



Newsletter

Term 4, Issue 9

Thursday December 12th, 2019

TERM DATES

December Friday, 13th	Years 4-5 Expo - 2:30pm <i>Families invited to attend</i>	Friday, 20th	Staff Meeting - EOY for Staff
Monday, 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class Relocation Day - Volunteers Required Year 6 Day Out Whole School Graduation Mass - 6:00pm-7:30pm 	Wednesday, 25th	Community Christmas Luncheon - St. Mary's Hall 12:00 - 2:00pm
Tuesday, 17th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Day of Classes Final Assembly - 12:30pm Family Picnic - 1:00pm 	January Wednesday, 29th & Thursday, 30th	Literacy Testing <i>by appointment times - Now open for bookings</i>
Wednesday, 18th Thursday, 19th	Student Numeracy Testing <i>by appointment times - Now open for bookings</i>	Friday, 31st	School resumes for 2020

Our children warming the hearts today at our Senior Citizens Luncheon





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.

Dear families and friends,

During this second week of Advent wouldn't it be wonderful if we could make the world a more peaceful place. The hustle and bustle of this latter part of the year can consume us if we allow it to. With Christmas day less than two weeks away it may cause us to remember what Jesus modelled. Regardless of our circumstances or our situations, he offered us peace that passes understanding.



In the lead up to Christmas I thought you may find Megan Pacheco's thoughts grounding if not inspiring:

"Routine is often thought of as boring, but I think there is something special and even sacred about the Christmas routine. As Christmas approaches I catch myself wishing that my sons could, just once, experience my childhood Christmas routine. So even though we can't go back in time, with a little work and creativity, we decided to bring back some of those special memories and moments. I know that if we do them year over year, our children will inherit a rich Christmas legacy! So here we are, mixing my traditional Polish dishes with David's Guatemalan tamales as the staple food at our Christmas Eve dinner table; we break the bread with friends and family; we invite friends who have no family around to be part of our Christmas routine. The house is a mess, but oh how we love it! And yes, we do leave cookies and milk for "Santa" and wake up at the crack of dawn to see if we've been good enough this year to receive gifts.

So if your Christmas is still a little too commercial, or if you're struggling with creating a meaningful Christmas routine that your family can practice for years to come, here are few things to consider as you build your own Christmas legacy:

1. Sit down with your spouse and talk about some of the most memorable Christmas moments from both of your childhoods.

Jot those down on a piece of paper and see what you can adopt as a family. Picking meaningful traditions from both of your backgrounds will make it that much more special. If you don't have too many fond memories, that's ok. Just think of what you would have liked to experience as a child and start this new tradition with your family and children.

2. **Dust off some old family recipes and incorporate them into your “must have” Christmas menu list.**
Is there a favourite biscuit your mum used to make? Maybe you loved a dish that your grandmother or your aunt used to cook. Whatever the dish, bring it back to your dinner table and tell your children why it’s so special. You may want to start a Christmas recipe book that you could, one day, pass on to your children.
3. **Start off your Christmas morning with reading the Christmas story.**
If you have multiple kids and cousins getting together, they could even act it out!
4. **How about incorporating gratefulness into your Christmas routine?**
Ask each person to tell what he or she is most grateful for or ask them to say something kind about a family member.
5. **Keeping memories alive is a great way to pass on the Christmas legacy.**
Spend some time recounting your most memorable childhood Christmas traditions. Children love hearing stories of the past, and when they hear them year over year, they’ll begin to treasure those memories as if they were their own!
As you can see, there are so many creative ways to create and pass on a wonderful Christmas legacy to your children. So in this hectic season of buying and “deal” hunting, take a few moments to think about what kind of Christmas legacy you’d like to leave your children. Then, go and make it happen this Christmas season!”
Megan Pacheco

St. Mary’s Spreading the Spirit of Christmas

I have had several messages from local people who were deeply moved by hearing the Ukulele and Recorder groups share their music with the township on Monday. Thank you Mrs. Byrne for your constant dedication and to the children whose skills lifted the spirits of all those who were fortunate enough to listen.



Transition Morning

We welcomed Mr. Johns into our school on transition day. Mr. Johns was eager to meet our children and from all accounts the 2020 year six students enjoyed their morning.

Pictured below are the Prep-One class with Mrs. Watts learning about where they will enter their room in term one. Year 2-3 are engaged with circle time with Mrs. White while Mrs. C was facilitating a positive primer session with her 2020 4-5 class. We hope that your children have had an inspiring morning.



Staff structures and teachers for 2020

Prep - One (23 students): Ms. Danielle Crane Mon-Thurs & Mrs. Watts Friday morning then specialist classes with Mrs. Byrne Fri 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 10th then full time. Mr. Bernard Kerrins will take the class on Wednesdays until March 10th.

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

LSO : Mr. Rob Wolff Prep – Year 3

LSO : Mrs. Barb Burchett Years 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.

Together at St Marys 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 school work
- allow them to get used to new routines and school organisation
- allow them to experience curriculum continuity.

Teaching Positions of Leadership 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



Year Six Day Out

Monday, 16th December- 8:50am to 3:40pm

As a way of celebrating the achievements of our grade 6 children, we have organised a day out to relax and enjoy our time together. We will be travelling by mini-bus (driven by an accredited driver) to The Bendigo Zone complex on Rohs Rd, East Bendigo for laser tag and inline skating fun. We will depart The Zone at 11:45am and head to the Bendigo Cinemas complex to watch the 'G' rated movie *The Addams Family*. As this movie begins at 12:30pm, we endeavour to be back at school by 3:40pm. Children may wear casual clothes on this day and bring whatever food they would like to eat. They may also bring up to \$15.00 to spend at the cinema if they wish to.

Travel (and updates) will be communicated via Flexibuzz.

Karen White and Barb Burchett will accompany the children.

Please give permission via CareMonkey for your child to take part in this excursion.

End of the Year Graduation Mass & Assembly

We warmly invite you all to attend our whole school Graduation Family Mass on Monday at 6pm. We will farewell our Year 6 class and present the Year 6 awards at the end of the Mass. On Tuesday December 17th we will be having our final assembly at 12.30 in the Church. This assembly will be followed by a family picnic in our beautiful school grounds. You are all invited to bring along a picnic to enjoy.

Year 4-5 Expo

Our Year 4-5 class created individual prototypes for their innovations unit to then place into a display expo. You are all invited to view the expo this Friday afternoon from 2.30pm. The children are very proud of what they have achieved.

Thankyou Marian

We extend our sincere thanks to Marian who has delighted our children with her catchy songs. The children are looking forward to singing with Marian again at our senior citizen's lunch on Thursday. We all love to hear the sound of their voices floating down the corridors. Congratulations children on all you have achieved. We are blessed to have Marian share her gifts with us.



Newshounds Presentations: Congratulations St Mary's!



Our students were awarded, "The People's Choice Prize" as well as, "Best Sustainability Story" on Saturday at the Newshounds Awards. Thank you Billy Lister for accepting the awards on our behalf. Well done children! We thank Castlemaine Mail as well as Don KR for promoting and sponsoring this initiative.

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 to 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 Myschool Interviews according to the links later in this newsletter. Numeracy interviews will be conducted over December 18th & 19th and Literacy interviews will take place over January 29th & 30th.



Mount Alexander Shire Council Climate Change Forum

Our school Green Team Leaders Amelia Lizzul, Thomas Davis and Billy Lister capably represented our school when they shared our work as a sustainable community at the recent Alexander Shire Council Climate Change Forum. This forum is the first of its kind in the shire where members from the community had the opportunity to speak about ways council could support the shire in living sustainably. I commend our leaders who spoke courageously in front of council as well as all those at the afternoon forum.

Their voice echoed the commitment of our school and of the youth in the shire who want to be proactive in making a difference. We thank The Mount Alexander Council for allowing this time to hear the views of the local people. Together we can make a difference.

Year 2-3 Celebration Aussie Coin Day

After learning about all of the iconic Aussie coins which were released by Australia Post in October Year 2-3 celebrated the day by dressing up, eating meat pies, lamingtons, making iced VoVo's and munching on vegemite sandwiches. A great day was had by all.



Social Learning Graduation

Pictured are the happy recipients of our social skills and being a good friend awards. Congratulations to our students who have worked hard to problem solve and to get along respectfully together.



St. Vincent De Paul Giving Tree

Thank you for the items that you have placed under our giving tree which is 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.

Mercy Building Upgrade

Due to the building works being undertaken on the Mercy Wing in term one your children will need to enter via the side steps as they currently do until 8.40 however in 2020 they will need to enter that way and not use the front door. When the bell goes students can then go to the library via the end steps (Prep-Year 3). Years 4-6 will enter The Art's Hub from the ground. Students may arrive in the morning from 8.30 am. A teacher will be on duty from 8.30am.

December 16th Classroom Moving Day: Your help needed:}



On December 16th 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 31st to ensure this.

Missing Clothing

Please check our lost property basket (now in the front foyer) if you are missing uniform. If you have uniform items at home that do not belong to you can you return them. Please ensure or items are clearly labelled. Thank you.

A reminder that as from the beginning of 2020 all children will be required to wear the current school uniform.



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

Bush Fire Safety

I ask you to make sure that you understand our school's procedures on Code Red days. In the event of a day being 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.

Interactive Play Area: More sturdy sticks needed!

Thank you for your donations towards this area. Your children are immersing themselves in the construction of huts 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 17th until Wednesday 19th. 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**.



Reports & Student Achievement

Our teachers have been writing your children's reports following analysis of post assessments. Much growth has been evidenced in our children's learning over this year. Indeed, there is much to celebrate!

As a staff we focus regularly on evaluating the effects we have on our students and adjust teaching methods accordingly.

We are a visible learning school. Visible learning involves teachers seeing learning through the eyes of students; and students seeing teaching as the key to their ongoing learning. When learning is visible the student knows what to do and how to do it and the teacher knows if learning is occurring or not. Teaching and learning is visible when the learning goal is not only challenging but is explicit. We need to be continually aware of the impact we are having on our students and from the evidence of this impact, we make decisions about changing approaches to meet children's needs.

Nine Mind Frames of Effective Teachers:

1. Evaluators of the effect of their teaching on pupil's learning.
2. 'Change Agents' who take responsibility for enhancing all pupils learning.
3. Talk about how pupils learn and not about how teachers teach.
4. See assessment as feedback about their impact.
5. Engage in dialogue not monologue with pupils.
6. Enjoy the challenge and engage pupils in the challenge.
7. Develop positive relationships with pupils that foster effective learning.
8. Have a common and shared language of learning which is understood by all.
9. Teach students the value of: Concentration, perseverance and deliberate practice.



ART OF TEACHING: EXPERT TEACHERS ENSURE PUPILS:

- are clear of learning intentions.
- have challenging success criteria.
- use a range of learning strategies.
- know when students are not progressing.
- provide feedback.
- visibly learn themselves.

SO THAT STUDENTS:

- understand learning intentions.
- are challenged by success criteria.
- develop a range of learning strategies.
- know when they are not progressing.
- seek feedback.
- visibly teach themselves.



Library Books

Could all library books be returned ASAP so that we can do a stocktake before the end of the year. Thank you:}



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 with the dates you are available between December 20th and January 26th. 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.



Thank you Parents & Friends

Our P&F committee have continued to meet regularly with the purpose of supporting our school. Together with you all much has been achieved, the latest funds raised helping fund our interactive play area and work in our Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary.

Thank you, our wonderful community, for your support of our school. As a whole we have all gained greatly from the gift of your time, effort and support.

This will be our final newsletter for 2019. Wishing you all, our wonderful community a happy and blessed Christmas as well as a rejuvenating summer break. We wish our families who are leaving our community a bright future and we are looking forward to welcoming our new families and working with you again next year.

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 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 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).

Thank
you!

Thank you to all the Parents and Friends in our school community who were part of the recent meal and driving team.

All your generosity and kindness was very much appreciated.

*Carla & Ailish
Kennedy*



• 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 poverty¹ and one in five children won't have enough to eat².

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.

¹2018, ACOSS Poverty in Australia report
²2018, Hungry 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 18 12 or visit vinnies.org.au

 **Vinnies Christmas Appeal**
St Vincent de Paul Society
2018-2019



**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

SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEON...





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

Calendar Dates:-

Tuesday 12th December – Senior Citizens Lunch 12noon, St Mary’s Hall

Calling for Interest!!

Parent Committee

Positions for 2020

The Parents & Friends committee is a fun way to meet other parents & be involved with making a difference to our children's education!

All positions will be open at the start of 2020 and decided at the AGM (date to be advised). No pressure to attend all meetings and they generally go for one hr monthly!

Your consideration is appreciated!

Colgate Fundraiser

Please keep collecting all year round!



GIVING TREE

Keep an eye out for the St Vincents 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

Senior Citizens Lunch



**Tuesday 12th December
12noon onwards**

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



Community News . . .



Youth Advisory Group (YAG) is looking for new members to speak up for youth in Mount Alexander Shire.

Apply now if you

- Want to help deliver youth projects and events
- Want to develop your leadership skills
- Want to give young people a voice
- Are 12 to 25 years old
- Can meet on Tuesdays from 3.45pm – 5.30pm in Castlemaine

Application forms at

www.mountalexandershiroyouth.com.au/yag
Applications close on Friday 13 December

For more info contact Shannon at:
youth@mountalexander.vic.gov.au or call/text 0429 31



Summer School 2020
MONDAY 6th – WEDNESDAY 8th 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

Over the Moon
03 5470 5061 enquiries@overthemoonstudio.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, 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 may be 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 may be 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

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 23 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.childrensprogramms.ymca.org.au

Inhouse Incursion Excursion

CAMPBELLS CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL
127 Main Road | CASTLEMAINE VIC 3451
0499 983 828 | castlemaine@ymca.org.au
childrensprogramms.ymca.org.au

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.



Community Christmas Luncheon

Come and help us celebrate Christmas together

On

Christmas Day

Wednesday 25th December

12-2pm at

St Mary's Hall, Cnr Hargraves & Lyttleton St

RSVP on 0437 145 602.

Please leave a message

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

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



CATHOLIC PARISH OF CASTLEMAINE

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

SUNDAY 8th December 2019 – Year A
SECOND 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
Web: <http://stmmaryscastlemaine.com>

Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Wahid Riad

Next Sunday readings:

Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10
James 5: 7-10
Matthew 11: 2-11

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.*

Today's readings:

Isaiah 11: 1-10
Romans 15: 4-9
Matthew 3: 1-12

Responsorial Psalm

Justice shall flourish in
his time, and fullness of
peace for ever.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths;
all people shall see the
salvation of God.
Alleluia!



CONTACT DETAILS

PARISH PRIEST
Rev Wahid Riad PP
Phone: (03) 5472 1900
Mobile: 3419 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 for sale:
\$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, every tree that does not
bear good fruit will be cut down
and thrown into the fire."
- Matthew 3:10

Do you bear good fruit for Christ?
Or, do you spend your time, talent
and treasure constantly acquiring
more toys, clutter and junk.
Our time, our talent, and our
treasure are gifts that God
has given us.

What we do with them is our gift
back to God. What gifts are you
planning to give to the Lord during
this upcoming Christmas season?

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Leon Warren, Bernard Brereton, Joseph Bodsar.

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: \$1037
2nd Collection – Parish: \$1067
Direct Debit & Credit cards: \$475
Weekly Target: \$2000

LEGION OF MARY

Christmas gathering

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

after the Reconciliation Mass.

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

SPECIAL COLLECTION

NEXT WEEKEND

Melbourne Overseas Mission

Melbourne Overseas Mission continues to assist the disadvantaged and marginalized in Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Botswana, Peru & Jerusalem. The work puts a key focus on the education of young people. Thousands of young people will have access to a safe and engaging learning environment thanks to your generosity. Please give generously.

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.

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.

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.

A Journey of Faith with

Fr Wahid Riad

A pilgrimage of a lifetime to the

Holy Land from

11 May – 24 May 2020,

\$5735 p/person all inclusive, with optional Israel extension May 23-26, Egypt extension May 26-30 (prices on request).

ALL WELCOME.

Please call Shereen on 9547-7598 or 0421-114-724, or Alan on 9792-4444.

PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Tuesday 10th December

4.30pm: Legion of Mary, Presbytery

6.00pm: Communion Service, St Mary's

Wednesday 11th December

9.15am: Communion service & Rosary, St Mary's

Thursday 12th December

12 noon: Senior Citizens Luncheon, St Mary's Hall

6.00pm: Communion service, St Brigid's

Friday 13th December

9.15am: Mass & Adoration, St Mary's, & afterwards Rosary at the Grotto

Whole St Mary's School

Graduation Mass

All are welcome to join us for this special Mass to end a great year of 2019 at St. Mary's school on Monday 16th December from 6pm – 7.30pm

Parish Reconciliation

Services

Please make every effort

to come to one of the

Parish Reconciliation Services

to prepare well for Christmas.

Mass of Reconciliation will

be celebrated with

individual Absolution.

Please invite family & friends in

the parish to celebrate and

receive God's mercy at this

wonderful time.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

15th December 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6.00pm

Reader: Ann Coffey

Ext Min Com: Ros Chapman

Marie McCallum

Tricia Barrett

8.30am

Reader: Beth Price

Ext Min Com: Judy Madigan

10.30am

Reader: Bernadette Mayne

Ext Min Com: Jorg Winkels

Julie Farrell

Mary Hein

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