

St Oliver's Primary Newsletter

Term 4

Week 7

2013

Celebrating Learning At St Oliver's



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Dates to Remember!

22nd November- Year 6 Fundraising Day,
29th November – Year 5 Assembly - 2.30pm, Subway Meal Deal
6th December – Christmas Concert – 6pm
13th December – Thanksgiving/Graduation Mass – 9.15am, Parent Helper Brunch – 10.30am,
Year 6 Farewell Assembly – 2pm
16th December – Year 6 Social Evening – 6.00 -8.30pm
17th December – Year 6 Day Out
18th December – Students Last Day

SCHOOL NEWS

Oli's Café - Canteen News

Next Tuesday 26th November the Canteen will be open from 8am serving homemade pancakes, hash browns and other breakfast treats. ***Volunteers are needed to help on the day*** Friday 29th November is Subway meal deal, please return your order by Tuesday 26th November. We have some hot food specials available from this week until sold – Rice King Vegetarian Fried Rice and Enrico Potato & Bacon Bake now both only \$1.50 – save \$1 ***Available for lunch orders only***



Catholic Education Office - First Social Justice Expo

Join the Archdiocese of Sydney for their very first social justice expo, Faith in Action. This is a fantastic opportunity for young people (15-30 years) to learn about social justice programs and initiatives they can get involved with, meet other passionate young people, and be inspired to serve God in the mission for Justice and Peace!

It will be held Saturday 30 November from 10am – 4pm, at the University of Notre Dame, Sydney Broadway campus. Don't miss out – register online at <http://faithinaction2013.org/>. For more information, phone 9390 5935.

Active After School Sports

The last after school sport sessions for this year will be on Tuesday 26th or Thursday 28th November (Week 8). For all those parents whose children have participated in these sessions this term please make sure you make alternative arrangements for after school care and pick up from that date until the end of term.

LOWES
SPECIAL PROMOTION FOR

St Oliver's Harris Park
SPECIAL SALES DAY'S

Lowes Parramatta
28th to 29th November
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer

RECEIVE **15% DISCOUNT**
Off the regular price on all uniform items for
St Oliver's Harris Park

PLUS
BONUS EZY-WAY 5% DISCOUNT
additional for Lowes Ezy-Way customers

OR 5% REWARDS
Lowes Rewards Card holders receive in-store Gift Vouchers
to the value of 5% of their purchase

PLUS
Lowes will pay your school annual **5% rebate** on every
uniform purchased in-store.

See your receipt below if you need to be aware of conditions and/or discounts regarding your school orders.

Name: _____ Mobile: _____
E-mail: _____ Name of School: _____

Gospel Lk 21:5-19 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your endurance will win you your life.

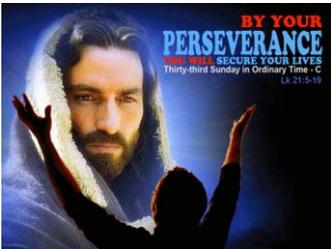
When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, ‘All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.’ And they put to him this question: ‘Master,’ they said, ‘when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?’

‘Take care not to be deceived,’ he said, ‘because many will come using my name and saying, “I am he” and, “The time is near at hand.” Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.’ Then he said to them, ‘Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

‘But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defense, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.’

Reflection

This week marks the final week of Ordinary Time in the Church’s liturgical calendar. We are almost to the end of our journey through the gospel of Luke. Next week’s reading of the crucifixion concludes the Year of Luke. It is in this context that we need to read today’s gospel passage. Jesus and his disciples are gathered around the Temple in Jerusalem in the final days before he is to be put to death. We must remember that the gospel of Luke was written around 50 years after the death of Jesus. In today’s Gospel Jesus speaks to a demoralised people who thought, and maybe hoped, that it would all be over soon. In such a context people are most likely to follow the loudest voice to what appears like the safest place and so Jesus offers us the hope of God’s fidelity whatever suffering we may endure. We are challenged to counter despair, not place our trust in things or institutions which we can see but to not be afraid and stand up for faith and hope.



When bad things happen to good people, when they happen to us, we have choices. We can give into desolation, depression and despair. Some of us make a life-long career out of it .Or we can choose to hope. St Augustine tells us hope is based on the justice God wants in this world, and will see done in the next. Sometimes rather than looking at ourselves we choose to sometimes blame God.

St Thomas Aquinas teaches us that hope, along with faith and love, is one of the prongs in the anchor of Christian belief. No matter how stormy are the waters, how much we are tossed and buffeted by life’s winds, this anchor keeps us rooted in God until calmer seas return. Hope is about holding on, come what may. Today’s Gospel is not interested in a timetable for disaster. It’s about encouraging us to drop the anchor of hope overboard when the times get tough. The message to a struggling community is to ‘keep going.’ Very often, when people get nervous about ‘the end of the world’, it’s because there is a lot of fear of death and final judgment. But actually, the odds are not very high that tomorrow will be the last day of the world. The odds, however, are very high that tomorrow will be the last day of someone’s life. That’s because many people die every day. We never know when it will be our turn. When it happens to someone we love, it is tragic and often sudden and shocking even though we know that, sooner or later, it happens to us all. Instead of worrying about living the last day of the world, why not begin to appreciate life and those we love as if every day could be our last? (or their last?)

Prayer Dear God, at the end of the day let the work of our hands speak clearly of you.

Whether we work, eat, play, talk or take time with each other, let it whisper of life’s fullness and of your goodness. When we love each other let the world know you are here in our midst, loving us first. When our days are finished, let our whole lives, all that has been, be witness to your name, Christ Jesus, Lord of All
Send us your Spirit of Love This day. Amen.

Franca Bonserio, Religious Education Coordinator

InfoZone

Welcome to the Library and Technology section of the St Oliver's Newsletter

MAC VISIT

We were fortunate to have a Mac expert visit us to explore the intricacies of iMovie and creative apps.



LIBRARY BORROWING

The last library borrowing for this year will be next week, Week 8. Books should be returned the following week, Week 9. Children may not borrow over the Christmas holiday period.

If children are leaving the school or finishing before the end of term could you please ensure that they return any outstanding Library books and Home Readers. The school must be reimbursed for any damaged or lost books.

PARRAMATTA LIBRARY

<http://www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/play/facilities/library>

Parramatta library and its five branch libraries allow members to borrow many books at once. This is great for holiday reading. It is free to join – and there are translation services available.

Parramatta Library is open from 9.30am – 8pm on Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 4pm on Saturday and 2pm – 5pm on Sunday.

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

We will participate in the 2014 Premier's Reading Challenge. It is a wonderful incentive to read quality literature and to promote the benefits of reading. The 2013 certificates should arrive next week.

Lesley Quinn
Teacher Librarian

Unity in Diversity

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