



Newsletter

Term 1, Week 5

Thursday February 25th, 2021



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.

Wonder • *Persevere* • *Believe* • *Create*
Respect • *Responsibility* • *Resilience*

TERM DATES

FEBRUARY Friday, 26th 9:15am	Gr. 5/6 Class Mass	Thursday, 18th	P & F Meeting - 9:30am - School Library
Sunday, 28th 10:30-11:30am	1st Reconciliation Commitment Mass	Friday, 19th	Gr's 3/4 & 5/6 Class Mass
MARCH Wednesday, 3rd	SCHOOL CLOSURE	Monday, 22nd Tuesday, 23rd Wednesday, 24th	Gr. 5/6 Camp - Campaspe Downs
Friday, 5th	Gr. 1/2 Class Mass - 9:15am Clean Up Australia Day - Botanical Gardens 1:00 - 2:30pm	Friday, 26th	Interschool Cross Country - Gr's 3-6 End of Term Mass - 9:15am
Monday, 8th	LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Monday, 29th	Lunch Day - Hot Dogs (Provided by P & F)
Tuesday, 9th	Preps commence full-time	Wednesday, 31st	School Photos Reconciliation Sacramental Preparation Evening (Gr's 3 & 4) - 7:00pm
Friday, 12th	Gr. Prep Class Mass		
Tuesday, 16th	Gr. 5 Visit to Sacred Heart	APRIL Thursday, 1st	End of Term 1 - 2:30 Finish
Wednesday, 17th Thursday, 18th	Parent-Student-Teacher Conversations - (Book Online)	Monday, 19th	Beginning of Term 2

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." Mt 13:31-32



Dear families,

As we journey through Lent we focus on ways in which we can help others. An important way we can offer alms is through Caritas Australia, one of the church's charitable arms. During Lent, Project Compassion seeks to raise money, and awareness, for the people in our communities who are disadvantaged, displaced or marginalised. Here at St Mary's, we support Project Compassion by placing donation boxes in each classroom for children to put money into. Rather than just asking mum and dad for money however, we would encourage the children to earn the money in some way so that they get a stronger sense of 'giving' to help others. Mrs White has shared some ideas with our students to promote and incentivise fundraising. Our Project Compassion boxes will remain until the end of term, when we will then offer the donations to Caritas.

Closure Day – Science of Learning

Next Wednesday 3rd March, we are looking forward to commencing our collective exploration of the Science of Learning as a staff team; how does the brain work to make sense of reality and what impact might this have of education? Dr Jared Cooney-Horvath is a world-renowned cognitive neuroscientist who has completed extensive research in the area of mind, brain and education. It is a true privilege for our small school to work with a leader in the field of neuroscience in education.

It is important to express why and how we have arrived at this point. Having a clear purpose is essential to our journey towards creating a new educational paradigm both locally and systemically. It can be extremely challenging to create a paradigm shift in education. Everyone has a perceived knowledge of what education is, simply because we have all been a student at some point. Often, there is a *want* to replicate our educational experiences for our children. Many of the experiences may not have had a sound evidence base. It's a much more significant discussion than a simple mention here; but as an example, homework has an extremely limited evidence base for improving student outcomes. Why does it still so rampantly exist in education? I believe this is simply because it was *our* lived experience as students. This is one of many existing paradigms in education that needs to be challenged.

Our education system is derived from the model introduced during the Industrial Age where either manual skills or surface knowledge (basic rules, facts and ideas) were the determinants of continued schooling or joining the work force. The relentless repetition of skills or facts was at the forefront of the educational paradigm. From this perspective the goal of education was, and little has changed, to expediently slot each child into his or her rightful place by the process of standardisation.

Our belief at St Mary's is that learning is complex, wondrous and possibility filled. As such we are researching and embedding practices from the emerging fields of Educational Neuroscience and The Science of Learning to inform our methodology and enable designed research-practise translation. Our journey is to align the principles of 'deep' learning and content with the trajectory of learning; surface knowledge, to deep understanding to transference.

The journey ahead is exciting and I look forward to sharing this with our wider school community. If you have any questions along the way or would like to learn more about our processes, please feel free to come in to walk through the spaces and have a discussion around the emergence of neuroscience in our learning community.

What's happening?

As an element of our systems design approach at St Mary's, we have incorporated a specific hour block each Wednesday to work collaboratively as a whole school. Currently, our focus is centered around the concept of leadership and teamwork. Throughout the course of the year, we are planning to incorporate aspects of project-based learning and STEM (science, technology, engineering & mathematics) within this multi-aged setting.

This week students worked in their house groups to complete the challenge of flipping a tarp without anyone stepping off. The students unpacked strategies and attitudes that promoted success.



Grade 6 Tops

A special thank you to the staff at Hip Pocket for supporting the design and sales of the Grade 6 tops. Please be aware that the cut-off date for ordering the tops will be Friday 5th March. The print run cannot commence until all orders are made.

Pick-up Area

A huge thank you to everyone who has really made an effort to make this as safe as possible. Over the last week I have seen this work exceptionally smooth. However, there have still been a minority that have not quite comprehended the procedures. Ultimately, this is *still* making the pick-up area unnecessarily unsafe – we are doing this for the safety of your children.

If you are collecting child/ren from this area, please use the pick-up loop. The pick-up zone is where the disabled carparks are marked. Parents **should not** be walking across the road, through the pick-up zone and then back with their child/ren; or doing a u-turn in front of oncoming vehicles – this is dangerous. Additionally, please be aware that the front car in the pick-up zone has right-of-way and following vehicles need to wait.

PAM and Medical Profiles

If you need any assistance with PAM or are having trouble accessing it, please let us know as soon as possible. There are still a number of outstanding medical profiles, and unfortunately, I am now in a position that I will have to notify families that their child/ren are unable to attend school with an incomplete medical profile. It's a similar situation to the pick-up area in many ways, this information (not only legally) is essential for us in the event of a medical emergency.

Please be aware that there will be some upcoming camp/excursion activities that will require PAM access and permission.

3-Way Chats

3 Way Chats appointments are now available to sign-up for via PAM (17th & 18th March). One of our key learnings from remote learning and, in particular communication, is that there is a greater need for flexibility around meetings. As a result, there are two options to select from: a face-to-face meeting onsite, or a phone call at your selected time. Please be aware that if you select a phone appointment, that you will receive a call at that time from a *No Caller ID* number.

The purpose and process:

The teacher facilitates the interview and guides the student/parent through the process.

Throughout the interviews parents and the teacher are encouraged to ask questions, provide feedback and encouragement to the student and to share their thoughts and ideas on what is being presented and on what goals or targets they think are appropriate.

In short, three-way interviews provide a forum for teachers, students and parents to acknowledge student learning, wellbeing and discuss future learning endeavours. They are a valuable avenue for involving parents and students in the learning process and helping parents understand the teaching, learning and assessment process. The three-way chat is an important rapport building experience to genuinely meet as partners in the learning process.

Have a fantastic week ahead!

Kind regards,
Ben Shields.

HEAD LICE

We have had cases of head lice reported within the school - please check your child's head, treat if necessary prior to sending back to school.

Please remain vigilant in checking your child's hair regularly.

We thank you for your co-operation with this.

S U S T A I N A B I L I T Y



‘Sustainability is our SUPER POWER!’ Let’s talk shampoo.

Whilst most shampoo bottles are recyclable (once rinsed), that’s still a lot of plastic that needs to be processed!

Consider swapping to shampoo bars. They’re almost package free, and they’re longer lasting/offer more washes than bottled shampoo.



Youth & Schools Clean Up Day

Friday, March 5th

St Mary’s school will be venturing down to the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens from 1 -2:30pm to do our part for Clean Up Australia Day. The school is being provided with some gloves, however if students able to bring your own pair to use on the day, that would be great!

#CleanUpAustralia #StepUpToCleanUp

What a fantastic way to spend our Sustainability lesson in Week Six!

SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS



It's here! School Lunch Online is supplying an online ordering system to get fresh, healthy lunches starting on **Thursday February 11.**

You can now register at <http://www.schoollunchonline.com.au>, choose from the lunch options and pay online – all without the last minute morning hassle.

Who is supplying the food?

Lunchbox Sushi, is providing and delivering the food using the best quality ingredients. Yumi welcomes phone calls with any questions about the food and can be contacted on 0484 625 339(Tue-Fri).

When will I have to order?

The Cut Off Time: Orders **MUST** be placed by 5pm the day before delivery.

How do I place my order?

Visit <http://www.schoollunchonline.com.au/>, register your family and then follow the prompts to choose your lunch selection and place your order. You will need to register before you can view the menu. It only takes a minute or two to register and is very simple. Simply click on the calendar on Wednesday to view the menu.

What if I encounter a problem?

School Lunch Online has conducted extensive testing to ensure the website and system are fully functional from day one. However, if you do encounter a problem, or simply need a little help with getting started, please contact them for help at hello@schoollunchonline.com.au.

Please make sure that you put your child's correct Grade when you place your order to enable the Sushi to be delivered to the correct classroom. Many thanks.

R.E. 2021 (Update No. 2)

Dates to remember . . .

- Friday, 26th February - 9:15am
Gr. 5/6 Class Mass
- Sunday, 28th February, 2021 - 10:30-11:30am
First Reconciliation Commitment Mass
- Friday, 5th March - 9:15am
Gr. 1/2 Class Mass
- Friday, 12th March - 9:15am
Gr. Prep Class Mass
- Friday, 19th March - 9:15am
Gr's 3/4 & 5/6 Class Mass
- Friday, 26th March, 2021 - 9:15-10:15am
End of Term Mass
- Wednesday, 31st March - 7:00pm - Gr's 3 & 4
Reconciliation Sacramental Preparation Evening
- Friday, 23rd April, 2021 - 9:15am-10:15am
Beginning of Term 2 Mass
- Wednesday, 28th April, 2021 - 7:00-8:30pm
First Reconciliation Celebration
- Friday, 30th April- 9:15am
Gr. Prep & Gr. 1/2 Class Mass
- Friday, 7th May - 9:15am
Gr, 5/6 Class Mass
- Friday, 14th May- 9:15am
Gr. 3/4 Class Mass
- Wednesday, 26th May - 9:15am
Gr. 3/4 Class Mass
- Friday, 4th June - 9:15am
Gr. 1/2 Class Mass

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- Friday, 11th June - 9:15am
Gr. Prep Class Mass
- Friday, 25th June - 9:15am
Whole School Mass
- Sunday, 25th July, 2021 - 10:30-11:30am
First Holy Communion Commitment Mass
- Wednesday, 4th August - 7:00pm - Gr's 4 & 5
First Holy Communion Preparation Evening
- Sunday, 15th August, 2021 - 10:30-11:30am
Feast of the Assumption Mass
- Sunday, 29th August, 2021 - 10:30-12:30pm
First Holy Communion Celebration
- Sunday, 12th September, 2021 - 10:30-11:30am
Holy Name of Mary Feast Day Mass
- Sunday, 10th October, 2021 - 10:30-11:30am
Confirmation Commitment Mass
- Wednesday, 20th October - 7:00pm - Gr's 6 & 7
Confirmation Information Evening
- Sunday, 14th November, 2021 - 10:30-11:30am
Confirmation Mass



BULB FUNDRAISER

The P&F are currently running a bulb fundraiser (catalogues were sent home with students last week). Orders are to be placed online by 26th March. Please pass on to any interested family and friends. Many thanks.

www.bulbfundraiser.com.au/STMACA



NEXT P & F MEETING - Thursday, 18th March 9:30am

EASTER RAFFLE:

Calling for donations please of Easter eggs/easter related gifts from families to become prizes in our annual Easter raffle!

Donations to be placed in a box in the foyer please.

Tickets will be sent home soon!

(Date of raffle to be confirmed in next week's newsletter)

TERM ONE SPECIAL LUNCH DAY:

Monday 29th March-Hot Dog Lunch (provided by P&F committee)

Please note that this lunch will be provided, so you will not need to provide lunch for your child/ren.

- Come and join us on the Aussie Camino, walking from Portland to Penola, starting Sunday 11th April until Friday 23rd April. Please ring Juliet on 0422 344 907 if interested or wanting more details.
- Free forum on Wednesday 3rd March at Castlemaine Town Hall at 7pm, to hear about housing initiatives in the Mount Alexander Shire to explore ways to improve access to affordable, safe, sustainable, secure homes for everyone.

We would like to wish the following students a very *happy*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



birthday:

Quinn Vance	:	March 1st
Layla Earl	:	March 3rd
Clarissa Salvatore	:	March 4th
Sebastian Salvatore	:	March 5th

Community News . . .



Castlemaine Gift



Castlemaine Gift
 Junior Sections
 Age 5 to 13
 Sunday
 28th February
 2021

Contact 0403 162 005

CAMP RESERVE
 WHERE THE GRASS IS FAST



Castlemaine Gift

Sunday 28th February 2021



Thompson Family Funerals
 Central Victoria
 (03) 5472 2202

Mt Alexander Community Enterprise



Camp Reserve, Castlemaine, Where the grass is fast

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE COUNCIL

IGA plus LIQUOR

McClure Earthmoving



The Retail Traders of Castlemaine
 120m Castlemaine Gift

McClure Earthmoving
 400m Castlemaine Women's Classic

Leech Earthmoving
 120m Castlemaine Women's Gift

Photos by Neil Jamieson Photography

Accredited Distributors Junior Castlemaine Gift

- Race time 10:00am for Heats
- Flyer Admits one Adult for Free (available from outside school office)
- Otherwise Admission \$5.00 (Children Free)

Flute Lessons

Alyse Faith will be offering private flute lessons to students at St Mary's Primary School during school hours.

Students are able to start learning on a fife (plastic flute) which can be purchased for about \$20. Hiring/purchasing of metal flutes can also be organised.

Alyse holds a Master of Arts in Performance from the Royal Academy of Music, London. She also holds an LRAM Music Teaching Diploma from the Royal Academy of Music, London.

Lessons are \$40/half an hour (recommended VMTA rate). Alyse is a fully accredited VMTA teacher. She has a current WWC Check.

Please contact Alyse Faith on alysefaithflute@gmail.com, +61400685409 if you would like to enrol your child in flute lessons.

FIRST LESSON FREE
FOR STUDENTS



NEWSTEAD FOOTBALL

U13 TEAM LOOKING FOR PLAYERS

(If you are 12 now or turning 13 this year)

Training commencing next Monday, 1st March at 5.30pm

Ride out is available if required.

Please phone Lisa on 0413 915370.



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

SUNDAY 21st February 2021 – Year B
1st SUNDAY OF LENT

Presbytery: 76 Hargraves Street/PO Box 151, CASTLEMAINE 3450
 Phone: (03) 5472 1900, Email: castlemaine@cam.org.au

Web: www.stmaryscastlemaine.org.au

Parish Priest: **Rev Fr. Wahid Riad**

We are proud to acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung people as the traditional owners of this land.

CONTACT DETAILS

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Wahid Riad PP
 Phone: (03) 5472 1900
 Mobile: 0419 511 064

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ben Shields
 Phone: (03) 5472 2270

Parish Secretary

Joanne Lawrence is filling this role temporarily

Mon, Wed & Thurs 10am – 3pm

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.



WORSHIP TIMETABLE

Saturday
 Reconciliation Castlemaine 5.15pm
 Vigil Mass: Castlemaine 6.00pm
 Rosary is prayed before Mass

Sunday
 Reconciliation: Maldon 8.15am
 Maldon 8.30am
 Castlemaine 10.30am
Tuesday
 Castlemaine 6.00pm

Wednesday
 Castlemaine 9.15am
 Rosary is prayed after Mass
Thursday
 Maldon 11.00am.

Friday
 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

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God..."
Mark 1:14

Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come to Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming. It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfil His plan for us.

Today's Readings:

Genesis 9:8-15
 1 Peter 3:18-22
 Mark 1:12-15

Responsorial Psalm

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
 Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory?
 No one live on bread alone, but on Every word that comes from the mouth Of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Prayer to St Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation, and having implored the help of your most holy spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.
 Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously

Next Sunday readings:

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18
 Romans 8:31-34
 Mark 9:2-11

Prayer to St Joseph cont.....

to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.
 O most watchful Guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;
 O most loving father, ward off from us Every contagion of error and corrupting influence;
 O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.
 As you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.
 Amen.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Deaths: Margaret Jones

Anniversaries:

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:	\$	\$1000
Weekly Target:		
2nd Collection – Parish:	\$	\$2000
Weekly Target:		

•Stewardship Programme

To contribute to our Thanksgiving by Direct Debit, our Catholic Development Fund Bank account details are as follows:

•CHURCH

083 347

Account No: 636 421 759

Account Name: Castlemaine Parish Church Account

•PRESBYTERY

083 347

Account No: 635 910 163

Account Name: Castlemaine Parish Presbytery Account

Please put your surname or Envelope Number as a reference. Thank-you.

Our Lady of Fatima Statue is available for home adoration. Contact Sebastian on 0439847894 or Helen on 0468323379.

A special Invitation to all Parishioners

I wish to invite all my dear parishioners to come back to Church especially to the Sunday Masses, as we can now have up to 159 people (due to density quotient) in St Mary's Church. I would love to gather the whole community to come together and pray for peace and healing for everyone.

Parish Diary

Tuesday 23rd February
4.30pm Legion of Mary – Buckley Room
6.00pm Mass – St Mary's

Wednesday 24th February
9.15am Mass & Rosary – St Mary's
1.00pm Finance Meeting - Presbytery

Thursday 25th February
11.00am Mass – St Brigid's
7pm Lenten Program – St Mary's

Friday 26th February
9.15am Mass & Adoration – St Mary's

World Day of Prayer

Friday 5th March

Castlemaine: St Mary's at 10am
St. Mary's Catholic Parish is the Host for this year's World Day of Prayer service. Please come and join with our Eucumenial friends and gather as a whole community in unison to pray for the World in this beautiful prayer day prepared by the Women of Vanuatu.

Maldon: Holy Trinity Anglican at 10.30am

Newsstead: St Anne's at 2.15pm

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

28th February, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

6:00pm

Reader: Tricia Barrett
Ext Min Com: Anne McGibbon

8:30am

Reader: As arranged
Ext Min Com:

10:30am

Reader: Justin Shortal
Ext Min Com: Annie O'Shannessy

LINEN ROSTER

MARCH Trish Barrett

ASH SUNDAY MASSES

Instead of Ash Wednesday, this weekend we will celebrate Ash Sunday at all the Masses: "Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return".

Stations of the Cross

A very powerful devotion, especially during the Lenten Season – starting on Friday 19th February after 9.15am Mass in St Mary's Church, Castlemaine at 9.45am. All welcome.

Legion of Mary invites parish community to become auxiliary members for the glory of our Lady. Contact Sebastian on 0439847894 or Helen on 0468 323 379.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS

Please take home a copy.

Parish Sacramental Program

The date for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation is **Wednesday 28th April at 7.00pm**. All students in Years 3 and 4 are preparing for Reconciliation during Term 1.

1st Reconciliation Commitment

Mass

A warm invitation to all the families preparing their children for their **1st Reconciliation Sacrament** this year to celebrate together on **Sunday 28th February at 10.30am** Mass in St Mary's Church, Castlemaine.

Youth Group

Our next gathering of the Year 7 boys Youth Group will be on **Friday 5th March at 6.30pm in the Buckley Room**. We finish at 8.00pm. All welcome.

Parish Council AGM

We invite all parishioners to our Parish Council AGM on Wednesday 10th March at 7.00pm in St. Mary's Church, Castlemaine. A wonderful opportunity to gather and connect. All welcome.

We are hoping to run our weekly **Lenten Program** on Thursday evenings from **7pm** in the Buckley Room starting **18th February**. Books are available for \$10.

Parish Finance Council

Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 24th February** at 1.00pm in the Presbytery.