



In Faith, Hope and Love
Together

Religious Education Newsletter

Term 1 - 2020

Virtue for Term 1: Forgiveness



"I show forgiveness when I give someone another chance after they have done something wrong, knowing that everyone makes mistakes. I own up when I am at fault and make amends."

How do you practise it?

Remember that everyone makes mistakes.
Take responsibility for your own mistakes.
Make amends if you have hurt someone.

Forgiveness is the best way:
to encourage ourselves and others,
to take responsibility for our actions,
to try harder and
to change for the better.

It is by forgiving that one is forgiven.
(St Teresa of Calcutta)

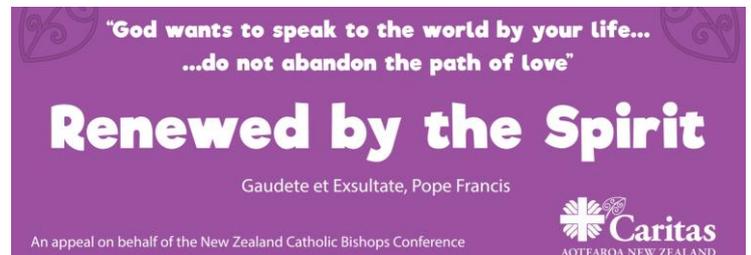
Dear Parents/Caregivers

The main strand to be taught is "Jesus ~ Hehu Karaiti" (outlined on the next page). Lessons on the Liturgical seasons of Lent, Holy Week and Easter will also be covered.

Ash Wednesday: Our first school Mass is at 9am on 26 February ~ Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of LENT. On this day people who follow Jesus are signed with the cross on their foreheads, and reminded that they should try to follow Jesus more closely. Every time people make the sign of the Cross they are reminded of how much Jesus loves them and how they need to try and live as he lived. The season of Lent is a special time which lasts for 40 days.

Caritas ~ Lent in Schools

The theme for Lent 2020 is *Renewed by the Spirit*. Pope Francis challenges us all to be transformed and renewed by the Spirit so that we can follow the path of love. When we do this we become God's ambassadors on Earth.



10 Cent Tuesdays ~ On Tuesdays, the children are encouraged to bringing 10 cent coins donate to the Caritas Lenten appeal. Ideally, they will be generous with their own money or undertake extra chores at home to earn money to share.

Caritas Aotearoa NZ is the New Zealand Catholic Bishops' agency for justice, peace and development.



School Sunday Mass: This Term we are celebrating Mass with our Parish on Sunday 8 March at 9:30am.

God bless,
Catherine Quinn, DRS

The key concepts of the Jesus ~ Hehu Karaiti Strand to be covered by each class:

Room	Theme	Jesus Strand Summary
1	Jesus My Friend	Catholics believe that Jesus is both human and divine. As a human, Jesus was born into a particular culture, lived in a certain location in a precise time in history. To appreciate Jesus' messages we need to know the realities of his life. In learning about his friendship with his disciples, we can become friends with him today. Family/Whanau Book Pg.17
2	Jesus Showed His Love in Different Ways	Jesus showed his respect and love for people in many ways - talking, listening, sharing, touching, healing and dying, for them. We are called to follow Jesus' example. We can learn about how Jesus lived by reading stories in the Bible. Family/Whanau Book Pg.20
3	Jesus Gives Himself in the Eucharist	We can give thanks to God for Jesus by joining in the Eucharist. Eucharist helps us to grow in grace and recognise Jesus' presence in the gathering of his people, ministers and Word. Above all, people recognise him in the transformed bread and wine. Family/Whanau Book Pg. 23
4	Jesus came to show people how to live and lead them to God	Jesus invites people to grow closer to God by sharing in his life through the gift of God's grace. By accepting this invitation people share in Jesus' mission of worshipping God and bringing about the Kingdom or Reign of God on earth as it is in heaven. Family/Whanau Book Pg.20
5	The Life of Jesus	Catholic belief is that Jesus called Christ is both human and divine. We need to understand Jesus' reality. To appreciate his message we can study and reflect on the Scriptures. Family/Whanau Book Pg.29

School Masses and Liturgical Celebrations

26 February (Wednesday) 9am Ash Wednesday School Mass

8 March (Sunday) 9:30am School Parish Sunday Mass

Year 5 and 6 students will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent.

Classes will be attending 9am Mass on Fridays:

Week 4: Rm 3

Week 5 - Rm 1 & 2

Week 6 - Rm 5

Week 7 - Rm 4

Week 8 - Rm 3

Week 9 - Rm 1 & 2

Week 10 - Rm 5

(These may change - check your child's homework sheet etc.)



The Family/Whanau Book can be viewed or downloaded as a PDF on **Faith Alive** website (<http://www.faithalive.org.nz/>) under the **Families** tab.

Lent

Lent is a season of the Church's year that helps us to pray, reflect and do good things like fasting and making sacrifices so that we can come closer to Jesus.

During this time of Lent we are called to **prayer, fasting and almsgiving**.

- We pray to God.
- We fast, eating less food or giving up other things we like for God (self-denial).
- We can practise "almsgiving". This means giving money, food, clothing etc. to the poor, or helping others.
- We try to model our lives on Jesus.

Ash Wednesday Fasting

On Ash Wednesday we are asked to "fast".

This means giving up foods we do not need or going without things we like but do not need.

On Ash Wednesday we encourage the children to fast at morning tea time (only have a drink of water) or to give up treats in their lunch boxes and just have a plain or simple lunch.



Pope Francis  @Pontifex · Feb 13

The Lord, who is the first to care for us, teaches us to care for our brothers and sisters and the environment which he daily gives us. This is the first ecology that that we need. [#QueridaAmazonia w2.vatican.va/content/france](https://www.vatican.va/content/france)

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