



# St Oliver's Mini Newsletter

Term 1

Week 5

2016

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**Gospel** Luke 9:28-36 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke



**As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.**

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

### Reflection

A theme of the Gospel is 'God's promise to us'. Through the appearance of Moses and Elijah, Jesus is identified as both prophet and lawgiver, but more important, as the Son of God. As Moses and Elijah talk with Jesus, they talk about his death that is about to take place in Jerusalem.

Have you ever had an experience that was so amazing that you felt transformed by the experience and you were so excited about it that you couldn't wait to tell others about it? This is how the disciples felt when they saw the transfiguration.

Jesus was with his three disciples when he went to pray. The disciples were so excited by what they saw that they wanted the moment to last forever. They were ready to pitch tents for a camp. Moses and Elijah point to the 'exodus' of Jesus, but the disciples didn't know that this journey was still to come. The message from God is clear for us, as it did for the disciples that day: 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' How well do I listen? God is revealed in those who get involved in bettering the lives of others. God is revealed in very ordinary ways, if we but open our eyes to see and listen. **Praise:** Praise to you God, for sending us Jesus to show us how to live so that we may enter your kingdom.

**Repent:** We are sorry for the times we chose to not listen or open our eyes to truly see the face of Jesus in others.

**Ask:** We ask that we become better prepared listen and follow in Jesus ways in all that we do.

**Yes:** I want to follow in your way by following your chosen one, Jesus. **Amen**

**Gold and Fold Day** - THANK YOU for your support of the WYD fundraiser to support the youth from Parramatta Diocese. The money raised will be used to help build schools and assist parishes in the Philippines to recover from the effects of the Earthquake in 2013.

### In Lent, we often ask ourselves – what can I go without?

Imagine what millions of villagers across Malawi, in southern Africa, go without each day. Now imagine the change you can make to communities across the world, with one simple act of generosity.

**Caritas Project Compassion** So far we have raised \$203 as a school for Project Compassion. Thank you for your generosity. A truly amazing start! Please read the story below to find out what funds raised for Project Compassion can do.



*Duangmala wishes for a bright future for her eight-year-old son Hum Noy, who is living with a disability. But faced with discrimination and limited learning opportunities, Duangmala feared he might never reach his full potential. Thankfully, a program supported by Caritas Australia has opened up a world of change for this small family. www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion 1800 024 413*

**Franca Bonserio / Religious Education Coordinator**

### N BRIEF

- God keeps promises.
- God is our light.
- Look toward heaven.
- We are transformed with Jesus.
- Listen to Jesus.

### Dates to Remember

#### February

26th WYD raffle tickets due back  
Parish Mass - Kinder and Stage 3 @ 9:15 all welcome

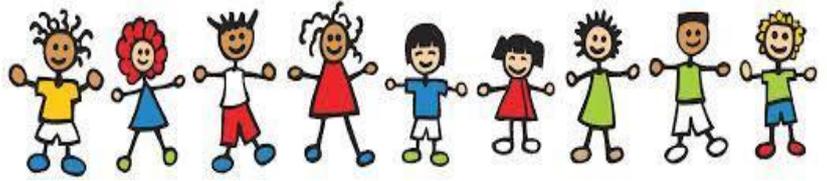
#### March

7th–  
11th Catholic Schools Week  
11th Whole School Beginning Mass  
14th Cross Country @ Robin Thomas Reserve – Years 3 - 6  
Coffee and Chat @ 14:30 in the hall  
18th Parish Mass – Stage 2  
Whole School Assembly – Stage 2 @ 14:30  
21st Back up Cross Country  
25th **Good Friday – no school**  
27th **Easter Sunday**  
28th **Easter Monday – no school**  
30th School Photos

#### April

8th LAST DAY OF TERM 1  
25th **ANZAC DAY – no school**  
26th First day of Term 2

# Focus On Learning



## Action Goals

Each year all schools in the Parramatta Diocese are asked to set goals in the areas of Religious Education, English and Mathematics

Based on the needs of our students at St Oliver's the staff have identified the following goals for 2016

### *Religious Education*

**Goal: By the end of 2016 students will make connections between sacraments and the key concepts in Sharing Our Story using scripture.**

**Why this goal?:** The previous Religious Literacy Assessments indicated that when there was a focus in a particular concept (e.g. Jesus, Scripture) student data improved; therefore this year more focus will be on making connections across all the key concepts (Jesus, Scripture, God, Prayer and Sacraments) through a deeper knowledge of the Sacraments and sacramentality. Scripture is the vehicle as it facilitates the connections across all key concepts.

### *Literacy*

**Goal: By the end of 2016 students will improve word consciousness in reading and writing through the development of oral language.**

**Why this goal?:** Analysis of NAPLAN data, PAT-R data and the St Oliver's Writing Continuum highlighted the need to maintain a focus on word consciousness (what words mean and how they work) to further improve students reading and writing. Through our own professional learning we identified oral language as a key driver in the development of word consciousness.

### *Numeracy*

**Goal: By the end of 2016 students will use *reasoning and visualisation* skills to develop conceptual knowledge and move at least one growth point in place value and multiplication and division.**

**Why this goal?:** Patterns in MAI data, growth point tracking data, NAPLAN data and ongoing assessment data in the classroom indicate that reasoning and visualisation are areas of need in order for students to progress growth points in multiplication/division and place value.

If you would like to discuss our goals further please contact the school office for an appointment.

**Natalie Mifsud  
Assistant Principal**

### ***Apology – Cross Country Note Years 3 - 6.***

We apologise for the note sent home on Tuesday 23rd February (Yellow note) as there was an error on the tear off slip. A new note was sent home on Wednesday 24th February 2016. Please return the green note to the office by **Wednesday 9th March 2016.**