

## Gospel Luke 7:11-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

### *Young man, I say to you, arise.*



Jesus went to a town called Nain, accompanied by his disciples and a great number of people. When he was near the gate of the town it happened that a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a considerable number of the townspeople were with her. When the Lord saw her he felt sorry for her. 'Do not cry,' he said. Then he went up and put his hand on the bier and the bearers stood still, and he said, 'Young man, I tell you to get up'. And the dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying, 'A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.' And this opinion of him spread throughout Judaea and all over the countryside.

### Reflection

The dead man was his mother's only son and that she was a widow. She has lost her husband and now has lost her only male family member. In 1st Century culture this meant that she had lost her only means of support, her livelihood and her home. Without a man in the family she will become outcast within the society. Her son's death meant poverty, rejection and effectively the end of her life. When Jesus encounters the funeral procession he was overcome with compassion. His compassion was a physical, gut-wrenching reaction to the woman's situation.

We may not be able to make a miraculous 'resurrection' as Jesus did with the widow's son, but we do have the power and opportunity to restore someone to life in a similar way that Jesus restored the life of the widow. Whenever we encounter someone who has been cast out by life circumstances or by the cruel actions of others, we have the capacity to restore them through our actions. We restore life when we restore dignity; when we refuse to participate in grinding someone down and instead extend a hand to help them up. This can be evident in our community. Instead of making someone feel bad we can place ourselves in their shoes and feel empathy and show compassion as if that were us in the situation.

**Praise:** Loving God, you are most compassionate and your love for us is so constant.

**Repent:** For the times I have not been compassionate and only saw things from my own point of view, rather than that of others, I am truly sorry.

**Ask:** Help me to see with the ear of the heart and hear the cries of people who are hurting and in pain

**Yes:** I am willing to hear the call and need of others and be compassionate in more ways to those who need help.

### IN BRIEF

- Jesus is our lifesaver.
- God comes to our rescue.
- Jesus has power over death.
- The word of God saves.
- Jesus can turn your life around.



**Thank you for your generosity of all the blankets, scarves and beanies for the homeless and poor in our community. At St Oliver's we are truly blessed with the love you display in your kindness and generosity.**

**First Holy Communion** – Please keep the following children; Antonious, Joseph, Charlize, Teresa and Anthony in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Sunday at Our Lady of Lebanon Church.

**Franca Bonserio/Religious Education Coordinator**



# Focus On Learning

## Staged Learning in Agile Learning Spaces

This week we address some common questions that arise when discussing contemporary education. At St Oliver's (as in most primary schools across the Parramatta Diocese) we work in agile learning spaces where two grades are grouped together and work as a Stage under the guidance of two class teacher's. This approach reflects the organisation of the NSW Syllabus documents which are also organised across stages and recognise the need for students to have 2 years to work towards achieving the intended outcomes.

### *Agile Learning Spaces, why do we have them?*

Agile Learning Spaces promote student learning and enhance teacher practice. When teachers work together sharing their expertise on teaching and learning, reviewing data and sharing the responsibility of students, they are continuously improving their instruction. Children who have access to this improved practice and instruction are more effectively supported in achieving their individual learning goals.

### *Agile Learning Spaces, how do we personalise the learning?*

Personalised learning is the way in which schools tailor education to ensure that every student achieves to their potential. At St Oliver's our agile learning spaces provide for a highly structured learning approach that places the needs, interests and individual learning styles of our students at the centre. With two or more teachers working collaboratively with each other they can effectively support each student's progress along a personalised pathway that reflects specific goals, strengths and motivations. Agile learning spaces allow for the teachers to be flexible in the delivery of educational pathways to meet the specific learning needs of each of our students.

### *Agile Learning Spaces, what about my child? Will they be missed?*

Every child has their own needs, interests and learning styles. In an agile learning space all teachers share in the responsibility for the teaching and learning of every child. Teacher's work together to develop effective teaching and learning relationships in order to ensure each students individual learning needs are catered for. In an agile learning space there are at least two teachers monitoring each child's learning - what a unique opportunity to ensure your child is never missed!

### *Agile Learning Spaces, what are the benefits for my child?*

Your child accesses a contemporary learning environment. Our children are growing up in an environment where there is instant communication, intricate social activity and limitless potential for new knowledge. Agile Learning Spaces are flexible, engaging and stimulating contemporary learning environments that integrate technologies and engage students in ways that extend beyond the classroom. Your child is making greater learning gains.

In Agile Learning Spaces teachers are co-teaching, that is they are working together to provide a unique learning experience for your child. Teachers collaborate to share their expertise, skills and student responsibilities. Because there is more than one teacher present in the learning space to address learning needs and to provide alternative teaching instruction, students are making greater learning gains.

*Natalie Mifsud*  
*Assistant Principal*

## Dates to Remember

### June

- 9th Soccer Gala Day - Stage 3 - **POSTPONED**
- 10th Year 3 and Year 4 @ Parish Mass
- 10th Book Club due
- 13th **PUBLIC HOLIDAY – no school**
- 14th After School Sports for Infants
- 16th *Mass of Installation of Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen*
- 16th Stage 3 Lemonade & Cake Stall - fundraiser
- 17th Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 @ Parish Mass
- 17th Whole School Assembly Kinder @ 2:30pm
- 21st After School Sports for Infants
- 21st Half yearly reports go home
- 24th Year 5 and Year 6 @ Parish Mass
- 27th Coffee and Chat @ 2:30pm
- 27th Student/Parent/Teacher conferences begin this week
- 29th Principals Morning Tea @ 10.30am
- 30th Soccer Gala Day – Stage 2

### July

- 1st **Staff Development day – no school**
- 18th Term 3 begins