

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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St. George's Parish Community Newsletter

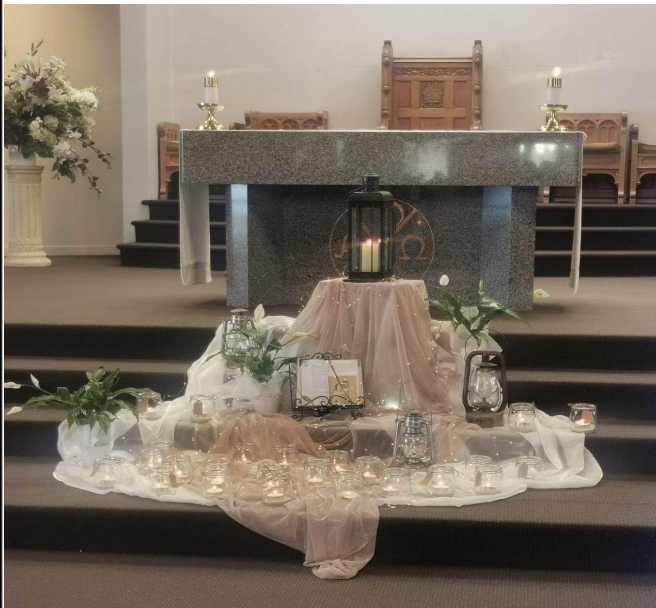
Term 1 - Week 3
13 February - 17 February 2023

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COMMISSIONING MASS 2023

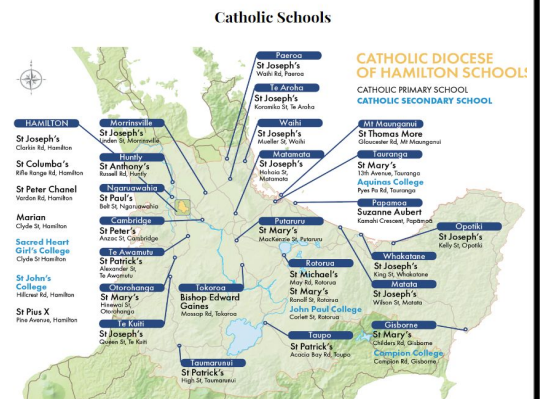
St Joseph's Leaders 'Illuminated'!

From the front: Charlotte Holmes, Hollie Kirkland, Zoe Hitchen, Fern Kersel-Stubbs, Cameron Downey, Suzanne Downey, Eddie Penny, Eti Tanielu-Lava, Kelly Williams and Kristin Kearins. Mrs Erasmus took the photo!



The Leaders of the school and Staff attended the annual Commissioning Mass at the Catholic Cathedral in Hamilton last Wednesday. The Theme this year was 'Salt and Light'. The Hamilton Diocese extends from Ngaruawahia in the North, to Gisborne in the east and Taumarunui in the south. The Mass gave thanks for our schools, teachers and students and we prayed for the 2023 learning year. The sense of unity at these Masses is strong and for the Leaders who came it certainly was an experience to see so many schools together in one place. We are given a school candle for the year which comes back to our school to be lighted at our Assemblies throughout 2023.

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton



DATES TO ADD TO YOUR DIARY!

PLEASE KEEP UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING AT OUR SCHOOL BY HEADING TO THE SCHOOL CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE: [St Joseph's Calendar](#)

FROM MRS. DOWNEY'S DESK THIS WEEK

Kia Ora Koutou e te Whanau. Talofa, Kumasta

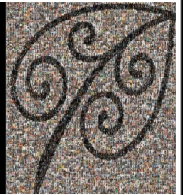
What a week!

Thank you for your understanding before, after and during Cyclone Gabrielle. The destruction around New Zealand is phenomenal. There will be few of us who do not know someone close who is experiencing dire situations for themselves or their livelihood. Times like these we need to pray for each other, remember those who have lost their lives, and give thanks for life and the blessings we have in those around us who care.

Please continue to be vigilant and monitor warnings from Civil Defence, Waitomo District Council and Emergency Services.

Have you a grab bag ready?

WHAKAKĀHORETIA TE KAIKIRI.
KOTAHĪ ANŌ TĀTOU I ROTO I TE KARAITI.
**SAY NO TO RACISM.
WE ARE ONE IN CHRIST.**



Peace Run

The Peace Run runners visited the school on Wednesday. See our separate page for information and photos. It was a wonderful visit. The children were fabulous and so insightful about what Peace is and what it is not. Here is the link to keep an eye on for photos of their visit to St Joseph's www.peacerun.org/us

LENT

The Lenten Season of the church begins with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday 22nd of February (next Wednesday). Ash Wednesday Mass will be 9.15am. Everyone is welcome to attend this special Mass that marks the change liturgical season.

"Lent is a time to STOP, PRAY and REFLECT on what God is asking of me as a person or as an individual"

Why is Lent important to you?

What a time to reset ourselves as people who need to reach out, challenge our biases and explore who God is to us.



The Theme this year is **"I am the Light of the World"**

Every Gospel story in Week 1 has Jesus as the main driving force overcoming challenges, providing life, and restoring hope. **Here is a family prayer to say each day:**

"I am the light of the world"
- John 8:12
"Kō ahau te whakamārama o te ao"
- Hoane 8:12



Prayer Karakia

E te Ariki, Lord,
Help us as we begin our Lenten journey.
May your grace give us the courage to face the many challenges that life presents us.
Teach us to know right from wrong so that we can be a symbol of hope to others.
Help us to pray, fast and give alms this Lent so that we can walk in your footsteps and bring love to our neighbours.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
Āmene.

Week One
Wiki Tuatahi!



PLEASE TAKE NOTE

ATTENDANCE DUES

We thought to keep the links to the documents to apply for financial assistance in the newsletter this week. Please follow this link [Financial Assistance Attendance Dues](#) to print the forms. We can send forms home if you do not have access to a printer. Please be advised that this information will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

TEACHER ONLY DAYS

Our teachers will have Teacher Only Days on 20 March and 24 April 2023. We are giving you advanced notice to enable you to make alternative arrangements for your students on these dates as there will be no school for them. Thank you



KIWISCHOOL'S APP

We would like to recommend the use of this application as it is a one stop shop for all school information and about what is happening at school. This app can be downloaded via the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android) by searching for the Kiwischools App.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

Just a reminder that our school lunch order form is available on our school website. Follow this link to print one off. Lunches can be ordered on Tuesdays and Fridays.
[School lunch order form](#)



ATTENDANCE

Thank you very much for contacting the school in the case of your child being absent. Please continue to do so if your child is not going to be at school for **ANY REASON**. Please call 878 8190 and choose from the available options - please leave a message, speak to someone in the office, email the office, text on 027 878 8190 or send through an absence notice from the website: [Report an Absence](#) or from the KS app.



STATIONERY FOR 2023

If you have not ordered your student's stationery yet, please do so by following this link [Stationery](#) to the myschool website. We have an All of Government agreement with Officemax to offer our parents very reasonable prices for the stationery your student will need for school this year. Thank you



RIPPA RUGBY

Dan won't be running any Rippa programmes in term one or two, but is looking to be Rippa-focused in term three in the lead up to the local competition which attracted massive numbers last year.



TACKLE 5's

A new initiative from Bay of Plenty Rugby in 2023 is 'Tackle 5s' – a five-a-side tournament for Year 5 and 6 students as they begin to start playing Saturday morning tackle rugby.

King Country Rugby is going to run its own Tackle 5's Festival on June 7 (Wednesday) in Turangi, which schools can enter teams into. We are awaiting confirmation from Dan about bookings for a ball skills afternoon and a tackle skills afternoon. Please contact Sarah Riley if you are interested in coming along and learning with the students.

PEACE RUN AT SCHOOL

“Run, Run, Run, Run, Peace Run”

This is the beginning of a song that the Peace Run Runners taught us on Wednesday this week.



The Peace Run is a worldwide relay run. Runners carry a torch – the Peace Torch. The torch is passed from hand to hand, from person to person, as we travel from nation to nation. Since its founding in 1987, the Run has visited almost every country on earth – over 150 nations and territories – and touched the lives of millions of people.

Two of our students were awarded as **Peace Ambassadors**. Thanya Pandian and Diohan Davao. Both of these students were chosen for their peacemaking skills across our school and community. Congratulations Thanya and Diohan!



READINGS AND GOSPEL FOR 19th FEBRUARY

First Reading

Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them:

“Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

“You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.”

The word of the Lord

Psalm 102 (103):1-4,8,10,12-13

R: The Lord is kind and merciful

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are; or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

The word of the Lord

Gospel

Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

The Gospel of the Lord

'Love your enemies'



Readings for next week: 1st Sunday of Lent

First reading Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-17

Second Reading Romans 5: 12-19

Psalm 50(51):3-6,12-14,17

Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

