



## Newsletter

Term 4, Issue 8

Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### TERM DATES

<b>December</b> Saturday, 7th	Newshounds Awards - Castlemaine Library	Tuesday, 17th	Final Day of Classes
			Family Picnic - 1:00pm
Tuesday, 10th	Whole School Transition Morning - 9:00am-11:00am	Wednesday, 18th Thursday, 19th	Student Numeracy Testing <i>by appointment times - Now open for bookings</i>
Tuesday, 10th	CSC, SHC & CMC Orientation Day - 9:00am - 3:00pm	Friday, 20th	Staff Meeting - EOY for Staff
Thursday, 12th	Senior Citizens Afternoon Tea and Concert - 12:00 noon	Wednesday, 25th	Community Christmas Luncheon - St. Mary's Hall 12:00 - 2:00pm
Monday, 16th	Class Relocation Day - <b>Volunteers Required</b>	<b>January</b> Wednesday, 29th & Thursday, 30th	Literacy Testing <i>by appointment times - Now open for bookings</i>
	Year 6 Day Out		
	Whole School Graduation Mass - 6:00pm-7:30pm	Friday, 31st	School resumes for 2020



We acknowledge and respect the past and present Elders, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and custodians of this land the Dja Dja Wurrung people. Thank you for protecting and preserving our land Australia in the past, for sharing it now and educating us for the future. We pay our respects to the Elders of the past, present and future and acknowledge their spiritual connection to Country.



### Our School Vision

We are an empowered and sustainable learning community, centred in faith and united in our respect and responsibility for all of creation; we strive for excellence; actively living, learning, caring and growing together. together.



### *First Sunday of Advent*

*Jesus, you are light even in the darkest places.  
Help us to trust in you when we are lost or lonely.  
Shine hope into our hearts we pray.  
Amen.*

### **Congratulations to the following students:**

**Respectful Award:** Dylan Pozar & Nyabol Lino

**Responsible Award:** Adam Lagman

**Resilient Award:** Sam Lawrence

**Principal Award:** Maddy Drohan, Quinn McMahon, Izzy Lizzul & Henrik Vandenberg

**Wonder Award:** Xavier Tolevski

**Believe Award:** Frieda Brinkmann, Quinn Vance & Lucas Davis

**Persevere Award:** Lewin Blanch & Jufuor Nyok

**Create Award:** Thomas Edwards

**School Captain Awards:** Hannah Cochrane, Bianca Lawrence & Ngolueth Nyok

Dear families and friends,

Last Sunday marked the beginning of Advent. The Church calendar begins with the Advent season, the four weeks leading up to Christmas. The word 'Advent' means coming. Amongst the busyness of this time of year may we find time to reflect and nourish our spirit in relationship with each other and in giving of ourselves for the greater good. At its heart, Advent it is a time of preparation and waiting for the coming of Jesus into our world and lives.

With less than three weeks of our term left, your children are busy finishing off projects and final assessments as well as preparing for our various end of year activities. It is always uplifting when I visit the classrooms where I see our children engaged in their learning. We can learn from and be inspired by their enthusiasm and openness to try new things and do their best when presented with a challenge.

We ask that you all book your child's time slot for their numeracy testing. Your child can collect their report and learning journal after their testing session is complete. This opportunity gives us valuable information to inform our teaching of numeracy at the beginning of next year. It also enables time for your children to spend 1-1 time with their 2020 teachers. You can also book your child's literacy timeslot online now which is in the beginning of 2020.

Please read our school calendar carefully and note events over the next couple of weeks. We look forward to seeing as many of you who can make it to our closing of the year activities.

As you know, a few weeks ago one of our senior staff members Deb Jones accepted a teaching position in Bendigo. We offer Deb our blessings as she embarks on this new path after fifteen years of service at St. Mary's. Mrs. Watts has also faithfully and capably served our school for sixteen years and is starting to think about transitioning into retirement. We decided to use this opportunity to bring new teachers into the school who could compliment what we already offer, bring in new perspectives, talents and skills as well as be given the opportunity to learn from our capable, experienced and accomplished team. We understand that you have placed great trust in us to do our very best to enable your precious child to flourish in every way and we intend to honour that trust. We are very excited about the further potential and possibility this creates for our students. We can offer the enthusiasm and new ideas of teachers in their early years of service who are in turn guided and complimented by the wisdom, skill and experience of Mrs. Watts, Mrs. White, Mrs. Condliffe, Mrs. Byrne, Mr. O'Sullivan and all of our current staff.

We advertised widely over three weeks then had the great privilege of speaking with our shortlisted applicants who shared their aspirations as teachers with us. The panel included myself, Mrs. Watts, Mrs. White, Carla Kennedy as well as Fr. Wahid. We put much time and great consideration into learning as much as we could about our applicants in order to choose capable and inspiring teachers for your children. Indeed, we had enriching conversations and listening to our interviewees' perspectives was a life-giving experience.

We have great pleasure in announcing two new staff members for 2020 who have been very highly recommended to us. Ms. Danielle Crane comes to us with a Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) as well as a Graduate Diploma of Education (Primary). Both of our new staff trained as primary school teachers after working in other areas of education and public relations. Danielle will be in her first year of teaching and Paul will be in his fourth year of teaching. Paul Johns completed his Bachelor of Teaching (Primary) in 2015 and comes across to us from St. Mary's in Lancefield. Danielle is relocating from Perth where she has lived and been doing CRT work over the past few months. Both Danielle and Paul are very much looking forward to joining our learning community.

Mrs. Watts will begin her transition into retirement next year and will work over 4 days supporting in particular, the learning needs in the prep-one room as well as planning with Karen & Danielle and mentoring Danielle. In effect we will have three teachers and an LSO (Learning Support Officer) working with our prep to year three classes. We will have two teachers and an LSO working with Year 4-6 classes.



The staff structures and teachers for 2020 are as follows:

**Prep - One** (23 students): Ms. Danielle Crane Mon-Thurs & Mrs. Watts Friday morning then specialist classes with Mrs. Byrne Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Watts will work across the Prep-Year 3 classes over 4 days each week. She will also plan with and mentor our junior school staff.

**Year Two-Three** (23 students): Mrs. Karen White full time

**Year Four-Five** (21 students): Mrs. Alison Condliffe Wednesdays off until March 10<sup>th</sup> then full time. Mr. Bernard Kerrins will take the class on Wednesdays until March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Year Six** (19 students): Mr. Paul Johns Mon-Thurs and Mr. Mark O'Sullivan on Fridays.

**LSO:** Mr. Rob Wolff Prep-Year 3

**LSO:** Mrs. Barb Burchett Year 4-6





These are exciting times for St. Mary's. Change brings new opportunity and we know you will join us in warmly welcoming our new teachers into our vibrant school community.

Paul Johns will be taking his class this Tuesday on going up morning and we will meet Danielle when she starts in January next year.

Together at St. Mary's we will continue to support our students throughout their transition period developing specific skills that:

- develop new friendships and improve self-esteem and confidence
- assist them in their new school life, so that there are few concerns for parents
- promote an increasing interest in school and schoolwork
- allow them to get used to new routines and school organisation
- allow them to experience curriculum continuity.

### Teaching Positions of Leadership in 2020

**Bronwyn Phillips:** Principal & Learning Diversity Leader

**Mrs. Watts:** Second in Charge & Literacy Leader

**Karen White:** Religious Education, Numeracy & ICT Leader

**Alison Condliffe:** Inquiry Leader

**Nicole Byrne:** Leader of the Arts & Languages

**Mark O'Sullivan:** Physical Education & Wellbeing Leader



### Thankyou Craig Trickey

Thanks to Craig our children have developed skills on the keyboard which enable them to play numerous pieces. We all love to hear the sound of their music floating down the corridors. Congratulations children on all you have achieved.

### Newshounds Presentations

Lisa Denis has invited our *Castlemaine Mail* Newshounds team to attend the annual Newshounds Awards Presentations to be held at the **Castlemaine Library foyer** on **Saturday, December 7 at 10am.**

This will be a short presentation ceremony where every school will receive an award and the winners of the 'Best Overall News Page' and 'People's Choice' winners will be announced.

Representatives from major sponsor DON, the *Castlemaine Mail* and mascot Elliott Newshound himself will be in attendance on the day to present the awards to our lucky winners.

In the lead up to the event all our Newshounds pages will be on display at the Castlemaine Library and you are encouraged to pop in and cast your votes for our 'People's Choice' prize.

The pages will be on display from Friday November 29 until Saturday December 7.

We need a couple of representatives to collect our prize on Saturday December 7. If you are able to attend the presentation that would be wonderful, and could you please let me know via email.

Our students are thanked for their wonderful contributions in 2019.

Billy Lister will be representing our school on this day and we welcome anyone else who is available to join Billy. Thank you.

### Transitioning

The playground was buzzing with activity on Tuesday when our 2020 Prep children joined us for the afternoon. Our 16 preps who are starting next year were delighted to meet their Year 6 buddy.



There was much excitement as they discovered eggs in the henhouse as well! We will spend some more time getting to know each other on going up morning on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9.00am until 11.00am.

Each new year brings change and further opportunity. When change is framed with a positive and growth mindset your child is supported in their development.

The transition (Orientation) days are a strategy we use to provide our students with a sense of belonging along with an opportunity to get to know both the teacher and the students they will share the coming year with. It also allows time to get a sense of the learning environment they will be working within. Transition, better described as a process of getting used to change, provides your child with huge opportunities for personal, emotional and social growth. It's something we should not fear but embrace. The following are a few tips for you as a parent in supporting your child as they move into their next stage of schooling:

### 1. Encourage self-advocacy

Self-advocacy is one of the most important skills your child will learn over the next few years. Speaking up for himself or herself and knowing how to ask for what they need is a critical, life-long skill. Your child can only learn it if you make an intentional effort to back away and let him or her step up to the plate.

- When your child has a question about a project or a homework task, encourage them to contact their teacher. Help your child brainstorm what to say, and maybe even craft the email or conversation together, but let the message come from your child.
- When your child feels like another student wronged him or her, encourage your child to report the incident to the teacher or even principal, but let him or her take the lead. You can also check in with your child's teacher if you feel the need to make sure that your child did speak with their teacher. A quick email will keep communication channels open.

### 2. Allow your child to face challenges

This one is always hard for parents, and for good reasons. We don't like to see our children struggle. Our instinct is to jump in and rescue. However, we all know that the greatest lessons in life come from learning from our mistakes, and if our goal is to raise children to become strong, independent adults, we need to learn to let them stumble.

- Our children take their lead from our energy as parents. The attitude you project will be the attitude they absorb. Allow your child to experience the "natural consequences" of their decisions and actions. Maybe your child will receive feedback that they don't want to hear but hopefully this will support healthy change.
- Focus on growth instead of grades. Your child won't earn an A on every single task, and that's okay. Focus your conversations on how hard he or she is working, what is being learned, what support is needed, and how skills are growing, rather than just what your child's grades are. The most important thing parents can do at this age is learn to ask, "How can I help? What kind of support do you need?" instead of "How can I fix this for you?"



### 3. Encourage positive risk-taking.

Primary school is the perfect time to try new things and becoming comfortable with taking positive risks is another critical skill in a child's development. Some ideas for risk-taking include:

- trying a new sport.
- joining a club or starting a new one.
- expanding their circle of friends.
- trying a music class or a new hobby.

There are so many ways your child can learn to take a positive risk. The important part as a parent is to always acknowledge and praise the effort and courage it takes to try something new.

The coming year is an exciting and nervous time for not only our students, but also for our teachers. Be thoughtful about the messages you are sending your kids about this new adventure. Let your child/ren know that it can be exciting, energising, challenging, and new. Next year will be another opportunity for wonderful transformation! Prepare for it, brace yourself for it, but most of all, enjoy it!



### December 16<sup>th</sup> Classroom Moving Day: **Your help needed:}**

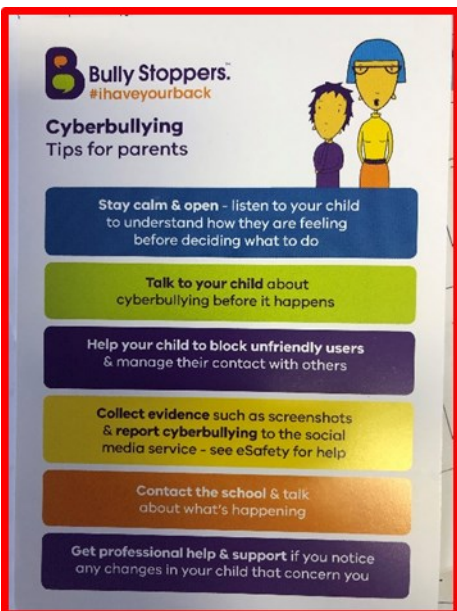
On Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> the current year six students will have their day out. At school we will be moving from our current classrooms and setting up our temporary learning spaces for 2020 as the building work will begin in January. We welcome your help any time during this day to assist with this process. The junior school desks etc will be moved into the library. The year 4-6 classes will set up in the Arts Hub. Please email your child’s teacher if you can help on this day. Thank you.

### Order your Year 6 Tops for 2020 Now!

You may order your child’s Year 6 polo and/or rugby top from Hip Pocket any time now. We would like to have the order ready for the beginning of 2020. All orders need to be in by December 31<sup>st</sup> to ensure this.

### Missing Clothing

Please check our lost property basket (now in the front foyer) if you are missing uniform. If you have a new Size 10 Polo that has come home during the swimming week Jodi Tolevski is looking for it. A size 6 fleece with Charlie’s name on it is also missing. Please ensure all items are clearly labelled. Thank you.



### Cyber Safety

Your children have taken home Cyber bully stopper cards for your information as pictured. If you have any concerns about online bullying please let us know. As part of our cyber safety education we work with the children to learn about how to remain safe online. We encourage you to keep watch and educate your child about cyber safe practices at home. eSmart supports positive online behaviours. For further information you can search [esmart.org.au](http://esmart.org.au)

### Bush Fire Safety

I ask you to make sure that you read the attached flyer about our school’s procedures on Code Red days. In the event of a day being

FIRE DANGER RATING
Category
CATASTROPHIC (CODE RED)
EXTREME
SEVERE
VERY HIGH
HIGH
LOW – MODERATE

declared a code red day St. Mary’s School will be closed. We are aware that some children may live or be in different zones and we ask that you execute your own bushfire preparedness plan as necessary and if you deem it unsafe to send your child to

school on non-code red days that you let us know that your child will be absent. Please see our Bushfire Management Policy further in this newsletter.



## Please Book Numeracy & Literacy Testing Interviews for all 2020 Students.

We will be allowing time for your child's 2020 teachers to work 1-1 with your children to do pre numeracy and literacy testing. This will inform their teaching for the beginning of the 2020 school year. These times also create an opportunity for your child and their teacher to develop and build on relationship which is pivotal to learning. You will be able to book in your interviews now online via School Interviews according to the links later in this newsletter. Numeracy interviews will be conducted over December 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> and Literacy interviews will take place over January 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Playground Improvements

Thank you to Phil Watts who has completed the installation of the brush fencing behind the junior playground. Our recently planted banksia rose plants will adorn this area beautifully as they grow. The children have also started painting their planned designs onto our orange cow.... Watch this space!



## Christmas Crafts in the Arts Hub

Our children are expressing their creativity in making Christmas decorations this week. Pictured are Thomas, Adam and Sullivan who are proud of their creations.

## Ukulele & Recorder to Play Carols in our Town

Our musicians are looking forward to playing for our local community this Monday. You may complete your permission for your child to take part in playing carols outside IGA on Monday December 9<sup>th</sup> between 9.30 and 10.00am via CareMonkey.

## Mercy Building Upgrade

We hope to start the refurbishment of our main classroom area in January. Our architect met the engineer at our school last week to go over some final details and they will advertise for a builder over the next couple of weeks. The project is estimated to take three months, so we plan to be back in the main learning areas by term 2 next year. The children will see this year through in their current classrooms and spend first term either in the library, Arts hub or Dhehkunya Building.

## Mount Alexander Shire Council Climate Change Forum

Registration is open for anyone who would like to speak with the Shire Council about climate change with the purpose of presenting your view and you may attend as an observer as well. Details are in the flyer as pictured. A full page copy is included later in this newsletter.

## Senior Citizens Lunch: Asking for slices and biscuits

Our Year 2-3 students were very involved in preparing goodies for our senior citizens on Wednesday. The date has been set and preparations have begun for this very popular event.



Mount Alexander Shire Council  
Climate Change Forum Registration Form

Personal details  
First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Register to speak at the forum  
☐ Yes, I would like to register to speak at the forum  
You will be given five minutes to speak, with five minutes allocated for questions. Please indicate which session you would prefer by circling the sessions 1 to 3 (where 1 is most preferred and 3 is least preferred). We will aim to schedule you in your preferred session, but cannot guarantee it.  
Morning: 9.00am – 11.00am, Monday 9 December  
Afternoon: 2.00pm – 5.00pm, Monday 9 December  
Evening: 6.00pm – 8.00pm, Monday 9 December  
☐ Yes, I will use visuals, such as slides, video and audio to accompany my presentation.  
Please send any visual files in PowerPoint or PDF format by Thursday 5 December to [info@mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au). Please limit your video to 5 slides or any video/audio footage to 2 minutes.

Register to attend the forum  
If you would like to attend the forum as an observer please send an email including a name, email address and which sessions you would like to attend to [info@mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au).

Register to make a written submission  
☐ Yes, I will be submitting a written submission  
We kindly request that your written submission does not exceed four pages (or 2,000 words). To assist in compiling the responses, please prepare your submission with a 100 word summary.  
Please send your written submission by Thursday 5 December. You can email your submission [info@mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au) or send it by mail to PO Box 180 Castlemaine VIC 3460.  
Interest parties are welcome to attend the forum and/or make a submission. Please note the forum will be recorded for Council purposes.

City Centre  
100 Castlemaine VIC 3460  
PO Box 180 Castlemaine VIC 3460  
T (03) 8471 1700  
F (03) 8471 1700  
E [info@mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au)  
W [www.mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au](http://www.mountalexandershiresc.vic.gov.au)

Mount Alexander  
Shire Council

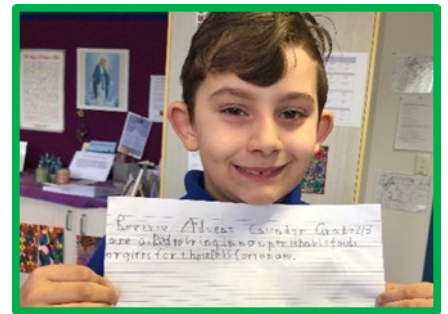
Carolynne Spencer is co-ordinating the lunch and our children will be involved. If you are able to assist with food or on the day-(Thursday December 12th at 12.00pm) Carolynne would like to hear from you.

If you have the time to bake or shop, we welcome plates of slice or biscuits to offer as part of the dessert or traditional Christmas goodie gift. You can drop these off at the front office from next week. It would help if you had ingredients listed if you bake something. Thank you:}



### St. Vincent De Paul Giving Tree

We have our St. Vincent De Paul Giving Tree set up in the front foyer. Our St. Vincent De Paul Society offer much needed support to families and the giving tree initiative allows children who may not have a present under their Christmas tree to receive a gift. All of your donations are very much appreciated. SVDP use money that also covers the costs of food to supply their food bank to buy toys for children The donations we offer means that they have to spend less on gifts therefore they have more money to keep food supplies stocked for the needy. Vouchers and toys are welcomed. If you donate money, that will go in the pool of money to buy toys. More information will follow later in this newsletter. Thank you for your generosity. We also invite donations of non-perishable foods to be dropped off in the front foyer.



### Interactive Play Area: Sturdy sticks needed!

Your children are immersing themselves in the construction of huts in our interactive play area and they are very much enjoying the additional sticks and rocks. We could use further 1.5 to 3 metre length sticks if you have any. Thank you very much.

### Year 4-6 Sovereign Hill 2020 Camp Payment

Our year 4-6 students will attend our history camp at Sovereign Hill in 2020 in February from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> until Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>. Years 4-6 will attend this camp. Details will be sent out by the end of this year. We need to pay for this activity before the children take part therefore we require camp fees to be paid in full prior to your child attending the camp. For your financial planning the approximate cost for the camp will be \$350.00 per student.

### School Photo Display Board

Congratulations and thank you to Maddy, Izzy and Quinn for updating our display board. This was one of their school captain goals and they have worked hard to achieve it. You may now view current photos when you have the time.



### School Fees in 2020

We have included next year's fee schedule for your forward planning. We keep fees to a minimum and have only increased them by \$35.00 in 2020 as outlined below. From now on your statement of fees will be emailed to you. Should you require a hard copy please ask Karen at the office.



Family Fee:	\$ 1,250.00	per family (an increase of \$25.00)
Curriculum Levy:	\$ 300.00	per child
Capital Levy:	\$ 175.00	per family (an increase of \$10.00)
Excursion Levy:	\$ 100.00	per child

### School Holiday Watering Roster

In order to keep our plants thriving we welcome your support to water our plants over the summer holidays. If you are able to assist could you please email Barb Burchett on: [bburchett@smcastlemaine.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bburchett@smcastlemaine.catholic.edu.au) with the dates you are available between December 20<sup>th</sup> and January 26<sup>th</sup>. If we get enough people you may only need to be rostered on once. When we complete the roster we will send out instructions. Thank you very much in anticipation of your assistance.



### Uniform in 2020 & School Bags

School bags for 2020 can be ordered at Hip Pocket in Johnstone St. along with all of our uniform items. They are currently waiting on a further order to come in as the bags they got in the last order were too small. **A reminder that as from the beginning of 2020 all children will be required to wear the current school uniform.**



*"Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'" - [John 20:29](#)*

May we remain fully present in each other's company as we celebrate all the learning and growth of our children as this year draws to a close.

Kind regards,  
Bronwyn Phillips,  
Principal.



Numeracy Testing (**all grades for 2020**) - Wednesday, 18th or Thursday, 19th December - to make your child's appointment log into [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and put in code **m2vwf**

Literacy Testing (**all grades for 2020**) - Wednesday, 29th or Thursday, 30th January, 2020 - to make your child's appointment log into [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and put in code **bmr24**

***Please remember to book your child in for both Testing periods - Numeracy and Literacy (applies to ALL students who will be attending in 2020).***

## Emergency Management Plan Appendix:

### BUSH FIRE MANAGEMENT: From October - March

St. Mary's Castlemaine, is in the North Central CFA Zone and is no longer identified as being of high fire risk therefore is not listed on the Department's Victoria Wide Bushfire At-Risk Register & CECV's High Risk Register.

#### 1. Responding to an extreme fire danger warning:

St. Mary's Castlemaine will not close on an extreme fire danger warning day. The school will ensure that on such days the following is enacted:

- that staff and students are properly hydrated and use sun protection.
- if deemed necessary children will be kept indoors during recess and lunch times.
- staff will monitor the CFA website and media services for any actual bushfire activity.
- staff will be prepared to enact the school's emergency management plan if needed.

If the school has offsite activities planned or in place (including camps and excursions) located in a Bureau of Meteorology district affected by a declaration of Extreme fire danger, these may need to be cancelled, rescheduled or recalled. The decision to cancel, reschedule or recall resides with the school. If the offsite activity affected by an extreme fire danger warning has not been cancelled, rescheduled or recalled, staff in charge at the offsite activity will do the following:

- monitor all relevant websites.
- consult with local emergency services.
- examine what transport options are available or required if relocation is necessary.
- be prepared to enact the site's EMP.
- stay in contact with the Principal.

Details of all offsite activities, will be entered in the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV), online Student Activity Locator (SAL), during the offsite activity

planning phase. Details should be reviewed prior to the offsite activity and in the event of cancellation removed from the database.

#### Code Red Day:

In the event of a Code Red Day, St. Mary's Castlemaine **will close**.

### Planned Code Red day closure of schools



Schools including outside-school-hours-care services listed on the Bushfire At Risk Register (BARR) will be closed on days when the Fire Danger Rating is determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner as being **Code Red**.

All bus routes co-ordinated by schools on the BARR will also be cancelled. Whilst we are no longer on the BARR, upon advice from CEM, we will follow suit of our neighbouring schools who are and close on CODE RED days.



## How will I be advised of a Code Red closure?

- Where possible, the forecasting of a Code Red day will provide up to 4 days notice of a planned closure (including warnings about cancelling, changing, rescheduling or recalling off-site activities, such as camps and excursions), as well as information about cancellations of school bus routes.
- You will be advised by email or letter sent home from school, as well as by Flexibuzz – you can also check for updates at:  
<http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au>  
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>
- You should expect that, in some instances, fewer than 4 days notice may be given.
- The final decision to close will be confirmed no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure by the Emergency Management Commissioner.
- Once the decision to close is made, this will not change – regardless of changes in weather forecast – this will help limit confusion and provide time for you to make alternative care arrangements for your children.

## Closure – other than planned

- While every effort is made to anticipate fire threats, our school may be threatened by an unpredicted outbreak of a fire or a known fire may unexpectedly change its course.
- When this occurs, our Emergency Management Plan will ensure that we respond to the threat in a planned, timely and appropriate manner.
- We have developed our Emergency Management Plan **in consultation with local emergency services and local government authorities.**
- Closure updates, including advice on re-opening is available from the Department's website:

<http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au>

and/or

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

In regard to an offsite activity, St. Mary's Castlemaine will:

- ensure that for any offsite activity that cannot be recalled because it is not safe to do so, the teacher in charge is prepared to enact the relevant emergency management plan in the event of a direct threat of fire.
- ensure that all other offsite activities in weather districts affected by the Code Red fire danger day have been cancelled, re scheduled, relocated or recalled.
- ensure that details of the offsite activity entered in the SAL have been reviewed, updated or in the case of cancellation, removed.

#### **Bushfire Preparedness Checklist:**

St. Mary's Castlemaine is aware that being prepared for bushfires is necessary for all schools, not just those in a rural setting and/or those on the Bushfire at Risk Register. Metropolitan schools may be at risk from site factors (e.g. located in a leafy area) or because their students attend offsite activities in bushfire prone areas.

St. Mary's Castlemaine completes a bush fire preparedness checklist during high fire danger times.

#### **References:**

Adapted from CECV – Catholic Schools Emergency Management Manual (Revised) 2017.  
Adapted from CECV - Extreme Fire Danger Warning: Schools Guidance December 2017.  
Adapted from CECV – Code Red Fire Danger Warning: Schools Guidance December 2017.

Reviewed by staff & PSAC & Updated 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 Bronwyn Phillips

# • VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL •

Christmas can be such a magical time but for thousands of Victorian families, Christmas doesn't mean magic, it means hunger, hardship and stress.

In a 'lucky country' like Australia it's a confronting to know that one in six children live in poverty<sup>1</sup> and one in five children won't have enough to eat<sup>2</sup>.

Constant hunger is something that 11-year-old Sam knows only too well.

Sam and his mum Laura fled from an abusive home. After losing her job, Laura was struggling to cope with the high cost of living and quickly found herself caught in the grips of poverty.

After paying essential bills, including the rent, Laura only had \$30 a week left to feed herself and Sam. On such a tight budget, Laura would often skip meals to ensure Sam didn't go hungry.

"Some days we didn't have enough to eat," said Sam. "Mum would say she wasn't hungry and move the food from her plate onto mine. She'd often have just a glass of water for dinner."

When the school noticed Sam was struggling with hunger, they sent him home with a loaf of bread and the number for the local Vinnies. When Laura finally called for help, our dedicated volunteers visited the very next day. They took the small family a hamper of healthy food items including bread and food vouchers to keep the family going.

"I wouldn't have survived without Vinnies," says Laura. "It was such an amazing relief to know that someone really cared."

The annual Vinnies Christmas Appeal raises critical funds for the Society to continue its good works in the community.

Please support the Christmas Appeal by promoting it through your conference and distributing donation envelopes and posters. For more information please call our fundraising team on 03 9895 5959.

<sup>1</sup>2016, ACROSS Poverty in Australia report  
<sup>2</sup>2016, Rubbing Tummies report by Foodbank

Mum didn't eat  
last night  
so I could.

You can help a  
family put food  
on the table  
this Christmas.

HELP END THE PAIN OF POVERTY. DONATE TODAY.

Please give through your parish, call 13 16 12 or visit [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au)



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

St Vincent de Paul Society  
and Vinnies



HONORARY SOLICITORS  
LEND A HAND

Are you considering making a gift in your Will to St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria (Vinnies Victoria)? We now have a number of solicitors who are generously giving their time free of charge to assist you in writing a simple Will or adding a codicil to an existing Will when you include the Society.

Our members and volunteers give generously in so many different ways and for different reasons, such as becoming a conference member; volunteering at our Vinnies Shops, on our soup vans or at one of our tutoring programs; donating to our fundraising appeals or leaving a lasting legacy of kindness in their Will.

Every legacy – large or small – is a powerful validation of the work that each of our members and volunteers do to give a 'hand up' to Victoria's most vulnerable, 365 days a year.

If you would like to seek for further information, please call Gift in Wills Manager Sharon Wangman on 03 9895 5821 or email [sharon.wangman@svdp-vic.org.au](mailto:sharon.wangman@svdp-vic.org.au)



Do you have a current Health Care Card?

If so, you can access Saver Plus, where your savings are matched dollar for dollar up to \$500 for your child's education.

Flyers available from the school office.

\$500 towards you  
or your children's  
education



Join Saver Plus.  
Free financial education and your savings  
matched dollar for dollar, up to \$500.

**saverplus.org.au**  
**1300 610 355**



Saver Plus is a free financial education  
program that matches your savings,  
dollar for dollar, up to \$500.

#### What can the \$500 be used for?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  laptops & tablets    |  lessons & activities |
|  uniforms & shoes     |  books & supplies     |
|  vocational education |  camps & excursions   |

#### Can I join?

To join Saver Plus, you must meet all of the below criteria:

- Be 18 years or over
- Have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself
- Have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner)
- Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- Be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment\*

#### To find out more:

Enquire online at [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au)

Email [saverplus@bsl.org.au](mailto:saverplus@bsl.org.au)

Call or SMS your name and postcode to  
1300 610 355

Like us on Facebook 



Or contact the nearest office for your area:

1300 610 355 or [MaryboroughSP@bsl.org.au](mailto:MaryboroughSP@bsl.org.au)

\* many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berty Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.ds.gov.au](http://www.ds.gov.au) for more information.

# Mount Alexander Shire Council Climate Change Forum Registration Form

## Personal details

First name:

Last name:

Email:

Phone:

Organisation:

## Register to speak at the forum

☐ Yes, I would like to register to speak at the forum

You will be given five minutes to speak, with five minutes allocated for questions. Please indicate which session you would prefer by ranking the sessions 1 to 3 (where 1 is most preferred and 3 is least preferred). We will aim to schedule you in your preferred session, but cannot guarantee it.

Morning: 9.00am – 12noon, Monday 9 December

Afternoon: 2.00pm – 5.00pm, Monday 9 December

Evening: 6.00pm – 8.00pm, Monday 9 December

☐ Yes, I will use visuals, such as slides, video/ audio to accompany my presentation.

Please send any visual files in PowerPoint or PDF format by Thursday 5 December to [info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au). Please limit your slides to 6 slides or any video/audio footage to 2 minutes.

## Register to attend the forum

If you would like to attend the forum as an observer please send an email including a name, email address and which session(s) you would like to attend to [info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au).

## Register to make a written submission

☐ Yes, I will be submitting a written submission

We kindly request that your written submission does not exceed four pages (or 2,000 words). To assist us in compiling the responses, please preface your submission with a 100 word summary.

Please send your written submission by Thursday 5 December. You can email your submission titled Action on Climate Change to [info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au) or send it by mail to PO Box 185 Castlemaine VIC 3450.

Interest parties are welcome to attend the forum and/or make a submission. Please note the forum will be recorded for Council purposes.

Civic Centre  
Cnr Lyttleton and Lloyd Sts  
P.O Box 185 Castlemaine VIC 3450  
t (03) 5471 1700  
e [info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au)  
w [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au)



Find the P&F private group on Facebook – “Ladies of St Mary’s PS”

## Calendar Dates:-

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Ladies Night, Granada Café, 6.30pm

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Senior Citizens Lunch 12noon, St Mary's Hall

## **Vision Portrait Fundraiser**

Please be advised  
that this fundraiser  
has been cancelled.

## **Colgate Fundraiser**

Please keep collecting all year round!



## *Senior Citizens Lunch*



**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December  
12noon onwards**

**Help** needed on the day and donations of  
biscuits/slices greatly appreciated!

## **GIVING TREE**

Keep an eye out for the St Vincent's Giving  
Tree in the main foyer!

St Vincents are always grateful for donations of  
non-perishable food items and there will be a  
basket in foyer year round for collection. Items  
include pasta, pasta sauces, toothpaste/  
brushes, soups, condiments, etc.



## **Ladies Night - All Welcome**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm

**Granada Café**

146 Duke Street, Castlemaine

RSVP Kari 0402 076 340



## Community News . . .

### Connecting Through a Golden Thread

Would your children in Grades 4, 5 and 6 like to sing in a massed choir next year accompanied by the Castlemaine Chamber Players string quartet?

There will be a unique concert at the Castlemaine Town Hall next year in June to perform music specially commissioned for children's choir and strings. Rehearsals will start next year at school.

Grade 4, 5 and 6 boys and girls from Castlemaine primary schools will join with the Castlemaine Chamber Players string quartet to perform songs composed by exceptional musician Wendy Rowlands, director of Corker Orchestra and Mainesong. The choir director is Tim Watson from the Castlemaine Children's Choir.

Please put this date in your diary now so your child can be part of this exciting community music event.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 at 7.00 pm  
Castlemaine Town Hall

This project is supported by Regional Arts Victoria and Castlemaine Community House.

We hope it helps children experience the joy of making music, meet friends through music and perform with some of our talented local musicians.



Castlemaine Chamber Players:  
Elisabeth Anderson, Heather Cummins, Sasha Bronshtein, Frances Gail  
[frances@twofold.com.au](mailto:frances@twofold.com.au) 0414 878 071  
[www.castlemainechamberplayers.com](http://www.castlemainechamberplayers.com)



Castlemaine  
Swimming Club

We are an inclusive community-based club. We provide a safe and fun space for people to engage, develop and grow as swimmers and become healthy and resilient individuals.

Swimmers of all ages welcome. Come along and join us for fun, fitness or to improve your technique. Competing is not compulsory.

#### \*SPECIAL OFFER\*

We are promoting the upcoming 2019/20 season with a special offer. All new members will have club/coaching fees waived and receive a club swimming cap upon registration. That's a saving of over \$70 per person.

- Attendance every night is not compulsory
- Most swimmers attend 2 or 3 nights
- First 2 sessions FREE
- Suitable for adults and children
- Great way to train for a triathlon, general wellbeing or to improve your fitness

Castlemaine Swimming Club Fee:  
Member FREE

Swimming Victoria Fee:  
Insurance & Membership Package \$110-130 (approx.)

Summer Training  
Castlemaine Outdoor Pool  
Monday – Wednesday 6 – 7pm  
Thursday 6 – 8pm  
No training public holidays

Winter Training  
Castlemaine Fitness Centre  
Wednesday 6 – 7pm  
No training public holidays

#### Further Information

[www.castlemaineswimmingclub.org](http://www.castlemaineswimmingclub.org), or just turn up to a training session

EXCELLENCE • ARTISTRY • PASSION



TREVOR JARRETT  
CASTLEMAINE  
DENTAL

**Now welcoming new patients!**



"Dr Trevor Jarrett is an amazing dentist who will not only ensure you feel comfortable but also make your teeth sparkle! I've never felt more comfortable with a dentist before. Thanks Trev!"  
- Janine.

#### Child Dental Benefits Schedule

Is your child aged between 2-17?  
They maybe eligible for free dental work.  
Give us a call and we can check your eligibility!



Appointments now available

5407 0207

11 Urquhart Street, Castlemaine

## Child Dental Benefits Schedule

Is your child aged between 2-17?  
They maybe eligible for free dental work.  
Give us a call and we can check your eligibility!



TREVOR JARRETT  
CASTLEMAINE  
DENTAL

5407 0207

11 Urquhart Street, Castlemaine

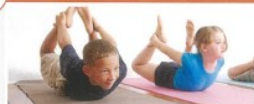
[www.castlemainedental.com.au](http://www.castlemainedental.com.au)

## SUMMER BY THE Y

the **CASTLEMAINE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

### WEEK ONE 6-10 JAN

**WELCOME TO 2020** Mon 6 Jan \$84



Celebrate the new year with cool activities like our time capsule and make some resolutions with our 100 acts of kindness.

**WET PLAY DAY** Tue 7 Jan \$84



Enjoy some Summer time fun at the Castlemaine pool. Back at the service we will have wet play games and aquatic art activities.

**GET SET FOR MOVIES** Wed 8 Jan \$84



Off to see a new release movie at Theatre Royal then spend some time in the new Victory Park Playground.

**BOUNCE INTO JUMPZ** Thu 9 Jan \$84



We head to Bendigo for a bounce at Jumpz and enjoy a picnic in the park.

**BALLOON WORKSHOP** Fri 10 Jan \$84

It's time for Mister Mike's amazing balloon workshop. Learn to create your very own balloon art.

### WEEK TWO 13-17 JAN

**FIRST AID FOR KIDS** Mon 13 Jan \$84



Today Cool Kids First Aid will teach us some important basic first aid skills.

**SUPERHEROES & STARS** Tue 14 Jan \$84



Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No it's... Come dressed as your favourite hero or star. Get your face painted and become your own super person.

**BOWLING TIME** Wed 15 Jan \$84

It's bowling time at Bendigo Bowls. We will visit Camp Hill playground on our way home.

**WHEELIES & POOL DAY** Thu 16 Jan \$84



Cool down with us at the Castlemaine pool. Bring your scooters and skate for our wheelies day at the service. Helmet and safety gear required.

**BOTANIC GARDEN** Fri 17 Jan \$84



Explore the amazing playground and have fun at the Castlemaine Botanic Gardens. We will enjoy some fresh hot chips as a treat!

the **CASTLEMAINE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

### WEEK THREE 20-24 JAN

**MAGIC DAY** Mon 21 Jan \$84



Roll up to watch the incredible Magic Mike and his magical skills. BYO your favourite magical book and create your own fairy tale.

**CRAFTY CREATIONS** Tue 21 Jan \$84

Explore the wonderful world of loose parts as we invent and construct our crafty creations.

**POOL TIME/ZEN GARDENS** Wed 22 Jan \$84



Lets cool off again at the best pool in town... Castlemaine pool, then create your own Zen garden at the service.

**DISCOVERY SCIENCE** Thu 23 Jan \$84



We are heading to Bendigo to explore the Discovery Science Centre then visit the Weeroona playground before we head back to Castlemaine.

**THE COLOURS OF US** Fri 24 Jan \$84



We will spend the last day of the holidays celebrating everything that makes us all Australian. Bring along your family story to share.

## SUMMER BY THE Y

**Give your child an opportunity to grow and learn through new experiences.**

Our School Holiday Programs are created with the right mixture of fun, adventure and interest-based activities through excursions and incursions helping kids become more confident and independent.

If your child is aged between 5 - 12 years old and enrolled in primary school, they will love our school holiday program!

### What to Bring

- Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea (Nutritious and NUT FREE)
- Water bottle, broad brim hat and sunscreen
- Bathers, towel & change of clothes every day for wet play
- Strict departure times apply for excursions, check with service for excursion times.

### Additional needs

Children with additional needs are welcome to attend our program. Families must contact the OSHC Coordinator at least four weeks prior to the holiday program to discuss the individual needs of your child and complete any funding applications.

### Bookings and Fees

- All bookings are subject to availability.
- Bookings are made via the casual booking calendar.
- Bookings will not be accepted on the day unless places, adequate staffing and resources are available.
- Additional permissions are required for excursions.
- Cancellations must be received in writing seven (7) days before the last day of school term.
- A late fee of \$2 per minute applies when a child is picked up after closing time.

For more information and to book our program visit [www.childrensprogram.ymca.org.au](http://www.childrensprogram.ymca.org.au)

Inhouse Incursion Excursion

CAMPBELLS CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL  
127 Main Road | CASTLEMAINE VIC 3451  
0499 983 828 | [castlemaine@ymca.org.au](mailto:castlemaine@ymca.org.au)  
[childrensprogram.ymca.org.au](http://childrensprogram.ymca.org.au)

DISCLAIMER: Prices and timings are subject to change, please confirm online.

DISCLAIMER: Prices and timings are subject to change, please confirm online.

## Parish News . . .

### St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Wishing Tree

Please consider supporting St. Vincent de Paul this Christmas by purchasing a gift for a child for our wishing tree.

Please leave gifts unwrapped by the Christmas tree in the side porch of St. Mary's Presbytery or at the school office by Sunday, 15th December.

Your generosity will be very much appreciated.



# Summer School 2020

MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> – WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

**AGE GROUPS:**

- 3.5-5
- 5.5-8
- 9-12
- Teenagers

**DANCE STYLES:**

- Choreography for Camera
- Musical Theatre
- Jazz
- Bhangra (Indian urban)
- African
- Contemporary... and more!

Places are limited, book early to avoid disappointment!

**BOOK NOW FOR THE SUMMER SCHOOL EARLY BIRD PRICE**  
[trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com)

Over the Moon

03 5470 5061 [enquiries@overthemoonstudio.com](mailto:enquiries@overthemoonstudio.com)





Please pass on this invitation to anyone you know who may be spending Christmas alone or who struggles on Christmas Day.



You are invited to  
St Mary's Annual  
Senior Citizens Afternoon  
Tea and Concert  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December  
12 noon  
@  
St Mary's Hall,  
Castlemaine

Please RSVP St Mary's School on 54722 270,  
Liz on 0468 436 264,  
Please indicate if you need picking up  
Or any Dietary Requirements



We desperately need volunteers to help on the day and donations of biscuits, etc. Please ring Carolynne on 0488 922141 if you can assist.  
Thank you.





# CATHOLIC PARISH OF CASTLEMAINE

HOLY NAME OF MARY, CASTLEMAINE • ST BRIGID'S, MALDON •  
ST ANNE'S, NEWSTEAD • ST LAURENCE'S, SANDON

**SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 – Year A**

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Presbytery: 76 Hargraves Street, CASTLEMAINE, 3450

Postal Address: PO Box 151, CASTLEMAINE, VIC, 3450

Phone: (03) 5472 1900

Email: [castlemaine@cam.org.au](mailto:castlemaine@cam.org.au)

Web: <http://stmaryscastlemaine.com>

Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Wahid Riad

### Next Sunday readings:

Isaiah 11: 1-10

Romans 15: 4-9

Matthew 3: 1-12

### Today's readings:

Isaiah 2: 1-5

Romans 13: 11-14

Matthew 24: 37-44

### Responsorial Psalm

Let us go rejoicing to  
the house of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy  
and love, and grant us  
your salvation.  
Alleluia!



FIRST SUNDAY

OF  
*Advent*

### Plenary Council Prayer

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.*

*Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.*

*O God, bless and unite all your people in*

*Australia and guide us on the pilgrim*

*way of the Plenary Council.*

*Give us the grace to see your face in one*

*another and to recognize Jesus,*

*our companion on the road.*

*Give us the courage to tell our stories*

*and to speak boldly of your truth.*

*Give us ears to listen humbly to each other*

*and a discerning heart to hear what you are*

*saying. Lead your Church into a*

*hope-filled future, that we may*

*live the joy of the Gospel.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the*

*journey from age to age. AMEN.*

*Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.*

*St. Mary McKillop, pray for us.*

## CONTACT DETAILS

### PARISH PRIEST

Rev Wahid Riad PP

Phone: (03) 5472 1900

Mobile: 0419 511 064

### ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Bronwyn Phillips

Phone: (03) 5472 2270

### Parish Office Manager

Doreen Heagney

Mon: 12-4pm, Wed: 10-4pm,

Thurs: 10.30-3.30pm.

Phone: (03) 5472-1900

### BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES,

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

For details regarding the celebration of

these sacraments, please contact the

Parish Priest.

### ST BRIGID'S HALL – Bookings for

St. Brigid's Hall are to be made

through Elaine Lacey on 0448 009 945.

### ST MARY'S HALL – Bookings for

St. Mary's Hall are to be made through

the Parish Office on 5472-1900.

### THE CATHOLIC PARISH

OF CASTLEMAINE IS COMMITTED

TO THE SAFETY, WELLBEING AND

DIGNITY OF ALL CHILDREN AND

VULNERABLE ADULTS.

### AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC

The Summer 2019/20 issue is now

available: *"The Mystery of God"*

Please take home your **FREE** copy today.

### 2020 COLUMBAN ART

CALENDARS

Now available - \$10 each

## WORSHIP TIMETABLE

**Saturday**

Reconciliation Castlemaine 5.15pm

Vigil Mass: Castlemaine 6.00pm

### Sunday

Reconciliation: Maldon 8.15am

Mass: Maldon 8.30am

Mass: Castlemaine 10.30am

### Tuesday

Mass: Castlemaine 6.00pm

### Wednesday

Mass: Castlemaine 9.15am

### Thursday

Mass: Maldon 6.00pm.

### Friday

Mass: Castlemaine 9.15am

Followed by Adoration

*Second Sunday of the Month*

Mass: Newstead 6.00pm

*Fourth Sunday of the Month*

Mass: Sandon 6.00pm

### STEWARDSHIP CORNER

*"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." - Matthew 24:42*

People who have had health issues or near death experiences generally have a greater

appreciation for each day being a

gift from God. The rest of us usually

take for granted that we will be

around tomorrow. But when you

start to look at each day as a gift,

you realize all the little miracles that

happen daily and grow in gratitude

for all that we have been given.

You begin to see God's active

presence in your life.

## MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

### Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Michael Gervasoni,  
Bob Crigan, Katherine Gidea, Lillian Rieger.

Please pray also for all those who are sick and suffering serious illness and their families and loved ones who care for them. If you would like prayers for the sick included in Masses please give the names to the office or Fr Wahid.

### STEWARDSHIP

Thank you and every blessing for your contributions last weekend  
1st Collection -Presbytery: \$903  
2nd Collection - Parish: \$1023  
Direct Debit & Credit cards: \$240  
Weekly Target: \$2000

### GARABANDAL MEETING

Our next meeting is on  
Monday 2nd December at 7.30pm  
at 19A Duke street,  
Castlemaine.

Enquiries: Trish Bowles on 5472-2702.

### Legion of Mary

#### Christmas get together

The Legion of Mary would like to invite all Parishioners to attend its annual Christmas get together to be held on Tuesday 17th December 2019 after Reconciliation Mass.

Also, the Legion would like to welcome anyone in becoming a member, either as an auxiliary or active member.

### Rosary at the Grotto on Fridays

Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto after Mass & Adoration on Fridays.

### Parish Christmas BBQ

All parishioners are welcome to attend our Parish Christmas BBQ on  
Wednesday 4th December at 6.30pm  
in the Presbytery.  
Please bring a plate to share.

### MOVIE NIGHT

Our next movie night will be on  
Friday 5th December at 7.00pm  
in the Buckley Room.  
A very powerful movie called "War Room".  
It's about the power of Prayer that  
can change lives. All welcome.

### Senior Citizens Luncheon

St Mary's school and the Parish will be having their annual Senior Citizens light luncheon and concert on  
Thursday 12th December at  
St Mary's Hall from 12 noon - 2.30pm.  
Please RSVP to the school on 5472-2270 or place your name on the list.  
If anybody would like to be involved please see Fr Wahid.

### Community Christmas Luncheon

Come and celebrate Christmas together on  
Wednesday 25th December from  
12noon -2pm at St Mary's Hall.  
RSVP on 0437 145 602.  
This is a non-alcoholic event organised by St Vincent de Paul, St Mary's Parish & sponsored by local entities for ALL in the community.



### Baptism at St Mary's

Welcome and Congratulations to Jess and Chris Somerville on their child's baptism this weekend after 10.30am Mass.

God Bless baby Thomas and his Godparents.

### PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

- Tuesday 3rd December  
4.30pm: Legion of Mary, Presbytery  
6.00pm: Mass, St Mary's
- Wednesday 4th December  
9.15am: Mass & Rosary, St Mary's  
11.00am: Mass, Thompson House  
6.30pm: Parish Christmas BBQ
- Thursday 5th December  
6.00pm: Mass, St Brigid's
- Friday 6th December  
9.15am: Mass & Adoration, St Mary's, & afterwards Rosary at the Grotto  
7.00pm: Movie Night, Buckley Room

### Mass at Thompson House

Our next Mass will be on  
Wednesday 4th December at 11.00am.  
All welcome.

### St Vincent de Paul

#### Wishing Tree

Please consider supporting St Vincent de Paul this Christmas by purchasing a gift for a child for our wishing tree.  
Please leave gifts unwrapped by the Christmas tree in the side porch of St Mary's Church or at the school office by Sunday 15th December.  
Your generosity will be very much appreciated.

### •MASSES OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

St. Brigid's: Sunday 1st December at 8.30am Mass  
St Mary's: Friday 6th December at 9.15am Mass

### •ROSARY AT THE GROTTTO

Our monthly 1st Saturday of the month Rosary will be on 7 December at 10am.  
All welcome.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS 8th December 2019 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6.00pm

Reader: Bill Chapman

Ext Min Com: Kathleen Tobin

Liz Carthew

Chris Turley

8.30am

Reader: Marta Czehmester

Ext Min Com: Elaine Lacey

10.30am

Reader: Annie O'Shannessy

Ext Min Com: Betty Morris

Trish Bowles

Bernadette Mayne

LINEN ROSTER

DECEMBER: Marie McCallum

### CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

#### Parish Reconciliation Services

St Mary's: Tuesday 17th December  
6.00pm

St Brigid's: Thursday 19th December  
6.00pm

#### Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve: Tuesday 24th December

St Mary's

Carols 5.30pm

Family Mass 6.00pm

Carols 9.30pm

Midnight Mass 10.00pm

St Brigid's

Carols 7.30pm

Family Mass 8.00pm

Christmas Day:

Wednesday 25th December

St Mary's

Mass 9.30am