



In Faith, Hope and Love  
Together

# Religious Education Newsletter

Term 2 - 2019



*Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.*

*Colossians 3:12*



This Term's virtue is *Compassion*. ~ *Manaakitanga*

**I am compassionate when I have kind feelings towards someone who is hurt or troubled.**

**I care deeply and want to help even if I don't know them.**

### *What is Compassion?*

Compassion is having kind feelings toward someone who is hurt or troubled. It is caring deeply and wanting to help, even if you don't know them. It is being kind and forgiving to someone who has hurt you.

### *Why Practise it?*

When people feel hurt or troubled, they often feel alone. Feeling alone can make things even worse. Being compassionate helps us to feel less alone. Compassion helps us to be understanding of others and ourselves.

### *How do you practise it?*

Compassion begins by noticing when someone seems sad or troubled.

- ❖ Put yourself in their place and ask how you would feel if it was happening to you.
- ❖ Think about how you can help.
- ❖ Take time to listen and say kind things like "What are you sad about?" and "How can I help?"
- ❖ Be forgiving when others make mistakes.
- ❖ Be a friend when someone needs a friend.

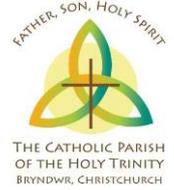


Dear Parents/Caregivers

The main strands to be taught in Religious Education this term are the Holy Spirit - Te Wairua Tapu Strand and later in the term the God - Te Atua Strand (outlined on the next page). Lessons on the Ascension and Pentecost will also be covered.

**Sunday Mass:** This term we are celebrating Mass with Holy Trinity Parish at **9:30am, Sunday 26 May.**

As a school of Special Catholic Character, it is expected that all families attend the Sunday school Mass. We have approximately three Sunday masses a year, and we would like to have 100 percent attendance. Students are expected to wear full school uniform and we sit together as a school.



**School Mass:** Our school Mass this Term is at 9am Friday 28 June to celebrate the Feast of The Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Sacred Heart of Jesus represents not simply Jesus' physical heart but His love for all people. Our devotion to the Sacred Heart is an expression of our faith in His mercy. Please join us at Mass if you are able to.



**CSD19**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DAY  
TUESDAY 28 MAY 2019

**Catholic Schools Day:** On Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> May, the New Zealand Catholic community celebrates Catholic Schools Day. This gives us the opportunity to showcase who we are

to our communities and to the nation. We hope to celebrate the day with St Patricks School and Christ the King School (more information will be shared when plans are finalised).

*Extending Christ's Call: to love, to be, to do*

*Kia rangiwhāwhātia tā te Karaiti karanga: kia aroha, kia tūturu, kia mahi*

God bless, Catherine Quinn, DRS

*School Masses and Liturgical Celebrations*

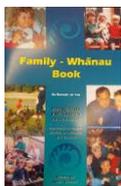
Sunday 26 May	9:30am	School Parish Mass
Tuesday 28 May		Catholic Schools Day
Friday 28 June	9am	School Mass Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus

**Classes will be attending 9am Mass on Fridays:**

Week 2 - Rm 3      Week 3 - Rm 4      Week 4 - Rm 5      Week 5 - Rm 1 & 2      Week 6 - Rm 3  
 Week 7 - Rm 4      Week 8 - Rm 5      Week 9 - School Mass      Week 10 - Rm 1 & 2  
 (These may change - check your child's homework sheet etc.)

The following is a brief summary of the Holy Spirit/ *Te Wairua Tapu* Strand and the God/ *Te Atua* Strand to be covered by each class:

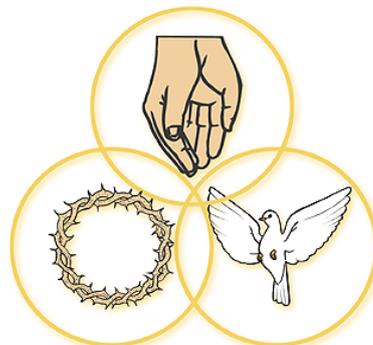
Room	Holy Spirit Strand Summary	God Strand Summary
1	<p><b>God the Holy Spirit</b> The Holy Spirit is God - the third person of the Trinity. We use symbols like fire and wind for the action of the power of the Holy Spirit, and we can see signs of the Holy Spirit at work in people's lives. <b>Family/Whanau Book: Pg 18</b></p>	<p><b>God is Creator</b> God is the creator of all that is and keeps it in being. Each person is God's unique creation made in love for love. We praise God for all the good gifts of creation, both seen and unseen. <b>Family/Whanau Book: Pg 17</b></p>
2	<p><b>The Holy Spirit in People's Lives</b> We can respond to the Holy Spirit at work in our lives in many ways. Two important ways the Holy Spirit is at work in the church, the people of God - is through prayer and the Eucharist. <b>Family/Whanau Book: Pg 21</b></p>	<p><b>Our Gracious God</b> God's gifts to people are a sign of God's love. God's greatest gift is Jesus who showed us God is a loving and forgiving Father. People are called to appreciate God's gifts and be grateful for them. <b>Family/Whanau Book: Pg 20</b></p>
3	<p><b>Fruits of the Spirit</b> The fruits of the Holy Spirit are traditionally listed as: love, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. It is God's work through the Holy Spirit which enables people to exercise their mana and bear these fruits. It is again the Holy Spirit who helps us to recognise when we have violated tapu and have sinned. Through the Holy Spirit we can learn to forgive and be forgiven. <b>Family/Whanau Book: Pg 24</b></p>	<p><b>God is Present in the World</b> God is present in the world, in creation, and' speaks to people through the Scriptures, especially when they are proclaimed in the church. God is active through people who accept his gift of grace and God's activity in the world is expressed through different cultures. <b>Family/Whanau Book: Pg 23</b></p>
4	<p><b>Pentecost</b> The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost revealed the Trinity to the Church, and enables people to live like Jesus, and to know the Father. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus fulfilled his promise to be with his followers, through CHURCH, WORD and SACRAMENT. <b>Family/Whanau Book: Pg 27</b></p>	<p><b>God is Love</b> God is the mystery of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. People show love and respect the gift of God's creation because it is tapu. God's love expressed through the Ten Commandments. <b>Family/Whanau Book: Pg 26</b></p>
5	<p><b>Baptism and the Holy Spirit</b> In Baptism, people receive the Holy Spirit in a special way which strengthens them to believe, hope and love, and overcome the power of original sin. The Holy Spirit helps people to believe in Jesus and grow more like Him. <b>Family/Whanau Book: Pg 33</b></p>	<p><b>Who is God?:</b> God has many names and images. We come to know God through Jesus, and respond in faith through worship and action in the church. Catholic beliefs about God are contained in the "Creed". <b>Family/Whanau Book Pg 32</b></p>



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

## *The Holy Trinity*

- ❖ God the Father made us and all human beings. We call the Father the Creator, the One who caused everything to exist.
- ❖ God the Son came into this world, to save us and teach us how to live. We call the Son the Redeemer, the One who died to save us from sin and death.
- ❖ God the Holy Spirit fills us with the life of grace. We call the Holy Spirit the Sanctifier, the One who makes us holy, who guides and strengthens us to use our gifts and make our world a better place in which to live.



But there is still only **ONE** God. How can three be one and one be three? This is a great mystery, the central mystery of our Catholic faith.

The love of the members of one family helps us to understand what God is like. There is more than one person in a family but the love they share for one another makes them one family.



## **Pentecost** (Sunday 9 June)

The Church remembers and celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Above all, we celebrate and receive the Holy Spirit through the seven Sacraments. All Sacraments give us grace, the life and love of God. In each sacrament the Spirit works in a different way, to guide and strengthen us to live as Jesus' followers.