



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 5 Term 4

14th November, 2014

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Do you ever go through times when everything seems insurmountable? Probably quite often so you might relate to waking in the middle of the night, dilemmas going around in your head, questions to answer. This seems to be symptomatic for principals especially at this time of year.

One of the most valued times throughout the work week is when staff gathers in prayer. Over the past few weeks, I have shared some of these reflections with the community through this Newsletter. These are centred on the Scripture being studied in the respective classes. In Kindergarten, the students are learning about the Birth of Jesus and, today, Mrs Callaghan's prayer focussed on the Gospel of St Luke 1:26-38. This story, of course, begins with the Annunciation. Much emphasis is placed on the fact that Mary said, 'Yes' to God. For this reason, Mary is viewed as the perfect disciple and one to which we look as the perfect example to follow in our own lives.

Can you think of times when you have been asked to do something very important? Take on an important role? After the initial sense of privilege, our response would likely be one to make suggestions, altering the original plan. Mary, however, was so humbled and had such faith that she completely gave herself to God in full faith of His plan, a sense of, '*Do with me whatever You please*'.

It is not likely that, while we are doing the ironing or watching TV in our living room, that we will receive a visit from the Angel Gabriel with a special request from God. So how does God ask us to do His will? How do we know? I believe it is in everyday, the very ordinary things. In happy times and stressful times, like the current, is God calling on me to 'keep the faith'. Ask the Holy Spirit for the gifts of strength and right judgment to do my work – His work- as best can be.

CONGRATULATIONS.

Fr Warren and I are delighted to announce that Mrs Callaghan has been appointed into the substantive role of Religious Education Coordinator of Our Lady of the Angels School.

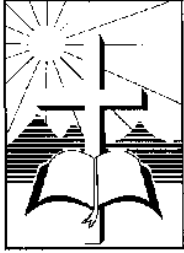
This year, Mrs Callaghan has been in the temporary position which she shared with Mr Baker. This is a very important role in the leadership team of our school leading our school as a faith-filled, celebrating and serving community.

I wish Emma Kate the very best and have full confidence that she is the right person for the role and will do an excellent job.



Dates to Remember

Mon 17 th Nov:	Stage 3 CPR training
Mon 24 th Nov:	Swimming Program commences for Kindy & Yr 3
Mon 8 th Dec:	Feast of Immaculate Conception
Wed 10 th Dec:	Year 6 Graduation Mass and Supper 6pm
Mon 15 th Dec:	Year 6 Fun day
Tues 16 th Dec:	End of Year School Mass 10am
Wed 17 th Dec:	Motiv8 Fun day whole school LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS



Gospel Reflection

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 25:14-30

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

This parable teaches that God's judgment will be based on the service we render to God and to one another in accordance with the gifts that God has given to us. Our gifts, or talents, are given to us for the service of others. If we fail to use these gifts, God's judgment on us will be severe. On the other hand, if we make use of these gifts in service to the Kingdom of Heaven, we will be rewarded and entrusted with even more responsibilities. Our life of prayer helps us to discern the gifts that have been given to us by God. God's grace allows us to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven.

This weekend with your family...

In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about the correlation between faithfulness and responsibilities. Family life provides many opportunities to illustrate this connection for children. As children prove themselves trustworthy, they can be trusted to take on greater responsibilities. Jesus teaches us in this parable that when we show ourselves to be trustworthy in small matters; we can be trusted to participate in greater matters of responsibility. As a family, choose one thing to do this week to serve others. Conclude in prayer together, asking God's help so that your family may serve others more faithfully.

(Sourced and modified from: <http://www.loyolapress.com/sunday-connection.htm>)

Celebrate something special this weekend!

Mr Andrew Baker ☺



Family Sacred Space.

Thank you to the **Brown Family** for sponsoring the Family Prayer Space this week.

Next week the sponsor family will be the **Cutuk Family**.

Saint of the Week

St Frances Xavier Cabrini

Feast Day: 13th November



Born: 1850 :: Died: 1917

Frances was born at Lombardy in Italy. She was one of thirteen children and was raised on a farm. As a child, she dreamed about being a missionary to China. She sailed paper boats down a stream to play her "pretend game." The paper boats were ships taking missionaries to China. And she began giving up candy because in China, she probably wouldn't be able to have any.

But when she grew up, Frances was not accepted into the two convents that she asked to join. Her health was not too good, so she taught at girl's school for six years. Then a priest asked her to help out in a small home for orphans. Things were very hard for Frances because of the lady who ran the house. Yet Frances stuck to the work, and some other generous women joined her. Together they took vows.

At last the bishop told Frances to begin her own congregation of missionary nuns, which Frances did without hesitation. This congregation is called the **Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart**.

Soon it began to grow, first in Italy and then in many other countries. Frances, whom everyone called Mother Cabrini, had always had her heart set on going to China. But it seemed that God wanted her to come to America. When Pope Leo XIII told her, "Go west, not east," the matter was settled. St. Frances Xavier Cabrini sailed for the United States and became an American citizen. She helped large numbers of Italian immigrants and was like their real mother and friend.

Mother Cabrini and her sisters found things very difficult in the beginning. The archbishop of New York even suggested that they go back to Italy. But Mother Cabrini answered, "Your excellency, the pope sent me here and here I must stay." The archbishop admired her pioneer spirit, and so she and her sisters were allowed to begin their great work for God. Schools, hospitals, and homes for children were opened up in different states.

As the years passed, Mother Cabrini made many trips to spread her congregation and its works. She founded 67 institutions, and there were always difficulties, but she put all her trust in the Sacred Heart. "It is he who is doing everything, not us," she would say. Mother Cabrini died in Chicago on December 23, 1917.

We can learn from St. Frances Xavier Cabrini that in life we may come across hardships or people who do not like what we are doing, but if you believe you are called to do something and to help people you should never give up. In the end she was able to help many people because she did not give up on her mission from God. Mrs Callaghan ☺ *(Sourced from Holy Spirit Interactive)*

Stage 3 League Tag Gala Day

On Tuesday November 11th, Stage Three participated in a League Tag Gala Day at Doyle Ground, Parramatta. Miss Thomas had shown us how to play effectively during the term. It was a great day to show off how we could work as a team and support each other.

OLA had three teams - two boys teams and a girls team. Although we didn't win, we scored quite a few tries which were celebrated by us all. Thank you to the parents who came and supported us.

A great day was had by all and we are very proud of the sportsmanship displayed by Stage Three.

Mrs Byrne and Miss D'mello



Social skill

Stop!

Take three deep breaths to blow your angry feelings away.

Say or think "I can do it" or "keep trying" or "I'm angry but I'll calm down".

Try again

Ask for help.

Boot Campers of the Week

Congratulations to Luke Robertson and Ethan Kurcubic



Each week we will be looking for two students who show enthusiasm and determination during the boot camp session.

They will be rewarded with a certificate and a \$10 gift voucher kindly sponsored by Woolworths IT.



FAMILY & LIFE OFFICE



AFTERNOON EVENT FOR FATHERS

Topic:

The critical importance of Fathering

The afternoon will include:

- A discussion on the importance of the Role of Fathers and Grandfathers
- Some practical insights and information on Intentional Fathering

Speakers:

Robert Falzon, Founder of menALIVE
and co-author of *The Father Factor*

Ben Smith, Director of the Family
& Life Office, Parramatta

The afternoon will conclude with a launch of the book,
“*The Father Factor*” by Peter O’Shea and Robert Falzon

This is a must attend event for all Fathers!

1:30 – 4pm, November 29
St Patrick’s Cathedral Hall,
1 Marist Place, Parramatta

To RSVP or for more information
please contact Ben Smith on
bsmith@parra.catholic.org.au or 8838 3440



Swimming Programme Continues Next Week for Years 1, 2 and 4

The students will need to wear their swimmers underneath their school uniform (they are allowed to wear their sport uniform each day for swimming) and will need to bring the following items with them each day:-

- Thongs or sandals to change into and wear to and from the pool
- Towel
- Underwear
- T-shirt or jacket to wear to and from the pool
- Goggles – optional (these **MUST** be labelled)
- Swimming cap – optional. The students must have their hair tied back if it is long enough to cover their eyes when wet, otherwise the swim school recommends that parents provide a labelled swim cap.
- Please note: rash vests are **not** to be worn as it is an indoor pool.

Please make sure that **everything** is labelled and that your child recognises what he/she is bringing to school. Please understand that it is the children's responsibility to look after their own belongings.

From the P&F.....

Second Hand Clothing

As we approach the end of the year, you may have uniform items that your children have outgrown. If you have any items of clothing that you would like to **donate** to the OLA Second Hand Clothing Shop, please send in the clean items to the school office in a plastic bag as soon as possible.

In the coming weeks, there will be an opportunity to purchase from the OLA Second Hand Clothing Shop, dates to be advised.

P&F Committee

FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

St Patrick's Cathedral 'A Spring Affair' Fundraising Dinner

Tickets include pre-dinner drinks & canapés, 2-course dinner with wine & soft drinks, entertainment. Dress code – cocktail.

Date: Friday 14 November, 6.30pm for 7pm.

Venue: St Patrick's Cathedral Hall & Cloister, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta.

Tickets: \$65PP (seniors' discount \$60PP). Tickets available after Mass at the Cathedral. For credit card purchases contact the Cathedral Office tel (02) 8839 8400.

Christian Meditation Day

This Christian Meditation Introduction & Renewal Day at St Benedict's Monastery includes presentations, Introduction to Christian Meditation, two periods of meditation, Eucharistic Celebration and information exchange. BYO picnic lunch. Tea & coffee provided. Books & CDs for sale. All welcome.

Date: Sunday 16 November, arrive 10am for 10.30am, concludes about 3pm.

Venue: Monastery is at 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, tel (02) 9653 1159. Self-catering accommodation may be available in the monastery guest house. Contact Br Terry 0438 282 318.

Inquiries: Ann Bergman (02) 9498 2625, anniebergman@hotmail.com

Australian Catholic Historical Society Colloquium

This month's topic is Making Hymns with James McAuley: liturgical change in Australian Catholic life. Speaker: Richard Connolly, composer and former head, ABC Radio Drama and Features. Admission free, no membership required.

Date: Sunday 16 November, starts 2.30pm.

Venue: Crypt Hall of St Patrick's at Church Hill, Grosvenor St, The Rocks.

Inquiries: Dr John Carmody, President ACHS, (02) 9417 2082, john.carmody@sydney.edu.au

Holy Hour for Vocations on 20 November

Everyone is welcome to join the Holy Hour for Vocations on the 3rd Thursday of each month for an hour of adoration, prayer, music and quiet time. To find out more about priesthood in the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta contact Fr Warren Edwards – Vocations Director: tel 0409 172 700, vocations@parra.catholic.org.au

Date: Thursday 20 November, from 7pm-8pm.

Venue: Blessed Sacrament Chapel, St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Plc, Parramatta.

Faith at the Fiddler

A forum for young people aged 18-35 to come together to discuss issues of faith and spirituality in the warm and friendly atmosphere of Sydney's most famous pub. This month's speaker is Sherry Weddell. Topic: 'Forming Intentional Disciples – The Path to Knowing and following Jesus'. An initiative of the Diocese of Parramatta and Catholic Education Parramatta.

Date: Thursday 20 November, from 5pm-7pm.

Venue: The Mean Fiddler, cnr Commercial & Windsor Rds, Rouse Hill.

Details: Steven Buhagiar – Catholic Education, Parramatta, sbuhagiar@parra.catholic.edu.au

Rachel's Vineyard Healing Retreat

This weekend retreat is designed to bring psychological and spiritual healing to anyone who has been affected by an abortion experience including women, men, couples and grandparents. Rachel's Vineyard Ministries Australia is supported by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

Dates: Friday 21 November to Sunday 23 November.

Venue: Mount St Benedict Centre, Pennant Hills.

Inquiries: tel or SMS 0400 092 555, info@rachelsvineyard.org.au

Write to: PO Box 317, St Peters, NSW, 2044. Visit: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au

Recollection and Prayer Day

Nurses, doctors, allied health workers, carers and all who have a loving heart for the sick are invited to a Recollection and Prayer Day. The aim of the day is for those in the caring professions to have a time of prayer and recollection and be renewed in their professional calling. It is hoped that by coming together with others your first love of your profession will be rekindled and the fire reignited.

Keynote address by Fr Marcelo (Bong) Pamintuan MI, Camillian Priest and Chaplain to The Children's Hospital Westmead. The day will include discussion, prayer times, quiet time, group sharing and a closing liturgy. Reconciliation will also be available.

Venue: Sacred Heart Parish, 14 Ralph Street, Westmead.

Date: Saturday 22 November 2014 from 10am-3pm. There is a 9am Parish Mass preceding the prayer day.

Suggested donation \$10: BYO lunch, morning tea (tea & coffee provided).

Inquiries: Michelle tel (02) 4734 3150 (BH) or michelled95@hotmail.com

Vocation Discernment Weekend on 22-23 November

All young men who feel God might be calling them to the priesthood are invited to the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta's Vocation Discernment Weekend. To find out more about priesthood in the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta contact Fr Warren Edwards – Vocations Director tel 0409 172 700 or email: vocations@parra.catholic.org.au

Faith in Our Future: A Day of Growth and Friendship

In keeping with the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, Faith in Our Future, Life Ascending Australia has chosen 'Fulfilment of Faith in our later years' as the subject for a reflection day. The day is aimed mainly at the over 50s however everyone is welcome. There will be two theme-based sessions, Mass, plus a presentation on the Church in Samoa, including a Samoan choir.

Date: Tuesday 25 November, commences 9.30am, concludes 2.30pm.

Venue: Winbourne, 1315 Mulgoa Rd, Mulgoa.

Cost: Suggested donation of \$15 to defray costs, includes morning tea, BYO lunch, tea & coffee.

Details: Margaret Smith tel (02) 4753 1031, cliffmargaretsmith@hotmail.com

An invitation from the Good Sams

Is there something More to life? The Sisters of the Good Samaritan – the Good Sams – extend an invitation to young women to join them for a weekend of prayer, reflection and conversation. Experience the Good Sam story and explore the More to life for you. Does God make a difference? YES for Good Samaritan Sisters.

Dates: Friday 28 November 6pm to Sunday 30 November 5pm.

Venue: Mount St Benedict Centre, Pennant Hills Rd, Pennant Hills.

Further information: www.goodsams.org.au

Festive Lunch at Gabby's at Berry

Travel with the Social Group from Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish at Greystanes to the small historic township of Berry on the picturesque South Coast. Gabby's, with its sweeping timber staircase and spectacular leadlight windows is the venue for our three-course festive feast. Entertainment included.

Date: Tuesday 2 December. Bus departs 8.45am at 20 Virgil St and 8.50am at the bus stop opposite OLQP Church, 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes.

Cost: \$65 including coach, morning tea & lunch.

Book now, places filling fast: Payment in full required at time of booking with Marie (02) 9896 7046, 0414 782 358 or Frances (02) 9636 5548, 0421 027 119.

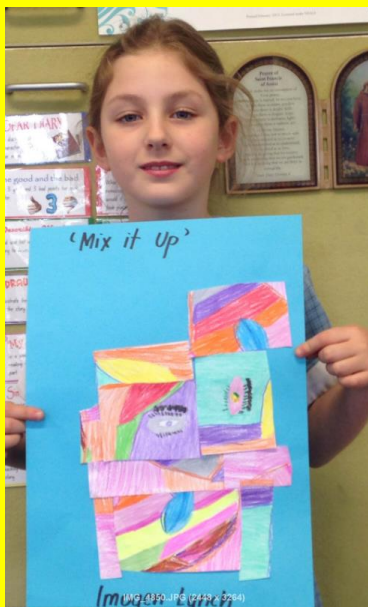
Christmas Choir

Mr Quirk has been working with some children in the school choir this term and would now like to extend an invitation to any children in years 1-6 who would like to be part of the Special Christmas Choir. The Special Christmas Choir will perform an item at the school Christmas carols on December 16th. Participation in this choir is a privilege and requires a commitment from the children. Rehearsals will take place each Wednesday morning at 8.20am in the music room with Mr Quirk. Hope to lots of children there.

From the Classroom of 3W

Over the last few weeks Year 3 have been investigating and appreciating the famous Pablo Picasso. We were all amazed at the artists 'different' style, in particular his work on Cubism.

Here are some of our own masterpieces....



From the Parish Office...

Parish Priest: Fr Warren Edwards

Assistant Priest: Fr Joby Kadambattuparambil Ittira

Mass times:

Sat vigil: 5:30pm **Sunday:** 8:30am, 10am & 5.30pm.

Weekdays: Mon -Sat: 9 am Wed -7pm Novena Mass to St Joseph for special intercessions for the Building of our Church.

Email: parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

Website: www.ourladyoftheangels.org.au

Ph: 8883 4063 **Fax:** 9629 7603

Would you like to be a foster carer – Take the Leap?



More than 60 children and young people are entering care every week across New South Wales.

Foster care agency, MacKillop Family Services, is in need of foster carers in the Hills District, people willing to open their hearts and homes to some of the state's most vulnerable children.

All types of carers are needed – respite, immediate, short and long term.

If you are interested, MacKillop is holding a no obligation, free Foster Care Information Session in the James Cusack Room of the Vinegar Hill Memorial Community Centre at Rouse Hill Town Centre (above the Library) on Thursday, 27 November from 6.15pm – 8.00pm.

The session will cover information about the different types of foster care, steps to becoming a foster carer, and how carers are supported by agencies like MacKillop. The event will also provide an opportunity for you to meet current carers.

If you are interested in attending please let MacKillop know by contacting Louise on (02) 8881 4800 or email louise.carson@mackillop.org.au.

Term 4 Week 6			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Kinder B	Lachlan Banovic	Matilda Wallis	Luke Garofano
Kinder G	Jericho Cruz	Eva Mercieca	Ayden Stewart
Kinder W	Lucas Monks	Lara Kelly	Lucas Cajic
Year 1B	Sienna Gibson	Makiah Arora	Christian Attard
Year 1 G	Braithe Mander	Kray Siason	Amelia Novelli
Year 1W	Sienna Mooney	Max Fischer	Patrick Leach
Year 2 B	Ava Mander	Liam Doyle	Georgia Domars
Year 2 W	Sofia Silva	Alisa Adhihetty	Ashton Galea
Year 3 B	Rory McArdle	Natasha Eyles	Trinity Johnston
Year 3 G	Lily Cassar	Ailbhe Gannon	John-Paul Colosimo
Year 3 W	Sebastian Mileto	Breanna Debrincat	Imogen Lynch
Year 4 B	Isabelle Doueihy	Cooper Brown	Tiarne McLuskey
Year 4 W	Lachlan Monks	Gizelle Chang	Anthony Parada
Year 5/6 B	Riyantha Naidu	Nicholas Cutroni	Luke Robertson
Year 5/6 W	Ella Girdham	Samuel Fitzgerald	Hayden Burt