



St Oliver's Mini Newsletter

Term 1

Week 11

2016

33 Wigram Street, Harris Park 2150

www.stoliversharrisparc.catholic.edu.au

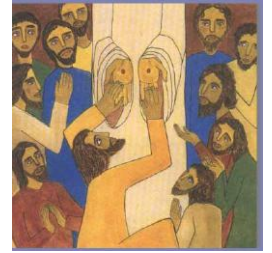
Ph: 9682 1244

Gospel John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



Reflection - In this Sunday's reading, Jesus comes to his followers later that night and stands before them, even though the doors are locked. The first words Jesus says are, 'Peace be with you'. As additional evidence that it is really he who suffered and died, he shows them the wounds in his hands and side. Then Jesus sends them forth to forgive the sins of others. He promises them the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they will be the 'flesh' of Jesus to carry on his mission.

Thomas isn't there the first time Jesus appears, and he has trouble believing what he is told. A week later Jesus appears again with the same greeting, 'Peace be with you'. Jesus shows Thomas his wounds. At once, Thomas confesses his faith. Jesus blesses those who believe without seeing – Christians such as ourselves.

When Thomas made his declaration of faith, Jesus said, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy (or Blessed) are those who have not seen and yet believe.' Because this gospel was written 60 years or so after the time of Jesus, there were indeed many who believed but had not ever seen him. The blessing is on all those who believe without the benefit of a physical encounter of Jesus. Whilst the gospel was written as an acknowledgement of those at the end of the 1st Century, it is also a blessing and encouragement for believers of today!

IN BRIEF

- The Spirit builds the church.
- God will love us forever.
- Make Jesus your vision.
- Peace be with you.
- Do not doubt. See and believe.

Praise: Dear God, Thank you for giving us our faith to believe in you.

Repent: We are sorry for the times we doubt and forget about our faith in you.

Ask: For courage and faith to believe the unseen and in the mystery of the Trinity.

Yes: I will continue to have faith and develop my knowledge of you to gain more faith.

Thank you! Thank you to our beautiful St Oliver's community for raising a total of \$ 930 for Project Compassion! What a great effort! Thank you. This will help contribute to improve the sanitation conditions for the poor people in Cambodia.

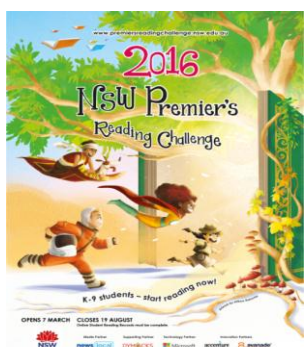
Sacramental Program – (Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation) for more information please contact St Patrick's Cathedral, phone: 02 8839 8400 or email: sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au.

Franca Bonserio / **Religious Education Coordinator**



The following children Riya, Erik, James, Aiko, Annette, Samuel, Christina, Rohit, Angelina, Jonathan, Scarlett, Ares, Doreen and Seth celebrated their good effort and good behaviour throughout Term 1 at our Principals Morning Tea. Congratulations

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE - *School holidays is a good time to catch up on some reading!*



All children at St Oliver’s School participate in the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge as part of the reading program.

The students read books from an extensive list at their level; the younger children may have books read to them. Successful students receive a certificate from the Premier.

There is plenty of time to complete the Challenge – **it does not close until August.**

We have some great books from the Challenge available in the Library. Parramatta Library and its branches also carry Challenge titles. Please record the titles read on the Reading Challenge Record that was sent home.

There is also an online Reading Record. Children in Years 3 – 6 will receive training at school in completing this using their PRC passwords. Either the school or parents will enter the details for the students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2. Kindergarten passwords will be available shortly. Any PRC listed books that have been read since the start of the year may be included in the Students Reading Record. You can also record your reading on a reading log form available at the office.

Parramatta Library and most other libraries also use this system of identification. All booklists are available at <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>

Dates to Remember

April

8th Stage 3 @ Parish Mass
8th **LAST DAY OF TERM 1**

Term 2

25th **ANZAC DAY – no school**
26th **FIRST DAY OF TERM 2**
29th Stage 2 @ Parish Mass

May

3rd Diocesan Cross Country
5th Mother’s Day Stall
6th Mother’s Day Liturgy @ 10am in the church
8th Mother’s Day
9th Winter Uniform
10th Naplan Years 3& 5
11th Naplan Years 3& 5
12th Naplan Years 3& 5
10th After School Sports begin for Infants
13th Stage 3 @ Parish Mass
16th Athletics Carnival
20th ES1 & S1 @ Parish mass
20th Whole School Assembly Stage 1
30th Athletics Carnival (Back up)

June

3rd Whole School Mass “The Most Sacred Heart Mass”
13th **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

Term 2 Staff Development Day – Friday 1 July 2016 (last day of term 2)