



UNITY IN DIVERSITY

St Oliver's Mini Newsletter

Term 3

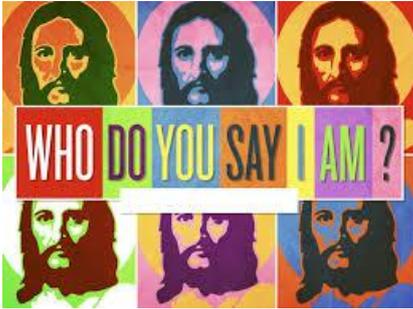
Week 7

2014

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Gospel Mt 16:13-20 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are Peter; to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in

heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

Reflection

This Gospel is about the character of our understanding of Christ, and our understanding of discipleship that flows from it. Who do you say I am? In this liturgical context, the same question is posed to us. If Jesus were to pose this question today, how would we answer?

Like Peter, we to may have good intentions, but when they are put to the test we realise that was all that they were – good intentions. Still, we should not be discouraged by our weaknesses, for just as Peter's failure did not deter God from entrusting him with power and authority, so our failures need not be obstacles to God's grace in our lives. We watch God, entrust the church to individuals who are weak and undependable, and we realise that judgments are inscrutable and God's ways unsearchable.

The question that Jesus asks the disciples is a question he asks of all of us. How we answer that question reflects our relationship with Jesus. But more importantly, how we answer that question reflects the way we live our life in response to who we believe Jesus to be. If we truly say that we believe in Jesus as the son of God, then how do we live our lives in such a way that we act on that belief? The gospel shows us that an inadequate answer to that question leads us to missing the point of all that Jesus is.

Just being part of the 'Catholic crowd' is hardly the challenge Jesus presents to the disciples in today's Gospel. We are commissioned like the disciples to bear witness to Christ's personal love in the workplace, with our friends and in our families. It's always helpful to be reminded that we might be the only face of Catholicism, or even Christianity, that another person may encounter. The way in which we bind them up or set them free might be the measure by which they judge if the Church is the face of Christ in today's world and whether they could find a home with us.

Prayer

God of wisdom, you have built your Church on a firm foundation. Help us that we may develop our understanding of Jesus and have a true relationship with him, giving witness to Christ, the Son of the living God. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



Who do you say that I am?

W	L	A	R	U	Y	V	R	E	O	A	R	L	A	G
K	E	I	F	G	I	F	D	E	V	S	T	P	X	V
D	L	P	V	X	C	T	U	R	V	K	A	F	U	Q
Q	I	H	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	A	N	S
Y	J	T	S	V	N	N	S	T	X	D	A	H	Z	G
H	A	B	B	O	D	G	A	U	R	O	O	L	D	D
N	H	Q	K	V	R	L	Y	Z	A	J	J	E	E	V
D	E	J	Q	C	H	R	I	S	T	J	S	R	V	D
P	R	O	P	H	E	T	S	V	F	S	E	B	T	H
J	E	R	E	M	I	A	H	J	E	W	E	A	R	R
J	A	Z	L	I	R	P	G	L	S	L	I	O	E	K
J	F	A	T	H	E	R	B	N	P	M	V	T	M	U
O	W	V	L	O	D	M	A	O	M	W	E	B	K	G
W	M	G	D	D	M	X	E	G	P	P	X	R	J	O
N	P	I	E	V	R	P	H	X	X	W	A	O	D	



Christ, the Son of the living God!

Focus On Learning



National Literacy and Numeracy Week

National Literacy and Numeracy Week aims to raise community awareness of the importance of literacy and numeracy skills for all Australian students.

Engaging in your child's education

Parents can have a big impact on their children's education. Over 40 years of research tells us that how well children do at school has a lot to do with what happens at home. Parents are the first and most important influence on a child's attitudes and values toward school and learning. By creating a home environment that encourages a continuous love of learning from an early age, you can help your child to achieve positive outcomes throughout their schooling and beyond.

How you can get involved

On Thursday from 1.45-2.45pm you can join with your child, other students and the teachers to participate in literacy and numeracy activities in the Learning Space.

Literacy Activities

At home you may like to:

- borrow the nominated Literacy Week book *Sunday Chutney* from your local library and read it aloud with your children. Other great books include this list of books written by the *Sunday Chutney* author Aaron Blabey:
 - Sunday Chutney
 - Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley
 - Stanley Paste
 - The Ghost of Miss Annabel Spoon
 - The Dreadful Fluff
 - Noah Dreary
 - The Brothers Quibble
- make one day a week where the family read a book, a part of a book, or a poem aloud with each other (refer to Mem Fox's [read aloud tips for some guidance](#).)
- look at some of the [poetry resources](#) on the National Literacy and Numeracy Week website and research different types of poetry
- share your favourite book genres and favourite authors with your children

Numeracy Activities

This year the numeracy activity is all about water. You may like to:

- talk about water sources in the house,
- discuss different types of water containers (e.g. glasses, bottles, jugs etc)
- investigate the different volumes of containers
- find out how water gets to your house (e.g. do you have a water tank? Do you re-cycle water)

The National Literacy and Numeracy Week website has a range of information and resources for parents. Make sure you visit the website

www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au

Father's Day BBQ

Friday 5th September from 7:30am, Fathers, Grandfathers and Carers please come and join us for a free sausage sizzle.

