



St Oliver's Mini Newsletter

Term 1

Week 11

2014

33 Wigram Street, Harris Park 2150

www.stoliversharrisparc.catholic.edu.au

Ph: 9682 1244

Jn 11:1-45 Shorter form, A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I am the resurrection and the life.



The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

Reflection

This Sunday Jesus stands at the entrance of our tombs and calls us out of them. We're asked to face down the bad spirits that keep us locked in secrecy, to move away from shame, embrace repentance, recognise the price to be paid for being true to what's best in ourselves and we're invited to know the light and life of Christ's healing and forgiveness. No one can pretend that this journey is easy, but it's what Lent is all about: the journey from the tomb of our own particular deaths, through penance to the new life of Easter. May the Eucharist allow us to see the Lord stand at our tomb and gently call us by name, 'Come forth'. And at His word may we be unbound and let go free.

Prayer

Lord, we believe in you. We will take steps from situations in which we find ourselves entombed. We will help liberate others already helped by your grace. We are your faithful people moving towards the celebration of your victory over death. We believe that you are the Resurrection and the Life. Amen

Holy Week

Our journey into Holy Week begins with the Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord which is on 13th April. This is a time when we welcome Jesus and model our lives on Jesus. On the 17th April it will be Holy Thursday. This is when Jesus washes the feet of the disciples and said to "Love one another as I have loved you." When we receive the Eucharist at Mass we are enacting what Jesus did. It reminds us to go out and love others. On the 18th April it will be Good Friday. With dying we are transformed into something new. On the 19th April it will be the Easter Vigil of the Holy Night. In the dark of the night, we are called to follow God into the unknown. We are moving from darkness into light, from death to life, and we do this by passing through the waters of baptism. We renew our baptismal promises. Through baptism we enter into the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus. On the 20th April it will be Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord. We are, by grace, caught up in this new phase of the evolution of humanity, indeed of all that matters. We can participate in the resurrection life of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Project Compassion We have raised \$861.55! What a fantastic effort everyone!

Please visit <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/weekly-stories/week-5-lorraine> for this week's story.

It is with great joy that on 27th April, Divine Mercy Sunday; we will witness the supreme honor of canonization of not one but two popes, Blesseds John XXIII and John Paul II. They will be canonized as saints in a historic solemn liturgical rite officiated by Pope Francis. Through the example of these people we are also encouraged to perform some special work of mercy. God's mercy is not only meant to be received with trust; it is also to be shared through love. The practice of the works of mercy, both spiritual and corporal, is the goal and fruit of devotion to Divine Mercy, as well as a Gospel command: "Be merciful even as your Father is merciful" St Oliver's will have a special liturgy in the Church on Wednesday 30th April at 9.15 am.

Franca Bonserio, Religious Education Coordinator

School News

Easter Mass Times at St Oliver's Church

Rite of Reconciliation - during Lent, Saturday 12th April 5.00pm

Palm Sunday Saturday Vigil Mass – 12th April, 5.30pm

Palm Sunday Masses – 13th April, 8.00am and 10.00am

Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper – 17th April, 7.30pm - **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** after Mass till 10.00pm

Good Friday 18th April - **Stations of the Cross**, 10.00am and 7.00pm - **Celebrations of the Lord's Passion** - 3.00pm

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil – 19th April, 5.30pm

Easter Sunday Masses – 20th April, 8.00am and 10.00am

Purposeful Talk (continued)

Purposeful Talk is one of the main ways children develop their understandings of new concepts. New ideas and connections are triggered through opportunities to:

- Talk
- Question
- Discuss
- Clarify

The NSW English K-10 Syllabus

In working with the English Syllabus teachers will support students to be able to:

- Demonstrate active listening
- Follow instructions
- Ask relevant questions
- Respond constructively to different opinions
- Communicate clearly and purposefully with others to express well-developed and well-organised ideas
- Understand how people use language for different purposes
- Deliver effective presentations
- Collaborate with others to share and evaluate ideas and opinions

In the Learning Space:

Students are engaged in learning opportunities where they will:

- Consider and evaluate alternative viewpoints
- Plan, rehearse and deliver presentations
- Justify personal opinions and negotiate with others

At home:

You can support the work being done in the Learning Space by:

- Giving your child opportunities to ask lots of questions
- Discussing meaningful situations and events (encourage your child to offer opinions and clarify understandings)

Easter Hat Parade/Easter Raffle

Our Easter Hat Parade is tomorrow from 2pm in the school playground (weather permitting). This will be followed by the Easter Raffle.

Our thanks to our parent helpers, Claire, Tanya, Tania, Dania, Melba, Rima, Kabita, Katrina and Claudia for assisting with the wrapping of the Easter raffle prizes. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!

