



# St Oliver's Mini Newsletter

Term 1

Week 3

2016

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## Gospel Lk 5:1-11

Jesus was standing one day by the lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

## They left everything and followed him.



### Reflection

Today's reading from Luke's Gospel relates Jesus' preaching and teaching from a boat. When Jesus wants to go fishing, Simon tries to talk him out of it after having caught little during the day. Simon is in for a surprise when the nets come back full of fish. Jesus calls disciples from every way and walk of life, with the particular gifts

### IN BRIEF

- Send me, God.
  - Praise God any way you can.
  - Jesus is the heart of the Gospel.
  - Catch the message of Jesus.
- Let Jesus catch you in his net.

and skills that we might also have, even though we might not think our gifts and skills are so great. This imagery of fishing with Jesus is a great way to understand discipleship. Just as fishing without Jesus results in empty nets, trying to live and work without being a disciple of Jesus leaves us empty.

## LIVING THE GOSPEL

### Hearing the Call

*Like Isaiah and Peter, each and every one of us is called. It may not happen through Jesus stepping into our boat, but when we quieten our minds and our hearts enough to really listen, we become aware that God truly is calling to each and every one of us. The call comes to us through our friends; our experiences; our hopes and our fears. Sometimes we are so afraid of hearing the call that we fill our lives with noise and distractions. We fear that the call will involve hardship, or at the very least: unpopularity. But that's no excuse!*

## Lent



LENT is a time when we are reminded that there is nothing we can do to win our salvation. It is a pure gift from God. Like Jesus in the wilderness, we are to allow God's plan to unfold in

and through us. Lent is a time for us to enter actively into the mysteries of the death and resurrection of Jesus, and there to marvel at what God has done for us. The 40 days that Jesus spent praying and preparing in the wilderness is reflected in the season of Lent that lasts 40 days from Ash Wednesday until the day before Easter Sunday (not counting Sundays in the season). It has been traditional that during the time of Lent Christian people renew their efforts in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. All three of these practices are actions of preparation. Just as Jesus prepared for his ministry in the wilderness, so too is Lent an opportunity for us to be deliberate about our reflection on what we are called to do in this world.



**Caritas Project Compassion** The primary pillars of Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Giving something up is a simple way to combine these three pillars into one charitable activity. Giving up junk food, social media or watching TV is really a type of fasting. Making this sacrifice and raising money for those in need helps us turn our hearts back to God, preparing us for the celebration of Christ's resurrection. To celebrate 50 years of Project Compassion, ask your friends and family to donate 50 cents to your Project Compassion donation box every time you do a good deed or help with an extra chore around the house during Lent. <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/weekly-stories/weekly-stories>

Franca Bonserio  
Religious Education Coordinator

# Focus On Learning



## Playground Organisation

As you would be aware, we no longer have access to the block during lunch times. In addition, our playground space is very limited. In an attempt to ensure our students have the opportunity to play and interact together on the playground in a positive manner we have been trialling the use of various playground activities and equipment. The following is an outline of some of our playground expectations and procedures. We appreciate your support in helping to reinforce these expectations with your children.

### **Before School:**

- No playground equipment is permitted - **including handballs**
- Students arriving before 8.30am must sit under the shade cloth and wait for the teacher on duty

### **Recess:**

- 1 soft textured basketball per grade to share - Basketball play areas as follows:
  - Stage 2 & Stage 3 play at the higher hoops under the shade cloth
  - Kindergarten & Stage 1 play at the lower hoops beside the boys toilets
- Handballs - small round rubber balls from home only
- Hoops
- Skipping ropes
- Chalkboards

### **Lunch:**

- Soccer ball and goals – classes rostered as follows:
  - Monday – Stage 2
  - Tuesday – Stage 3
  - Wednesday – Kindergarten
  - Thursday – Stage 1
  - Friday - Stage 2/3
- 1 soft textured basketball per grade to share - Basketball play areas as follows:
  - Stage 2 & Stage 3 play at the higher hoops under the shade cloth
  - Kindergarten & Stage 1 play at the lower hoops beside the boys toilets
- Handballs - small round rubber balls from home only
- Hoops
- Skipping ropes
- Activities in the hall as follows:
  - Monday – Board Games
  - Tuesday – Gardening Club
  - Wednesday – Drawing/colouring
  - Thursday – Fitness
- Library open

**Kindergarten Reading Helpers Needed** - Kindergarten is in need of parents to assist with their reading program. If you are available in the afternoon from 2.40pm - 3.00pm to listen to students read your assistance would be very greatly appreciated. Please see Miss Sandersan for further details

### **After school:**

- No balls or play equipment permitted - including handballs
- Students who are attending COOSH should move straight to the seats in COSHC waiting area and remain seated in this area under the supervision of COOSH staff until they are asked to move
- Students waiting to be picked up should move straight to the silver seats and remain seated in this area under the supervision of the teacher on duty
- Parents who choose to remain on the playground with their children after 3pm are asked to ensure that they are carefully supervised - this includes no running or ball games and no climbing on the seats or in the gardens

### **Please note:**

- As we have very limited space to play in we ask that students **not** bring basketballs or soccer balls from home, as the additional equipment creates extra congestion which can become unsafe – handballs are permitted
- No Hat No Play rule – for their protection, students without a hat will be asked to remain seated under the shade of a tree during both recess and lunch
- To ensure our children's safety, we ask that you please respect staff supervision times wherever possible. Supervision times are as follows:
  - **Morning - from 8.30am**
  - **Afternoon - until 3.20pm**