Welcome to 2015

Welcome to 2015. We hope you have had a restful break with your families, and you are ready for the new year.

On Sunday 1 February, we celebrated our Welcoming Mass, where we welcomed all our Kindergarten and new students. We also inducted our new Year 6 leaders and presented them with their leadership badges. It was great to see so many families at mass.

I’d like to send birthday wishes to Father Fernando and Sister Teresa, who celebrated their birthdays on the same day. Happy Birthday! It was also fantastic to see the Sisters again. They made such an impact in the lives of our students, parents and wider community last year, and everyone was very excited to see them on Sunday. A huge thank you to Mrs Kneipp, who worked with me in planning the Mass, and prepared and sung the hymns for our Mass.

Coming up this term, we prepare for one of the most important times in our church calendar, Holy Week. Leading up to Holy Week we also have many whole school celebrations. All dates and locations are listed on the back of the bulletin. It would be great to see parents and members of our community attending.

This year, our Christ-centred leaders will be rotated throughout the year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome into this role for Term 1:

- Kyah Day
- Mattheus Noonan

- Christian Stathopoulos
- Amalie Dona

I look forward to working with all the Year 6 leaders and having their assistance when planning and running school liturgies and masses.

In this issue of the RE newsletter outlines the Sharing our Story Units that will be taught in Term 1 in each stage, the liturgies and masses, the sacramental details and other important information relating to Religious Education.

I look forward to continuing our partnership this year. Please feel free to see me if you have any suggestions or questions about Religious Education at St Monica’s.

Peace and love,

Michelle Rosewell
Religious Education Coordinator
Early Stage 1:
Unit #1: God Loves Me
Students will identify special God-given qualities that make them unique, describe and critically reflect upon ways in which feelings are expressed, recognise and appreciate that God always loves them and identify ways in which they can show their love for their family and friends.
Unit #2: Lent: From Ashes to Easter
Students will identify Ash Wednesday as a special day which is the first day of Lent, recall the story of the first Palm Sunday, recognise special signs and symbols of Lent/Easter and their relevance to the life of Jesus and develop an awareness and appreciation of Lent/Easter through participation in activities and celebrations of other classes and/or the whole school.

Stage 1:
Unit #1: Jesus Helps Me to Love
Students will recognise Baptism as a ritual of initiation into God’s family, where they are called to love, share with, listen to and accept others, recall gospel accounts and parables which demonstrate how Jesus encouraged others to grow, recognise that Jesus calls them to love one another; and list ways of responding to this call and appreciate that as part of God’s family they are called to seek justice, truth and hope.
Unit #2: Lent: Being Alone
Students will recall and reflect upon times of being alone, appreciate that Jesus prayed to God his Father, identify prayer as a means of preparing to celebrate Easter, recognise Lent as a particular time for repentance and participate in a variety of prayerful experiences.

Stage 2:
Unit #1: Talking and Listening to God
Students will identify the values that should inspire the ways in which we communicate with others, retell stories from the Bible which tell of the importance of prayer in the lives of God’s people, grow in appreciation of the prayers and prayer traditions in the Church that have been passed on from generation to generation and work in groups to identify, write and pray prayers of praise, thanks, sorrow and petition, reflect on the experience of spending time alone in individual prayer.
Unit #2: Lent: Practices and Promises
Students will identify and give examples of three forms of Lenten penance, research examples of Old Testament covenants, commandments and laws, describe how God established a covenant relationship with the people of Israel through Moses, explain the importance of the Ten Commandments and laws in the covenant relationship between God and the people of Israel and propose ways in which their relationship with God and others can be renewed this Lent through the fulfilment of promises to undertake Lenten practices.

Stage 3:
Unit #1: Servant Leadership
Students will compare and contrast different styles of leadership, identify and explain characteristics of the servant leadership displayed by Moses and Jesus and apply the Christian ideals of leadership in their school community.
Unit #2: Easter Triduum: Crossroads
Students will recall and explore ‘crossroad’ situations in their own lives when they were faced with making decisions, explain how Jesus, Pilate, Judas, Peter and the other disciples were confronted with ‘crossroad’ situations, link events of Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection with the liturgies celebrated in Holy Week and Easter and dramatise Christian responses to real-life moral dilemmas.

St Monica’s Religious Education Implementation Goal 2015:
For teachers and students to develop a broader understanding of prayer in its various applications.
The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with Thee;
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death. Amen
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.
Hail Mary...
V. And the Word was made Flesh.
R. And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary...
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
LET US PRAY
Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts,
that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made
known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.
Through the same Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

2015 Sacramental Program

If your child has received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and
the Sacrament of Communion and
is in Year 5 or above he/she is eligible to receive the Sacrament of
Confirmation on Friday 22nd May @7:30pm

Registration after Mass on:
- Saturday 21st February @ 5pm Mass
- Sunday 22nd February @ 9am Mass.
Bring Copy of Baptismal Certificate and a Donation of $30.

Parent Only Meeting in School Community Room, Daking Street
on Tuesday 3rd March @ 7:30pm

Sacramental Dates for 2015

- Confirmation: Friday 22 May @ 7:30pm
- Communion: Weekend 23 August @ 9am
- Reconciliation: Friday 20 November @7pm

St Monica’s School Prayer

Dear Lord,
We thank you for our friends, family and teachers
Alleluia Praise the Lord for our houses, our energy to pass the
day, our food and beautiful weather.

Support us now and always. May the peace of Christ be with us
throughout the day.

May St Monica and her son St Augustine help us all through the
week to be more and more like Jesus.

We pray for all parts of the world that are in trouble
St Monica, Pray for us.
Amen

Project Compassion 2015

Project Compassion 2015 focuses on Food for Life. It
throws a spotlight on global food issues and how
Caritas Australia is empowering the world’s poorest
people to establish sustainable food sources for life.

Next week each family will be sent home a project
compassion box, where they have donate or collect
money to donate towards the project compassion
appeal. There will also be project compassion boxes
in each learning space.

Please have a look at the website: caritas.org.au for
more information.

Catholic Schools Week:
‘Educating for today and tomorrow’
Catholic schools week will be held from 8 – 14
March. More details to follow!
## Term 1 Calendar of Upcoming Events

Here is a list of the Liturgies and Masses for Term 1, 2015. There is always an open invitation for you to join us in prayer. We hope that you might take up the opportunity to attend Mass with your child’s class during the Term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Thursday 12 February</td>
<td>Stage 1 Parish Mass</td>
<td>Church, 9:15am</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 February</td>
<td>Shrove Tuesday</td>
<td>Classrooms</td>
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<td>Wednesday 18 February</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass</td>
<td>Church, 9:15am</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td><strong>First Week of Lent</strong></td>
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<td>Thursday 26 February</td>
<td>ES1 Parish Mass</td>
<td>Church, 9:15am</td>
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<td>Friday 27 February</td>
<td>Stage 3 Parish Mass</td>
<td>Church, 9:15am</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td><strong>Second Week of Lent</strong></td>
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<td>Wednesday 4 March</td>
<td>Stage 2 Parish Mass</td>
<td>Church, 9:15am</td>
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<td>Thursday 5 March</td>
<td>Stage 1 Parish Mass</td>
<td>Church, 9:15am</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td><strong>Third Week of Lent</strong></td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td><strong>Fourth Week of Lent</strong></td>
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<td>Tuesday 17 March</td>
<td>St Patrick’s Day Liturgy</td>
<td>Assembly area, 10:30am</td>
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<td>Friday 20 March</td>
<td>Stage 3 Parish Mass</td>
<td>Church, 9:15am</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Wednesday 25 March</td>
<td>Stage 2 Parish Mass</td>
<td>Church, 9:15am</td>
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<td>Wednesday 25 March</td>
<td>Annunciation of the Lord</td>
<td>In class prayer</td>
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<td>Thursday 26 March</td>
<td>ES1 Parish Mass</td>
<td>Church, 9:15am</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td><strong>HOLY WEEK</strong></td>
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<td>Monday 30 March</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>Morning Liturgy</td>
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<td>Tuesday 31 March</td>
<td>Jesus at the Temple</td>
<td>Morning Liturgy</td>
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<td>Wednesday 1 April</td>
<td>The Last Supper</td>
<td>Morning Liturgy</td>
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<td>Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>The Crucifixion</td>
<td>Morning Liturgy</td>
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