



St Oliver's Mini Newsletter

Term 4

Week 8

2013

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Gospel Lk 23:35-43A reading from the holy Gospel according Luke.

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. 'Jesus,' he said, 'Remember me when you come into your Kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'Today you will be with me in paradise.'

Reflection The Feast of Christ the King was introduced to the liturgical calendar by Pope Pius XI in 1925. The establishment of the feast took place in a world that had suffered through the First World War and was unknowingly heading towards the Second World War. In this setting, the world was experiencing a dramatic growth in secularism and an even more dramatic growth in dictators who were rising to power in various states. The introduction of the feast was a call back from the secular and a call to remember Christ as having authority above and beyond any earthly leader. The Gospel is about the good thief; he remains a thief right up to the very end and slipped into the kingdom with the timing which was too fine. He repented just in time and almost left it too late. The Gospels in the last week is about repentance. Jesus rules in our hearts and minds. We are called to make a change. This can be painful. We need to remove a malignant habit or behaviour, adjusting to external change is difficult, internal change is even more difficult. It calls for courage. Jesus has taught us the possibilities of the cross.

This year used the image of the "door of faith." A door was opened for me, and now I ask you:

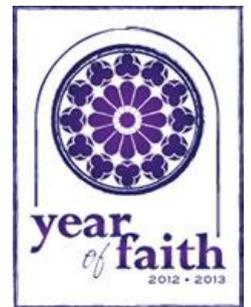
Did you find the open door and make the choice to walk through?

Did you accept the challenge of the Year of Faith—to evangelise and bear witness with a joyous heart?

What difference did your efforts make in living your faith?

What difference did the year make to those around you—catechists, children, and families?

On November 24, 2013, the Year of Faith came to a close. For this year, we were called to be intentional disciples announcing to the world the Gospel. We were called especially "to bear witness to the joy of a life lived in faith." And so that is what I set out to do.



Advent will begin on Sunday 1st December. Advent is a season of preparation: we shop for gifts, plan parties, and decorate our homes for the coming of Christmas. Sometimes it is easy to forget the real mission of Advent: preparing our hearts for the coming of Jesus Christ. We are bombarded by commercial messages in which the reason for Christmas—Emmanuel, "God with us"—is absent or overlooked. However, the rituals and practices of our Catholic liturgies during this season can join us together with the People of God. United, we can offer messages of challenge and find hope and express our desire for God's presence in our midst.



Congratulations to the children who are making the Sacrament of First Eucharist and Confirmation this Sunday 1st December at 11.30 at St Oliver's Church. Please come along to show your support for these children. Jesus Christ broke the bread and took a cup of wine, which he identified with his blood to be poured out on the cross, establishing a new covenant (promise), a new relationship forever between God and human beings. Every time we celebrate the Eucharist we accept with praise and thanksgiving this new and everlasting relationship with God.



Most of the accounts of Baptism in the New Testament associate the gift of the Holy Spirit with Baptism, and in the early Church the two sacraments were closely related, as they are in the Eastern tradition. However, as this account shows, there was also some separation in time between Baptism in water and the laying on of hands, which we associate with the sacrament of Confirmation and the gift of the Holy Spirit. The apostles went to the newly baptised believers in Samaria to lay hands on them and they received the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Franca Bonserio

Religious Education Coordinator

Dates to Remember!

29th November
Year 5 Assembly – 2.30pm
Subway Meal Deal

6th December
Christmas Concert - 6.00pm

13th December
Thanksgiving/Graduation Mass – 9.15am
Parent Helper Brunch – 10.30am
Year 6 Farewell Assembly – 2.00pm

16th December
Year 6 Social Evening – 6.00-8.30pm

17th December
Year 6 Day Out

18th December
Students Last Day



Book Club

Orders for Issue 8 (November 2013) are now closed.

Olies Café News

The canteen will be open on the evening of the Christmas Concert serving Christmas treats.



Subway Meal Deal – 29th November for pre ordered meals only, if you have not pre ordered your meal do not forget to bring your own lunch as the canteen will not be open.

Christmas Raffle

Raffle tickets have been sent home with each family this week, there are some great prizes to be won including a Panasonic 24" slim LED TV and an iPod Touch. Please return all raffle tickets sold or unsold by next Thursday 5th December. The Raffle will be drawn at the Christmas Concert on Friday 6th December.

FREE fun program for kids to become fitter, healthier & happier



Go4Fun Tip: Ditch the screen and get active!

Go 4: 60 minutes of physical activity every day!

Call now for more information or to find a program near you!

Go4Fun

Do you have a child 7 to 13 years old?
Are you worried about their weight?
Go4Fun can help. Now on weekdays & weekends.

1800 780 900
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