



Religious Education Newsletter

Term 3 - 2019



Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

James 4:10



This Term's Virtue is *Humility*.

"I show humility when I am myself and don't worry about impressing other people. I am aware of my ability and desire to be a better person. When I do something wonderful, humility reminds me to be thankful rather than boastful."

What is Humility?

When you are humble you don't act as if you are more important than other people. You are happy to serve others and think other people's needs are important. You don't expect yourself or others to be perfect and you don't criticise others or yourself. You admit mistakes and learn from them - sometimes mistakes are our best teachers!

Why practise it?

With humility, instead of comparing ourselves to others, we are grateful for what we can do. Humility helps us to treat others as equals, different yet equal.

How do you practise it?

- ❖ To practise humility, don't worry about impressing other people - just be yourself and do your best.
- ❖ Instead of worrying about mistakes, be eager to learn from them.
- ❖ Ask for help when you need it.
- ❖ When you are wrong, admit it, and then change your behaviour.
- ❖ Strive to be a little bit better today than you were yesterday.
- ❖ When you do something wonderful, humility remind you to be thankful instead of boastful.

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

School Mass: Our school Mass this Term is at 9am on Thursday 15 August to celebrate the Feast of The Assumption of Mary. We also celebrate this as our school feast day. We hope you are able to join us.



The *Feast of the Assumption* celebrates the Blessed Virgin Mary's Assumption into heaven. By taking Mary body and soul to heaven, God is showing us how one day creation and people will again be made perfect and raised up like her. This day is also the patronal feast of Aotearoa because Mary Assumed into Heaven is the special Patron of New Zealand. It is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Sunday Mass: This term we are celebrating Mass with Holy Trinity Parish at 9:30am, Sunday 8 September. This day marks the beginning of Social Justice Week.



Grace before Meals: In last week's school newsletter Mr Atherton shared about the importance of praying grace before meals as one way we can thank God for what we have received and to think about those who are less fortunate than ourselves. These are the graces we pray at school in our classrooms before lunch every day - maybe your child/children could lead your family in prayer?

For what we are about to receive may the Lord make us truly thankful, Amen	E Te Atua Whakapainga enei kai Kia ora a matou I runga i to ingoa Amene	God, Bless this food So that it strengthens us. In your name Amen
--	---	---



Please also keep the children who are preparing for their First Communion on 25th August in your prayers.

God bless, Catherine Quinn, DRS

School Masses and Liturgical Celebrations

Thursday 15 August 9am School Mass ~ Feast of the Assumption

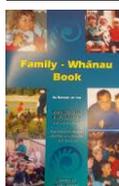
Sunday 8 September 9:30am School/Parish Mass

Classes will be attending 9am Mass on Fridays:

Week 2: Room 4 **Week 3:** Room 5 **Week 4:** - **Week 5:** Rooms 1 & 2 **Week 6:** Room 3
Week 7: Room 4 **Week 8:** Room 5 **Week 9:** Rooms 1 & 2 **Week 10:** Room 3

The following is a brief summary of the Sacrament/*Hakarameta* Strand and the Church/*Te Whanau a Te Karaiti* Strand to be covered by each class:

Room	Sacrament Strand Summary	Church Strand Summary
1	<p>Holiness: People are reminded of the holiness of God through places, times, objects, and rituals. We can discover God in the world which he created and gifted to people to care for and enjoy. The Eucharist is a time to gather in worship and praise of God who is holy. Family/WhanauBook: Pg 19</p>	<p>Belonging: We belong to, participate and celebrate in communities such as family, school and parish. The church is a community of Christ's followers called together by the Holy Spirit to carry on Christ's mission in life today. Family/Whanau Book: Page 18</p>
2	<p>Welcome: Baptism is a time in which we encounter Christ in a special way. In the Rite of Baptism with its rituals and symbols, people are welcomed into the Church, and given a share in the holiness and life of the Trinity. Family/Whanau Book: Pg 22</p>	<p>Gathering, Celebrating, Living God's Presence: Our local parish, as it gathers, celebrates, lives and prays as a community; it is part the Church which Jesus founded, and is a sign which brings about God's presence and love in the world. Belonging to a parish is both a privilege and a responsibility. Family/Whanau Book: Page 21</p>
3	<p>Forgiveness: The Sacrament of Reconciliation restores our friendship with God. It is an experience of forgiving and healing, of taking responsibility for personal sin and expressing sorrow. Family/Whanau Book: Pg 25</p>	<p>Called to be like Jesus: The Scriptures record how Jesus called his disciples and apostles to follow him. Those who have been initiated into the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, are called to carry on the mission of Jesus. They do this by worshipping God, serving and loving others, and always acting with faith and justice. Family/Whanau Book: Pg 24</p>
4	<p>Food for Life: Times for reflection are invitations to experience the sign of God's presence in the world. The greatest signs of God's presence are the sacraments whose symbols, rituals and celebrations paralleled those of daily life. Through the actions of the Holy Spirit, the Eucharist - bread/wine - becomes the body and blood of the Jesus. Family/Whanau Book: Pg 28</p>	<p>Called to Serve: Through Baptism all are called to holiness and service, lived out through various vocations: single, married, religious life or priesthood. As members of the Church we are called to carry out its mission of service. Family/Whanau Book: Page 27</p>
5	<p>Confirmed in the Spirit: Catholics refer to signs or symbols of Christ's Presence as sacraments. As Jesus reveals God's presence most fully we can, therefore speak of Jesus as the sacrament of God. The seven sacraments of the church also reveal Christ's presence because they bring new life/healing/strength and love to people. Family/Whanau Book: Pg 34</p>	<p>The Church as a Pilgrim People: The Church is a Pilgrim People on a life journey towards God. Since the time of the early church, Christians have used different gifts to spread the Good News. Within the church people follow different vocations such as married life, single life and religious life. Family/Whanau Book: Page 33</p>



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.



Sacrament ~ Hakarameta



*A Sacrament is a visible action of the Church
where God is at work bringing grace.*

Sacraments are sacred rituals of our Church that bring us God's grace and help us to celebrate God's work in us and in our community.

The Sacraments welcome and heal us and help us to live in service to our community.

Each Sacrament:

- reflects Jesus' own life and ministry.
- is a unique moment in Church life when we celebrate Jesus alive with us today.
- focuses on important times in our lives when we celebrate our relationship with God.
- uses familiar symbols and gestures such as light, oil, laying on of hands, bread and wine, the Sign of the Cross

Church ~ Te Whanau a Te Karaiti

The Church is a community of Christ's followers or disciples called together by the Holy Spirit to carry on Christ's mission in life today.

Our Parish as it gathers, celebrates, lives and prays as a community, is part of the Church and is a sign which brings about God's presence and love in the world.

Belonging to a parish is both a privilege and a responsibility.

SOCIAL JUSTICE WEEK

8 - 14 September



The theme for this year is: **FAIR, YOU SAY?** Seeking fairness in an unfair world

In our world, which is tainted by unfairness, we are challenged to open our eyes to what is not just, and to be inspired to be instruments that will bring fairness and justice in our homes, schools, communities and the wider world.

Catholic social teaching guides us to respect each other as we are all God's creation and have an inherent human dignity. We are called to love even those who may treat us unfairly. Our greatest challenge is to follow the example of Jesus and work for justice in all that we do.

