



# Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 8 Term 1

20<sup>th</sup> March, 2015

## NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

This Wednesday marks a very important event in the history of our parish - **FIRST MASS IN OUR NEW CHURCH**. This will be a WHOLE SCHOOL MASS at the usual 9am parish Mass. It has been a long time since the whole community could gather for Mass in a church, not since 2010 when the school opened with sixty six students and they and their families could all attend comfortably. This Wednesday, not only will we all gather to celebrate the Eucharist under one roof but to do so in our new church, a magnificent tribute to our God, for the first time. I stop and reflect, many times, of the extraordinary privileges this role brings. However, it is not unique to me. The 'firsts' that all members of this parish have experienced are privileges for us all.

It is appropriate that this Wednesday is 25<sup>th</sup> March, the Feast of the Annunciation. God's saving plan for us began at the *Fall*, when Adam and Eve sinned and 'fell' out of favour with God. He promised Abraham that He would send a saviour and that the chosen people should prepare the way. The first steps to bring this promise to fruition were to find the right vessel to carry the saviour and Son of God. This God found in Mary, and so He sent Gabriel, Archangel...

*V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.*

*R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.*

*V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.*

Mary's response was 'yes' to God. She was young, engaged to a young man named Joseph and had plenty at risk, (what will the neighbours say?) but her faith in God was so great that she said...

*R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.*

*V. And the Word was made Flesh.*

*R. And dwelt among us.*

The Word of God, His promise, became flesh – a human person that lived among us, and that person is Jesus – 'and blessed is the fruit of thy (Mary's) womb, Jesus'.

Yesterday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, was the Feast of St Joseph. He is the patron of the works behind building this church and also the one to whom we devoted our Novena recently. Joseph also showed great courage and faith when, as the fiancé of Mary, he stayed with her as her husband and foster father to Jesus.

There will be a VERY SPECIAL Mass at 7pm that night in honour of the Feast of the Annunciation and an opportunity for the many members of this lovely parish to attend.

### **Parramatta Diocesan Education Opening Year Mass**

Thank you to all the staff members who attended this Mass yesterday on what was a very hot evening at the busiest time of the term. A special thank you goes to our School Leaders, Angelina Cutuk and Olivia Farrugia, who attended to represent OLA in the procession of schools and proudly carried our parish banner. (We will have our own for next year!)

### **Easter Hat Parade**

This year the Easter Hat Parade will begin at 12.00pm with the Angelus followed by the easter hat parade. Students will be making their hats in the class time as part of their own creative arts activities. Please refer to your communication note for donations and parent helpers.



### **Dates to Remember**

Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar:	OLA Cross Country 9.00 – 12.00pm Kindergarten 2016 Information Night – New Families Only 7.00pm
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar:	Feast of the Annunciation- 9am WHOLE SCHOOL MASS FIRST TIME IN OUR NEW CHURCH - DanceFever Inter School Challenge at Homebush (Year 3-6)
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Mar:	Stations of the Cross – 12.30pm – 1.30pm
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr:	Holy Thursday – Last day of term 1

**2016 Enrolment Information Night – this coming TUESDAY.**  
**To be held in the Year 4 learning space on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March starting at 7pm.**  
**This is information for new families only and not for children**

## **The Annunciation of the Lord 25<sup>th</sup> March**



On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March we celebrate the day that the Archangel Gabriel visited Mary in her home and told her the good news, that God had chosen her to be the Mother of Jesus. The Angel told her not to be afraid, because God had chosen her for this most special job. Even though she was still young and she didn't know what her parents and Joseph would say, she trusted God and said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your word". As soon as she said yes, the Holy Spirit came upon her and she conceived Jesus, the Saviour of the World!

Get the Saint of the Day for Kids App at <http://saintofthedayforkids.com>



### **Gospel Reflection John 12: 20-33**

*Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.*

*"I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." The crowd there heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come for my sake but for yours. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." He said this indicating the kind of death he would die.*

In Sunday's Gospel, we also hear Jesus speak about the cosmic framework against which we are to understand his passion, death, and Resurrection. Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus conquered Satan, the ruler of this world. In this way the world is judged, but the judgment is not condemnation. Instead, through Jesus' dying and rising, salvation is brought to the world.

### **Feast of the Annunciation**

**On Wednesday we will be celebrating the Feast of the Annunciation with a 9:00am mass in the new church. All parents are welcome to join us.**

### **HOLY WEEK- Stations of the Cross**

***On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March OLA will be celebrating Holy Week with Stations of the Cross. Students from St. John Paul II will be leading us in a reflection at 12:30 under the COLA. All parents and grandparents are welcome to join us in this liturgy.***



*Have a great weekend with your family.*

Mrs Emma-Kate Callaghan – Religious Education Coordinator ☺

### ***First Holy Communion***

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June. This is organised through the parish office. If your child is in Year 3 – 6 and has made their First Reconciliation you will need to contact the parish office to begin their First Holy Communion preparation.

Please keep in mind when choosing the date your child will make their First Holy Communion that staff from the school will be attending the mass on the 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Thank you ☺

### **Social skill**

The new social skill for this fortnight is taking messages-  
knock at the door  
wait to be invited in  
say, "Excuse me"  
after giving the message say, "Thank you"

### **ICAS**

A reminder that the entry forms and money for the ICAS competitions are due by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Kindergarten Siblings for 2016**

Can you believe it is that time of year again..... If you have a sibling that is due to start kindergarten in 2016, could you please email the office ([ola@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ola@parra.catholic.edu.au)) with their name, DOB and older sibling so that we can arrange for enrolment forms to be sent home over the next couple of weeks. We have new enrolment forms, so please do not print off any forms, we will send one home to you.

### **School Photos**

For your information, school photos will be taken on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May this year. Children will be wearing their full summer uniform for the photos.

### **Winter Uniform**

For those new to the school, the children wear their winter uniform during terms 2 and 3. However, as it can still be quite warm at the beginning of term 2, we normally come back in our summer uniform and changeover in about week 4, ie Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May. The exact date will be confirmed in the first week or two of next term.

### **Premier's Reading Challenge**

Thank you to those who promptly returned their PRC forms. Some students have already received their logon and password details with the rest to follow in the next few weeks.

We have been advised by PRC that some students have experienced difficulty logging in. Thanks for your patience as this is being rectified. In the meantime, continue to record books read on a piece of paper and transfer it to the digital version when passwords become available.

### **Early Years Assessment**

All schools in the Parramatta Diocese conduct testing on all Kindergarten and year 1 students this term. This is an important source of data for our teachers to ensure each child's learning needs in literacy are met. The Catholic Education Office provides release for the classroom teachers to conduct the testing and therefore casual teachers are in the class during this time. These Early Years Assessments have continued this week and will continue next week.

## **St Patrick's Day**

On Tuesday the children celebrated St. Patrick's Day. The day started off with a liturgy run by Year 1, to celebrate St. Patrick and remember all the work that he did for the development of Catholic Schools. At lunchtime the SRC and Captains put on lots of fun games for the whole school to enjoy. They did a great job with everyone having a fantastic time. Children competed against each other in running races, 3-legged races and dance competitions. We had some up coming models participate in the green themed fashion parade as well as many great artists compete in the drawing competition. It was a great afternoon with music and prizes. A special mention goes to Jada Scoulou in Year 3 who had the closest guess in the lolly guessing competition, with a guess of 131 and there were 133 lollies in the jar. The children showed great sportsmanship, cheering each other on in all activities, which was great to see. It was great to see all the children wearing green to celebrate, thank you parents. All proceeds of the day went to Project Compassion.

Happy St. Patrick's Day everyone!

Mrs Callaghan ☺

## Bishops Office

### Bishops Office

#### Position Vacant: Executive Assistant to the Chief of Operations & Finance

The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta is seeking applications for the position of **Executive Assistant to the Chief of Operations & Finance**. For a confidential discussion please contact Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. A copy of the position description is available at [www.catholicjobsonline.com.au](http://www.catholicjobsonline.com.au) **Applications close Monday 23 March 2015.**

#### Nominations open for the Diocesan Medal of Honour

The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta Medal of Honour acknowledges those who serve the Church and the community with honour and distinction. The recipients are people across the Diocese who serve in ministry through their parish, agency, school or local community. If you know someone who 'deserves a medal' you can download a nomination form on the Diocese of Parramatta's website: click on 'About your Diocese', 'Forms' and 'Diocesan Awards'. You can also request a nomination form from Rev Dr Arthur Bridge AM, Chair of the Diocesan Honours Committee, tel (02) 9631 3316, [secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au](mailto:secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au)

#### Volunteers needed for Chisholm Cottage, Westmead

Chisholm Cottage provides 'a home away from home' for country families attending hospitals and clinics in Westmead. This low-cost, short-term accommodation is managed by Sisters of Charity Outreach and owned by the Catholic Women's League (Aust), Diocese of Parramatta Inc. The Cottage needs volunteers who assist with house duties, answer the phone and provide a welcoming presence to residents. For more information, please contact Maria McNuff, Volunteer Coordinator & Educator, tel 02 8382 6437, 0404 861 523, [mmcnuff@stvincents.com.au](mailto:mmcnuff@stvincents.com.au)

### DID YOU KNOW???

**DID YOU KNOW?** On average, it costs around \$13,000 per year to educate a child in a NSW school. In most Catholic schools, school fees cover less than a quarter of this cost. The rest comes from taxpayers like you! This is why funding support from Federal and State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs - to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Federal Government contributes 57.5% of the cost of educating a child in a NSW Catholic school, and the NSW Government contributes 19.7%. The remaining 22.8% comes from parents and the parish community through school fees and private fundraising. This is why funding support from Federal and State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs - to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.

**DID YOU KNOW?** According to the most recent figures available (2012), the average net cost of educating a student in a NSW Catholic school was \$11,532 per year. This is less than the cost of educating a student in a government school (\$12,118) or in an independent, non-government school (\$16,654). Catholic schools still rely on Federal and State Governments for more than 75% of our funding needs. This is why funding support from Federal and State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs - to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.



## FROM THE CLASSROOM... Year 3B

This term 3B have been learning about Australia and what makes it unique. In class during their HSIE lessons the students have been researching and collecting information on a place they would like to visit in Australia. They have created a travel brochure filled with information about their holiday destination. They have put a lot of effort into these brochures and have done a fantastic job.

Flora and Fauna

What types of animals will you find there?  
There are all sorts of beautiful and fascinating creatures to see. There are:

- lizards
- butterflies
- birds
- possums
- seagulls




What types of plants will you find there?

There are many native plants like bottle brushes and gum trees. There is lots of hedging and green bushes that have colourful flowers on them.






### Magenta Shores Holiday Resort




Nicholas Kamber 3B

### Magenta Shores

Where is Magenta Shores?

Magenta Shores is a beautiful place to visit. It is situated in Magenta which is very close to The Entrance. It is about a 1 hour drive north of Sydney.



How to get there?

The best way to get there is travel by car onto the F3 freeway and follow the signs to The Entrance. Then follow Magenta Shores.


What attracts people to Magenta Shores?

People love to visit Magenta Shores because it has:

- beautiful apartments
- lots of gardens
- surrounded by a massive golf course,
- gym
- 2 tennis courts
- 7 swimming pools
- café and restaurants
- beach
- picnic areas to have a BBQ.



When is the best time to visit?

It is best to visit this beautiful place during the summer time when you can enjoy all the fun outdoor activities. The temperature is between 25-35 degrees each day.



Where will you stay?

You can book family apartments in the resort where you can have access to all the facilities.

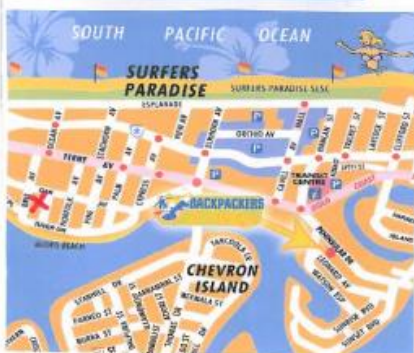



What activities can you do there?

There are so many different things to do at Magenta Shores. Some of these amazing activities are:

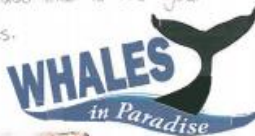
- play golf
- have a game of tennis
- swim in the lagoon pools
- play soccer in the parks
- ride bikes
- play handball
- watch movies on foxtel
- exercise at the gym

The Gold Coast is in Queensland and starts at the NSW border. You can drive by car, train, or you can fly a plane to Coolangubra airport and take a coach to the resort.



## TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

There are lots of things to see and do such as whale tours, surfing, visiting theme parks. You may also like to use your resorts facilities.



Theme Parks



Dreamworld

Wet'n'Wild

## ACCOMMODATION

Zagame's Paradise Resort is accommodation for adults and kids. The rooms are colourful, with kitchen and bathroom facilities. You can join in with kids club, Dusty's playground, waterparks, daily activities, ice skating or relax in the cafe. There is 24 hour reception, laundries, restaurants, a mini-market and BBQ areas.



Secure Parking



## BEST TIME TO GO

The best time to come to the Gold Coast is in Summer and Spring so you can enjoy the outdoor activities and water sports. The weather is hot and humid. You may experience tropical storms.



## FLORA AND FAUNA

Surfers Paradise has tropical palm trees, native flowers and lots of sand along the coast. You may spot marine life such as whales and dolphins. You may visit the wildlife sanctuary and see birds, Australian native animals and reptiles.



From the P&F.....

### Cross Country Cake Stall

Thank you to all the wonderful mums who have offered to bake for the day. We are looking forward to tasting your delicious treats.

We have arranged for a coffee van this year and the friendly staff from '**Bean Everywhere**' will be there after 9.30am approx.

If you are unable to take your cakes to the park, you can leave them at the office on Tuesday morning we will organise for them to be picked up.

Thank you and happy baking!!

Kind regards  
P & F Committee

### Dance Fever Challenge

For those children travelling to DanceFever by **bus** on Wednesday, please note that the bus will leave school between 4.00-4.10pm.

The children can bring their clothes to school, with something extra to eat, get changed here and then get straight on the bus. Mrs Hey and Mrs Callaghan will be supervising the children.

Please make sure that you have sent the \$5 entry fee to school prior to Wednesday

## From the Parish Office...

### Our New Church

We are very pleased to advise that our First Mass will be held on the Feast of the Annunciation - Wednesday, 25 March at 9am. We look forward to seeing many faces at mass.

### EASTER SERVICES

**Palm Sunday:** normal mass times

Solemn entrance at the 10am Mass

**Holy Thursday:** Evening Mass of the Last Supper 7.30pm

Adoration will be available till night prayer at 10pm

**Good Friday:** Stations of the Cross 10am

Confessions available after the stations

The Passion Liturgy 3pm

**Easter Vigil:** Saturday evening 6.30pm

**Easter Sunday:** 8.30am, 10am and 5.30pm

After Mass, there will be a special morning tea and Easter eggs from the Easter Bunny! Please bring a plate to share for morning tea!!

### High School Enrolments

For parents preparing to enrol their child in a Catholic High school, please note that you will not have a copy of a Reconciliation Certificate as no certificate is ever issued at Reconciliation. The High Schools have advised that they will amend their forms to not request a copy. They will however, ask you for the date of Reconciliation. If you are unsure of this date, just contact the parish office for this information.

### First Holy Communion

All parents will have received an email regarding the selection process for Holy Communion dates. If you have not received this email, please contact the parish office immediately.

### Bingo

You are invited to come along to our Bingo Night on Saturday, 21 March after the 5.30pm Mass. If you are interested, just email me back and I will add your name to the list. Cost is \$10 for 3 books. BYO: nibbles & drink.

### Hot Cross Buns

Our parish is holding it's annual Easter Fundraiser. You can help by ordering from us your Easter Hot Cross Buns made by Bakers Delight Stanhope Gardens. You have the choice of Fruit, Fruitless, Choc Chip or Mocha Hot Cross Buns. Cost is \$7- per half dozen. The parish will receive \$3.50. Hop into our office to place your order. These can be collected on Holy Thursday afternoon or Good Friday morning.



### Numeracy Hint -

Look for and discuss patterns in the environment...tiles in a bathroom, stripes on clothing, pegs on the clothesline. Discuss what would come next if the pattern continued.

*Until next week, may God bless and keep you safe.*

*Eva La Rocca,  
Principal*

**'Student  
of the Week'  
awards go to:**

Term 1 Week 8			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Kinder B	Sophia Iori	Aiden McGrady	Ileesha Gunasekara
Kinder G	Dylan Halwani	Jessica Bowen	Willow Johnston
Kinder W	Orlaith McManus	Mya Bassili	Charlie Mileto
Year 1B	Amelia Bond	Ava Carney	Justin Medjumurac
Year 1 G	Stella Signorelli	Julia Zammit	Marcus Mileto
Year 1W	Harrison Fiorio	Georgia Parsell	Aidan Vilathgamuwa
Year 2 B	Nate Davis	Sienna Fallone	Lucas Buda
Year 2 G	Evie Cassel	Natalie Holopikian	Chloe Huber
Year 2 W	Chanel Johnston	Brendan Ewer	Denzel Chang
Year 3 B	Natasha Charlesworth	Gemma Gladwell	Liam Doyle
Year 3 W	Nicholas Gomez	Jasmyn Robertson	Thomas Lenane
Year 4 B	Lily Cassar	Owen Huber	Rebecca Cleary
Year 4 G	Paige Hayden	Ailbhe Gannon	Natasha Eyles
Year 4 W	Isaac Sultana	Chiara Fallone	Amber-Lilly Baker
Year 5/6 B	Madison Lee	Ashley Graham	Jake Eyles
Year 5/6 G	Javier Silva	Maneesha Gunasekara	Angelina Taleski
Year 5/6 W	Sebastian Cauchi	Jordan Sanborn	Aidan Williams

