



# St Oliver's Mini Newsletter

Term 2

Week 9

2016

33 Wigram Street, Harris Park 2150

www.stoliversharrisparc.catholic.edu.au

Ph: 9682 1244

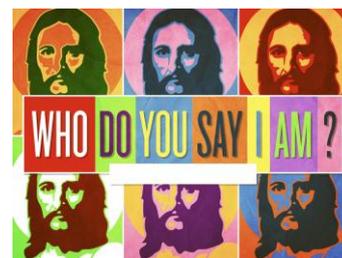
## **Gospel Luke 9:18-24**

**Sunday, 19 June 2016: Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C**

*You are the Messiah sent by God. It is necessary for the Son of Man to suffer much.*

### Gospel In Brief

- Carry the cross with Jesus.
- Put on Christ.
- Who do you say Jesus is?
- Quench your thirst with God.
- God doesn't discriminate.



One day when Jesus was praying alone in the presence of his disciples he put this question to them, 'Who do the crowds say I am?' And they answered, 'John the Baptist; others Elijah; and others say one of the ancient prophets come back to life.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you, say I am?' It was Peter who spoke up. 'The Christ of God' he said. But he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone anything about this.

'The Son of Man' he said, 'is destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes and to be put to death, and to be raised up on the third day.'

Then to all he said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross every day and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, that man will save it.'

### **Reflection**

The crowds are not really sure about Jesus. Is he a prophet? A follower of John the Baptist? When Peter comes up with the right answer, Jesus commands that it be kept a secret. Then, Jesus reveals the type of death he will suffer. Jesus is not the type of messiah they expected. Still worse, Jesus tells the followers they must carry the same cross and suffer for his sake.

The people had dreamed of a messiah to save them from their troubles. The last thing they wished for was a suffering messiah. God reveals the plan for Jesus and for each of us. Discipleship is more than martyrdom; it also includes daily suffering, often referred to as 'carrying our own cross'.

There was confusion about who Jesus was. He had quite a colourful reputation. Only his closest followers knew that he was the Messiah.

Jesus' question to the disciples is also addressed to us today. It is a question that every Christian person must answer honestly if they are to grow beyond the simple faith of their childhood. The answers revealed to us may change many times throughout our lives but it is our desire and honest efforts to answer the question itself that will continue to call us forward. Our answer to Jesus' question is an indicator of what we need him to be at that time; who we are at that time; and what we are called to be at that time. Who is Jesus to you now? Since he no longer walks the earth in his own flesh and blood, how can you have a relationship with him? How does he affect your life.

**P:** For the gift of Jesus who carries our daily cross with us, we thank you.

**R:** For the times I complained about my troubles and failed to see Jesus who helps me carry my cross.

**A:** Help me Lord Jesus in my daily troubles.

**Y:** I will carry my cross with you Jesus and be the best I can be for the good of others. Amen.

**Mrs Franca Bonserio / Religious Education Coordinator**

# Focus On Learning



## Top Tips for Successful Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences

Next week we will be holding our Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences. As part of this process it is important that you bring your child with you to these meetings. Current thinking in education acknowledges the importance of students taking responsibility for their own learning. Being part of the Student/Parent/Teacher Conference allows students the opportunity to share what they have been learning and to show you where they feel they have achieved and what they are working towards. It is also a valuable opportunity for your child to share in their teacher's feedback - celebrating their successes and taking ownership for improving their learning where necessary.

Conferences between students, parents and teachers offer an opportunity to discover a child's progress, share information and discuss specific learning achievements and challenges. In order to ensure that these conferences are successful it helps to remember that everyone's goal is to work from the best interests of the child. Here are some tips to help make the conference productive for everyone involved:

### 1. Prepare well

Before the conference, list any questions that you want to raise. Keep the questions short and to the point. Similarly, it may be useful to list some of your child's strengths and areas of improvement that you've seen at home. Writing information down in advance ensures that your point of view is expressed and that critical information is covered. Similarly, you may wish to take notes during the meeting so that vital information isn't missed.

### 2. Work from a fresh slate

Sometimes meetings can be marred before they start as a result of negative past experiences. Remember: every new meeting offers a fresh opportunity to create better outcomes for your child.

### 3. Listen first

Give your child a chance to share their work then take your cues from them by being prepared to ask specific questions that show your interest. This may sound obvious but some meetings never get off the ground because an enthusiastic parent takes over.

### 4. Ask specific questions

Clarify the information you don't understand, asking for concrete examples. Drill down to get a clear picture of any issues involving learning by asking questions such as:

- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- Does my child work to his/her potential?
- What can I do at home to assist?

### 5. Stay solution-focused

If your child's behavioural or learning challenges are discussed it's sometimes difficult not to become defensive or sceptical. At these times ask for concrete examples to help you gain a clear understanding from the teacher's perspective and clarify what your child's results may mean in terms of progress, strengths, needs and further support.

### 6. Consider there are many ways to be right

Keep in mind that everyone wants the same thing - for your child to make progress. Teachers view your child through a different lens than you and their conclusions and solutions can sometimes seem at odds with your own views. It may be at these times that you need to trust the professionalism of your child's teacher who has more than likely experienced these same challenges before.

### 7. Ask what you can do

Show your commitment to producing better results by clarifying how you can help at home to develop skills. It may be a good opportunity to ask for recommendations for outside resources to help you and your child. Often teachers know about organisations or events that can encourage educational and social growth.

### 8. Concluding the meeting

As the meeting comes to its conclusion recap areas to celebrate and restate areas that need work in positive, specific terms. Involve your child in discussing plans for improvement, making sure these plans are doable rather than an overwhelming list of suggestions. Small inroads in progress or improved behaviour have been found to have a snowball effect, impacting on broader areas of improvement.

REMEMBER: Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences will be most effective when all parties go in with a positive attitude and an openness to work collaboratively to reach the best outcomes possible for the student.

***Please note: Whilst it is very important that students be part of the Learning Conference we also acknowledge that there may be circumstances where parents would like to speak privately with their child's teacher. Sometime can be set aside during the meeting for this to occur if required.***

# Learn to manage difficult behaviour in children 2-12 years old

**A three-session program for parents and carers presented by Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta.**

## **Learn:**

- ✓ How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
- ✓ How to sort behaviour
- ✓ How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
- ✓ Choosing your strategy, the three choices
- ✓ Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
- ✓ 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

## **Parents will receive:**

- A 1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Parent Workbook (cost \$10 payable at first session)

Venue	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Phone to register
Corpus Christi, Cranebrook	6pm – 8pm (Tues) 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	6pm – 8pm (Tues) 16 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	6pm – 8pm (Tues) 23 <sup>rd</sup> August 2016	02 4729 0696
St Michael's, Blacktown South	1 – 3pm (Wed) 17 <sup>th</sup> August	1 – 3pm (Wed) 24 <sup>th</sup> August	1 – 3pm (Wed) 31 <sup>st</sup> August	9622 9910
St Bernadette's, Lalor Park	1pm – 3pm (Wed) 31 <sup>st</sup> August	1pm – 3pm (Wed) 7 <sup>th</sup> September	1pm – 3pm (Wed) 14 <sup>th</sup> September	9622 3535
OLOR, Kellyville	6pm – 8pm (Wed) 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	6pm – 8pm (Wed) 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	6pm – 8pm(Wed) 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2016	9629 2566

## **Registration Fee?**

The course **costs \$10** (per parent or per couple) which covers the cost of the Parent workbook  
Register for this course by contacting the school office at the venue of your choice.

✂-----

*Coffee n Chat – Monday 27 June at 2:30pm* – return to the office by Monday morning 27 June 2016

Current agenda items:

- Fundraising update and call for volunteers to organise the Father's Day Stall
- Parking and safety around the school
- Carpet installation in Stage 1
- Canteen
- School Environmental Grant
- Variety Club Grant equipment
- QCS survey feedback

*Suggested item for discussion at Coffee n Chat Monday, 27 June 2016:*

---

---

---