



# Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 6 Term 3

21<sup>st</sup> August, 2015

## NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Last Monday, staff gathered for our annual Formation and Reflection Day. The focus of the day was the text, 'Forming Intentional Disciples' by Sherry Weddell.

In our role as members of a Catholic school staff, we have the privileged opportunity and responsibility to bring our students into relationship with Jesus Christ. Weddell talks about the *five thresholds of conversion* –

**Initial Trust, Spiritual Curiosity, Spiritual Openness, Spiritual Seeking, Intentional Discipleship.**

Each of us is at a different threshold in our faith journey. This is only normal. At times we encounter challenges that may send us backward. However, wherever we are, we are mandated to take the steps that send us forward into active discipleship. Some key questions we took with us are:

Where is God in all of 'this' for you?

Do I recognise God in the ordinary around me?

How can I heighten this awareness in me? In others?

Last week a student asked one of the teachers why we need to clean up when we have a cleaner paid to do it. The teacher responded along the lines of, "When the leper came to Jesus to be cured, did he respond with, 'Why should I bother, since you're only going to hang around with the others.'" This set the child thinking. As a Catholic, I consciously walk the day with Jesus, my friend, by my side, in my thoughts and in what I do. A question raised on the day is, 'What do people who don't have God in their lives do?'

Out of our day together, staff members are committed to be more proactive in heightening awareness of Jesus in our presence to others around them. This has already begun through our grade Liturgies attended by parents. The challenge has been out there to 'dare' to talk Gospel/God/Jesus beyond the school. One parent reported that she raised the topic during family dinner that night and was going to try to continue. Good for her. Many parents already do this. How many others will take up the challenge and become 'intentional disciples'?

I thank Mrs Byrne, Acting REC for organising and leading this special day for the staff.



**WELCOME!!**

*to Fr John Rizzo as assistant priest at Our Lady of the Angels Parish. We look forward to getting to know you better very soon.*

**NAPLAN 2015**

Today, students in Years 3 and 5 received their NAPLAN results. I am pleased to announce that OLA, once again, performed higher than the state average in all domains, overall.



**This Monday (24<sup>th</sup> Aug) is  
GRANDPARENTS' DAY AT OLA**

**The events will begin with Mass at 9am, with Fr John Rizzo, newly appointed Assistant Priest for the parish.**

**Following Mass will be morning tea. The students will have an extended morning break commencing at 10.10am. This will be an opportunity to share time on the playground together and visit the Book Fair with your children/grandchildren.**

**Morning break will conclude at 10.55 am at which time grandparents are asked to make their way to the hall for the concert which will begin at Approximately 11.15 am and will conclude with the Angelus by 12 noon.**

### Dates to Remember

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Aug:** Grandparents Day; Book fair

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Aug:** Book Fair – last day

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Aug:** Book Parade commencing at 2.10pm followed by assembly.

**Daily class Masses as normal in Week 8**

**Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept:** Fathers' day Stall; Year 6 class Liturgy

**Thurs. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept:** Yr 1,2,3 Eisteddfod

**Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Fathers' Day Breakfast from 7.30am followed but Liturgy at 8.50am (please note this change)

## Zone Athletics Carnival

We were very proud of our seven students who today represented OLA at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival. They all competed brilliantly and it was very exciting to watch them. Congratulations to our junior girls relay team – Claudia Coombes, Seronique Taylor, Hollie Ford & Jade Richardson, and to Tyler Spiteri (shotput & discus) who have made it through to the next level, the Inter-Diocesan Carnival. Well done everyone!!



## GOSPEL REFLECTION

**John 6:60-69**

**Many Disciples Desert Jesus**

**On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?” Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life. Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them.” From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”**

In Sunday's Gospel, the crowd who have been listening to Jesus has started to diminish and even Jesus' disciples are struggling with Jesus' teaching. They are unable to accept Jesus' words. There are whispers amongst the crowd and His disciples. Jesus responds by recognising their lack of faith and by reiterating that only those chosen by the Father will follow Jesus to the end. It is at this stage that many leave with only twelve remaining behind. Jesus then wonders if those closest to Him will also leave. It is Peter who declares on behalf of the Twelve, that they believe in all Jesus has taught them. They believe that Jesus is the one from God in whom they have found the path to eternal life.

In Sunday's Gospel, there is a focus on the personal faith in the life of Christian discipleship. As Christians, we must make our own judgment about who Jesus is to develop our own personal relationship with God. God's grace invites us to be Jesus' disciples, but each person must respond to the grace of God and confess as his or her own the belief that Jesus is the one from God.

*Mrs Katrina Byrne*

*Acting Religious Education Coordinator*

## Saint Monica

**Feast Day August 27**



St. Monica was married by arrangement to a pagan official in North Africa, who was much older than she, and although generous, was also violent tempered. His mother lived with them and was equally difficult, which proved a constant challenge to St. Monica. She had three children; Augustine, Navigius, and Perpetua. Through her patience and prayers, she was able to convert her husband and his mother to the Catholic faith in 370. He died a year later. Perpetua and Navigius entered the religious life. St. Augustine was much more difficult, as she had to pray for him for 17 years, begging the prayers of priests who, for a while, tried to avoid her because of her persistence at this seemingly hopeless endeavour. One priest did console her by saying, "it is not possible that the son of so many tears should perish." This thought, coupled with a vision that she had received strengthened her. St. Augustine was baptized by St. Ambrose in 387. St. Monica died later that same year, on the way back to Africa from Rome in the Italian town of Ostia.

<http://www.catholic.org/>

# ***SCHOOL UNIFORM***

Upon enrolment into OLA, an agreement was made to observe the school rules. Included in these rules is the commitment to wear correct and uniform as prescribed. Despite numerous pleas and reminders, there are still instances of where this is ignored.

Not only is this contrary to the agreement, it is also a blatant disregard for the majority of the parents who do the right thing and observe the required practice. These parents are teaching their children a lesson that an agreement into which one enters should be honoured. To all of you, THANK YOU, and your children will thank you.

A uniform inspection will be conducted on Monday and Tuesday. The students who are not in correct uniform will be given a verbal reminder. This will be followed up the following week and, if needed, a written reminder to take home to parents. If anyone is not sure of what is 'uniform', please refer to the website or below...

## **Girls Summer Uniform**

Aqua and white check dress  
White ankle socks  
Black shoes

## **Boys Summer Uniform**

White short sleeve shirt  
Navy shorts  
Navy ankle socks  
Black shoes

## **Girls Winter Uniform:**

Aqua Tartan Tunic and tie  
White long sleeve shirt  
Navy tights/knee high navy socks  
School woollen jumper

## **Boys Winter Uniform**

White long sleeve shirt  
Navy trousers  
School tie  
Navy ankle socks  
School woollen jumper

## **Sports Uniform**

Sports Polo shirts  
Sports shorts  
White ankle socks  
Sports shoes / joggers – **predominantly white (no fluoro colours)**  
School track suit

**Optional:** School Bomber Jacket (to be worn over the school jumper on cold days.)

If there is any financial issue around this, please contact the school to discuss.

## **School Hat**

In these times when we are constantly being reminded of the dangers of skin cancer, it is important that parents and children regard the hat as a necessary part of the school uniform. Students **MUST** bring their hat to school every day

***Also no 'skins' or visible long sleeved skivvies, coloured or fancy hair accessories, bracelets, nail polish etc are to be worn to school. These are not part of the school uniform.***

## **Lost Property**

Once again we are appealing to everyone to check their child's clothing and send in anything that does not belong to them. We are constantly being asked for lost property that has a child's name on it, and it just doesn't turn up. Similarly, if you can see that your name is fading on the item of clothing please go over it again, as it does sometimes get very hard to read them.

Dear OLA,

I am writing to you as I'd love you to make a donation to my Step-a-thon page to raise funds for seriously ill babies and children who are being assisted by the researchers at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute. Through Step-a-thon I am learning that there are many children in our community experiencing serious illness. I have been inspired by how medical research can help and I hope you can help too. My aim is to take 70,000 steps between 31 August to 06 September 2015 and raise \$500. Please help me make a difference.

<http://stepathon.everydayhero.com/au/lachlan-84>



# P&F NEWS

## **GRANDPARENTS' MORNING TEA - MONDAY AUGUST 24**

Thank you to those who have offered to assist in some way on or for the day. An email was sent out during the week with details to all those who have indicated they are able to help out. It will be a very special day for the children and their grandparents.

## **FATHER'S DAY STALL - WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 2**

Are you able to help at the Father's Day stall? We will need help from 8am to set up ready for the children to select their gifts until 11am. Please let us know via our P&F email address.

## **FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST – FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 7.30AM**

## **FRIDAY OCTOBER 16, 7PM – SOCIAL BINGO and GAMES NIGHT!!**



\*\*\* *If you have any ideas or are interested in helping out in any way for any of the upcoming events please email [olapfc@gmail.com](mailto:olapfc@gmail.com)*

*Thank you and have a lovely weekend ☺*



We have some exciting events planned for Book Week in Week 7.

**Book Fair** – The Book Fair arrives next Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August and will be set up in the music room. This is an opportunity for parents/ grandparents to buy a book for their child to keep. Purchasing a book is totally optional. The students will have an opportunity to look through the books on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> and the Book Fair will be open to parents for purchasing at the following times:

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August – 8.20- 9.00am, 10.30-11.30, 2.15-3.30pm**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August – 8.15 – 9.30am**

**Book Parade** - Come dressed as your favourite character for the book parade on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 2.10pm and then the teachers will perform a Readers' Theatre of a favourite book.

In the lead up to Book Week each grade is focusing on a shortlisted book and will prepare a display for the music room. You will be able to see these when you come to the Book Fair.

## FROM THE CLASSROOM...Year 3W

This week Year 3 celebrated the end of our Religion unit on Mary, a Woman of Faith with a Liturgy of the Word. Parents were invited to share this celebration with us. Together we reflected on the life of Mary, our mother. We offered our prayers and special intentions to Mary and created a prayer chain for our sacred space. It was a wonderful way to start the day.



### From the Bishop's Office

If you or someone close to you has suffered any abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic group) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us. Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options. You can contact us tel (02) 9933 0233, email [safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au) or write to Safeguarding Response, PO Box 3066, North Parramatta, NSW, 1750. For more information please visit: [www.safeguarding.org.au](http://www.safeguarding.org.au) For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact NSW Police tel 1800 333 000.

### Gospel concert 'Spirit of Joy': 5 September

Gospel Concert 'Spirit of Joy' is presented in association with the Sydney Sacred Music Festival. It will be held on Saturday 5 September 2015 from 3pm-5.30pm at Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre. It aims to bring together people of all religious traditions to feel the joy of God, through spiritually uplifting/upbeat music and song. Tickets: \$12 adults, \$8 school-age children, \$35 family – two adults with up to four school-age children, children under five free. Bookings <http://www.trybooking.com/144537> For further information please contact Ann-Maree Timmings tel (02) 4773 8338 ext 236 or send an email to [manager@schoenstatt.org.au](mailto:manager@schoenstatt.org.au)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Faith in Marriage Conference: 23 August

This year's conference has the theme: Marriage – A Culture of Love & Life. Incorporating the Ray Reid Memorial Lecture about the blessing and graces of marriage. This conference is aimed at married couples, engaged couples and individuals interested in marriage. Speakers include the Diocesan Administrator, Very Rev Fr Peter G Williams, Jonathan Doyle and Lara & Tim Kirk. Mass will be celebrated at noon. Brought to you by CatholicCare Social Services and Australian Catholic University. From 9am-3pm at Edith Angel Hall, Our Lady of Mercy College, Ross St, Parramatta. Cost: \$25 per person (\$50 per couple) includes lunch, morning & afternoon tea. On-site child minding for participants available for \$30 per family must be booked prior to the conference. Registration: CatholicCare Parramatta (02) 9933 0222, [marriage@ccss.org.au](mailto:marriage@ccss.org.au) Join us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CCSSParramatta](http://www.facebook.com/CCSSParramatta)

### Diocesan Housing Affordability Table Talks

Affordable housing in Sydney is a major issue for people of all ages especially for young adults, families and the elderly. This event will involve reflection and discussion on how people experience this issue and the moral and social justice implications around housing affordability. The event will also explore possible next steps to turn the talking into action. Join the Family & Life Office and Social Justice Office for an evening of "Table Talks."

Date: WEDNESDAY, August 19<sup>th</sup>

Time: 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm (Followed by supper)

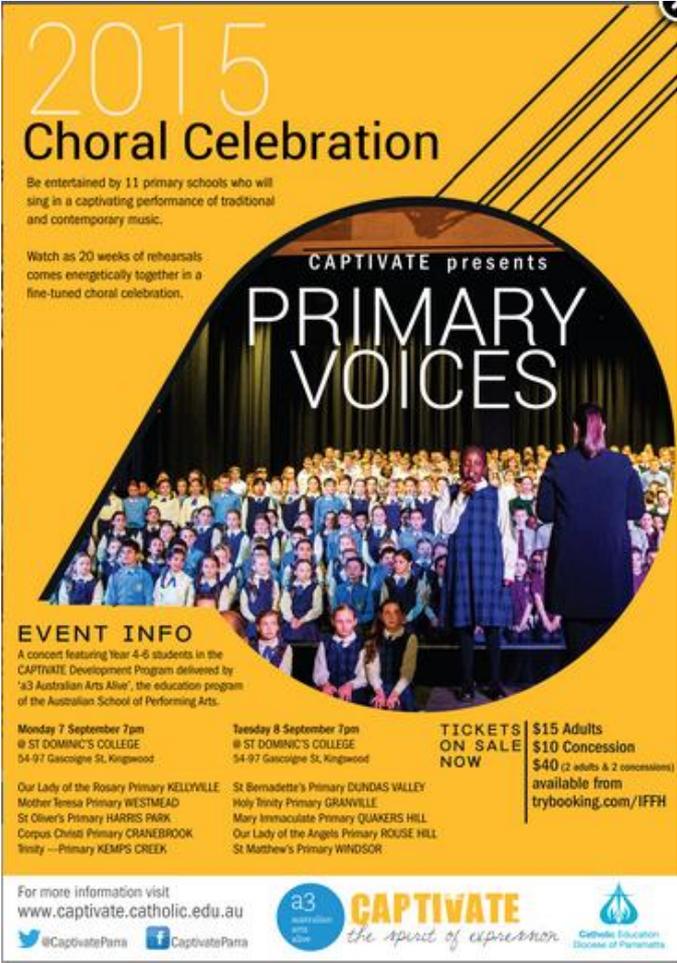
Venue: IFM, 1 – 5 Marion St Blacktown (Enter down stairs past car park)

RSVP Family and Life Office

Ben Smith: [BSmith@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:BSmith@parra.catholic.org.au)

Or Social Justice Office

Sr Louise McKeogh: [lmckeogh@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:lmckeogh@parra.catholic.org.au)



2015 Choral Celebration

Be entertained by 11 primary schools who will sing in a captivating performance of traditional and contemporary music.

Watch as 20 weeks of rehearsals comes energetically together in a fine-tuned choral celebration.

CAPTIVATE presents  
**PRIMARY VOICES**

**EVENT INFO**  
A concert featuring Year 4-5 students in the CAPTIVATE Development Program delivered by 'a3 Australian Arts Alive', the education program of the Australian School of Performing Arts.

Monday 7 September 7pm @ ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE 54-97 Gascoigne St, Kingswood	Tuesday 8 September 7pm @ ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE 54-97 Gascoigne St, Kingswood	<b>TICKETS ON SALE NOW</b> \$15 Adults \$10 Concession \$40 (2 adults & 2 concessions) available from <a href="http://trybooking.com/IFFH">trybooking.com/IFFH</a>
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Our Lady of the Rosary Primary KELLYVILLE  
Mother Teresa Primary WESTMEAD  
St Oliver's Primary HARRIS PARK  
Corpus Christi Primary CRANE BROOK  
Trinity - Primary KEMPS CREEK

St Bernadette's Primary DUNDAS VALLEY  
Holy Trinity Primary GRANVILLE  
Mary Immaculate Primary QUAKERS HILL  
Our Lady of the Angels Primary ROUSE HILL  
St Matthew's Primary WINDSOR

For more information visit  
[www.captivate.catholic.edu.au](http://www.captivate.catholic.edu.au)

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a3 Australian Arts Alive  
CAPTIVATE the spirit of expression  
Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

## Commonwealth Bank School Banking Update - Please Read

Concerns have been raised regarding the 'Cosmic Light Beam Torch' reward item due to the inclusion of four button batteries that can be accessed by unscrewing the back of the torch. Whilst this reward has been independently tested and deemed to meet relevant product standards the Commonwealth Bank have made the decision to proactively withdraw this item from the School Banking Rewards Program. Parents/Guardians are requested to dispose of any 'Cosmic Light Beam Torches' their child may have already received as part of the Rewards Program. Students who have previously received a 'Cosmic Light Beam Torch' are welcome to redeem an alternative reward item.

### School Fees

Thank you to all families who have finished paying their fees for 2015.

Term 3 school fees were due and payable this week. Please make arrangements to pay the fees as soon as possible, if you have not already done so.

## From the Parish Office...

### The Feast of the Assumption

Tomorrow - Saturday, 15 August is the Feast of the Assumption. This is one of two remaining Holy Days of Obligations where you are obligated to attend mass. Our Parish will be having mass **tonight at 7.30pm for the Vigil and then at 9am tomorrow** morning. Mass on Saturday evening is the Vigil for the Sunday masses.

### Our New Assistant Priest

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Fr John Rizzo who is our new Assistant Priest. Fr Rizzo will be assisting Fr Warren in many areas. Please ensure that you introduce yourself to him. He is keen to meet all members of our Parish.

### Parish Fiesta - Sunday, 2 August

A big thank you from Fr Warren and our Cake Ladies for your superb baking for our Fiesta, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### Confirmation

There will be a Parent Only session on Thursday, 20 August at 7.30pm. For further enquiries, please contact the parish office directly.

### R.C.I.A. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

We are presently inviting any adults who would like to become a Catholic to participate in our formation program leading up to being baptised and received into the Church at Easter.

There will be an **ENQUIRY NIGHT** on **Tuesday, 15 September at 7.30pm** at the Church. Please inform those that may be interested to attend this meeting.

For more information, contact Shelly on 0421 610 826 or the Parish office at parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

**Parish Priest:** Fr Warren Edwards

**Assistant Priest:** Fr John Rizzo

**Mass times:**

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

**Weekdays:** Mon -Sat: 9 am

**Email:** parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

**Website:** www.ourladyoftheangels.org.au

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



### Literacy Hint -

Don't stop reading to your child after they've learnt to read for themselves. Books form strong bonds between children and parents. By reading books to your child that he can't yet read himself, you're feeding him the vocabulary, sentence structure and language he'll need to understand more difficult books in years to come.

### School Banking

*Please send bank books in on **Wednesday** for deposit on **Thursday**. If you send them in on Thursday morning you run the risk of missing the banking for this week. If your child's book does not get returned on Thursday, it will be held over to the following week.*

Term 3 Week 6			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Kinder B	Georgia Dolahenty	James Elliott	Julie Bolina
Kinder G	Solomon Sloane	Malachi Rangan	Keira Mooney
Kinder W	Ethan Streater	Isabella Stein	Max Luther
Year 1B	Emily Lenane	Dylan Lopresti	Roxie Pace
Year 1 G	Georgia Falzon	Lara Kelly	Stella Signorelli
Year 1W	Celina Wassef	Charlotte Anderson	Cohan Sommer
Year 2 B	Marcus Billyard	Grace Bennison	Sarah Cleary
Year 2 G	Marissa Farrugia	Jericho Cirera	Arya Clements
Year 2 W	Lauren Eyles	Brendan Ewer	Ante Topic
Year 3 B	Gabriella Muscat	Jackson Jacobs	Luke Awadalla
Year 3 W	David Parada	Giaan Lee	Jacob Connellan
Year 4 B	Connor Knowles	Isaac Swinden	Lily Cassar
Year 4 G	Jack Bowden	Sascha Strykowski	Emily Bennison
Year 4 W	Charlotte Garcia	Ariane Maher	Joshua Palmer-Burton
Year 5/6 B	Anthony Parada	William anderson	Tamzin Naidoo
Year 5/6 G	Jacob Domars	Paige Cunneen	Bradley Girdham
Year 5/6W	Ana Basic	Samuel Vecchio	Claudia Pacella

*Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.  
God bless.  
Eva La Rocca,  
Principal*