachers have been made aware that they need to keep the children away from their room. The Foundation children see their buddies on the yard three other days and it is good for their socialization that they become more independent and play with each other. The senior children have been very understanding and conscious of the sports lessons and have the sandpit, adventure playground and the outer areas to play and have been given soft balls to play with. Overall the new arrangement is working and we will continue to operate like this for the safety of the children.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICE

Come and hear about our the new approach to discipline at St. Mary’s
THURSDAY 11TH JUNE
2.30PM
IN THE LIBRARY
Please keep it free

I’ve attached an interesting article by Michael Grose “Don’t Yell Move Closer. Some ideas worth trying.

Therese John – Student Wellbeing Leader

LIBRARY NEWS

Premier’s Reading Challenge
If you have lost your password or are having problems loading on the books please email me at annab@smstkildaeast.catholic.edu.au

Book Fair
Our May Book Fair commences on the Tuesday 26th May to Thursday 28th May. A note will be sent out next week for volunteers to run the Fair. I know we always have a great turn up so I am sure it will be the same this time. Our money this year will be going towards some much needed extra shelving in the Library.
Happy Reading! Anna Borella – Librarian

Extend OSHC at St Mary’s - Primary School

HOLIDAY PROGRAM BOOKINGS ARE OPEN AT A SCHOOL NEAR YOU!
Book by Friday 12 June to avoid a late fee

Our holiday program bookings are open and there’s a local one near you – all Extend's holiday programs are open to primary school aged boys and girls. And the great news is, if you’re already enrolled with us for After School Care you won't need to enrol again to access our Holiday Programs.
We have heaps of fun activities planned these school holidays and we can’t wait for you to attend! To check out what’s on and where your local program is, visit our website at extend.com.au and book via the Parent Portal.

Our Recap
A distinctly construction-themed week this week, with kids being encouraged to explore the physics behind building structures. We built different kinds of bridges to span a gap and competed to see which bridges could hold the heaviest load, prizes were also awarded for the best looking bridge.
On another afternoon we competed to build towers as big as we could with a limited stock of wooden bricks, the kids enjoyed experimenting with different ways to create a stable structure as tall as they possibly could. Of course the real fun came when the towers fell down.
With Mother’s Day celebrations dawning on us students were keen to make presents for their mothers, finding a stash of beads, we decided to make pretty necklaces and bracelets, while we hid from the rain outside.

Next week I have put a healthy eating and exercise themed week together, with healthy eating cooking activities, plenty of outdoor games (weather permitting) and the creation of a big healthy eating food collage to be created for our wall.

Josef, Team Leader

A Message from Extend
We would like to wish Mary Brown (Assistant) good bye and good luck as she moves on to a teaching position. Thank you.

Our Extend Superstar is..... Elisa Leyva-McEnroe for being mature, responsible and a good example. We’ll miss her while she is on holiday and Charlotte Richards for being always willing to help the Extend Team.

Activities for this week:
Monday 18 May: Food Triangle Collage
Wednesday 20 May: Healthy Wrap cooking activity
Friday 22 May: Mini Olympics
Tuesday 19 May: Food Triangle Collage continued
Thursday 21 May: Coloured Milk science

Watch this space throughout the term for regular updates from our Extend team!

PARENT PORTAL: extend.com.au

ST MARY’S PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARISH HALL WORKING BEE
Saturday 23rd May & Sunday 24th May 2015
10am to 2pm

Working Bee Coordinators on the day:
Saturday 23rd of May (10am – 2pm) - Pat O’Mahony
Sunday 24th of May (10am – 2pm) - Pam Newton-Brown

A sausage sizzle will be provided to all the hard working volunteers on both days of the Working Bee. Cleaning solution will be supplied and some equipment, so if you happen to have bucket(s), cleaning rags, rubber gloves or a step ladder then bring them along as this will help with the clean-up.

If you have any further questions please contact Ben Fahey (Community Leader).

Please return the completed slip to the office.

ST MARY’S PRIMARY SCHOOL - PARISH HALL WORKING BEE
Saturday 23rd May & Sunday 24th May 2015
10am to 2pm

Yes, I am able to help at the Parish Hall Working Bee. (Please tick the day)

☐ Saturday 23rd of May
☐ Sunday 24th of May

Parent Name: _____________________________________ Contact Number:____________________

Eldest Child’s Name:________________________________ Year Level:__________
**Parent & Friends Committee Update**

**Parents & Friends Mission Statement**
Encouraging and strengthening the school community and coordinating social and fundraising events for additional educational resources for our children.

**Foundation Cake Stall Update**
Just to clarify that the final count on takings for the Foundation Year Cake Stall was $1490.80. Well done to all the Foundation parents again on setting the bar so high!

Thank You to the Year 3 Class Reps Dani Angel and Donna Martin for co-ordinating and organising this year’s Mother’s Day Stall. There was great excitement around the school prior to the stall with each student decorating their shopping bags for their Mum/guardian. The Year 3 parent helpers ensured that no one went home empty handed by running another stall on the Friday for those that may have been absent on the Tuesday. Well done to everyone who was involved in organising this event with a special mention to Narelle Ryan for her efforts with assisting the Year 3 Class Reps with the sourcing of gifts.

The Year 3 Mother’s Day Stall raised $1633.57

*We hope you all had a Happy Mother’s Day*

**Seeking Working Bee Volunteers**
Thank you to all parents whom have already returned their forms signing up to volunteer at the Parish Hall Working Bees. For those whom may need a reminder Working Bees are on this **Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 of May from 10am-2pm.**

All hands will be on deck so if you can spare even an hour on these days we’d love to have you on board to prepare for the inaugural Parish Hall event – Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea!! To register your interest for the working bees, please email Ben Fahey bfahey@smstkildaeast.catholic.edu.au.

**Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea**
St Mary’s is hosting a Biggest Morning Tea to help raise vital funds for cancer research and support services.

*When:* Friday 29 May 2015  
*Time:* 10am – 11am  
*Where:* St Mary’s Parish Hall, Dandenong Road  
*Invites:* All children, staff, families and carers of St Mary’s Primary School (St Kilda East) children  
*Entry:* to the morning tea is by gold coin (or more!) donation. Further donations can also be made by our own St Mary’s fundraising website, or if you are unable to attend on the day:  


You can help, and get involved, by attending or making a donation! Let's come together as a school community and support this valuable cause. Also if you are able to volunteer on the day or prepare some baked goodies then please return the volunteer form confirming your job on the day.

**The St Mary’s P&F main social and fundraising event of the year is coming!**
Mark your diaries, organise baby sisters and get ready for "Junofest" Fundraising Trivia Night” to be held again at the German Club (the Tivoli) on **Friday 19th June** at 7pm til 11pm. Tickets are $26.00 per person which includes finger food. You can purchase your tickets online using the trybooking ticketing system. Please use this link to secure your tickets today.

Seats are limited so please book now to avoid disappointment.  
[http://www.trybooking.com/HDNA](http://www.trybooking.com/HDNA)

To purchase single tickets please suggest the year you would prefer to be seated with e.g. Foundation, Year 1, Year 2 and so on. For group tickets you may purchase multiples of single tickets if you have a group you wish to sit with. To indicate your group booking please select the number of people that will make your group and put in each person’s name and details. (Tables are a maximum of 10)

As this is a social event we will try our very best to honour your seating preferences, however as this may not always be possible, please consider this a chance to get to meet new families and other parents/guardians of the school.

**Contact Details:** Jane Leroi (if you have any questions) marcel_leroi@hotmail.com; 0412 632 527 on behalf of St Mary's School Wide Event Group (SWEG)
P & F Calendar of Events for Term 2 May/June 2015

**Working Bee:** Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th of May from 10am-2pm

**Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea:** Friday 29th of May 2015 from 10am – 11am

**P&F Committee Meeting:** Mark your diaries for the third P & F Committee meeting for 2015. It will be a morning meeting to be held on Friday 5th **June at 9.10am (just after drop off)** in the Parish lounge (the room on the Senior Campus where they run the yoga lessons and we held the Mother’s Day stall). A kindly reminder that all parents and friends are welcome to attend these meetings so we look forward to seeing you there!

**The Year 6 Cake Stall is organised for Friday 12th June at 3.00pm.** Enjoy the yummy cakes, savouries and treats prepared by the Year 6 parents/guardians that will be available to purchase on the day. All funds raised will go directly towards the Year 6 Graduation fund.

**Junofest Fundraising Trivia Night:** Friday 19th June at 7pm til 11pm

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2015 FUND RAISING GOAL $15,000

We are over the half way mark!

$8,933.42

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**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS STUDENT?**

Experience another culture, make new friends and improve your language studies at home

Hosting – An Experience for Life

Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home

[www.studentexchange.org.au](http://www.studentexchange.org.au)

1300 135 331 (cost of local call)
St Mary's Primary School (St. Kilda East) is hosting a BIGGEST MORNING TEA to help raise vital funds for cancer research and support services.

When: Friday 29 May 2015  
Time: 10 to 11 am  
Where: St Mary's Parish Hall, Dandenong Road  
Invitees: All children, staff, families and carers of St Mary’s Primary School (St Kilda East) children  
Entry: to the morning tea is by gold coin (or more!) donation. Further donations can also be made by our own St Mary’s fundraising website, or if you are unable to attend on the day: http://vic.cancercouncilfundraising.org.au/stmarysbiggestmorningtea

You can help, and get involved, by attending or making a donation! Let’s come together as a school community and support this valuable cause.

To make this event a success, parent support is also requested in the form of morning tea food donations, and parent volunteers to assist with set-up, serving and cleaning up the hall after the event. To promote positive lifestyle options, it would be wonderful if food donations along a ‘healthier’ theme could be offered. For example fruit pieces, crackers, sandwiches, vegetable slice (more ideas are attached). Please be mindful of the school ‘no nuts’ policy in all food donations.

To assist with planning for this fundraising event, can you please indicate your family’s attendance, and the support you may be able to offer, on the form below and RETURN it to your child’s teacher by Wednesday 13 May. If you have any specific queries, feel free to contact event sponsor Lis Lette at edlette@iinet.net.au.

‘Healthy Lifestyle Options’ Ideas for Food Donations:

- Fruit platters  
- Crackers and cheese  
- Fruit/vegetable muffins  
- Homemade meatballs  
- Banana bread  
- Vegetable Sticks  
- Plain popcorn  
- Zucchini Slice  
- Pumpkin/fruit scones  
- Fruit loaf  
- Dips  
- Sandwiches  
- Sushi  
- Homemade muesli bars

Check out some of the great recipe ideas on the Cancer Council website: http://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/recipes/guidelines-for-healthy-eating

PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE SCHOOL ‘NO NUTS’ POLICY IN ALL FOOD DONATIONS – THANK YOU

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>St Mary’s Biggest Morning Tea</th>
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<tr>
<td>Parent/Guardian Name:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of family members/carers (excluding St Mary’s children) attending:</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am able to provide a food donation for the morning tea (healthy options welcome!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am able to assist in event set up on the day (From 9 am to 10 am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am able to assist during the event (From 10 am to 11 am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am able to assist in clean up after the event (From 11am to finish)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent/Guardian contact: email:</td>
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Don’t yell, move closer

As a busy parent it’s easy to give your voice a work out when you don’t get the cooperation you want from your children.

You know how it goes.

You want your son or daughter to give you some help and they don’t respond.

Perhaps, you want a child to stop annoying his or her sibling.

Or you simply want your kids to QUIETEN DOWN inside.

When your request for cooperation is ignored.

So you do what over 90% of parents do. That is, you repeat yourself. Then if that’s still ignored you RAISE the volume.

‘I’ll yell at them. That should work!’

Hmm, I’m not so sure. Usually yelling only succeeds in producing parent-deaf kids.

If yelling, shouting or raising your voice is a habit you’ve developed to get cooperation then here’s a great strategy to use instead.

Next time your kids ignore a reasonable request move close to them and quietly repeat your request once.

No aggression, just expectation.

It means you may need to stop what you are doing. So be it.

Proximity is a powerful influencer. Great teachers know this. That’s why they move around in class so much: to teach and also to manage.

So save your voice for conversation, encouragement and affection.

Use your body effectively to manage kids.

The key, of course, is to do it.

My challenge for you is to bite your tongue when you want to yell. Take a deep breath (as the Mood Meter teaches you) and move into your child’s proximity. Don’t stare him down. Just be close to him or her.

Keep doing it and the cooperation levels you get from your kids will increase astronomically over time.

But you’ve got to do it.

In future don’t yell, move closer.

Michael Grose


parentingideas.com.au

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Readings Next Sunday

Hymns
Entrance: GA 362
Gloria 422
Gospel Acclamation: 141
Presentation of the Gifts 193
Eucharistic Acclamation - Christ has died 98
Amen 99
Lamb of God 102
Communion 365
Recessional: 390

Diary
Sunday Cuppa in the Pottery Room after 9.00 am Mass each Sunday – All welcome
Evening Prayers with Brother Daniel – 2nd Tuesday each month (9 Jun) commencing at 6.00 pm in the Sacred Heart Chapel – All welcome!
St Vincent de Paul - 2nd Tuesday of the Month - 7.30 p.m. – Lounge
St Vincent de Paul Society - there is a collection box for monetary donations at rear of Church inside main entrance.

Thanksgiving $1443 Many thanks

We pray for Father Geoff King who died recently and for Greg Tomic and Teresa Sexton whose anniversaries are at this time

Sisterhood of St Elisabeth advise “We are delighted to invite you to see and purchase handmade religious articles made by the Sisters of St. Elisabeth Convent (Belarus). The exposition will take place on the Friday (22nd of May) after morning Mass - icons (including hand painted), crosses, crucifixes, wood carvings, embroidered and ceramic gifts, rosaries and vestments.” Goods often resulting from therapeutic sessions while being assisted to happier circumstances by the sisters bring blessings to their makers and purchasers.

\['Vinnies report’\]
In April sixty-eight persons were assisted and $3950 distributed in food vouchers. New members welcome contact Nancy 9527 1028

Chaplaincy Sunday Appeal 2015 ‘Chaplains, Companions of Hope’ see envelopes today. If you need time return next Sunday, or mail direct.

Annual Mass Count - Today and each Sunday during May

Truth Justice and Healing Council Newsletter http://truthjusticeandhealingcouncil.cmail1.com/t/ViewEmail/r/5149847C41896A6425 issued weekly

St Mary’s will host St James Anglican Parish to pray for Christian Unity – Sunday 24th May at 12 noon, followed by refreshments in the presbytery. All welcome, please bring a plate.

‘...he was taken up to heaven and a cloud hid him from their sight’.
ASCENSION OF THE LORD

First Reading  Acts 1:1-11
In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations; for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm  Ps 46:2-3, 6-9

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy;
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands;
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth.

2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise

3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.

God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne.

Second Reading  Ephesians 1:17-23
May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation  Mt 28:19, 20
Alleluia, alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.
Alleluia!

Gospel  Mark 16:15-20
Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.' And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

The Gospel of the Lord.